



TSU Sports Photo

## TSU TIGERS ON THE RISE

**TSU CRACKS TOP 25 FOR FIRST TIME IN NINE YEARS; MEAC/CIAA HOOPS NEWS**

**WEBSTER:** His Tennessee State Blue Tiges look for their first 4-0 start since 2001 hosting Eastern Kentucky.

## 2008 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
E. DIVISION				
Eliz. City State	1	0	1	2
St. Paul's	0	0	2	1
Bowie State	0	0	1	1
Virginia State	1	0	1	2
Virginia Union	0	0	2	1
Lincoln (PA)	0	0	1	2
W. DIVISION				
Fayetteville State	0	0	2	1
St. Augustine's	0	0	1	2
Shaw	0	0	1	2
J. C. Smith	0	0	1	2
Livingstone	0	0	0	3
Chowan	0	1	1	2

**CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**OL - MELVIN ROGERS, Jr., LG, CHOWAN** - 28 carries, 175 yards, 2 TDs vs. B-CU  
**WR - JEREMY FRANKLIN, So., WR, JCSU** - 10 rec., 237 yards, 3 TDs  
**BACK - CARLTON RICHARDSON, Sr., QB, JCSU** - 20 of 31 for 339 yards, 2 TDs, rushed for 2 TDs  
**DL - DAYTON CLARK, Sr., DL, VUU** - 4 tackles, 1 for loss  
**LB - JOMO BROWN, Sr., CHOWAN** - 5 tackles, 2 for losses, 1 int., that set up game winner  
**DB - ROD JONES, Sr., FS, ECSU** - Game-high 15 tackles, 1 sack, 1 recovery, 1 forced fumble  
**ROOKIE QUENTIN TOOMER, Fr., LB, JCSU** - 9 tackles, 5 solos vs. EWIC  
**SPECIAL - DANIEL MENDEZ, Jr., P/PK, ECSU**

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
Norfolk State	1	0	2	1
Hampton	1	0	2	1
SC State	1	0	2	1
Delaware State	0	0	1	1
Morgan State	0	0	1	1
NC A&T State	0	1	2	1
Bethune-Cookman	0	1	1	1
Florida A&M	0	1	1	1
Howard	0	1	0	2
# W-Salem State	0	0	0	2
# Not eligible for title				

**MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**OFFENSE**  
**WILL FORD, Jr., RB, SCSU** - 28 carries, 175 yards, 2 TDs vs. B-CU  
**DEFENSE**  
**WAKEEM GODOE, Sr., LB, HAMPTON** - 14 tackles, 4 solos, 2 sacks, 1 int., 1 break-up vs. Howard  
**ROOKIE**  
**WILLIE CARTER, Fr., WR, HOWARD** - 11 rec., 107 yards, 1 TD vs. Hampton  
**SPECIAL TEAMS**  
**KEVIN TEEL, Sr., WR/KR, HAMPTON** - 4 kickoff returns for 297 yards, two for TDs of 87 and 90 yards  
**OFFENSIVE LINEMAN**  
**RAYMOND HARRISON, Sr., C, SCSU**

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
Albany State	2	0	3	0
Tuskegee	2	0	2	0
Morehouse	2	1	2	1
Clark Atlanta	1	1	2	1
Benedict	1	1	1	2
Stillman	1	1	1	2
Fort Valley State	1	1	1	3
Lane	1	2	1	2
Kentucky State	0	2	1	2
Miles	0	2	0	2

**SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**OFFENSE**  
**JACARY ATKINSON, Sr., QB, TU** - 15 of 24 for 412 yards, 4 TDs, 1 rushing TD  
**CEDRIC JOHNSON, Sr., QB, CAU** - 11 of 22 for 298 yards, 2 TDs, 9 rushes for 57 yards, 4 TDs  
**DEFENSE**  
**TRENTON NEWTON, Jr., LB, FVSU** - 13 tackles, 10 solos and a sack vs. VUU  
**NEWCOMER**  
**JAMAR RODRIGUEZ, Fr., WR, MHC** - 150 all-purpose yards, 3 rec., 34 yards, 4 KO's, 116 yds.  
**SPECIAL TEAMS**  
**SHAUN GUTIERREZ, Sr., PK/P, LC** - 4-4 FGs  
**BRIAN PORTER, Sr., KR, ASU** - 85-yard KO TD  
**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN**

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
Miss. Valley St.	0	0	1	1
Jackson State	0	0	1	2
Alabama State	0	0	0	2
Alabama A&M	0	0	0	3
Alcorn State	0	0	0	3
W. DIVISION				
Prairie View A&M	1	0	2	0
Grambling State	0	0	1	2
Southern	0	0	1	2
Texas Southern	0	1	1	2
Ark. Pine Bluff	0	0	0	3

**SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**OFFENSE**  
**BRYANT LEE, Jr., QB, SU** - 13 of 24 for 193 yards and 3 TDs in win over MVSU  
**JUAMORRIS STEWART, WR, SU** - Three receptions for 64 yards, 2 for TDs.  
**DEFENSE**  
**KENNETH AMO, Sr., DB, GSU** - Led GSU with 11 tackles, 9 solo, and returned a fumble 33 yards for a TD.  
**NEWCOMER**  
**BOBBY REID, Sr., QB, TSU** - Ran for 59 yards and 2 TDs and was 20 of 33 passing for 211 yards and one score in win over Shaw.

INDEPENDENTS	W	L	PLAYERS OF THE WEEK	
			OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Tennessee State	3	0		
W. Va. State	3	0		
Savannah State	2	1		
Langston	2	1		
Concordia	2	1		
Edward Waters	0	2		
Lincoln (Mo.)	0	2		
Cheyney	0	3		
Central State	0	3		
N. C. Central	0	3		
Texas College	0	3		

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**OFFENSE**  
**KURVIN CURRY, Jr., QB, SSU** - Completed 14 of 21 passes for 154 yards, 2 TDs in an interception in win over WSSU.  
**DEFENSE**  
**EUGENE CLIFFORD, So., S, TSU** - Led Blue Tigers with seven tackles and one interception that he returned 43 yards for a TD vs. JSU.  
**NEWCOMER**  
**JERMANKING, So., WR, WVU** - Caught the winning 11-yard touchdown from Kevin O'Brien with 3:40 left to give Yellow Jackets their first road win at Fairmont State since 1992.

## SCORES

**SEPTEMBER 11**  
 Tenn.-Martin 87, Concordia 21

**SEPTEMBER 12**  
 La.-Monroe 37, Alabama A&M 15

**SEPTEMBER 13**  
 Albany St. 41, Kentucky St. 27  
 Catawba 49, Livingstone 7  
 C. Arkansas 41, Ark.-Pine Bluff 17  
 Chowan 23, Brevard 20  
 Clark Atlanta 48, Stillman 36  
 Fayetteville St. 63, Lincoln (PA) 0  
 Gannon 40, Cheyney 18  
 Hampton 38, Howard 27  
 Howard Payne 20, Texas Coll. 13  
 J. C. Smith 37, Edw. Waters 31 OT  
 Kent State 24, Delaware St. 3  
 Langston 35, Panhandle St. 2  
 Mars Hill 31, St. Augustine's 13

Morehouse 28, Lane 24  
 Morgan St. 49, NC Central 7  
 Norfolk St. 27, NC A&T 21  
 SC State 28, Beth.-Cookman 19  
 Saint Paul's 13, Webber Int'l 9  
 Savannah St. 16, W-Salem St. 13  
 Southern 49, Miss Valley St. 7  
 St. Joseph's 43, Virginia St. 36  
 Tenn. St. 41, Jackson St. 18  
 Texas Southern 40, Shaw 29  
 Troy St. 65, Alcorn St. 0  
 Tusculum 32, Elizabeth City St. 30  
 Tuskegee 37, Benedict 14  
 Va. Union 27, Fort Valley St. 2  
 W. Va. St. 21, Fairmont St. 20  
 Youngstown St. 38, Central St. 0

**SEPTEMBER 14**  
 NW (LA) St. 31, Grambling St. 19

# Tennessee State making a move

**LUT WILLIAMS**  
 BCSP Editor

It's been nine years since **Tennessee State** made some noise on the national scene but after three straight wins against **SWAC** opponents to open the 2008 season, the Big Blue Tigers of the Ohio Valley Conference are back on the radar.

Fourth-year TSU head coach **James Webster's** squad dispatched defending **SWAC** champion **Jackson State** 41-18 Saturday. That conquest followed a victory over **Alabama A&M** (34-13) to open the season and a Sept. 6 win over **Southern** (34-32). All three victims are considered serious contenders for the **SWAC** title.

The early season success has allowed the talented Tigers to grab the final spot in this week's TSN Football Championship Subdivision (formerly I-AA) Top 25 and move up to third in the BCSP Top Ten as they prepare for the challenge of going up against defending Ohio Valley Conference champion, Eastern Kentucky Saturday in Nashville (5



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**PROLIFIC PASSER:** QB Antonio Heffner leads Tennessee State vs. E. Kentucky one year after having his season ended by the Colonels.

p.m.). The Blue Tigers are the only black college team in the Top 25.

"Being ranked is somewhat of a reward for the hard work that they've put in," said Webster in a story in *The Tennessean* this week. "This is something that they should be proud of."

You have to go back to the **Cole** brothers (head coach **L. C.** and offensive coordinator **Johnnie**) era when high-scoring TSU squads won back-to-back OVC titles, to find the last time TSU climbed into the national rankings.

TSU finished the 1999 regular season with a perfect 11-0 mark and entered the playoffs as the No. 1 ranked team in all of I-AA. Key injuries derailed its run at a national title. A year earlier, TSU finished the regular season ranked tenth in the nation.

Webster has put together a squad similar to the ones that had that past success.

These Tigers are averaging 36.3 points per game, giving up a league-best 21.3 points and are led by prolific senior quarterback **Antonio Heffner**, who tops the OVC in total offense at 293 yards per game. Heffner is complemented by a trio of game-breaking wide receivers (**Jajuan Spillman**, **Chris Johnson** and **Brandon Belvin**) and two-time 1,000-yard rusher, senior running back **Javarris Williams**. The Tigers are just one year removed from having a first round NFL Draft pick, **Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie**, who was selected 16th overall by the Arizona Cardinals.

They'll come into Saturday's battle with Eastern Kentucky (1-2) with something of a score to settle. EKVU throttled TSU 49-7 last year in a game that ended Hefner's season. The Memphis native went out in the second quarter of that game with a broken ankle. The Tigers finished 2-2 without Hefner and went out to a 5-6 overall finish, 4-3 in conference play, tied for third with Austin Peay, behind Eastern Kentucky and Eastern Illinois. Both EKVU and EIU went to the FCS playoffs last season. The last time TSU started 4-0 was 2001.

**South Carolina State** (2-1) came close to breaking in the Top 25 garnering 56 votes. The Bulldogs have a tough date with in-state BCS and ACC member Clemson Saturday (1 p.m.). This will be SCSU's second Div. I matchup. That lost at Central Florida 17-0 to open the season.

## BCSP TOP TEN

- TUSKEGEE** (2-0) - Disposed of Benedict, 37-14. NEXT: At Stillman.
- DELAWARE STATE** (1-1) - Fell to Kent State, 24-3. NEXT: Idle.
- TENNESSEE STATE** (3-0) - Defeated Jackson State, 31-18. NEXT: Hosting Eastern Kentucky.
- PRAIRIE VIEW A&M** (2-0) - Game vs. Sam Houston State cancelled by Hurricane Ike. NEXT: At Miss. Valley State.
- SOUTH CAROLINA STATE** (2-1) - Handled Bethune-Cookman, 28-19. NEXT: At Clemson.
- ALBANY STATE** (2-0) - Got by Kentucky State, 41-27. NEXT: Open.
- NORFOLK STATE** (2-1) - Knocked off NC A&T, 27-21. NEXT: At William & Mary.
- HAMPTON** (2-1) - Survived Howard's air assault, 38-27. NEXT: Hosting NC A&T.
- SOUTHERN** (1-2) - Beat Miss. Valley State, 49-7. NEXT: Idle.
- GRAMBLING STATE** (1-2) - Lost at NW

**Norfolk State** (2-1) is also one of the six black college teams to receive votes (27) in the FCS poll. The Spartans could break into the Top 25 with a win Saturday (7 p.m.) at William & Mary (1-1). Defending MEAC champ **Delaware State**, who led black college teams that finished outside the Top 25 with 96 votes, is off this week.

Resurgent **Prairie View** (2-0, 1-0) who garnered 26 votes to finish just behind Norfolk State in the poll, continues its quest for a SWAC title with a date Saturday (5 p.m.) at **Mississippi Valley State** (1-1).

Also receiving votes were **Hampton** (21) and **Florida A&M** (3).

Hampton (2-1, 1-0) entertains dangerous **North Carolina A&T** (2-1, 0-1), who battled Norfolk State last week before coming up on the short end of a 27-21 score. Florida A&M travels to Washington, D.C. to meet **Howard**, who staged a spirited battle before losing to Hampton last week.

In other games involving BCSP Top Ten teams, No. 1 **Tuskegee** (2-0, 2-0) is at **Stillman** (1-2, 1-1) in an SIAC match-up to be broadcast by tape delay on ESPNU at 10:30 p.m. No. 10 **Grambling State** (1-2) hosts **Jackson State** (1-2) in a rematch of last year's SWAC Championship Game.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### STANLEY NEW FVSU AD:

**Fort Valley State** has named **Sean Stanley** as its interim director of athletics, effective immediately. Stanley, 41, who joined FVSU in July as special assistant to the vice president for student affairs, replaces **Deondri Clark**, who resigned the position Friday in order to concentrate on his duties as head football coach. A national search will be launched for a new director.

"I express our deep appreciation to Head Coach Deondri Clark for his service as the interim athletics director," said **Dr. Terrance D. Smith**, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management. "He stepped in to help us despite his many other obligations, and we benefited tremendously as a result."

Smith noted that the Department of Athletics currently is undergoing reorganization to maximize effectiveness and efficiency.

"Mr. Stanley brings just the skills needed right now to enable our plans to go forward," Smith said. "We look ahead to expanding our athletic program offerings and to enhancing our facilities accordingly."

Stanley currently oversees FVSU's housing, residential life, and judicial affairs departments. "This transition should go smoothly and I look forward to leading the department's efforts in shaping the lives of our athletes, plus winning games and recruiting prospective students. We'll carry on Coach Clark's work to get this department in tip-top shape for the incoming athletic director."

### RATCLIFFE LEAVES KSU:

**Kentucky State** Athletics Director **Derita Ratcliffe** has resigned effective the end of September to take a new post at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Calling the opportunity one she could not turn down, Ratcliffe has accepted the position of senior associate athletics director and senior woman administrator at UAB. She will begin work October 1.

Ratcliffe came to KSU as athletics director in January 2005. Previously she was an associate athletics director at Eastern Kentucky. She also did a five-year stint at Virginia Tech, where she ultimately served as assistant athletics director of student life.

President **Mary Evans Sias** said, "Though I hate to see her leave, I know she will do well at UAB. I have watched the athletics program at KSU grow as I have watched Ms. Ratcliffe grow as an administrator. The University of Alabama Birmingham's gain will certainly be KSU's loss."

"She has recruited coaches who have had success in both women's and men's sports. She spearheaded our return this year to the Gateway Football Classic in St. Louis, where KSU will play **Stillman College** on September 27," Sias continued.

"I have enjoyed my time at KSU. I thought it would be a little bit longer, however," Ratcliffe said referring to her tenure at the university. "I love the students. It's been an invaluable experience."

## GAMES THIS WEEK

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**  
 ESPNU - Live  
 Alcorn St. vs. Ark.-Pine Bluff in Alcorn State, MS 6:30

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**  
 Lincoln (MO) vs. Trinity Int'l in Jefferson City, MO 1  
 C. Conn. St. vs. NC Central in New Britain, CT 1  
 Charleston vs. W. Va. State in Charleston, WV 1  
 Cheyney vs. C.W. Post in Cheyney, PA 1  
 Clemson vs. SC State in Clemson, SC 1  
 Howard vs. Florida A&M in Washington, DC 1  
 Kentucky State vs. Clark Atlanta in Frankfort, KY 1  
 VMI vs. Chowan in Lexington, VA 1  
 Wingate vs. Elizabeth City St. in Wingate, NC 1:30  
 Ala.-Birmingham vs. Alabama St. in Birmingham, AL 3  
 Beth.-Cookman vs. Savannah St. in Daytona Beach, FL 4  
 Shaw vs. Lincoln (PA) in Durham, NC 4  
 Miss Valley St. vs. Prairie View A&M in Itta Bena, MS 5  
 Tennessee State vs. E. Kentucky in Nashville, TN 5  
 Texas College vs. Texas Southern in Tyler, TX 5  
 Langston vs. Lane in Langston, OK 5:30  
 Alabama A&M vs. Central State in Huntsville, AL 6  
 Grambling State vs. Jackson State in Grambling, LA 6  
 M. Morehouse in Fairfield, AL 6  
 Benedict vs. Lenoir-Rhyne in Columbia, SC 6  
 Fayetteville State vs. Saint Paul's in Fayetteville, NC 6  
 Hampton vs. NC A&T in Hampton, VA 6  
 Virginia State vs. St. Augustine's in Petersburg, VA 6  
 W-Salem State vs. Morgan State in Winston-Salem, NC 6  
 Livingstone vs. Bowie State in Salisbury, NC 7  
 William & Mary vs. Norfolk State in Williamsburg, Va. 7

**CLASSICS**  
 Western Virginia Education Classic  
 Virginia Union vs. J. C. Smith in Salem, VA 2  
 Southern Alabama Heritage Classic  
 Concordia vs. Edward Waters in Dothan, AL 3

**TV GAMES**  
 ESPNU - Delayed-10:30p ET  
 Stillman vs. Tuskegee in Tuscaloosa, AL 5

# BCSP Notes

### MEAC Basketball Tip-Off set

The **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** (MEAC) will host its annual basketball press luncheon beginning at 12 noon, Wednesday, October 15 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Winston-Salem, North Carolina (460 North Cherry St., 27101/336-724-2300). MEAC head men's and women's basketball coaches will be in attendance to offer insight on the upcoming 2008-09 basketball season.

A limited number of tickets are available to the public for the press luncheon and can be purchased by contacting Terria Galvez in the MEAC office at (757) 416-7100. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$200 per table (10 people) and must be purchased before 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 9.

Head coaches of the women's programs will be available for one-on-one interviews beginning at 9:30 a.m., followed by the head coaches of the men's teams beginning at 10:30 a.m.

In addition to the one-on-one interview sessions, the MEAC will announce its men's and women's basketball preseason predicted order of finish and preseason teams during the press luncheon beginning at 12:30 p.m.

The 2008-09 MEAC basketball season tips-off on Friday, November 14 with 17 of the 22 MEAC men's and women's teams in action. The reigning MEAC men's tournament champion, **Coppin State**, will travel to Dover, Delaware during opening weekend to compete against **Delaware State**, **Cheyney University** and Wilmington University in the Hornet Classic.

The Coppin State Lady Eagles, winners of the 2008 MEAC women's basketball tournament crown, will head to Washington, D.C. to open up their season on Monday November 17 against George Washington.

The 2009 MEAC Basketball Tournament tips off March 9-14 at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum (LJVM) in Winston-Salem, North Carolina

For more information about MEAC Basketball, log on to [www.meac-sports.com](http://www.meac-sports.com) or visit [www.meahoops.com](http://www.meahoops.com)

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### CIAA Tourney gets reduced hotel rates

The **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** (CIAA) and the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority (CRVA) announced that twenty-four Charlotte area hotels have agreed to reduce their room rates by 15 percent and will waive any minimum-night stay requirements during the 2009 CIAA Tournament Week.

"The CIAA realizes these are tough economic times," said CIAA Commissioner **Leon Kerry**. "Any relief that we can provide to CIAA fan's and alumni's purse strings during Tournament Week will help them focus on the fun and festivities of the event. We appreciate what Tim Newman and the CRVA have done."

The CIAA Tournament has enjoyed unprecedented success since conference officials moved the event to Charlotte in 2006. After registering an economic impact of just over \$15 million in 2006, the 2008 Tournament drew a record breaking \$30.7 million economic impact to the Queen City.

"In hopes to be able to attract even more CIAA fans to the market, these additional hotel options offer an economical option for tournament attendees," added Tim Newman, CRVA CEO. The CIAA recently inked a three-year deal with Charlotte to host the Tournament until the year 2011.

"Our goal at the CIAA is continue to grow the Tournament and we do not want anything deterring our fans from coming to Charlotte in February and having the time of our lives," says Commissioner Kerry.

A list of the participating twenty-four hotels are provided on the CIAA Tournament Web site, [www.ciaatournament.org](http://www.ciaatournament.org) or <http://www.ciaatournament.org>, specifically located on the "Buy Tickets" page.