

# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



## PANTHERS PROWLIN' LOS ANGELES

ATLANTA, LOS ANGELES CLASSICS ALL BUT WRAP PRE-CONFERENCE SCHEDULES

**FRAZIER:** Fourth-year Prairie View coach looks for unprecedented 4-0 start in Los Angeles vs. Morehouse.

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

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
E. DIVISION				
Bowie State	1	0	2	1
Eliz. City State	1	0	1	3
Virginia State	1	0	2	2
Virginia Union	1	0	3	1
St. Paul's	0	1	2	2
# Lincoln (PA)	0	0	1	2
W. DIVISION				
Fayetteville State	1	0	3	1
Shaw	1	0	2	2
J. C. Smith	0	1	1	3
Chowan	0	1	1	3
St. Augustine's	0	1	1	3
Livingstone	0	1	0	4

**CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
 OL - LAQUENTIN BLAIR, Sr., VUU  
 WR - PHILIP TAYLOR, Sr., VUU - 3 rec., 59 yards, 3 TDs (22, 15, 22) in win over JCSU.  
 BACK - TARIAN DONALDSON, Jr., RB, VUU - 21 carries, 204 yards in win over JCSU.  
 DL - DEWITT DIXON, Fr., LB, ECSU - 9 tackles, 3 solo, 1 sack vs. Wingate.  
 LB - LEQUENTIN MILO, So., VSU - 10 tackles, 4 solos, 1 sack vs. St. Augustine's.  
 DB - ROY JONES, Sr., FS, ECSU - 13 tackles, 7 solo, 1 forced fumble vs. Wingate.  
 ROOKIE - NICHOLAS BETHEA, Fr., RB, SPC - 17 carries, 125 yards

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
Hampton	2	0	3	1
Norfolk State	1	0	2	2
SC State	1	0	2	2
Delaware State	1	0	1	1
Florida A&M	1	1	2	1
Morgan State	0	0	2	1
Bethune-Cookman	0	1	2	1
NC A&T State	0	2	2	2
Howard	0	2	0	3
# W-Salem State	0	0	0	3

**MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
 OFFENSE  
 PHILLIP SYLVESTER, So., RB, FAMU - 14 carries, 132 yards (9.4 ypc.), 1 TD vs. Howard.  
 DEFENSE  
 TROY LEFTWICH, Jr., LB, MSU - 6 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 int. ret. 45 yards for TD, 1 fumble recovery  
 ROOKIE  
 MAURICE FRANCOIS, Fr., QB, B-CU - 20 carries for 121 yards (6.1 ypc.)  
 SPECIAL TEAMS  
 JEREMY GILCHRIST, Sr., WR/PR, HAMPTON - 2 TDs on punt returns (56, 88) vs. NC A&T. The 88-yarder broke the school record.  
 OFFENSIVE LINEMAN  
 DENNIS CONLEY, Sr., LG, HAMPTON

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

**SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
 OFFENSE  
 JACARY ATKINSON, Sr., QB, TU - 19 of 34 for 362 yards, 2 TDs, 11 carries, 95 yards, 1 TD  
 DEFENSE  
 JEFFREY CARGILE, Sr., LB, MHC - 10 tackles, 7 solo, 5 for losses, 3 sacks, 1 QB hurry vs. Miles.  
 NEWCOMER  
 MIKE BOND, Fr., DB, LC - 10 tackles, 3 solo, 2 for loss, 1 break-up, 1 forced fumble vs. Langston.  
 SPECIAL TEAMS  
 MICHAEL STREIFF, Jr., P/K, MHC - 5 punts, 39-yard average, 1 41-yard field goal, 2 PATS

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L
E. DIVISION				
Miss. Valley St.	0	0	1	2
Jackson State	0	0	1	3
Alabama A&M	0	0	1	3
Alcorn State	0	0	1	3
Alabama State	0	0	0	3
W. DIVISION				
Prairie View A&M	1	0	3	0
Texas Southern	0	1	2	2
Grambling State	0	0	2	2
Southern	0	0	1	2
Ark. Pine Bluff	0	0	0	4

**SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
 OFFENSE  
 MARK SPIVEY, Sr., QB, PV A&M - 16 of 25 passing for 252 yards and 3 TDs, also ran 10 times for 77 yards and 1 TD vs. MVSU.  
 DEFENSE  
 LEE ROBINSON, Sr., LB, ALCONRN ST. - 9 tackles (7 solo), 2 tackles for loss, 1 interception, 1 sack, 2 QB hurries vs. UAPB.  
 SPECIALIST  
 KIARE THOMPSON, So., WR, GSU - Averaged 21 yards on 4 punt returns, also had a 19-yard kickoff return.  
 NEWCOMER  
 ALFRED WILLIAMS, Sr., LB, AA&M - 7 tackles, 5 solos, 5 sack vs.

INDEPENDENTS	W		L	
	W	L	W	L
Tennessee State	4	0	4	0
W. Va. State	4	0	4	0
Langston	3	1	3	1
Concordia	3	1	3	1
Savannah State	2	2	2	2
Edward Waters	0	3	0	3
Lincoln (Mo.)	0	3	0	3
Cheyney	0	4	0	4
Central State	0	4	0	4
N. C. Central	0	4	0	4
Texas College	0	4	0	4

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
 OFFENSE  
 ANTONIO HEFFNER, Sr., QB, TENN. ST. - Completed 20 of 28 passes for 312 yards and 3 TDs in critical OVC win over Eastern Kentucky. Also carried nine times for 47 yards to garner 360 yards of total offense.  
 KEVIN O'BRIEN, QB, WVU - Completed 25 of 36 for 293 yards and 1 TD, also ran for TD in win over Charleston.  
 RAYTRON MAYFIELD, WR, LANGSTON - Recorded 10 catches for 135 yards and 1 TD in win over Lane.  
 DEFENSE  
 DEMICHAEL NESSBITT, Sr., LB, WVU - 12 tackles, 4 for losses, 1 sack as Yellow Jackets moved to 4-0.

## SCORES

SEPTEMBER 18	Hampton 44, NC A&T 7
Alcorn State 13, Arkansas-Pine Bluff 3	Langston 13, Lane 0
	Morehouse 27, Miles 7
SEPTEMBER 20	Morgan State 21, Winston-Salem State 7
Alabama A&M 37, Central State 17	Prairie View A&M 49, Miss Valley State 15
Ala.-Birmingham 45, Alabama State 10	Shaw 56, Lincoln (PA) 7
Benedict 17, Lenoir-Rhyne 13	Tennessee State 34, Eastern Kentucky 20
Bethune-Cookman 34, Savannah State 9	Texas Southern 28, Texas College 13
Bowie State 15, Livingstone 10	Trinity International 18, Lincoln (MO) 10
C.W. Post 35, Cheyney 0	Tuskegee 42, Stillman 7
C. Connecticut State 35, NC Central 23	VMI 69, Chowan 20
Clark Atlanta 28, Kentucky State 27	Virginia State 6, Saint Augustine's 3
Clemson 54, SC State 0	Virginia Union 42, Johnson C. Smith 14
Concordia 45, Edward Waters 21	W. Virginia State 24, Charleston (WV) 21
Fayetteville State 28, Saint Paul's 0	William & Mary 42, Norfolk State 12
Florida A&M 51, Howard 24	Wingate 15, Elizabeth City State 7
Grambling State 14, Jackson State 5	

## Big games in Atlanta, LA top the schedule

**LUT WILLIAMS**  
 BCSP Editor

The slew of non-conference games on the 2008 football schedule comes to an end over the next two weekends as teams move into the meat of their conference schedules.

Two of those non-conference games this weekend however. Classic games in fact, will determine just how the teams involved will move into league play.

Down in Atlanta Saturday (3 p.m.), perhaps the hottest team so far and at least the one that has garnered the most national attention, undefeated (4-0) BCSP No. 3 **Tennessee State** tries for its fourth straight win over black college competition when it battles once-beaten **Florida A&M** (3-1) at the Georgia Dome. The 20th annual *Atlanta Classic* will be televised live on VERSUS network.

While out in Los Angeles, resurgent and unbeaten BCSP No. 4 **Prairie View** (3-0) looks to end the non-SWAC part of its schedule without a blemish as it battles once-beaten **Morehouse** (3-1) at the Coliseum in the second annual *Angel City Classic* (2:30 PT).

Both games should draw big crowds and will be watched with much interest.

In last year's Atlanta Classic, 56,990 fans watched FAMU pull out a last-second 18-17 win over TSU. The attendance was the third largest for a 2007 black college game. The Angel City Classic last year drew 39,583 fans for its inaugural event that saw Prairie View down **North Carolina A&T**, 22-7. The LA crowd was the 13th largest last season. With promotions and publicity for both games at a high this year, expect those numbers to rise.

With three impressive wins over SWAC teams (**Alabama A&M**, **Southern** and **Jackson State**) and last week's decisive win over defending Ohio Valley Conference champ Eastern Kentucky (34-20), TSU has burst onto the national scene, moving from 25th to 23rd in the latest *Sports Network FCS Top 25* and receiving one first-place vote. They are now one of the favorites for the OVC title along with 21st-ranked Eastern Illinois.

But they'll be facing no slouch in the now **Joe Taylor**-coached Rattlers, whose only loss this season was a 35-28 overtime decision at defending MEAC champ **Delaware State**. FAMU flexed its offensive (and defensive) muscle Saturday with a 51-24 shellacking over **Howard** serving notice that it is now a force to be reckoned with in the MEAC. The battle with TSU will be a good test.

On paper the teams seem evenly matched with each boasting a high-scoring offense and stingy, opportunistic defenses.

TSU averages 35.8 points per game and is led by quarterback **Antonio Heffner** who garnered FCS national player of the year honors this week for his 20-of-28, 312-yard 2-touchdown performance vs. ECU. FAMU, scoring at a 36.3 ppg. clip, is featuring a two-headed monster at quarterback in incumbent starter **Eddie Battle** and talented recent



**GROUND POWER:** Tennessee State's Javarris Williams (l.) and Florida A&M's Phillip Sylvester (r.), two of black college's best running backs, square off in Atlanta.

Kentucky transfer **Curtis Pulley**.

Both teams also feature dynamic running backs in TSU's **Javarris Williams** and FAMU's **Phillip Sylvester**.

Williams, a two-time 1,000-yard rusher and defending OVC offensive player of the year, has run for 291 yards (72.8 ypg.) and five TDs thru four games. Williams ran 17 times for 117 yards including a 48-yard TD run vs. ECU.

Sylvester, who earned MEAC rookie of the year honors last season after rushing for 858 yards and 7 TDs as a freshman, is averaging 55 yards per game but had his best outing Saturday against Howard totalling 132 yards on 14 carries with an 11-yard TD run.

Defensively, TSU is giving up 20.8 points per game while FAMU is surrendering 26.3. The Rattlers had four takeaways vs. Howard returning both an interception and a fumble for touchdowns.

The Prairie View (3-0, 1-0) vs. Morehouse match-up in La La land is just as intriguing. The once moribund Prairie View program is now the talk of the SWAC. Not only are the Panthers the only undefeated team in the conference, everyone else has at least two losses. That will likely give confidence to a squad looking for its first SWAC title since 1964.

After posting its first winning season in 30 years (7-4) and its most wins since '64, head coach **Henry Frazier's** squad returned 19 starters confident that they now had the talent and experience to challenge for a league title. A win vs. Morehouse would send the team into its SWAC schedule with a boatload of confidence. A date with SWAC division rival **Grambling State**, the only team that Panthers have not defeated in Frazier's four years at the helm, looms next week (Oct. 4) in Dallas.

The Panthers have been led by QB **Mark Spivey** who's helping them put up a black college and FCS best 45.3 points per game, albeit against less than stellar competition (Mississippi Valley State, Texas Southern and Texas College). Spivey has completed 62.7% of his passes while throwing for five TDs. Tailback **Ronald Babers** has scored five TDs and is currently second in the SWAC averaging 69.7 rushing yards per game.

The defense, which returned ten starters

## GAMES THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25	
ESPNU - Live	
Alabama St. vs. Miss Valley St. in Montgomery, AL	7
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27	
Lincoln (MO) vs. St. Joseph's in Jefferson City, MO	1
Fort Valley State vs. Tuskegee in Fort Valley, GA	1
Lincoln (PA) vs. Livingstone in West Grove, PA	1
Saint Paul's vs. J. C. Smith in Lawrenceville, VA	1:30
Grambling State vs. Langston in Grambling, LA	3
Rutgers vs. Morgan State in New Brunswick, NJ	3:30
Beth.-Cookman vs. Norfolk St. in Daytona Beach, FL	4
Shaw vs. Bowie State in Durham, NC	4
Alcorn State vs. Southern in Alcorn State, MS	5
Edward Waters vs. Webber Int'l in Jacksonville, FL	5
Ark.-Pine Bluff vs. Alabama A&M in Pine Bluff, AR	6
Lane vs. UNC-Pembroke in Jackson, TN	6
Miles vs. Clark Atlanta in Fairfield, AL	6
Benedict vs. Albany State in Columbia, SC	6
Chowan vs. Virginia Union in Murfreesboro, NC	6
E. Stroudsburg vs. Cheyney in E. Stroudsburg, PA	6
NC A&T vs. Coastal Carolina in Greensboro, NC	6
Virginia St. vs. Fayetteville St. in Petersburg, VA	6
W-Salem State vs. SC State in W-Salem, NC	6
Delaware State vs. C. Conn. State in Dover, DE	7
Texas Southern vs. Concordia in Houston, TX	8
CLASSICS	
<i>Angel City Classic</i>	
Prairie View vs. Morehouse in Los Angeles, CA	2:30
<i>17th Gateway Classic</i>	
Stillman vs. Kentucky State in St. Louis, MO	3
<i>11th Down East Viking Football Classic</i>	
Eliz. City St. vs. St. Augustine's in Rocky Mount, NC	4
TV GAMES	
<i>20th Atlanta Football Classic - VERSUS</i>	
Florida A&M vs. Tennessee State in Atlanta, GA	4
ION Network - tape delay (9/28 @ 1p)	
Howard vs. Savannah State in Miami, FL	6

including SWAC Defensive Player of the Year, **Zach East**, is also tops in black colleges and FCS in scoring defense giving up just 9.7 points per game.

Morehouse is one of two Atlanta schools chasing perennial SIAC powers **Tuskegee** and **Albany State** in that conference. The Maroon Tigers dropped a close decision to open the season at **Benedict** (7-3) but have come back to post wins over **Fort Valley State** (38-35), **Lane** (28-24) and **Miles** (27-7). The Tigers could use a win over Prairie View to build their confidence as they head into showdowns with the powers in two of the next three weeks following a bye week.

The Tigers will likely have their hands full scoring or keeping the Panthers out of the end zone.

Elsewhere, BCSP No. 1 Tuskegee (3-0, 3-0) travels to Fort Valley State (1-1, 1-3) for a 1 p.m. contest and BCSP No. 6 Albany State (3-0, 2-0) returns to action after a bye week playing (6 p.m.) at Benedict (2-2, 1-1).

In two 6 p.m. CIAA contests, early conference leaders **Fayetteville State** (3-1, 1-0 West) and **Virginia State** (2-2, 1-0 East) meet in Petersburg, Va., (6 p.m.). Fellow East leader **Virginia Union** (3-1, 1-0) plays at Chowan (1-3, 0-1). BCSP No. 2 Delaware State (1-1, 1-0) hosts Central Connecticut State.

A key MEAC match-up pits BCSP No. 7 **Norfolk State** (2-2, 1-0) on the road (4 p.m.) at **Bethune-Cookman** (2-1, 0-1).

This game matches B-CU head coach **Alvin Wyatt** against his former defensive coordinator, NSU head coach **Pete Adrian** and has involved as much ferocity and perhaps animosity as any on the schedule. Last year NSU snapped a nine-game losing streak to the Wildcats scoring in the final minute to pull out a 38-31 win.

## BCSP TOP TEN

- TUSKEGEE** (3-0) - Ran away from Stillman, 42-7. NEXT: At Fort Valley State.
- DELAWARE STATE** (1-1) - Idle. NEXT: Hosting Central Conn. State.
- TENNESSEE STATE** (4-0) - Got by E. Kentucky, 34-20. NEXT: Florida A&M in Atlanta.
- PRAIRIE VIEW A&M** (3-0) - Dominated MVSU, 49-15. NEXT: Morehouse in Los Angeles.
- SOUTH CAROLINA STATE** (2-2) - Manhandled by Clemson, 54-0. NEXT: At Winston-Salem State
- ALBANY STATE** (2-0) - Idle. NEXT: At Benedict.
- NORFOLK STATE** (2-2) - Fell to William & Mary, 42-12. NEXT: At Bethune-Cookman.
- HAMPTON** (3-1) - Ran by NC A&T, 44-7. NEXT: Idle.
- SOUTHERN** (1-2) - Idle. NEXT: At Alcorn State.
- GRAMBLING STATE** (2-2) - Beat Jackson State, 14-5. NEXT: Hosting Langston.

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: Florida A&M, Virginia Union, Bethune-Cookman, Morgan State

## BCSP Snapshots

### West Virginia State moves into Div. II Top 25

Undefeated **West Virginia State** (4-0) has joined **Tuskegee** and **Albany State** out of the SIAC as ranked teams in the NCAA based on the d2football.com poll.

The Yellow Jackets, who defeated Charleston Saturday 24-21, are out of the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WVIAC) and were ranked 24th in the poll released Sept. 23. They join 3-0 Tuskegee, who is 11th, and 3-0 Albany State, who is 20th, in the poll.



**TWINKLE, LITTLE STAR:** Virginia Union senior quarterback Lamar Little signs autographs after his team's 42-14 win over Johnson C. Smith in the ninth annual Western Virginia Education Classic in Salem, Va. Saturday. Little was 10 of 17 for 167 yards and five TDs and rushed for 49 yards in the game. Three of his TD tosses went to wide receiver Philip Taylor covering 15, 31 and 15 yards. VUU RB Tarian Donaldson had 204 yards on 21 carries.