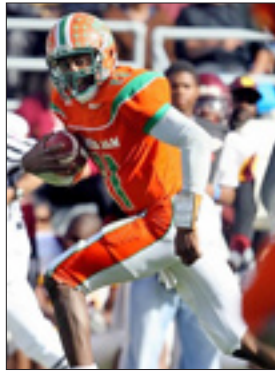


BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



FAMU Sports Photos

BEST OF THE BEST

MAGIC CITY CLASSIC TOPS ATTENDANCE LIST; SIAC GETS NEW COMMISH, FVSU NEW COACH

NEXT! Florida A&M has a transcendent talent in QB Curtis Pulley, the 2008 BCSP Black College Offensive Player of the Year.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HIGHEST ATTENDANCE AT BC FOOTBALL GAMES IN 2008

- MAGIC CITY CLASSIC** - Oct. 25 - Legion Field - Birmingham
Alabama A&M vs. Alabama State **69,113**
- FLORIDA CLASSIC** - Nov. 22 - Citrus Bowl - Orlando
Florida A&M vs. Bethune-Cookman **60,712**
- BAYOU CLASSIC** - Nov. 29 - Super Dome - New Orleans
Southern vs. Grambling State **59,874**
- STATE FAIR CLASSIC** - Oct. 4 - Cotton Bowl - Dallas
Prairie View A&M vs. Grambling State **54,315**
- ANGEL CITY CLASSIC** - September 27 - LA Coliseum - Los Angeles
Prairie View A&M vs. Morehouse **52,487**
- SOUTHERN HERITAGE CLASSIC** - Sept. 13 - Liberty Bowl - Memphis
Jackson State vs. Tennessee State **50,794**
- ATLANTA CLASSIC** - Sept. 29 - Georgia Dome - Atlanta
Florida A&M vs. Tennessee State **50,428**
- CIRCLE CITY CLASSIC** - Oct. 4 - RCA Dome - Indianapolis, IN
Tuskegee vs. Alabama A&M **47,273**
- JACKSON STATE HOME GAME** - Oct. 4 - Mem. Stad. - Jackson, MS
Southern vs. Jackson State **42,513**
- CAPITAL CITY CLASSIC** - Nov. 22 - Jackson, MS - Memorial Stadium
Jackson State vs. Alcorn State **33,005**
- TUSKEGEE HOMECOMING** - Nov. 8 - Abbott Stadium - Tuskegee, AL
Tuskegee vs. Lane **31,302**
- MEAC/SWAC CHALLENGE** - Aug. 30 - Legion Field - Birmingham
Alabama A&M vs. Florida A&M **30,106**
- JOHN MERRITT CLASSIC** - Sept. 6 - Titans Stadium. - Nashville, TN
Tennessee State vs. Southern **28,830**
- BATTLE OF THE BAY CLASSIC** - Oct. 13 - Price Stad. - Norfolk, Va.
Hampton vs. Norfolk State **27,756**
- LABOR DAY CLASSIC** - Sept. 1 - Price Stadium - Norfolk, Va.
Virginia State vs. Norfolk State **26,970**
- SWAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME** - Dec. 13 - Legion Field - B'ham
Grambling State vs. Jackson State **25,873**
- JACKSON ST. HOMECOMING** - Oct. 25 - Jackson, MS - Mem. Stad.
Jackson State vs. Miss. Valley State **25,542**
- GULF COAST CLASSIC** - Nov. 15 - Mobile, AL - Ladd Peebles Stad.
Southern vs. Alabama State **25,387**
- MILES/STILLMAN** - Aug. 31 - Birmingham, AL - Legion Field
Miles vs. Stillman **25,378**
- SOUTHERN HOMECOMING** - Oct. 11 - Bat. Rouge, LA - Mumf. Stad.
Southern vs. Texas Southern **25,512**
- TENNESSEE STATE HOMECOMING** - Nov. 3 - Nashville, TN
Tennessee State vs. Murray State **24,878**
- FLORIDA A&M HOMECOMING** - Nov. 3 - T'hassee, FL - Bragg Stad.
Florida A&M vs. NC A&T **23,984**
- FOUNTAIN CITY CLASSIC** - Nov. 1 - MEMORIAL STAD. - Col., Ga.
Albany State vs. Fort Valley State **22,331**
- SOUTHERN** - Sept. 27 - Spinks Stadium - Lorman, MS
Alcorn State vs. Southern **22,105**
- NC A&T HOMECOMING** - Oct. 11 - Greensboro, NC - Aggie Stadium
NC A&T vs. Morgan State **21,500**
- NC A&T HOME GAME** - Sept. 6 - Greensboro, NC - Aggie Stadium
NC A&T vs. Winston-Salem State **21,500**
- M'HOUSE-SKEEGE CLASSIC** - Oct. 11 - Mem. Stad. - Columbus, Ga
Tuskegee vs. Morehouse **21,234**
- TURKEY DAY CLASSIC** - Nov. 27 - Montgomery, AL - Cramton Bowl
Alabama State vs. Tuskegee **20,567**
- LABOR DAY CLASSIC** - Aug. 30 - Houston, TX - Reliant Stadium
Prairie View A&M vs. Texas Southern **20,444**
- AGGIE/EAGLE CLASSIC** - Oct. 4 - Charlotte, NC - Memorial Stadium
NC A&T vs. NC Central **20,180**

TOTAL 1,011,893
33,729.7 average (30 games)

HIGHEST ATTENDANCE AT 2008 HOMECOMING GAMES

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| TUSKEGEE vs. Lane - Nov. 8 - Tuskegee, AL, Abbott Stadium | 31,302 |
| JACKSON STATE vs. Miss. Valley St. - Oct. 15 - Jackson, MS, Memorial | 25,542 |
| SOUTHERN vs. Texas Southern - Oct. 11 - Baton Rouge, LA - Mumford | 25,512 |
| TENNESSEE STATE vs. Tenn. Tech - Nov. 1 - Nashville, TN, Titans Stad. | 24,361 |
| NC A&T vs. Morgan State - Oct. 11 - Greensboro, NC - Aggie Stadium | 21,500 |
| ALABAMA ST. vs. Tuskegee - Nov. 27 - Montgomery, AL - Cramton Bowl | 20,567 |
| CLARK ATLANTA vs. Savannah State - Oct. 4 - Atlanta, CAU Stadium | 17,893 |
| GRAMBLING ST. vs. Alabama St. - Oct. 18 - Grambl., LA, Robinson Stad. | 16,974 |
| FLORIDA A&M vs. Morgan State - Nov. 1 - Tallah., FL - Bragg Stidum | 16,205 |
| SC STATE vs. Norfolk State - Oct. 11 - Orangeburg, SC - Dawson Stadium | 16,003 |
| ALABAMA A&M vs. Grambling St. - Oct. 11 - Huntsville, AL - Crews Stad. | 15,170 |
| MOREHOUSE vs. Albany State - Oct. 25 - Atlanta, Harvey Stadium | 15,123 |
| HAMPTON vs. W-Salem State - Nov. 1 - Hampton, VA - Armstrong Stadium | 14,877 |
| ARK. PINE BLUFF vs. Lincoln - Oct. 25 - Pine Bluff, AR, Golden Lion Stad. | 14,852 |
| NORFOLK STATE vs. Florida A&M - Oct. 25 - Norfolk, VA - Price Stadium | 13,889 |
| ALBANY STATE vs. Clark Atlanta - Oct. 11 - Albany, GA, ASU Stadium | 13,837 |
| WINSTON-SALEM STATE - Oct. 25 - Bethunc-Cookman, NC - BG Stadium | 12,121 |
| MILES vs. Kentucky State - Oct. 18 - Fairfield, AL, Sloan Stadium | 11,723 |
| NC CENTRAL vs. Edward Waters - Nov. 1 - Durham, NC, OR Stadium | 11,625 |

BCSP Notes

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Magic City Classic breaks another record, Angel City Classic jumps

The *Magic City Classic*, the football matchup of Alabama's two HBCU state schools, **Alabama State** and **Alabama A&M**, continued as a major draw this year, setting a new record and leading all black college games in attendance for the second straight year.

The MCC, played at Birmingham's historic Legion Field this season on October 25, again outdrew both perennial season-ending November attractions – the *Florida Classic*, pitting **Florida A&M** and **Bethune-Cookman** at Orlando's Citrus Bowl and the **Southern** vs. **Grambling State** *Bayou Classic* matchup at the New Orleans Super Dome. The MCC's crowd of 69,113 broke last year's record of 68,593.

The *Florida Classic*, who had before last season led the list for the previous six seasons, finished second again drawing 60,712 fans – the second straight year the number has dropped below 70,000 after topping that number for eight consecutive years. The MCC and Florida Classic were the only games to top the 60,000 mark this year.

The *Bayou Classic*, came back from fifth and seventh place finishes in the past two seasons, to take the No. 3 spot drawing 59,874 to this year's Thanksgiving weekend rivalry. The *State Fair Classic*, staged at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas between Grambling and **Prairie View A&M** held on to the No. 4 spot with 54,315 in attendance.

The biggest jump this year was made by the *Angel City Classic* which pitted **Prairie View** and **Morehouse** at the Los Angeles Coliseum on Sept. 27. With backing from an A-List of Hollywood celebrities, the third annual ACC jumped from 13th last year (32,278) into the top five this season drawing 52,487.

There were 30 HBCU games that topped 20,000 fans this year. Those 30 drew over 1 million fans and averaged over 33,000 per contest.

Homecomings continue to lead when it comes to on-campus attended games and **Tuskegee** again had the most well-attended homecoming game as 31,302 packed into the Golden Tigers' Abbott Stadium for its Nov. 8 contest vs. **Lane**. Jackson State secured the No. 2 spot on the homecoming list with 25,542 for its Oct. 15 date vs. **Miss. Valley State**. Southern was in third place with the 25,512 it garnered for its Oct. 11 date vs. **Texas Southern**. **Tennessee State**, who had the second largest homecoming crowd last year, fell to No. 4 this season, with 24,361.

SIAC chooses new commissioner

The **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** Council of Presidents has announced the appointment of **Gregory Moore** as the new conference commissioner.

Moore's appointment is effective January 19, 2009 and was announced at the end of the last day on the job for interim commissioner

2008 "Baad Team" full of bad dudes

LUT WILLIAMS BCSP Editor

The 2008 BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE "*Baad Team*" of Black College all-star football players is led by a guy that didn't even start for his team until the final three games of the regular season.

Former Kentucky schoolboy legend **Curtis Pulley** arrived at **Florida A&M** about three weeks before the start of the 2008 season. That didn't give new Rattler head coach **Joe Taylor** enough time to work him into his offensive system for the first game. But the multi-talented junior, who transferred from the University of Kentucky after a stormy two-year stay, played a key role in FAMU's second game of the season, an overtime loss to defending **MEAC** champ **Delaware State**.

Despite throwing a game-ending interception, Pulley showed flashes of brilliance. His statline of 7 rushes for 87 yards and 3-of-6 passing for 57 yards and a touchdown were signs of things to come. And though he alternated with starter **Eddie Battle** until the final three games of the season, Pulley put up enough stats to earn first team all-MEAC status at quarterback. Those stats included 885 rushing yards with 7 touchdowns and 1,372 passing yards (98-of-178, 55.1%) for 17 TDs with just five interceptions. Oh yeah, keep in mind that was in part-time duty.

That's why the BCSP is choosing Pulley as its offensive player of the year while wondering what those numbers will project to next year on a full-time basis.

Pulley leads a prolific offense that includes 1,000-yard rushers **Javarris Williams**, the Ohio Valley Conference offensive player of the year from **Tennessee State**, and **Will Ford**, of MEAC champion **South Carolina State** who actually won (and earned) the offensive player of the year in that conference. **Southern** wide receiver **Jumorris Stewart** was one of only three black college pass-catchers to top 1,000 yards and makes the first team on the strength of his 76 catches for 1,138 yards and 12 TDs. He's joined at receiver by outstanding **Johnson C. Smith** sophomore **Jeremy Franklin** who caught 64 balls for 984 yards and 9 TDs. SC State tight end **Octavius Darby** (31 rec., 16.7 ypc., 6 TDs) was the best of a productive group at his position and rounds out the first-team skill position players.

Morehouse senior linebacker **Jeffrey Cargile** led all of NCAA Div. II football with 23 tackles for losses and 12.5 sacks, and also totalled 99 tackles to narrowly edge out other standouts for the BCSP Defensive Player of the Year award. The **Jackson State** defensive duo of lineman **Marcus Benard** and linebacker **Marcellus Speaks** could easily have shared the award. Benard was the black college leader with 14.5 sacks and totalled 80 tackles, while Speaks led the SWAC with 121 tackles and registered five sacks. Speaks was the SWAC defensive player of the year.

Other standouts and first teamers include 6-3, 312-pound **Shaw** defensive lineman **Louis Ellis**, who won **CIAA** defensive player of the year for the second year in a row after posting 8 sacks and 20.5 tackles for losses. Jackson State DB **Dominique Johnson**, projected as the top black college prospect for the NFL Draft, leads a ball-hawking first team secondary.

George Mategakis. Mategakis announced his resignation earlier this month. He had served as interim commissioner since **William Lide** was terminated in April.

"Mr. Moore brings a wealth of educational and professional experiences to the position," said **Dr. Benjamin F. Payton**, President of **Tuskegee University**, who serves as Chair of the Council.

Moore holds a B.A. degree in Political Science from the College of New Jersey and a J.D. degree from the University of Oregon School of Law. He has been Legal Counsel/Government Relations Director for Essex County College while maintaining a law practice, The Moore Law Group, LLC in New Jersey, dealing with sports law and commercial transactions.

He has also been Deputy Counsel for the New Jersey State Legislature and General Counsel for the Jersey Express Basketball Club.

"It is my sense that SIAC student athletes are the embodiment of what is best about college sports and I will work tirelessly to broaden the platform to showcase these outstanding young men and women," stated Moore, who was the unanimous choice of the search committee following interviews with four finalist candidates.

Fort Valley State picks Pittman

Fort Valley State has announced the selection of **Donald Pittman** as its new head football coach. Pittman comes to FVSU from **Albany State** where he served as offensive coordinator.

A 14-member search committee including retired FVSU coach **Stan Lomax**, interim director of football operations **Wilson Gosier**, state law maker and FVSU alumni **Freddie Powell-Sims** and **Calvin Smyre** selected Pittman from a pool of 40 applicants. FVSU President **Dr. Larry E. Rivers** - who made the final decision - announced the selection during an afternoon press conference.

"This marks a great new day in the history of Wildcat football. I have confidence that Coach Pittman is going to lead our program to great new heights," said Rivers. "I also believe he's going to make sure our Wildcat players are scholars, as well as athletes." Pittman replaces **Deondri Clark** who resigned after the season.

Pittman, a native of Las Vegas, has 30 years of experience in coaching college football. He served as the offensive coordinator at Texas A&M-Kingsville and was a running backs coach for 15 years before landing the offensive coordinator position at Albany State. Pittman will begin his head coaching career in a new home. A 10,000 seat stadium is under construction and is scheduled for completion by the time the 2009 football season begins.



MOORE



PITTMAN

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

FINAL INDIVIDUAL STATS

RUSHING YDS.	TEAM	Cl	G	Att	Yds	Avg	TD	Yds/G
HAMPTON, Taron	VSU	FR	9	188	1076	5.7	7	119.6
FORD, William	SCS	JR	13	246	1499	6.1	13	115.3
JAMES, Devan	MSU	SO	12	292	1337	4.6	8	111.4
BABERS, Donald	PV	JR	10	222	1085	4.9	11	108.5
WILLIAMS, Javarris	TNS	SR	10	207	1037	5.0	15	103.7
THOMPSON, Winston	CAU	SO	11	215	1134	5.3	5	103.1

PASSING YDS.	TEAM	Cl	G	A	Cmp	Int	Pct	Yds	TD	Yd/G
BYNES, Herbert	HAM	SO	11	353	199	10	56.4	2723	19	247.5
O'BRIEN, Kevin	WVS		9	272	164	11	60.3	2220	16	246.7
LEE, Bryant	SU	JR	11	352	217	7	61.6	2682	20	243.8
ATKINSON, Jac.	TU	SR	11	282	160	13	56.7	2662	24	242.0

TOTAL OFFENSE	Team	Cl	G	Rush	Pass	Plays	Total	Yds/G
ATKINSON, Jacary	TU	SR	11	724	2662	407	3386	307.8
LEE, Bryant	SU	JR	11	534	2682	491	3216	292.4
HEFFNER, Antonio	TSU	SR	11	503	2239	365	2742	249.3

ALL PURPOSE	Team	Cl	G	Rsh	Rec	PR	KR	Yds	AVG.
OSBOURNE, Wm.	TXS	JR	12	36	1092	349	831	2308	192.3
VANN, Leroy	FAM	JR	12	11	0	464	1121	1612	134.3
MEDLIN, Richard	FSU	SO	10	688	126	20	500	1334	133.4

REC. / GAME	Team	Cl	G	Rec	Yds	TD	Avg/C	Rec/G
BERRY, Brian	VSU	SO	10	70	749	3	10.7	7.0
STEWART, Jumor.	SU	JR	11	76	1138	12	15.0	6.9
OSBOURNE, Wm.	TXS	JR	12	82	1092	7	13.3	6.8
FRANKLIN, Jeremy	JCS	SO	10	64	984	9	15.4	6.4
HARRIS, Thomas	AAM	SR	12	72	1208	7	16.8	6.0

REC. YARDS / GAME	Team	Cl	G	Rec	Yds	TD	Avg/C	Yds/G
STEWART, Jum.	SU	JR	11	76	1138	12	15.0	103.5
HARRIS, Thomas	AAM	SR	12	72	1208	7	16.8	100.7
FRANKLIN, Jer.	JCS	SO	10	64	984	9	15.4	98.4
OSBOURNE, W.	TXS	JR	12	82	1092	7	13.3	91.0

PUNT RETURNS	Team	Cl	G	Ret	Yds	TD	Avg.
VANN, Leroy	FAM	JR	12	29	464	3	16.0
OSBOURNE, Wm.	TXS	JR	12	22	349	0	15.8
GILCHRIST, Jeremy	HAM	SR	11	28	437	3	15.6
ADDISON, Emery	SPC	SO	10	14	211	1	15.1

KICK RETURNS	Team	Cl	G	Ret	Yds	TD	Avg.
MEDLIN, Richard	FSU	SO	10	12	500	3	41.6
TEEL, Kevin	HAM	SR	11	15	553	2	36.8
VANN, Leroy	FAM	JR	12	37	1101	3	29.7
WILLIAMS, Raymond	SHA	SO	11	17	502	2	29.5

PUNTING	Team	Cl	G	P	Yds	Avg.
BLANCHARD, Jahmal	HAM	JR	11	58	2498	43.0
KEABLE, Justin	BCU	SO	11	44	1856	42.1
HAIRE, Aaron	SCS	JR	12	58	2431	41.9

SCORING	Team	Cl	G	TD	XPT	FG	Pts	Pts/G
WILLIAMS, Javarris	TNS	SR	10	16	0	0	96	9.6
MEDLIN, Richard	FSU	SO	10	13	0	0	78	7.8
SCOTT, Trevor	FAM	FR	12	0	54	12	90	7.5
JAMISON, Trevor	SCS	JR	13	16	0	0	96	7.3

TACKLES	Team	Cl	G	Solo	Ast	Tot	Avg.
COOPER, Endor	HOW	SR	11	71	53	125	11.3
NESBITT, Demichael	WVS	SR	10	33	78	111	11.1
SPEAKS, Marcellus	JSU	SR	12	60	62	122	10.1

SACKS	Team	Cl	G	S	Yds	Avg.
BENARD, Marcus	JSU	SR	11	14.5	110	1.27
CARGILE, Jeffrey	MHC	JR	10	12.5	66	1.25
STEVENSON, Phil	SAC					