

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

COACHES PREDICT GREAT RACES

COACHES SAY CIAA, SIAC CHAMPS TO BE DETHRONED; TSU FOURTH IN OVC



Photo by Eric Moore

WHITE: His Golden Rams of Albany State voted by league coaches to unseat Tuskegee in SIAC.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

TSU PICKED FOURTH IN OVC:

Tennessee State has been picked to finish fourth in the 2009 Ohio Valley Conference championship race in a preseason poll of the OVC Head Football Coaches and Sports Information Directors.



TSU Sports Photo

CLIFFORD: Hard-hitting safety lone TSU Tiger named to preseason all-OVC team.

The 2008 Tigers finished the season with an 8-4 overall record (5-3 OVC) for a fourth place finish.

Junior safety Eugene Clifford was the lone Tiger named to the OVC Preseason team.

For 2009, the TSU offense must replace seven (7) starters, but the defense will return eight (8) starters from the OVC leading defensive team. The hard-hitting Clifford finished the year with sixty-one tackles (42 solo) with three interceptions and two fumble recoveries. Tiger players report to camp on August 8, 2009 to prepare for the eleven-game 2009 season which opens September 5, 2009 against rival Alabama A&M.

OVC 2009 Predicted Order of Finish

- 1) E. Kentucky (10) 105
- 2) UT Martin (4) 92
- 3) E. Illinois (2) 89
- 4) Tennessee State (1) 74
- 5) Murray State (1) 61
- 6) Tennessee Tech (35) 77
- 7) Austin Peay (33)
- 8) SE Missouri (33)

COUNTDOWN TO KICKOFF

CIAA, looking forward to 10th title game, picks FSU, ECSU

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

Coming off his second consecutive Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association football title, a 36-7 thrashing of Elizabeth City State in last year's championship game, Shaw head coach Darrell Asberry was none too happy that his Bears' team was picked by league coaches to finish tied for second place with Elizabeth City State in this year's league race.

And at last Thursday's annual preseason CIAA Media Day and Luncheon on the campus of Virginia State, he expressed those feelings.

"We'll win it again," said Asberry defiantly of this year's CIAA title in his interview at the luncheon before fellow coaches, attending media and fans. "I repeat, we'll win it again," he told interviewer Stan Lewter.

As it was, Asberry's comment practically laid down the gauntlet to fellow coaches and represented a fitting kickoff to the 2009 CIAA gridiron season.

Picked ahead of both Asberry's Shaw squad and Waverly Tillar's Vikings of Elizabeth City State are Kenny Phillips' Broncos of Fayetteville State. Last season FSU finished 8-2 with its only blemish in conference play a 19-12 Western Division-clinching loss at Shaw last October. The two teams meet this year on Oct. 10 in Fayetteville, N.C.

ECSU, which gets a championship game re-match at Shaw to open the season on August 29, is the Eastern Division favorite over Virginia Union. St. Augustine's is picked behind FSU and Shaw in the West.

ECSU and FSU both have five players on the preseason all-CIAA team. Shaw and VUU have four.

Three new head coaches will stalk the CIAA sidelines this season, all in their first head coaching stint. Athletic Director Michael Bailey, a former Panther player and assistant

CIAA PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

As selected by the CIAA Football Coaches Association

- 1 Fayetteville State
- 2 Elizabeth City State
- T2 Shaw
- 4 St. Augustine's
- 5 Virginia Union
- 6 Virginia State
- 7 Bowie State
- 8 St. Paul's
- 9 Livingstone
- 10 Chowan
- 11 Johnson C. Smith
- 12 Lincoln



Photos by Joe Daniels

WEST RIVALS: Shaw head coach Darrell Asberry (l.) predicted at the CIAA Media Luncheon Thursday that his Shaw Bears would win their third straight CIAA Championship this season. But coaches picked Fayetteville State head coach Kenny Phillips' (r.) Broncos to win the title.

2009 ALL-CIAA PRESEASON FOOTBALL TEAM

OFFENSIVE TEAM

POS / NAME	SCHOOL	CL	HT	WT	HOMETOWN
TE - Karvin Gwaltney	ECSU	JR	6'4	230	Ivor, VA
OL - Dylan Stivers	ECSU	SR	6'6	305	Guernville, CA
OL - Larry McDonald	FSU	SO	6'2	315	Mebane, NC
OL - Dillon Kestner	FSU	JR	6'2	295	Durham, NC
OL - Markus Copeland	VUU	JR	6'4	270	Lynchburg, VA
OL - Chauncey Perry	VUU	SR	6'2	320	Rocky Mount, NC
WR - Dexter Manley	ECSU	JR	6'3	200	Casselberry, FL
WR - Jeremy Franklin	JCSU	JR	6'3	200	Chapel Hill, NC
QB - CJ Westler	Chowan	SR	5'10	195	Marion, OH
RB - Raymond Williams	Shaw	JR	6'0	195	Cleveland, OH
RB - Tarian Donaldson	VUU	SR	5'9	180	Va. Beach, VA
KR - Richard Medlin	FSU	JR	5'11	188	Garner, NC
PK - Justin Parker	VUU	JR	5'9	170	Petersburg, VA

DEFENSIVE TEAM

POS / NAME	SCHOOL	CL	HT	WT	HOMETOWN
DL - Marcus Crump	SAC	SR	6'6	240	Pittsboro, NC
DL - Phillip Stevenson	SAC	JR	6'3	270	Statesville, NC
DL - Jarvis Stokes	SPC	JR	6'3	220	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
DL - Dewayne Moss	Shaw	SR	6'3	270	Petersburg, VA
LB - Marcos Esquivel	FSU	SR	6'2	235	Kearny, AZ
LB - Hurley Hemphill	VUU	SR	6'1	240	Kannapolis, NC
LB - Stevie Johnson	VUU	SR	6'3	240	Spotsylvania, VA
DB - Terrence Peete	BSU	JR	6'3	225	Memphis, TN
DB - Justin Hamilton	ECSU	SR	5'10	170	Washington, DC
DB - Jeff Gowdy	FSU	SR	5'11	175	Jacksonville, NC
DB - Andre Leblanc II	VUU	JR	6'1	205	Lithonia, GA
P - Daniel Mendez	ECSU	SR	5'11	195	Riverside, CA
PR - Robert Brown	Shaw	SR	5'9	175	Miami, FL

COUNTDOWN TO KICKOFF

Albany State the choice to unseat Tuskegee in SIAC; Cole back in saddle

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

SIAC coaches chose Albany State over three-time defending champion Tuskegee in preseason voting for the 2009 football title.

Maybe its the fact that two-time SIAC Player of the Year, Tuskegee quarterback Jacary Atkinson, has departed. Perhaps the coaches just want to see someone other than the Golden Tigers in the championship circle.

Whatever the case, that was one of the surprises as the league unveiled its predicted order of finish and preseason all-SIAC team at its Media Luncheon in Atlanta Friday.

Albany State was a narrow pick over Tuskegee for conference honors. Morehouse was third.

Despite finishing behind Albany State in the coaches' voting, Tuskegee is the only league team appearing in NCAA Div. II preseason national rankings. The Golden Tigers are ranked 14th by USA Today Sports Weekly and 16th by both the Sporting News and Lindy's Magazine.

This year's preseason team includes 20 first-team all-conference players from a year ago.

Two-time 1,000 yard rusher Winston Thompson of Clark Atlanta returns as the top running back in the conference and leads a list of seven (7) Panthers named to the list including five (5) who were named to the second team. Defending champion Tuskegee, for the second year in the row, has double-digit members on the team. This year's team features 11 Golden Tigers including five (5) on the first team, four of those on the defensive side of the ball. Morehouse had the most players on the first team with six (6) players, five (5) of which were on offense.

The preseason first team offense is comprised of all but three returning players. Newcomers to the first team were all Morehouse Men including William Brack (Jr./QB), Achille Hendje (Sr./WR) and Joseph Williams (Sr./OL). Hendje, along with Kentucky State wideout Juwan Jones and Lane receiver Robert Smith led the SIAC in receiving last year.

Highlighting the defense is Marcus Winston of Clark Atlanta. Winston was fourth in the conference in sacks and fifth in tackles for loss last season, en route to leading the nation's 12th-ranked defense.

The special teams list includes Jamar Rodriguez (Jr./KR, Morehouse), Antoine Mitchell (J./PR, Tuskegee), Alper Keskin

2009 SIAC FOOTBALL PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

1. Albany State
2. Tuskegee
3. Morehouse
4. Clark Atlanta
5. Miles
6. Fort Valley State
7. Benedict
8. Lane
9. Stillman
10. Kentucky State



COLE

PITTMAN

(Sr./PK, Benedict) and Anthony Foster (Jr./P, Benedict).

After legendary former Florida A&M and Central State head coach Billy Joe joined the SIAC at Miles last year, the league landed another coaching standout when successful for-

mer Tennessee State and Alabama State head coach L. C. Cole took the reins at Stillman in December.

Another head coaching change is at Fort Valley State where former Albany State offensive coordinator Donald Pittman takes over from Deondri Clark.

2009 PRESEASON ALL-SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TEAM

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE	FIRST TEAM DEFENSE
QB - William Brack, Morehouse	DL - Joshua Ingram, Albany State
RB - Winston Thompson, Clark Atlanta	DL - Danny Anderson, Tuskegee
RB - Quinn Porter, Stillman	DL - Marcus Winston, Clark Atlanta
WR - Juwan Jones, Kentucky State	DL - Dejuan Holmes, Morehouse
WR - Achille Hendje, Morehouse	LB - James Graham, Benedict
TE - Robert Smith, Lane	LB - Jonathan Hall, Tuskegee
OL - Eric Martiner, Lane	LB - Cordell Key, Kentucky State
OL - Ramone Harewood, Morehouse	DB - Justin Hannah, Tuskegee
OL - Michael Stevens, Tuskegee	DB - Derrick Shelton, Lane
OL - Chris Hymel, Stillman	DB - Derrick Addai, Kentucky State
OL - Joseph Williams, Morehouse	DB - Mario Fuller, Albany State
KR - Jamar Rodriguez, Morehouse	PR - Antoine Mitchell, Tuskegee
PK - Alper Keskin, Benedict	P - Anthony Foster Benedict

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE	SECOND TEAM DEFENSE
QB - Chivas Jones, Miles	DL - Michael Stevens, Tuskegee
RB - Tony Forney, Tuskegee	DL - D. J. Nettles, Morehouse
RB - Anthony Boykins, Kentucky State	DL - Timothy Bullock, Lane
WR - Mortimer Lightburn, Clark Atlanta	DL - Robert Jackson, Fort Valley State
WR - Antoine Mitchell, Tuskegee	LB - Michael Thompson, Benedict
TE - Larry Johnson, Albany State	LB - Trent Newton, Fort Valley State
OL - Alphonso Johnson, Clark Atlanta	LB - Zimier McCloud, Clark Atlanta
OL - Mike Mavromichalis, Albany State	DB - Jerome Obue, Tuskegee
OL - Carlton Norman, Clark Atlanta	DB - Justin Murray, Morehouse
OL - Keith Griffen, Kentucky State	DB - Kenneth Baker, Tuskegee
OL - Kenny Peaks, Miles	DB - Darnell Burks, Fort Valley State
KR - Jamar Robinson, Clark Atlanta	PR - An'Thon Harris, Fort Valley State
PK - Juan Bongarra, Albany State	P - Christopher Khan, Tuskegee

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HEAD FOOTBALL COACHING CHANGES FOR THE 2009 SEASON

SCHOOL	NEW	OLD
SWAC		
ALCORN STATE	Earnest E. Collins	Ernest Jones
CIAA		
VIRGINIA UNION	Michael Bailey	Greg Richardson
BOWIE STATE	Damon Wilson	Mike Lynn
J. C. SMITH	Steven Aycock	Darryl McNeil
SIAC		
FT. VALLEY STATE	Donald Pittman	Deondri Clark
STILLMAN	L. C. Cole	Greg Thompson
MEAC		
HAMPTON	Donovan Rose	Jerry Holmes
N. CAROLINA A&T	Alonzo Lee	Lee Fobbs
INDEPENDENTS		
LINCOLN (MO)	Nathan Cochran	Lemar Parrish



Bowie State's DAMON WILSON



Johnson C. Smith's STEVEN AYCOCK



Virginia Union's MICHAEL BAILEY

Photos by Joe Daniels