

FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19 THROUGH OCTOBER 25, 1999

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



FAMU Sports photo
MILESTONE: FAMU's big win over Hampton vaults Joe into elite coaching company.

STEPPING UP

BILLY JOE REACHES 200 VICTORIES; LIST OF TITLE CONTENDERS NARROWED

SCORES

Albany State 45, Clark Atlanta 7
Beth-Crman 30, SC State 27, OT
Benedict 43, Lane 12
Bloomsburg 48, Cheyney 6
Bowie State 26, NC Central 23, OT
Catawba 20, Miles 6
Del State 34, Morgan State 20
Elizabeth City 34, Livingstone 33
Florida A&M 41, Hampton 6
Fl. Valley St. 31, Tuskegee 28, OT
Grambling St. 24, Ark. Pine Bluff 19
Jackson St. 28, Alabama A&M 18
J. C. Smith 31, Fayetteville St. 20
Kentucky St. 24, Savannah St. 23
Langston 56, Lincoln (Mo.) 17
Miss. Valley St. 24, Tex. Southern 13
Morris Brown 27, Morehouse 9
NC A&T 51, Howard 0
Prairie View 21, Panhandle St. 20
Shepherd 63, W. Va. State 14
Southern 28, Alcorn State 6
Tennessee State 28, W. Ky. 21
Va. Union 21, Norfolk State 9
W-Salem State 17, Va. State 14

CIAA

W-Salem St. 5 0 0 5 2 0
Virginia Union 3 1 0 5 2 0
Virginia State 3 1 0 4 3 0
Bowie State 3 2 0 4 3 0
NC Central 2 3 0 3 5 0
J. C. Smith 1 3 0 2 6 0
Livingstone 1 4 0 3 5 0
Fayetteville St. 1 4 0 1 7 0
Elizabeth City St. 1 4 0 1 7 0

MEAC

Florida A&M 5 0 0 5 2 0
NC A&T 4 0 0 6 1 0
Delaware State 3 1 0 3 4 0
Hampton 3 2 0 5 3 0
Bethune-Cookman 2 2 0 5 2 0
SC State 1 2 0 3 3 0
Howard 1 3 0 2 5 0
Morgan State 0 4 0 2 5 0
Norfolk State 0 5 0 1 6 0

SIAC

Fort Valley 4 0 0 8 0 0
Tuskegee 3 1 0 5 2 0
Albany State 3 1 0 5 2 0
Kentucky St. 2 2 0 3 5 0
Miles 2 3 0 3 6 0
Lane 2 3 0 2 6 0
Morehouse 1 3 0 2 6 0
Clark Atlanta 0 4 0 2 6 0
Savannah St. 4 4 0
Morris Brown 4 4 0

SWAC

Jackson State 3 0 0 5 2 0
Alcorn State 1 0 0 3 4 0
Alabama A&M 1 1 0 4 4 0
Alabama State 1 2 0 1 6 0
Miss. Valley St. 0 3 0 1 7 0

INDEPENDENTS

Tennessee State 7 0 0
Sillman 3 3 0
W. Va. State 3 4 0
Benedict 3 4 0
Langston 2 5 0
Cheyney 1 7 0

Those left standing still have hurdles

After the dust cleared from last Saturday's show-down day, several teams were left standing and in best position to earn conference titles and postseason play. But they still have some work to do.

CIAA
Winston-Salem State got a 41-yard field goal with 34 seconds to play from senior placekicker **Shawn Thomas** Saturday to knock off **Virginia State** 17-14. The win puts them in the driver's seat for their first conference title since 1991 and gives them an outside chance for a spot in the Division II playoffs.

The Rams (5-0 CIAA, 5-2) are ranked eighth in the latest South Region poll and need to get into the top four to receive a playoff berth. With a home conference game

remaining Saturday against **Johnson C. Smith** and on the road Nov. 6 at **Elizabeth City**, they should be able to cruise to the title and **Pioneer Bowl** berth.

The playoff bid could hinge on their season-ending date (Nov. 13) in San Diego against **SWAC** and I-AA member **Grambling State**. Their biggest hurdle however, could be a ranking that has them, right now, behind **Virginia Union**, a team they beat 17-0 on Sept. 25.

SIAC
Jevon Tyler's game-winning field goal over-time gave **Fort Valley State** a 31-28 win over defending league champion **Tuskegee** (3-1 SIAC, 5-2) Saturday. The win solidifies the Wildcats' bid for a return trip to the D-II playoffs and gives them a leg up on their first conference title since '92.

FVSU (4-0 SIAC, 8-0), ranked seventh nationally and second in the South Region, has non-conference dates against **Savannah State** (4-4) this week and **Benedict** on Nov. 6. While winning those two games are vital to maintaining their ranking, lurking down the road is their most important game, the traditional regular season finale Nov. 13 in Columbus, Ga., vs. **Albany State**.

If the 'Cats run the table and get the playoff bid and Tuskegee wins their remaining SIAC games, TU will make a return trip to the Pioneer Bowl.

SWAC
Jackson State's 28-18 win Saturday over **Alabama A&M** gives the Tigers a 3-0 division record with only one division game left, their traditional season-ender vs. **Alcorn State** Nov. 20 in Jackson. The Braves (1-0 SWAC East, 3-4) however, would have to get by both **Miss. Valley State** (Nov. 6) and **Alabama A&M** (Nov. 13) to set up the showdown.

Meanwhile in the West, **Grambling's** 24-19 win over **Arkansas Pine Bluff** Saturday raised their division record to 2-0 (5-2 overall) and keeps them tied with **Southern** (2-0, 8-0) and **Texas Southern** (2-0, 4-3). TSU is at Grambling this weekend with the winner in position to face Southern for the division

title. Southern has TSU on Nov. 13 and Grambling in the season-ending **Bayou Classic** on Nov. 27.

MEAC
MEAC leaders **Florida A&M** (5-0 MEAC, 5-2) and **North Carolina A&T** (4-0 MEAC, 6-1) appear headed for a Nov. 13 conference title showdown in Greensboro after they trounced competition this week-end.

FAMU humbled **Hampton**, 41-6, while A&T embarrassed **Howard**, 51-0. A&T appears to have the most dangerous road, travelling to **Bethune-Cookman** (2-2, 5-2) this week and entertaining improved **Delaware State** (3-1, 3-4) on Nov. 6. The Aggies end the season Nov. 20 in Charlotte vs. S. C. State.

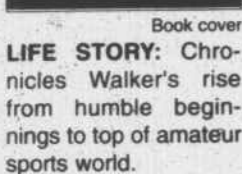
FAMU hosts **Del State** this week, and ends with **Bethune-Cookman** Nov. 20. They have a key game at home on Nov. 6 against nationally-ranked Southern.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS?

WALKER LAUDED: Dr. Leroy Walker, who

starred as a quarterback at **Benedict College** and graduated from the school in 1940 before beginning a distinguished career in collegiate sports and athletic administration, had his #11 jersey retired in ceremonies at the school Oct. 22. Walker, who served as president of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) from 1992-96, leading the American contingent into the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, was the first Benedict player to be named an all-American



by the **Pittsburgh Courier**. He later became coach of 1956 Olympic 100-meter hurdles gold medal winner **Lee Calhoun** and numerous other all-American track and field athletes while at **North Carolina College** (now NC Central) and went on to be the first African-American to be head Olympic track coach in 1976. He also served as head track coach for the national teams of Israel, Jamaica, Kenya and Ethiopia and served as four-year stint as chancellor of NC Central. His autobiography, *An Olympic Journey: The Saga of An American Hero* (ISBN 1-882180-92-5), was written with writer Charles Gaddy and published in 1998.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS?

PRESEASON HOOP PICKS

(by conference coaches)

CIAA

WOMEN EAST	MEN EAST
Bowie State	Virginia Union
Shaw	Elizabeth City
Elizabeth City	Shaw
Virginia Union	St. Paul's
Virginia State	Virginia State
St. Paul's	Bowie State
WEST	WEST
Livingstone	NC Central
Fayetteville State	Winston-Salem State
NC Central	J. C. Smith
J. C. Smith	St. Augustine's
Winston-Salem State	Fayetteville State
St. Augustine's	Livingstone

ALL-CIAA WOMEN
Deidra Fields, Beverly Winstead, Tiffany Moss, BSU; Marian Moore, Shaunic Morgan, FSU; Julie Tarrence, Chantel Edwards, Erica Deas, LC; Amba Kongolo, NCCU; Anastacia Sands, SAU; Raquita Washington, ECSU

ALL-CIAA MEN
Marcus Riddick, William Fitzgerald, ECSU; Lemans Shingler, Wylie Pettie; JCSU; Rodney Gidney, LC; Jimmy Boston, Brett Harpter, NCCU; Derick Singleton, SPC; Christian Anderson, Chandar Bingham, VUU; Marcus Best, Larry Patterson,

MEAC

WOMEN	MEN
Hampton	S. C. State
Howard	Coppin State
Florida A&M	Norfolk State
Coppin State	Hampton
Norfolk State	Bethune-Cookman
Morgan State	Md.-Eastern Shore
S. C. State	Morgan State
Md. Eastern Shore	Florida A&M
NC A&T	NC A&T
Delaware State	Delaware State
Bethune-Cookman	Howard

ALL-MEAC WOMEN
FIRST TEAM - Malveata Johnson, NC A&T; Kisha Brooks, Coppin State; Felicia Bryant, Hampton; Liesha Mitchell, Coppin State; Akita Healey, Florida A&M
SECOND TEAM - Yetta Enohakhare, Howard; Monique Liddell, Morgan State; Taisha Thomas, Norfolk State; LaRuby Marshall, Delaware State; Chanell Washington, Howard
PLAYER OF THE YEAR - Malveata Johnson

ALL-MEAC MEN
FIRST TEAM - Damian Woolfolk, Norfolk State; Jimmy Fields, Morgan State; Tarvis Williams, Hampton; Dexter Hall, S. C. State; Will Brooks, Norfolk State
SECOND TEAM - Delvin Thomas, Bethune-Cookman; Val Ned, Bethune-Cookman; Duane Johnson, S. C. State; Freddie Cole, Bethune-Cookman; James Jones, S. C. State
PLAYER OF THE YEAR - Damian Woolfolk

Sixth black college coach to reach 200 victories

Hard work, dedication pay off for FAMU's Joe

ROSCOE NANCE

Special to BCSP

Florida A&M coach **Billy Joe** is keeping fast company these days. Joe, in his sixth season with the Rattlers, registered the 200th victory of his 26-year career Saturday in Florida A&M's 41-6 win over **Hampton**.

He is the sixth Division I-AA coach with 200 or more victories - **Eddie Robinson** (Grambling State, 408), Roy Kidd (Eastern Kentucky, 292), Tubby Raymond (Delaware, 282), **John Merritt** (Tennessee State, 232) and Darrell Mudra (Northern Iowa, 200) are the others. He is No. 3 among active I-AA coaches in victories behind Kidd and Raymond, and the sixth black college coach with 200 victories, joining Robinson, **Arnett Mumford** (233), **Fred "Pop" Long** (227), **Cleve Abbott** (202), Merritt and Florida A&M's legendary former coach **Alonzo "Jake" Gaither** (203).

"I haven't really given that much thought to 200 victories," says Joe. "I'd like to tell you I'm completely ecstatic and elated...but I can't. It doesn't really seem like it's a milestone in my career because I haven't given it that much attention. If you coach long enough, you're going to get 100, 200, 300, 400 victories."

Joe, 59, attributes much of his coaching success to methods and strategies he learned from St. Louis Rams coach Dick Vermeil. Joe was a member of Vermeil's staff when Vermeil coached the Philadelphia Eagles in the late '70s and early '80s.

"Being with him was like earning my doctorate degree in coaching," says Joe. "I learned logistics, planning, management, structuring an offense, directing players and a plethora of schemes. Sid Gillman, generally regarded as the father as the modern passing game, was on that staff. I lived in his office. I learned from the masters. To this day I'm



Florida A&M Sports Photo
JOE: Has Rattlers atop MEAC standings and in the hunt for Rattlers fourth straight NCAA Div. I-AA playoff berth.

still using terminology I learned with the Eagles."

Joe also picked up Vermeil's penchant for working long hours and sleeping in his office.

"I rarely go home," says Joe. "I'm on campus 24 hours a day most of the week. In football you have to try and get an edge because most of the coaches know the same thing. The edge you can get is to outwork your opponent...With the Eagles we used say the (New York) Giants may have better facilities. The (Pittsburgh) Steelers may have better players. The (Dallas) Cowboys may have more money. But one thing we all have the same is time. The only way to get an edge is to outwork them. That's what we did."

"At 3 o'clock, 4 o'clock in the morning we'd be watching tape and Dick would say there's a touchdown. And I'd be darned on Sunday if that wasn't a touchdown. If we hadn't been there at 3 o'clock or 4 o'clock in the morning we wouldn't have gotten that touchdown because we wouldn't have seen it on tape. The coaches who go home at 7, 8 or 9 aren't going to see that touchdown."

Every time you watch a tape, even if you watch the same tape 100 times, you're going to see something you didn't see the other 99 times. I do believe in working long and hard."

Joe is not one of those people who dreamed of coaching his entire life. In fact, coaching was the one thing he didn't want to do.

"Coming out of football, I thought to become a coach was the worst thing a person could do," says Joe, who played six seasons in the American Football League with Denver, Miami and the New York Jets. "As a player you saw where coaches didn't make a lot of money. They were fired every two, three or four years. They had to move from community to community, city to city, state to state, across the country. It was a thankless job and I really didn't want any part of it."

An economics major as an undergraduate at Villanova, Joe worked briefly as a stockbroker, an investment broker and sales representative after a knee injury cut short his pro football career in 1969.

"None of those jobs excited me because I'm not a person who is motivated by money," says Joe. "Money doesn't motivate me to perform better. I was disappointed with all of those jobs."

Joe eventually found his calling when he was asked to serve as a volunteer coach at **Cheyney State** (Pa.). He stayed there seven years, before 13 dominating years at **Central State** where he compiled a 120-29-4 mark which included two NAIA national titles and two runner-up finishes. He's posted a 49-18 mark at FAMU.

"Once I got my hands into it, there was no turning back," he says. "It was something I could do for free. If someone would feed and clothe me, I could coach for nothing."

"I discovered that coaching was something that was exciting. It was

something that was worthwhile to me because you have an opportunity to impact on young people's development, their maturity and growth. To me that is personally rewarding. That fuels my personal engine."

"Once I got involved, I knew I was doing something very special. You see a young kid 17-18 years old come into your program. He's scared and immature. He's not as well developed as he's going to be socially, academically and spiritually. During the course of four years, you have the opportunity to change that young man. Once he leaves and comes back to you 10-15 years later and says now I'm a doctor, lawyer, teacher, preacher and thanks very much for doing what you did or saying what you said to me. You are partly responsible for who I am and what I am now. Those kinds of comments bring tears to your eyes. That's what football is all about."

Joe has taken the Rattlers to the I-AA playoffs each of the last three seasons. The passing game is the Rattlers' signature, and their Gulf Coast offense isn't the kind of attack you would expect from a former romping, stomping full-back like Joe.

Florida A&M uses four or five wideouts on every snap. They average 40 pass attempts. Their point totals look more like what you would find in basketball. This season, they've defeated **Norfolk State** 56-7, **South Carolina State** 76-17 and **Morgan State** 66-10.

"The Gulf Coast offense evolved into what it is because of resources we have," says Joe. "In the state of Florida it's easy to recruit skilled football players. We have three major institutions (Miami, Florida and Florida State), four if you include Central Florida, down here. They cannot get all the skilled athletes down here. If you have 50 great receivers in the state, that 50th one often-times is just as good as the first receiver."