B4 **OCTOBER 24, 2002**

FOR THE WEEK OF OCT. 22 THROUGH OCT. 28, 2002

HOT **QBs IN** BIG "LITTLE" MAN: 6-3, 25 DRIVER'S pound guarterback Bradsh Littlejohn has Morgan SEATS Bears on a roll. COACHES MAKE PICKS IN MEAG

SWAC HOOPS; BIG GAMES ON TAP

UNDER THE BANNER WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

BASKETBALL ROUNDUPS: Two-





son women's champ Howard are the picks of the league's coaches and sports information directors to win the 2002-2003 Mid Eastern Athletic Conference basketball titles. Hampton placed two players on the men's preseason all-conference team, sophomore guard Devin Green on the first team and

ard Sports Photo WILLIAMS: Howard guard picked as MEAC's top baller.

swingman Isaac Jefferson on the second team but 6-6 Howard guard Kyle Williams, who averaged 18 points per game a year

ago, was picked as the preseason player of the year. For the women, Howard forward Courtney Kirk was a first team selection while guard Asia Petty was selected to the second team. Five-six Hampton guard LaShondra Dixon was picked as preseason player of the year.

MEN PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

Florida A&M 5) Bethune-Cookman 7) North Carolina A&T 8) Norfolk State 9) Maryland-Eastern Shore 10) Coppin State 11) Morgan State PRESEASON FIRST TEAM PRESEASON FIRST TEAM Jermaine HIII, Sr. C. Florida A&M. Newark, NJ Alchard Toussaint, Sr. F. Bethune-Cookman, Tampa, FL Andre Matthews, Sr. F. Delaware State: Seaford, DE Devin Green, So. G. Hampton, Columbia, OH Kyle Williams, Sr. G. Howard, Burlington, NJ WOMEN PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH 1) Howard 2) South Carolina State 3) Hampton 4) Norfolk State 5) Coppin State 6) Bethune-Cookman 7) Delaware State 8) Maryland-Eastern Shore 9) Florida A&M 10) North Carolina A&T 11) Morgan State PRESEASON FIRST TEAM PRESEASON FIRST TEAM Nicole Brathwaite, Jr., C. Hampton, Houston, TX Lauren Forsthoff, Jr., F. Bethune-Cookman, Lalayette, LA Courtney Kirk, Sr., F. Howard, Fairfield, AL Nicole Rhem, Jr., G. South Carolina State, Brooklyn, NY LaSh ondra Dixon, Sr., G. Hampton, Sparta, GA Alcorn State (men) and Alabama State (women) are the preseason choices of league coaches for the 2002-2003 Southwestern Athletic Conference basketball crowns.

They also picked Grambling star forward Paul Haynes to

repeat as men's player of the year and Alabama State guard Shameka Jackson to take the women's award.

REDICTED ORDER OF FINISH P. Alcorn State 2) Alabama State 3) Mississippi Valley State 4) Grambling State 5) Texas Southern 6) Alabama A&M 7) Jackson State 6) Southern 9) Praire View A&M 10) Arkansas-Pine Bluft PRESEASON FIRST TEAM Ra'Kim Hollis, Jr., G. Texas Southern, Tyler Ty Pa Kim Holins, Jr., G., texas Southern, Tyler IX Gregory Burks, Sr., G. Prairie View A&M. Flint, MI Paul Haynes, Jr., F. Grambing State, Aubum Hills, MI Cliff Walker, Sr., F. Jackson State, Mendian, MS Alvin Pettway, Sr., C, Alabama State, Montgomery, AL WOMEN WOMEN DICTED ORDER OF FINISH

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THE CHRONICLE

2002 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Results Standing

In the MEAC, quarterbacks running to glory

ROSCOE NANCE Special to the BCSF

This has been the year of the quarterback in black college football, particularly at the Division I-AA level where several signal-callers in the MEAC and SWAC are having banner seasons

But they are using different methods to get the job done. Quarterbacks in the pass-happy SWAC are throwing the ball like there is no tomorrow while MEAC signal-callers are threats to run and throw. This is the first installment in a two-part series, "QBs in the Hot Seat," that looks at the top quarterbacks in the two conferences.

Quarterbacks who can run and throw are a defense's worst nightmare.

That said, defensive units throughout the Mid Eastern Athletic Conference have had plenty of headaches this season because the conference is overrun with quarterbacks who can win games with their arms and legs.

Quarterbacks Allen Suber of Bethune-Cookman, Reese McCamp-bell of South Carolina State and Brad Littlejohn of Morgan State were Nos. 1, 2 and 3 respectively in rushing through the first seven weeks of the season, and each was averaging at least 246 yards a game total offense. Perhaps even more importantly, their respective teams are at or near the top of the conference race.

Suber, a junior, heads the list of MEAC double-threat quarterbacks. Suber leads the conference in rushing, passing and total offense and is fourth in all of 1-AA in rushing. He is a leading candidate for the Walter Payton Award, which goes to the best I-AA player each year. South Carolina State coach Buddy Pough says Suber, in his opinion, is the best player ever in I-AA.

"I coached against Tracy Ham (when he played quarterback for Georgia Southern - Ham is now coach at Clark Atlanta)," Pough says, "and I thought he was the best guy to play in I-AA. I think he can do more things than Ham." He ought to know. Suber riddled Pough's Bulldogs this past weekend for 192 rushing yards on 25 carries while leading the undefeated Wildcats (8-0, 4-0 MEAC) to a 21-6 win.

Suber's ability to throw the ball is what separates him from other doublethreat quarterbacks. He is not a running back that B-CC head coach Alvin Wyatt put under center. He has always played quarterback, even in Pee Wee League. He threw for more than 2,400 yards as a senior in high school, where he was strictly a drop-back passer.



"SUBERMAN": Elusive B-CC quarterback Allen Suber (7) eludes S. C. State defender en route to 192-yard rushing performance that felled Bulldogs, 21-6 Saturday. Suber is fourth in I-AA in rushing at 124 ypg. and has 15 touchdowns for the undefeated (8-0) Wildcats

Oklahoma Wishbone quarterbacks, they couldn't really throw the ball," says Pough. "He can make all kinds of throws. He can throw the deep ball; he can throw the out ball, he can throw the read balls. The fact he can do all those things makes him a special guy."

Suber became proficient at running Bethune-Cookman's Wyatt-bone option offense by watching Pa'Tell Troutman while he red-shirted during the 1999 season. Even though Suber has developed his running ability to the point where one of the great debates in Daytona Beach is who is better, him or Troutman, Suber still doesn't consider himself a running quarterback.

"I consider myself a quarterback who" can take advantage of what defenses give me," he says. "I can rush for 240 yards or throw for 250. I've always considered myself an athlete. I'm able to run well. I have good vision. I enjoy throwing a lot more. But at this point, whatever it takes I'll do. This is an option-based offense. We're having success. I have no complaints."

Defenders have lots of complaints, however, every time Suber touches the ball. He has rushed for 992 yards (124.0 per game), passed for 1,206 (150.7 per game) and amassed 2,198 total yards (274.7 per game). He leads the MEAC with 15 rushing TDs, a total that ranks him third in scoring in all of I-AA football. He will be the first black college quarterback to run and throw for 1,000 vards in the same season since S. C. State's Marvin Marshall accomplished the feat in 1996.



SCSU Photo "THE BIG SHOW": Morgan State QB Bradshaw "The Big Show" Littlejohn (7), all 258 pounds of him, has helped lead a resurgence for the 3-4 Bears running for 81 yards per game. South Carolina State's Reese McCampbell's (3) 85.9 rushing yards per contest are second only to Suber's in conference stats and have been instrumental in the 5-2 Bulldogs rise into the upper echelon of the MEAC.

pick," Pough says. "You just can't hem him up. There are times when he will run the option -- and he reads the option great -- but if he misses the read he'll go back in the opposite direction and reverse the field, and maybe even throw the football. You don't ever know what you're going to get. It's easy to plan for a guy when you have some kind of feel for him, when everything goes to plan. But you never know where this guy is going."

Says Hampton coach Joe Taylor: "Suber is just an exceptional athlete. He's just awesome.'

At 6-3, 258 pounds, Littlejohn is another exceptional athlete. He played quarterback, linebacker and running back in high school in Gaffney, S.C. He signed with Michigan State out of high school. The Spartans penciled him in as a linebacker and fullback. but Littlejohn saw himself as a quarterback, albeit an oversized one, and transferred to Morgan State. His considerable running ability - he's averaging 81 yards per game on the ground has been instrumental in the Bears' improvement this season.

"Anytime you have a quarterback who can run, he causes chaos for the defense," says Morgan State coach Donald Hill-Eley, who says he goes zone and don't blitz," he says, "It's built pounds he can stand some pounding." his running ability has helped the your own."

"It's like eating Jell-O with an ice Bulldogs, who are operating out of a spread formation that features four and five receiver sets, to average almost 30 points a game. McCampbell is averaging 85.9 rushing yards per game.

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"If you can run from the spread look, it really helps you," says South Carolina State's Pough. "He's a hell of a runner. He doesn't have a clue when the throws sometimes. But when you add in his running, you've got something pret-IV.

Coaches throughout the MEAC agree that running quarterbacks are a sign of the times. They say that coaches at all levels are looking for mobile signal-callers. But North Carolina A&T coach Bill Hayes says it's nothing new.

"Actually football has gone back 40 years," Hayes says. "What has happened is people have taken the old Single Wing and are using some wide receivers instead all of those running backs. Actually the quarterback is the tailback in some of these offenses. That's why he's running the ball so much. He's just a glorified tailback who can throw the football."

Suber says the way teams play defense in the MEAC makes it essential that quarterbacks are able to run.

"This conference is not a conference where defenses sit back and play

Khadijah Haqq So., G. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Ciaveland, OH Shameka Jackson, Sr., F. Alabama State, Saginav, Mi Genina Johnson, Sr., F. Jackson State, Jackson, MS Chovanigue Kibble, Sr. C., Grambling State, Houston, TX

THE STAT CORNER

VHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HOW THEY DID IT

BETHUNE-COOKMAN 21. S. C. State 6

Bethune-Cookman QB Allen Suber rushed for 192 yards and a TD as the oddefeated and BCSP top-ranked Wildcats (8-0, 4-0 MEAC) won a key MEAC battle over S. C. State (5-2, 2-1 MEAC) in Orangeburg. The output gives Suber 992 rushing yards on the season with four games left. TUSKEGEE 19, Morehouse 14

Tuskegee (6-1, 4-1 SIAC) scored early and late to edge Morehouse (4-3, 2-2 SIAC) in the 67th Morehouse-Skeege Classic before 24.891 in Columbus, Ga. The Golden Tigers, who scored first to lead 7-0 and then fell behind 14-7 through three quarters, scored on a 7-yard run from Cortlandt Florence with 3:26 left to tie the score and won it on a 20-yard 'Travis Gumbs' field goal with seven seconds to play. A safety on the kickoff provided the final margin.

- GRAMBLING 54. Ark.-Pine Bluff 15

Grambling (6-1, 3-0 SWAC W) got seven TD passes off 397 passing yards from QB Bruce Eugene in routing Arkansas-Pine Bluff (2-5, 1-4 SWAC W).

MORGAN STATE 38, Howard 20

Morgan State (3-4, 2-2 MEAC), who ruined NC A&T's homecoming la week, did the same at Howard (3-3, 1-2 MEAC) this past weekend. MSU RB T. J. Stallings ran 36 times for 206 yards and scored five TDs. Stallings also had two receptions for 61 yards and a 45-yard kickoff return FAYETTEVILLE STATE 20, Virginia State 10

Fayetteville State (6-1, 4-0 CIAA W) and Virginia State (5-2, 3-1 CIAA E) battled on near even terms in the yardage stats (FSU 379, VSU 377) for the game but three interceptions, including one returned by FSU DB Phil Crumb for a fourth quarter TD, proved to be the difference

CAZEEZ Communications, Inc. VOL. IX, NO. 11

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"Even when you think about the great

GAMES THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2002

Bloomsburg vs. Cheyney in Bloomsburg, PA Ft. Valley St. vs. Tuskegee in Fort Valley, GA Howard vs. N.C. A&T in Washington, DC J. C. Smith vs. Fayetteville State in Charlotte, NC Kentucky State vs. Benedict in Frankfort, KY Norfolk State vs. Florida A&M in Norfolk, VA N.C. Central vs. Virginia Union in Durham, NC Paul Quinn vs. Ranger in Dallas, TX S. C. State vs. Hampton in Orangeburg, SC St. Aug's vs. Shaw in Raleigh, NC St. Paul's vs. Edward Waters in Lawrenceville, VA Praine View A&M vs. Southern in Houston, TX Texas S'thern vs. Miss. Valley St. in Houston, TX Virginia State vs. WSSU in Petersburg, VA W. Virginia St vs. Concord in Institute, WV

HOMECOMINGS

Langston vs. Lincoln (MO) in Guthrie, OK Livingstone vs. Eliz. City St. in Salisbury, NC Morehouse vs. Lane in Atlanta, GA Morgan St. vs. Delaware State in Baltimore, MD Morris Brown vs. Samford in Atlanta, GA Tenn. State vs. UT-Martin in Nashville, TN

TV GAMES

61st Magic City Classic (On BET) Alab. St. vs. Alab. A&M in B'ham, AL (Tape 6 pm) 3:00pm (On MBC Network) Albany State vs. Clark Atlanta in Albany, GA 1:30pm Grambling vs. Jackson St. in Grambling, LA (Tape 7:30pm)1:30pm

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into each game with at least six run- on speed. I don't see a pocket passer ning plays for Littlejohn. "At 258 being successful, Teams put DBs up in bump man coverage and blitz. McCampbell, like Littlejohn, isn't Sometimes you have to be able to get the polished passer that Suber is. But outside the pocket and make plays on

Magic City Classic highlights schedule

LUT WILLIAMS **BCSP Editor**

1:00om

7:00pm 12:00pm

1:30pm

7:00pm

A couple of key SWAC matchups highlight the last weekend of the October black college football schedule. The annual battle for Alabama black college foot-

7:00pm ball supremacy, Birmingham's 61st Magic City Classic 1:30pm at historic Legion Field matching Alabama A&M 2:00pm against Alabama State, should bring out a great crowd 1:30pm and has added spice this year as both teams are in the 1:30pm running for the SWAC E. Div. title. 1:30pm

7:00pm Alabama State (5-2, 2-2 SWAC E) and head coach 7:00pm L. C. Cole took a big step to get back into contention 1.30pm with a 24-20 win over then division co-leader Jackson 1:00pm State at the Oct. 12 Gulf Coast Classic in Mobile. ASU will come in well rested after an open date last weekend.

A&M (5-2, 3-0 SWAC E), under first-year head 2:00pm 2:00pm coach Anthony Jones, is the surprise leader in the division though the real meat of its schedule lies ahead. 2:00nm After Alabama State the Bulldogs play at Jackson State 1:00pm (Nov. 9) and host Alcorn State (Nov. 16), their nearest 1:00pm 6:00pm pursuers in the division.

PREDICTION: With two weeks to prepare, look out for the Cole brothers. ASU 31, A&M 20,

SWAC W. Div. leader Grambling (6-1, 3-0 SWAC W) hosts Jackson State (3-3, 2-1 SWAC E) in a game that counts on both teams' divisional records. Grambling will likely follow Alabama State's blueprint to victory,

2002 BCSP TOP TEN

1. BETHUNE-COOKMAN (8-0) - Beat then BCSP #2 S. C. State, 21-6. NEXT: Idle 2. GRAMBLING (6-1) - Throttled Ark-Pine Blutt, 54-15. NEXT, Hosts Jackson State 3. S. C. STATE (5-2) - Lost al home to #1 B-CC. 21-6. NEXT: Hosting Hampton. 4. ALCORN STATE (5-2) - Fell to Samford, 34-25. NEXT: Ide. 5. HAMPTON (5-2) - Knocked of Norfolk State, 31-14. NEXT. At S. C. State. 6. ALABAMA A&M (5-2) - Beat MVSU, 24-13. NEXT: Magic City vs. Alabama State 7. FORT VALLEY ST. (6-2) - Shutout Benedict, 15-0. NEXT: Hosting Tuskegee. 8. ALABAMA STATE (5-2) - Ide. NEXT: Alabama A&M in Birmingham. 9. TUSKEGEE (6-1) - Edged Morehouse 19-14. NEXT At Fort Valley State 10. FAYETTEVILLE STATE (6-1) - Beat Virginia State, 20-10. NEXT: At J. C. Smith.

constant pressure on JSU QB Robert Kent. GSU 32, **JSU 30**.

In the MEAC, with top gun and BCSP #1 Bethune-Cookman idle, S.C. State (5-2, 2-1 MEAC) hosts or Hampton (5-2, 3-0 MEAC) with second place in the conference on the line. Hampton wins 23-20,

Tuskegee (6-1, 4-1 SIAC) is at SIAC front-runner Fort Valley State (6-2, 6-0 SIAC). Look for another nailbiter with FVSU prevailing, 24-18.

Fayetteville State (6-1, 4-0 CIAA W) should clinch its first W. Div. title with a 23-10 win over J. C. Smith.