

2002 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

SCORES
NOVEMBER 2
Albany St 22, Morehouse 8
Ark-Pine Bluff 44, Prame View 0
Bowle St 10, Virginia St 6
Elu. City St 15, WSSU 14
Fairmont St. 40, WVSU 20
Fayatteville St 28, Va Union 18
Fin. Atlantic 34, Mp. Brown 13
Grambling St 34, Alabama St 21
Hampton 37, B-Cookman 7
Hastings 35, Langston 12
Howard 23, SC State 9
Jackson St 13, Alab. A&M 11
Julie 44, Edward Waters 31
JC Smith 29, NCCU 14
Kutztown 37, Cheyney 13
Lincoln (MO) 29, Liane 6
Livingstone 12, St Aug's 7
Miss Valley St 23, Alcom St 6
Alternative Co. Et al. Toron Co. 100

		DIV		ALL
2	E. DIVISION	W	L	W
Q	* Bowie State	5	2	6
	Virginia State	-5	2	7
	Virginia Union	4	3	7
	Eliz. City State	2	5	2
	W. DIVISION			
H	* Fayetteville State	7	0	9
	W-Salem State	4	3	4
	N. C. Central	2	5	4
	Livingstone	- 2	5	4
	J. C. Smith	1	7	2
	St. Augustine's	0	7	1
	* Clinched Division to	tle		
	CIAA PLAYERS OF TH	E WEE	X	
	RECEIVER			
	TEMARCUS MONEIL			
	rsc., 84 yds., 1 TD in wir	Chet.	V.C.	Centra
	CORNELL THORNTON		no.	Country
	COMMELL INCHMION	V. 50	MD.	F8940

RECEIVER	CBRING
TEMARCUS MoNEIL, Sr., TE, JC Smith - B	vs. 90
rac., 84 yds., 1 TD to win over N. C. Central	DEFE
OFFENSIVE BACK	10.0003375
	ISAAC
CORNELL THORNTON, So., RB, Fayetteville	helpin
St 155 yds., 27 carries with 2 TDs vs. VUU.	ROOM
DEFENSIVE LINEMAN	BRIAN
BRIAN HOLLIDAY, Sr., LB. FSU - 10t. 6 spice.	1 175-55707
	101 yr
In win over Virginia Union.	SPEC
DEFENSIVE BACK	DONT
MALCOLM GADDY, Sr., SS, Eliz. City St 7t.	Bicada
1 sack, 1 int., in win over WSSU	
	one in
ROOKIE	OFFE
DONJA GOODSON, Fr., QB, JC Smith +	ERIK
Compl. 11-37 for 107 you, and a TD vs. NCCU	
	Pinto

t	MEAC	ATHLETIC	Eas Co	TENN	ENCE	SIAC SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE				SWAC A	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE				
		00	NE	AL	1		coi	6	ALL			DIV		ALL	
				w			W	1	W	1	E. DIVISION	W	L	W	L
	Bethune-Cookman		7			* Tuskegee	2	1	.0	1	Alebama A&M	4	1	6	3
	Florida A&M	2	4	4		Fort Valley State	6	4	7	3	Alcom State	3	2	6	3
	N. S. Carrier, S. C. Carrier, S. C. Carrier, S. Carrie	3	7	5	2	Albany State	5	-		4	Jackson State	3	2	5	4
	Hampton	*	-6	0	0.9	Morehouse		4		7	Alabama State	9	4	6	4
	Howard	4	-8	-	3	The state of the s	- 2	2	.0	2	Miss. Valley St.	5	4	-	
	Morgan State	4	3	5	5	Miles	9	4	2_	<u>a</u> ,	W. DIVISION	*	7	7	9
	SC State	3	3	6	4	Lane	3	5	3	7	The state of the s			1	
	NC ABT State	2	4	4	6	Benedict	2	6	- 2	8	* Grambling State	0	0	H	
	Delaware State	1	- 10	4	4	Kentucky State	- 1	6	2	8	Southern	3	2	4	.6
	Norfolk State		7	12	-	Clark Atlanta	4	7		8	Texas Southern	3	3	4	6
	MOROIK State	1	0	3		* Clinched conferen	or Illia	15		.90.	Ark: Pine Bluff	2	4	3	6
	MEAC PLAYERS OF	THE WEE	K			Company Contents					Prairie View A&M	0	6	1	9

career-high 182 yds., on school-record 40 cer.
vs. SCSU.
DEFENSE
ISAAC HILTON, Sr., DE, Hampton - Ht. 4 solos.
helping hold B-OC to 49 you, rushing.
ROOKIE
BRIAN HUDGINS, Fr., RB, NC AEY - 22 GH.
131 yds. 1 TD in win over DelState. SPECIAL TEAMS
DONTRAIL POTTER, Fr., DB. Hampton
Blocked two B-CC purits, recovering the second
one in the and wore live a TO

ing hold B-OC to 49 you, rushing	0.1
WE	NE
AN HUDGINS, Fr., RB, NC ABT - 22 GH.	TA
vds. 1 TD in win over DelState.	26
CIAL TEAMS	KE
STRAIL POTTER, Fr., DB, Hampton	Ra
kad two B-CC punts, recovering the second	SP
in the end zone for a TD.	JE
ENSIVE LINEMAN	His
C STEINER, Sr., DL, Hampton - Helped	OF
ten ribe on 1665 yearts of tonal offenses anamet	RC

	CONF		ALL		
	W	1	W	1	
* Tuskegee	7	1	9	1	
Fort Valley State	6	1	7	3	
Albany State	5	2	6	4	
Morehouse	4	3	6	4	
Miles	4	3	-6_	5	
ane	-3	5	3	7	
Benedict -	2	6	2	8	
Centucky State	1	6	2	8	
Clark Atlanta	1	7	3	8	
Clinched conferen	os title				

OFFENSE
NICHOLAS SMITH, So., QB, Miles - Passed
for 211 yds., 3 TDs in 26-21 loss to Southern.
DEFENSE
DRAYTON FLORENCE, Sr., DB, Tuskegee -
6 tackles and int. returned for TD vs. KSU.
NEWCOMER
TAWAIN BYRD, Fr., QB, Benedict - 11-26 for
267 yards vs. Stillman.
KERENSKI McGHEE, Sr., RB, Albany State -
Ran for 160 yds., on 22 car, and 1 TD vs. MHC.
SPECIAL TEAMS
JEFFREY STANTON, Sr., DB/KR, Tuskagee -

	DIV		ALL	
E. DIVISION	W	L	W	L
Alabama A&M	4	1	6	3
Alcom State	3	2	6	3
Jackson State	3	2	5	4
Alabama State	2	4	5	4
Miss. Valley St.	2	4	4	6
W. DIVISION				
* Grambling State	6	0	9	1
Southern	.3	2	4	6
Texas Southern	3	3	4	6
Ark: Pine Bluff	2	4	3	6
Prairie View A&M	0	6	- 1	9
* Clinched Division title				

WAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

KENNETH PEOPLES, So., RB, Southern - 1

Paul Quinn Lincoin (Mo.)

W. Va. State

INDEPENDENTS

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

ABRAMS STEPS DOWN: North Carolina Central University head football coach Rudy



Photo by Lut Williams to retire after 4-6 at N.C. record Central this year.

Abrams announced his retirement from the Eagle football program Saturday, immediately following a disheartening 29-14 home loss to Johnson C. Smith that concluded an emotional roller coaster ride through the 2002 season. "It's time," Abrams told reporters when he emerged from the locker room after ABRAMS: Decides telling his student-athletes and coaching staff about his retirement. Abrams said he has been considering this decision for a few months,

but made it official on Friday (Nov. 8) when he submitted a letter of retirement to NCCU Athletic Director Lin Dawson. "Coach Abrams leaves this program with a solid foundation," Dawson said. "Next year, 22 seniors will return for the 2003 season. I wish him well as he prepares for the next phase in his life." The Eagles finished the 2002 campaign with a 4-6 overall record, only Abrams' second losing season in nine years as a college head coach. His overall coaching record now stands at 53-36-1, including an 18-21 record in four seasons at NCCU. Prior to accepting the NCCU job, Abrams spent five years at his alma mater, fellow CIAA-member Livingstone College, where he posted a 35-15 record and led the Blue Bears to two CIAA titles (19?? and 19??)

PIONEER BOWL TO TAMPA: The Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) and the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) announced that the 6th Annual Pioneer Bowl Weekend is set for Friday, December 13 through Sunday, December 15, 2002 at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida. Kickoff time is set for Noon on Sunday, December 15. The Pioneer Bowl, currently the only post-season black college bowl game in the nation, began in 1997. The first two games were played at Morris Brown's Herndon Stadium and then moved to the Georgia Dome for the next three games. The move to Tampa, Florida is another step in evolution of the Pioneer Bowl. The change is part of an overall effort to brand the event, capitalize on the regional strength of the game and provide a festive atmosphere and good experience for the student-athletes, students, administrators, alumni, fans and supporters of the CIAA and the SIAC. The overall goal is to strengthen the connection for students, fans, alumni and sponsors, while reflecting the athletic and academic excellence and values personified by the CIAA and the SIAC. Individual ticket prices for the game range from \$15.00 to \$50.00.

SWAC GETS NEW SPONSOR:

sponsor of the 2002 SWAC Football Championship Game to be played Dec. 14 in Birmingham. Alamerica Bank is the first Alabama-based bank and minority-owned company to serve as title sponsor for the game which pits SWAC East and West Division champs at Legion Field. "We're proud to sponsor the 2002 SWAC Football Championship Game," said Bob Nesbitt, President of Alamerica Bank. "This is the first time that Alamerica Bank has sponsored a sporting event, and we look forward to developing a solid business relationship with the SWAC." "Alamerica Bank's title sponsorship of the SWAC Football Championship game will definitely develop a working relationship between the Southwestern Athletic Conference and Alamerica Bank," says SWAC Interim Commissioner, Dr. James Frank. "We are finding a lot of companies that want to get involved with the SWAC and its member institutions. In addition, this is a great way to develop early consumer interest with students at our schools and potential consumer opportunities with alumni and fans." Events taking place during SWAC Championship Week include the SWAC Hall of Fame Gala, United States Air Force SWAC Youth Expo Tour, the "Surround Sound" featuring the team's bands, the Coca-Cola Football Town USA and SWAC Vendor Village. This is the last sporting event at Legion Field commemorating 75 years of tradition at the historical stadium. Tickets for the game are \$20 and \$10 in advance and \$25 and \$15 day of the game. Tickets are available through www.swacchampionship.com and Ticketmaster at 715-6000 or 800-277-1700. All seats are reserved. Kickoff is scheduled for 1 p.m.

CIAA set, SWAC E., MEAC still TBD

After last weekend's games, all the players for the 2002 postseason in black college football are in place except representatives from the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and the Southwestern Athletic Conference's East Division. Those races are headed for decisions in the final two weeks of the regular season.

Meanwhile, the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association will crown its new champ this weekend.

CIAA

Bowie State (6-4, 5-2 CIAA E) pulled out a 10-6 win over Virginia State (7-3, 5-2 CIAA E) Saturday to claim the CIAA East Division title and will face West Division winner Fayetteville State (9-1, 7-0 CIAA W) Saturday (1 p.m.) in Winston-Salem (N.C) for the conference championship.

Fayetteville State is up to third in the latest NCAA Div. II South Region Poll (16th nationally) and, with a win over Bowie State, will assure itself of a spot in the national playoffs. The top four teams in each of four regions make up the 16-team Div. II playoff field. The CIAA has not had a team to make the playoff field since 1993 (then-CIAA member, Hampton).

Win or lose, Bowie State will play opposite

1. GRAMBLING (9-1) - Handled Alabama State, 34-21 to

2, BETHUNE-COOKMAN (9-1) - Without (QB) Suber, falls

3. TUSKEGEE (9-1) - Clinched fourth straight SIAC title

4. ALCORN STATE (5-3) - Upset by Miss. Valley St., 23-

5. ALABAMA A&M (6-3) - Knocked off by Jackson State,

13-11. NEXT: Hosting Alcom State.
6. HAMPTON (6-4) - Big win over BCSP #1 Bethune

7. FAYETTEVILLE STATE (9-1) - Beat Virginia Union, 28-

8. FORT VALLEY STATE (7-3) - Idle. NEXT: Albany State

9. HOWARD (6-3) - Beat S. C. State 23-9. NEXT: Plays

10. S. C. STATE (6-4) - Upended by Howard, 23-9.

clinch SWAC West title. NEXT: At Morris Brown

ith 28-25 win over Kentucky State. NEXT: Idle

37-7 to Hampton. NEXT: Hosting Howard.

Cookman, 37-7. NEXT: Hosting N. C. A&T.

18. NEXT: CIAA title game vs. Bowie Stat

PREDICTION: Kenny Phillips' Fayetteville State team beat Bowie State 13-7 on Nov. 2 in a defensive struggle decided on an interception return for a touchdown in the final 90 seconds. With both teams ranked in the top ten nationally in both total and scoring defense, points will be hard to come by. Henry Frazier's Bulldogs turned the ball over twice in the first game leading to FSU scores. They can't do that again, because FSU has the offensive edge. FSU 20, BSU 14.

MEAC

Bethune-Cookman played without star quarterback Allen Suber last week vs. Hampton and his absence was key in a 37-7 loss, the Wildcats' (9-1, 5-1) first of the season. That loss has thrown open the MEAC gates to Florida A&M (7-4, 5-2), Hampton (6-4, 4-2) and Howard (6-3, 4-2), who each have two losses in conference play, and presents a number of scenarios that could determine the conference champion. Remember, the MEAC champ gets an automatic bid to the NCAA Div. I-

Alvin Wyatt's B-CC Wildcats control their own destiny. Win their last two games, this week at home against Howard and in Orlando on Nov. 23 vs. Florida A&M, and the title is theirs. Everyone else needs some help.

Billy Joe's Florida A&M Rattlers need B-CC to beat Howard this week and then defeat B-CC themselves to win the crown. Ray Petty's Howard Bison need a win over B-CC this week and a win over Delaware State to end the season coupled with a loss by Hampton in either of its final two games to take the title. Joe Taylor's Hampton Pirates must win their final two games over N. C. A&T and Morgan State, and see Howard beat B-CC and B-CC beat FAMU to claim the championship.

PREDICTION: Wyatt says Suber is about 90 percent certain to play against Howard though he's still hobbling on a sore ankle. If he plays, the Wildcats win. If he's out, Howard takes another step toward the title.

Hampton will dispose of A&T (33-17).

SWAC

Three teams remain alive for the SWAC E. Div. title and a spot opposite W. Div. champ Grambling in the Dec. 14 SWAC Championship game.

Alabama A&M (6-3, 4-1) and Alcorn State (6-3, 3-2), both coming off losses, meet in Huntsville, Al.,

GAMES THIS WEEK

	077 777 5516
ATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2002	0
labama A&M vs. Alcom St. in Huntsville, AL	1:30pm
labama St. vs. MVSU in Montgomery, AL.	1:30pm
rkansas-Pine Bluff vs. Lane in Pine Bluff, AR	1:30pm
lenedict vs. Edward Waters in Columbia, SC	2:00pm
Theyney vs. Millersville in Cheyney, PA	1:00pm
-Webb vs. Sav. State in Boiling Spr., NC	1:00pm
lampton vs. N.C. A&T in Hampton, VA	1:00pm
ackson St. vs. Pr. View A&M in Jackson, MS	3:00pm
Centucky St. vs. ClAtlanta in Frankfort, KY	1:30pm
Ailes vs. Morehouse in Fairfield, AL	5:00pm
Norris Brown vs. Grambling St. in Atlanta, GA	1:30pm
forfolk State vs. DelState in Norfolk, VA	1:00pm
S.C. State vs. Morgan St. in Orangeburg, SC	1:30pm
Southern vs. T. Southern in Baton Rouge, LA	7:00pm
Tenn. State vs. Tenn. Tech in Nashville, TN	1:30pm
W. Va. St. vs. W. Liberty St. in Institute, WV	1:00pm
TV GAMES (On MBC Network)	
CIAA Championship	
Bowie St. vs. Fayetteville St. in W-Salem, NC	1:00pm
B-Cookman vs. Howard in Dayt. Beach, FL.	5:00pm
13th Fountain City Classic	
FVSU vs Albany State in Columbus, GA	1:30pm
	Tape Delay at 9 pm

Saturday with the winner in position to clinch the title with a win on the last weekend of the regular season (see story below). A&M closes against Arkansas-Pine Bluff while Alcorn ends the season at Jackson State; the other team with a shot at the crown

JSU (5-4, 3-2), which got a big win over A&M last week to keep its division title hopes alive, has what should be an easy date hosting Prairie View (1-9, 0-6) this week. The Tigers must win out and hope A&M loses one of its final two games to give them the title.

PREDICTION: Alcorn is reeling. Take A&M. 23-16. JSU should have no problems with PV A&M.

SIAC Tuskegee (9-1, 7-1) clinched its fourth straight Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title with a close 28-26 win over Kentucky State Saturday night. The Golden Tigers have a Thanksgiving (Nov. 28) date with Alabama State to finish out the regular season before travelling to Tampa, Fl., for the 6th Annual Pioneer Bowl on Dec. 15 (See UNDER THE BANNER) vs. Bowie State.

Alcorn, Alabama A&M in battle for SWAC East title

BCSP Contributing Writer

It has come down to cases for Alcorn State and Alabama A&M.

After confounding the experts all season by staying at or near the top of the SWAC Eastern Division standings, this pair of unlikely championship contenders faces their day of reckoning Saturday when they meet in Normal, Ala. The winner will stay alive in a divi-

sion race that became tighter than a pair of cheap leather pants last weekend when Jackson State (5-4, 3-2) beat Alabama A&M (6-3, 4-1) and Alcorn State (6-3, 3-2) lost to in-state rival Mississippi

A&M and Alcorn control their own destiny. Either can punch its ticket for Birmingham and a date with Grambling State in the fourth annual SWAC Championship Game on Dec 14, by winning its remaining two games. Alcorn plays Jackson State on Nov. 23 and A&M plays Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

"One of the greatest feelings is to have the chance to control your own destiny," said first-year Alabama A&M head coach Anthony Jones. "That's what your fight in life is to do.'

After getting off to an 0-2 start with a new coaching staff and relying on a pair of freshmen quarterbacks, the Bulldogs didn't figure to be in control of much of anything. They were picked to finish fourth in the East after going 4-7 under Ron Cooper last season.

"When I saw the preseason selection, it didn't bother me," Jones says. "With a new coaching staff and a 4-7 record how can you be upset with people thinking you're not going to do anything? That's why we play the season. We worked hard to put ourselves in this situ-

A&M ran off six consecutive victories and dealt themselves a hand in the division race by relying of defense, field





GUNNING FOR A TITLE: Alabama A&M head coach Anthony Jones (I.) and Alcorn State head coach Johnny SWAC East Division title and a shot at Grambling in the Dec. 14 SWAC

position and an opportunistic offense.

A&M leads the SWAC in scoring defense and is No. 14 in Division I-AA, allowing 16.3 points a game. The Bulldogs are also in the top 20 nationally in total defense and rushing defense.

The Bulldogs boast a +10 turnover margin for the season. Offensively, they are last in SWAC first downs (115), but first in red zone offense, scoring 80% of the time they get inside the 20.

"The kids are playing well and understanding the concept of team," says Jones. The big thing is taking advantage of turnovers and taking care of the football."

Jones points to the Bulldogs' 23-13 loss to Grambling in the second game of the season as the turning point for his team.

"We played Grambling tough even though we came away with a loss," says Jones. "We felt there were some things that needed to be done. We talked about it. We cleared the air. We got some things off our chest. We cleaned the slate. They understood why we lost those games.

"We went back to fundamentals," says Alabama A&M running backs coach Stanley Conner. "We got guys to understand that you have to practice a certain way and play a certain way. You have to play with effort. Practice with effort. It's all about effort, not talent. Guys wanted to win. Once you get a taste of winning, you will do the things necessary to win. Meanwhile, Alcorn State is trying to

finish off its own rags-to-riches tale. The Braves were winless for the first time in school history two years ago with virtually the same players who have them on the brink of playing for the championship.

"Maturity, spirit and the will to win of players has made the difference," says Head Coach Johnny Thomas. "We're playing with the same people. We didn't have any people transfer or become academically ineligible. You can tell the difference in terms of maturity and experience and will to win. No situation fazes them."

The Braves showed just how unflappable they are two weeks ago when they blew a 22-6 lead against Southern and held on to win 22-20. It was their first win at Mumford Stadium since 1991 and their first victory over SU since 1994.

"Two years ago we would have lost to Southern," says Thomas. "We don't panic. They get tenacious and rise to the occasion, but we need to get a killer

Thomas says the Braves' victory against Southern is a microcosm of their season. They have yet to play a complete

"When we didn't do so well defensively, the offense rose to the occasion," he says. "Or the special teams put the offense in good position. When one (unit) or the other would breakdown the other would rise up, or a combination of both, to compensate for the other's inability to rise up. If we can get them all to jell we can be very difficult to deal with. We haven't had all three units to play to their potential for four quarters."

Alcom's inconsistency on offense an be traced to quarterback Donald Carrie's inconsistency. Carrie had his lowest completion total of the season connecting on 8-of-27 passes for 97 yards

against Southern. He had his most productive game of the season the previous week, completing 22 of 37 attempts for 335 yards and one touchdown.

"He looks good for 2-3 series," says Thomas. "Then he'll not look good."

For the season Carrie has completed 122 of 261 attempts (46.7%) for 1,750 vards. He has thrown 13 interceptions and 15 touchdowns, and averages 194.4 yards a game, fourth best in the conference.

That has forced Alcorn to rely more the running game than Thomas had anticipated. He has been satisfied with the results as the Braves are No.3 in the conference in rushing (135 yards a game). He is optimistic that the Braves' running gamecan continue to carry enough of the load to win the East. Five backs, led by sophomore Andrew Burks with 560 yards, have rushed for more than 120 yards and average at least 4.0 yards a carry.

"We have quick and elusive tailbacks, a veteran offensive line that has been together three years and good blocking fullbacks," he says.

The Braves have remained in the championship hunt while enduring anunfathomable number of injuries. They have lost seven starters or projected starters for the season since the start of preseason.

"If we can stay healthy, we have as," great chance," Thomas says. "I'm confident ve can get to Birmingham.

If the Braves make it to Birmingham, they will have traveled one of the mostimprobable roads to the Championship Game imaginable. Saturday's contest against Alabama A&M will be the fifth of six consecutive road games for them.

"If we can win the East, it is a good task to accomplish," Thomas says, "Nobody can say we had the easiest road to" travel if we can come out with these victo-

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