

ESPN's College Game Day to visit HBCU for first time

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Florida A&M University and the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) announced Monday that ESPN's award-winning College Football GameDay, the two-hour live broadcast which precedes the network's varied weekly televised games, will air live from the Florida A&M University campus Saturday, beginning at 10 a.m.

The broadcast is the first on a historically black college or university campus (HBCU) and precedes the Rattlers and Hampton Pirates MEAC matchup scheduled to kickoff at 1 p.m. Saturday's broadcast is also the first appearance by the crew at a NCAA D-I FCS campus this season.

"We are pleased that ESPN will host College GameDay presented by Home Depot on one of our prestigious MEAC campuses, Florida A&M University," said Commissioner Dennis Thomas. "This broadcast underlines endless efforts by the MEAC to promote the 12 outstanding institutions, coaches and student-athletes on a national platform. We are extremely pleased with our on-going partnership with ESPN and their con-

tinued commitment to diverse programming."

Saturday's broadcast will take place at the FAMU quadrangle with the main set located in front of the Coleman Library with the Lee Hall Administration Building as the signature backdrop of the set.

"It is an honor to be the first historically black university to host ESPN's College GameDay," said FAMU President James H. Ammons. "This historical broadcast will provide ESPN viewers with a great opportunity to become familiar with the many academic and athletic accomplishments that FAMU has accumulated over its 121 year of history. We look forward to having ESPN on our beautiful campus as we take on the Hampton Pirates."

The GameDay crew will feature veteran anchor Chris Fowler, along with Lee Corso, Kirk Herbstreit and Desmond Howard. The broadcast will preview all the day's top college games, highlight key football personalities and close with predictions of selected top nationally ranked matchups.

The Florida A&M University campus and the City of Tallahassee will be

highlighted throughout show and will include various segments on the university's landmarks, rich history in education and athletics and campus atmosphere. The world famous FAMU "Marching 100" Band, under the direction of Dr. Julian White will also appear during the broadcast, along with cheerleaders, student body and fans.

The Rattlers enter the game with a 7-3 overall record and 3-3 mark in conference play. FAMU defeated North Carolina A&T 45-7 in their last outing. After leading the conference throughout most of the early part of the season, the Hampton Pirates are 5-4 overall and 4-2 in the MEAC. They have dropped their last three games including a 17-6 defeat to Bethune-Cookman in their last game.

ESPN and the MEAC are in year four of a seven-year agreement. The agreement highlights MEAC sports each year including football, men's and women's basketball, softball, baseball, volleyball, and bowling. In addition to the annual televised contests, the MEAC and ESPN have partnered together to host the MEAC-SWAC Challenge.



Hampton (Pirate running back Kevin Beverly) and FAMU will be showcased on ESPN's GameDay on Saturday.

Kerr wins field goal contest

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Greg Kerr, the sports director at WFMY-TV in Greensboro nailed a 30-yard field goal and Craig Thomas of WXII-TV missed from the same distance last Friday in the finals of the Allstate Media Field Goal Contest held at BB&T Field.

Kerr nailed all three of his field goal attempts, from 20, 25 and 30 yards, on his first try. Participants were given two attempts at each distance with the yard line moving further away from the goal posts each time.

A total of 10 media members from the Triad participated in the contest. For his winning kick, Kerr will receive a \$500 check to be donated to his favorite charity. Each of the other nine media members will receive \$250 checks to go to the charity of their choice.

The participants competing with Kerr and Thomas included Dave Goren and Jeff Amernick of WXII, Alan York of ISP Sports, Anthony Hill of the Winston-Salem Chronicle, John Dell of the Winston-Salem Journal, Cabell Philpott of 790 The Ball, Jeff Tiberii of WFDD and Brian Westerholt of Sports On Film.

Among the charities that will benefit from Allstate's donation are the Susan G. Komen Foundation, The United Way, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, St. Leo's Catholic School, WFDD, the Crisis Control Ministry, and the Malachi House.

York, Hill, Goren, and Westerholt all advanced into the second round with Thomas and Kerr the only kickers to reach the third and final round.

Wake Forest is one of 65 schools from around the country that are participating in the Allstate "GoodHands" Field Goal Net program. The program is unique because it rewards the on-field performance of its partner teams by earmarking money to the schools' general scholarship funds for each field (\$300) and extra point (\$100) successfully converted by the home team at each home game.

In 2007, Allstate's 61 partner schools kicked a total of 476 field goals and 1,276 extra points at home games, generating a cumulative donation of \$290,400 divided among their general scholarship funds.



Kerr nails a 30-yard field goal to win.



Photos by Charlie Pfaff

WFMY-TV's Greg Kerr and WXII's Craig Thomas advanced to the final round.



File photo

Carlette "The Truth" Ewell is ready to defend her titles. Here, she delivers a vicious right cross during an earlier bout.

Ewell

from page B1

more running, and it was very intense. We worked extremely hard for this one."

Trainer Eddie Gregg added: "This was a gut fight for Carlette. We had to lose about six pounds before the fight. She didn't have the energy that she might've had heading into this fight. But she had enough heart and desire. She wanted this win bad. And, she was willing to work hard enough to get it."

All of the hard work seemingly paid off as Ewell (13-7, 10 KOs) was able to leave the Dutch side of the Virgin Islands with two cruiser weight titles after defeating O'Neil by unanimous decision on Nov. 1 in the L.B. Scott Auditorium. Ewell already held the UBC Cruiser Weight championship belt.

Ewell was able to get the best of O'Neil by attacking the body for most of the fight. Ewell's best rounds were the first, second and ninth — as well as a late flurry in the final round.

"She definitely fought hard in the last round," said Gregg. "I told her that it was all or nothing. I wanted her to leave everything in the ring."

Ewell's win wasn't easy

Gregg was a little worried after O'Neil seemed to turn up the pace in the middle of the bout. O'Neil was able to connect with some powerful punches in the fifth and sixth rounds.

"I was a little worried," Gregg said. "I

knew that Carlette was a little winded at that time. I was a little upset with that. But I knew that Carlette had the desire to finish strong. And, she did. She fought hard."

Ewell added: "I had to go the distance. So I started to attack the body. I know that I'm a good inside fighter. So I looked to the body. I had her screaming when I started to attack her body. She was screaming loud. I knew that I was gonna get her."

Midway through the final round Ewell began to hear the crowd chant, "U.S.A." That motivated her to put the final touches on the special win.

"I can't tell you how I was feeling when I heard the crowd start to chant," Ewell said. "That motivated me to push forward. I gave it everything that I had in the final round."

Ewell is very excited about her latest victory. But she's still got her mind on taking another step forward. She's even got another fight planned for March.

"I'm ecstatic about the win," Ewell said. "It feels marvelous right now, especially after the hard work. We're already working on my next fight. I'm going to defend my titles. The only thing bigger than my belts are the WBA and WBC. I want to get those in March."

Gregg added: "We've got quite a few things we would like to do. We want to get Carlette in the Thanksgiving Day parade. She has some speaking engagements coming up. Carlette is also going to defend her title on March 5. We've got a lot of things in store. We just want to continue to do things around the city. I told her that she's going to be more popular than Chris Paul."

I OWE YOU!

That's right, Uncle Sam could owe you money. If you paid federal excise tax on long-distance phone service during the last three years, you may be eligible for a telephone tax refund. The standard refund is \$30 to \$60 and for some people, who had large phone bills, it could be even more. Go to IRS.gov for details. Or dial 1-800-829-4477 and select recorded tax topic #611.

Internal Revenue Service