

FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18 THROUGH NOVEMBER 24,

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

FIVE WILL PLAY ON

KENTUCKY STATE JOINS CONFERENCE CHAMPS IN POSTSEASON PLAY

BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

SCORES

Albany State 12, Fort Valley St. 7
Clark Atlanta 23, Savannah St. 22
Florida A&M 22, S. C. State 20
Glenville State 54, W. Va. State 14
Hampton 24, Delaware State 20
Howard 30, Morgan State 27
Jackson State 20, Prairie View 7
Kentucky State 27, Alabama A&M 7
Millersville 39, Cheyney 14
Miss. Valley St. 34, Alabama A&M 10
Murray State 13, Tennessee St. 7
Norfolk State 21, Bethune-Cookman 7
N. C. A&T 37, Grambling State 35
Southern 27, Texas Southern 17
Virginia State 30, Lane 0
Virginia Union 44, Benedict 12

CIAA

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION	
CONF	ALL
W L T	W L T
#Livingstone 5 2 0	8 2 0
Virginia State 5 2 0	8 2 0
Virginia Union 5 2 0	7 4 0
WSSU 4 3 0	6 4 0
NC Central 4 3 0	4 7 0
Fayetteville St. 3 4 0	4 7 0
Bowie State 3 5 0	5 5 0
Elizabeth City 1 6 0	2 8 0
JC Smith 1 6 0	2 8 0

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE: None this week.
DEFENSE: None this week.

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE	
CONF	ALL
W L T	W L T
#Hampton 6 0 0	9 1 0
SC State 4 2 0	8 2 0
Florida A&M 4 2 0	8 2 0
NC A&T 3 3 0	7 3 0
Howard 3 3 0	6 4 0
Morgan State 2 4 0	3 8 0
Bethune-Cookman 1 5 0	4 6 0
Delaware State 1 5 0	3 7 0
Norfolk State 0 0 0	2 7 0

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE: MICHAEL BASNIGHT, Jr., (RB) - North Carolina A&T - Rushed 19 times for 108 yards and three scores (25, 3 and 42) and caught three passes for 23 yards and another TD in 37-35 win over Grambling.
DEFENSE: DARRIN FORD, Sr. (P), Florida A&M - Averaged 50.8 yards on five punts.
JASON REEVES, Sr., (SS) - Norfolk State - Had an interception, recovered a fumble and had five tackles vs. Bethune-Cookman.

SIAC

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE	
CONF	ALL
W L T	W L T
#Albany State 6 0 0	10 0 0
*Alabama A&M 4 2 0	7 4 0
Kentucky St. 4 2 0	6 5 0
Fort Valley 4 2 0	5 6 0
Tuskegee 3 3 0	6 4 0
Morris Brown 3 3 0	6 5 0
Miles 3 3 0	4 6 0
Clark Atlanta 2 4 0	4 7 0
Savannah St. 1 5 0	3 8 0
Morehouse 0 6 0	3 8 0

SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE: ROBERT CUMMING, Fr. (RB) - Albany State - Carried 15 times for 160 yards including a 96-yard TD run in 12-7 win over Fort Valley.
DEFENSE: MICHAEL MASON, Sr., (DE), Kentucky State - Recorded 20 tackles, seven for losses of 28 yards. Also had a QB sack and two pass break ups.

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE	
CONF	ALL
W L T	W L T
#Southern 7 0 0	9 1 0
Jackson State 6 1 0	8 2 0
Ark. Pine Bluff 6 2 0	8 3 0
Alcorn State 4 3 0	4 6 0
Texas Southern 4 4 0	5 6 0
Miss. Valley 3 5 0	4 6 0
Grambling 2 5 0	3 7 0
Alabama State 2 6 0	3 7 0
Prairie View 0 8 0	0 9 0

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE: SILAS PAYNE, Jr. (WR) - Grambling State - In 37-35 loss to NC A&T, Payne caught seven passes for 182 yards and four touchdowns (40, 52, 10 and 25 yards).
DEFENSE: ANTHONY BONNER, Jr., (DT) Miss. Valley State - In 34-10 win over Alabama State, Bonner had nine tackles and two QB sacks. Six of his tackles resulted in 23 yards in losses.

INDEPENDENT

W	L	T
W. Va. State 5	6	0
Benedict 3	8	0
Tennessee State 3	7	0
Langston 1	7	0
Cheyney 0	10	0
Lane 0	10	0

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE: NA
DEFENSE: NA

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HURDLING STAR PASSES:

Former SWAC and Olympic hurdles champion Rod Milburn of Southern University was buried Saturday in Louisiana. Milburn, 47, who won the 110-meter high hurdles gold medal at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Germany, died Nov. 11 on his job at a Georgia Pacific paper plant in Baton Rouge. Milburn, a 1992 SWAC Hall of Fame inductee, was the world's greatest high hurdler from 1971-74 winning the gold medal in '72 with a time of 13.24 and twice setting world records in hurdling events. He set the 120-yard high hurdles record of 13.0 seconds in 1971 and raced to a world indoor record time of 7.0 seconds in the 55-meter high hurdles in 1973. During the period he went undefeated in 27 consecutive final races. At Southern, Milburn was all-SWAC three times and later served as the school's track and field head coach. He is the only athlete to win major track and field titles while on the collegiate level in the NAIA, NCAA and AAU. He was voted the world's most outstanding athlete in 1971 and most outstanding athlete in Louisiana in 1971, 1972 and 1973. He received the Sugar Bowl's prestigious James Corbett Award in 1971 and 1973.

HEADY BISON:

The Howard University men's soccer team defeated Georgia State 4-2 Sat., Nov. 15 in an NCAA Play-In game and will now travel to 9th ranked University of Virginia (15-3-3) for a first round game of the 32-team Div. I soccer championship Sun., Nov. 23 in Charlottesville. Howard (12-7-2) won the Mid Continent Conference tournament beating Central Connecticut State 4-1 in the finals. This is the Bison's first time in the tournament since 1989, when they lost to Indiana in the quarterfinals. In 1988, they reached the final game, losing 1-0 to Indiana. Howard beat Virginia en route to the finals in 1988. The Bison compete in the Mid Continent Conference because no other MEAC school fields a soccer team.

PLAYIN' IN:

Morgan State won the MEAC championship beating Florida A&M in the finals and will face three-time SWAC champion Grambling State in the NCAA Div. I Volleyball Play-In game Friday Nov. 21 at Grambling. Brackets for the full tournament field will be set Sunday, Nov. 23.

WHO'S BETTER:

The Mid Eastern Athletic Conference compiled a 6-1 football record against competition from the Southwestern Athletic Conference this season. The loan SWAC win was Jackson State's 35-33 victory over Howard in the Bison's first game of the season. The last game between the two this year will be the McDonald's Heritage Bowl VII, Dec. 27 in Atlanta's Georgia Dome. Last year the MEAC came out on top 5-3, including Howard's 27-24 win over Southern in Heritage Bowl VI.

Champions crowned; All to play in postseason

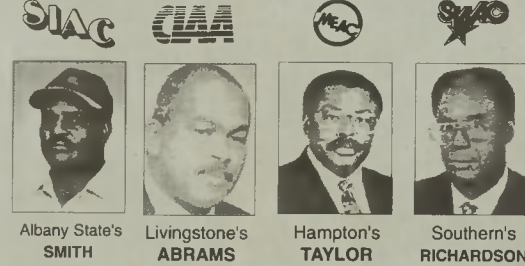
Last weekend could have been dubbed Championship Saturday as results produced titles in all four black college conferences and ensured that all four champions will see action in the postseason.

Albany State to Div. II playoffs

Albany State (6-0, 10-0) defeated Fort Valley State 12-7 to finish the regular season as the only undefeated team in black college football and claim their fifth consecutive SIAC title and fifth straight trip to the Div. II playoffs. Hamp Smith's Golden Rams finished sixth in the last NCAA Div. II poll, second in the South Region and will host Southern Arkansas (9-1), the third ranked team in the South Region Saturday.

Meanwhile, Kentucky State, under George Small, emerged from a three-way tie for second in the SIAC to capture the conference's Pioneer Bowl berth. The Thoroughbreds finished in a

WINNERS ALL



CHAMPS: Two go to the playoffs, two enter Bowl games.

tie with Alabama A&M (4-2, 7-4) and Fort Valley State (4-2, 5-6) but were awarded the berth by virtue of their 36-7 win over Fort Valley and 27-7 win over A&M. A&M is ineligible for postseason play because of their upcoming move to Div. I.

Livingstone to Pioneer Bowl

This was the only title actually decided before the weekend as CIAA officials awarded Livingstone (5-2, 8-2) their first-ever CIAA championship in a tie breaker in the middle of

the week. Head Coach Rudy Abrams' Blue Bears finished in a three-way tie with Virginia State (5-2, 8-2) and Virginia Union (5-2, 7-4).

Livingstone's only two losses came by forfeit for using an ineligible player in their first two games. They will be rewarded for their outstanding season with the conference's berth in the inaugural Pioneer Bowl against Kentucky State Dec. 20 in Atlanta. That's because NCAA Div. II officials did not grant the Bears a spot after their eligibility error

though their efforts on the field may have merited it.

Hampton to I-AA Playoffs

Hampton (6-0, 9-1) defeated Delaware State 24-20 to clinch their first MEAC title in just their second year in the conference and earn the conference's automatic I-AA playoff spot. Head Coach Joe Taylor's Pirates need a win at home over Morgan State (2-4, 3-6) Saturday to finish with an undefeated conference mark. Their postseason opponent will be announced on Nov. 23 when I-AA playoff bids go out.

Florida A&M (4-2, 8-2) boosted their I-AA playoff hopes with a 22-20 win at South Carolina State (4-2, 8-2) Saturday. If the Rattlers defeat Bethune-Cookman (1-5, 4-6) this Saturday, they could and should be the second MEAC team in the playoffs - the first time ever the MEAC has gotten two teams in. If FAMU beats BCC and does not get a playoff bid they will represent the

MEAC in the McDonald's Heritage Bowl. If they lose to BCC a host of scenarios could come into play. Anyway, the winner of the Carolinas Classic this weekend in Charlotte between South Carolina State (4-2, 8-2) and North Carolina A&T (3-3, 7-3) has the next best shot at the Heritage Bowl.

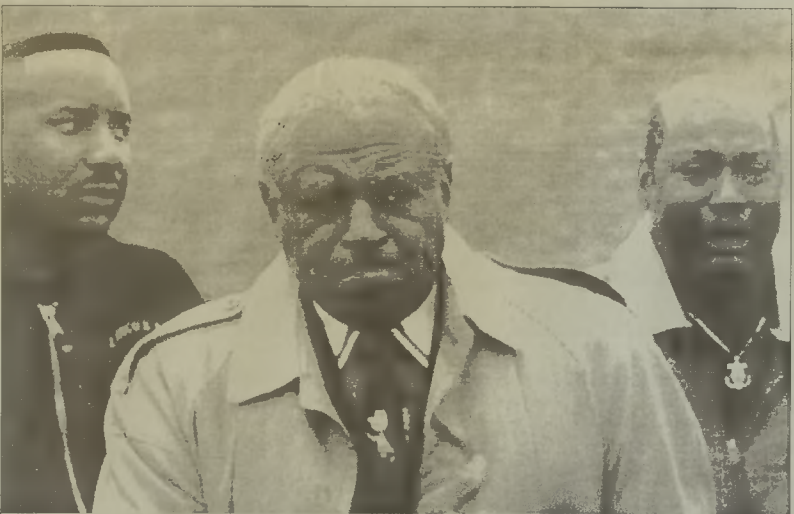
Southern to Heritage Bowl

Southern (7-0, 9-1) will represent the SWAC at Atlanta's McDonald's Heritage Bowl as they get by Texas Southern 27-17 to clinch the SWAC championship. This will be the Jaguars' third consecutive trip to the Heritage Bowl. They have split the last two, defeating Florida A&M in 1995 and losing to Howard last year.

Jackson State (6-1, 8-2) has an outside chance at a playoff spot but don't count on it. The Tigers are ranked 14th in the latest Sports Network poll as they head into their season-ending contest at home against Alcorn State (4-3, 4-6).

BCSP TOP TEN

- HAMPTON (9-1)** - Held on to defeat Delaware State, 24-20. Clinched MEAC title and automatic I-AA playoff spot. NEXT: Finishes regular season at home vs. Morgan State.
- ALBANY STATE (10-0)** - Got by Fort Valley State, 12-7 to finish perfect regular season with fifth consecutive SIAC title. NEXT: First round NCAA Div. II playoff game vs. Southern Arkansas.
- FLORIDA A&M (8-2)** - Squeaked by S. C. State 22-20. NEXT: In Orlando to finish regular season against Bethune-Cookman.
- SOUTH CAROLINA STATE (8-2)** - Fell in last minute to FAMU, 22-20. NEXT: In Charlotte to finish regular season vs. NC A&T. Outcome will have bearing on Heritage Bowl.
- SOUTHERN (9-1)** - Knocked off Texas Southern, 27-17 to clinch SWAC title, Heritage Bowl berth. NEXT: Idle before season-ending Bayou Classic on Nov. 29.
- JACKSON STATE (8-2)** - Extended Prairie View's misery to 77 games, 20-7. NEXT: At home vs. Alcorn State.
- LIVINGSTONE (8-2)** - Awarded first CIAA championship by tie breaker. NEXT: A month to wait before competing in Pioneer Bowl I, Dec. 20 in Atlanta.
- VIRGINIA STATE (8-2)** - Shut out Lane, 30-0. Tied for second in CIAA.
- HOWARD (6-4)** - Got by Morgan State 30-27. NEXT: At Delaware State.
- ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF (8-3)** - Season over. ALSO RECEIVING VOTES: North Carolina A&T



HIT 'EM IN THE HEART: Legendary Grambling coach Eddie Robinson can't hold back tears as he salutes the flag and listens to the Grambling marching band play the national anthem Saturday (Nov. 15) at his final home game at the stadium named in his honor. The emotion is even felt by those around him who share the loss as this icon of American culture moves on. Coach Robinson is retiring this year after 55 seasons coaching the Tigers. He has led his G-Men since 1941. His 408 career victories are the most wins in the history of college football. His final home game, a 37-35 loss to North Carolina A&T, was played before a disappointing official crowd of nearly 4,000 fans who had to brave drizzling rain and temperatures near freezing. Players from all six decades of Coach Robinson's tenure were on hand to honor him. The Marine Corps presented him with a plaque, and Ruston, La., artist Reggie McElroy presented Coach Robinson and his wife of 56 years, Doris with a painting of the couple. The final game of Coach Robinson's career will be Nov. 29 at the Bayou Classic in the New Orleans SuperDome against Southern University. That game will be televised live on NBC at 1:30 pm.

Livingstone rides emotions, seniors to first CIAA title

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor
The 1997 season has been a lot of dream and a little bit of nightmare for the Livingstone College Blue Bears.

The dream began last year when players committed themselves to win this year's CIAA championship on the field after

they were denied a share of the 1996 title awarded to Virginia State - despite the Trojans pulling out of a game against Livingstone. It reached fulfillment when the team delivered the school's first-ever CIAA football championship last week. But it didn't come without some scary moments.

A perfect 10-0 season and sure Div. II playoff spot vanished two weeks ago when the Bears had to forfeit two opening season wins for use of an ineligible player. That left both the conference title and playoff spot in doubt and sent more than a few nightmarish thoughts through the

Bears faithful. Just last week however, they were awarded the CIAA title in a tie-breaker over Virginia State and Virginia Union. Winning the conference title and a spot in the inaugural Pioneer Bowl (Dec. 20 in Atlanta) has kept the dream season alive.

"Finally, their accomplishments on the field were rewarded," said a relieved Clifton Huff, the school's athletic director, who as much as anyone had to suffer through last year's snub and this year's snafu.

"We've earned our place in history," Huff said. "It's in the books now. It won't be taken from us. It's one thing when someone else says you're champs and another thing when everybody knows you're the winner."

He said the players are also relieved. "They deserved the title," Huff added. "I was hoping the kids would not be denied this because of mistakes adults made. They played ball every week and did everything asked of them. We need to do a better job."

On the field there was no denying

the Bears. They outscored opponents 387-100 including a 28-14 win over defending champion VSU in the Sept. 27 game the team had pointed to since last year.

Head Coach Rudy Abrams, who was unavailable Monday as coaches met in Durham for end of the season voting, got great leadership from a senior class that has sparked the Bears emergence from worst to first in his four years at the helm.

Senior quarterback Pernel Wilder led the conference in passing (57-128, 1,071 yds, 16 TDs) while bruising senior running back Wilmont Perry, who has a year of eligibility left, racked up the third highest rushing total in conference history (1,770 yds.), led in total offense and broke the scoring record with 21 TDs. Senior all-conference defensive back Roderick Dunlap (six ints.) and versatile linebackers Mike Austin and Bacardi Ayers anchored a stingy, hard hitting defense. Sophomore running back Chris Williams also topped the 1,000 yard mark (1,021, 8.0 yds. per carry) as the



Pernel Wilder Wilmont Perry

DYNAMIC DUO: Wilder led the conference in passing while Perry led an assault on the record books, rushing for over 1,700 yards, 9.1 per carry, and eventually breaking the CIAA single season scoring record with 21 TDs. Bears ground out an impressive 316 yards per game.

"This senior class is responsible for the turn around in Livingstone athletics," Huff said, noting that teams in every sport are doing better than ever. "These are dedicated, committed kids. They're proud kids. They want to win. They've started a chain reaction that's infected the whole school. At a small school like ours, it's easy to challenge each other. Our morale is up. Our spirit is up."

GAMES THIS WEEK

November 22, 1997	
Delaware State vs. Howard at Dover, DE	1:00p
Hampton vs. Morgan State at Hampton, VA	1:30p
SE Mo. State vs. Tenn. State at Cape Girardeau, MO	12:00p

CLASSICS

51st Florida Classic	
Florida A&M vs. Bethune-Cookman at Orlando, FL	7:30p
Capital City Classic	
Jackson State vs. Alcorn State at Jackson, MS	1:00p
3rd Carolinas Classic	
South Carolina St. vs. N.C. A&T at Charlotte, NC	1:30p

PLAYOFFS

Div. II - First Round	
Albany State vs. Southern Arkansas at Albany, GA	1:30p

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

NFL SACK LEADERS	
T2. Michael Strahan, NY Giants (Texas Southern)	11
T6. Robert Porcher, Detroit Lions (S. C. State)	8

SOURCE: NFL Statistics