

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 30, 1997 THROUGH JANUARY 5, 1998

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

SOUTHERN HERITAGE; HAMPTON STILL #1

SOUTHERN ESCAPES WITH 34-28 WIN IN HERITAGE BOWL VII; HAMPTON AT #1



Richardson: Gets third Heritage Bowl win in four tries.

BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Men's Standings, Results and Weekly Honors)

SCORES

Table of game scores for Dec 28, Dec 27, and Dec 23.

CIAA

CIAA standings table with columns for DIV, ALL, W, L, W, L.

MEAC

MEAC standings table with columns for CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L.

SIAC

SIAC standings table with columns for CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L.

SWAC

SWAC standings table with columns for CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L.

INDEPENDENTS

Independents standings table with columns for W, L.

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

NA

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

DAMIEN WOOLFOLK, G, Norfolk State

SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

NA

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

RANDY BOLDEN, Jr., G., Texas Southern

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

WHILE WE WERE AWAY:

While the BCSP devoted pages over the last two weeks to Pioneer Bowl and McDonald's Heritage Bowl Special Editions, one big move was made on the black college football coaching front.

I-AA ALL-AMERICANS:

Mid Eastern Athletic Conference Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year were the only two black college players to make the Associated Press Div. I-AA All-American first team.

NCAA LEADERS:

Three MEAC stars are among national leaders in NCAA Div. I statistics. Coppin State guard Antoine Brockington is tenth in scoring at 24.4 points per game.

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

You couldn't have asked for a better game than what transpired at the McDonald's Heritage Bowl VII Saturday at the Georgia Dome.

Before 32,629 fans and a national ESPN television audience, Southern University and S.C. State University engaged in an exciting see-saw affair that had all the makings of one of those "who gets the ball last" finishes.

As it turned out it was Southern who had the last word as they came up with the big plays down the stretch while SC State self-destructed, surrendering an eight-point (28-20) fourth quarter lead allowing the Jaguars to prevail, 34-28.

"We knew we had to play a full sixty minutes against South Carolina State. They have a great football team," said Southern head coach Pete Richardson, who ran his Heritage Bowl record to 3-1 and his team's record on the year to 11-1.

"We had to try to control the line of scrimmage. They have a huge offensive line and if they get the lead they will start pounding you. So I thought the game had to be won in the pits on both sides."

Statistically, the game was about dead even. Only 20 yards separated the teams in total offense (SU 318, SCSU 338), and there was less than four minutes difference in time of possession (SU

28:03, SCSU 31:57). The largest discrepancy was in penalties. Southern suffered only five for 66 yards while the Bulldogs had a whopping 19 for 151 yards.

Richardson's strategy of staying close worked for most of the game as the team's traded scores through three quarters. SC State (9-3) led 21-20 at that point only because they made good on more extra points.

Two plays into the fourth quarter Bulldog QB Reggie Curry broke loose on a 40-yard TD. Cedric Oglesby's extra point put them up 28-20. On the ensuing kickoff, the pendulum swung right back Southern's way as wide receiver/kick returner Terrance Blackwell ran 98 yards to paydirt up the left side of the field.

After an exchange of punts, the Bulldogs penetrated to the Southern 32, primarily on the strength of an 18-yard run by RB Chad Eaddy. That's when



Joe Daniels Photo

SOUTHERN MVP: SWAC Commissioner Dr. James Frank presents Southern RB Steve Wofford with his team's Heritage Bowl Most Valuable Player Award.



Joe Daniels Photo

BULLDOG MVP: SC State RB Chad Eaddy rushed for 118 yards and two TDs.

Curry, who had been out the previous series with leg cramps, returned just in time to mishandle a snap from center. Southern defensive lineman Joe Williams pounced on it.

From there the Jags needed six plays to cover the final 68 yards aided by three key Bulldog penalties. FB Jermaine West got his third short yardage TD to give Southern their first second half lead, 32-28. Jacoby added a two-point conversion on a pass to Brian Turner.

The 'Dogs would get the ball twice more. The first drive was thwarted by a 15-yard personal foul penalty. In their final possession, they committed another personal foul and a holding penalty that

cost them 18 yards. On fourth and 29 from their own 25, Curry was sacked and fumbled on their last offensive play.

"There were two good football teams out there today," said SCSU head coach Willie Jeffries, whose Heritage Bowl record fell to 1-2. "We didn't make the big plays, Southern made the big plays. No excuses. We didn't make the plays when we needed to."

Eaddy (16 carries, 118 yds., 2 TDs) and Southern RB Steve Wofford, who set a Heritage Bowl record with 169 yards rushing, were named the outstanding players for their respective teams. Darby set a HB record with four sacks.

FINAL BCSP GRID TOP TEN

- 1. HAMPTON (10-2) - MEAC champ fell to eventual I-AA champ Youngstown State, 28-13, in first round of playoffs.

Case for Hampton as BCSP champion

The McDonald's Heritage Bowl was not "the Black College Super Bowl" as far as the BCSP final ranking is concerned.

Southern's win over South Carolina State in the final black college game of the year didn't measure up to the billing because, though Southern was the SWAC champion, SC State had losses to MEAC champion Hampton (20-14, OT) and Florida A&M (22-20) during the season.

Hampton gets the final BCSP top ranking by virtue of wins over both Florida A&M and SC State and no losses to other black college teams. SIAC champion Albany State (11-1) who made it to the Div. II quarterfinals, finished a close second.

The SWAC now has a 5-2 record against

the MEAC in the Heritage Bowl though Southern's win was only the second in 1997 by a SWAC team in eight games against the MEAC.

Other Heritage Bowl records set: Longest Kickoff Return - Terrance Blackwell, Southern, 98 yards; Most punts - Cedric Oglesby, SC State 7; Highest punting average - Southern, 49.0; Most kickoff return yardage - Southern, 179.

BASKETBALL THIS WEEK

December 29, 1997 North Carolina at Bethune-Cookman - 7:30p Tennessee State vs. Dartmouth - 6:00p

December 30, 1997 Jackson State at Ala.-Birmingham - TBA Alabama State at Arkansas - 7:00p

December 31, 1997 Detroit-Mercy at Bethune-Cookman - 8:00p

January 2, 1998 Johnson C. Smith in Queen's Marriott Classic St. Paul's in Capital Key Classic

January 3, 1998 Southern at Alcorn State - 7:30p Texas Southern at Ark.-Pine Bluff - 7:30p

January 4, 1998 Johnson C. Smith in Queens Marriott Classic St. Paul's in Capital Key Classic

Heritage Bowl Notes

OVERHEARD AT THE HERITAGE BOWL

- Khalil Johnson, General Manager of the Georgia Dome on the official attendance

"The attendance for tonight was 32,629 people. This number includes everyone in the building including ticket takers, ushers, police, my staff, the game staff. It's a total attendance number."

- Craig Cason, Executive Director of the Heritage Bowl, on ideal dates for the game and its future.

"No question about it, this game needs to be held on a Saturday. Putting it on a Saturday and having a time slot that is consistent is the very first thing. All the teams of the SWAC and the MEAC can share in a milestone of progress. This game is going to ascend to one of the pinnacles of black college football and bowl games in general."

- SWAC Commissioner, Dr. James Frank, who is retiring in June, on the attitude about attendance at the Heritage Bowl.

"We are, black colleges are, the envy of colleges on our level. We just left the I-AA (football) championship. (MEAC) Commissioner (Charles) Harris and I sit in meetings with commissioners of other conferences. They ask us 'How do you do it.' When they get a crowd of 7-8,000 people, they're overjoyed. We're somewhat spoiled. We know that's not the kind of standard we want. We want a standard of 35, 40, 50,000 people. That's why I made the point that let's not make attendance the only yardstick."

- Reggie Rutherford, producer of the Spirit and Tank Younger Awards, on attending his first Heritage Bowl.

Younger Trophy can bring exposure to both the games (the Heritage and Pioneer Bowls). I think there needs to be a stronger lateral position to all people who are supporting historically black colleges, especially as far as the sponsorships are concerned."

- Roscoe Nance, USA Today sportswriter, on the progress of the Heritage Bowl and the attendance of 32,629.

"It's an improvement. There's something to build on. The additions to the crowd, the activities surrounding it and the organization seems to be a lot better. I think they've made some positive strides. They just have to continue building on it. The date is a lot better, the time is a lot better. They just have to keep fine tuning it."

- Phil McAlpin, president of Focus Marketing and former HBCC Director, on the attendance, up from 18,000 a year ago.

"Clearly, it's an improvement over last year. It evidences the fact that a Saturday is key to this game. This is the first Saturday since four years ago when it first came to Atlanta and had over 36,000. Our audience needs the weekend to arrange their travel and get where they need to be. Saturday is the optimal day to put on an affair like this for African Americans."

- Howie Evans, sports editor of the Amsterdam News, on the game, the organization and attendance.

"The one problem I have with these games is the officials. I don't think they move the game along swiftly enough. And it appears that they themselves try to become part of the game. You don't see this in other conferences and bowl games - the excessive amount of penalties - some of them are not necessary. It's just plain, old-fashioned, hard-fought football. And those things they have to let go."

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

MCDONALD'S HERITAGE BOWL VII SCORING SUMMARY AND STATS

Table showing scoring summary and stats for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters.

RUSHING Southern - Wofford, 25-164; West, 6-12; Riley, 1-8; Lewis, 1-4; Mills, 1-(-5); Jacoby, 8(136) SC State - Eaddy, 16-107; Curry, 17-72; Walker, 6-35; Wilson, 2-5; James, 2(-1)

PASSING Southern - Jacoby, 20-11-1, 155; Huston, 1-1-0, 16 SC State - Curry, 16-9-1, 98; Russ, 1-0-0, 0; Cantey, 1-1-0, 22

RECEIVING Southern - Foreman, 2-73; Guye, 2-22; Blackwell, 2-21; Jacoby, 1-16; Hart, 1-13; Lewis, 1-12; Riley, 1-11; West, 1-6; Wofford, 1(-3) SC State - Mitchell, 4-47; McGowens, 2-9; Mitts, 1-36; Love, 1-22; Walker, 1-4; James, 1-2