

FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9 - 15, 2004



FAMU Photo ON THE SET: New Florida A&M head coach Ruben Carter is one of 13 new faces patrolling the sidelines in 2005.

BCF LIVE IN '05

▼ PLOTS AND SUBPLOTS; TEAM AND TV SCHEDULES; RETURNING STAT LEADERS

2005 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL TV SCHEDULE

Table with columns for date, time, and game details. Includes sections for BET (Tape), CSTV (Live), ESPN (Live), ESPN2 (Live), and ESPN CLASSIC (Live).

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

2005 RETURNING LEADERS OFFENSE

RUSHING table with columns: TEAM, CI, G, Att, Yds, Avg, TD, Yds/G

PASSING table with columns: TEAM, CI, G, A, Cmp, Int, Pct, Yds, TD, Yds/G

TOTAL OFFENSE table with columns: Team, CI, G, Rush, Pass, Plays, Total, Yds/G

REC. / GAME table with columns: Team, CI, G, Rec, Yds, TD, Avg/C, Rec/G

REC. YDS. / GAME table with columns: Team, CI, G, Rec, Yds, TD, Avg/C, Yds/G

ALL PURPOSE table with columns: Team, CI, G, Rsh, Rac, PR, KR, Yds, AVG

SCORING table with columns: Team, CI, G, TD, XPT, FG, Pts, Pts/G

DEFENSE

TACKLES table with columns: Team, CI, G, Solo, Ast, Tot, Avg

SACKS table with columns: Team, CI, G, S, Yds, Avg

INTERCEPTIONS table with columns: Team, CI, G, INT, Yds, TD, INT/G

SPECIAL TEAMS

PUNT RETURNS table with columns: Team, CI, G, Ret, Yds, TD, Avg

KICK RETURNS table with columns: Team, CI, G, Ret, Yds, TD, Avg

FIELD GOALS table with columns: Team, CI, G, FG, Pct, Avg

PUNTING table with columns: Team, CI, G, P, Yds, Avg

LONGER LIST OF RETURNERS IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT HBCUSports.com

Back college football to be live in 2005

LUT WILLIAMS BCSF Editor

The start of the 2005 black college football season is just two shorts weeks away and it begins this year with a bang!

The rousing sendoff is the SIAC matchup of Benedict and Morehouse in Atlanta on Thursday, August 25 at 7:30 p.m. to be carried live on ESPN. It is the first nationally televised game of the 2005 college football season and the kickoff of a new package of some 18 games from the SIAC, MEAC and SWAC to be carried live on ESPN's new college network.

The ESPN package includes six Thursday night games, one on a Friday afternoon, another on a Sunday afternoon with the bulk of the games on Saturday evenings (see TV Schedule).

But, unless you have Direct TV or start calling your local cable operator demanding that they put it on now, the telecasts may be hard to see. ESPN is fighting an uphill battle for national distribution since its launch in March and is currently has 4 million subscribers, according to Clint Evans of the Symmonds Synergy Group who is marketing the package.

ESPN's wider distributed sister station ESPN2, in about 60 million homes, will carry the much-anticipated new SWAC/MEAC Challenge pitting defending SWAC champion Alabama State against MEAC co-champion South Carolina State on Saturday Sept. 3, live from Birmingham's Legion Field (3:30 p.m.). ESPN Classic, broadcast to some 50 million homes, will carry both the Pioneer Bowl and SWAC Championship Game live.

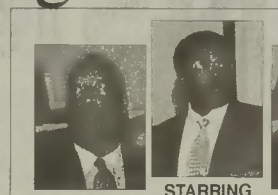
The new deals with the ESPN networks, along with what is now a new four-game package with College Sports Television (CSTV), joins with traditional carriers BET (6 games), NBC (Bayou Classic) and the CIAA (3 games) to bring the total number of nationally televised black college games this year to 35, with the majority of them to be carried live.

But that's not all that'll be live about the 2005 season. Great teams, intriguing stories, shifts in and out of conferences and in the power rankings should keep us on the edge of our seats all season long.

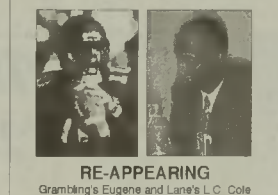
Here are some examples of what to look for.

Returning Favorites?

From a talent perspective, three teams appear to be head and shoulders above the rest: defending MEAC champ Hampton, defending



Alabama State's Coe, Hampton's Taylor and Grambling's Spears



Grambling's Eugene and Lane's L.C. Cole



NOW PLAYING St. Paul's and Stillman



FEATURING Bama State's Jackson, Tuskegee's Huff and WSSU's Hicks

SWAC champ Alabama State and Grambling State.

MEAC Hampton finished at 10-2 last season tied atop the final BCSF Top Ten with SIAC champ, 11-1 Albany State. Joe Taylor's Pirates ended their season on a sour note however, losing in the first round of the I-AA playoffs to William & Mary. Loaded with weapons on both sides of the ball and on special teams, the Pirates are looking for more this year and are the BCSF preseason number one team (see next week's edition). Their chief competition is expected to come from South Carolina State, who tied for last year's title with Hampton at 6-1 in conference play but lost to the Pirates in their head-to-head matchup.

SWAC The Hornets of Alabama State broke through last year to end the West Division's seven-year stranglehold on the SWAC title. Charles Coleman (750) at Alabama State and Antonio Atkins (744) and Antwan Andrews (758) at Albany State.

In total, eight 1,000-yard rushers return in 2005 led by the 1,191-yard total of Jason Jackson of Morgan State. Greg Pruitt (1,103) of North Carolina Central and DeShawn Baker (1,009) of South Carolina State round out the club.

Air Apparents? If you're going to make a run at a title in black college football you need talent and experience at the quarterback position and most of the favorites, and a few others, have it.

Hampton has preseason all-MEAC QB, junior Princeton Shepherd at the controls. Alabama State features preseason SWAC Offensive Player of the Year, senior Tavaris Jackson running the show while Grambling has Eugene and sophomore Brandon Landers, who shined in his place as a freshman. Tuskegee boasts preseason all-SIAC

with three-time defending champ Fayetteville State the choice in the West. But expect the CIAA to have black college football's most wide-open race.

Dynamic Duos?

Hampton's potent backfield tandem of Alonzo Coleman (1,133 yards) and Ardell Daniels (1,048) both topped the 1,000-yard rushing mark last year, and are back for an encore. But they are not alone.

The Winston-Salem State tag-team of Martin Hicks (1,148) and Jed Bines (1,137) actually topped the Hampton duo by 54 yards and will lead the Rams in their final year of CIAA football.

Just behind these two pairs are Keldrick Williams (1,167) and Robert Randolph (750) at Alabama State and Antonio Atkins (744) and Antwan Andrews (758) at Albany State.

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signal-caller, senior Kevin Huff under center (see STAT CORNER).

But look out for Mississippi Valley State junior QB Aries Nelson, who head coach Willie Totten says can be as good as any in SWAC history. North Carolina Central senior QB Adrian Warren could be the catalyst for the Eagles rise to the top in the CIAA. Last year's SIAC Freshman of the Year, Willie Copeland will shoulder the load for Fort Valley State's run.

Scheduling Quirks?

No one this year has a killer schedule like Florida A&M had a year ago, but that doesn't mean some don't have tough rows to hoe.

North Carolina A&T opens the season playing three games in ten days. The Aggies face NC Central in Raleigh on Monday Sept. 5, then battle Norfolk State at home on Saturday Sept. 10 before coming back to host conference favorite Hampton on Thursday, Sept. 15.

St. Paul's gets the title of Homecoming Queen for the 2005 season. The Tigers, entering CIAA play this season for the first time in 17 years, are the paties teams looked to put on their homecoming menus. Of their ten-game schedule, Willard Bailey's troops are in three homecomings and three Classics.

Mighty Grambling's big date (Sept. 17) at Div. I Washington State is offset by the Tigers Nov. 12 matchup with tiny Concordia, playing its first year of football ever.

Comings and Goings?

While the CIAA is welcoming St. Paul's to the fold, it's saying goodbye to Winston-Salem State. The Rams are moving up to Div. I status (I-AA in football) and will not be eligible for the CIAA title after this season.

Stillman becomes the tenth football-playing member of the SIAC this season. Lincoln (Mo.), Claflin and Langston are SIAC "scheduling partners," meaning selected games on their schedules with SIAC schools will count in this year's conference standings. Rumor is, all are on their way to SIAC membership.

New head coaches are in at thirteen (13) programs and in every conference except the SWAC. Ruben Carter, the man who emerged after the recent shake-up at Florida A&M, is probably the most notable. Johnny Cole is the new man at Lane and brings with him his brother, former Tennessee State and Alabama State head man, L.C. Cole as defensive coordinator.

2005 TEAM-BY-TEAM BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

Large table listing 2005 team-by-team black college football schedules for various conferences including SIAC, MEAC, SWAC, CIAA, and others.