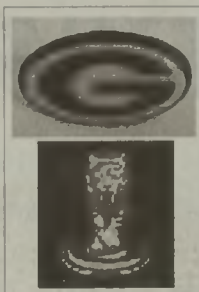


FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 13 - 19, 2005

BLACK COLLEGE PAGE



BCSP Photo

G-S, G-S, G-S-U

G-MEN: Grambling Tigers dominating 11-1 season leads to final BCSP top ranking.

GRAMBLING TAKES SWAC, BCSP TITLES; COMEGY ON TO JACKSON STATE

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

COMEGY SIGNS ON AT JSU:

Jackson State formally welcomed new head football coach Rick Comegy into the fold on Friday morning before a jam-packed press conference on the school campus.



JSU Sports Photo

COMEGY: Jackson State hires successful former Tuskegee coach to re-establish storied program.

Tuskegee, will be paid \$155,000 per year over the span of his four-year contract. The school said Comegy is not a candidate to replace Roy Culbertson who resigned last week after five years as athletic director at JSU.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

2005 FINAL INDIVIDUAL LEADERS OFFENSE

Table with columns: RUSHING, TEAM, C, G, Att, Yds, Avg, TD, Yds/G. Includes players like Jeremy McCoy, John D. Washington, Isaac Redmon.

Table with columns: PASSING, TEAM, C, G, Att, Cmp, Int, Pct, Yds, TD, Yds/G. Includes players like Bruce Eugene, Joseph Lewis, Anes Nelson.

Table with columns: TOTAL OFFENSE, Team, C, G, Rush, Pass, Fln, Yards, Total, Yds/G. Includes players like Bruce Eugene, Kevin Huff, Tavana Jackson.

Table with columns: REC. / GAME, Team, C, G, Rec, Yds, TD, Avg/C, Rec/G. Includes players like Henry Tolbert, Kenn Henderson, Roosevelt Kiser.

Table with columns: REC. YARDS / GAME, Team, C, G, Rec, Yds, TD, Avg/C. Includes players like Henry Tolbert, Raymond Johnson.

Table with columns: ALL PURPOSE, Team, C, G, Rsh, Rec, Pct, Yds, KR. Includes players like Jacoby Jones, Charlie Spiller.

Table with columns: SCORING, Team, C, G, TD, XPT, FG, Pts. Includes players like Henry Tolbert, Alonzo Coleman.

Table with columns: DEFENSE, Team, C, G, Solo, Ast, Tot, Avg. Includes players like Tyler Knight, Maguel Davis, Darius Leak.

Table with columns: TACKLES, Team, C, G, Solo, Ast, Tot, Avg. Includes players like Tyler Knight, Maguel Davis, Darius Leak.

Table with columns: SACKS, Team, C, G, S, Yds, Avg. Includes players like Sam Smith, Martin Jackson, Jason Hatcher.

Table with columns: INTERCEPTIONS, Team, C, G, Int, Yds, TD. Includes players like Bobbie Williams, Marcus Wright.

Table with columns: SPECIAL TEAMS, Team, C, G, Ret, Yds, TD. Includes players like Marcus Wright, James Vernon.

Table with columns: PUNT RETURNS, Team, C, G, Ret, Yds, TD. Includes players like Marcus Wright, James Vernon.

Table with columns: KICK RETURNS, Team, C, G, Ret, Yds, TD. Includes players like P. J. Berry, Ricky Williams.

Table with columns: FIELD GOALS, Team, C, G, FG, FGA, Pct, FLDG. Includes players like Andrew Paterni, Peter Gaertner, Brandon Gilbert.

Table with columns: PUNTING, Team, C, G, P, Yds, Avg. Includes players like Wesley Taylor, Erik Conice, Cameron Muro.

Table with columns: SHAW, Team, C, G, P, Yds, Avg. Includes players like Andrew Paterni, Peter Gaertner, Brandon Gilbert.

Table with columns: HAMPTON, Team, C, G, P, Yds, Avg. Includes players like Wesley Taylor, Erik Conice, Cameron Muro.

Table with columns: ST. AUGUSTINE'S, Team, C, G, P, Yds, Avg. Includes players like Wesley Taylor, Erik Conice, Cameron Muro.

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Grambling reclaims BCSP No. 1 spot

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

It took a couple of years longer than expected but Grambling State quarterback Bruce Eugene has put himself and the Tigers back at the top of the black college football world.

FINAL BCSP TOP TEN

- 1. GRAMBLING STATE (11-1) - Dominating 45-6 win over Alabama A&M gives second-year Spears' and his Tigers their first SWAC title and BCSP final No. 1 ranking. G-Men were the most talented and dominating team in black college football only losing to Div IA Washington State. Follows SWAC titles under Doug Williams in 2000, '01 and '02, top rankings in '01 and '02.
2. HAMPTON (11-1) - MEAC champs had undefeated regular season dropped the ball in a first round I-AA playoff home game against Richmond.
3. SOUTH CAROLINA STATE (9-2) - MEAC runners-up did not get in I-AA playoffs.
4. NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL (10-2) - After first round bye, CIAA champs lost in second round of Div. II playoffs to North Alabama.
5. ALABAMA A&M (9-3) - SWAC East Div. champs were second best team in SWAC but a long way behind Grambling.
6. ALBANY STATE (8-2) - SIAC champs' lost in first round of Div. II playoffs to Central Arkansas.
7. TUSKEGEE (11-1) - SIAC runner-up beat Bowie State in Pioneer Bowl VIII.
8. DELAWARE STATE (7-4) - Third place finish in MEAC.
9. FORT VALLEY STATE (7-3) - Third place in SIAC.
10. BOWIE STATE (8-4) - CIAA runner-up lost to SIAC runner-up Tuskegee in Pioneer Bowl.



SPEARS

college football world.

The pudgy 6-1, 270-pound New Orleans native, almost forgotten on the national scene after missing all but one game last season because of a knee injury, capped off a brilliant 2005 season Saturday with a 473-yard, six-TD performance as the Tigers won the seventh Southwestern Athletic Conference Championship Game with a dominating 45-6 thrashing of Alabama A&M (see story below).

The win gives second-year head coach Melvin Spears' Tigers an 11-1 mark with their only loss coming to Div. IA Washington State early this year. The convincing win also helps keep the Tigers ahead of Mid Eastern Athletic Conference champ Hampton (11-1) in the final BCSP Top Ten. A&M (9-3), which posted its best regular season ever at 9-2, finished fifth in our final ranking.

Hampton, who had a perfect 11-0 record in the regular season, fell badly to Richmond (38-10) in the first round of the NCAA Div. I-AA playoffs on Nov. 26 and finished second for the second year in a row.

Eugene's journey back to the top began in 2003 with a heartbreaking loss to Southern in a Bayou Classic (44-41) shootout that halted the G-Men's bid for a fourth straight SWAC title and their third black college national crown in four years. The Tigers and Eugene entered 2004 as the BCSP preseason No. 1 team and as the odds-on favorite to reclaim both the SWAC title and the national crown, only to have him go down with a knee injury in their first game. Prior to the 2004 season, Eugene was selected as a presea-



Pedraic Major photo

CHAMPIONSHIP EMBRACE: Grambling QB Bruce Eugene and head coach Melvin Spears celebrate returning G-Men to top of SWAC and black college football.

son I-AA all-American and the leading candidate for the coveted Walter Payton Award given to the best offensive player in I-AA. Without Eugene, Grambling finished 6-5 in 2004. Albany State and Hampton went on to claim the top rankings in 2004 while Alabama State won the SWAC crown.

After being granted a medical redshirt and thus another year of eligibility, Eugene somehow was overlooked nationally and did not get the acclaim that followed him in 2004. But he shone even brighter.

He threw for 4,408 yards, a I-AA record-tying 56 touchdowns and 106 interceptions this year, the best single-season numbers in a career that will go down as one of the best in I-AA history. The output brings his career totals to 13,530 passing yards, second best in I-AA history to former Alcorn State QB Steve McNair, and sets a new I-AA record with 140 career TD passes. Though he was snubbed for the Payton Award, he'll be the runaway winner of the 2005 BCSP Offensive Player of the Year award.

With just a measure of playoff success, Hampton could have challenged Grambling for the top spot. The stage was set for Joe Taylor's troops to get a breakthrough I-AA playoff win, which would have been the first for a I-AA black college team since 1999. They rose as high as No. 2 in the nation on the strength of their unbeaten regular season mark and earned a high playoff seed (third) and a first round home game to boot. But it wasn't enough as they were outplayed by a Richmond team that flamed out in the second round.

MEAC runner-up South Carolina State (9-2) began its season with a win over defending SWAC champ Alabama State but could not get by Hampton in the MEAC. They finished third in the final ranking.

Hampton was one of three black college teams that could not get it done in the playoffs this season. Albany State surprised many by holding off Tuskegee to win its second straight Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title. But unlike last year when the Golden Rams (8-2) got a first round bye, won a second round game and dropped a heartbreaker in the Div. II quarterfinals, this time they battled gamely but fell to Central Arkansas in the first round, 28-20. They finished sixth in our final ranking.

This season it was North Carolina Central (10-2), who broke through an ultra-competitive Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association race to take its first title in 25 years and grab a first-round bye in the D2 playoffs. The Eagles represented well battling Gulf South Conference champ North Alabama before losing on a last-second field goal. Rod Broadway's Eagles earned the No. 4 spot in our final ranking.

The only team Tuskegee could not handle was Albany State, who handed them a 31-21 loss in their pivotal SIAC showdown. The Golden Tigers went on to capture their fourth Pioneer Bowl title with a win over CIAA runner-up Bowie State (8-4), who finished tenth in the final ranking.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the final Top Ten is the presence of Delaware State. Second-year head coach Al Lavan's Hornets finished at 7-4, losing only in the MEAC to Hampton and South Carolina State and takes the eighth spot in our final ranking. Fort Valley State (7-3), who finished just behind Albany State and Tuskegee in the SIAC, holds down No. 9.

SWAC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME VII

Grambling humbles Alabama A&M, 45-6

When Grambling State QB Bruce Eugene and the high-powered Tiger offense fumbled the ball away to the powerful Alabama A&M defense in the first possession of Saturday's Southwestern Athletic Conference Championship Game in Birmingham, it looked like it was going to be one of those topsy-turvy days.

A&M promptly marched 52 yards down the field and scored a touchdown, gaining more yards and scoring more points in the drive than they did in the entire first half of a 44-0 loss to the G-Men earlier this season.

Sound A&M defense and Grambling miscues left A&M trailing just 12-6 at halftime and Bulldog coach Anthony Jones thought his halftime adjustments boded well for a competitive second half.

He was wrong. The Bulldogs had no answer for Eugene after the break as the SWAC offensive player of the year threw five second half TD passes, four in the decisive third quarter, as the Tigers (11-1) completed their march through the SWAC with a 45-6 shellacking of A&M (9-3). Eugene finished 30 of 47 for 473 yards and six TDs with no interceptions, breaking a number of SWAC and I-AA records along the way.

His 12-yard fourth quarter scoring pass to wide receiver Henry Tolbert not only put the finishing touches on the rout but allowed Eugene to tie the I-AA single season touchdown mark held by former



Pedraic Major Photo

EUGENE: 473 passing yards, 6 TDs nets title game MVP honors.

Mississippi Valley State QB Willie Totten at 56. The score also gave Eugene 140 career TD passes, breaking Totten's I-AA career TD mark of 139. The grab was Tolbert's 11th of the game for 184 yards. Four of his receptions went for touchdowns (12, 31, 2 and 12) bringing his season total to 19, a new Grambling record.

"We made some mistakes in the first half with fumbles that stopped some drives," Eugene said. "But we knew if we held onto the ball and ran our plays, we would catch a break. We hit some plays deep and broke their momentum."

"They're obviously a great football team and much better team than we are at this time," said Jones, who suffered his second title game loss to the G-Men. "They showed us another level of football. What can you say about Eugene. He's obviously a special talent and probably will get a chance to play on Sundays. There's a lot of respect for the things he's able to do."

Grambling wideout Clyde Edwards had nine grabs for 122 yards and running back Ab Kuanan ran for 52 yards on 11 carries including a one-yard second quarter scoring plunge. WR Reginald Jackson scored on a 23-yard reception and George Piggott from 41 yards out in the third quarter.

A&M QB Keley Luke was 18 of 34 for 187 yards but threw two picks. RB Nic Luke (10 carries, 44 yards) scored the only A&M touchdown.

FINAL 2005 TEAM-BY-TEAM RESULTS AND SCHEDULES

Large table listing final 2005 team-by-team results and schedules for various Black College Sports teams, including Grambling State, Hampton, South Carolina State, North Carolina Central, Alabama A&M, Albany State, Tuskegee, Delaware State, Fort Valley State, and others.