

# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



CAU Sports Photo

## INTO THE FIRE

SC STATE AND FAMU BATTLE FOR TOP SPOT IN MEAC, NATIONAL POLLS; TROUBLE AT CAU

**HIGDON:** Former assistant stepping in at Clark Atlanta in midst of controversial firing.

# 2009 BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

## CIAA CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

E. DIVISION	DIV		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Bowie State	4	0	5	2
Virginia Union	3	1	4	3
Eliz. City State	2	2	4	3
Virginia State	2	2	4	3
St. Paul's	2	2	3	3
Lincoln (PA)	0	0	3	4
W. DIVISION				
Fayetteville State	3	1	4	3
Shaw	2	2	5	2
J. C. Smith	2	2	3	4
St. Augustine's	2	2	2	5
Chowan	1	3	1	6
Livingstone	0	4	0	7

### CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFF. LINEMAN **Melvin Rogers, Sr., G, CHOWAN** - 5 rec., 135 yards, 2 TDs vs. Livingstone.  
 OFF. BACK **Creven Powell, Jr., QB, ECSU** - 14 of 28, 314 passing yards, 2 TDs, rushed for TD vs. BSU.  
 DEF. LINEMAN **Marcus Crump, Sr., DE, SAC** - 3 sacks, 4.5 tackles for loss, vs. JC Smith.  
 LB **Gerard Atkinson, Sr., FSU** - 13 tackles, interception returned 72 yards for TD vs. Shaw.  
 DEF. BACK **Terence Peete, Jr., BSU** - 8 tackles, 1 for loss, rec. fumble returned for TD vs. ECSU.  
 ROOKIE **Emmanuel Yeager, Fr., QB, BSU** - 12 of 22 for 170 yards, 1 TD, 3 ints., off the bench vs. ECSU.

## MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Florida A&M	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
SC State	2	0	4	1
Morgan State	2	0	4	1
Hampton	2	1	3	2
NC A&T State	1	2	3	3
Norfolk State	1	2	2	3
Delaware State	1	2	1	3
Bethune-Cookman	1	3	1	4
Howard	0	2	2	3
# W-Salem State	0	0	0	5
# Not eligible for title				

### MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE **Malcolm Long, Jr., QB, SCSU** - 16 of 23 for 206 passing yards, 1 TD vs. NSU. Also had 7 carries for 22 yards and a TD.  
 DEFENSE **Phillips Adams, Sr., DB, SCSU** - 5 tackles, 4 solos, 31-yard fumble return for TD vs. NSU.  
 ROOKIE **Kory Kowalski, Fr., WR/KR, BCU** - Hit 40-yard FG with 2:12 left to seal win over DelState.  
 SPECIAL TEAMS **Blake Erickson, So, PK/P, SCSU** - Made 3 of 3 field goals (39, 30, 32) and was 5 of 5 on PATS vs. NSU. Also averaged 37.2 yards on 4 punts.  
 LINEMAN **Ryan Cave, Sr., RG, HAMPTON** - 92% grade, 5 pancakes in win over Howard.

## SIAC SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Albany State	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Tuskegee	5	0	6	0
Fort Valley State	4	2	5	2
Morehouse	3	2	4	2
Miles	3	3	3	4
Clark Atlanta	3	3	2	3
Kentucky State	2	3	4	3
Benedict	2	3	4	3
Stillman	0	5	1	4
Lane	0	5	0	6

### SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE **Demetrie Johnson, Sr., RB, ASU** - Rushed for 240 yards on 29 carries and scored 2 TDs, also had 2 receptions for 27 yards vs. Miles.  
 DEFENSE **Justin Hannah, Sr., DB, TU** - Four tackles, 1 interception returned 26 yards for TD and returned a PAT for 2-point score vs. Morehouse.  
 NEWCOMER **Darryl Perry, So., DB, MILES** - 13 tackles, 2 for losses, a fumble recovery vs. Albany State.  
 SPECIAL TEAMS **Christopher Khan, Sr., P, TU** - Punted 8 times for 41.4 yard average.  
 OFFENSIVE LINE **Brian Beeler, Jr., OL, KSU** - 91% grade, no sacks and 8 knockdowns.

## SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Alabama A&M	DIV		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Alcorn State	1	1	1	3
Jackson State	1	1	1	4
Miss. Valley St.	1	2	2	3
Alabama State	0	2	3	2
W. DIVISION				
Prairie View A&M	3	0	3	1
Ark. Pine Bluff	2	1	3	2
Southern	1	1	3	2
Grambling State	1	1	3	3
Texas Southern	0	1	1	4

### SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE **K. J. Black, Jr., QB, PV A&M** - Second straight POW award after completing 22 of 33 passes for 341 yards and 1 TD and rushing for a TD vs. Alabama State.  
 DEFENSE **Brandon Morris, So., DE, ALCORN STATE** - 8 tackles, 3 sacks, 2 QB hurries, 1 fumble recovery returned 24 yards for TD vs. MVSU.  
 NEWCOMER **Robert Joseph, Fr., DB, TSU** - Game-high 13 tackles vs. Rutgers.  
 SPECIAL TEAMS **Carlos Reyes, Sr., PK, UAPB** - Good on 2 field goals (26, 42) and both PATS vs. Jackson State.

## INDEPENDENTS

Langston	W		L	
	W	L	W	L
Concordia	3	0	3	0
Tennessee State	3	0	3	0
W. Va. State	2	4	2	4
Savannah State	1	3	1	3
N. C. Central	0	6	0	6
Lincoln (Mo.)	0	6	0	6
Edward Waters	0	6	0	6
Central State	0	6	0	6
Texas College	0	6	0	6
Cheyney	0	7	0	7

### PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE **Preston Brown, Sr., RB, Tenn. State** - Carried 19 times for 74 yards and 2 TDs including a 2-yard score with 1:34 left that was the game-winner vs. 16th-ranked Eastern Kentucky.  
 DEFENSE **Eugene Clifford, Jr., S, Tenn. State** - Returned a first-quarter interception 66 yards to paydirt vs. Eastern Kentucky. Finished with just one tackle.  
 SPECIAL TEAMS **Robert Vipond, PK, Tenn. State** - Kicked a 41-yard field goal vs. SE Mo. State.

## SCORES

**OCTOBER 10**  
 Albany State 31, Miles 7  
 Alcorn State 32, Miss. Valley State 10  
 App. State 55, NC Central 21  
 Ark. Pine Bluff 20, Jackson State 13, OT  
 Bacone 35, Texas College 32  
 Benedict 20, Lane 15  
 Bethune-Cookman 9, Delaware State 7  
 Bowie State 37, Eliz. City State 33  
 Chowan 41, Livingstone 33  
 Fayetteville State 29, Shaw 28  
 Ft. Valley State 32, Stillman 13  
 Grambling State 41, Alabama A&M 20  
 Hampton 37, Howard 0  
 Kentucky State 20, Central State 14

Miami 48, Florida A&M 16  
 Millersville 47, Cheyney 36  
 Morgan State 7, NC A&T 6  
 NW Okla. State 27, Langston 21  
 Peru State 16, Lincol 14  
 Prairie View 24, Alabama State 10  
 Rutgers 42, Texas Southern 0  
 St. Augustine's 27, JC Smith 9  
 St. Paul's 18, Virginia State 0  
 SC State 37, Norfolk State 10  
 Tenn. State 20, E. Kentucky 17  
 Tuskegee 30, Morehouse 16  
 Virginia Union 35, Lincoln 6  
 Webber Int'l 45, Edward Waters 24  
 W. Liberty 52, W. Va. State 30

# MEAC 1 vs. 2 showdown arrives

**LUT WILLIAMS**  
 BCSP Editor

Since the 2009 season began everybody's been waiting for the **South Carolina State/Florida A&M** game. Well, now it's here. Saturday in Orangeburg, S.C. at 2 p.m., the two most talked about, highly ranked and talented black college teams tee it up with a bevy of developments hinging

on the outcome.

SCSU and FAMU have identical overall (4-1) and **MEAC** (2-0) records headed into their showdown. Both teams' losses came against Div. I BCS opponents. SCSU lost 38-14 to South Carolina two weeks ago while FAMU lost to #11 Miami, 48-16 Saturday.

around it. Heck, I'm trying to sell tickets here. We're trying to fill our stadium, and they want to see the ball flying and scoring, that kind of stuff. I'd like to see both teams score and it be one of those high-scoring affairs where everybody's on the edge of their seats for the entire game. That'd be great!"

## GAMES THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15		
Morgan St. vs. Howard in Baltimore, MD (ESPNU - Live)	7:30	
Virginia St. vs. Va. Union in Ettrick, Va. (CSTV)	8	
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17		
Alabama State vs. Grambling State in Montgomery, AL	1	
West Virginia State vs. Glenville State in Institute, WV	1	
Central State vs. Lincoln (MO) in Wilberforce, OH	1:30	
NC Central vs. Central Methodist in Durham, NC	1:30	
Clark Atlanta vs. Albany State in Atlanta, GA	2	
Bloomsburg vs. Cheyney in Bloomsburg	3:30	
Jackson State vs. Texas Southern in Jackson, MS	4	
Stillman vs. Miles in Tuscaloosa, AL	5	
Savannah State vs. Bethune-Cookman in Savannah, GA	5	
Tennessee State vs. Murray State in Nashville, TN	6	
Chowan vs. Shaw in Murfreesboro, NC	6	
UC Davis vs. Winston-Salem State in Davis, CA	6	
Michigan vs. Delaware State in Ann Arbor, MI	TBA	
HOMECOMINGS		
Prairie View A&M vs. Miss Valley State in Prairie View, TX	1	
Bowie State vs. Saint Paul's in Bowie, MD	1	
Johnson C. Smith vs. Fayetteville State in Charlotte, NC	1	
Saint Augustine's vs. Livingstone in Raleigh, NC	1:30	
Elizabeth City State vs. Lincoln (PA) in Elizabeth City, NC	1:30	
Kentucky State vs. Benedict in Frankfort, KY	1:45	
Alcorn State vs. Alabama A&M in Alcorn State, MS	2	
Lane vs. Morehouse in Jackson, TN	2	
Langston vs. Texas College in Langston, OK	2	
Southern vs. Fort Valley State in Baton Rouge, LA	5:30	
CLASSICS		
<i>Battle of the Bay</i>		
Norfolk State vs. Hampton in Norfolk, VA	1	
<i>Wiregrass Football Classic</i>		
Edward Waters vs. Concordia in Dothan, AL	4	
TV GAMES - ESPNU - Tape Delay - 10:30 p.m.		
SC State vs. Florida A&M in Orangeburg, SC	2	

## BCSP TOP TEN

- FLORIDA A&M** (4-1) - Knocked from the unbeaten ranks by Div. I Miami, 48-16. **NEXT:** At SC State for MEAC throwdown.
- SOUTH CAROLINA STATE** (4-1) - Beat Norfolk State, 37-10. **NEXT:** MEAC showdown hosting Florida A&M.
- PRAIRIE VIEW A&M** (3-1) - Defeated Alabama State, 24-10. **NEXT:** Homecoming vs. Miss. Valley State.
- GRAMBLING STATE** (2-3) - Whipped Alabama A&M, 41-20. **NEXT:** At Alabama State.
- ALBANY STATE** (3-1) - Ran past Miles, 24-7. **NEXT:** At Clark Atlanta.
- ALABAMA A&M** (4-2) - Downed by Grambling, 41-20. **NEXT:** At Alcorn State.
- SHAW** (5-2) - Done in by turnovers in losing to Fayetteville State, 29-28. **NEXT:** At Chowan.
- SOUTHERN** (2-2) - Idle. **NEXT:** Homecoming vs. Ft. Valley State.
- MORGAN STATE** (4-1) - Edged NC A&T, 7-6. **NEXT:** Hosts Howard.
- TUSKEGEE** (5-2) - Downed Morehouse 30-16. **NEXT:** Idle.

# UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

## BAHHUR FIRED, TO SUE CAU:

According to the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, fifth-year **Clark Atlanta** head football coach **Ted Bahhur**, fired last Tuesday in the midst of a 3-3 start, filed a racial-discrimination complaint Friday with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission charging that CAU President **Carlton Brown** and Athletics Director **Tamica Jones** fired him because of the color of his skin.

According to the *AJC* story, Bahhur's attorney, Ed Gadrix, said they plan to file a federal lawsuit when the EEOC investigation is concluded.

Gadrix said Bahhur's petition before the EEOC documents "a wide series of events that have taken place that have tried to force him out on racial grounds." Bahhur is Palestinian. Brown and Jones are black.

Efforts by the BCSP to reach Bahhur, Brown and Jones were unsuccessful.

Clark Atlanta initially announced the firing in a short-worded Media Advisory last Tuesday evening saying Bahhur was relieved of his duties immediately and was being replaced by assistant **Keith Higdon** on an interim basis. Later Tuesday night the CAU Office of Marketing and Communications released an official statement of the firing with a summary of interim coach Higdon's accomplishments along with quotes from Higdon and Brown on Higdon's new assignment.

The official statement did not outline the reason for the firing and included a statement by Jones of thanks to Bahhur.

On Thursday, Jones told the *AJC* in reference to the firing that "expectations for the team are not W's and L's as they are that we have a responsibility to commit to our young men, as well. That's where we were most lacking."

Bahhur alleges in the *AJC* story that he was asked questions in meetings and embarrassed by Brown and Jones in ways that black coaches were not. Bahhur reportedly also took exception to Jones' questions about his commitment to the players. He said graduation rates improved during his tenure, estimating that 15 of the roughly 25 seniors graduated last spring, two more have since completed requirements and an additional two are on track to complete degree work this spring.

Bahhur said he has also raised money for renovated facilities, including the locker room, weight room and coaches office.

CAU had made steady progress towards becoming a contender in the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** during Bahhur's tenure. The Panthers, who finished 6-5 overall last season, their first winning season since 1991, were picked to finish fourth in this year's preseason poll by SIAC coaches. Bahhur's team began this season with three straight wins before losing three straight games. The firing came three days after a 31-13 homecoming loss to **Kentucky State**.

Bahhur compiled a 20-29 overall record during his time leading the CAU grid program. Prior to his hiring in 2005, CAU had lost 39 of its last 43 games.

According to the official statement, Higdon has served for five years as an assistant to Bahhur in a variety of roles including assistant head coach, defensive backs coach, recruiting coordinator and pro liaison. He has a 15-year coaching career including a stint at **Tuskegee** from 1998 to 2004.

# Details unveiled for Black College FB HOF

By **Hal Lamar**  
 Special to Onnidan.com

Former **Grambling State University** and NFL quarterbacks **Doug Williams** and **James "Shack" Harris** say phone conversations between the two of them over several years led to the creation of the Black College Football Hall of Fame.

The announcement was made officially October 9 amid the lavish surroundings of the Four Seasons Hotel in midtown Atlanta which announced that it had signed on as a platinum sponsor of the endeavor.

"James and I talk at least 10 times a week and we always found ourselves talking about football and one of things we always discussed was either a black college national championship game or either a black college football Hall of Fame," said Williams, currently an executive with the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers. "That's how this came about."

Williams and Harris have assembled an impressive group of former athletes, administrators, sportswriters and broadcasters to serve on the Hall's selection committee. The list of notables include former Dallas Cowboy General Manager Gil Brandt, former Pittsburgh Steeler Executive Charles Bailey, ex-New York Giant General Manager Ernie Accorsi, veteran TV sportscaster Charlie Neal and Ty Miller, sports director of the Sheridan Broadcasting Network which annually names an SBN All America team.

"We want to make sure the selection process for the Hall was fair," said Harris, the former Jacksonville Jaguars personnel director who now serves as senior personnel executive with the Detroit Lions. "We wanted to make sure that people had some knowledge of the players. The group we selected have written about them, some have scouted the players and so they are very familiar with black college football."

The first inductees will be announced February 20 during black history month in promised elaborate ceremonies at the Four Seasons which will be chaired by former Atlanta Mayor **Andrew Young**, himself a former hurdler and swimmer at Howard University.

"Shack and I are not on the committee," Williams emphasized. "We want to make that clear. This is near and dear to our hearts but I don't think it would be fair for either one of us to be on the selection committee. They have a conference call coming up soon. We won't be anywhere near the call."

The Hall will induct eight individuals into the inaugural class, seven players/and or coaches and one contributor. Initially, the home for the Hall will be the group's web site, blackcollegefootballhof.org.

Williams is not ruling out a "brick and mortar," building to house the HOF at some point in the future. In the meantime, the College Hall of Fame which is moving to Atlanta from South Bend Indiana has already committed itself to devoting a wing to the exploits of HBCU athletes.

Harris said the Hall will prove educational for youngsters and adults who may not realize the struggles HBCU gridders faced while playing the game or their contributions to same.

"The history of the players who will be inducted in the Hall is interesting. The early athletes were the best in the country bar none but there were sacrifices that we had to make. For example, we had to sleep in the

**FOUNDERS:** Former black college football and NFL stars and current NFL executives Doug Williams (l.) and James Harris (r.) announce the creation of the Black College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta last week. The first inductees will be announced in February. (Photo by Patsy Lamar)



gym motel on cots. We had to ride the bus across country (many still do). There were four and five-hour practices. So this wasn't just a game for us. It was a way of life."

A call for nominations will be announced in a few weeks, say organizers. Any member of the media, college or professional coaches and players and the general public can make a nomination. Nomination forms will soon be available at blackcollegefootballhof.org.

# BCSP Notes

## ECSU's Tillar appointed to D2 Football Committee

**Elizabeth City State** head football coach **Waverly Tillar** has been appointed to the NCAA Division II Football Committee, a term of service that begins immediately and continues through 2013.

Now in his seventh year at the helm of the football program at ECSU, Tillar will be a member of an 8-person national committee and is one of three coaches (Timothy Clifton-Mars Hill, William Maskill-Midwestern State). Some of the committee members' duties include; participation in weekly regional advisory committee (rankings) and national committee conference calls beginning in the month of August through December; serving as an NCAA game representative at preliminary-round playoff games in November and December as well as attendance at the Division II Football Championship in a work-related capacity during the month of December.

Tillar, a two-time CIAA Coach of the Year, was named the head coach at ECSU in January of 2003. Over the past three seasons he has led the Vikings to the best record in school history (9-3, 2006) and appearances in two CIAA Championship games. He also serves as he President of the CIAA Football Coaches Association.

Clifton, who has been at Mars Hill for 17 years, formerly served as an assistant coach at **Fayetteville State**.



TILLAR