



SIAC Graphic

FOOTBALL IN THE AIR

SIAC IN THE HALL: Video Board outside College Football Hall of Fame shows Tuskegee image as conference meets inside.

SIAC KICKS OFF PRESEASON FOOTBALL; CIAA QB STARS AGAIN IN INDOOR LEAGUE

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

NICKELBERRY MOVES TO LSU:

BATON ROUGE – LSU men's basketball coach Will Wade announced on Tuesday that former 10-year (2010-2019) Howard head coach **Kevin Nickelberry** will join the men's basketball staff as an Assistant to the Head Coach.



Nickelberry

The contract is subject to the approval of the LSU Board of Supervisors at a future meeting date. Nickelberry has also previously served as the head coach at Hampton (2006-09) and the Columbia Union women's team (1991-94). He also served as an assistant coach at Howard, Monmouth, Holy Cross, Charlotte and Clemson before being named head coach at Hampton.

His 2019 Howard squad became the first team since 1992 to advance to postseason play, earning a spot in the College Basketball Invitational field. His teams at Howard recorded GPAs of at least 3.0 in eight of his seasons at Howard.

"We are very happy to have Kevin Nickelberry join our basketball staff here at LSU," said Wade. "I have been friends with him for some 15 years and know that he will be a tremendous mentor and resource for our players with his years of college basketball experience."

NGEVE, McLEAN NAMED CIAA WOY:

Charlotte, NC (July 8th, 2019) - **Christine Ngeve** of Shaw and **Teeya McLean** from Fayetteville State have been selected by the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA)** and its Senior Woman Administrators (SWA) Association sub-committee as the 2019 CIAA Women of the Year.

Ngeve and McLean will both represent the conference as considerations for the 2019 NCAA Woman of the Year Award, which accepts two honorees if at least one of the student-athletes is a woman of color or international student-athlete.

Ngeve, a Greensboro, NC native, was a Psychology major with a minor in Social Work at Shaw making the Dean's List all four years and graduating Summa Cum Laude with a 3.76 grade point average. She is an active member in her community, spending time as a volunteer for several organizations - including One Step Further and The Passage Home - while also serving as a Crisis Text Line Counselor.

Ngeve also served in various leadership roles on campus at Shaw, including Vice President of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), Chief of Staff for the organization Queen in You, Secretary/Peer Mentor for R.I.S.E. against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, and Secretary/Chaplain for her chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. A three-sport athlete during her time at Shaw, Ngeve was a two-time CIAA champion in volleyball and an All-Rookie selection in softball while also competing in track & field for the Bears.

McLean, a native of Tacoma, WA, graduated Summa Cum Laude this past May with a degree in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice. Carrying a 3.80 grade point average, she was a three-time member of the Chancellor's list and was inducted into the Chi Alpha Sigma Honor Society. In her community, McLean spends time volunteering for the Red Cross, serving as a counselor at volleyball camps, and mentoring youth at Westarea Elementary and Pine Forest and E.E. Smith High School.

Athletically, the two-sport standout was named to the CIAA All-Conference Team as a middle hitter and Fayetteville State's Most Valuable Player in 2018 and was also a member of the Broncos bowling team that went 51-0 in the CIAA during the regular season, finishing with a 57-13 overall record and a runner-up finish at the CIAA Championship.

Ngeve and McLean now move on to the next phase as the NCAA Woman of the Year selection committee will identify the Top 30. The Committee on Women's Athletics will select the winner from nine finalists.



Ngeve



McLean

Preseason SIAC football picks unveiled

ATLANTA, Ga. (July 9, 2019) – There was plenty of news as the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** kicked off 2019 preseason black college football events at its annual Media Day held for the third straight year here at the downtown College Football Hall of Fame.

In his opening remarks, SIAC Commissioner **Greg Moore**, in addition to touting the league's outstanding attendance record and deals with Nike and FloSports, reported that the league's Council of Presidents had unanimously approved **Edward Waters College** to join the conference. EWC begins a three-year probationary process this year mandated by the NCAA to move from NAIA to NCAA Div. II status.

Seven SIAC teams are on Edward Waters schedule this year.

That news coupled with **Savannah State's** re-joining the conference after a brief stay in the **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference** were among the biggest developments.

Additionally, three new coaches made their debuts - **Clark Atlanta's Tim Bowens**, **Kentucky State's Charlie Jackson** and **Savannah State's Shawn Quinn**.

Junior running back **Santo Dunn** of **Morehouse College** was named the SIAC Preseason Offensive Player of the Year along with senior linebacker **Austin Stephens** of **Miles College** who was selected as Preseason Defensive Player of the Year.

Dunn, a junior running back, was picked as last season's SIAC Offensive Player of the Year and returns for his third year with the Maroon Tigers. The Miami, FL native led the SIAC in rushing yards (875), scoring (8.4 points per game), and touchdowns with 14. Dunn also ranked nationally in rushing yards at No. 38, tied for No. 25 in scoring and No. 17 in total touchdowns.

Stephens, a senior linebacker, was picked as last season's Defensive Player of the Year and returns for his fourth year with the Golden Bears. The Munford, Ala. native led the SIAC in total tackles (120), which is currently tied for seventh in Division II. Stephens had 14.5 tackles for loss, one sack, an interception and a fumble he recovered and returned for a touchdown.

There appears to be a CIAA pipeline to the Indoor Football League's Iowa Barnstormers.

The IFL announced the 2019 Most Valuable Player and Coach of the Year Awards Friday and former **Elizabeth City State** and CIAA standout **Daquan Neal** was named the league's top player.

In his first season at quarterback for the Barnstormers, Neal led the IFL in passing touchdowns and helped Iowa advance to the United Conference Championship for a third consecutive season.

Neal finished his season completing 225 of 317 passes for 2,642

yards and 59 touchdowns against just three interceptions. His 59 touchdown passes were the most in the IFL while his 2,642 passing yards were second most. Neal found his way into the IFL record books as his 71 percent completion percentage was third-most all-time. A threat running the ball, Neal rushed for 649 yards and 24 touchdowns. Neal's 24 rushing touchdowns ranked second in the league.

Neal was named IFL Offensive Player of the Week three times during the season and was named as the First Team All-IFL QB.

During his college days, Neal



Dunn



Stephens

He also earned one SIAC Defensive Player of the Week award. Stephens became the first-ever player from Miles to be named to the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Division II All-American Team and was the only SIAC selection in the 2018 D2CCA All-Super Region 2 Football Team.

In the East Division, **Albany State** is anticipated to capture the Eastern Division Championship title as they had three first place votes. With two first place votes, **Benedict** was voted ahead of **Morehouse**, who had one first place vote. **Fort Valley State** was picked to finish fourth as **Clark Atlanta** and newest member, **Savannah State**, round out the eastern division.

In the West Division, defending SIAC Champions, **Miles**, is anticipated to top the west after receiving two first place votes and leading the poll for the first time since 2016. **Tuskegee** was picked to finish second with two first place votes leading **Central State** with three first place votes. **Lane** and **Kentucky State** round out the western division.



EAST PICKS: Albany State with (l. to r.) defensive back Jalen Bush, head coach Gabe Gardinia and linebacker Antonio Leroy Jr.

All votes are submitted by head coaches and sports information directors.

PRESEASON PICKS

EASTERN DIVISION	WESTERN DIVISION
1) Albany State (3)	1) Miles (2)
2) Benedict (2)	2) Tuskegee (2)
3) Morehouse (1)	3) Central State (3)
4) Fort Valley State	4) Lane
5) Clark Atlanta	5) Kentucky State
6) Savannah State	

*first-place votes in parenthesis

2019 SIAC FOOTBALL PRESEASON TEAM FIRST TEAM - OFFENSE

OL - Martese Patterson, Sr., TUS; Jean Cyriaque, Sr., MHC; Darius Hicks, Jr., FVSU; Aaron Scroggins, Jr., MC; Rochelin Romain, Sr., TUS; **TE** - Robert Corbin, Jr., Jr., CSU; **WR** - Leonard Tyree, RS., MC; Kevin Greenhow, Sr., CSU; **RB** - Santo Dunn, Jr., MHC; Terraris Saffold, Sr., CSU; **QB** - Michael Sims, Jr., MHC

DEFENSE

DL - Deonte Jackson, Sr., ALB; Brayce McKinzie, Jr., LANE; Chris Roberts, Jr., KSU; Breante Glover, So., CAU; **LB** - Kailen Abrams, Jr., CSU; Austin Stephens, Sr., MILES; Davoris Thomas, Sr., TUS; **DB** - Camron Young, Sr., FVSU; Robert Cummings, Sr., BEN; Rorrick Steward, R.Jr., TUS; Traiviountae Brown, Sr., BEN; **PK/P** - Gabriel Ballinas, Jr., ALB; **PR** - Lorenzo Smothers, Jr., FVSU; **KR** - Anthony Evelyn, So., LANE

SECOND TEAM - OFFENSE

OL - Lee Humphrey, Sr., MHC; Raekwon Bethea, Sr., ALB; Paul Coleman, So., CAU; Christian Taylor, Jr., BEN; Eliezer Hernandez, Jr., KSU; **TE** - Montavious Tinch, Sr., MILES; **WR** - Tremell Gooden, Sr., MHC; Johnathan Sanders, Jr., CAU; **RB** - Tracy Scott, Sr., ALB; McKinley Habersham, Sr., ALB; **QB** - Daniel Smith, Sr., MILES

DEFENSE

DL - William Callaway, Jr., MHC; Jaylun Thomas, Sr., MILES; Rashaad Miller, Sr., BEN; Shaun McGee, Sr., TUS; **LB** - Julien Turner, Sr., MHC; Amari Andrews, Sr., BEN; Edward Nelson, Sr., MHC; **DB** - Dedrick Vanover, Jr., MHC; Kendrell Waler, R.Jr., MILES;



WEST PICKS: (L. to r.) Miles with linebacker Austin Stephens, head coach Reginald Ruffin and wide receiver Leonard Tyree.

Former ECSU QB Neal named IFL MVP

There appears to be a CIAA pipeline to the Indoor Football League's Iowa Barnstormers.

The IFL announced the 2019 Most Valuable Player and Coach of the Year Awards Friday and former **Elizabeth City State** and CIAA standout **Daquan Neal** was named the league's top player.

In his first season at quarterback for the Barnstormers, Neal led the IFL in passing touchdowns and helped Iowa advance to the United Conference Championship for a third consecutive season.

Neal finished his season completing 225 of 317 passes for 2,642

yards and 59 touchdowns against just three interceptions. His 59 touchdown passes were the most in the IFL while his 2,642 passing yards were second most. Neal found his way into the IFL record books as his 71 percent completion percentage was third-most all-time. A threat running the ball, Neal rushed for 649 yards and 24 touchdowns. Neal's 24 rushing touchdowns ranked second in the league.

Neal was named IFL Offensive Player of the Week three times during the season and was named as the First Team All-IFL QB.

During his college days, Neal



DAQUAN NEAL: At Elizabeth City State (l.) and with the Iowa Barnstormers (r.).

spent three years playing with the ECSU Vikings including games against former **Livingstone** product and IFL 2018 MVP **Drew Powell**.

Last season, Powell, also in

his first season with the team, led the Barnstormers to their first-ever United Bowl (IFL Championship) enroute to winning the award as the league's top player.

"It's definitely inspiring seeing another player you used to play against succeed," said Neal in an interview with **whotv.com** in Des Moines. The former CIAA offensive player of the year while playing quarterback for the Blue Bears, Powell moved on to the Canadian Football League, Arena Football League and eventually the Arizona Rattlers of the IFL.

BCSP Notes

MEAC announces 2019 ESPN football TV schedule

NORFOLK, Va.,—The **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC)** has announced its ESPN football package for the 2019 season, which features nine regular-season match-ups on ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPNEWS, ESPN3 and one postseason appearance on ABC. The nationally-televised games are a part of the MEAC's ongoing partnership with ESPN.

The 15th annual **MEAC/SWAC Football Challenge** kicks off the first full week of the 2019 season, featuring **Bethune-Cookman** against **Jackson State** of the **SWAC**, which will be televised live on ESPN2 at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1. Bethune-Cookman will play in the classic for the fourth time in program history, while Jackson State will make its second appearance. Last season, the contest moved to a neutral site for the first time since 2015., as it is now being played in Atlanta, Ga. at Pete Petit Field at Georgia State University Stadium.

The ESPN3/ESPNU slate kicks off on Thursday, Sept. 26 as **Delaware State** travels to Greensboro, N.C. to face the defending MEAC and Celebration Bowl champion, **North Carolina A&T State**, at 7:30 p.m.

One week later, **Morgan State** will travel to Daytona Beach, Fla. to face Bethune-Cookman at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5. That game will stream live on ESPN3 and be televised that evening on ESPNU.

The second Thursday night contest of the season will air on Oct. 10, as Bethune-Cookman travels to **North Carolina Central** for a showdown which will air live on ESPNU at 6 p.m.

The MEAC returns to the airwaves in the month of November with four contests, headlined by North Carolina Central at **Howard** on Saturday, Nov. 2 at 1 p.m., live on ESPN3 and rebroadcast that evening on ESPNU.

The **Aggie-Eagle Classic** featuring North Carolina Central and North Carolina A&T State will be played on Saturday, Nov. 23 at 1 p.m., live on ESPN3 and rebroadcast later that evening on ESPNU.

The annual **Florida Blue Florida Classic** featuring Bethune-Cookman and **Florida A&M** will be played at the Camping World Stadium in Orlando, Fla on Nov. 23. The classic will air live at 3:30 p.m. on ESPNEWS.

Two wildcard contests have been secured by the MEAC, one in October and one in November, featuring teams in contention for the conference title. The first wildcard contest will take place on Oct. 12, followed by the second game on Nov. 16. Both games will stream live on ESPN3 and be televised that evening on ESPNU.

The fifth annual **Celebration Bowl** wraps up the season as the MEAC champion will square off against the SWAC champion on Saturday, Dec. 21 in Atlanta, Ga. at Mercedes Benz Stadium. The contest will air live on ABC at 12 p.m.

2019 SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, SEPT. 1 · 3 p.m.

Bethune-Cookman vs. Jackson State (MEAC/SWAC Challenge) - Live on ESPN2

THURSDAY, SEPT. 26 · 7:30 p.m.

Delaware State at North Carolina A&T State - Live on ESPNU

SATURDAY, OCT. 5 · 4 p.m.

Morgan State at Bethune-Cookman - Live on ESPN3 /Delay ESPNU, 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCT. 10 · 6 p.m.

Bethune-Cookman at North Carolina Central - Live on ESPNU

SATURDAY, OCT. 12 · TBA

MEAC Wildcard #1 - Live on ESPN3/Televised later on ESPNU at 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 2 · 1 p.m.

North Carolina Central at Howard - Live on ESPN3/Delay on ESPNU at 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16 · TBA

MEAC Wildcard #2 - Live on ESPN3/Televised later on ESPNU at 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 23 · 1 p.m.

N. C. Central at N. C. A&T State - Live on ESPN3/Delay on ESPNU at 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 23 · 3:30 p.m.

Florida A&M vs. Bethune-Cookman - Live on ESPNEWS

SATURDAY, DEC. 21 · 12 p.m.

MEAC Champ vs. SWAC Champ (Celebration Bowl) - Live on ABC

All games scheduled to be televised later are subjected to change.

Tennessee State athletics partners with Nike and BSN Sports

NASHVILLE--- The **Tennessee State University** Department of Athletics has announced a new multi-year agreement with Nike through BSN SPORTS beginning with the 2019-20 season.

"I am very pleased to have TSU Athletics in a new partnership with BSN/Nike for the provider of equipment and apparel for our sport programs," said Director of Athletics **Teresa Phillips**. "We had enjoyed a good relationship for a decade with another major player in sport apparel and simply sought to discover what brand would be best for our student-athletes moving forward. We feel that the Nike brand will bring a superior branding opportunity for our programs and the university community at large. Our entire staff is working feverishly to get our teams ready to represent the swoosh this fall. We can't wait for our alumni and supporters to be a part of this awesome new look."

The agreement between TSU and BSN SPORTS is for five years and makes Nike the official athletic apparel, footwear, accessory and equipment brand for all 15 Big Blue programs.