

# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

## AGGIES PREVAIL FOR FOURTH TIME IN ATLANTA

CIAA ANNOUNCES TV HOOPS SCHEDULE, HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES, RE-ALIGNMENT



**CHAMPS, AGAIN:** North Carolina A&T head coach Sam Washington raises the Celebration Bowl trophy after his team's 64-44 win over Alcorn State Saturday in Atlanta.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



### CIAA HOOPS TV GAMES ANNOUNCED:

Charlotte, NC – The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA), has announced its broadcast schedule for the 2019-20 basketball season. This year's schedule of games will be televised live on AspireTV. The CIAA & AspireTV are in the fourth year of a partnership that provides live broadcast coverage across multiple platforms. [aspire logo19](#)

"We're elated to continue our partnership with AspireTV to broadcast regular season basketball games as well as eight games during the 2020 tournament. As we celebrate 75 years of our historic basketball tournament, this is a great opportunity to engage our passionate fans and celebrate the rich tradition of the CIAA while continuing to showcase our institutions, coaches, and student-athletes," said CIAA Commissioner **Jacqie McWilliams**.

The 10-game conference slate will include two (2) regular season men's basketball games as well as eight (8) games during the 2020 CIAA Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament, which will take place 2/ 25-29 in Charlotte, NC at Bojangles' Coliseum and Spectrum Center.

"As a proud HBCU alumna, I'm thrilled to announce that AspireTV is entering into our fourth year of airing CIAA basketball games," said Melissa Ingram, general manager, AspireTV. "As the destination for Black lifestyle programming, this partnership is a great opportunity for us to promote the legacy, brand and culture of historically black colleges, while connecting our viewers with content that they are seeking."

The CIAA broadcast schedule will tip-off on Saturday, 2/ 8, as the **Clafin Panthers** take on the **Johnson C. Smith Golden Bulls** in Orangeburg, SC. The regular season broadcast slate will conclude on 2/ 15 with a division rivalry as the **Fayetteville State Broncos** host the **Winston-Salem State Rams** in Fayetteville, NC. Local listings of each game's broadcast will be forthcoming.

#### 2019-20 CIAA BASKETBALL BROADCAST SCHEDULE ON ASPIRETV

REGULAR SEASON	DATE	TIME
Johnson C. Smith at Clafin (Men)	2/8	3:30 pm
W-Salem St. at Fayetteville St. (Men)	2/15	4:00 pm

#### MEN'S TOURNAMENT (Charlotte, NC)

Quarterfinal #1	2/27	TBA
Quarterfinal #2	2/27	TBA
Semifinal #1	2/28	TBA
Semifinal #2	2/28	TBA
Championship Game	2/29	TBA

#### WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT (Charlotte, NC)

Semifinal #1	2/28	TBA
Semifinal #2	2/28	TBA
Championship Game	2/29	TBA



### CIAA ANNOUNCES RE-ALIGNMENT:

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Board of Directors has approved a division realignment to address an imbalance created by the departure of **Chowan University** as a full member.

Beginning with the 2020-21 season, in all sports except football, **Shaw University** will be playing in the northern division.

The Board also was informed that **Clafin University** baseball has been accepted as an associate member of the Peach Belt Conference. The CIAA no longer sponsors baseball as a conference sport

# NC A&T three-peats in Celebration Bowl

## LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

ATLANTA – Graduate quarterback **Kylil Carter**, playing in his final game, passed for bowl-game records of 364 yards and six touchdowns to lead big-play **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** champion **North Carolina A&T** to a surprising 64-44 win over **Southwestern Athletic Conference** champion **Alcorn State** in *Celebration Bowl V* at Mercedes Benz Stadium Saturday afternoon.

The game, that had all the markings of a defensive struggle as both teams were among the stingiest in their respective conferences, turned out to be just the opposite.

"I never expected this game to be like it was, a shootout, I really didn't," said Alcorn State fourth-year head coach **Fred McNair**, who came up short for the second straight year after his team dropped a close 24-22 decision to the Aggies in last year's game.

"They didn't have to work too hard for those touchdowns," he said. "One thing we always talk about in our pre-game is not giving up big plays, and that's exactly what we did. Bad eyes by the safeties, by the corners. We just didn't do a good job on the back end."

The Aggies (9-3) thus snag their third straight win in the bowl game and fourth overall, all the wins the MEAC has earned against their SWAC counterparts in the game's five-year history. It was their third victory over Alcorn State (9-4) after a win last year and in *Celebration Bowl I* in 2015. A&T defeated **Grambling State** 21-14 in 2017 in *Celebration Bowl III*.

The other two games vs. Alcorn State were decided by single-digits (41-34 and 24-22) and went down to the final minutes. This one started slow but then points came in bunches.

The teams set a Celebration Bowl record with their combined 108 points and also set the record for total yards (1,034), 574 by NC A&T and 460 by Alcorn State.

NC A&T will likely be crowned the black college national champion after its performance.

"What a game," said victorious second-year NC A&T head coach **Sam Washington** who got his second straight bowl game victory.

"Offensively, I think both teams played very well. Defensively, not so much," said Washington, the former defensive co-ordinator for the Aggies whose team prides itself on slowing down the opposition. "But it was very entertaining."

"I'm very proud of my team. I thought they played with a lot of courage, a lot of effort and a lot of want-to. They started fast and they finished strong."

With A&T leading 24-10 at the half, the game's highlight was perhaps a raucous, back-and-forth third quarter that kept the 32,938 fans at the game on the edge of their seats and saw the teams put up a bowl-game record 49 points with the Aggies outscoring the Braves 28-21 to lead 52-31 entering the final period.

First team all-MEAC running back **Jah-Maine Martin**, who was held to just one yard on seven carries in the first half, broke loose on a 75-yard scoring run on the first play from scrimmage in the third quarter to put the Aggies up 31-10.

For the game, in addition to Martin's 75-yarder, the Aggies scored on big-play pass receptions of 53, 59, 43, 20 and 73 yards.

Alcorn was playing catch-up for most of the way, but showed no quit. The Braves scored five touchdowns in the second half to keep within striking distance of the Aggies. But they could never get over the hump.

After the Aggies were held scoreless in the first quarter, senior wideout **Elijah Bell** got them on the board when he hauled in the 53-yarder after the Aggies had fallen behind 3-0 in the

## Downs Alcorn State for third time, 64-44; Fourth bowl win overall

Photos by Joe Daniels



**BREAKIN' AWAY:** NC A&T RB Jah-Maine Martin leaves an Alcorn State defender and everyone else in his wake as he breaks off a 75-yard TD run that opened the third quarter of Celebration Bowl V. It was Martin's tenth TD of the season of 55 yards or longer. He finished with 110 yards on 16 carries and two TDs in the Aggies' 64-44 win.



**BREAKIN' AWAY ALCORN STYLE:** Alcorn State wide receiver Chris Blair (#11) gets away from NC A&T defender Mac McCain (#29) for one of his seven receptions. Blair scored on this 36-yard reception in the second quarter and finished with a career-high 150 receiving yards.



**'THIS WAY, GUYS:** North Carolina A&T QB Kylil Carter sets sail on a 55-yard run that set up his team's final score, a 4-yard run by Jah-Maine Martin with three-and-a-half minutes left in the game. Carter rushed for 96 yards and finished with a bowl game record 460 yards of total offense in the 64-44 win by the Aggies.

first quarter. That score, a 28-yard **Corey McCullough** field goal, came after WR/KR **Korey Banks** fumbled a punt deep in A&T territory.

Bell later added a 20-yard scoring grab in the third quarter. Those were his only two receptions on the day.

Alcorn State went up 10-3 in the second quarter on a 36-yard pass from quarterback **Felix Harper** to **Chris Blair**. Then, A&T wide receiver **Zach Leslie** got into the act, snaring a 59-yard bomb from Carter to put the Aggies back on top 14-10.

Placekicker **Noel Ruiz** booted through a 26-yard field goal to give the Aggies a 17-10 lead after freshman linebacker **Jason Roberts** picked off a Harper pass deep in Alcorn territory. Roberts added six tackles in the game to win the de-



**MVP:** Celebration Bowl MVP, North Carolina A&T QB Kylil Carter, launches a pass in Saturday's game in Atlanta. Carter was 18 of 30 for bowl game records of 364 passing yards and six TDs, the latter that also tied a school record, in the big 64-44 win over Alcorn State.

fensive MVP award.

Banks scored the last first half TD, and made up for his earlier miscue, as he hauled in a 4-yard pass from Carter to send the Aggies into halftime with the 24-10 lead.

**Ron Hunt**, playing in only his third game after suffering through an injury most of the season, added his name to the scoring roster as he caught a 43-yarder over the middle from Carter to extend the Aggies' lead to 38-17 at the 10:06 mark of the third quarter. Alcorn needed only three plays to answer, scoring on **DeShawn Waller's** 23-yard run pulling the Braves within 38-24.

The see-saw continued with Bell getting his second TD only to be answered by wideout **Raidarius Anderson's** 35-yard scoring reception from Harper with just under four minutes left in the period. Before the quarter ended, Banks got wide open along the left sideline and zig-zagged his way through defenders on a 73-yarder from Carter.

Martin finished the day with 110 yards on 16 carries including a 4-yard TD with 3:37 left in the game that capped the day's scoring.

Carter, named the game's offensive MVP, hit on 18 of 30 passes for the record 364 yards. He also rushed for 96 yards, 55 on a fourth-quarter run that set up Martin's final touchdown. Carter set a Celebration Bowl record with 460 yards of total offense.

Banks led the Aggies with six receptions for 132 yards and two scores. Leslie had four catches for 81 yards and a score.

Harper kept the Braves in the game completing 25 of 42 passes for 341 yards and three touchdowns. He also scored on two short scoring runs. Anderson had eight receptions on the day for 85 yards and one score while Blair had seven receptions for a career-high 150 yards and one TD.



**ALL ALONE:** North Carolina A&T WR/KR Korey Banks is wide open en route to his 73-yard TD reception after Alcorn State had pulled within 45-31 late in the third quarter. This score, his second of the game, stretched the Aggies' lead to 52-32, much to the dismay of the Alcorn State coach on the sideline. Banks led the Aggies with 132 receiving yards as they won 64-44, their third straight win in the game and fourth overall.

## CIAA Announces 2020 John B. McLendon HOF Class

CHARLOTTE, NC (December 20, 2019) - The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) has announced the 2020 *John B. McLendon Hall of Fame* Class.

This year's class, which focuses on basketball honorees as the conference celebrates 75 years of the tournament, includes **Antonio Davis (Livingstone)**, **Albert "A.J." English (Virginia Union)**, **LeVelle Moton (North Carolina Central)**, **Leslie Speight (CIAA Official)** and the 1983 **Virginia Union Women's Basketball Team**.

The CIAA recognizes inductees for their excellence in the conference, significant contributions in the community, leadership in CIAA sports and commitment to the CIAA mission.

The 2020 John B. McLendon CIAA Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place on Friday, February 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Charlotte Convention Center. The induction ceremony is a part of the ancillary schedule of events surrounding 2020 CIAA Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament, being held February 25-29, 2020 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Tickets for the 2020 induction ceremony can be purchased by visiting [ciaatournament.org](#).

Since its inception in 1967, the CIAA Hall of Fame has enshrined 288 honorees. In 2000, it was renamed after legendary coach and administrator **John B. McLendon**. Inducted in 1978, McLendon is also credited as one of the founding fathers of the CIAA Basketball Tournament which began in 1946. For more information about the CIAA and the John B. McLendon Hall of Fame, visit [www.theciaa.com](#).

#### ANTONIO DAVIS | Livingstone |

One of the greatest shooters in college basketball history at any level, Davis shot 56% on two-point field goals, 53% on three-point field goals, and 94% at the free throw line for his career. He is the only known player to have finished with 50/50/90 career shooting percentages. No other college player in NCAA history has ever completed even a season with 50/50/90 shooting percentages. Davis averaged 22.4 points for his career and led the nation in scoring at 35 points per game during the 1987-88 season. He also led the nation in free throw percentage three times

throughout his career.

#### ALBERT "A.J." ENGLISH | Virginia Union |

English played for Virginia Union University from 1986-1990 where he scored 2,396 points, including a single-season school record of 1,001 points in 1989-90. In 1990, English was named CIAA Player of the Year, NCAA Division II National Player of the Year and helped lead the Panthers to their second national championship under Head Coach Dave Robbins. English was an All-CIAA selection three times (1988, 1989 and 1990) and was named to the CIAA All-Tournament team in 1989 and 1990. English was selected by the Washington Bullets in the 2nd round (37th overall).

#### LEVELLE MOTON | North Carolina Central |

Moton was a guard at NCCU from 1992-1996 and was named the 1996 CIAA Player of the Year following his senior season after averaging 21.3 points per game and shooting 75.8% from the free throw line. As a junior, he finished 16th in Division II in scoring at 23.5 points per contest. Moton was a two-time NCAA DII South Atlantic Region First Team and All-CIAA First Team selection. Moton ended his career as NCCU's all-time leading scorer with 1,714 pts and ranked first in three-point field goals (213). He returned to NCCU in 2007 as an assistant coach and has maintained the position of Head Men's Basketball Coach at his alma mater since 2009.

#### LESLIE SPEIGHT | CIAA | Basketball & Football Official

After starting his career at the high school level, Speight began officiating in the CIAA in 1983 where he served as a basketball & football official for the conference until 2004. Speight officiated over 500 college basketball & football games, 14 NCAA postseason football games, and 11 CIAA Football Championships & Classics as a CIAA official while also serving on the CIAA Tournament staff in various roles. He has worked four NCAA postseason tournaments in his career and was selected to work the 1991 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball National Championship as well as the 1988 NCAA Division II Football National Championship.

#### 1983 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM | Virginia Union University

Led by Head Coach **Louis Hearn**, the 1982-83 VUU women's basketball team finished the season with a 27-2 record. In 1983, they became the first CIAA women's basketball team, and just the second women's team ever, to win the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship. The Lady Panthers defeated previously unbeaten, and defending champion, Cal Poly Pomona, 73-60, in the national title game. The team featured NCAA All-Tournament team selections **Paris McWhirter** and **Barvenia Wooten**. McWhirter would also be named Most Outstanding Player.