

\$5 OFFICIAL
PROGRAM

THE RIVALRY IS REAL



RATTLERS SPARTANS

FLORIDA A&M vs NORFOLK STATE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024 | CENTER PARC STADIUM | ATLANTA, GA

7:30 PM on 

ESPN EVENTS

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ESPN Events Team

5555 Glenridge Connector
Suite 350
Atlanta, Georgia 30342

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Grant

GAME OPERATIONS / EVENTS MANAGER

Edgar Gantt

MARKETING AND EVENTS

Michelle Joseph

ASSOCIATE MANAGER

Grayson Moore

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

LaVosha Redd

LOVELY EVENTS GROUP

Shawanda Holsey

ACLIPSE MARKETING

James Stillwell

MEDIA COORDINATOR

Michelle Jinks

EDITORS: Media Coordinator and ESPN
Events Staff

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY: ESPN Images;
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WRITERS: Michelle Jinks; Donald Hunt;
Ed Hill; FAMU Communications; Norfolk
State Communications

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LAYOUT, DESIGN & PRINTING

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Celebration Bowl or the
Band of the Year Event.

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JOHN T. GRANT, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear fans, sponsors, partners, and supporters,

Welcome to the 19th year of the Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff! We are thrilled to present a spectacular showdown between the 2023 Cricket Celebration Bowl winner and reigning HBCU national champion, the Florida A&M Rattlers, under the leadership of first-year head coach James Colzie III, and the debutante Norfolk State Spartans, guided by their seasoned head coach Dawson Odums.

This game promises an electrifying atmosphere, with the added allure of witnessing two of the nation's top marching bands in action. The renowned Marching 100, led by the esteemed director of bands, Dr. Shelby R. Chipman, will share the stage with the Spartan Legion, under the baton of director of bands Mr. William H. Beathea.

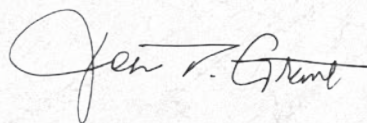
As we kick off the college football season in week zero, we are proud to announce that ESPN's Saturday Night College Football on ABC series will feature this monumental event. The festivities begin with the Coca-Cola Fan Experience, a celebration uniting fans with food, fun, and music.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed sponsors, including our title sponsor for the fourth consecutive year, Cricket Wireless, along with Disney on The Yard, Allstate, Coca-Cola, Truist, Honda, and the US Army. Your unwavering support has made this event possible.

A special thank you to our conference partners, the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference led by Commissioner Sonja Stills, and the Southwestern Athletic Conference led by Commissioner Charles McClelland. We are also grateful to our HBCU community, alumni, fans, volunteers, and dedicated staff for their tireless efforts in creating this unforgettable experience.

The college football season begins and ends here in Atlanta. Are you ready for some football? The Rivalry is Real!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John T. Grant".



Welcome to the 2024 Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kick-off!

Welcome to Atlanta for the 2024 Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kick-off. We couldn't be more excited to start the season with you, and we hope you're enjoying all the things that make Atlanta the amazing city we're proud to call home.

Cricket has worked alongside ESPN, the MEAC, and the SWAC since 2018 to shine a spotlight on HBCU game days. Today, we'll continue that big-game tradition as the Florida A&M University Rattlers and the Norfolk State University Spartans compete on the national stage for a prime-time TV audience.

We love everything about football season, but Cricket's commitment to HBCUs is year-round. We're on MEAC and SWAC campuses every day through our HBCU Campus Ambassador Program, which develops business skills for young leaders. We're proud to see graduates from this program making an impact not just on our business and other prestigious companies, but in forming their own successful ventures as entrepreneurs.

This is the beginning of a season-long journey towards the Cricket Celebration Bowl, which will be hosted right here in Atlanta at Mercedes-Benz Stadium this December. We're looking forward to being with you for every step, both on and off the field.

To all the students, alumni, and fans in attendance today: We hope you have an unforgettable gameday experience. Now let's get the season started!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John".

John Dwyer

President of Cricket Wireless



some people
just know
Saturdays are
reserved for
college football



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SONJA O. STILLS
MEAC COMMISSIONER

I am honored to bring greetings as the Commissioner of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) on behalf of our eight outstanding academic institutions. We welcome you to Atlanta, Georgia, for the 18th Annual Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff. I am pleased that Norfolk State University will represent the MEAC in this year's game against the Southwestern Athletic Conference's (SWAC) Florida A&M University. I anticipate a highly competitive match-up featuring the talented student-athletes and coaches from both institutions. This event is further enriched by the performances of the marching bands and cheerleaders, embodying the vibrant HBCU culture.

The 2024 Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff football game and its ancillary events promise an excellent athletic, educational, and entertainment experience for participants and fans alike.

Once again, we are excited that this game is broadcast live on ABC, a national platform,

and in primetime. Being on ABC presents a tremendous opportunity for both institutions and conferences. I would like to recognize Clint Overby, VP of ESPN Events; Nick Dawson, SVP of ESPN College Sports Programming and Acquisitions; Rosalyn Durant, Executive VP of Programming and Acquisitions; John Grant, Executive Director of the MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff; and the ESPN staff for their continued commitment to our two great HBCU conferences.

We also look forward to your return to Atlanta in December for the ninth annual Cricket Celebration Bowl on December 14, 2024, at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, marking the close of the college football season.

In the meantime, enjoy the Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff, and may you have safe travels back to your respective destinations. Good luck to Norfolk State and Florida A&M in today's game.

Let's go, MEAC Nation!



**DR. CHARLES
McCLELLAND**
SWAC COMMISSIONER

On behalf of the SWAC Council of Presidents and Chancellors, the SWAC Office and our twelve member institutions, it is with great honor that we welcome you to the 2024 MEAC/SWAC Challenge here in Atlanta.

This year's game features two historic programs as Florida A&M and Norfolk State get set to add another chapter in the storied history of this rivalry between teams for the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) and the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC).

This past athletic year, our student-athletes achieved a variety of milestones on the field of play and inside the classroom. It was truly gratifying to witness first-hand the hard work and determination of our student-athletes as they pushed through obstacles to achieve at the highest levels athletically and academically.

The hard work and determination that we saw displayed throughout the year on the field carried over equally into the classroom with a significant amount of our football student-athletes within the conference earning All-Academic honors.

As we seek to inspire our next generation of leaders both on and off the field, the rich contributions of the Southwestern Athletic Conference in the general scope of collegiate athletics have been well documented. Some of the greatest student-athletes to ever play the game of football, charted their initial paths while attending our member institutions.

Former student-athletes such as Walter Payton (Jackson State), Jerry Rice (Mississippi Valley State), Doug Williams (Grambling State), and Steve McNair (Alcorn State) are just a few of the names that competed in the SWAC before going on to achieve greatness at the professional level.

The excellence within the Southwestern Athletic Conference does not stop with our student-athletes as our league has also seen some of the top coaches in the history of college football.

Eddie Robinson (Grambling State), W.C. Gorden (Jackson State), and Marino Casem (Alcorn State/Southern) are prime examples of outstanding football coaches from our conference that each made significant impacts within their respective programs at the institutions where they contributed so much.

2024-25 is truly shaping up to be a monumental academic year in the overall history of the Southwestern Athletic Conference. Our corporate sponsors — Pepsi, General Motors, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Home Depot, Cricket, and Nike each play vital roles in making the SWAC an outstanding conference. Their continued support assists over 4,000 student-athletes throughout our conference to achieve their full academic and athletic potential.

The ESPN family of networks is once again a significant broadcast partner for our league, carrying SWAC programming into the homes of millions. We look forward to our partnership with ESPN this upcoming football season as we bring SWAC Football regular season games to viewers globally via ESPN's digital platforms. In addition, ESPN will once again serve as our broadcast partner for the 2024 Pepsi SWAC Football Championship game set to be played on Saturday, Dec. 7.

In closing, we would like to thank the City of Atlanta along with all the volunteers, fans, and supporters for their unconditional support of both of these historic conferences and this game.



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SONJA O. STILLS, COMMISSIONER

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MID-EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

FOOTPRINT



MEAC SPORTS

MEN | SIX

Men's Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Tennis, Track & Field (Indoor), Track & Field (Outdoor)

WOMEN | EIGHT

Women's Basketball, Bowling, Cross Country, Softball, Tennis, Track & Field (Indoor), Track & Field (Outdoor), Volleyball

MEAC NOTABLE ALUMNI

COPPIN STATE

STEPHANIE READY

First Female Coach in Men's Basketball

DELAWARE STATE

JOHN TAYLOR

Black College Football Hall of Famer

HOWARD

KAMALA HARRIS

Vice President of the United States

MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

ART SHELL

Pro Football Hall of Famer

MORGAN STATE

WILLIAM C. RHODEN

Writer, ESPN's Andscape

NORFOLK STATE

BREHANNA DANIELS

First African-American female pit crew member in NASCAR history

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL

ROBERT MASSEY

NFL Pro Bowler

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE

DONNIE SHELL

Pro Football Hall of Famer



SWAC

BUILDING CHAMPIONS FOR LIFE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SWAC, VISIT WWW.SWAC.ORG



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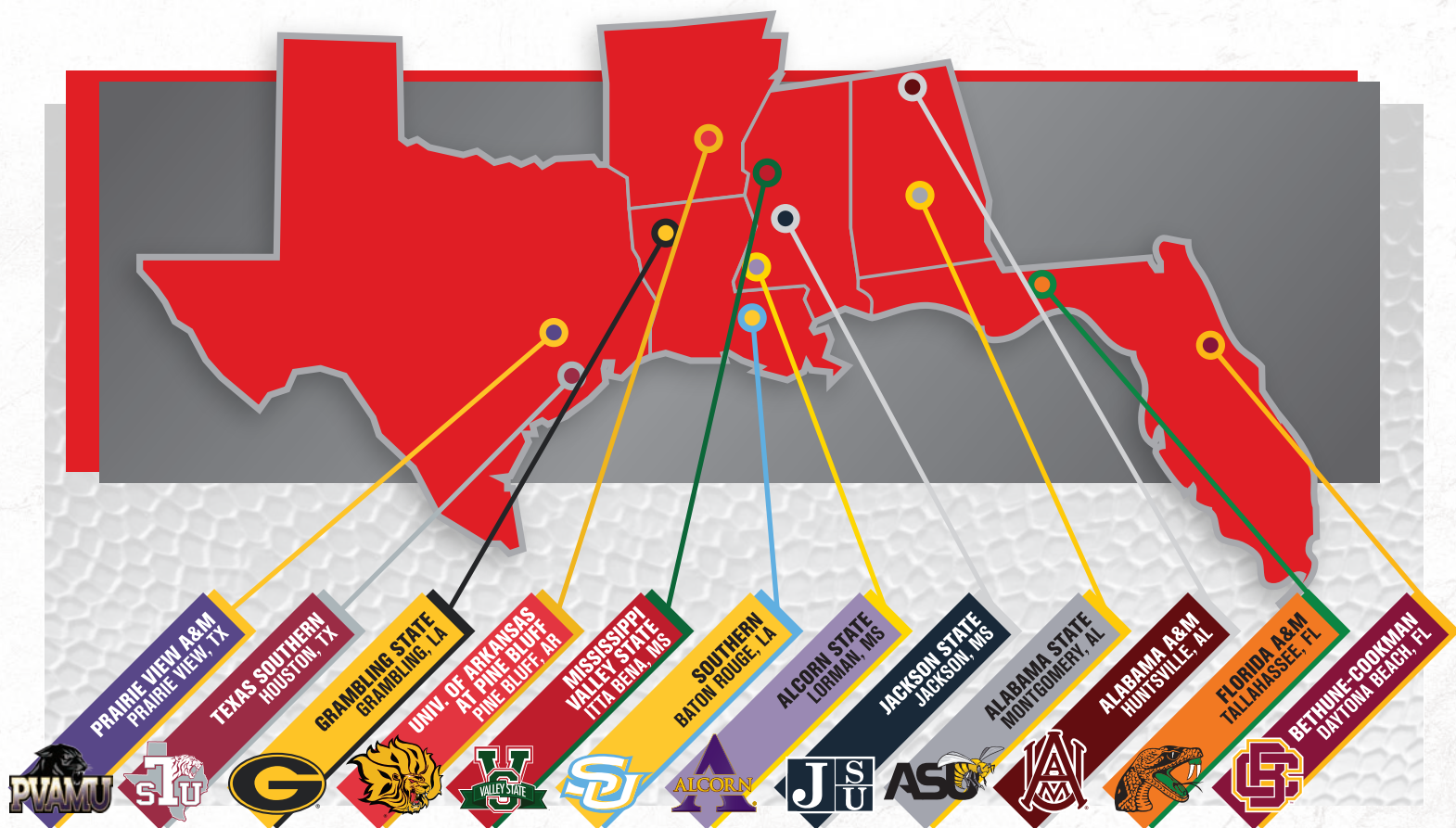
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**SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE****FOOTPRINT****SWAC SPORTS****MEN | EIGHT**

Baseball, Men's Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Tennis, Track & Field (Indoor), Track & Field (Outdoor)

WOMEN | TEN

Women's Basketball, Bowling, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Track & Field (Indoor), Track & Field (Outdoor), Volleyball

SWAC NOTABLE ALUMNI**ALABAMA A&M**

JOHN STALLWORTH
NFL Hall of Famer

ALABAMA STATE

TAVARIS JACKSON
Super Bowl Champion

ALCORN STATE

STEVE MCNAIR
NFL MVP

BETHUNE-COOKMAN

JOHN CHANEY
Basketball Hall of Famer

FLORIDA A&M

ROBERT "BULLET BOB" HAYES
NFL Hall of Famer & Olympic Gold Medalist

GRAMBLING STATE

DOUG WILLIAMS
Super Bowl MVP

CHARLIE JOINER
BUCK BUCHANAN
NFL Hall of Famers

JACKSON STATE

ROBERT BRAZILE
JACKIE SLATER
WALTER PAYTON
LEM BARNEY
NFL Hall of Famers

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE

JERRY RICE
DAVID "DEACON" JONES
NFL Hall of Famers

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M

KEN HOUSTON
NFL Hall of Famer

SOUTHERN

HAROLD CARMICHAEL
AENEAS WILLIAMS
NFL Hall of Famers

TEXAS SOUTHERN

WINSTON HILL
MICHAEL STRAHAN
NFL Hall of Famers

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400+
Programming Hours Each Year

4000+
Student-Athletes Served Each Year

2024 FOOTBALL EVENTS

KICKOFF GAMES



FCS KICKOFF

AUGUST 24, 2024 - ESPN
North Alabama vs. Southeast Missouri State
Cramton Bowl | Montgomery, Alabama
www.fcskickoff.com



CRICKET MEAC/SWAC CHALLENGE

AUGUST 24, 2024 - ABC
Florida AGM vs Norfolk State
Center Parc Stadium | Atlanta, Georgia
www.Meacswacchallenge.com



MODELO VEGAS KICKOFF CLASSIC

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 - ABC
USC vs. LSU
Allegiant Stadium | Las Vegas, Nevada
www.lvbnw.com



RED TAILS CLASSIC

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 - ESPN
Fort Valley State University vs. Tuskegee University
Cramton Bowl | Montgomery, Alabama
www.redtailsclassic.com



BAND OF THE YEAR

DECEMBER 13, 2024 - ESPN+
Four top HBCU Marching Bands
Mercedes-Benz Stadium | Atlanta, Georgia
www.bandoftheyear.com



CRICKET CELEBRATION BOWL

DECEMBER 14, 2024 - ABC
MEAC Champion vs. SWAC Champion
Mercedes-Benz Stadium | Atlanta, Georgia
www.thecelebrationbowl.com



CAMELLIA BOWL

DECEMBER 14, 2024 - ESPN
American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Cramton Bowl | Montgomery, Alabama
www.camelliabowl.com



SCOOTER'S COFFEE FRISCO BOWL

DECEMBER 17, 2024 - ESPN
American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Toyota Stadium | Frisco, Texas
www.thefriscobowl.com



BOCA RATON BOWL

DECEMBER 18, 2024 - ESPN
American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
FAU Stadium | Boca Raton, Florida
www.bocaratonbowl.com



STAFFORD CURE BOWL

DECEMBER 20, 2024 - ESPN
American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Camping World Stadium | Orlando, Florida
www.curebowl.com



UNION HOME MORTGAGE GASPARILLA BOWL

DECEMBER 20, 2024 - ESPN
SEC vs American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Raymond James Stadium | Tampa, Florida
www.gasparillabowl.com



MYRTLE BEACH BOWL

DECEMBER 23, 2024 - ESPN
American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Brooks Stadium | Conway, South Carolina
www.myrtlebeachbowlgame.com



FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO BOWL

DECEMBER 23, 2024 - ESPN
MAC vs Mountain West
Albertsons Stadium | Boise, Idaho
www.famousidahopotatobowl.com



HAWAII BOWL

DECEMBER 24, 2024 - ESPN
CUSA vs Mountain West
Clarence T.C. Ching Athletics Bowl | Honolulu, Hawaii
www.thehawaiibowl.com



LOCKHEED MARTIN ARMED FORCES BOWL

DECEMBER 27, 2024 - ESPN
American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Amon G. Carter Stadium | Fort Worth, Texas
www.armedforcesbowl.com



BIRMINGHAM BOWL

DECEMBER 27, 2024 - ESPN
SEC vs American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Protective Stadium | Birmingham, Alabama
www.birminghambowl.com



SRS DISTRIBUTION LAS VEGAS BOWL

DECEMBER 27, 2024 - ESPN
SEC vs PAC-12
Allegiant Stadium | Las Vegas, Nevada
www.lvbnw.com



WASABI FENWAY BOWL

DECEMBER 28, 2024 - ESPN
ACC vs American
Fenway Park | Boston, Massachusetts
www.fenwaybowl.com



ISLETA NEW MEXICO BOWL

DECEMBER 28, 2024 - ESPN
Mountain West vs AAC, CUSA, MAC, Sun Belt
University Stadium | Albuquerque, New Mexico
www.newmexicobowl.com



TEXAS BOWL

DECEMBER 31, 2024 - ESPN
Big 12 vs SEC
NRG Stadium | Houston, Texas
www.texasbowl.com



SERVPRO FIRST RESPONDER BOWL

JANUARY 3, 2025 - ESPN
American, CUSA, MAC, Mountain West, Sun Belt
Gerald J. Ford Stadium | Dallas, Texas
www.firstresponderbowl.com



BAHAMAS BOWL

JANUARY 4, 2025 - ESPN 2
C-USA vs MAC
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium | Nassau, Bahamas
www.bahamasbowl.com

2024 BASKETBALL EVENTS



STATE FARM CHAMPIONS CLASSIC

NOVEMBER 12, 2024
State Farm Arena | Atlanta, Georgia
Kansas vs. Michigan, Kentucky vs. Duke



SHRINERS CHILDREN'S CHARLESTON CLASSIC

NOVEMBER 21, 22 & 24, 2024
TD Arena | Charleston, South Carolina
Drake, FAU, Miami, Nevada, Oklahoma State, Seton Hall, Vanderbilt, VCU



MYRTLE BEACH INVITATIONAL

NOVEMBER 21, 22 & 24, 2024
HTC Center | Conway, South Carolina
Bradley, Middle Tennessee, Ohio, Princeton, Portland, South Florida, Louisiana-Monroe, Wright State



ESPN EVENTS INVITATIONAL

NOVEMBER 28 & 29, 2024
ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex | Kissimmee, Florida
FLORIDA, WAKE FOREST, MINNESOTA, WICHITA STATE



NIT SEASON TIP-OFF

NOVEMBER 28 & 29, 2024
Wide World of Sports Complex | Kissimmee, Florida
North Texas, St. Bonaventure, Utah State, Northern Iowa



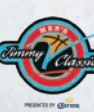
VEGAS SHOWDOWN

NOVEMBER 26, 2024
T-Mobile Arena | Las Vegas, Nevada
Duke vs. Kansas, Seattle vs. Furman



JIMMY V WOMEN'S CLASSIC PRESENTED BY CORONA

DATES TBD
Campus Sites
Matchups TBD



JIMMY V MEN'S CLASSIC PRESENTED BY CORONA

DECEMBER 10, 2024
Madison Square Garden | New York, New York
Miami vs. Tennessee, Arkansas vs. Michigan



JUMPMAN INVITATIONAL

DECEMBER 17 & 18, 2024
Spectrum Center | Charlotte, North Carolina
Oklahoma vs. Michigan, North Carolina vs. Florida (Men's & Women's)



HAWAIIAN AIRLINES DIAMOND HEAD CLASSIC

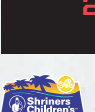
DECEMBER 22, 23 & 25, 2024
SimpliFi Arena at Stan Sheriff Center | Honolulu, Hawaii
Charleston, Charlotte, Hawaii, Oregon State, Loyola Chicago, Nebraska, Murray State, Oakland University

2025 GYMNASTICS EVENT



SPROUTS FARMERS MARKET COLLEGIATE QUAD

JANUARY 10 & 11, 2025 - ESPN NETWORKS
Paycom Center | Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Arizona, Arkansas, California, Clemson, Kentucky, LSU, Michigan, NC State, Ohio State, Oklahoma, UCLA, Utah



SHRINERS CHILDREN'S INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY EVOSHIELD

FEBRUARY 13-16, 2025 - ESPN NETWORKS
Eddie C. Moore Complex | Clearwater, Florida
Alabama, Auburn, Charlotte, Clemson, FSU, Kentucky, Liberty, Missouri, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, San Diego State, Texas A&M, UCF, UCLA, Virginia, Wichita State

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ESPN COVERAGE TEAM



TIFFANY GREENE
PLAY-BY-PLAY

Tiffany Greene is a play-by-play commentator for ESPN, covering a variety of collegiate sports including basketball, football, softball and volleyball. She is the first African-American woman to serve as a play-by-play commentator for college football on ESPN.

Greene has called a number of postseason games including the NCAA Women's Division I Basketball Tournament, NCAA Softball Regional and Super Regionals, as well as NCAA Volleyball Regionals.

Greene originally began working with ESPN as a college football sideline reporter in 2012. She has since worked on the Women's College World Series, Air Force Reserve Bowl on ABC and multiple bowl games.

Prior to ESPN, Greene honed her skills as a play-by-play announcer and sports reporter at Bright House Sports Network in the Orlando and Tampa Bay markets. During that time, she was the play-by-play announcer for the inaugural season of BIG EAST women's basketball on Fox Sports 1.

Greene is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Links Incorporated and the National Association of Black Journalists. She began her on-air career in 2004 as a one-man band reporter at WJCL/WTGS, and later, WTOG in Savannah, Georgia.

Greene earned her Bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from the Florida A&M University. She serves as the FAMU School of Journalism & Graphic Communication Board of Visitors co-chair.



JAY WALKER
ANALYST

Jay Walker joined ESPN in 2005 as a college football analyst. He has called the ESPNU Thursday Night games for the last four years, in addition to a studio analyst for the last two years. He has also been an analyst on College Football Overdrive.

Walker started his television career with BET and then joined the now defunct MBC Network from 2002-05.

Out of college, Walker was drafted in the seventh round in 1994 by the New England Patriots, where he played for two seasons. He also spent two years with the Minnesota Vikings.

Walker was drafted out of high school to be a pitcher in the California Angels organization's minor league team, one of a handful of players to play both minor league baseball and in the NFL. While playing in the minors, Walker decided to pursue his passion for football and was recruited as a quarterback to Long Beach State and eventually transferred to Howard

University after football was cut as a sport at Long Beach. At Howard, Walker led the team to their first playoff berth in team history and was named an All-American, to the All-MEAC Team twice and was the I-AA football player of the year by Sports Illustrated. That year, 1993, Howard earned its only undefeated season in program history.

A native of Los Angeles, Walker is a 1994 graduate from Howard with a political science degree. In 2005, he was inducted into the Howard University Athletics Hall of Fame, and most recently, he was named to the MEAC/SWAC All-Time Greatest Team.

Currently, Walker is CEO and President of Walker Financial Services and has been a member of the House of Delegates in Maryland since 1997. He serves on the House Ways and Means Committee and its education and finance resources subcommittees. He is also a member of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland.



QUINT KESSENICH
REPORTER

Quint Kessenich began at ESPN in 1993 covering men's lacrosse. He currently serves as a lacrosse analyst and college sports reporter, working on football and wrestling.

Kessenich works on television's most extensive college lacrosse package – featuring regular-season action and the NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship, an event he has covered since 1995. He also works as an analyst on Major League Lacrosse games on ESPN2 and ESPN3.

Under his reporting duties, Kessenich covers college football and the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championship.

Since joining the company, his responsibilities expanded to high school football, men's college basketball and various NCAA championships, including track and field, and soccer. He established the ESPNU Lacrosse Podcast in 2010, and it quickly became the industry leader for lacrosse news. He was also a frequent contributor to ESPNU.com. In addition, he has covered the Kentucky Derby,

Preakness and Belmont Stakes for ESPN and ABC.

Kessenich contributes to Inside Lacrosse Magazine, and is actively involved with "First Stick", a non-profit that introduces urban schools and athletes to the game of lacrosse. He was also a columnist on college lacrosse for the Baltimore Sun.

Kessenich played one year of professional lacrosse with the Baltimore Thunder in 1999, and at the amateur level for the storied Mount Washington Lacrosse Club.

A four-time all-American goalkeeper, Kessenich was a two-time winner of the Ensign C. Markland Kelly, Jr., Award as the nation's best goalie. A 1990 graduate of Johns Hopkins University, Kessenich remained in Baltimore where he has been an assistant lacrosse coach at the Boys' Latin School, a perennial national power since 1992.

He is a member of the Johns Hopkins Athletic Hall of Fame, as well as the Long Island Chapter and the Baltimore Chapter of USA Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

THE RIVALRY



IS REAL

KICK-OFF

HBCU

HBCU FOOTBALL STARS

BY DONALD HUNT

MEAC



KENNY GALLOP JR.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY | DEFENSIVE BACK
6-0, 214lbs | GRADUATE STUDENT

Gallop covers a lot of ground in the secondary. He had 39 solo and 59 total tackles. In addition, he demonstrated his ability with great pass coverage grabbing two interceptions. Gallop led the Bison to the MEAC championship and to the Celebration Bowl last season.



ERICK HUNTER

MORGAN STATE | LINEBACKER
6-4, 210lbs | SENIOR

Hunter is one of the most talented linebackers in the country. He has good anticipation. He's capable of making several open field tackles with his quickness and range. Hunter had 47 solo and 75 total tackles along with three sacks and two interceptions.



ELIJAH WILLIAMS

MORGAN STATE | DEFENSIVE LINEMAN
6-3, 270lbs | SENIOR

Williams has excellent footwork and quickness. He can play the run and get to the passer. He led the MEAC with seven sacks. He also had 31 solo and 50 total tackles.



JARETT HUNTER

HOWARD UNIVERSITY | RUNNING BACK
5-10, 205lbs | GRADUATE STUDENT

Hunter has made a big difference as a rusher and a receiver out of the backfield. The multi-talented running back leads Howard's offense. Hunter had 142 carries for 626 yards with nine rushing touchdowns. He had 26 receptions for 257 yards and two receiving TDs. Hunter's exploits brought him Preseason MEAC Offensive Player of the Year honors.



DAYLAN LONG

NORFOLK STATE | LINEBACKER
5-11, 190lbs | REDSHIRT JUNIOR

Long is one of the great all-around defenders in the league. He has the ability with his speed and tackling skills. Long had 27 solo and 41 total tackles with three sacks and one interception. Long is primed to have another big year.

It looks like the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and the Southwestern Athletic Conference have a host of terrific football players this season.

HBCU

HBCU FOOTBALL STARS

MYLES CRAWLEY

GRAMBLING STATE | QUARTERBACK
 6-3, 185lbs | REDSHIRT SENIOR

Crawley is one of the best quarterbacks in HBCU football. The Tigers' signal caller completed 197 of 328 passes for 2,303 yards with 16 TDs and eight interceptions. He has a good presence in the pocket. He will play a major role in leading the Tigers' passing game.



DONOVAN EAGLIN

ALABAMA A&M | RUNNING BACK
 5-11, 226lbs | REDSHIRT SOPHOMORE

Eaglin possesses good power and speed as the Bulldogs' leading rusher. He gained 765 yards on 142 carries while scoring seven TDs. Eaglin averaged 5.4 yards a rush. He should be able to provide Alabama A&M with a strong ground attack. Eaglin has the talent to eclipse the 1,000-yard mark this season.



MALACHI BAILEY

ALCORN STATE | DEFENSIVE LINEMAN
 6-2, 260lbs | JUNIOR

Bailey led the SWAC with nine sacks. He's one of the great pass rushers in the country among FCS players. He can also play the run. Bailey had 22 solo and 38 total tackles along with 15.5 tackles-for-loss.



KENDALL BOHLER

FLORIDA A&M | DEFENSIVE BACK
 6-0, 193lbs | REDSHIRT SENIOR

Bohler is one of the premiere defensive backs in the SWAC. He knows how to come up and stop the run. Bohler had 27 solo and 39 total tackles with one interception. He played a key part in leading Florida A&M to a big Celebration Bowl win over Howard last season.



EMARI PAIT

ALABAMA A&M | DEFENSIVE BACK
 6-2, 200lbs | REDSHIRT SOPHOMORE

Pait is a real playmaker in the secondary. He can play the run and cover the wide receivers on those deep pass routes. He had 31 solo and 49 total tackles along with four interceptions. Pait will be a huge player on defense for Alabama A&M.



These players are some of the finest among HBCU football. For MEAC and SWAC football fans, here is a list of the top players to watch in both conferences.

SWAC

THE RIVALRY



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CONFERENCE

PRESEASON HONORS

PRESEASON ALL-MEAC HONORS

POS.	NAME	SCHOOL	POS.	NAME	SCHOOL
FIRST TEAM OFFENSE			FIRST TEAM DEFENSE		
QB	Otto Kuhns	Norfolk State	DL	Jaden Taylor	NC Central
RB	Jarett Hunter	Howard	DL	Elijah Williams	Morgan State
RB	Eden James	Howard	DL	Jamel Stewart	Howard
WR	Kasey Hawthorne	Howard	DL	Keshawn Lynch	Norfolk State
WR	Justin Smith-Brown	SC State	LB	Aaron Smith	SC State
TE	Keshawn Toney	SC State	LB	AJ Richardson	Norfolk State
C	Eric Brown Jr.	SC State	LB	Erick Hunter	Morgan State
OL	Nick Taiste	SC State	DB	Kole Jones	NC Central
OL	Cam Johnson	SC State	DB	Kenny Gallop Jr.	Howard
OL	Treyvon Branch	Morgan State	DB	Jamare Benjamin	SC State
OL	Trevon Humphrey	NC Central	DB	Terron Mallory	Norfolk State
OL	Darius Fox	Howard			

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**JARETT
HUNTER**
(Howard)

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**KENNY
GALLOP JR.**
(Howard)

POS.	NAME	SCHOOL	POS.	NAME	SCHOOL
SECOND TEAM OFFENSE			SECOND TEAM DEFENSE		
QB	Tahj Smith	Morgan State	DL	Nana Asante	Morgan State
RB	J'Mari Taylor	NC Central	DL	Eric Montes	Delaware State
RB	Kevon King	Norfolk State	DL	Noah Miles	Howard
WR	Joaquin Davis	NC Central	DL	Darren Cook	Delaware State
WR	Richie Ilaraza	Howard	LB	Daylan Long	Norfolk State
TE	Edward Core Jr.	Delaware State	LB	Terrance Hollon	Howard
C	Garrison Wheatley	Norfolk State	LB	Max U'Ren	NC Central
OL	Vincent Byrd Jr.	Norfolk State	DB	Devon Allen	Norfolk State
OL	Tim Artis Jr.	Howard	DB	Carlwinsky Decius	Morgan State
OL	Samuel Eskridge	Norfolk State	DB	Ja'son Prevard	Morgan State
OL	Ja'Quan Sprinkle	NC Central	DB	Carson Hinton	Howard

FIRST TEAM SPECIALISTS

P	Juan Velarde	NC Central
PK	Dylan West	Howard
RS	Keith Jenkins, Jr.	Morgan State

POS. NAME SCHOOL SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

DL	Nana Asante	Morgan State
DL	Eric Montes	Delaware State
DL	Noah Miles	Howard
DL	Darren Cook	Delaware State
LB	Daylan Long	Norfolk State
LB	Terrance Hollon	Howard
LB	Max U'Ren	NC Central
DB	Devon Allen	Norfolk State
DB	Carlwinsky Decius	Morgan State
DB	Ja'son Prevard	Morgan State
DB	Carson Hinton	Howard

SECOND TEAM SPECIALISTS

P	Noah Tracey	Norfolk State
PK	Grandin Willcox	Norfolk State
RS	Einaj Carter*	SC State
RS	Jaylen White*	Norfolk State

PRESEASON ALL-SWAC HONORS

POS.	NAME	SCHOOL	POS.	NAME	SCHOOL
FIRST TEAM OFFENSE			FIRST TEAM DEFENSE		
QB	Myles Crawley	Grambling State	DL	Malachi Bailey	Alcorn State
RB	Donovan Eaglin	Alabama A&M	DL	Kelby Givens	Southern
RB	Kendric Rhymes	Southern	DL	Treqwan Thomas	Alabama State
OL	Ashton Grable	Florida A&M	DL	CJ Pressley	Prairie View A&M
OL	Arelious Dunn	Alabama State	LB	Rico Dozier	Alabama State
OL	Evan Henry	Jackson State	LB	Jacob Williams	Texas Southern
OL	Tahj Martin	Grambling State	LB	Demarkus Cunningham	Alabama State
OL	Joseph Church	Mississippi Valley	DB	Kendall Bohler	Florida A&M
WR	Fabian McCray	Jackson State	DB	Emari Pait	Alabama A&M
WR	Jacoby Hewitt	Alabama A&M	DB	James Burgess	Alabama State
TE	Tavarious Griffin	Alcorn State	DB	Deco Wilson	Florida A&M

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**MYLES
CRAWLEY**
(Grambling State)

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CKELBY
GIVENS**
(Southern)

POS.	NAME	SCHOOL	POS.	NAME	SCHOOL
SECOND TEAM OFFENSE			SECOND TEAM DEFENSE		
QB	Jace Wilson	Texas Southern	DL	Jeremiah Williams	Jackson State
RB	Kelvin Dean	Florida A&M	DL	Allen Smith Jr.	Florida A&M
RB	Marcus Harris	Alabama State	DL	Michael Akins	Texas Southern
OL	Carson Vinson	Alabama A&M	DL	Jamal Marshall	Prairie View A&M
OL	Joshua Trask Jr.	Southern	LB	Isaiah Bogerty	Texas Southern
OL	Mehdi Torrence	Texas Southern	LB	Dearis Thomas	Bethune-Cookman
OL	Cameron Williams	Alabama A&M	LB	Derrick Williams	Southern
OL	N/A		DB	Amon Scarbrough	Alabama State
WR	Jamari Gassett	Florida A&M	DB	Esaia Guthrie	Jackson State
WR	Javon Robinson	Grambling State	DB	Edwin Summerour	Alcorn State
TE	Jaxson Davis	Mississippi Valley	DB	Javius Williams	Texas Southern

SECOND TEAM SPECIALISTS

PK	Joshua Griffin	Southern
P	Jeremy Baker	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
RS	Jamari Gassett	Florida A&M
LS	Clayton Thomas Jr.	Bethune-Cookman

* Indicates tie



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KICKOFF PREVIEW

FAMILIAR FOES BATTLE FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2019

BY ED HILL

The 19th Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff figures to be an intriguing matchup and a delight for HBCU fans.

You have the Rattlers of Florida A&M, the reigning Cricket Celebration Bowl and HBCU national champions, representing the SWAC, and the Spartans of Norfolk State from the MEAC, who are looking to take the next step after coming off a losing season.

Despite FAMU's storied history on the gridiron, first year head coach James Colzie III leads the Rattlers, taking over for the highly successful Willie Simmons who left Tallahassee (Fla.) to become an assistant coach at Duke University. Colzie served as the Rattlers' defensive coordinator the past two seasons.

Despite losing key players through graduation, including 2023 SWAC Player of the Year quarterback Jeremy Moussa, Colzie feels confident about the return of some graduate seniors and transfers to compete for another championship.

"There are obviously high expectations with this program," says Colzie. "We have players who have been through the wars and know what it takes to continue the success of the program."

Colzie says that they will go into camp and decide whether the starting quarterback will be red-shirt sophomore Ja'Cory Jordan or transfer Daniel Richardson, who passed for over 7,000 yards at Central Michigan and Florida Atlantic.

Whoever gets the nod at the position will have experienced support. Red-shirt senior running back Kelvin Dean Jr. will lead the ground attack. A second team all-SWAC preseason selection, Dean Jr. finished the season with 376 yards and 3 TDs. Senior wide receiver Jamari Gassett, also a second team selection, will be a factor in the pass game. The senior grabbed 24 passes for 320 yards and three TDs. Ashton Grable, a red-shirt junior offensive lineman, is one of the best in the SWAC as proven by his first team selection.

Colzie adds that there will have to be some adjustments made on offense as his strength was on the defensive side. That unit is led by three graduates in defensive lineman Allen Smith Jr. and defensive backs Deco Wilson and All America graduate safety Kendall Bohler.

Smith proved to be one of the top defensive lineman in the SWAC last year, making 30 tackles, 5.5 behind the line of scrimmage and 3.5 for sacks.

Wilson, a preseason first team selection had an outstanding 2023 season, collecting 39 tackles and three interceptions. But Colzie feels like the ultimate key to the success of the defense will revolve around the play of Bohler, who has proven to be equally adept as a tackler with 39 and as a pass defender with 14 pass breakups.

"He's a leader for us and a key to our success on defense," says Colzie, of Bohler, rated the seventh best defensive back in college football. "He is a big body. He's not just one of the best in the SWAC; he is one



DEVON ALLEN | NSU



KELVIN DEAN | FAMU

**ASHTON GRABLE | FAMU****GARRISON WHEATLEY | NSU**

of the best in the country. And because he is a graduate, it is important what he brings to the locker room. If we are doing well on defense, a lot will be because of his impact."

It is important to note that FAMU has one of the most dependable place kickers in the FCS in graduate Cameron Gillis. A first team all-SWAC selection, he accounted for 71 points, connecting on 10 of 12 field goals and a perfect 41 of 41 on PATs.

Norfolk State, on the other hand, feels that it has a lot to prove following a 3-8 record, 1-4 in the MEAC. The young Spartans were competitive but could not close out games, suffering five losses by only one score.

Odums is in his fourth season as head coach of the Spartans. The veteran coach had success at both Clark University and at Southern University before coming to the Tidewater. He has a 75-66 career record in 13 seasons and has five SWAC titles during his career at Southern.

"Any time you build a winning program, it is a process," explained Odums. "Last year we lost a number of games that were close. Losing is sometimes a part of that process. I feel good about the returning team and how they have learned from close games. The big thing about playing in a game (MEAC/SWAC Challenge) of this magnitude is not getting caught up in the moment. We want to avoid that, trust the process and go 1-0."

Odums has reason to be encouraged as the Spartans, who were picked fifth in the MEAC pre-season poll, return 18 of 21 on offense and 19 of 21 on a talented young defense. Quarterback is a key position in the success of a football team. If that is the case, Norfolk State should be in good shape with the return of senior signal caller Otto Kuhn.

A first team selection, Kuhn passed for 1,244 yards and 12 TDs while posing a double threat with 254 yards and three TDs. Junior Kevon King leads the ground attack with 429 yards and 5 TDs.

The strength of the team lies in its defense, where it boasts eight players on the preseason first and second teams. While talented, the unit is still young. That is where graduate defensive back Devon Allen comes in.

"Devon Allen will certainly be a key for us," noted Odums. "He has been here and decided not to transfer, and that says a lot in this day and time of the portal transfer. He has finished his undergrad and is a graduate student. That means a lot in the locker room."

SERIES RECORD:

Jackson State defeated SC State, 37-7 last year to extend the SWAC lead to two in row; however, the MEAC maintains an 11-6 advantage in the 17 previous meetings. FAMU is a former member of the MEAC. The Rattlers and the Spartans met 16 times from 1997 until 2019. The Rattlers won the last two meetings in 2018 and 2019. The Spartans last won, 35-28 in 2017. ■

MEAC PREDICTED FINISH

SCHOOL	(1st place votes)	PTS
N.C. Central	(4)	110
Howard	(4)	92
Morgan State	(1)	80
S.C. State	(2)	78
Norfolk State	(1)	50
Delaware State		22

SWAC PREDICTED FINISH

SWAC EAST	(1st place votes)	PTS	SWAC WEST	(1st place votes)	PTS
Alabama State	(11)	114	Alcorn State	(11)	112
Florida A&M	(6)	104	Prairie View A&M	(8)	104
Jackson State	(2)	87	Grambling State	(4)	72
Alabama A&M	(4)	76	Southern	(1)	70
Bethune-Cookman		47	Arkansas-Pine Bluff		61
Mississippi Valley State	(1)	31	Texas Southern		40

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NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

MEAC



QUICK FACTS

FOUNDED | 1935

LOCATION | Norfolk, Virginia

ENROLLMENT | 5,458

MASCOT | Spartans

COLORS | Green & Gold

CONFERENCE | MEAC
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference

PRESIDENT | Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS | Melody Webb

BAND | Spartan Legion

WEBSITE | www.nsu.edu

FOOTBALL HISTORY

FIRST YEAR | 1938

ALL-TIME RECORD | 349-398-14

ALL-TIME PLAYOFFS RECORD | 0-0

HBCU NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS | 0

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS | 0
in MEAC era (2011 vacated)

TEAM INFORMATION

2023 OVERALL RECORD | 3-8

2023 MEAC RECORD | 1-4

MEAC FINISH | 5th

BASIC OFFENSE | Multiple

BASIC DEFENSE | 4-2-5

ATHLETICS

NATIONAL AFFILIATION | NCAA Division I – FCS

CONFERENCE | MEAC

STADIUM | William “Dick” Price Stadium

CAPACITY | 30,000

SURFACE | Field Turf

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

ATHLETICS DEPT. PHONE | (757) 823-8152

FOOTBALL CONTACT | Alex Lehmbeck

EMAIL | aclehmbeck@nsu.edu

ATHLETICS WEBSITE | www.nsuspartans.com

FACEBOOK | [NorfolkStateAthletics](https://www.facebook.com/NorfolkStateAthletics)

INSTAGRAM | [instagram/NSU_FB](https://www.instagram.com/nsu_fb)

X/TWITTER | [X.com/norfolkstatefb](https://twitter.com/norfolkstatefb)

2024 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Aug. 24	Florida A&M	Atlanta, GA
Aug. 31	at East Carolina	Greenville, NC
Sep. 7	vs. Virginia State	Norfolk, VA
Sep. 14	vs. Hampton	Norfolk, VA
Sep. 21	at Virginia Military	Lexington, VA
Sep. 28	North Carolina Central	Indianapolis, IN
Oct. 5	at Sacred Heart	Fairfield, CT
Oct. 12	vs. Towson	Norfolk, VA
Oct. 26	vs. Howard	Norfolk, VA
Nov. 2	at Morgan State	Baltimore, MD
Nov. 16	vs. Delaware State	Norfolk, VA
Nov. 23	at South Carolina State	Orangeburg, SC



NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY



**DR. JAVAUNE
ADAMS-GASTON**
PRESIDENT

Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston is the seventh President of Norfolk State University. She began her tenure on June 24, 2019. As President, she is committed to ensuring that Norfolk State University fulfills its mission as an HBCU for the modern world, a university grounded by its heritage, focused on the future, and deeply committed to student success. Her vision is opportunity, access, affordability, growth, sustainability, and student excellence. A strong advocate for collaboration and developing strategic partnerships with local, regional, and state and national stakeholders, Dr. Adams-Gaston is committed to cultivating strong connections in the university, among alumni and in the community.

Under President Adams-Gaston's leadership, Norfolk State University has successfully achieved the status of a U.S. News and World Report 2020, 2021, and 2022 Top 20 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) designation. The University attained 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation by its major accrediting body, The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). This reaffirmation underscores the University's strength, stability, and forward momentum. Enrollment increased to a six-year high in Fall 2022 to 5785 students. The University realized record high operating revenues 104% above projection, the highest in the history of Norfolk State. And Dr. Adams-Gaston has been successful in acquiring multiple donations, including a transformational gift of over \$40 million from Mackenzie Scott, the largest single

donor gift in the history of NSU. The University has also raised over \$11 million for the 2022 calendar year, to support student initiatives.

Since President Adams-Gaston's arrival, Norfolk State University has also expanded its online academic program curriculum to include a master's degree in Cybersecurity and has been recognized nationally and designated as a Department of Defense Center of Excellence in Cybersecurity and Department of Energy Cybersecurity Consortium Leader. Under her leadership, the online master's degree in Cyber Psychology, the first in the nation, launched in Fall 2020 in connection with Academic Partnerships. The University has secured grants of more than \$53 million for scholarships and financial support to enhance student success during her tenure. Her strategic planning has also helped to secure transformational partnerships with the Sentara Healthcare- Public Health Program, Appalachian School of Law 3+3 program, Academic Partnerships, Dominion Energy, Micron Technology, Inc., Landmark, Netflix, 2U, Apple, Amazon, USAA, and the Pharrell Williams Black Ambition Prize, Mighty Dream, and many others.

A recognized higher education leader, President Adams-Gaston is an invited speaker nationally and internationally. Her appointments and honors have included: President Biden's Appointment to the Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, NCAA Board of Governors, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Board of Trustees, among many other boards.



MELODY WEBB
DIRECTOR OF
ATHLETICS

Melody Webb was appointed to the position of University Athletics Director on July 1, 2020, after serving for six years at NSU as Senior Associate Athletics Director for Administration/ Senior Woman Administrator. She became the ninth athletics director in the history of Norfolk State, and the first female to hold the role.

Since stepping into the position, Norfolk State has reached new heights throughout the department. The Spartans have won 16 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) titles, including five in the 2023-24 academic year.

The Norfolk State women's basketball team secured its second consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance with a thrilling victory over Howard in the MEAC Championship game. Just over a week later, the Spartan men's basketball team won the CIT Championship, erasing an 18-point deficit to defeat Purdue-Fort Wayne in the final.

Norfolk State's track & field and cross country programs racked up conference titles during the 2023-24 campaign. Both the men's and women's

cross country teams dominated the MEAC championship meet, before the Spartans secured a sweep of the indoor and outdoor crowns on the men's side.

Norfolk State was also selected to host four NCAA Track & Field Indoor Championships from 2023-26, including the Division I championship in 2025.

A native of Chicago, Ill., Webb earned her bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting from Savannah State University, where she was a four-year letter winner in volleyball, serving as team captain for three years. Webb also competed in basketball and track and field where she also received conference honors. After completing her undergraduate degree, she then earned her master's in public administration with a focus in public policy and management from Bowie State University. Webb is pursuing a Doctorate of Education from the United States Sports Academy.

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NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

COACHING STAFF



DAWSON ODUMS
HEAD COACH

Dawson Odums, a championship coach with a track record of developing student-athletes both on and off the field during his collegiate coaching career, enters his fourth year as the head football coach at Norfolk State University in 2024. He was named the 18th head coach in Spartan history on April 21, 2021.

Norfolk State continued to build up its program in 2023, taking significant strides in several key areas on the stat sheet. While the Spartans finished the season with three wins, the team remained competitive every week. Five of Norfolk State's losses came by one score. Six Spartans earned All-MEAC accolades in 2023, headlined by promising freshman AJ Richardson.

The Spartans fought the injury bug throughout the 2022 season but still landed nine players on All-MEAC teams, led by linebacker Tyler Long's first team selection.

Odums led NSU to a successful campaign in his first season in charge. The Spartans went 6-5 in 2021, which included a six-game winning streak that was the program's longest since 1984. Officially, the 2021 season marked NSU's first winning ledger since 2007.

The Spartans had a school-record 18 players earn All-MEAC honors following the 2021 season. That included NSU capturing three of the MEAC's top awards – Offensive Player of the Year (Juwan Carter), Rookie of the Year

(J.J. Davis) and Offensive Lineman of the Year (Justin Redd).

A native of Shelby, North Carolina, Odums has more than 20 years of collegiate coaching experience. Most recently, Odums enjoyed a stellar 10-year run in the Southwestern Athletic Conference at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Odums directed Southern to a winning record in each of his eight full seasons at the helm of the program, including a 5-1 mark in the abbreviated 2021 spring season. In his last five seasons, the Jaguars posted a 29-6 SWAC record. His overall record with the Jaguars was 63-35.

After joining the Jaguars as defensive line coach in 2011, Odums was elevated to interim head coach two games into the 2012 season before earning the permanent head coach position following the year. On the field, Odums led Southern to a 53-17 SWAC mark over the last nine seasons. His ledger includes one SWAC championship (2013), one SWAC Coach of the Year honor (2013) and four SWAC West Division titles (2013, '14, '18, '19).

The 2013 season was a special one for Odums. His first full year as head coach at Southern culminated in a double-overtime SWAC championship game victory over Jackson State. The win made Odums just the second coach in Southern history to win a SWAC divisional title, outright SWAC championship and SWAC Coach of the Year honors in his first year as head coach.

Seven players coached by Odums have signed with teams in the NFL or CFL. That list includes SWAC all-time leading rusher Lenard Tillery and Southern's all-time leader in receiving yards and return touchdowns, Willie Quinn. That list includes two-time All-MEAC defensive end De'Shaan Dixon, who signed as an undrafted free agent with the NFL's Jacksonville Jaguars last year, after finishing his career as a Spartan.

Odums' other coaching stints include a pair of stops in the MEAC. He spent three seasons at North Carolina A&T (2008-10), serving first as defensive line coach and special teams coordinator and then as defensive coordinator.

Odums' first stint in the MEAC came as defensive line coach at Bethune-Cookman from 2005-07. Over Odums' three-year span there, the Wildcats run defense was among the stingiest in the MEAC. In 2007, the Wildcats defense ranked third in the conference in rush defense and third in total defense. Odums also worked with the Wildcats special teams units and scouted opposing teams' special teams personnel.

Prior to arriving at Bethune-Cookman, Odums spent three seasons at Division II Clark Atlanta. He served as assistant head coach and defensive coordinator from 2002-03, then as interim head coach in 2004.

Odums' other stints at the Division I level include two years at Georgia Southern and one at Gardner-Webb. In his first year at GSU in 2000, Odums coached the linebackers while helping the Eagles win the Division I-AA (now FCS) national championship. He then mentored the defensive ends in his second year.

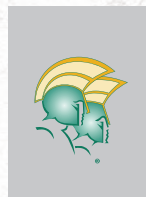
Odums played linebacker and quarterback at Crest High School in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, before competing collegiately at North Carolina Central. A defensive lineman at NCCU, Odums was a team captain and All-CIAA selection as a senior. He earned his bachelor's degree in physical education in 1997.

A member of the American Football Coaches Association, Odums participated in the NCAA Coaches Academy in Indianapolis in 2010.

Odums and his wife, Audrey, have two daughters, Jasmine and Jaiden.



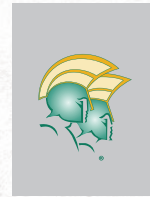
STEVE ADAMS
ASST. HEAD COACH /
DEFENSIVE COORD. /
SAFETIES



JASON PHILLIPS
OFFENSIVE
COORDINATOR /
QUARTERBACKS



KEVIN WESTON
SPECIAL TEAMS /
LINEBACKERS



TIMOTHY SMITH
WIDE RECEIVERS



DON NELSON
OFFENSIVE LINE



BRANDON LINNEY
RUNNING BACKS



LAQUAID MANAGO
TIGHT ENDS



AARON TILLER
DEFENSIVE LINE



MICHAEL JOHNSON
CORNERBACKS

THE RIVALRY



IS REAL

KICK-OFF



MEAC

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

PLAYERS TO WATCH



KESHAWN LYNCH

DL | REDSHIRT JUNIOR | 6'3" 250lbs



OTTO KUHNS

QB | SENIOR | 6'3" 195lbs



TERRON MALLORY

DB | GRADUATE | 5'11" 190lbs



AJ RICHARDSON

LB | SOPHOMORE | 6'1" 245lbs



MEAC

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

2024 ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	CL	HOMETOWN / PREVIOUS SCHOOL	#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	CL	HOMETOWN / PREVIOUS SCHOOL
0	Sage Beuchert-Irvine	DL	6-3	250	Gr.	Reston, VA / South Lakes HS	46	Jordan Harris	DL	6-1	240	Fr.	Chesapeake, VA / Indian River HS
2	Jalen Daniels	QB	6-5	220	So.	Mesa, AZ / Garden City CC	47	Zion Porter-Ervin	WR	5-9	170	R-Jr.	Phoebe, VA / Phoebe HS
2	Jacquez Jones	WR	5-10	175	R-Jr.	Orlando, FL / Lane College	48	Ty'shaun Granger	WR	6-1	195	R-So.	Norfolk, VA / Towson
3	RJ Baker	WR	5-9	165	So.	Greensboro, NC / Dudley HS	51	Kendall Hall-Edwards	LB	6-0	220	R-Fr.	Portsmouth, VA / Louisburg College
4	Otto Kuhns	QB	6-3	195	Sr.	Carroll, OH / Eastern Illinois	51	Miguel Rijo	LB	6-1	230	So.	Virginia Beach, VA / Fork Union Military Acad.
4	Terron Mallory	DB	5-11	190	Gr.	New Haven, CT / Sacred Heart	52	Malcolm Britt	DL	6-0	230	R-Jr.	Chesapeake, VA / Old Dominion
4	Jahee Blake	WR	6-4	215	R-Jr.	Lynchburg, VA / Tennessee State	53	Keshon Artis	LB	6-0	245	R-Sr.	Chesapeake, VA / Northern Illinois
5	Taron Biles-Walker	WR	5-7	145	So.	Columbus, OH / Whitehall-Yearling HS	54	Javontay Martin	LB	6-3	210	Jr.	Virginia Beach, VA / Bayside HS
5	Amadeu Vital	DL	6-1	270	R-Jr.	Silver Spring, MD / Tarleton State	56	Ryan Nolan	OL	6-4	335	R-So.	Chesapeake, VA / Deep Creek HS
6	Aaron Moore	WR	6-2	180	Gr.	Dumfries, VA / Old Dominion	56	Martell Williams	LB	5-11	235		Hillside, IL / Rochester Comm. & Tech Coll.
7	Robert Kendrick	NI	5-8	160	Fr.	King's Mountain, NC / King's Mtn HS	57	Stewart Harris	OL	6-2	290	So.	Pearland, TX / Shadow Creek HS
7	Daylan Long	LB	5-11	190	R-Jr.	Cincinnati, OH / Miami (Ohio)	58	Terique Miles	LB	6-3	230	R-Jr.	Norfolk, VA / Palmetto Prep
8	Ikeem Wright	TE	6-1	245	R-Jr.	Norfolk, VA / Lake Taylor HS	59	Kamari Reynolds	LB	6-1	240	R-Jr.	Virginia Beach, VA / Wagner
10	Fonae Webb	RB	5-11	210	R-Sr.	Washington, D.C. / Richmond	60	Dyral McMillan	OL	6-2	285	R-Jr.	Charlotte, NC / Jireh Prep
11	Cameron Sapp	QB	6-2	205	R-Sr.	Jacksonville, FL / Florida A&M	61	Grandin Willcox	P/K	5-11	220	Jr.	Ocala, FL / Vanguard HS
12	Jaylen White	RB	5-10	190	R-Jr.	Hampton, VA / Phoebus HS	62	Jaden Bryant	OL	6-4	390	R-So.	Norfolk, VA / Norview HS
13	Kevon King	RB	5-11	200	Jr.	Chesapeake, VA / Oscar Smith HS	63	Chris Jones	OL	5-7	320	R-Jr.	Windsor, VA / Windsor HS
15	AJ Richardson	LB	6-1	245	So.	Kings Mountain, NC / Kings Mtn HS	64	Makye Ramirez	OL	5-11	275	R-So.	Woodbridge, VA / Chowan
15	Nolan James	QB	6-2	180	So.	Hampton, VA / Phoebus HS	65	Michael Tamakloe	DL	6-2	275	R-So.	Virginia Beach, VA / Kempsville HS
16	Christian Ruffin	DB	5-11	180	Sr.	Raleigh, NC / Southeast Raleigh HS	66	Vincent Byrd Jr.	OL	6-3	305	Jr.	Stafford, VA / Colonial Forge HS
16	Parker Lancaster	QB	6-4	210	R-Fr.	Chesapeake, VA / Concord	67	Garrison Wheatley	OL	6-4	340	Sr.	Coppell, TX / Hocking College
17	Jordin Cooper	WR	5-9	165	So.	Virginia Beach, VA / Cox HS	68	Julian Soriano	OL	6-6	295	R-Jr.	Suffolk, VA / Emory & Henry
19	Carlos Martin	WR	5-10	170	R-Jr.	Laurel, MS / Copiah Lincoln CC	69	Malcolm Kennion	OL	6-3	310	So.	Greensboro, NC / Dudley HS
20	Kiron Benjamin	RB	5-10	190	R-Jr.	Laurel, MS / East Mississippi CC	71	Jayden Chappell	OL	6-5	310	So.	Chesapeake, VA / Western Branch HS
20	Liam Francisque	DB	6-0	185	Fr.	Williamsburg, VA / Warhill HS	72	Marcus Mauney	DL	6-2	275	R-Jr.	Gastonia, NC / Yale
21	Devon Allen	DB	6-0	180	Sr.	Virginia Beach, VA / Ocean Lakes HS	73	Samuel Eskridge	OL	6-3	340	So.	Kings Mountain, NC / Kings Mountain HS
22	Ryan Thompson	DB	5-11	185	So.	Burns, NC / Burns HS	74	Juwuan Carbonell	OL	6-2	340	R-Jr.	Newport News, VA / Heritage HS
23	Jaylen Parham	RB	5-7	215	So.	Virginia Beach, VA / Landstown HS	75	Dawson Rivers	DL	6-2	275	R-Fr.	Atlanta, GA / Georgia Military College
23	Lavontay Bond	DB	6-0	165	Fr.	Norfolk, VA / Maury HS	75	Keron Addison	OL	6-0	280	Fr.	Hampton, VA / Denbigh HS
25	Collis Pride	WR	6-3	180	R-Sr.	Dinwiddie, VA / Bluefield State	76	David Olasimbo	OL	6-4	290	So.	Huntersville, NC / North Mecklenburg HS
25	Richard Harleston	DB	5-10	195	R-Sr.	Virginia Beach, VA / Tallwood HS	78	Alvin Williams	DL	6-3	235	R-Jr.	Atlanta, GA / Colorado
26	Kailib Felder	DB	5-10	175	R-Jr.	Baltimore, MD / Franklin HS	79	Jeremiah Martin	DL	6-2	270	Jr.	Leonardtown, MD / Showtime Prep
27	Oladapo Salimonu	DB	5-10	180	R-Sr.	Norcross, GA / Dodge City CC	80	Taesean Burt	TE	6-2	240	R-So.	Chesterfield, VA / L.C. Bird HS
28	Corey Chapman	DB	5-11	180	R-Jr.	Chesapeake, VA / Old Dominion	81	Elyjah Mitchell	WR	6-2	185	So.	Capital Hts, MD / Fork Union Military Acad.
28	Aiden Lersong	OL	6-3	285	Fr.	Chesapeake, VA / Western Branch HS	82	Dominic Theibault	WR	6-2	185	Fr.	Virginia Beach, VA / Frank Cox HS
29	Makai Frisby	DB	5-11	165	Fr.	Newport News, VA / Booker T. Washington HS	84	Tavian Morris	WR	6-0	180	R-Jr.	Prince George, VA / Prince George HS
29	Kamaree Wells	DB	6-2	195	So.	Richmond, VA / Fork Union Military Acad.	85	Jayden Hargett	DL	6-4	221	R-So.	Norfolk, VA / Maury HS
29	Kam'ryn Thomas	WR	6-1	180	Jr.	Bear, DE / Dodge City CC	86	Gregory Perkins	TE	6-3	245	Gr.	Pensacola, FL / Southern
29	Jaquan Thornton	DB	5-9	170	Fr.	Ocala, FL / Vanguard HS	87	Jayden Homuth	WR	6-6	210	So.	Burnsville, MN / Alcorn State
30	Jayden Smith	DB	6-1	185	Sr.	Woodbridge, VA / Freedom HS	88	Toby Willis	LS	6-3	210	Jr.	Lancaster, SC / Lancaster HS
31	Christian Parham	DB	6-0	185	So.	Virginia Beach, VA / Green Run HS	89	Noah Tracey	P	6-1	175	So.	Springwood, Australia / ProKick Australia
32	Eric Ivory	DB	6-1	190	R-Jr.	Vienna, GA / Southeast Missouri State	89	Taesean Young-Stieff	WR	5-11	160	Fr.	Virginia Beach, VA / Green Run HS
33	Aaron Evans	DB	5-10	165	Fr.	Virginia Beach, VA / Bayside HS	90	Keshawn Lynch	DL	6-3	250	R-Jr.	Newport News, VA / Old Dominion
34	Sofiyan Oumarou	DB	6-1	175	Fr.	Greensboro, NC / Dudley HS	91	Carson Wilt	P/K	5-8	185	R-Jr.	Lake Worth, FL / Southern
35	Amir Mateo	DB	6-1	170	Fr.	Fredericksburg, VA / Riverbend HS	92	Grant Gaffney	DL	6-1	280	So.	Virginia Beach, VA / Salem HS
35	Joshua Rembert	WR	5-9	160	R-Fr.	Ocala, FL / Vanguard HS	93	Jaylen Williams	DL	6-5	240	R-So.	Ocala, FL / Vanguard HS
36	Jamare Robinson	NI	6-1	190	R-Fr.	Kannapolis, NC / A.L. Brown HS	94	Tyler Johnson	DL	6-5	250	R-So.	Glen Allen, VA / Glenville State
37	Kaleb Broadbent	NI	5-11	195	Jr.	Chesapeake, VA / Western Branch HS	95	Levontae Jacobs	DL	6-3	290	Sr.	Salisbury, NC / West Rowan HS
38	Davion Corpening	DB	6-0	175	So.	Newport News, VA / Warwick HS	96	Dantey Menard	DL	5-11	290	So.	Chesapeake, VA / Oscar Smith HS
39	X'Zavion Evans	RB	5-10	215	Jr.	Chesapeake, VA / Lackawanna College	97	Jordyn Heath	DL	5-11	250	R-Jr.	Gardena, CA / Junipero Serra HS
39	Isaiah Ceus	NI	6-0	165	So.	Virginia Beach, VA / Kempsville HS	98	Jalen Swindell	DL	6-2	310	R-So.	Charlotte, NC / Wake Forest
40	Xavier Graham	LB	6-2	205	So.	Lancaster, SC / Lancaster HS	99	Javari Rice-Wilson	DL	5-11	255	R-Jr.	Kings Mountain, NC / Fordham
45	Taevion Clarke	DL	6-4	230	R-Jr.	Baltimore, MD / Old Dominion							



Historically Black Colleges and Universities are rooted in **legacy**, **excellence** and **tradition**.

Coming from a family of international journalists, Saudi had already seen more of the world than most by the time she was ready to go to college. But she hadn't heard of Florida A&M University until her husband encouraged her to consider the school. She was immediately welcomed into the HBCU family and said she felt that she belonged even though she came from a different background. As she worked her way toward earning a Bachelor of Arts, the art building happened to be right next to where the FAMU Marching 100 would practice, creating a memory that would come back to her years later in a moment of inspiration.

After graduating, once again her husband nudged her in the right direction and encouraged her to apply with Disney. She got the job, and since then has worked in various departments on exciting projects, but her favorite contribution is the design of Drum Major Mickey Mouse for Disney on the Yard. Thinking back to her HBCU experience and watching the band practice, she combined the pan-African colors with the iconic drum major back bend and brought HBCU culture to the world of Disney. Her proudest moment? Watching Drum Major Mickey Mouse and Disney on the Yard brought to life on the field at the Celebration Bowl!



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OF THE
STORY.
DISNEY ON THE YARD

SAUDI
Multimedia
Designer
Disney Global
Development

“

The band is such an institution, and the drum major is what drives the band. The way the drum major moves is very specific - it's their signature. And I was like, 'Mickey can get down with that! He can go out there and bring it.' And it all just came together. And that's how Drum Major Mickey Mouse was created. ~ SAUDI

”

Disney ON THE **YARD**

Disney on the Yard celebrates the accomplishments and contributions of HBCU alumni at The Walt Disney Company. Through opportunities for meaningful connection, we want to make a difference and move in a direction toward more inclusivity where everyone can be their authentic selves.

To learn more about Disney on the Yard, visit
DISNEYONTHEYARD.COM

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FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

SWAC



QUICK FACTS

FOUNDED | 1887

LOCATION | Tallahassee, Florida

ENROLLMENT | 9,614

MASCOT | Rattlers

COLORS | Orange & Green

CONFERENCE | SWAC
Southwestern Athletic Conference - East

INTERIM PRESIDENT | Dr. Timothy Beard

VP/DIR. OF ATHLETICS | Tiffani-Dawn Sykes

BAND | The Marching 100 Band

WEBSITE | www.famu.edu

FOOTBALL HISTORY

FIRST YEAR | 1907

ALL-TIME RECORD | 594-340-22

ALL-TIME PLAYOFFS RECORD | 5-8

FCS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS | 1

CELEBRATION BOWL CHAMPIONSHIPS | 1

HBCU NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS | 16

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS | 38

TEAM INFORMATION

2023 OVERALL RECORD | 12-1

2023 SWAC RECORD | 9-0

SWAC FINISH | 1st

BASIC OFFENSE | Spread

BASIC DEFENSE | 4-2-5

ATHLETICS

NATIONAL AFFILIATION | NCAA Division I - FCS

CONFERENCE | SWAC - East

STADIUM | Bragg Memorial Stadium

CAPACITY | 19,633

SURFACE | Turf

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

ATHLETICS DEPT. PHONE | (850) 599-3868

FOOTBALL CONTACT | Josh Padilla

EMAIL | Joshua.Padilla@famu.edu

ATHLETICS WEBSITE | FAMUAthletics.com

FACEBOOK | facebook.com/FAMUAth

INSTAGRAM | instagram/FAMUFB

X/TWITTER | X.com/FAMU_FB

2024 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Aug. 24	Norfolk State	Atlanta, GA
Aug. 31	vs. South Carolina State	Tallahassee, FL
Sep. 7	at University of Miami	Miami Gardens, FL
Sep. 21	at Troy University	Troy, AL
Sep. 28	vs. Alabama A&M	Tallahassee, FL
Oct. 5	at Alabama State	Montgomery, AL
Oct. 19	at Jackson State	Jackson, MS
Oct. 26	vs. Southern	Tallahassee, FL
Nov. 2	vs. Texas Southern	Tallahassee, FL
Nov. 9	at Prairie View A&M	Prairie View, TX
Nov. 16	vs. Mississippi Valley	Tallahassee, FL
Nov. 23	Bethune-Cookman	Orlando, FL



FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY



TIMOTHY BEARD
 INTERIM PRESIDENT

Dr. Timothy Beard's professional profile epitomizes an individual who has fully realized his potential in education and community service. A native of Port St. Joe, FL, and an honor graduate of Port St. Joe High School, Dr. Beard began his academic journey at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) in 1980.

Holding undergraduate degrees from both FAMU and Florida State University (FSU), Dr. Beard earned a Ph.D. from FSU in 1998 in Rehabilitation Counseling with a focus on Higher Education Administration. He has also pursued studies at the Christian International Educational Institute in Northwest Florida.

Dr. Beard commenced his distinguished career in secondary education in 1984 with Leon County Schools as an Instructional Assistant. As a graduate student at FSU from 1985-1987, he served as a Career Advisor and Analyst. From 1987-1989, he worked as a Disability Analyst with the Office of Disability Determinations in Tallahassee. He returned to Higher Education at FAMU in 1989 as an Assistant Director of the Career Center. From 1990-1999, Dr. Beard held several roles at the joint FAMU-FSU College of Engineering, including Director of Career Services, Director of Instructional Research, Director of Minority Student Affairs, Instructor, and Director of Graduate Student Services.

In 1999, Dr. Beard was appointed Assistant Professor of Health Care Management and Director of Student Affairs in the School of Allied Health Sciences at FAMU. In 2001, he was recognized by his colleagues, President Frederick Humphries, and the University's administration as "Teacher of the Year." In 2000, Dr. Beard was appointed by Governor Jeb Bush to the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities, providing oversight to more than 300 Florida and foreign private colleges and universities.

Dr. Beard's career reached new heights in 2003, when he became the first African American senior administrator in the history of the University of

South Alabama in Mobile. There, he served as Dean and Vice-President of Student Affairs from 2003-2007. From 2007-2015, Dr. Beard was the Vice-President of Student Development and Enrollment Management at Pasco-Hernando Community College (PHCC), now Pasco Hernando State College (PHSC). Under his leadership, the college's enrollment increased by over 40 percent, and several PHSC programs were recognized by the Association of Florida Colleges as "Exemplary Best Practices." In March 2015, Dr. Beard reached the pinnacle of his career when the Pasco-Hernando State College Board of Trustees appointed him as the College's fourth president. He served in this role for nearly nine years, retiring in January 2024. Dr. Beard now holds the title of President Emeritus.

Dr. Beard's professional associations and community involvement include serving on numerous boards and advisory councils in several Florida cities, including Tampa, Ocala, Gainesville, Brooksville, Spring Hill, and New Port Richey. His board and council appointments include the Florida College System Council of Presidents (Vice-Chair 2022, Chair 2023), the Impact Center Board of Directors (Vice-President) Tampa, Enduring Faith Ministries Board of Directors-Gainesville, Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board, the Pasco Economic Development Council, and the State of Florida Credential Review Committee.

Throughout his career, Dr. Beard has been a trailblazer, mentor, and advocate for educational excellence. His contributions to state government and higher education have created a legacy, inspiring future generations to strive for greatness.

Dr. Beard has been married to Wendy Beard for 38 years. They are proud parents of two daughters: Briana Beard Belle (married to Jeffrey, a FAMU alum), who holds a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from FAMU, and Sierra Beard, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Management from FAMU and a Master of Public Health from the University of Georgia.



TIFFANI-DAWN SYKES
 V.P. / DIRECTOR OF
 ATHLETICS

Tiffani-Dawn Sykes became the vice president and director of intercollegiate athletics at Florida A&M on January 4, 2023. Under her leadership, the Rattlers achieved notable successes, both athletically and academically. In her first six months, the women's tennis and baseball teams won their first SWAC championships. During the 2023-24 academic year, the football and golf teams secured two HBCU National Championships in the same year, a first for the department. The cross country, football, and women's indoor track & field teams also won their first SWAC titles. Five other teams finished second in their respective SWAC tournaments.

The department excelled academically off the field, achieving six perfect 1,000 scores in the 2022-23 Academic Progress Rate (APR) report, the highest in department history. Sykes also spearheaded the renaming of key facilities and brought the 2023 Florida High School Athletics

Association (FHSA) Football State Championships back to Bragg Memorial Stadium for the first time since 1978. She launched the department's first digital streaming platform, Rattlers+, and its first athletics app.

Before Florida A&M, Sykes was the executive senior associate athletics director at Dartmouth College, where she oversaw 35 Division I varsity sports and managed various department functions. She handled player eligibility issues during the COVID-19 pandemic and helped bring the NCAA Skiing Championships to Hanover in 2025. Her previous roles include assistant athletics director for compliance at Grambling State and positions at Norfolk State, Chowan University, and Saint Paul's College. Sykes holds a master's degree in sport administration and has been actively involved in several NCAA committees and professional associations.

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SWAC

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

COACHING STAFF



JAMES COLZIE III
HEAD COACH

James Colzie III was named the 19th head football coach at Florida A&M University, January 27, 2024.

Colzie has worked and played for some of the best coaches in the business, including Bobby Bowden, Mickey Andrews, Romeo Crennel, Emmitt Thomas, Blake Nill, and Kevin Steele. His career has included stops at elite Division I, Division II, U-Sport, and NJCAA football programs around the Southeast, Midwest, and Canada. As a collegiate player and coach, he has been a part of four national championships and seven conference titles.

Colzie was elevated to head coach after serving as the interim head coach following the departure of Willie Simmons. Colzie joined Florida A&M ahead of the 2022 season, where he led the cornerbacks and contributed to a defense that ranked in the top 25 in six categories.

After the 2022 campaign, Colzie was promoted to assistant head coach while coaching the cornerbacks again. Leading the cornerbacks, the Rattlers saw two selected to the All-SWAC teams, Kendall Bohler and Eric Smith. Colzie was again part of one of the nation's best defenses, ranking top 25 in 12 categories. Colzie was also part of a historic Rattlers team that won its first-ever SWAC Championship and Celebration Bowl with a 12-1 record.

Before FAMU

In 2022, Colzie left his post as the head football coach at Saint Mary's University (Canada) with an overall record of 23-19. Saint Mary's played for two AUS Championships (2018 and 2019) and posted a conference-best 7-1 record during the 2018 season. In total, Colzie posted six All-Canadians (defensive back DeAndre Smith (2016), defensive back Antoine Lyte-Myers (2019), defensive back Justin Julien (2021), returner Johnny King, returner Justin Julien (2021), defensive end Jadarius Caesar (2017), and linebacker Brad Herbst (2018). He developed and coached four CFL draft picks, starting in 2018 with defensive lineman Tresor Mafuta (4th round to Saskatchewan), in 2021 with linebacker Jarek Richards (4th round to Hamilton) and offensive lineman Peter Kourtis (5th round to Edmonton), and defensive back Adrian Greene (4th round to BC). During Colzie's time at Saint Mary's, he also had four Player of the Year's (two being Defensive Player of the Year) and a final total of twenty All-Conference players while serving as the head football coach.

Before becoming head coach at Saint Mary's, Colzie spent two seasons at the University of British Columbia as their defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach. In 2015, Colzie helped the Thunderbirds win their first Vanier Cup Championship since 1997. The Thunderbirds' defense finished ranked 2nd in the Canada West Conference in rushing defense, pass defense, and scoring defense.

Before the University of British Columbia, Colzie spent one season at Coffeyville. The defense at Coffeyville finished 1st in the nation with seven interceptions for touchdowns and 1st in the nation with ten total defensive touchdowns and 3rd down percentage (22%).

In 2013, Colzie was the defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach at Simon Fraser University. There, he took over a defense that had finished dead last in all major conference defensive categories during the 2012 season, and under his defense, they finished second in pass defense, second in opponents 1st down, third in third down, and fourth down conversions. Colzie had three 1st Team All-Conference players and an All-region player.

From 2007 to 2012, Colzie had success in multiple Division II football programs (Southern Arkansas, University of West

Georgia and Valdosta State), where he coached six All-Americans and ten All-Conference players. In three of those years, his special teams were ranked first in the nation in punt return yards and touchdowns.

During the 2004-2006 seasons, Coach Colzie worked as a Defensive Graduate Assistant at Florida State, where he coached cornerbacks that included first-round picks Antonio Cromartie (2006), Patrick Robinson (2010), and second-round pick Bryant McFadden (2005).

James Colzie III began his coaching career in 2000 at Florida International University, where he coached the cornerbacks and was also the co-special teams coordinator working with returners. Before Florida International, in his playing days, he enjoyed the success of being a two-sport athlete at Florida State University. He played from 1993-1997 on the football team and lettered on the baseball team in 1994. Colzie was part of the Florida State 1993 National Championship team and three ACC Championship teams.



JOSEPH HENRY
ASST. HEAD COACH /
OFFENSIVE COORD. /
OFFENSIVE LINE



MILTON PATTERSON
DEFENSIVE
COORDINATOR /
LINEBACKERS



DOC GAMBLE
SPECIAL TEAMS
COORDINATOR



ANTONIO CARTER
OFFENSIVE PASS
GAME COORDINATOR /
WIDE RECEIVERS



MARCUS WINDHAM
RUNNING GAME
COORDINATOR /
RUNNINGBACKS



JAMES SPADY
TIGHT ENDS



HENRY BURRIS
CO-OFFENSIVE
COORDINATOR /
QUARTERBACKS



ANDRE POPE
DEFENSIVE PASS
GAME COORDINATOR /
DEFENSIVE BACKS



CASEY WALKER
DEFENSIVE LINE

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SWAC

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

PLAYERS TO WATCH



KENDALL BOHLER

DB | REDSHIRT SENIOR | 6'0" 193lbs



ALLEN SMITH JR.

DL | GRADUATE | 6'2" 225lbs



CAMERON GILLIS

PK | GRADUATE | 5'8" 155lbs



DECO WILSON

DB | GRADUATE | 6'1" 205lbs



FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

2024 ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	CL	HOMETOWN / PREVIOUS SCHOOL	#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	CL	HOMETOWN / PREVIOUS SCHOOL
0	James Ash	DL	6-4	280	R-Sr.	Tampa, FL / Wake Forest	33	Jukil Whitehead	TE	6-3	220	Fr.	Tallahassee, FL / John Paul II Catholic
0	Jeremiah Pruitt	TE	6-5	230	Gr.	Atlanta, GA / Colorado State	34	Vershod Quinn	RB	5-8	210	R-So.	Miami, FL / Christopher Columbus HS
1	Jalen Rogers	WR	5-10	155	So.	Miami, FL / Tulane	38	Lawrence Martinez	LS	6-1	215	R-Sr.	Apopka, FL / UCF
1	Latarie Kinsler	DL	6-3	225	Sr.	Pahokee, FL / FIU	39	Cameron Gillis	PK	5-8	155	Gr.	Budapest, Hungary / Stetson
2	Jamari Gasset	WR	5-10	170	Sr.	Tampa, FL / Buffalo	39	Travis Moss	LB	5-10	210	R-Jr.	Jacksonville, FL / Memphis
2	Demorie Tate	CB	6-1	195	R-Sr.	Orlando, FL / FSU	40	Nicholas Toussaint	DL	6-3	215	Fr.	Wellington, FL / Palm Beach Central HS
3	Kendall Bohler	DB	6-0	193	R-Sr.	Orlando, FL / Mercer	41	Michael Smith	PK	5-11	175	So.	Tallahassee, FL / Maclay HS
3	Jaylen Ward	WR	6-1	202	So.	Bessemer, AL / Middle Tennessee State	43	Andrew Ritter	TE	6-0	210	R-Fr.	Tallahassee, FL / Leon HS
4	Marquez Bell	WR	6-0	180	Gr.	Lake City, FL / Old Dominion	44	Malcolm Major	LB	6-0	215	R-Jr.	Miami Gardens, FL / Chaminade-Madonna Prep
4	Brian Norris	LB	6-2	230	Gr.	Chiefland, FL / South Florida	45	Nay/Ron Jenkins	LB	6-1	205	Jr.	Alachua, FL / Buchholz HS
5	Aric Horne	LB	6-1	223	Gr.	Jacksonville, FL / Iowa State	46	Judahy Michel	DB	6-2	175	R-Fr.	Port St. Lucie, FL / St. Lucie W. Centennial HS
5	A'Ceon "Ace" Cobb	WR	6-3	195	R-So.	Orlando, FL / FAU	49	Baylor Payan	LS	6-0	220	Gr.	Plain City, UT / Utah Tech
6	Koby Gross	TE	6-2	243	Gr.	San Ramon, CA / Florida State	51	Caleb Riley	OL	6-5	280	Fr.	Miami, FL / Norland HS
6	Braylin Oliver	DB	6-2	194	Jr.	Anderson, SC / Syracuse	52	Elijah Philippe	OL	6-7	300	R-Jr.	Newark, NJ / Troy
7	Junior Muratovic	QB	6-3	215	R-Jr.	Orlando, FL / Wekiva HS	54	Christian Wingfield	OL	6-7	335	R-Jr.	Riverdale, GA / Austin Peay
7	Andre Powell Jr.	DB	5-11	195	R-Jr.	Naples, FL / Naples HS	54	Darrick McGhee Jr.	LB	5-11	215	Fr.	Tallahassee, FL / Florida HS
8	Jameel Sanders	DB	6-1	190	R-Jr.	Plainfield, NJ / South Florida	55	Khalil Hunter	LB	6-1	205	R-So.	Ft. Lauderdale, FL / St. Thomas Aquinas HS
8	Karter Johnson	TE	6-3	245	Gr.	Pickerington, OH / Pittsburgh	55	Michael Marshall	OL	6-4	280	R-Jr.	Miami, FL / Northwestern HS
9	Kelvin Dean	RB	6-0	200	Gr.	Chipley, FL / FAU	57	Ethan Eugene	DL	6-3	255	Fr.	Riverview, FL / Summer HS
9	Brandon Calloway	DB	6-1	195	Jr.	Griffin, GA / Purdue	58	Ezra Dotson-Oyetade	OL	6-3	295	R-Jr.	Garland, TX / TCU
10	Daniel Richardson	QB	5-10	205	Gr.	Miami, FL / FAU	58	Justin Squire	DL	6-3	225	Fr.	Jacksonville, FL / Mandarin HS
10	Corey Collier Jr.	DB	6-1	190	Jr.	Miami, FL / Nebraska	61	Jalen Goss	OL	6-7	285	Gr.	Valdosta, GA / Florida State
11	Deco Wilson	DB	6-1	205	Gr.	Talladega, AL / Jacksonville State	62	Charles Davis	OL	6-5	330	R-Jr.	Marianna, FL / Marianna HS
12	Trey Fisher	QB	5-11	180	R-Sr.	Tallahassee, FL / UT-Martin	63	Ricky Taylor	OL	6-1	275	R-Jr.	Miami, FL / Northwestern HS
12	Chase Lloyd	DB	6-2	205	R-Sr.	Atlanta, GA / Vanderbilt	65	Tommy Bridgewater Jr.	OL	6-2	285	R-So.	Jacksonville, FL / First Coast HS
13	Goldie Lawrence	WR	6-0	193	Fr.	Sanford, FL / Florida State	66	KJ McCou	OL	6-3	335	R-Jr.	Memphis, TN / East Mississippi CC
14	Zavion Battle	DB	5-9	175	R-Sr.	Ft. Myers, FL / College of Sequoias	69	TJ Lee	OL	6-3	315	Sr.	Bainbridge, GA / Gadsden Co. HS
14	David O. Jordan	QB	6-4	200	Jr.	Sherman Oaks, CA / West LA College	70	Nathan Gates	OL	6-5	295	R-Fr.	Huntington Beach, CA / Washington State
15	Simion Hines	DB	5-11	185	Jr.	Davie, FL / Louisiana-Monroe	71	Ashton Grable	OL	6-4	315	R-Jr.	Gordon, GA / Jacksonville State
15	Bryson Martin	QB	6-3	195	R-So.	Clearwater, FL / Miami (FL)	72	Sebastien Laraque	OL	6-6	320	R-Jr.	Miami, FL / FIU
16	Robert Glanton	DB	5-11	190	R-Sr.	Perry, FL / Wake Forest	73	Janik Ogunlade	OL	6-5	290	R-Jr.	Waldorf, MD / Buffalo
16	Traven Green	QB	6-2	170	Fr.	Rockledge, FL / Rockledge HS	75	Jeremy Fishkin	OL	6-5	295	Fr.	Parkland, FL / Stoneman-Douglas HS
17	Alston Hooker	QB	6-0	185	R-Jr.	Greensboro, NC / North Carolina A&T	77	Cesar Reyes	OL	6-5	295	R-Sr.	Tampa, FL / South Florida
17	Davion Westmoreland	DL	6-4	255	Gr.	Griffin, GA / Kansas	78	Myron Ward	OL	6-3	300	R-So.	Tallahassee, FL / Rickards HS
18	Antonio Camon	DL	6-3	245	R-Fr.	Tampa, FL / Pittsburgh	79	Christopher Williams	OL	6-5	335	R-Jr.	Tallahassee, FL / Florida State
18	Jacobie Dilworth	WR	6-0	180	So.	Tampa, FL / Muskingum	80	Ja'Cory Jordan	WR	6-4	195	R-Jr.	Jacksonville, FL / Trinity Christian
19	Ah'Mare Lee	DB	6-0	200	R-Jr.	Miami, FL / UCF	82	Jordan Edwards	WR	6-0	195	Jr.	Albany, GA / Monroe HS
20	Levontai Summersett	RB	5-10	190	R-Fr.	Fort Myers, FL / North Fort Myers HS	83	Brooks Hickman	WR	5-10	185	R-Fr.	Tallahassee, FL / Georgia State
20	Jerome Nichols	LB	6-1	230	Gr.	Belleville, MI / Michigan	84	Jalon Howard	WR	5-9	170	R-So.	Miami, FL / Norland HS
21	T.J. Huggins	DB	6-3	185	R-Jr.	Miami, FL / Tulane	85	Robert Lockhart	WR	5-7	165	R-Fr.	Atlanta, GA / Langston Hughes HS
21	Quan Lee	WR	5-11	175	R-So.	Gainesville, FL / UCF	86	Christopher Sanders II	WR	5-11	185	Gr.	Detroit, MI / The Bolles School
23	Allen Smith Jr.	DL	6-2	225	Gr.	Loganville, GA / Louisville	87	Armand Burris	WR	6-1	175	Fr.	Lincolnshire, IL / Stevenson HS
23	Thad Franklin Jr.	RB	6-1	230	Sr.	West Park, FL / Miami (FL)	88	Jayden Evans	TE	6-7	250	R-Jr.	Eastvale, CA / Central Michigan
24	Trey Wilhoit	P	5-10	175	Sr.	Tallahassee, FL / Eastern Illinois	90	Cameron Donald	DL	6-1	295	Gr.	Pelzer, SC / Kennesaw State
25	Tyrese Gibson-Battles	DL	6-5	240	Sr.	Cleveland, OH / Garden City CC	91	Landon Bolding	DL	6-2	230	Fr.	Coconut Creek, FL / Monarch HS
26	Lamar Clark	DB	5-10	180	R-So.	Panama City, FL / Mosley HS	92	Stantavious Smith	DL	6-2	275	R-Fr.	Albany, GA / South Florida
27	Jayren Fox	LB	6-2	225	Gr.	Cordele, GA / Mississippi Valley	93	Chad Brooks	DL	6-5	290	R-Jr.	St. Petersburg, FL / Gibbs HS
28	Dorian Collier	RB	6-2	220	Sr.	Tallahassee, FL / Chadron State	94	James Gardner Jr.	DL	6-2	270	Sr.	Ft. Pierce, FL / Southwest Mississippi CC
29	Jordan Cumberbatch	DB	6-1	195	R-Sr.	Miramar, FL / Alabama A&M	98	Nicholas Dimitris	DL	6-5	305	R-Jr.	Watts, CA / UNLV
31	Justin Bostic	DB	5-10	175	R-Fr.	W. Palm Beach, FL / Palm Beach Central HS	99	Clyde Pinder	DL	6-1	295	R-Jr.	Tampa, FL / South Florida
33	Andrew Tisher	P	6-0	170	So.	Gainesville, FL / Stetson	99	Gunnar Trout	P	5-11	180	Fr.	Merritt Island, FL / Cocoa HS

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THE RIVALRY



IS REAL



MEAC

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

SPARTAN LEGION



MR. WILLIAM H. BEATHEA **DIRECTOR OF BANDS**

Founded in 1975, the award winning Norfolk State University Spartan "Legion" Marching Band, located in Norfolk, VA, has made a name for itself as one of the premier Marching Bands in the country. The "Legion" consists of 250 staff and student musicians, dancers, and flags from states nationwide, including the Virgin Islands and the Bahamas. The "Legion" exhibits a presence evocative of the storied "Spartans". They are regally attired in forest green uniforms with contrasting white overlays, gold capes and brilliant gold-plated helmets. Their varied, synchronized and precise marching styles, inclusive of their fierce look and demeanor, include high-stepping, the rigid strut and the glide or military style. Their utter presence embraces and exudes pride, which is coupled with their robust and magnificent sound. They have been consistently critically acclaimed and have drawn rave reviews nationwide in all media.

Discipline and "Spartan-like" behavior is the key to the innumerable honors that the Spartan "Legion" has won. Selected performances include, most recently, the Barack Obama Presidential campaign rally in Norfolk, VA. The "Legion's" history includes the Philadelphia Parade commemorating the

200th anniversary of the Constitution (1987); the Mardi Gras in the Rex Parade in New Orleans, LA (2003); the MLK "Drum Major for Justice" Parade, St. Petersburg, FL (2006); the Honda Battle of the Bands Invitational Showcase (2007 and 2008); the Norfolk Grand Illumination Parade (2006 and 2007); collegiate venues in the MEAC, CIAA and Colonial Conferences, Rutgers University, University of Kentucky and Villanova University. The "Legion" is also the inaugural host of the HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Band Battlefest, which annually spotlights 10 HBCU Marching Bands and command performances in San Diego, CA, Bermuda and New York, NY.



CENTER PARC STADIUM



AUG. 24, 2024 | ATLANTA, GA



SWAC

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

THE MARCHING 100



DR. SHELBY R. CHIPMAN **DIRECTOR OF BANDS**

The Florida A&M University incomparable Marching "100" Band provides music, pageantry, entertainment, and school spirit at athletic events and university-sanctioned activities. As a prominent and recognizable student organization, it aids in recruitment, marketing, and branding for the university. The band's motto emphasizes qualities such as character, academic achievement, leadership, musicianship, marching precision, and service dedication, representing a role model of excellence.

The band originated in 1892 and was formally established on June 1, 1946, by Dr. Williams Patrick Foster with 17 members. Subsequent directors included Dr. Julian E. White (1998-2012), Dr. Sylvester Young (2013-2016), and currently, Dr. Shelby R. Chipman (since 2016). The band program supports academic enrichment through Study Hall sessions and fosters leadership, interviewing skills, discipline, and job market readiness.

The Marching "100" is highly regarded, receiving the Sudler Marching Band award in 1985 for excellence in performance standards. The band has made numerous notable appearances, including Super Bowls, presidential inaugurations, television shows, documentaries, and professional events. Recent high-profile performances include the Louis Vuitton Men's Fashion Show in Paris and the 130th Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, CA.





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HBCU NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



BAND
OF THE
YEAR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2024
MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM - ATLANTA, GA

ALL-TIME

STATISTICAL LEADERS

PASSING YARDS

356 - Jason Brown (JSU), 2023
 295 - Jalen Morton (PVAM), 2018
 273 - Chauncey Caldwell (NCCU), 2018
 273 - Brandon Landers (GSU), 2006
 269 - Greg Dillon (GSU), 2009
 255 - Tarvaris Jackson (ASU), 2005
 251 - Jamarr Robinson (BCU), 2011
 215 - Lee Bryant (SU), 2007

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

4 - Brandon Landers (GSU), 2006
 3 - Jason Brown (JSU), 2023
 2 - Felix Harper (ALCN), 2021
 2 - Jalen Morton (PVAM), 2018
 2 - Chauncey Caldwell (NCCU), 2018
 2 - Tarik Cohen (NCAT), 2014
 2 - Kwashawn Quick (NCAT), 2014
 2 - Anthony Glaud (DSU), 2010
 2 - Greg Dillon (GSU), 2009
 2 - Malcolm Long (SCSU), 2009
 2 - TJ Mitchell (HAM), 2006

RUSHING YARDS

224 - Dawonya Tucker (PVAM), 2018
 161 - Tarik Cohen (NCAT), 2014
 142 - Darren Coates (SU), 2007
 128 - Stafford Anderson (ALCN), 2021
 123 - Isidore Jackson (BCU), 2012
 111 - Kwashawn Quick (NCAT), 2014
 109 - Irv Mulligan (JSU), 2023
 103 - Rodney Scott (BCU), 2012
 101 - Phillip Sylvester (FAMU), 2007
 100 - Brodrick Waters (BCU), 2012

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

24 - Herbert Edwards (SU), 2017
 22 - Dawonya Tucker (PVAM), 2018
 21 - Isidore Jackson (BCU), 2012
 18 - Brand Eldemire (AAMU), 2014
 18 - Bryant Lee (SU), 2007
 18 - Deshawn Baker (SCSU), 2005
 17 - Bryan Brower (AAMU), 2014
 17 - Greg Dillon (GSU), 2009
 17 - Ab Kuuan (GSU), 2006
 16 - Gary Hollimon (SU), 2010
 16 - Frank Warren (GSU), 2009
 16 - LaMarcus Coker (HAM), 2008
 15 - Jordan Johnson (JSU), 2019
 15 - Greg Jenkins (ASU), 2012
 15 - Sylvester Nzekwe (SU), 2010
 15 - Dennis Mathis (HAM), 2008

RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

2 - Davius Richard (NCCU), 2021
 2 - Jamarr Robinson (BCU), 2011
 2 - Isidore Jackson (BCU), 2011
 2 - Anthony Jordan (BCU), 2011
 2 - Darren Coates (SU), 2007

RECEIVING YARDS

133 - Lorenzo Hoffman (ASU), 2005
 113 - Marquay McDaniel (HAM), 2006
 105 - DD Bowie (JSU), 2019
 102 - Eddie Poole (BCU), 2012
 98 - Jeffery Rector (PVAM), 2018
 94 - Lakeldrick Bridges (GSU), 2006
 92 - Larrone Moore (DSU), 2010
 89 - T.C. McWilliams (ASU), 2012
 88 - Van Phillips (GSU), 2009



JASON BROWN (JSU)

84 - Kelley King (SCSU), 2005
 83 - Tristan Wallace (PVAM), 2018
 81 - Gerard Landry (SU), 2007
 81 - Javares Knight (FAMU), 2007
 80 - Alvan Robinson (ASU), 2005

10 - D'Vonte Grant (NCAT), 2014
 10 - Jarkevis Fields (BCU), 2012
 10 - Dannel Shepard (FAMU), 2007
 10 - Lymon Reed (FAMU), 2007

TOTAL RECEPTIONS

9 - Duke Miller (JSU), 2023
 7 - Gerard Landry (SU), 2007
 7 - Alvan Robinson (ASU), 2005
 6 - Ryan McDaniel (NCCU), 2021
 6 - Tristan Wallace (PVAM), 2018
 6 - T.C. McWilliams (ASU), 2012
 6 - Marquay McDaniel (HAM), 2006
 6 - Lakeldrick Bridges (GSU), 2006
 6 - Clyde Edwards (GSU), 2006
 5 - Isaiah Spencer (JSU), 2023
 5 - Juan Anthony, Jr. (ALCN), 2021
 5 - DD Bowie (JSU), 2019
 5 - Warren Newman (JSU), 2019
 5 - Jimmie Robinson (BCU), 2019
 5 - Daesha Stephens (NCCU), 2018
 5 - De'Mo Burroughs (SCSU), 2017
 5 - Keenan Tillman (JSU), 2008
 5 - Jarvis Funderburk (FAMU), 2007
 5 - Phil Sylvester (FAMU), 2007

RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS

2 - Markus Hardy (PVAM), 2018
 1 - 37 players tied

TACKLES

13 - Jeremy Johnson (MVSU), 2013
 12 - Darius Leonard (SCSU), 2017
 12 - Marc Speaks (JSU), 2008
 11 - Keonte Hampton (JSU), 2019
 11 - Davante Reynolds (NCCU), 2018
 11 - Elton Holmes (PVAM), 2011
 11 - Wakeem Goode (HAM), 2008
 10 - Rashon McNeil (BCU), 2019
 10 - Darius Royster (NCCU), 2018
 10 - Branden Bailey (NCCU), 2018
 10 - Isaac Claiborne (PVAM), 2018
 10 - Denzel Jones (NCAT), 2014

SACKS

2.5 - Javon Hargrave (SCSU), 2015
 2.0 - Patrick Godbolt (SCSU), 2023
 2.0 - LeBranden Richardson (BCU), 2012
 1.5 - Harold Love (BCU), 2013
 1.5 - Lymon Reed (FAMU), 2007
 1.5 - Alden Blizzard (HAM), 2006

TACKLES FOR LOSS (TFL)

2.0 - Isaac Peppers (JSU), 2023
 2.0 - Patrick Godbolt (SCSU), 2023
 2.0 - Jared Kirskey (SCSU), 2023

INTERCEPTIONS

1 - Tim Steward (JSU), 2023
 1 - Keyron Kinsler, Jr. (ALCN), 2021
 1 - Devuntray Hampton (BCU), 2019
 1 - Trevor Merritt (BCU), 2019
 1 - Ju'Anthony Parker (PVAM), 2018
 1 - Dershaw Taylor (SCSU), 2017
 1 - Kevin Rucker (UAPB), 2015
 1 - Reggie Rayford (UAPB), 2015
 1 - Avery Boykin (MVSU), 2013
 1 - John Ojo (FAMU), 2013
 1 - Darren Parker (FAMU), 2013
 1 - Patrick Aiken (FAMU), 2013
 1 - Donald Law (PVAM), 2011
 1 - Jarkevis Fields (BCU), 2011
 1 - D.J. Howard (BCU), 2011
 1 - Demetric Rogers (SU), 2010
 1 - Jason House (SU), 2010
 1 - Semaj Moody (SCSU), 2009
 1 - Rasoul Wilson (HAM), 2008
 1 - Bryan Lanford (GSU), 2006
 1 - Calvin Bannister (HAM), 2006
 1 - Jamaul George (SU), 2007
 1 - Glenn Bell (SU), 2007
 1 - Travis Kinlock (SCSU), 2005
 1 - Brandon Averett (ASU), 2005



DAWONYA TUCKER (PVAM)



KICK-OFF

RECORD BOOK

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

OFFENSE

MOST RUSHING YARDS

224 – Dawonya Tucker (Prairie View)
v. N.C. Central, 2018

MOST RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

2 – Five players tied

MOST RUSHING ATTEMPTS

24 – Herbert Edwards (Southern) v. S.C. State, 2017

LONGEST RUSHING TD (YARDS)

90 – Darren Coates (Southern) v. Florida A&M, 2007

MOST PASSING YARDS

356 – Jason Brown (Jackson State) v. S.C. State, 2023

MOST PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

4 – Brandon Landers (Grambling), v. Hampton, 2006

LONGEST PASSING TD (YARDS)

85 – Anthony Glaud (Delaware State)
v. Southern, 2010

MOST PASSING ATTEMPTS

45 – Chauncey Caldwell (N.C. Central)
v. Prairie View, 2018

MOST COMPLETIONS

26 – Jason Brown (Jackson State) v. S.C. State, 2023

MOST PASSING INTERCEPTIONS

2 – Nolen Sorenson (Arkansas-Pine Bluff)
v. S.C. State, 2015

2 – Adrien Kollock (S.C. State)

v. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 2015

MOST TIMES SACKED

4 – Greg Jenkins (Alabama State)
v. Bethune-Cookman, 2012

MOST RECEIVING YARDS

133 – Lorenzo Hoffman (Alabama State)
v. S.C. State, 2005

MOST RECEPTIONS

9 – Duke Miller (Jackson State) v. S.C. State, 2023
7 – Three players tied

MOST RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS

2 – Markus Hardy (Prairie View) v. N.C. Central, 2018

MOST YARDS PER RECEPTION

46.0 – Larrone Moore (Delaware State)
v. Southern, 2010

LONGEST RECEIVING TD (YARDS)

85 – Larrone Moore (Delaware State)
v. Southern, 2010

DEFENSE

MOST TACKLES

13 – Jeremy Johnson (Mississippi Valley State)
v. Florida A&M, 2013

MOST SACKS

2.5 – Javon Hargrave (S.C. State)
v. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 2015

MOST TACKLES FOR LOSS

6.0 – Darius Royster (N.C. Central)
v. Prairie View, 2018

MOST INTERCEPTIONS

1 – 25 players tied

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN FOR TD

50 – Trevor Merritt (Bethune-Cookman)
v. Jackson State, 2019

LONGEST FUMBLE RETURN FOR TD

96 – Sam Marc (Bethune-Cookman)
v. Jackson State, 2019

SPECIAL TEAMS

MOST PUNT RETURN YARDS

82 – Brandon Codrington (N.C. Central)
v. Alcorn State, 2021

LONGEST PUNT RETURN (YARDS)

77 – Brandon Codrington (N.C. Central)
v. Alcorn State, 2021

MOST PUNT RETURN TOUCHDOWNS

1 – (77 yds) Brandon Codrington (N.C. Central)
v. Alcorn State, 2021

1 – (64 yds) Corey Cushingberry (Southern)
v. Delaware State, 2010

MOST KICK RETURNS

5 – Tiquan Watson (N.C. Central) v. Prairie View, 2018
5 – Larrone Moore (Delaware State)
v. Southern, 2010

MOST KICK RETURN YARDS

120 – Tony McRae (N.C. A&T) v. Alabama A&M, 2014

LONGEST KICK RETURN (YARDS)

95 – Tony McRae (N.C. A&T) v. Alabama A&M, 2014

MOST KICK RETURN TOUCHDOWNS

1 – (95 yds) Tony McRae (N.C. A&T)
v. Alabama A&M, 2014
1 – (90 yds) Larrone Moore (Delaware State)
v. Southern, 2010

MOST PUNTS

12 – Matthew Guth (Arkansas-Pine Bluff)
v. S.C. State, 2015

MOST PUNTING YARDS

443 – Matthew Guth (Arkansas-Pine Bluff)
v. S.C. State, 2015

LONGEST PUNT (YARDS)

55 – Matthew Guth (Arkansas-Pine Bluff)
v. S.C. State, 2015

BEST PUNTING AVG

44.6 – Joshua Duran (Southern)
v. Delaware State, 2010

MOST FIELD GOALS MADE

3 – Gerardo Baeza (Jackson State) v. S.C. State, 2023

LONGEST FIELD GOAL MADE

47 – Leigh Manley (S.C. State) v. Grambling, 2009

GAME RECORDS

ATTENDANCE

30,106, Southern v. FAMU-Birmingham, 2017

WINS

3, Bethune-Cookman (3-0)
Southern (3-0)
South Carolina State (3-1)

WINNINGEST COACH

Oliver "Buddy" Pough (South Carolina State), 3-2

LONGEST GAME

4h, 40 min, Howard v. Alabama State, 2022

MOST POINTS SCORED (BY A TEAM)

Game: 63, Bethune-Cookman, 2011

Qtr: 28, (2nd qtr), Bethune-Cookman, 2011

Half: 42, (1st half), Bethune-Cookman, 2011

LARGEST WIN MARGIN

63-14 (49), Bethune-Cookman
over Prairie View, 2011

MOST COMBINED PENALTIES

36, Mississippi Valley State v. Florida A&M, 2013

LARGEST POINT DEFICIT

Game: 49, Bethune-Cookman over Prairie View, 2011

Half: 35, Bethune-Cookman over Prairie View, 2011

Qtr: 42, (3rd Qtr), Bethune-Cookman
over Prairie View, 2011

20, (1st Qtr), Prairie View over N.C. Central, 2018

FEWEST POINTS SCORED

Game: 7, South Carolina State, 2023
Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 2015

Half: 0, (2nd half), Southern, 2017

(1st half), South Carolina State, 2023

(1st half), Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 2015

(1st half), Mississippi Valley State, 2013

TOTAL COMBINED POINTS SCORED (GAME)

77, Bethune-Cookman v. Prairie View, 2011

FEWEST COMBINE POINTS SCORED (GAME)

22, Southern v. South Carolina State, 2017

MOST COMBINED RUSHING TD (GAME)

6, Alabama State v. Bethune-Cookman, 2012

MOST COMBINED PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

7, Grambling State v. Hampton, 2006

FEWEST COMBINED POINTS SCORED (QUARTER)

0, (2nd Qtr), Bethune-Cookman
v. Jackson State, 2019

(4th Qtr), Southern v. South Carolina State, 2017

(2nd Qtr), South Carolina State
v. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 2015

2, (3rd Qtr), Southern v. South Carolina State, 2017

3, (1st Qtr), Bethune-Cookman
v. Jackson State, 2019

MOST TOTAL COMBINED POINTS SCORED (QUARTER)

35, (2nd Qtr), Bethune-Cookman
v. Prairie View A&M, 2011

34, (3rd Qtr), Bethune-Cookman
v. Jackson State, 2019

21, (4th Qtr), Bethune-Cookman
v. Alabama State, 2012

(4th Qtr), Southern v. Delaware State, 2010

20, (1st Qtr), Prairie View v. N.C. Central, 2018

(1st Qtr), N.C. A&T v. Alabama A&M, 2014

13, (OT), Hampton v. Grambling State, 2006

TEAM RECORDS

MOST RUSHING YARDS

367 – Bethune-Cookman v. Alabama State, 2012

FEWEST RUSHING YARDS

24 – Alabama State v. South Carolina State, 2005

MOST RUSHING ATTEMPTS

60 – Bethune-Cookman v. Alabama State, 2012

MOST YARDS RUSHING PER RUSH

7.5 – Prairie View v. North Carolina Central, 2018

MOST RUSHING TD

5 – North Carolina A&T v. Alabama A&M, 2014

MOST PASSING YARDS

356 – Jackson State v. South Carolina State, 2023

FEWEST PASSING YARDS

39 – Arkansas-Pine Bluff v. South Carolina State, 2015

MOST PASSING ATTEMPTS

45 – North Carolina Central v. Prairie View, 2018

MOST PASSING COMPLETIONS

26 – Jackson State v. South Carolina State, 2023

26 – Bethune-Cookman v. Prairie View, 2011

MOST PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

4 – Grambling State v. Hampton, 2016

MOST PASSING YARDS PER COMPLETION

27.0 – Delaware State v. Southern, 2010

MOST TOTAL YARDS (GAME)

633 – Prairie View v. North Carolina Central, 2018

FEWEST TOTAL YARDS (GAME)

150 – Arkansas-Pine Bluff
v. South Carolina State, 2015

LONGEST TIME OF POSSESSION

36:10 – Bethune-Cookman v. Prairie View, 2011

LONGEST TIME OF POSSESSION (QUARTER)

10:45 (1) – Alabama A&M

v. North Carolina A&T, 2014

MOST FUMBLES

5 (4) – Prairie View v. Bethune-Cookman, 2011

5 (4) – Southern v. Florida A&M, 2007

MOST INTERCEPTIONS

3 – South Carolina State v. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 2015
3 – Florida A&M v. Mississippi Valley State, 2013

MOST TOTAL TACKLES

88 – Delaware State v. Southern, 2010

MOST SOLO TACKLES

52 – Arkansas-Pine Bluff v. South Carolina State, 2015

MOST TACKLES FOR LOSS

13.5 – Jackson State v. Bethune-Cookman, 2009

MOST SACKS

5 – Alcorn State v. North Carolina Central, 2021

5 – North Carolina Central v. Alcorn State, 2021

5 – South Carolina State v. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 2015

5 – Bethune-Cookman v. Alabama State, 2012

MOST PENALTIES

15 – Florida A&M v. Mississippi Valley State, 2013
15 – Bethune-Cookman v. Alabama State, 2012

MOST PENALTY YARDS

160 – Florida A&M v. Mississippi Valley State, 2013

FEWEST PENALTIES

3 – Alabama State v. Bethune-Cookman, 2012

FEWEST PENALTY YARDS

31 – Alabama State v. Bethune-Cookman, 2012

LONGEST POSSESSION DRIVE

8:16 – Jackson State (14 plays, 49 yds, FG)
v. South Carolina State, 2023

LONGEST DRIVE (YARDS)

99 – Alabama State (9 plays, TD) v. Howard, 2022

LONGEST DRIVE (PLAYS)

16 – Florida A&M v. Mississippi Valley State, 2013

16 – Grambling State v. South Carolina State, 2009

MOST FIRST DOWNS

26 – Grambling State v. South Carolina State, 2009

FEWEST FIRST DOWNS

10 – Arkansas-Pine Bluff v. South Carolina State, 2015

THE RIVALRY



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KICK-OFF

RECORD BOOK

PAST CHAMPIONS

MEAC/SWAC Challenge: MEAC leads series 11-6

YEAR	CHAMPION	COACH	SCORE	OPPONENT	SITE	ATTENDANCE
2005	South Carolina State	Buddy Pough	27-14	Alabama State	Birmingham, Ala. (Legion Field)	18,452
2006	Hampton	Joe Taylor	27-26 OT	Grambling State	Birmingham, Ala. (Legion Field)	19,174
2007	Southern	Pete Richardson	33-27	Florida A&M	Birmingham, Ala. (Legion Field)	30,106
2008	Hampton	Jerry Holmes	17-13	Jackson State	Orlando, Fla. (Citrus Bowl)	10,723
2009	South Carolina State	Buddy Pough	34-31	Grambling State	Orlando, Fla. (Citrus Bowl)	21,367
2010	Southern	Stump Mitchell	37-27	Delaware State	Orlando, Fla. (Citrus Bowl)	16,327
2011	Bethune-Cookman	Brian Jenkins	63-14	Prairie View	Orlando, Fla. (Citrus Bowl)	17,337
2012	Bethune-Cookman	Brian Jenkins	38-28	Alabama State	Orlando, Fla. (Citrus Bowl)	17,410
2013	Florida A&M	Earl Holmes	27-10	Mississippi Valley State	Orlando, Fla. (Citrus Bowl)	24,376
2014	North Carolina A&T	Rod Broadway	47-13	Alabama A&M	Orlando, Fla. (Bright House Networks Stadium)	8,210
2015	South Carolina State	Buddy Pough	35-7	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	Orlando, Fla. (Citrus Bowl)	7,257
2016	No Contest due to inclement weather – South Carolina State and Bethune-Cookman				Daytona Beach, Fla. (Municipal Stadium)	6,000
2017	Southern	Dawson Odums	14-8	South Carolina State	Baton Rouge, La. (Ace W. Mumford Stadium)	10,006
2018	Prairie View	Eric Dooley	40-24	North Carolina Central	Atlanta, Ga. (Georgia State Stadium)	10,274
2019	Bethune-Cookman	Terry Sims	36-15	Jackson State	Atlanta, Ga. (Georgia State Stadium)	23,333
2020	Did Not Play due to pandemic – Grambling State and South Carolina State				Atlanta, Ga. (Georgia State Stadium)	n/a
2021	North Carolina Central	Trei Oliver	23-14	Alcorn State	Atlanta, Ga. (Center Parc Stadium)	15,215
2022	Alabama State	Eddie Robinson, Jr.	23-13	Howard	Atlanta, Ga. (Center Parc Stadium)	20,088
2023	Jackson State	T.C. Taylor	37-7	South Carolina State	Atlanta, Ga. (Center Parc Stadium)	24,238

PLAYER HONORS

YEAR	HONOR	PLAYER	POS.	SCHOOL
2005	MVP	Cleveland McCoy	QB	South Carolina State
	MVP	Tarvaris Jackson	QB	Alabama State
2006	MVP	TJ Mitchell	QB	Hampton
	MVP	Brandon Landers	QB	Grambling
2007	MVP	Bryant Lee	QB	Southern
	MVP	Philip Sylvester	RB	Florida A&M
2008	MVP	Herbert Byne	QB	Hampton
	MVP	Marcellus Speaks	LB	Jackson State
2009	MVP	Derrick Wiley	QB	South Carolina State
	MVP	Christian Anthony	DL	Grambling
2010	MVP	Dray Joseph	QB	Southern
	MVP	Larrone Moore	WR	Delaware State
2011	MVP	Jamar Robinson	QB	Bethune-Cookman
	MVP	Jerry Lovelock	QB	Prairie View A&M
2012	MVP	Broderick Waters	QB	Bethune-Cookman
	MVP	Greg Jenkins	QB	Alabama State

YEAR	HONOR	PLAYER	POS.	SCHOOL
2013	MVP	Damien Fleming	QB	Florida A&M
	MVP	Jeremy Johnson	QB	Mississippi Valley State
2014	MVP	Tarik Cohen	RB	North Carolina A&T
	MVP	Jaymason Lee	QB	Alabama A&M
2015	MVP	Javon Hargrave	DE	South Carolina State
	MVP	Brian Handley	RB	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
2017	MVP	Darius Leonard	LB	South Carolina State
	MVP	Montavious Gaines	DB	Southern
2018	MVP	Jalen Morton	QB	Prairie View A&M
	MVP	Chauncey Caldwell	QB	North Carolina Central
2019	MVP	Akevious Williams	QB	Bethune-Cookman
	MVP	DD Bowie	WR	Jackson State
2021	MVP	Davius Richards	QB	North Carolina Central
	MVP	Shaq Davis	DB	North Carolina Central
2022	MVP	Demetrius Davis	QB	Alabama State
	MVP	Jevin Jackson	DL	Howard
2023	MVP	Jason Brown	QB	Jackson State

SCHOOL RECORDS

(by Appearance)

Bethune-Cookman:	3-0
Southern:	3-0
South Carolina State:	3-1
Hampton:	2-0
North Carolina A&T:	1-0
Florida A&M:	1-1
North Carolina Central:	1-1
Prairie View:	1-1
Alabama State:	1-2
Grambling State:	0-2
Jackson State:	1-2
Alabama A&M:	0-1
Alcorn State:	0-1
Arkansas-Pine Bluff:	0-1
Delaware State:	0-1
Mississippi Valley State:	0-1
Howard:	0-1

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GAME HISTORY

2005

Legion Field, Birmingham, Ala.

27-14

**SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE**

**ALABAMA
STATE**



South Carolina State quarterback Cleveland McCoy earned Most Valuable Player as he racked up 240 yards of total offense in their 27-14 win over Alabama State in the inaugural MEAC/SWAC Challenge, in front of an announced crowd of 18,452 at Legion Field in Birmingham, Ala. Opposing Alabama State quarterback Tarvaris Jackson threw for 255 yards and two touchdowns to take MVP honors for the Hornets. McCoy finished off a five-play, 70-yard drive with an 11-yd TD run to give the Bulldogs a 7-0 advantage on their first series. They added a 28-yard field goal by Stephen Grantham on the next series to go up 10-0. Deshawn Baker scored from one yard out 41 seconds into the second quarter as SCSU built a 17-0 lead. ASU scored before the half to cut the lead 17-7, but they had trouble moving the ball all game.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
SCST	10	7	7	3	27
ASU	0	7	0	7	14

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Tarvaris Jackson (ASU)
16-33-1, 255 YDS, 2 TD

RUSHING:

Deshawn Baker (SCSU)
18 CAR, 71 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

Lorenzo Hoffman (ASU)
5 REC, 133 YDS, 1 TD

2006

Legion Field, Birmingham, Ala.

27-26 (OT)

HAMPTON

GRAMBLING



Derius Swinton blocked Grambling State's point after attempt in overtime to preserve Hampton's 27-26 victory. Hampton dominated on the ground, running for 203 yards while limiting Grambling to just 30 yards rushing. Van Morgan ran for 82 yards and Alonzo Coleman gained 72 yards for Hampton. Kevin Beverly scored on a 10-yard pass from TJ Mitchell to open the overtime scoring for Hampton. Grambling State answered with Tim Agney's 12-yard scoring pass from Brandon Landers, but Swinton averted a second OT. Hampton tied the game with Mitchell's 9-yard TD pass to Onrea Jones with 1:10 left in regulation, a drive that began with Landers fumbling at Grambling's 13-yard line. Grambling moved downfield, but Tim Manuel's 44-yard field goal attempt went wide left as time expired.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	OT	T
HAMP	7	3	3	7	7	27
GRAM	7	0	13	0	6	26

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Brandon Landers (GRAM)
21-41-1, 273 YDS, 4 TD

RUSHING:

Van Morgan (HAMP)
14 CAR, 82 YDS,

RECEIVING:

Marquay McDaniel (HAMP)
6 REC, 113 YDS, 1 TD

GAME HISTORY

2007 Legion Field, Birmingham, Ala.

33-27

SOUTHERN

FLORIDA A&M



Bryant Lee completed 22-of-29 passes for 215 yards and one touchdown, and Darren Coates rushed for 142 yards and two scores to lead Southern to a 33-27 victory over Florida A&M in the third annual MEAC/SWAC Challenge. The Jaguars trailed 20-12 at halftime but scored three touchdowns on their first four possessions of the second half to jump to a 33-20 lead. Lee put Southern in front 26-20 with a 3-yard touchdown run midway through the third quarter, and then Coates' 1-yard plunge early in the fourth made the score 33-20. The Rattlers were unable to overcome injuries to their top two quarterbacks. Backup Leon Camel played most of the first half because of a shoulder injury to starter Albert Chester. Camel then left the game with a foot injury in the third quarter, forcing Chester to return.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
SU	6	6	14	7	33
FAMU	7	13	0	7	27

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Bryant Lee (SU)

22-29-0, 215 YDS, 1 TD, 1 RTD

RUSHING:

Darren Coates (SU)

10 CAR, 142 YDS, 2 TD

Philip Sylvester (FAMU)

14 CAR, 102, 2 TD

RECEIVING:

Gerald Landry (SU)

7 REC, 81 YDS, 1 TD

2008 Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

17-13

HAMPTON

**JACKSON
STATE**



Hampton converted a pair of second half turnovers into touchdowns to rally past Jackson State, 17-13. Kendrick Ellis set up Hampton's first touchdown by recovering a fumble at JSU's 11-yard line. Hampton's Jerry Cummings slammed in from a yard out three plays later. Cummings scored on a 1-yard run and Jeremy Gilchrist caught a 12-yard scoring pass from Herbert Byes to rally the Pirates from 7-3 halftime deficit. JSU's Trae Rutland hit Rodney Gray with a 31-yard scoring pass on the Tiger's first possession of the game but didn't score again until the fourth quarter when Rashad Smith dove into the end zone with a 10-yard scoring toss from backup QB Michael Mosley. Turnovers plagued the Tigers throughout the game. Herbert Byes completed 14-of-23 passes for 151 yards. Rutland finished 14-of-23 for 198 yards and a touchdown for Jackson State but got pulled in favor of Mosley after the third quarter errors.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
JSU	7	0	0	6	13
HAMP	0	3	7	7	17

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Trae Rutland (JSU)

14-23-1, 198 YDS, 1 TD

RUSHING:

Dennis Mathis (HAMP)

15 CAR, 47 YDS

RECEIVING:

Rodney Gray (JSU)

2 REC, 57 YDS, 1 TD

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GAME HISTORY

2009

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

34-31

**SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE**

GRAMBLING



South Carolina State quarterbacks Malcolm Long and Derrick Wiley combined to throw three touchdowns to lead the Bulldogs to a 34-31 win over Grambling in the fifth annual MEAC/SWAC Challenge. The Bulldogs jumped to a 14-0 lead behind two touchdown passes from Long and never trailed in the game. Wiley, who replaced Long in the first half after he went down with cramps, made his impact in the second half. He had a 39-yard run on a designed quarterback draw to set up a short touchdown run by Travil Johnson, giving the Bulldogs a 28-17 lead. But South Carolina State needed an interception from Semaj Moody in the final minute to stop a late rally by Grambling. Grambling quarterback Greg Dillon threw for 268 yards and two touchdowns but also lost two fumbles.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
GRAM	0	10	14	7	31
SCSU	14	7	13	0	34

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Greg Dillon (GRAM)
17-28-1, 269 YDS, 2 TD

RUSHING:

Derrick Wiley (SCSU)
13 CAR, 77 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

Van Phillips (GRAM)
4 REC, 88 YDS, 1 TD

2010

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

37-27

SOUTHERN

**DELAWARE
STATE**



Dray Joseph threw for 162 yards and a touchdown, and Southern scored 21 fourth-quarter points for a 37-27 victory over Delaware State in the sixth annual MEAC/SWAC Challenge. The victory gave Southern coach Stump Mitchell a successful debut, while giving the SWAC its second victory in the series with the MEAC. Delaware state led 19-16 at halftime behind two long touchdowns by Larrone Moore – an 85-yard pass from Anthony Gaud and a 90-yard kickoff return. Nick Elko's 38-yards pass to Justin Williams five minutes into the third quarter put Delaware State up 27-16. Joseph accounted for two of the three Jaguars' fourth quarter scores as Southern erased a 27-16 deficit. Joseph's 5-yard run cut the lead to 27-23 with 7:59 remaining. Southern took a 30-27 lead with 4:43 left on Corey Cushingberry's 64-yard punt return.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
SU	0	16	0	21	37
DSU	7	12	8	0	27

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Anthony Gaud (DSU)
7-17-1, 198 YDS, 2 TD

RUSHING:

Sylvester Nzekwe (SU)
15 CAR, 98 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

Larrone Moore (DSU)
2 REC, 92 YDS, 1 TD

GAME HISTORY

2011

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

63-14

BETHUNE-COOKMAN

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M



Jamarr Robinson ran for two touchdowns and passed for another to lead Bethune-Cookman past Prairie View A&M 63-14. Isidore Jackson and Anthony Jordan scored two touchdowns each for the defending MEAC co-champs. Robinson began the scoring with a 10-yard run on BCU's first possession. After a 9-yd TD run by Robinson at 13:03 of the second quarter, the Wildcats scored two defensive touchdowns 95 seconds apart. D.J. Howard went 31 yards with a fumble and Reggie Sandilands scooted 51 yards for another. The Wildcats forced five first half turnovers and six overall, with three leading directly to BCU touchdowns. Robinson completed 22-of-31 passes for 251 yards. BCU took a 42-0 lead late in the second quarter and finished with 500 total yards. Robinson went to the bench after a 76-yard TD drive to start the third quarter.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
PVAM	0	7	7	0	14
BCU	14	28	7	14	63

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Jamarr Robinson (BCU)
22-31-0, 251 YDS, 1 TD

RUSHING:

Isidore Jackson (BCU)
9 CAR, 59 YDS, 2 TD

RECEIVING:

Maurice Francois (BCU)
4 REC, 74 YDS

2012

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

38-28

BETHUNE-COOKMAN

ALABAMA
STATE

Alabama State scored on three of their first four possessions to take a 21-0 second quarter lead. Greg Jenkins scored two touchdowns to cap off drives of 75 and 72 yards, and Isaiah Crowell's 2-yd run was set up by a fumbled punt on Bethune-Cookman's own 20-yard line. Broderick Waters threw two touchdowns and ran for another as Bethune-Cookman erased a three-touchdown, first-half deficit and defeated Alabama State 38-28. Waters came off the bench to help BCU score 38 straight points. He completed six of nine passes for 109 yards and rushed for an additional 100. BCU took a 24-21 lead on Waters' 6-yd run with 4:28 remaining in the third quarter after instant replay overturned a call on a fumbled kickoff return and gave the Wildcats the ball on the Alabama State 25.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
ASU	14	7	0	7	28
BCU	0	10	14	14	38

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Broderick Waters (BCU)
6-9-0, 110 YDS, 2 YD, 110 RUSH YDS, 1 RTD

RUSHING:

Rodney Scott (BCU)
13 CAR, 103 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

T.C. McWilliams (ASU)
6 REC, 89 YDS, 1 TD

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GAME HISTORY

2013

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

27-10

FLORIDA A&M

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
STATE



Damien Fleming, Omari Albert and Al-Terek McBurse of the Rattlers ran for touchdowns as Florida A&M beat Mississippi Valley State 27-10. Fleming passed for 110 yards and ran for 38 yds, before leaving in the third quarter because of leg cramps. The Delta Devils struggled with the Rattlers defense as quarterbacks Patrick Ivy and Jeremy Collins combined to throw three interceptions and were held to 88 yards passing. Ivy ran for 74 yards, including a 64-yarder. FAMU took a 20-0 lead going into halftime behind touchdown runs from Fleming and Albert and two short field goals by Chase Varnadore. MVSU closed to 20-10 after Collins scored on a 2-yards sneak with 10:21 remaining in the fourth quarter.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
MVSU	0	0	3	7	10
FAMU	7	13	0	7	27

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Damien Fleming (FAMU)
8-18-1, 110 YDS, 0 YD

RUSHING:

Al-Terek McBurse (FAMU)
6 CAR, 55 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

Lenworth Lennon (FAMU)
4 REC, 85 YDS

2014

Bright House Networks Stadium, Orlando, Fla.

47-13

NORTH CAROLINA
A&T

ALABAMA
A&M



Speed was Alabama A&M's undoing at Bright House Networks Stadium Sunday afternoon as the North Carolina A&T Aggies sprinted to touchdown runs of 26, 59, and 80 as well as a 95-yard kickoff return by junior Tony McRae, all in the first half, to cruise to a 47-13 win in the 10th annual MEAC/SWAC Challenge presented by Disney. NC A&T sophomore Tarik Cohen was named the game's MVP after rushing for 166 yards and two TDs on 11 carries. The Aggies' 32-point win was their most lopsided win over a SWAC opponent in school history, surpassing the Aggies' 28-12 win over Grambling in 1991. Fifth-year linebacker D'Vonte Grant and redshirt junior Denzel Jones led the Aggies defensively with 10 tackles each.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
NCAT	14	24	7	2	47
AAMU	6	0	0	7	13

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Jaymason Lee (AAMU)
9-21-0, 129 YDS

RUSHING:

Tarik Cohen (NCAT)
10 CAR, 161 YDS, 2 TD

RECEIVING:

Tevin McKenzie (AAMU)
3 REC, 53 YDS

GAME HISTORY

2015

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

35-7

**SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE**

**ARKANSAS-
PINE BLUFF**



The South Carolina State defense allowed just 140 total yards to help the Bulldogs overcome five turnovers and beat Arkansas-Pine Bluff 35-7 in the 11th annual event. Senior defensive end Javon Hargrave was the star, posting seven tackles, 4.5 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks while picking up MVP honors. The Bulldogs were balanced on the offensive side of the ball, picking up 163 yards through the air and 173 yards on the ground. They only took a 7-0 lead into halftime, but quickly stretched their lead to 21-0 in the opening minutes of the 3rd quarter by way of two defensive touchdowns. The Golden Lions responded with a 20-yard TD run by Draylon Willis, but it was all Bulldogs from there as rain started falling at the Citrus Bowl. The scoring was capped off with a 13-yard run by Justin Taylor on the first play of the 4th quarter. South Carolina State moved to 3-0 all-time in the event and improved the MEAC's mark to 9-2.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
UAPB	0	0	7	0	7
SCSU	7	0	21	7	35

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Caleb York (SCSU)

11-20-0, 123 YDS

RUSHING:

Adrian Kollock, Jr. (SCSU)

6 CAR, 40 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

Taquan West (SCSU)

3 REC, 45 YDS

2017

Ace W. Mumford Stadium, Baton Rouge, La.

14-8

SOUTHERN

**SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE**



Defense dominated the day in the lowest scoring game in MEAC/SWAC Challenge history. South Carolina State outgained Southern 347-297 and hit a number of big plays, but the Bulldogs couldn't sustain drives as they were held to 0-10 on third down. Southern took a 14-3 lead early in the 2nd quarter on QB Austin Howard's 6-yard TD run, but the Bulldogs fought back to make it 14-6 at the break. A blocked field goal by SC State in the third quarter resulted in a safety to make the score 14-8, which ended up being the final margin. SC State drove down to the Southern 27-yard line in the final minute, but Dewann Ford's pass was broken up by Danny Johnson with just 19 seconds left.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
SCSU	3	3	2	0	8
SU	7	7	0	0	14

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Austin Howard (SU)

18-31-1, 198 YDS

RUSHING:

Herbert Edwards (SU)

24-65, 65 YDS

RECEIVING:

Tra'Quan Dubose (SCSU)

4 CAR, 70 YDS

2016 No contest due to inclement weather

THE RIVALRY



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GAME HISTORY

2018

Georgia State Stadium, Atlanta, Ga.

40-24

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M

NORTH CAROLINA
CENTRAL



Prairie View A&M opened fast and closed strong to defeat North Carolina Central, 40-24 in the 14th annual MEAC/SWAC Challenge. The Panthers jumped out to a 23-0 lead behind strong play from QB Jalen Morton and its defense. The Eagles then scored 21 straight to pull within 23-21 midway through the 3rd quarter, and again came within two at 26-24 with 11:17 left. But Panthers RB Dawonya Tucker ripped off a couple of huge runs to seal it, including a 50-yard TD with 6:03 to go. Tucker had a huge day on the ground, posting 223 yards on 23 carries, a MEAC/SWAC Challenge record. The Panthers' 633 yards of total offense was also a MEAC/SWAC Challenge record. Morton was the SWAC MVP for the game, and QB Chauncey Caldwell earned MVP honors for the MEAC.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
PVAM	20	3	3	14	40
NCCU	0	7	14	3	24

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Jalen Morton (PVAM)
21-36, 295 YDS, 2 TD

RUSHING:

Dawonya Tucker (PVAM)
22 CAR, 224 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

Sonny Richardson (NCCU)
4 REC, 79 YDS, 1 TD

2019

Georgia State Stadium, Atlanta, Ga.

36-15

BETHUNE-COOKMAN

JACKSON
STATE



Bethune-Cookman overcame a 9-0 deficit, scoring 36 points in the second half to run away from Jackson State 36-15. After the Wildcats cut the lead to 9-7, The Tigers answered with a 33-yard Warren Newman pass from Jalon Jones, but BCU's offense came to life with a 57-yard drive of its own after a penalty on the JSU mascot and Jimmie Robinson's kickoff return put the Wildcats in solid field position. BCU QB Akevious Williams capped off the drive with a 20-yard run that closed it to 15-14 with 4:09 left in the third. The Wildcats separated themselves with two defensive touchdowns, including a 96-yard fumble return as Jackson State was threatening to make it a one score game in the 4th Quarter. The Tigers outgained the Wildcats 506-277 but couldn't overcome four turnovers to Bethune-Cookman's zero. Williams was named Offensive MVP after posting 197 total yards (144 passing, 53 rushing) and two touchdowns.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
JSU	3	0	12	0	15
BCU	0	0	22	14	36

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Akevious Williams, (BCU)
16-29-0, 244 YDS, TD

RUSHING:

Jordan Johnson (JSU)
15 CAR, 81 YDS, TD

RECEIVING:

DD Bowie (JSU)
5 REC, 105 YDS

2020 Canceled due to Covid-19 pandemic

GAME HISTORY

2021

Center Parc Stadium, Atlanta, Ga.

23-14

**NORTH CAROLINA
CENTRAL**

ALCORN STATE



In the first game for both teams in over a year, Alcorn State jumped out early but fell 23-14 to North Carolina Central in the Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff in Atlanta. The win by North Carolina Central gave the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) an 11-4 edge over the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) in the annual contest. NCCU quarterback Davius Richard earned MVP honors, completing 16 of 25 passes for 184 and scoring on two short runs. Alcorn took the opening drive 65 yards to take an early 7-0 lead on a 20-yd pass from Felix Harper to Juan Anthony. But a 6-yard run by Richard in the second and a 1-yd run by Richard in third put NCCU up 13-7. Alcorn would retake the lead, 14-13 when Harper hit Niko Duffy in the third quarter. NCCU added a 28-yd FG in the fourth quarter to go ahead 16-14. Perhaps the play of the game would follow, after an Alcorn State punt, as returner Brandon Codrington returned the punt 77-yards for a 23-14 lead.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
ALCN	7	0	7	0	14
NCCU	0	7	6	10	23

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Davius Richard (NCCU)
16-25-1, 184 YDS, 0 TD, 2 RUSH TD

RUSHING:

Stadford Anderson (ALCN)
11 CAR, 128 YDS, 0 TD

RECEIVING:

Ryan McDaniel (NCCU)
6-72, 0 TD
Juan Anthony (ALCN)
5-66, 1 TD

2022

Center Parc Stadium, Atlanta, Ga.

23-13

**ALABAMA
STATE**

HOWARD



With a final score of 23-13, the Alabama State Hornets defeated the Howard University Bison in front of 21,088 enthusiastic fans in the 2022 Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge Kickoff at Center Parc Stadium in Atlanta. The game was marred with delays due to lightning in the area. At approximately 1:18 a.m. on Sunday morning roughly five and a half hours later, the contest was inevitably called over with 2:12 remaining in the fourth after a fourth lightning strike was observed in the downtown Atlanta area. MEAC/SWAC MVP Demetrius Davis, led the Hornets attack with 224 yards of total offense (187 passing 1 TD, 1 INT, 37 rushing). The Hornets engineered a MEAC/SWAC Challenge record setting 99-yard drive, highlighted by a 61-yard pitch and catch from backup quarterback Myles Crawley to Isaiah Scott. Two plays later, Jacory Merritt raced untouched from 21 yards out to give the Hornets a commanding 20-6 lead with 4:06 remaining in the third quarter.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
HWD	3	3	0	7	13
ASU	6	7	7	3	23

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING:

Demetrius Davis (ASU)
6-23-1, 184 YDS, 1 TD

RUSHING:

Jacory Merritt (ASU)
15 CAR, 55 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING:

Isaiah Scott (ASU)
4 REC, 83 YDS, 1 TD

THE RIVALRY



IS REAL

KICK-OFF

GAME HISTORY

2023

Center Parc Stadium, Atlanta, Ga.

37-7



JACKSON
STATE

SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE



Jackson State dominated South Carolina State from start to finish, scoring the game's first 37 points and earning their first Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge win in three tries. The game was played in front of a vibrant crowd of 24,238, marking the largest Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge attendance since the event moved to Atlanta. Tigers' quarterback Jason Brown, playing his first game for Jackson State, set Cricket MEAC/SWAC Challenge records for passing yards (364) and completion percentage (87) on his way to MVP honors. The game also marked the debut for Jackson State coach T.C. Taylor, a former receiver and defensive back for the Tigers. Irv Mulligan led the Tigers' ground attack with 109 yards rushing and a touchdown. Defensively, JSU was stellar. They held SC State to only 64 yards passing on eight completions, and nearly pitched the MSC's first shutout. Leading 34-0 in the waning minutes of the game, SCSU quarterback Corey Fields Jr. returned to the field from an earlier benching to lead the Bulldogs on a 10-play, 75-yard scoring drive. Fields hit receiver Keshawn Toney for an 18-yard touchdown pass with 22-seconds left to play. Fields finished the game 7-of-20, for 60 yards, a touchdown and one interception. Toney had three receptions for 41 yards and the team's only touchdown.

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	T
SCSU	0	0	0	7	7
JSU	7	10	17	3	37

TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING

Jason Brown (JSU)
26-30-Q, 356 YDS, 3 TD

RUSHING

Irv Mulligan (JSU)
14 CAR, 109 YDS, 1 TD

RECEIVING

Duke Miller (JSU)
9 REC, 56 YDS

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