



News Release

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MEAC ANNOUNCES 2006 FOOTBALL POSTSEASON AWARDS

Bulldogs' Deshawn Baker Voted Offensive Player of the Year and Pirates' Justin Durant Selected Defensive Player of the Year for Third Consecutive Time

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. – South Carolina State runningback Deshawn Baker was selected as the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year and Hampton's Justin Durant earned his third consecutive Defensive Player of the Year honor, as voted by the MEAC Head Football Coaches and Sports Information Directors.

South Carolina State earned three of the top five yearly honors as William Ford was selected as the Rookie of the Year and teammate Clyde Reed was selected as the Offensive Lineman of the Year.

Coach of the Year honors went to Hampton head coach Joe Taylor, his fourth overall and third straight. Taylor led his Pirates to an impressive 10-1 regular-season record and a 7-1 conference record to claim the team's fifth MEAC title.

Baker led the MEAC in rushing with 1,289 yards, rushing for over 1000-yards for his third consecutive season. Baker led the MEAC in rushing attempts (204) and rushed for 100+ yards four times in 11 games. Baker shouldered a lot of the Bulldogs scoring efforts this season scoring 66 points, tying teammate William Ford.

Durant receives his third consecutive Defensive Player of the Year honor becoming the first player in MEAC history to earn the award three times on either the offense or defense side of the ball. Durant led the MEAC in total tackles (98) for the second straight season and led the conference in solos stops with 65. He also had 13 tackles for a loss of 48 yards, 5.0 passes broken up and 1.0 sack for a six-yard loss.

Ford has made an immediate impact to the Bulldogs offensive since his arrival this season. The team's second leading rusher with 752 yards, Ford received Rookie of the Week honors on three separate occasions this season. He led his team in rushing TDs with 10 and tied teammate Deshawn Baker in total points (66) scored. As a freshman Ford also managed the Bulldogs kickoff return responsibilities with 20 returns for 517 yards and one touchdown.

Reed was a key performer in one of the most dominating rushing attacks in the MEAC this season. He supported the Bulldogs running game that topped the conference in rushing offense with 498 attempts and 2663 yards which rendered both offensive and rookie of the year honorees. He earned offensive lineman of the week honors on Oct. 9 and his ability to anchor the offensive line paved the way for one 1,000-yard rusher.

-2006 All-MEAC Football Team attached-



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Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) 2006 Football All-Conference Teams

Offensive Player of the Year: Deshawn Baker, South Carolina St. **Defensive Player of the Year:** Justin Durant, Hampton
Rookie of the Year: William Ford, South Carolina St. **Offensive Lineman of the Year:** Clyde Reed, South Carolina St.

Coach of the Year: Joseph Taylor, Hampton

FIRST TEAM

Offense

<u>Pos</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>CL</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
QB	Princeton Shepherd	Sr.	Hampton	Columbia, S.C.
RB	Deshawn Baker	Sr.	South Carolina State	Charlotte, N.C.
RB	Alonzo Coleman	Sr.	Hampton	South Boston, Va.
TE	John Allen	Sr.	Norfolk State	Virginia Beach, Va.
WR	Shaheer McBride	Jr.	Delaware State	Chester, Pa.
WR	Eric Weems	Sr.	Bethune-Cookman	Ormond Beach, Fla.
OL	Nevin McCaskill	Sr.	Hampton	Tallahassee, Fla.
OL	Clyde Reed	Sr.	South Carolina State	Georgetown, S.C.
OL	Daniel Parrish	Sr.	Florida A&M	Tallahassee, Fla.
OL	Jeremy Breath	Jr.	Delaware State	Chicago, Ill.
C	Raymond Harrison	So.	South Carolina State	Columbia, S.C.

Defense

DL	Rudolph Hardie	Sr.	Howard	Hartford, Conn.
DL	Kendall Langford	Jr.	Hampton	Petersburg, Va.
DL	Edwin Piner	Sr.	Howard	Detroit, Mich.
DL	Eric Turner	Sr.	South Carolina State	Athens, Ga.
LB	Justin Durant	Sr.	Hampton	Florence, S.C.
LB	Darius Leak	Sr.	Morgan State	Chesapeake, Va.
LB	Timothy Lockett	Sr.	Howard	Greensboro, N.C.
DB	Travarous Bain	Sr.	Hampton	Miami, Fla.
DB	Bobbie Williams	Jr.	Bethune-Cookman	Miami, Fla.
DB	Jason Beach	So.	Florida A&M	Pensacola, Fla.
DB	Jamel Trott	Sr.	Delaware State	Georgetown, Del.
P	Wesley Taylor	Jr.	Florida A&M	Riverview, Fla.
P/K	Andrew Paterini	Sr.	Hampton	Gladstone, Mo.
Ret	Roosevelt Kiser	Sr.	Florida A&M	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

SECOND TEAM

Offense

<u>Pos</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>CL</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
QB	Albert Chester II.	Jr.	Florida A&M	Jacksonville, Fla.
RB	Emmanuel Marc	Sr.	Delaware State	Spring Valley, N.Y.
RB	Chad Simpson	Jr.	Morgan State	Miami, Fla.
TE	Victor Johnson	Jr.	Bethune-Cookman	Altamonte Springs, Fla.
WR	Marquay McDaniel	Sr.	Hampton	Virginia Beach, Va.
WR	Roosevelt Kiser	Sr.	Florida A&M	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
OL	Clifford Louis	Sr.	Morgan State	Stamford, Conn.
OL	Derrick Upchurch	Sr.	Delaware State	Chicago, Ill.
OL	Emanuel Swindell	Sr.	Norfolk State	Norfolk, Va.
OL	James Lee	Jr.	South Carolina State	Belle Glade, Fla.
C	Travis Harmon	Sr.	Howard	Miami, Fla.

Defense

DL	Terrell Floyd	Jr.	Morgan State	Pittsburgh, Pa.
DL	Marcus Dixon	Jr.	Hampton	Rome, Ga.
DL	Tyrone McGriff	Jr.	Florida A&M	Tallahassee, Fla.
DL	Ramon McCullough	Sr.	Bethune-Cookman	Daytona Beach, Fla.
LB	Taurean Charles	Sr.	Bethune-Cookman	Miami, Fla.
LB	Vernon Wilder	Jr.	Florida A&M	Miami, Fla.
LB	Russell Reeves	Jr.	Delaware State	Mechanicsville, Md.
DB	Tyrone Kelly	Sr.	Delaware State	Detroit, Mich.
DB	Calvin Bannister	Sr.	Hampton	Roanoke, Va.
DB	Everett Baker	Jr.	Morgan State	Orlando, Fla.
DB	Geoffrey Pope	Sr.	Howard	Detroit, Mich.
P	Jahmal Blanchard	Fr.	Hampton	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
P/K	Jesus Cortez	Sr.	Bethune-Cookman	Fort Meade, Fla.
Ret	Kevin Teel	So.	Hampton	Bowie, Md.