

# **ATHLETIC AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER**



**Greetings and welcome to the November Edition of the Athletic Affairs Newsletter! We are thrilled to bring you the latest updates and exciting highlights from a multitude of teams, capturing the essence of the spirited athletic endeavors that have unfolded over the past month.**

# FAMU football defeats Bethune-Cookman in annual Florida Classic



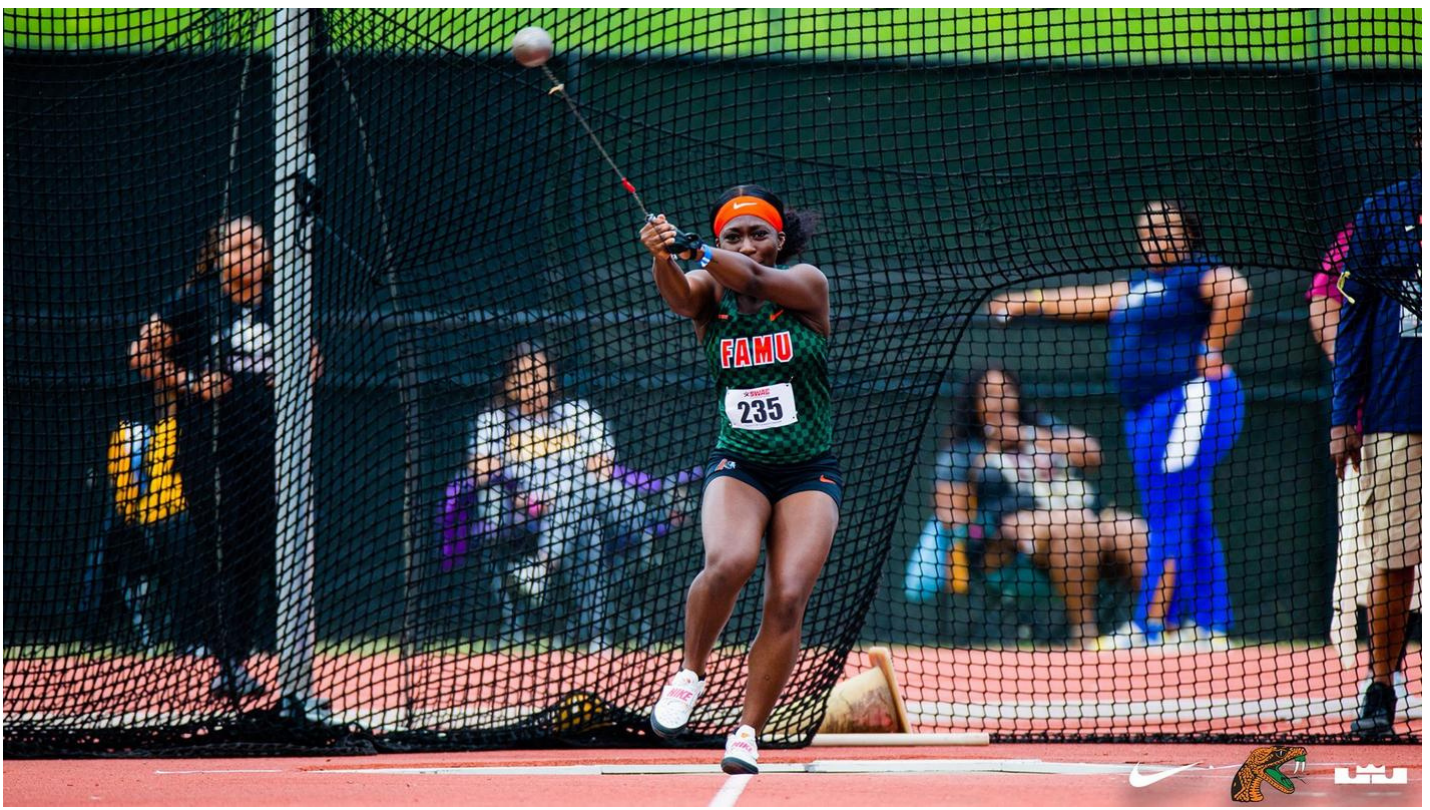
The highly anticipated Florida Classic football game has descended upon Camping World Stadium, setting the stage for a thrilling clash between the Florida A&M Rattlers and their rivals, the Bethune-Cookman Wildcats. This annual showdown, taking place in Week 12, serves as the Southwestern Athletic Conference regular-season finale for both teams, adding an extra layer of significance to the gridiron battle.

The Florida A&M Rattlers, currently boasting an impressive 9-1 overall record and a flawless 7-0 mark in the SWAC, enter the contest with a remarkable seventh-place ranking in the Football Championship Subdivision Coaches Poll. Riding the momentum of an eight-game winning streak, the Rattlers showcased their dominance in a convincing 28-0 victory over Lincoln (CA) in the previous week. The team's stellar performance has solidified their status as a formidable force in the FCS landscape.

On the other side of the field, the Bethune-Cookman Wildcats, with a season record of 3-7 and a conference standing of 2-5, are not to be underestimated. Despite their record, the Wildcats are riding a two-game winning streak, having triumphed over Alabama A&M with a convincing 31-14 victory in Week 11. The Wildcats are determined to carry this positive momentum into the Florida Classic and disrupt the Rattlers' quest for a perfect conference season.

For the Florida A&M Rattlers, a victory in the Florida Classic holds immense significance beyond the rivalry. A win would extend their Florida Classic winning streak to three games, adding another chapter to their recent dominance in this historic matchup. Moreover, a triumph would secure the Rattlers' first ten-win season since 1999, marking a monumental achievement for the program and signaling their resurgence as a football powerhouse.

As the Florida Classic unfolds at Camping World Stadium, football enthusiasts and supporters of both teams eagerly anticipate the outcome of this pivotal clash. The stage is set for a memorable battle between the Rattlers and Wildcats, with the hopes and aspirations of each program hanging in the balance. Will the Rattlers continue their winning streak and achieve a historic ten-win season, or will the Wildcats defy the odds and emerge as the spoilers in this fiercely contested rivalry? Only time will tell as the annual Florida Classic takes center stage in college football's spotlight.



# Track & Field Announces 2024 Indoor and Outdoor Schedules

The Florida A&M track and field program is gearing up for an exhilarating 2024 indoor and outdoor season, unveiling a dynamic schedule that promises intense competition and thrilling performances. The anticipation is palpable as the Rattlers are set to participate in a total of 13 meets, showcasing their prowess on both the indoor and outdoor circuits.

Kicking off their indoor campaign with the Clemson Opener on December 8, the Rattlers will then make a grand appearance at the Nike Track & Field Center at The Armory in New York City for the HBCU Showcase on January 13. This premier collegiate event will set the stage for a series of back-to-back meets in the Palmetto State, with the Carolina Challenge (January 19-20) and the South Carolina Invite (February 2-3) providing a formidable battleground for the Rattlers to display their indoor track and field excellence.

Returning to Clemson for the Tiger Paw Invite (February 2-3) and culminating their indoor season with the Southwestern Athletic Conference Championships (February 17-18), the Rattlers are poised to make their mark in the Palmetto State, seeking victory and accolades in the heart of indoor track and field competition.

As the outdoor season dawns, the Rattlers will embark on a spirited journey, beginning with consecutive in-state meets – the University of Central Florida's Black & Gold Invite on March 16 and Florida State University's FSU Relays on March 22-23. The excitement continues as the men's and women's teams venture to the University of Texas Relays and the University of Florida's Pepsi Relays from March 28-30, showcasing their talent on a national stage.

A highlight of their outdoor schedule unfolds at the Tom Jones Memorial Invitational in Gainesville on April 12-13, offering another opportunity for the Rattlers to shine and leave an indelible mark in the competitive world of outdoor track and field. The East Coast Relays on April 26-27 will serve as the final tune-up ahead of the grand finale – the SWAC Outdoor Championships (May 2-4), where the Rattlers will bring their A-game to contend for supremacy in the conference.

With a meticulously curated schedule that spans the country and culminates in the pinnacle of conference competition, the Florida A&M track and field program is set to captivate fans and enthusiasts alike, leaving an indelible imprint on the 2024 season. Get ready for a thrilling journey as the Rattlers aim for greatness, armed with skill, determination, and the spirit of fierce competition.