

With Win, SC State Takes the MEAC

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South Carolina State (8-2, 6-0) travels to Morgan State on Saturday seeking to remain unbeaten and atop the MEAC standings. The Bears (6-4, 4-2), meanwhile hope to take down the Bulldogs and, in the process, draw within a game of the league-leaders.

SCSU enters the game with the conference's best offense in terms of yardage (379.7 ypg) and second-best in terms of points scored (27.9 ppg). Junior William Ford, the MEAC's second-leading rusher with 1,124 yards and 11 touchdowns on 188 carries (6 yard average) paces the unit and he's joined by sophomore QB Malcolm Long (142-239 1,628 yards, 10 TDs, 8 ints.) and a pair of receivers, junior Oliver Young (42-555-4) and senior Phillip Morris (27-413-2). The league's second ranked defense (280 yards, 18.4 ppg) is led by senior LBs Tony White (69 tackles) and Marshall McFadden (66 tackles, 5 sacks), and junior DB Markee Hamlin (59 tackles).

Morgan State's offensive statistics aren't as eye-popping as their opponent's, but they also feature plenty of individual talent. Sophomore Devan James leads the MEAC in rushing with 1,146 yards and eight touchdowns and while junior QB Carlton Jackson has not been asked to do much, he has proven to be a more than capable signal-caller. The Bears hang their hat on the nation's stingiest defense, a unit that allows opponents just 205.5 total yards per contest. Leaders include senior LB Jarrell Guyton (59 tackles, 4 sacks), junior LB Troy Leftwich (47 tackles, 3.5 sacks, 3 int. TD), junior tackle Justin Lawrence (41 tackles, 6.5 sacks) and sophomore DB Darren McKhan (4 ints., TD).