



30 YEARS OF D-I FOOTBALL CHAMPS

August 25, 1978 St. Petersburg Times:

FAMU makes Division I bid

A council of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, meeting in Dallas, considered a request Thursday from Florida A&M University to permit the school to enter the NCAA's Division I. FAMU was appealing a June decision by the NCAA's classification committee to deny the school's application for Division I status. The committee claimed the Rattlers did not meet the NCAA's scheduling requirements in football and basketball. The Division II school in Tallahassee is seeking to move up to Division IAA in football and Division I in seven other sports to gain added prestige and greater chances at television exposure. A spokesman for the NCAA said an official announcement on the appeal would not be made until Monday from the NCAA's headquarters in Shawnee Mission, Kan.



Florida A&M is the First

After being allowed to join D-I in 1978, the Rattlers struck and struck again to capture the first NCAA Division I football crown.

1978 TO 2008

THE TOP

THIRTY

Top 30 Lists of the
Players and Title Games
that helped make
the Highest Level of
NCAA Championship Football
the Very Best in College Football

TOP THIRTY: OFFENSIVE LINEMEN – 1978/2008

By Kent Schmidt, CSN Columnist

(List: Ranking, Player, Position, School, NFL Draft)

1. Matt Birk, OT, Harvard, 6th Rnd-1998

Current NFL player. Has spent his entire career with Minnesota. 6-time Pro-Bowl, 2-time All-Pro (2000, '03).

2. Nate Newton, OG, Florida A&M, Not Drafted-1986

6-time Pro Bowl Performer(1992, '93, '94, '95, '96, '98) & 3-time Super Bowl Winner in 14 seasons with Dallas and Carolina in NFL.

3. Howard Ballard, OT, Alabama A&M, 11th Rnd-1987

2-time Pro Bowl, 1992, '93. 122 starts for 2 NFL teams (Buffalo, Seattle).

4. Tony Jones, OT, Western Carolina, Not Drafted-1988

All-Pro 1994, Pro Bowl 1998, 2-time Super Bowl champion with Denver & Cleveland/Baltimore.



5. John Jackson, OT, Eastern Kentucky, 10th Rnd-1988

2-Time All-Pro, 1993 & '96. Started 138 games for 3 NFL teams (Pittsburgh, San Diego, Cincinnati in 14 seasons).

6. Ray Brown, OG, Arkansas State, 8th Rnd-1986

All-Pro & Pro Bowl 2001, Started 197 games in NFL with St. Louis/Phoenix, Washington, San Francisco, & Detroit.

7. Mark Schlereth, OG, Idaho, 10th Rnd-1989

3-Time Super Bowl champion (1992-Washington, 1998, '99 Denver).

8. Frank Winters, OC, Western Illinois, 10th Rnd-1987

16-year NFL career, Super Bowl champion with Green Bay in 1997.

9. Derek Kennard, OG, Nevada, 2nd Rnd-1984 (Supp)

1992 All-Pro with New Orleans, 11 year NFL career--started 122 games with Phoenix/Arizona, New Orleans, Dallas.



10. Justin Strzelczyk, OT, Maine, 11th Rnd-1990

Played entire 10 year career with Pittsburgh--started 75 games.

11. Lester Holmes, OG, Jackson State, 1st Rnd-1993

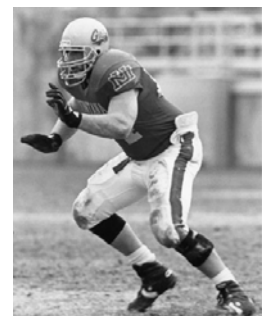
8-year NFL player--started 94 games with Philadelphia, Oakland, & Arizona.

12. Brad Meester, OG, Northern Iowa, 2nd Rnd-2000

Current NFL player with 9 year's experience--all with Jacksonville.

13. Scott Gragg, OT, Montana, 2nd Rnd-1995

11 year Pro with three (New York Giants, San Francisco, New York Jets) NFL squads. Started 149 games in the NFL all as a tackle.



14. Gerald Perry, OG, Southern University, 2nd Rnd-1988

Drafted by Denver, played for 3 (Denver, Los Angeles Rams, Los Angeles/Oakland Raiders) NFL teams in his 8 year career with 55 starts.

15. Marcus Spears, OT, Northwestern State, 2nd Rnd-1994

Scored a TD with Chicago in 1996. Played 11 seasons for three (Chicago, Kansas City, Houston) NFL teams, starting 21 times.



16. Michael Roos, OT, Eastern Washington, 2nd Rnd-2005

Current NFL player with 3 years experience all with Tennessee, has started every game of his NFL career (48 total thus far).

17. Bruce Kozerski, OC, Holy Cross, 9th Rnd-1984

12 Year NFL performer--all with Cincinnati. Started 71 NFL games.

18. Guy Bingham, OC, Montana, 10th Rnd-1980

Played 16 seasons in the NFL, playing in 199 games.

19. John Wade, OC, Marshall, 5th Rnd-1998

Current NFL player with 11 seasons with 2 teams (Jacksonville & Tampa Bay-now).

20. Jon Borchardt, OG, Montana State, 3rd Rnd-1979

Played in 130 NFL games for Buffalo & Seattle.

21. Derrick Graham, OT, Appalachian State, 5th Rnd-1990

9 Year NFL career with 4 teams (Kansas City, Carolina, Seattle, Oakland)--starting 60 games.

22. Ed Simmons, OT, Eastern Washington, 6th Rnd-1987

11 Year Pro, all with Washington, 2-time Super Bowl champion, started 82 games.

23. Willie Colon, OG, Hofstra, 4th Rnd-2006

Current NFL player. Started 18 games for Pittsburgh in 2 year career thus far.

24. Paul Farren, OT, Boston U., 12th Rnd-1983

Played in 132 NFL games in 10 seasons--all for Cleveland.

25. Joe Patton, OG, Alabama A&M, 3rd Rnd-1994

Started 54 games in 6 NFL seasons for 2 teams (Washington, Jacksonville).

26. Junius Coston, OC, North Carolina A&T, 5th Rnd-2005

Current NFL player. Started 7 games for Green Bay thus far in three seasons.

27. Dwayne White, OG, Alcorn State, 7th Rnd-1990

Started 94 NFL games for New York Jets & St. Louis Rams in 7 Seasons.

28. Kevin Boothe, OT, Cornell, 6th Rnd-2006

Current NFL player. Started 14 games for the New York Giants in a 2 year career thus far.

29. Jamain Stephens, OT, North Carolina A&T, 1st Rnd-1996

Played 5 seasons in the NFL and started 15 games for Pittsburgh & Cincinnati.



30. Chad Rinehart, OT, Northern Iowa, 3rd Rnd-2008

Two time All-American, drafted by Washington this past year.

