A very determined young Black woman, Mary McLeod Bethune, opened the Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls with $1.50, faith in God and five little girls for students.

It became a co-ed high school as a result of a merger with the Cookman Institute of Jacksonville, Florida. A year later, the school became affiliated with the United Methodist Church; it evolved into a junior college by 1931 and became known as Bethune-Cookman College.

The Florida State Department of Education approved a 4-year baccalaureate program offering liberal arts and teacher education.

Dr. Bethune retires at which time James E. Colston became president until 1946 when Dr. Bethune resumed the presidency for a year.

Richard V. Moore, Sr., became the third president. Under his tenure, the college was accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS-COC) in 1970, joined the United Negro College Fund and other academic and professional organizations.

Osvald P. Bronson, Sr., Ph.D., an alumnum of the College, served as the institution’s president for 29 years – from 1975 until 2004 when he was named president emeritus. Commitment to academic excellence was the cornerstone of his presidency.

Trudie Kibbe Reed, Ed.D., was appointed to the presidency in August 2004. The first woman to serve in this capacity since Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Reed has embraced her rich legacy of faith, scholarship and service. The institution launched its first master’s degree program in 2006 and achieved University status in early 2007.

Traditionally, B-CU has maintained intercollegiate athletic programs and instrumental and choral groups that have achieved national recognition. Many alumni are employed in the fields of education, medicine, business, politics, government, science, religion, athletics and environmental sciences.

B-CU begins Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls

Merges with Cookman Institute of Jacksonville, Florida to become a co-ed high school

Affiliates with The United Methodist Church; evolves into a junior college called Bethune-Cookman College

Received full accreditation

Four-year baccalaureate program for liberal arts and teacher education is approved by the Florida Department of Education

Achieves University status

DEAR ALUMNI, FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FOOTBALL FANS:

It is a great honor for me to greet you on behalf of Bethune-Cookman University. As we prepare for the 33rd annual Florida Blue Florida Classic weekend, we reflect on the years of competition and camaraderie between two beloved institutions, Bethune-Cookman University (B-CU) and Florida A&M University (FAMU). Over the past 33 years, our Classic has developed into the nation’s largest football game between two Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

On November 16th and 17th, I encourage you to attend the festivities and take part in the B-CU Experience. It is an unparalleled experience, inclusive of a proud legacy, rich vision, student-centered mission and success. The weekend’s events will be civically engaging, informative and exciting. This year, we will showcase excellence in sport, scholarship and collaboration. Excellence is what we do on and off the field. Over the past six months, I have made it a top priority to create students who are world-class graduates in their field of choice. On the field, B-CU’s football team earned the number one spot in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; the Marching Wildcats were featured on HLN as one of the nation’s best marching bands; and we opened our state-of-the-art Larry R. Handfield Athletic Training Center. Off the field, B-CU experienced the same level of success. This fall, we launched our Freshman College and Honors College; expanded our course offerings tonight and weekends; and approved $2.7 million renovations to the Harrison Rhodes Memorial Social Science Building.

As we band together with our brothers and sisters of FAMU, we look forward to using football to inspire our young people; sowing into them the rich legacy that our beloved founder, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, left for us.

It is a great time to be a Wildcat and I encourage you to proudly wear your maroon and gold, and join us, as we celebrate our many successes at the Florida Blue Florida Classic.

Let’s Go Wildcats!

Sincerely,

Edison O. Jackson
Edison O. Jackson, Ed.D.
Interim President
The School of Education

The School of Education offers the bachelor's degree in ten elementary or secondary areas and teacher certification in the state of Florida in eight areas in conjunction with courses available from four other B-CU Schools (Business, Arts and Humanities, Science, Engineering and Mathematics, and Social Sciences).

The School of Education Mission

The mission of the Teacher Education Program at Bethune-Cookman University is designed to support and carry out the mission of the University to serve in the Christian tradition, the educational, social, and cultural needs of its students and to develop in the students the desire and capacity for continuous intellectual and professional growth, leadership, and service to others. The implementation of this mission has led to the Teacher Education Program's commitment to providing a student-centered environment where teacher candidates experience the freedom to grow, reflect and become effective professional educators. Reflected in this mission is the belief that effective educators will be competent, caring, and committed to provide quality instruction to all learners.

The School of Education Vision

The School of Education at Bethune-Cookman University visualizes the Teacher Education Program becoming exceptional in the preparation of effective educators who understand the importance of possessing Essential Knowledge, using Reflective Practice and Assessment and position themselves as Professionals committed to meeting the challenges of serving all learners in a world of rapid change and increasing diversity.

The School of Education Goals

The goals of the School of Education are to produce graduates who are:

- Caring, committed, and competent teachers for K-12 schools.
- Competent in applying instructional strategies learned in multiple and varied field and clinical experiences.
- Able to use research techniques and apply instructional technology in classroom settings.
- Able to teach effectively in classrooms with students from diverse backgrounds and experiences.
- Prepared for successful entrance into graduate studies in education.

The Bachelor of Science program in nursing has as its primary purpose to educate men and women as beginning practitioners who possess all the qualities necessary for leadership roles in the practice of their profession and in the communities in which they live. A balanced curriculum offers courses in the liberal arts, the sciences, the humanities and nursing. Some introductory courses relating to world, regional and local health issues are offered during the freshman and sophomore years; however, the majority of the nursing courses are concentrated in the junior and senior years. These courses involve nursing students in classroom and clinical learning experiences in area hospitals, long-term care facilities, home-health care, hospice, the health department, early childhood facilities, restorative, rehabilitative and mental health agencies, and many other community-based settings.

Students learn to apply theory in developing competencies in nursing practice, while caring for the client as an adult or child, families of childbearing age, or the elderly. Concepts related to cultural competence and caring for vulnerable populations are interwoven throughout the curriculum.

Courses in research, leadership and management are designed to aid the student in developing the ability to think creatively and develop skills in critical thinking. Upon graduation, the student receives a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and is eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).
BETHUNE-COOKMAN UNIVERSITY
MARCHING WILDCATS

Often referred to as the epitome of pride. Pride in themselves, pride in perfection, pride in performance, and pride in the institution they represent. They are the one and only Bethune-Cookman University Marching Wildcats. The only band that’s guaranteed to show-up and show-out, anywhere and anytime. This year’s edition of the Marching Wildcats boasts a band with approximately 320 members. Recognized as “The Heartbeat of B-CC,” the band has performed at many events in the last decade.


NFL Halftime Show for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 2007 & 2011.

Performed a national commercial for ESPN’s Monday Night Football promotion for the New England Patriots vs. Miami Dolphins game.

NFL Halftime Show for the Miami Dolphins 2010.

1998 Circle City Classic-Indianapolis, Indiana, 1998 Heritage Bowl-Atlanta, Georgia, 1999 & 2003 Riverfront Classic-Cincinnati, Ohio, 2000 Conch Bowl Classic-Nassau, Bahamas, the Annual Florida Classic as well as national television performances on BET, NBC, ESPN, UPN.

The Marching Wildcats were featured in a live performance with recording artist “Shaggy” for the 2001 MTV Rock N Roll Celebrity Super Bowl in Tampa, Florida. This was a live broadcast on MTV from Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fl. on Super Bowl weekend. 2000.

Performed for the nationally televised FedEx Orange Bowl Parade in Miami, Florida.

The Marching Wildcats were the guest band of Tom Joyner for the 2003 Family Reunion Weekend at Walt Disney World.

The Marching Wildcats performed for the Steve Harvey morning show in 2009.


The Florida Education Leader Magazine labeled the Marching Wildcats as the best college band in the state of Florida for 2001.


The Marching Wildcats performed for the 2006 & 2007 Orlando Magic season opener aired nationally on TNT.

Twentieth Century Fox Movie Production Company guest featured the Bethune-Cookman University Marching Wildcats in the Movie “DRUMLINE.”

FOX Sports featured the Marching Wildcats in the pre-race show for the 2005 NASCAR Daytona 500 along with Clint Black, The Beach Boys and Vanessa Williams.


The Marching Wildcats appeared on the Ellen Degeneres Show for her 2005 Super Bowl Special in Burbank, California.

The Marching Wildcats filmed a commercial for Cadillac Automobile Company in downtown Los Angeles, California. The commercial aired in January 2006 and aired approximately 6 months or more in various TV markets throughout the nation.

The Marching Wildcats appeared on the Ellen Degeneres Show for her 2005 Super Bowl Special in Burbank, California.

The Marching Wildcats filmed a commercial for Cadillac Automobile Company in downtown Los Angeles, California. The commercial aired in January 2006 and aired approximately 6 months or more in various TV markets throughout the nation. The performance was also featured on the Tru TV show for NFL Films called FULL CONTACT.

The Marching Wildcats is the only HBCU Band featured in the Full Time Daily Show Featues.

EXPERIENCE YOUR BIGGEST FANS
COME IN ALL SIZES

Wells Fargo proudly salutes the teams of the Florida Classic.

wellsfargo.com