

# **Bey takes first Offensive Player of the Week Award**

## **McFadden-Pressley, Fields, Burgess also recognized**

**By Dennis Brunson**  
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Jamirh Bey has had a storied high school football career. It's only been one game, mind you, but man, what a first game.

The Sumter High School wide receiver had five catches for 120 yards and three touchdowns in the Gamecocks' 53-8 season-opening road win over Lakewood on Friday at J. Frank Baker Stadium.

Yes sir, it was my first varsity game as a sophomore," Bey said. "That was a pretty good way to start."

It was good enough for Bey to be selected as the SAFE Offensive Player of the Week for the first week of the season for the Sumter Touchdown Club Presented by FTC.

Bey is one of four SAFE Players of the Week who will be honored at the initial breakfast meeting of the season on Friday. The other POTWs are Defensive Player of the Week Andre McFadden-Pressley of Lake City, Special Teams Player of the Week Treshon Burgess of Lake City and Lineman of the Week Karson Fields of Clarendon Hall.

The weekly meetings will be held at the Sumter County Recreation and Parks' Jasmine Hall located at 155 Haynsworth Street. Breakfast will start at 7 a.m. with the program beginning at 7:30. The guest speaker will be WIS-TV sports reporter Julia Westerman.

### **OFFENSIVE LINEMAN OF THE WEEK**

**JAMIRH BEY**

**SUMTER WIDE RECEIVER**

**SOPHOMORE**

Bey said he was surprised he was targeted so many times against the Gators. SHS quarterback Pate Merchant completed 14 of 21 passes for 239 yards along with the three scoring passes to Bey.

"I didn't think I'd have that many passes come my way," Bey said. "It's just how the game flowed."

Sumter head coach Mark Barnes said Bey has all the skills a quality wide receiver needs.

“We knew he was very skilled,” Barnes said. “We’ve got to find ways to get him the ball, whether in the passing game or the running game. He’s explosive when he catches the ball. He has a tremendous amount of confidence catching the ball and after he catches it.

“He’s not that big, 5 (feet)-10 (inches), 150 (pounds). He has phenomenal hands. He’s a natural receiver of the football.”

One of Bey’s catches was a 66-yard touchdown reception.

“It was a slant play,” he said. “I caught it in the middle of the field, ran to the outside and scored.”

## **LINEMAN OF THE WEEK**

**KARSON FIELDS**

**CLARENDON HALL**

**CENTER**

**SENIOR**

Fields finished with 10 knockdown blocks in the Saints' 16-0 victory over Thomas Sumter Academy in garnering the award.

“I guess I just came off the ball fast; I was faster than the other guys,” Fields said in trying to explain his high number of knockdowns. “I think it was just hand placement for me, that I was able get under their pads and move them. I just played my game, I guess.”

Fields helped Clarendon Hall running back Darius Aiken go over the century mark in rushing. He had 17 carries for 101 yards and two touchdowns.

“Karson did a great job,” said first-year head coach Todd Larrimer. “He’s a good player. He played on both sides of the football the entire game. He was quicker than the opposing players.”

## **DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

**ANDRE MCFADDEN-PRESSLEY**

**LAKE CITY**

**TACKLE**

**SENIOR**

McFadden-Pressley totaled 12 tackles, including five tackles for loss and a quarterback sack, and three quarterback pressures in the Panthers' 21-20 loss to Laurence Manning.

“My hands were working, my feet were active,” McFadden-Pressley said. “I was able to create space and get in better position.”

“He’s a full-grown man playing high school football,” Lake City acting head coach Jamison Estep said of McFadden-Pressley, who is also an All-America wrestler. “He doesn’t come off the field, playing left tackle for us. He probably played 100 snaps tonight.”

McFadden-Pressley really began to dominate along the line of scrimmage in the second half.

“That’s getting used to the offensive lineman (I am playing against), what moves would work for me,” he said. “I could use my moves, avoid double teams. It was a little bit easier.”

**SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

**TRESHON BURGESS**

**LAKE CITY**

**KICK RETURNER**

**JUNIOR**

Burgess also had a historic game of sorts with 200 yards in kick returns, taking a punt 66 yards for a touchdown and a kickoff 75 yards for another score in the loss to LMA.

“He’s absolutely electric,” Estep said. “He’s our Swiss army knife. He’s a lockdown corner(back), had a pass breakup and a sack. He had 200 return yards, was playing wide receiver on offense. He’s our sparkplug, our energizer guy. He’s got the tools to make plays for us.”

The two touchdown returns, although off different kinds of kicks, both developed in much the same fashion.

“I watched the ball come to me (on the kickoff return),” Burgess said. “I could see the defenders closing in, but they were not running in their lanes. I got a good outside block and I got to our sideline. I heard the coach tell me to turn it on and that’s what I did.”