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For Immediate Release

The 33rd Annual Fountain City Classic Celebrates Higher Education and a Legacy of Sportsmanship

COLUMBUS, GA., October 23, 2023 – Get ready for an action-packed week of camaraderie and spirited competition as we gear up for the 33rd Annual Fountain City Classic (FCC)! On Saturday, November 4, 2023, at 2:00 PM, as A.J. McClung Memorial Stadium in Uptown, Columbus, Georgia, come alive with the clash between Albany State University (ASU) Golden Rams and the Fort Valley State University (FVSU) Wildcats.

This event transcends football. The FCC is on a mission to empower and uplift higher education. The FCC embodies ‘Bragging Rights’ and ‘Pride,’ doubling as a platform to amplify awareness, funding, and scholarships for the deserving students at Albany State University, Fort Valley State University and many local and regional high school students. The resonance of this event echoes far beyond the stadium, sculpting a brighter future for these esteemed institutions.

Honorable Calvin Smyre, Chairman of the Fountain City Classic stated, “We’re privileged to commemorate the 33rd Annual Fountain City Classic - a testament to unity and education. This occasion unites Albany State University and Fort Valley State University, nurturing academic growth and opportunities for the institutions and many deserving students. With unwavering support from our community, sponsors and the local host committee, we continue to create a lasting impact. We welcome the community to continue to join us in this tradition of excellence and camaraderie.”

Robbie Branscomb, Executive Director for the Fountain City Classic, added, “Through the Fountain City Classic, we champion students and communities alike. This event is more than a game; It’s a commitment and investment into education and the positive growth of our community and its surrounding areas. We’re profoundly grateful for the support that breathes life into this tradition.”

A storied rivalry since 1924 with 88 games, ASU maintains the lead within the series at 45-39-4. Since moving the game to Columbus as the Fountain City Classic in 1990, ASU leads the series at 24-8. FVSU won last year’s 32nd Annual FCC 31-21. This year both teams are poised for a fierce showdown! The FCC isn’t just an event; it’s an institution of fierce bitter rivalries. Over the past three decades, the FCC has fueled invaluable scholarships to both institutions, leaving an indelible mark on countless lives.

ABOUT THE FOUNTAIN CITY CLASSIC, INC.

Founded in 1989, the Fountain City Classic (FCC) is an annual American football game between two historically black universities (HBCUs), Albany State University (Golden Rams) and Fort Valley State University (Wildcats). The FCC is one of South Georgia’s premier events. Over the past thirty-two years, the FCC has provided scholarship funds to both institutions’ General Funds and awarded scholarships to students from Columbus attending both institutions and other institutions of higher learning. The Fountain City Classic football weekend has an estimated attendance of 45,000 spectators drawn to the gathering at A.J. McClung Memorial Stadium and the grounds of South Commons in Columbus, Georgia. This year’s Classic will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023. Sponsors of the Fountain City Classic are Aflac, Altria Client Services, Atlanta Falcons, Chick-Fil-A Foundation, Columbus Sports and Events Council, VisitColumbusGA, Delta Air Lines, Georgia Power Company, Synovus, and TSYS| Global Payments.

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