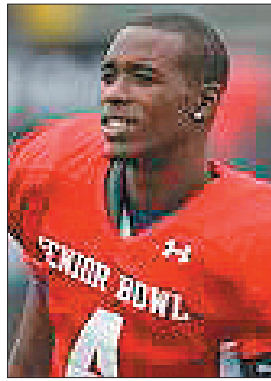


# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Senior Bowl Photo

**RISIN'**: Tennessee State CB Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie likely headed for first round of this month's NFL Draft.

## STAR POWER

2008 "BAAD TEAM" OF HOOPS ALL-STARS; COACHING CAROUSEL TURNS

## 2008 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	DIV		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Shaw	9	2	22	5
St. Augustine's	5	3	16	11
Eliz. City State	3	2	16	11
Virginia State	6	6	11	19
St. Paul's	0	10	2	11

### CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**PLAYER**  
**JOSEPH PIERCE, Fr., CF, ST. AUGUSTINE'S, Montgomery, AL** - In four games Pierce hit .462 (6-of-13) with 2 triples and 3 RBIs. He also posted four stolen bases. He was 3-for-4 vs. Virginia State with the triple and an RBI.

**PITCHER**  
**DANIEL MOORE, Jr., P/IF, ST. AUGUSTINE'S, Rockwell, MD** - Pitched seven innings giving up four hits and no earned runs while striking out 10.

**DEFENSE**  
**KEVIN JOHNSON, So., 2B, ST. AUGUSTINE'S, Seattle, WA** - Had eight putouts and six assists while hitting .500 (6-for-12) on the week.

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Bethune-Cookman	6	0	19	11
Delaware State	5	1	9	19
Mid-Eastern Shore	4	2	5	26
Norfolk State	3	3	13	10
NC A&T State	4	5	12	19
Florida A&M	2	4	7	14
Coppin State	0	9	2	31

### MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**PLAYER**  
**JUSTIN BITTNER, Sr., 2B, DSU, Newark, DE** - Hit .500 with 2 HRs, 1 2B and 7 RBI during 3-game sweep of Coppin State. Was 3-for-4, with HR, 2B and 5 RBI in final game.

**ROOKIE**  
**BRANDON HAIRSTON, Fr., 1B, NSU, N. Garden, VA** - Hit .455 (5-for-11) with HR, 2 2Bs, and 6 RBI in three wins.

**PITCHER**  
**ERIC THOMAS, Jr., P, B-CU, Gainesville, FL** - Allowed one run on five hits and struck out five in six inning win vs. A&T.

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST	8	2	25	11
Albany State	8	3	10	6
Paine	9	4	10	4
Benedict	4	5	7	5
Ciaflin	2	5	11	14
Morehouse	1	5	1	12
Clark Atlanta	9	0	15	15
WEST	6	3	8	9
Stillman	4	5	4	19
Miles	0	12	0	17
Tuskegee	0	6	0	6
Kentucky State	0	3	0	5
LeMoyne Owen				
Lane				

NO UPDATE AVAILABLE THIS WEEK AT PRESS TIME

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	DIV		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST	9	4	21	14
Jackson State	8	4	19	6
Alcorn State	9	5	13	12
Miss. Valley St.	5	9	10	12
Alabama State	1	10	3	22
Alabama A&M				
WEST	11	4	14	13
Grambling State	9	4	14	11
Southern	9	6	15	17
Prairie View A&M	4	11	8	20
Texas Southern	4	11	7	19
Ark. Pine Bluff				

### SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**PLAYER**  
**REGGIE BARKER, Sr., SS, UAAP, Chicago, IL** - Hit .444 in four games with two doubles and seven runs. Barker was 5-for-5 with two RBI, three runs and one stolen base in 12-11 win over TSU.

**PITCHER**  
**WRANDALL TAYLOR, Sr., P, PV, Beaumont, TX** - Went nine innings in 6-2 win over Southern allowing eight hits and two runs while striking out six. Improved to 3-2 on the season.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### GSU HOOP COACHES OUT:

Grambling State has announced that head men's basketball coach **Larry Wright** and head women's basketball coach **David "Rusty" Ponton** will not be retained for the 2008-09 season. "I applaud the dedication both head coaches have put into their programs during their tenure at Grambling," stated Grambling State Director of Athletics **Troy Mathieu**. "However, as we look to take our basketball programs to a higher level of competitiveness, a change in leadership was necessary."

The university will begin the process of conducting a comprehensive search to fill both positions. While the search is taking place, Senior Woman Administrator and Lady Tiger assistant coach **Sharon Perkins** and men's assistant coach **Kenny Sykes** will serve as interim coaches for their respective programs.

### SIMMONS RESIGNS AT B-CU:

After four seasons at the helm of the Bethune-Cookman women's basketball program, head coach **Francis Simmons** has decided to resign effective immediately according to B-CU Director of Athletic **Lynn W. Thompson**. Simmons met with Thompson last week to discuss his plans for resignation. "We are grateful for the work that Coach Simmons has done, and after meeting we both came to the conclusion that new leadership and direction would best serve the program at this time," said Thompson. Simmons, a native of Columbia, S.C., took over the program prior to the beginning of the 2004-05 season for now Assistant Athletic Director and Senior Woman Administrator at B-CU, **Sandra Booker**. In his four years guiding the Wildcats, Simmons amassed a record of 22-92 overall, including a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference record of 10-58. The search for a new head coach will begin immediately. For more information, please contact the B-CU Office of Sports Info at (386) 481-2206

### WEST THROUGH AT ALCORN:

Alcorn State men's basketball coach **Samuel West** was fired last week after five seasons on the job, a school official confirmed. West's removal coincides with the arrival of new athletic director **Darren Hamilton**, who started Tuesday, replacing interim AD **Wiley Jones**. Alcorn State officials would not comment further but said a news release with more details would be issued on later. West, 52, won 44 games and lost 103 in his five seasons as the Braves coach. The former high school boys coach was an assistant at Alcorn for seven years under legendary coach **Davey Whitney** before being named head coach in April of 2003. The Braves were 7-24 this season and did not qualify for the Southwestern Athletic Conference tournament. The Braves started the season 1-13, including 2-9 in SWAC play. Alcorn never won more than 11 games under West or lost less than 18.

### NEW SCSU SOCCER COACH:

**Glad Bugariu** has been named women's soccer coach at **South Carolina State**. He succeeds **Amy Olson** after three seasons (2005-2007) as head coach at Belmont Abbey. In three seasons at Belmont Abbey, Bugariu compiled a record of 52-12-2 including an 18-4-1 record this past season. His teams dominated the Div. II Carolinas Conference, capturing two regular season championships (2007, 2005), two tournament titles (2006, 2005) and one runner-up tournament finish (2007).

# ECSU duo leads 2008 "Baad Team"

### LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

A quintet of forwards makes up the men's first team and players of the year in four conferences lead the women's team as the BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE selects its top players for the just completed 2007-08 basketball season.

Dubbed the "Baad Team" of black college all-stars - signalling that the selectees are so 'baad' they're good - this season represents the 14th year the BCSP has selected its list of all-Americans.

Heading the teams are players of the year from the CIAA, both from **Elizabeth City State**, one who has garnered a number of awards on the national scene.

Lady Vikings' senior center extraordinaire **Celeste Trahan** has been the most decorated black college player on the national scene since **Shaw** guard **Ronald Murray** was named men's NCAA Div. II player of the year in 2002. The 6-1 Stockton, Ca., native has piled up a number of national awards after being named the CIAA's player of the year for the second straight season.

Trahan, who led NCAA Div. II and all black college players in scoring (23.7 ppg.) and rebounding (15.7 rpg.), has added the Daktronics NCAA Div. II South Atlantic Region's outstanding player award and the Daktronics Div. II player of the year award, the first time a CIAA women's player has been so honored since 1998 (**Konecka Drakeford, Johnson C. Smith**).

Trahan, who was also named CIAA defensive player of the year, finished her career as the first player in women's Div. II history and only the fourth player in any division to record 2,000 points and 1,500 rebounds. She finished her career with 2,151 points and 1,542 rebounds becoming the first Lady Viking to have her jersey retired.

Based on her great accomplishments, Trahan is the BCSP women's player of the year.

Joining Trahan on the women's first team are players of the year from the three other HBCU conferences. **Tuskegee** forward **Crystal Benton** led the Lady Tigers to regular season and tournament titles in the SIAC averaging 17.9

### WOMEN

#### FIRST TEAM

**Shalamar Oakley, Sr., G, Cop. St.** 17.5 ppg., **Crystal Benton, Sr., F, Tuskegee** 17.9 ppg., 10.3 rpg. **Celeste Trahan, Sr., F/C, ECSU** 23.7 ppg., 15.9 rpg. **Candice Thomas, So., G, PV** 15.7 ppg. **Rashida Suber, Sr., G, Coppin St.** 17.9 ppg.

#### SECOND TEAM

**Corin Adams, So., G, MSU** 16.6 ppg. **Takesha Riggs, So., G, FVSU** 19.3 ppg. **Brittany Mingo, Jr., G, WVVSU** 19.3 ppg. **Amber Bland, Jr., F, NCA&T** 15.1 ppg. **Kendra Apling, Jr., G, Tenn. St.** 17.7 ppg., 2.5 spg.

#### THIRD TEAM

**Nikia Trice, Jr., G, Albany St.** 15.2 ppg. **Sylbrena Johnson, Jr., G, Stillman** 18.1 ppg. **Abril McBride, So., F, UMES** 15.6 ppg., 8.8 rpg. **Oby Okafor, Jr., F, Tenn. St.** 16.9 ppg., 8.3 rpg. **Kyria Buford, Jr., F, JCSU** 15.3 ppg., 7.9 rpg.

#### SWAC

**Anthony Hilliard, Jr., F, SAC** 19.7 ppg., 11.4 rpg. **Roy Bright, Sr., F, DSU** 19.1 ppg., 16.8 ppg., 8.1 rpg. **Brad Byerson, Sr., F, VUU** 17.3 ppg., 9.2 rpg. **Kenny Jones, Sr., F, KSU** 16.6 ppg., 9.2 rpg. **Jamar Smith, Sr., F, MSU** 16.6 ppg., 9.2 rpg.

#### SIAC

**Rashad West, Sr., G, Hampton** 17.2 ppg. **Flawaan Flaggs, Jr., G, Miles** 20.4 ppg., 18.4 ppg., 8.9 rpg. **James Helton, Sr., F, WVVSU** 18.4 ppg., 8.9 rpg. **Bruce Price, Sr., G, Tenn. St.** 17.8 ppg. **Boubacar Coly, Sr., C, MSU** 11.2 ppg., 10.9 rpg.

#### THIRD TEAM

**Andrew Hayles, Jr., G, Alab. St.** 14.6 ppg. **Trant Sampson, So., G, AA&M** 15.5 ppg., .407 3FG. **Tywan McKee, Sr., G, Coppin St.** 16.6 ppg. **Tramaine Stevens, Sr., G/F, FMC** 24.5 ppg. **Kenny Boyd, Jr., F, Morehouse** 15.8 ppg., 10.0 rpg.

### 2007-08 HBCU ALL-STARS

#### WOMEN

##### FIRST TEAM

**Shalamar Oakley, Sr., G, Cop. St.** 17.5 ppg., **Crystal Benton, Sr., F, Tuskegee** 17.9 ppg., 10.3 rpg. **Celeste Trahan, Sr., F/C, ECSU** 23.7 ppg., 15.9 rpg. **Candice Thomas, So., G, PV** 15.7 ppg. **Rashida Suber, Sr., G, Coppin St.** 17.9 ppg.

##### SECOND TEAM

**Corin Adams, So., G, MSU** 16.6 ppg. **Takesha Riggs, So., G, FVSU** 19.3 ppg. **Brittany Mingo, Jr., G, WVVSU** 19.3 ppg. **Amber Bland, Jr., F, NCA&T** 15.1 ppg. **Kendra Apling, Jr., G, Tenn. St.** 17.7 ppg., 2.5 spg.

##### THIRD TEAM

**Nikia Trice, Jr., G, Albany St.** 15.2 ppg. **Sylbrena Johnson, Jr., G, Stillman** 18.1 ppg. **Abril McBride, So., F, UMES** 15.6 ppg., 8.8 rpg. **Oby Okafor, Jr., F, Tenn. St.** 16.9 ppg., 8.3 rpg. **Kyria Buford, Jr., F, JCSU** 15.3 ppg., 7.9 rpg.

from the field. Talented 6-6 **Delaware State** forward **Roy Bright** averaged 19.1 points per game, second best in the league, and challenged Smith for the league's top player award. He is also named to the first team. Two seniors round out the first team. Six-six forward **Kenny Jones** (17.3 ppg., 9.2 rpg.) finished his **Kentucky State** career with the SIAC's player of the year award. **Virginia Union** forward **Brad Byerson** led the Panthers to the CIAA regular season crown with averages of 16.8 points and 8.1 rebounds per game.

## BCSP Notes

### "DRC" moving up NFL Draft Boards

It now appears **Tennessee State** cornerback **Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie** may be the first black college player to be taken in the first round of the NFL Draft since 2000. The NFL Draft is April 26 and 27 in New York

"DRC", as he is called, followed up an outstanding all-Ohio Valley Conference senior season by proving his mettle against top Div. I wide receiver talent at Senior Bowl practices. He furthered his rise up the draft charts getting an interception and several tackles while being named Defensive MVP at the Senior Bowl game.

He perhaps topped it off and separated himself from other cornerback prospects by running a blazing time of 4.33 second time in the 40-yard dash

at the NFL Combine. Already taller than most cornerbacks at 6-foot-2, he also finished with the top position marks in four of seven individual drills. His 38.5-inch vertical jump and quickness in cone drills, which translates well to closing speed in coverage, were particularly impressive.

The scouts are also impressed by his bloodlines. Cromartie's cousin, San Diego defensive back Antonio Cromartie, led the NFL in interceptions last season and was particularly noted for a 109-yard return of an interception that made all the highlight reels. Many feel DRC has similar ball-hawking skills. Many are also comparing him to Deion Sanders.

The latest projections have him going early in the first round, perhaps as high as in the first ten picks. If so, he'd be the first black college player to go in the first round since **Jackson State** teammates **Sylvester Morris** (WR) and **Rashard Anderson** (DB) were taken in the first round of the 2000 Draft.

## 2008 BLACK COLLEGE SOFTBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION					
	CONF			ALL		
	W	L	W	L	W	L
EAST	6	0	8	2	12	13
Virginia State	4	2	4	4	4	8
Eliz. City State	1	5	5	8	9	12
St. Paul's	1	5	2	8	3	10
Va. Union	0	10	0	14	6	
Bowie State						
WEST	6	0	8	2	12	7
J. C. Smith	2	2	3	8	4	14
St. Aug's	1	3	2	7	2	11
Shaw	1	5	1	8	1	8
Livingstone	0	6	2	9	11	
Fayv. State						

### CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**PLAYER**  
**TIFFANY TONEY, Jr., SS, BSU, Abilene, TX** - Hit .474 (9-for-19) with 2 doubles, 2 triples, 3 HRs and 7 RBIs in six games. Was a perfect 3-for-3 with a HR and 2 triples vs. JCSU.

**PITCHER**  
**HEATHER ENDERS, Jr., P, BSU, Glen Burnie, MD** - In 3 appearances covering 17 innings, was 2-1 allowing 10 hits with 1.24 ERA, 10 walks and 12 strikeouts.

**DEFENSE**  
**ALLICIA WATANABE, Fr., P, JCSU, Waipahu, HA** - 9-for-18 (.500) in 8 games.

**DEFENSE**  
**TRICIA CORBIN, Jr., OFC, BSU, Glen Burnie, MD** - 39 putouts, 9 assists while batting .389 in six games.

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
NORTH	4	0	19	9
Hampton	2	1	9	10
Howard	3	2	13	17
Delaware State	3	2	8	11
Morgan State	0	4	7	20
Mid-Eastern Shore	0	3	0	19
Coppin State				
SOUTH	3	0	17	11
NC A&T State	6	0	12	28
Bethune-Cookman	3	3	11	20
Norfolk State	0	3	10	30
Florida A&M	0	6	4	20
SC State				

### MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**PLAYER**  
**ALLISON GARCIA, Fr., P/IF, B-CU, Chino Hills, CA** - Posted 1.01 ERA, with 19 Ks in four wins on the mound. Batted .529 in five games with 2 HRs, 4 2Bs and 5 RBI.

**ROOKIE**  
**JEANNETTE SAUCEDA, Fr., 3B/1B, NSU, Ontario, CA** - Hit .308 with 2 doubles, 5 RBI in 5 games.

**PITCHER**  
**JENNIFER LUPER, So., P, NCA&T, Fort Mill, SC** - In 11 innings allowed 11 hits and one walk for 2-0 week. Had 8 Ks. In her best outing, faced 17 SCSU batters in four innings giving up five hits and no runs with two strikeouts.

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST	8	0	19	17
Albany State	4	3	14	13
Fort Valley State	1	3	6	6
Clark Atlanta	0	2	5	5
Benedict	0	2	6	7
Ciaflin	0	5	2	11
Paine				
WEST	7	0	16	6
Miles	3	1	5	9
Kentucky State	1	3	2	12
Tuskegee	0	0	3	5
Stillman	0	3	2	9
Lane	0	4	1	9
LeMoyne Owen				

### SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**NO UPDATE AVAILABLE THIS WEEK AT PRESS TIME**

SWAC
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