

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



VUU Sports Photo

NEW FACES IN PLACE

COKER: Replacing VUU coaching legend Dave Robbins after 23 years as his assistant.

VIRGINIA UNION, UMES, SC STATE AND SHAW GET NEW BASKETBALL COACHES

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

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Shaw	13	3	29	7
Virginia State	9	5	14	18
St. Augustine's	5	8	18	21
Eliz. City State	4	7	4	28
St. Paul's	2	10	4	11

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE
AVERY BRYANT, Sr., LF, SHAW, Lauringburg, NC - Hit .395 (7-of-12) with 2 doubles, 3 HRs and 7 RBI. He was 3-for-4 with 2 HRs and 5 RBI vs. St. Aug's on 4/13.
DEFENSE
DONTARIO FULLER, Jr., 1B, SHAW, Fremont, NC - Had 29 putouts and 1 assist while hitting .332 on the week.
PITCHER
JEFFREY CANNON, Jr., P, SHAW, Detroit, MI - Earned a win by giving up 5 hits and 2 runs in 7 innings with six strikeouts

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Bethune-Cookman	9	0	22	13
Delaware State	6	2	11	20
NC A&T State	6	5	14	21
Md.-Eastern Shore	4	4	5	28
Florida A&M	3	5	10	15
Norfolk State	3	6	13	13
Coppin State	0	9	2	35

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
JOSE ORTIZ, Jr., OF, B-CU, Juncos, PR - Was 9-for-20 (.450) in five games with 1 HR, 1 double and 4 RBI.
ROOKIE
TROY DRUMMOND, Fr., OF, DSU, Newark, DE - Hit .500 (6-for-12) with 1 HR, 2 doubles and 3 RBI in three games.
PITCHER
HIRAM BURGOS, Jr., P, B-CU, Cayey, PR - Allowed one unearned run on three hits and struck out eight in seven innings vs. Norfolk State. Did not allow a walk.

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST				
Albany State	14	4	32	14
Paine	12	5	24	12
Benedict	12	7	13	7
Morehouse	9	6	8	17
Clark Atlanta	2	15	2	22
Claffin	0	0	12	8
WEST				
Stillman	14	4	21	21
Miles	14	5	20	16
LeMoyne Owen	6	8	6	11
Tuskegee	5	10	5	26
Kentucky State	2	12	2	22
Lane	0	15	2	23

LEADERS

HITTING
HUMPHREY, PAINE - .455
HITS
CHAUNCEY WARD, ALBANY STATE - 66
RUNS BATTED IN
GRAHAM WRIGHT, STILLMAN - 57

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST				
Jackson State	12	3	26	14
Alcorn State	10	5	21	7
Miss. Valley St.	9	5	13	14
Alabama State	6	11	11	14
Alabama A&M	1	14	3	27
WEST				
Southern	11	4	18	11
Grambling State	12	6	15	16
Prairie View A&M	11	7	17	19
Texas Southern	4	11	8	24
Ark. Pine Bluff	4	14	8	22

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
MYRIO RICHARD, So., IF, PV A&M, Lake Charles, LA - Hit .611 in four games with 11 hits and 7 runs. Also had 3 doubles and four steals.
PITCHER
CHARLIE ACETO, Fr., P, PV A&M, Woodlands, TX - Pitched 6.1 innings allowing five hits and 2 earned runs while striking out 7 vs. UAPB.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

ROBERTSON TO SC STATE:

Bowie State University Women's Basketball Coach Doug Robertson has resigned his position to accept the head coaching post at **South Carolina State**. SCSU, a member of the **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC)**, finished the 2007-2008 season in seventh place with a conference record of 9-7 (13-17 overall). During his three years with the BSU, Robertson compiled a record of 53-33 (.616), led the Lady Bulldogs to the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA)** Eastern Division title and was named the 2007-2008 CIAA coach of the year. Prior to his stint at Bowie State, Robertson served as the number one assistant for **Delaware State** from 2000 to 2005 and helped guide them to an 82-64 overall record and three MEAC Championships game appearances in five years. The Department of Athletics will begin the search for a new coach head coach at BSU immediately.



ROBERTSON

Howard University released a statement last week announcing that Head Women's Basketball Coach **Cathy Parson** will not return. Parson had coached the Lady Bison for eight seasons with a combined record of 96-127. This year Howard finished 4-26 and was eliminated in the first round of the MEAC Tournament. Parson becomes the fourth MEAC women's basketball coach to resign or be released this year.

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McCLELLAND MOVES TO TSU:

Prairie View A&M athletics director **Charles McClelland** was named athletic director at nearby **Texas Southern** last week. He will succeed **Alois Blackwell** who was fired in February. Recently hired head football coach **Johnnie Cole** has served as AD in the interim. McClelland submitted his resignation to PVAM president **George Wright** last Wednesday morning. "I view Charles McClelland's resignation and going to TSU as a great loss for us," Wright said. "I hate to see him leave. He did a very good job in a very challenging situation." McClelland had been AD at Prairie View for eight years. The program had won 14 SWAC titles in the last five years. During the 2006-07 season, Panther Athletics won the SWAC's C.D. Henry Award, symbolic of overall excellence among the conference's male sponsored sports. PVAM finished second overall in the 2006-07 SWAC Commissioner's Cup race, symbolic of overall athletic excellence in the conference. Going into this year's spring sports season, PVAM ranked second overall in the race for the 2008 SWAC Commissioner's Cup. Texas Southern was ninth in the ten team rankings.



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LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have won national championships in men's and women's basketball, football, track and field and soccer. Thanks to the **University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES)**, bowling can now be added to that list.

The lady Hawks of UMES staged an improbable comeback to win the 2008 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship last Saturday evening at Thunder Alley in Omaha, Nebraska. They beat Arkansas State 4-2 in the finals match that was televised live on ESPN.

But the Hawks almost didn't get there. After finishing just seventh in first-day qualifying, they had to fight their way back from a 3-0 deficit against Vanderbilt in the semifinals - the team they met in last year's championship match and a team they had defeated 4-0 in early round competition. The Hawks won four straight games to advance to the final round.

Jessica Worsley, who went on to capture the 2008 Most Valuable Bowler award, keyed the comeback and subsequent run to the title with clutch performances.

Worsley, who had previously hit a 'big four' split in an early round match, was faced with a 2-10 split in the fifth frame of the fourth game of the Vanderbilt rematch. But just like her earlier pick-up, Worsley nailed it and shifted the momentum for the Hawks.

Those two shots, as well as Worsley rounding out the Game 6 win in the finals, getting a clutch strike to start the tenth, earned her All-Tournament Team and the MVB award. Freshmen sensation **Maria Rodriguez** was also named to the All-Tournament Team.

The title is the first NCAA National Championship in school history and the second national crown overall since the men's outdoor track & field team won an NAIA title in 1963. It is the first women's title ever at the NCAA Div. I level by a historically black college or university



UMES Sports Photo

TITLE CLINCHER: The UMES squad greets **Jessica Worsley** who clinched the championship with her ball in game six.

(HBCU) and the first time a woman coach (**Sharon Brummel**) has won a bowling championship.

Robbins hanging up his whistle

Veteran **Virginia Union** head basketball coach **Dave Robbins** announced Tuesday at a press conference at the school that he is retiring after a legendary 30-year career.

Before a crowd of nearly 200 well-wishers including a group of former and current players, Robbins said it was time for him to move on.

"It's a great time to do some other things," a gracious Robbins said after thanking the university for the trust it placed in him and thanking all his players and coaches. "Thirty (his years at VUU) is a good round number."

A very successful Richmond (Va.) area high school coach who became the first white coach in the history of the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** when he took over at VUU in 1978, Robbins has won 713 games, a record 13 CIAA Tournament titles and three NCAA Div. II national championships (1980, 1992, 2005) during his illustrious tenure. His team lost in the 2006 national championship game, his only national title game loss, in a bid to win back-to-back titles.

Robbins, the dean of CIAA coaches, is the 26th coach in NCAA men's basketball history in any division and the fifth coach in Division II to reach the 700-win plateau, reaching that mark this past season. His winning percentage is a remarkable .786 (713-194). He is also the only coach to win national titles in three different decades and only the third with three Div. II crowns overall.

Willard Coker, a long-time assistant at VUU, was named as Robbins' successor. Coker who played for Robbins on the 1980 championship team, has been an assistant at VUU for 23 years.

"Now, Willard gets to be the SOB and I get to be their best friend," Robbins said of their relationships with VUU players.

Robbins said he will do fundraising for the school and support the program in any way he can but won't interfere with Coker's running of the team.



ROBBINS

BCSP Notes

Hill returning as Shaw head coach

Shaw University reached back into its successful basketball past to pluck its new head men's coach.

Shaw introduced former **North Carolina Central** player and Shaw assistant **Cleo Hill, Jr.** as its next men's basketball coach. The new coach was announced at a standing-room-only press conference last week on the Shaw campus.

Hill returns to **Shaw** after a successful five-year stay as head man at **Cheyney University**, where he led the Wolves to two NCAA Div. II playoff appearances. He was an assistant coach at Shaw under former head coach **Joel Hopkins** from 2000-2002 and helped lead the Bears to their first-ever CIAA Championship.

"The prodigal son has returned home," said President **Clarence Newsome** in his introduction of Hill.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity," said Hill, whose 2007-08 Cheyney team posted a 19-10 overall mark while winning the regular season Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Eastern Division crown. The Wolves lost in the conference tournament semifinals but advanced to the NCAA Div. II East Region playoffs, losing in the first round to Alderson-Broadus.

Hill succeeds former Duke standout **Robert Brickey** who finished

a three-year stint with an overall record of 11-72. Hill, the son of CIAA legend and Hall of Famer **Cleo Hill**, was previously an assistant coach at Nebraska.

Vet Allen returns to head coaching ranks

At a press conference held last week in the arena of the William P. Hytche Athletic Center at the **University of Maryland Eastern Shore**, Director of Athletics **Keith Davidson** named **Franklin "Frankie" Allen** the new head men's basketball coach of the Fighting Hawks.

Allen, former head coach at **Tennessee State**, **Howard**, **Virginia Tech** and **Roanoke College** and a former National Coach of the Year in 1993, takes over for Interim Head Coach **Meredith Smith** whose contract was not renewed when it expired at the end of March. Allen, 59, most recently served as an assistant coach at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). Prior to Allen's two year stint with UMBC he served for one season at Radford as an assistant.

Allen won 52 games in five seasons at Howard, won three Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) Championships ('93, '94 and '95) at TSU. He has coached at the collegiate level for 32 years, 18 as a head coach, compiling an overall record of 223-284."

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

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST				
Virginia State	8	0	12	20
Bowie State	6	2	16	20
Eliz. City State	4	4	7	9
Va. Union	1	7	3	15
St. Paul's	1	7	6	12
WEST				
J. C. Smith	7	1	13	3
Fayv. State	7	1	15	3
Shaw	3	5	11	5
St. Aug's	2	6	5	13
Livingstone	1	7	2	14

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
ERIN GRAY, Sr., 2B, BSU, Pasadena, MD - Hit .643 (9-of-14) with 1 double, 1 triple and 3 HRs. Also had 5 stolen bases.
PITCHER
JILLIAN WILLEY, Sr., P, BSU, Millersville, MD - Was 3-0 with 0.00 ERA giving up 2 unearned runs and 7 hits in 17 innings with 23 strikeouts.
OFFENSE
TIFFANY TONEY, Jr., SS, BSU, Abilene, TX - In six games, hit .750 (9-for-12) with 4 doubles, 2 triples and 4 RBI.
DEFENSE
MARQUITA PITMAN, Sr., OF, SHAW, Ford Heights, IL - Had 9 putouts in two games while hitting .312.

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

MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
TAMARA GRIFFIN, Fr., 3B, MSU, Portsmouth, VA - Hit .800 with 3 doubles, 3 runs scored and 5 RBI in two wins over UMES.
ROOKIE
RYANNE HILL, Fr., LF, NC A&T, Charlotte, NC - Hit .524 (11-for-21) in six games with 2 HRs, 2 triples, 1 double and 8 RBI.
PITCHER
JENNIFER LUPER, So., P, NCA&T, Fort Mill, SC - Posted a 1.22 ERA in four wins including a shutout of Savannah State where she struck out 13 of 19 batters in six innings. For the week, struck out 22 in 23 innings while giving up four earned runs.

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST				
Albany State	14	0	29	19
Benedict	6	3	11	6
Fort Valley State	5	7	14	17
Clark Atlanta	7	11	21	24
Paine	4	14	11	21
Claffin	0	0	9	10
WEST				
Miles	14	2	25	11
Kentucky State	13	4	15	14
Stillman	1	3	4	8
LeMoyne Owen	2	8	3	13
Tuskegee	1	5	2	18
Lane	1	10	4	16

LEADERS

HITTING
JESSICA HARRIS, MILES - .586
HITS
LAKEISHA PRUITT, CAU - 65
RUNS SCORED
KENYONA JOHNSON, MILES - 62
RUNS BATTED IN
LAKEISHA PRUITT, CAU - 83
HOME RUNS
CANDICE TATE, ALBANY ST. - 9
LAKEISHA PRUITT, CAU - 9

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
EAST				
Miss. Valley St.	10	3	22	24
Alcorn State	9	4	20	25
Jackson State	7	5	17	30
Alabama A&M	8	6	9	18
Alabama State	2	12	4	34
WEST				
Southern	10	4	21	15
Grambling State	9	7	13	25
Prairie View A&M	6	8	11	24
Texas Southern	5	9	7	19
Ark. Pine Bluff	3	11	3	35

SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
NA
PITCHER
NA