BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE™

B-CU Sports Photo

LOZADA: Regular season MVP adds tournament honors while leading B-CU to third straight MEAC baseball title.

MAKING A BIG FINISH

NEW HOOPS COACHES AT GRAMBLING; MOREHOUSE, ALBANY STATE TOP SIAC

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

NEW GRAMBLING BB COACHES:

Former **Fayetteville State** and **Winston-Salem State** head basketball coach **Rick Duckett** has agreed to become the new men's coach at **Grambling State**. The announcement was made by Director of Athletics Troy Mathieu last week and is pending approval of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System.

Mathieu also announced last week that **Donnita Drain** will become the new head women's basketball coach at GSU. Drain, the architect of the **Langston University** basketball revival and the reigning two-time Women's Basketball Coaches Association Region III Coach of the Year, must also await approval from the Board of Supervisors of the University of Louisiana System before she can officially take the job.

In eight years as a collegiate head coach, Duckett compiled an impressive 149-76 mark at FSU and WSSU before becoming a top assistant to Dave Odom at South Carolina for the last six seasons. While at WSSU from 1998 to 2001, Duckett posted a 73-19 ledger that included three NCAA Division II Tournament Appearances, three 20-win seasons, two CIAA Tournament Championships and two CIAA Tournament Coaches Awards. He was 76-57 in five seasons at FSU. Duckett finished his tenure at WSSU with the top winning percentage (.800) in school history.

DUCKETT

He will replace **Larry Wright**, who was 88-160 in nine seasons at Grambling. The Tigers were 7-19 this past season. A native of Winston-Salem, N.C., Duckett holds both Bachelor's (1979) and Master's ('80) degrees from the University North Carolina in the field of Education.

A native of Taloga, Ok, Drain arrives at Grambling after a 13-year tenure at Langston rewriting the record books as the most successful head coach in school history with 244 wins, six NAIA Division I National Tournament Appearances, two Red River Athletic Conference Championships (RRAC), four 20-win seasons, one 30-win campaign and a total of 48 players who've received either All-American, Academic All-American, All-Conference and Player of the Year honors. She replaces **David "Rusty" Ponton** who had led the Lady Tigers for 11 seasons but won just two games in his final campaign.

DRAIN

Under Drain's watchful eye, the LU women's basketball program emerged as a national power over the past three seasons as the Lady Lions finished the 2007-08 season ranked sixth in the NAIA Division I National Ratings and a No. 2 seed in the 2007-08 NAIA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament. Drain guided Langston to an 84-12 mark during that span along with an impressive 34-game undefeated conference winning streak that culminated with an Elite 8 and Sweet 16 finishes in the NAIA Division I National Tournament.

A 1990 graduate of Northwestern Oklahoma State, Drain was a two-time NAIA All-American Honorable Mention honoree and currently ranks third all-time in points scored among school scoring leaders with 1,916 during a decorated four-year career that was topped off by being named the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference's Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 1990

WALKER OUT AT ALCORN ST.:

Alcorn State has announced a coaching change in its women's basketball program. Legendary coach **Shirley Walker** has been replaced on an interim basis by former Braves' men's player **Jason Cable**. Walker had headed the program for the past 30 years and posted a record of 492-332. Under her tenure, ASU had captured 11 SWAC regular-season titles and seven conference tournament championships. "We thank Coach for her service and Alcorn State University will continue its fine tradition in women's basketball by continuing to recruit, retain and graduate its student-athletes," said athletic director **Darren Hamilton**.

Former Howard star joins Mystics

Washington Mystics Photo

GARDNER: Two-time all-star and MEAC player of the year back in WNBA after a stint overseas.

Former **Howard University** standout **Andrea Gardner** has made the 2008 Washington Mystics squad in the WNBA.

Gardner, a 2002 graduate of Howard, was drafted by the Utah Starzz in the second round of the 2002 WNBA draft. She was signed as a free agent by the Seattle Storm in 2004 and was playing professionally overseas before being signed by the Mystics.

Gardner had a stellar career at Howard. The 6-3 native of Washington, D.C. was a two-time **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference** player of the year taking home the award in 2001 and 2002. In the 2000-2001 season, she led the nation in rebounding (14.2) and in double-doubles.

Gardner ranks third all-time on the school's rebounding list (1,080) and sixth in scoring (1,353). She is only the third player in Howard's storied women's basketball history to record 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds.

During her first season at Howard, Gardner was the subject of a case study by the Washington Post on student athletes who were partial qualifiers under Proposition 48. She proved to be successful in fulfilling her requirements by graduating in four years, thus earning an additional year of eligibility. She decided to forego her senior year and enter the draft.

The Mystics opened the 2008 regular season on Saturday, May 17 on the road against the Indiana Fever. Playing off the bench, Gardner played just under four-and-a half minutes but did not score or gather a rebound.

BCSP Notes

Morehouse men, Albany State women top SIAC Sports for 2007-08

The men of **Morehouse** and the women of **Albany State** captured the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** (SIAC) *Commissioner's All-Sports Award* for the 2007-08 season.

This award is the Albany State women's fifth consecutive award and Morehouse's second in the last five years.

In the women's competition ASU tallied 44 points after winning conference titles in cross country, volleyball, softball and track & field. They also finished third in tennis. **Tuskegee** finished second compiling 27 points. Tuskegee finished first in basketball and tennis, second in cross country. **Clark Atlanta** was third.

In the men's competition, Morehouse pulled away from Tuskegee to finish first with 34 points. Morehouse took home conference titles in track & field and cross country and garnered seconds in tennis and golf. Tuskegee finished in second place with 27 points after finishing first in football and tennis and second in basketball. Benedict finished in third place with 21 points largely in part to their first place finish in basketball.

A scoring system of 10 points for first place, seven (7) points for second place and four (4) points for third place is used to determine the All-Sports Standings for the SIAC 12-member institutions. Football is determined by their finish in the regular season.

MEN - Morehouse 34, Tuskegee 27, Benedict 21, Albany State 18, Paine 17, Stillman 10, Fort Valley State & Kentucky State 8
WOMEN - Albany State 44, Tuskegee 27, Clark Atlanta 19, Benedict 18, Kentucky State & Miles 7, Fort Valley State 4

Bormann new Lane athletic director

Lane College president **Wesley McClure** has announced the appointment of **Gregory Bormann** as the school's new athletic director.

Bormann takes the reins of the athletic department immediately, succeeding **Dearrion Snead**, who had served as interim athletic director and head football coach. Snead will now continue his football coaching duties exclusively.

Bormann takes the program over in the wake of a number of scholarship revocations and probation from the NCAA earlier this year after a high number of various violations committed in different areas of the athletic department.

BORMANN

In addition to his past duties at Lane, which also included positions as the Dragons' assistant football coach, sports information director, baseball coach and faculty member in health and physical education, Bormann's professional experience includes stints as an assistant coach at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Cerritos College in Norwalk, Calif., and Citrus College in, Glendora, Calif.

Jackson State flames out in NCAA golf

SWAC men's golf champion **Jackson State** finished last in the field at the NCAA Div. I East Regional held this past weekend at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga.

Eddie Payton's Tigers finished in 27th place shooting a +96-948, 73 strokes above the next (26th place) team, Western Illinois. The Regional was won by Georgia. The Bulldogs shot a -41-811 in the three-round event. The Bulldogs prevailed over Georgia State (-20-832) by 21 strokes. JSU's best individual finish was by **Brett Benson** who shot 71-75-78 - 224 (11-over-par) to finish in a tie for 119th out of the 141-player field.

DelState, MVSU battle gamely in NCAA softball

MEAC champion **Delaware State** gave national power Texas a scare before bowing out of the NCAA softball regional at the University of Houston. The Hornets came back from a 9-0 defeat to Houston to give the Longhorns all they could handle in a 3-2 loss that eliminated them Saturday. Texas scored two runs in the top of the sixth inning to pull out the victory.

SWAC champ **Mississippi Valley State** was shut out by LSU in its first game before coming up on the short end of a 4-2 score to East Carolina to be eliminated from the Baton Rouge regional.

DIVISION I SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS
BATON ROUGE REGIONAL at Baton Rouge, La
May 16 - LSU 8, **Miss Valley State** 0
May 17 - East Carolina 4, **Miss Valley State** 2 (MVSU eliminated)
HOUSTON REGIONAL at Houston, Texas
May 16 - Houston 9, **Delaware State** 0
May 17 - Texas 3, **Delaware State** 2 (DSU eliminated)

SWAC, MEAC crown baseball champs

Texas Southern prevails in SWAC baseball

The Tigers of **Texas Southern** came from behind to defeat **Prairie View A&M** 12-11 in the 2008 **Southwestern Athletic Conference** Baseball Tournament championship game in Lee-Hines Stadium on the campus of Southern University Sunday.

The Tigers (16-32) cruised through the tournament in the winner's bracket with a 4-0 record. This is TSU's second title since 2004 when they beat **Mississippi Valley State** for the championship.

The Panthers (25-26) led early 2-0 were still on top 11-7 in the bottom of the eighth inning. TSU's **Jordan Bush**'s double in the final frame and scored **Justin Holloway** for the win. Designated hitter **Adam Sellers** also had a two-run single in the game-winning rally. **David Arredondo** shut down the Panthers in the bottom of the ninth.

TSU's **Earnest Rhone** went 2-for-4 with one RBI while Sellers was 1-for-4, but knocked in four crucial runss for the Tigers.

2008 SWAC BASEBALL ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM
P Rashad Ford, TSU; P Josh Lara, PV; C Justin Holloway, TSU; 1B Myrio Richard, PV; 2B Enrique Quintero, JSU; 3B Michael Gavion, SU; SS Jordan Bush, TSU; DH Greg Ford, PV; LF Brandon Kendricks, PV; CF Oscar Goldman, PV; RF Willie Mays, MVSU
MVP: Adam Sellers, TSU
Coach of the Year: Candy Robinson, TSU

Bethune-Cookman makes it three straight MEAC baseball titles

Bethune-Cookman took advantage of a tired **Norfolk State** pitching staff Sunday pounding out a 13-2 championship game win to secure its third consecutive **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** (MEAC) baseball title in a 13-2 victory. It was the Wildcats' 11th title in the last 13 years.

NSU (25-24), playing its sixth game in four days. turned to ace **Joey Seal** who had worked seven innings three days earlier. B-CU scored five runs off Seal and added another eight to go up 13-0 as NSU brought starters Leon Schabacker and Quinn Bright out of the bullpen. Schabacker had pitched a complete game win on Friday while Bright had worked seven innings on Saturday.

"The key was the fact that we knew Norfolk State had very few pitchers left that were fresh, and we needed to get to the bullpen," stated B-CU shortstop **José Lozada**, the tournament's most outstanding player. Lozada hit .414 during the regular season with 7 home runs, 57 RBI and 134 total bases to win the MEAC player of the year award.

NSU got their lone runs in the ninth inning on a two-run homer by **Jerrod Farley.** The win went to **Eric Thomas**, who improved to 9-0 on the season with a 2.04 ERA. He allowed six hits in seven innings with 10 strikeouts. At the plate, B-CU was led by six players with multiple hits. Lozada had two hits and three runs scored.

B-CU head coach **Mervyl Melendez** feels his team is ready to move to the next level.

"We are going to Regionals again, and this time we know we have a better chance with our pitching," said Melendez. "Winning the MEAC is always a blessing against good teams in this league … but our prize is trying to win a Regional and move to the next level."

Bethune-Cookman now waits until Monday afternoon May 26 to see where they will travel for the upcoming NCAA Baseball Tournament which begins on May 30.

2008 ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM
Brad Stephenson, NSU; Jeremy Jones, NC A&T; Jose Lozada, B-CU; Nick Rogers, NC A&T; Marquis Frink, NC A&T; Osvaldo Torres, B-CU; Ken Richardson, UMES; Chris Joyce, NSU; Ryan Mailen, DSU: Joe McIntyre, NC A&T; Darryl Evans, FAMU; Jerrod Farley, NSU; Mariba George, NSU

OUTSTANDING PERFORMER:
Jose Lozada, Bethune-Cookman
OUTSTANDING COACH:
Mervyl Melendez, Bethune-Cookman

2008 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL

2008 SWAC BASEBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM
P - Mario Jefferson, GSU (6-1, 170, Sr., Lancaster, Tx.)
P - Charles Williams, JSU (6-2, 185, Jr., East St. Louis, Ill..)
P - Jarrett Maloy, SU (6-1, 180, R-So., Tallahassee, Fla.)
C - Michael Thomas, SU (6-4, 220, So., Houston, Texas)
1B - Myrio Richard, PV A&M (6-2, 190, So., Lake Charles, La..)
2B - Enrique Quintero, JSU (5-7, 155, Sr., 2B, Miami Beach, Fl.)
SS - LaDerek Camper, JSU (5-10, 175, Jr., Jackson, Miss.)
3B - Romey Bracey, SU (5-10, 180, Jr., 3B, Chicago, Ill.)
DH - Mychal Roby, GSU (6-4, 215, R-So., Colorado Springs, Co.)
OF - Jabari Graham, Alcorn St. (6-0, 210, Jr., Tacoma Park, Ma.)
OF - Jerome McCollum, UAPB (5-9, 185, Jr., Pine Bluff, Ark.)
OF - Brent Smith, GSU (5-11, 180, Jr., Shreveport, La.)

FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
Matt Pace, UAPB (6-0, 190, 3B, Warren, Ark.)
NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR
Joel Del Grande, Alcorn St. (5-10, 185, Jr., Scarborough, Canada)
OUTSTANDING HITTER OF THE YEAR
Joel Del Grande, Alcorn St.(5-10, 185, Jr., Scarborough, Canada)
PITCHER OF THE YEAR
Charles Williams, JSU (6-2, 185, Jr., East St. Louis, Ill.)
PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Myrio Richard, PV A&M (6-2, 190, So., Lake Charles, La.)

2008 MEAC BASEBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM
P Hiram Burgos B-CU
P Tim Johnson NC A&T
RP Marquis Frink NC A&T
C Brad Stephenson NSU
INF Justin Bittner DSU
INF Osvaldo Torres B-CU
INF Jose Lozada B-CU
INF Tim Jones FAMU
OF Jarrett Bibb DSU
OF CJ Beatty NC A&T
OF Joe McIntyre NC A&T
DH Jeremy Jones NC A&T

PLAYER OF THE YEAR:
Jose Lozada, B-CU
PITCHER OF THE YEAR:
Hiram Burgos, B-CU
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:
Tim Jones, FAMU
COACH OF THE YEAR:
Mervyl Melendez, B-CU

SIAC ALL-SPORTS

2007-2008 SIAC COMMISSIONERS ALL-SPORTS TROPHY

MEN

	CC	FB	BKTB	BB	T	T&F	G	TOT
MHC	10	0	0	0	7	10	7	34
TU	0	10	7	0	10	0	0	27
BC	7	0	10	0	0	4	0	21
ASU	0	7	0	4	0	7	0	18
PC	0	0	0	7	0	0	10	17
SC	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	10
FVSU	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	8
KSU	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	8
LC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LOC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WOMEN

	CC	VB	BKTB	SB	T	T&F	TOT
ASU	10	10	0	10	4	10	44
TU	7	0	10	0	10	0	27
CAU	4	4	0	4	0	7	19
BC	4	7	0	0	7	0	18
KSU	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
MC	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
FVSU	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
LC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LOC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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