

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

COACHING CAROUSEL IN FULL TURN

LATE FLURRY OF COACHING MOVES;
THINCLADS SHINE ON AMERICAS STAGE



Coppin State Sports Photos
BEANS: Successful high school coach will try and pull Coppin State volleyball out of MEAC basement.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

COOPER EARNS HALL OF FAME:

Prairie View A&M women's basketball Coach **Cynthia Cooper-Dyke** is one of six persons set for induction into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. The 11th group of inductees, the Class of 2009, was announced on ABC during the Washington Mystics/Connecticut Sun game at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C. last week. The six members of the Class of 2009 are Cooper-Dyke, Jennifer Azzi, Jennifer Gillom, Sonja Hogg, Jill Hutchinson and Ora Washington.



COOPER-DYKE

Cooper-Dyke is a two-time Olympian, two-time National Champion at Southern California (1983, 1984) and four-time WNBA champion with the Houston Comets (1997-2000). She is currently the head coach of Prairie View A&M University women's team and led the Lady Panthers to their first-ever **Southwestern Athletic Conference** Tournament title in the 2006-07 season. She was the first WNBA player to reach 500, 1000, 2000 and 2500 points, and was recognized as the 1998 Women's Professional Basketball ESPY award winner. Cooper won a gold medal with team USA in the 1988 Olympics and was a member of seven USA squads.

The six individuals in the Class of 2009 will be formally inducted as members of the Hall of Fame during a weekend of induction festivities to be held Friday and Saturday, June 12-13, 2009, in Knoxville, Tennessee.

With the addition of the Class of 2009, the list of individuals who have been recognized as Women's Basketball Hall of Fame inductees will increase to 109.

WILLIS TO LEAD LANGSTON:

With the departure of **Donnita Drain** and newly appointed head coach **Tony Greene**, **Langston University** women's basketball again looked in house and has announced the hiring of **Jerome Willis** as head coach. Willis has spent the last eight years as the assistant coach for Lions men's basketball team.



WILLIS

"We are very pleased to extend this opportunity to Coach Willis. We believe that he has the capability of not only continuing in a strong program, but enhancing it," said **Angela Watson**, vice president for administrative and fiscal Affairs. "He is a Langston Lion and possesses a genuine commitment to the student-athletes and the university and we wish him well in his new endeavors."

Willis' appointment comes after Drain accepted the women's basketball coaching position at **Grambling State** and took Green, her longtime assistant, with her. Green, Drain's assistant for the past 13 years, had been appointed head coach in May.

"I feel blessed with the opportunity and I'm excited about the upcoming season," said Coach Willis. "I expect for the women's program to continue to dominate and keep the winning tradition."

A native of Buffalo, NY, Willis played his collegiate basketball for Langston and graduated in 1998. As a player, he was selected as the Freshman of the Year in 1993-1994, Defensive Player of the Year in 1995-1996 and 1996-1997, and was an All-Conference selection in 1996-1997.

HOWARD SOCCER PROMOTION:

Assistant coach **Michael Lawrence** has been promoted to head coach of the **Howard** Bison men's soccer program. Lawrence has been an assistant coach at Howard the past four seasons.

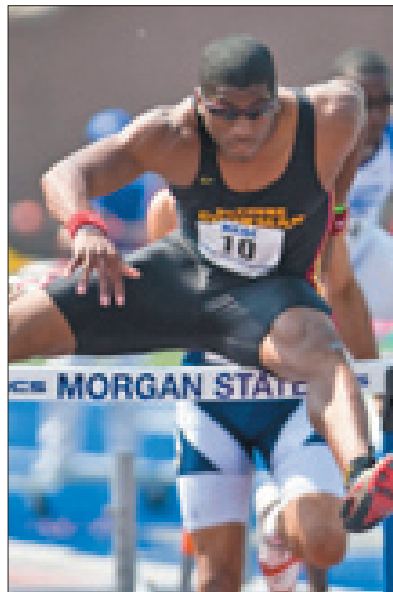
"This is a wonderful opportunity," Lawrence said. "I intend to help develop a culture for the men's soccer program that embraces excellence in the classroom and on the field." This past year, the team earned its first ranking in a Division I poll in nearly a decade after entering the NSCAA/Adidas North Atlantic Regional poll.

A two-year letterwinner at Howard, Lawrence was a prolific scorer, was named the Mid-Continental Conference (MCC) Rookie of the Year in 1996 and helped the Bison to a pair of league championships and a tournament title and NCAA appearance in 1997. Lawrence has played professionally in Belgium, Germany, and for FC Galaxy of the Jamaican Premier League (1999).

HBCU tracksters shine at Under-23 meet in Mexico



JOE KINDRED



RONNIE ASH

Saint Augustine's College rising senior **Joe Kindred** led a contingent of black college tracksters who turned in outstanding performances at the 2008 North America, Central America and Caribbean (NACAC) Under-23 Track and Field Championships held this past weekend in Toluca, Mexico.

Kindred, the 2008 Division II national outdoor male field athlete of the year, won the high jump with a leap of 2.27 meters. Kindred finished ahead of Darvin Edwards and Jamal Wilson, who both jumped 2.23 meters.

Kindred won one of 28 gold medals as Team USA dominated the competition by capturing more medals than any other country and rewriting the record books. Team USA totalled 62 total medals: 28 gold, 26 silver and 8 bronze. Mexico finished a distant second with 19 medals, followed by Canada (3rd-15 medals), Jamaica (4th-11 medals) and the Dominican Republic (5th-6 medals).

The 2008 Division II national outdoor high jump champion, Kindred recently competed at the U.S. Olympic Trials but did not make the finals.

Barbara Pierre, a Saint Augustine's rising junior, finished fourth in the women's 100 meters in 11.45 seconds. Pierre is the two-time Div. II national champion in the women's 100 meters. **Ramon Gittens** of Saint Augustine's placed fifth in 10.33 seconds in the men's 100 meters.

Bethune-Cookman freshman sensation **Ronnie Ash** turned in a third-place finish in his specialty, the 110-meter high hurdles. Ash added to his record-breaking season becoming the first major medalist in B-CU history by earning the bronze.

Ash finished in 13.72 seconds to finish behind

the first-place exploits of the University of South Carolina's Jason Richardson. Richardson turned in a time of 13.32 to claim the gold medal as a senior for the Gamecocks.

In the process, the Raleigh, N.C. native captured the first-ever major medal for any Bethune-Cookman track & field student-athlete. He previously became the school's first recorded Outdoor All-America performer on the NCAA Div. I level when he finished third at the national outdoor championships. The Wildcats moved to Division I back in 1980.

Hampton sprinter **Francena McCrory** made the finals of the 400 meters running a time of 53.51 seconds to finish seventh in the semifinals. But she did not compete after suffering a cramp in her hamstring. Jamaica's Bobbi-Gaye Wilkins won the 400-meter dash with a time of 51.34.

McCrory, a sophomore, won both the 200 and 400 meters in the Morgan State Legacy Meet April 18-19, and also finished seventh in the 200-meter dash at the MEAC Outdoor Championships with a 24.35 before winning the 400-meter dash in 51.54.

The NACAC Athletic Association's U-23 Championships are held every two years in one of the 32 member nations of the North America, Central America and Caribbean Athletic Association, one of six regional athletics associations affiliated with the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).



FRANCENA
MCCORORY

BCSP Notes

Bethune-Cookman names Inge new women's basketball coach

Bethune-Cookman Director of Athletics **Lynn W. Thompson** officially announced last week the appointment of **Vanessa Inge** as head coach for the women's basketball program at B-CU.

Inge comes to B-CU after serving for nine years as the head women's basketball coach at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, Md. where she earned a career record of 120-135. While at Mount St. Mary's, she was a record setter as both a player and coach. Inge is the former Vanessa Blair who last year married Mount St. Mary's men's basketball standout Riley Inge.

"I'm excited about the B-CU family," expressed Inge. "I'm thankful to **Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed** (University President), Mr. Lynn Thompson and **Sandra Booker** (Senior Woman Administrator) for this tremendous opportunity to serve Bethune-Cookman University as their head women's basketball coach. The decision to join the Wildcats' family was an easy one once I saw how much the university supported the women's basketball program and athletics in general. I'm honored to be part of such a historic university with a storied athletic program."

Inge, who took over the reigns of the women's basketball team at Mount St. Mary's prior to the 1998-99 campaign, guided the women's squad to a 21-7 overall record and a Northeast Conference regular season crown. Inge's remarkable debut season earned her NEC Coach of the Year honors—making her the first and only person in league history to have been named both Player of the Year and Coach of the Year in their career. She spent all of last year out of basketball and in the corporate sector but was eager to return to the sport that has meant so much to her throughout her life.

In addition to her player and coach of the year awards, Inge earned Northeast Conference Player of the Decade honors on the 10th anniversary of NEC women's basketball. One of three Mountaineers to make the six-member NEC Team of the Decade, Inge was named the top player in the NEC from 1985-1995. She was also one of three Mountaineer players to be named to both the 20th and 25th NEC Anniversary team.

Texas Southern turns to LSU assistant to lead women's hoops

Texas Southern Director of Athletics **Charles McClelland** has announced the hiring of LSU assistant coach **Yolanda Wells-Broughton** as the Lady Tigers new head women's basketball coach.

Wells-Broughton comes to TSU after serving one year as an assistant coach at LSU under former WNBA Houston Comets Coach Van Chancellor. During her inaugural year at LSU, she helped guide the team to its fifth straight Final Four and its third Southeastern Conference regular season title in four years.

Wells-Broughton, a Houston native, will replace **Surina Dixon**, who was hired in March but released June 30.

"It's a blessing to have the opportunity to come back to my hometown and coach," Wells-Broughton said. "All of my family members are excited about my return. I'm not looking at this as a challenge, but an opportunity to raise the bar and take the program to new heights."

"I'm really pleased Yolanda has found a head coaching job," LSU head coach Van Chancellor said. "It's an honor for her. It speaks volumes of the LSU women's basketball program that we have assistants taking head coaching positions. From Texas Southern's point of view, it's a tremendous hire because of her knowledge of the area and her experience in this profession."

Prior to her stint at LSU, Wells-Broughton served as an assistant coach at Texas Christian University from 2004-07. In her three years at TCU, the Horned Frogs posted a 63-33 record. She helped to guide the team into the NCAA Tournament all three seasons.

From 2000-04 Wells-Broughton served as an assistant at Trinity Valley Community College. During her tenure on the JUCO level, she helped Trinity Valley post a 126-8 (.940) record and saw 19 of its players sign National Letters of Intent to play Division I basketball. When



B-CU Sports Photo
INGE: Bethune-Cookman gets coaching veteran.



WELLS-BROUGHTON

she left, the school owned a 50-game conference winning streak and a 78-game regular season winning streak.

Broughton-Wells served for two seasons as the head women's basketball coach at **Paul Quinn College** in Dallas. At Paul Quinn, she was responsible for all phases of the program for the NAIA school and also served in a dual capacity as academic coordinator.

No stranger to the **Southwestern Athletic Conference**, Wells-Broughton played from 1992-94 for **Grambling State**. As a player at Grambling State, she earned all-conference honors and helped GSU earn its first-ever trip the NCAA Tournament in 1994.

Coppin Beans

Romonzo Beans has been named the head volleyball coach at **Coppin State** University, Director of Athletics **Dr. Mary Wanza** announced last week. Beans takes over the Eagle volleyball program after successful stints at both Anne Arundel Community College and Broadneck (Md.) High School.

Beans has spent the past 10 seasons as the head coach at Broadneck, building one of the most successful volleyball programs in the state of Maryland. During his time, Beans has led Broadneck to 158 wins and just 36 losses, including state titles in 2001, 2002, 2004 and 2007. The Bruins have also won eight consecutive regional championships, a feat that has not been matched by any other active high school coach in Maryland.

"This is a great day for Coppin State volleyball," Wanza said. "We believe that Romonzo is the right person to lead our program going forward. He has proven at different levels of competition that he is a winner and we are excited to see what he can accomplish at Coppin State." Coppin State finished the 2007 season 1-25 overall and 0-10 in the **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference**.

Beans was named the All-Metro Coach of the Year in 2000 and the All-Anne Arundel County Coach of the Year in 2007 by the Baltimore Sun. In July of 2006 Beans was named the head coach at Anne Arundel Community College where, in just his second season, AACC finished as NJCAA Region XX Champions and the District G Runner-up.

Abrupt Lane change

Eric N. Moore

Managing Editor Onnidan.com

In a dramatic turn of events, **Lane College** has named its second football coach in seven months.

Trent Boykin was introduced at a press conference last Tuesday as the replacement for **Dearrison Sneed**, the former head coach who never got to take the field. Sneed and assistant coach **Leon Gray** were fired last Monday for what the school described as a "deliberate alteration" of a student transfer document. Hours later, Boykin was being introduced as the Dragon's new head coach.

"It is a great opportunity to be standing here today and I am humbled and privileged by the opportunity," Boykin said. "I have gotten great support from (athletic director **Greg Bormann**) and all my surrounding coaches. I definitely want to thank President **Wesley McClure**, who thought highly enough of me to be able to take this program in the direction that he wants to see it go."

With just six weeks to go before his first game, Boykin indicated that he wasn't planning to make many changes.

"We are going to find the things our guys are good at and stick with those things," Boykin said. "We have some very good talent on this team, both offensively and defensively."

Boykin, who brings 16 years of coaching experience to the job, was hired in January to coach special teams, running backs and to serve as recruiting coordinator. Sneed, the Dragons' defensive coordinator in 2007, had been promoted in December following the departure of **Johnnie Cole**. After three seasons, which began at 0-10 and followed with 7-3 and 8-3 records, Cole left to become head coach at **Texas Southern**.

Lane had been sanctioned by the NCAA in January and had it not caught the "alteration" internally, the Dragons could have been facing a possible "Death Penalty" by the NCAA.



BOYKIN