

# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Willie Tucker Photo

## A WINNER SPEAKS

ALL-AMERICANS HEAR IT FROM THE BEST; CIAA TOURNAMENT SHAPING UP

**TOMLIN:** Pittsburgh Steelers' head coach imparts words of wisdom to SBN black college All-Americans.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



Willie Tucker Photo

(L. to r.) AURN President Jerry Lopes, Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney, Steelers Head Coach Mike Tomlin and longtime Steelers' scouting legend Bill Nunn, Jr. (seated) at the SBN Sports "Skull Session."

## ALL-AMERICANS GET A TREAT:

The 35th Annual SBN Sports Black College All-American Awards Weekend got a special treat Saturday when Super Bowl winning head coach **Mike Tomlin** of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Steelers' owners Dan Rooney and Art Rooney, II, joined the festivities.

The distinguished trio, just two weeks removed from a victory in Super Bowl XLIII in Tampa, along with a bevy of Steelers' coaches and scouting personnel, joined black college football legends, the All-Americans, black college coaches, high school coaches and players at the "Skull Session" Saturday morning held at the Steelers' state-of-the-art headquarters and training facility in Pittsburgh.

The session was part of the weekend's activities honoring SBN's black college All-American team, the top individual players, coach and team from the 2008 football season. The event returned to Pittsburgh this year, home of SBN and for all purposes home of the All-American team selection, for the first time in two decades.

After a Friday night reception, both Rooneys spoke on Saturday morning welcoming the honorees and attendees to Pittsburgh. One of the highlights of the elder (Dan) Rooney's speech, was his recognition of former *Pittsburgh Courier* sports editor and longtime Steeler scout **Bill Nunn, Jr.**, who was also in attendance, as one of three Steeler legends.

Nunn, a **West Virginia State** graduate, followed his father, the legendary **Bill Nunn, Sr.**, into the editor's chair at the *Courier* and continued a tradition started by his father at the *Courier* in 1927 of selecting a black college All-American team. Using his extensive knowledge of black colleges and a keen eye for talent, Nunn joined the Steelers in 1966, became a full-time scout in 1970 and has been in on all major Steeler personnel decisions for more than four decades.

Rooney placed Nunn beside his father, Steelers' founder Art Rooney, Sr., and Chuck Noll, the Steelers coach who thrust the team into national prominence by winning four Super Bowls in the 1970s, as Steelers' legends.

Tomlin, who said he initially came to the session just to observe, said he was inspired to speak after listening to presentations from black college legends such as **Everson Walls, L. C. Greenwood, Doug Williams, Kenny Burroughs, Mel Blount, James Harris** and others, who told the All-Americans and high schoolers about keys to being successful in any endeavor and preparing for life after football.

Identifying those players as his heroes, Tomlin told the players, "you're looking at a failure," referring to his lifelong dream of playing professional football that has gone unrealized. "I haven't played not even one down in the National Football League," he said while confessing that at 36, he'd still like to give it a try. But, he said, because he focused and prepared himself otherwise he now has a chance to be "a part of the greatest organization in professional football."

Tomlin repped his black college roots noting that his father is a **Hampton** graduate and his mother a **Virginia State** grad. "I went to William & Mary, go figure," he said.

The session ended with a tour of the Steelers' facility that included the team's locker room, training room, team offices, photo exhibits and trophy case that houses all record six Lombardi Trophies signalling Super Bowl victories.

At Saturday night's gala hosted by comedian Michael Colyar at the Omni William Penn Hotel, awards were presented to the All-Americans along with Offensive Player of the Year, **Jacary Atkinson** of **Tuskegee**, Defensive Player of the Year, **Marcellus Speaks** of **Jackson State**, Coach of the Year, **Henry Frazier, III** of **Prairie View A&M**, the top team, the **Grambling State** Tigers and head coach **Rod Broadway**, and the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to the *Courier* and publisher Rod Doss.

## 2008-09 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Men's Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
1) Virginia Union	14	3	19	4
2) Elizabeth City State	11	5	19	6
3) Johnson C. Smith	11	6	18	7
4) St. Augustine's	10	7	17	9
5) Bowie State	10	7	14	11
6) Shaw	8	9	11	14
7) Fayetteville State	6	10	12	12
8) Virginia State	5	11	10	17
9) Livingstone	5	11	12	12
10) St. Paul's	3	14	6	19

### CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**RYAN SCOTT, Sr., G, JCSU, Reston, VA** - Led JCSU in scoring in 3 games, averaging 25.3 ppg., including hitting a 3-point game winner vs. Shaw, part of a 34-point effort.

**RICARDO PRIDE, Fr., G, SPC, Sulland, MD** - Averaged 12.6 points in 3 games. Scored a career-high 17 points vs. Bowie State.

**STEVE JOYNER, JCSU** - Got 3 straight conference wins over SAC, LC and Shaw, making them 6-0 in division play, ranked 7th in NCAA Div. II Atlantic Region.

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Morgan State	10	2	16	10
Coppin State	7	5	10	16
SC State	7	5	12	12
NC A&T State	7	5	13	13
Bethune-Cookman	6	6	12	14
Norfolk State	6	6	8	15
Hampton	5	6	12	13
Howard	5	6	7	18
Delaware State	5	7	7	20
Florida A&M	4	8	6	18
Md.-E. Shore	3	9	7	18

### MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**TYWAN MCKEE, Sr., G, CSU, Philadelphia, PA** - Averaged 19.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and 3 steals in two wins, getting 26, 9 rebounds and 7 assists vs. BCU and 13 points, 6 assists, 3 steals vs. WSSU.

**KEVIN THOMPSON, Fr., F, MSU, Baltimore, MD** - Averaged 13.3 points and 5.5 rebounds in two wins for league leaders.

**JASON JOHNSON, Sr., C, SCSU, Bronx, NY** - In two wins, 9 rebounds, 4 blocks and 2 steals. Grabbed 13 boards, had six blocks and 3 steals vs. Morgan State.

SIAC	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Claffin	19	2	20	2
Benedict	18	2	20	3
Lane	14	5	16	6
Clark Atlanta	11	8	13	9
LeMoyn-Owen	10	10	11	12
Albany State	9	11	10	13
Fort Valley State	9	11	9	14
Miles	9	11	9	14
Stillman	6	13	7	14
Kentucky State	6	13	7	15
Paine	6	13	7	15
Tuskegee	5	13	5	16
Morehouse	5	14	7	15

### SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**KENNY BOYD, Sr., C, MHC, Meridian, MS** - Averaged 15.3 points, 6.3 rebounds and 3.6 assists in wins over FVSVU and CAU and overtime loss to Albany State.

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Alabama State	11	1	14	8
Jackson State	11	2	12	13
Ark. Pine Bluff	8	5	9	15
Prairie View A&M	7	5	11	14
Southern	6	7	6	19
Alabama A&M	5	7	7	13
Miss. Valley St.	5	8	5	21
Grambling State	4	9	6	18
Texas Southern	3	9	3	22
Alcorn State	3	10	5	21

### SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**GRANT MAXEY, Jr., F, JSU, Toledo, OH** - Threw in team- and game-high 28 points and had 5 rebounds and 4 steals as Tigers escaped with win over Prairie View Monday. Maxey had 12 points, 6 rebounds and 6 assists in win over Texas Southern Saturday where all five TSU starters scored in double figures. Tigers trail Alabama State for first place by half-game.

INDEPENDENTS	W		L	
	W	L	W	L
W. Va. State	19	4		
Central State	17	7		
Cheyney	15	6		
Savannah State	12	14		
Edward Waters	11	14		
UDC	10	14		
Lincoln (Pa.)	8	17		
Tennessee State	8	17		
Winston-Salem State	7	17		
Florida Memorial	6	16		
Lincoln (Mo.)	3	16		
N. C. Central	2	23		

### PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**GINO SMITH, Jr., F, CSU, Milwaukee, WI** - Averaged 19.0 points in two wins, getting 20 in win over Kentucky State and 18 to pace win over Urbana. Was perfect 6-of-6 from field vs. Urbana.

**RICKY JACKSON, 6-7, Jr., F, WVU, Canton, OH** - Averaged 22.3 ppg., 8.7 rpg., while shooting 75% in three wins. Canned 23 of 31 FGs, 19 of 24 FTs, led Yellow Jackets in rebounding in all three games.

**BRYANT LEACH, Jr., G, LINCOLN, Philadelphia** - Had 21 points on 9 of 12 shooting and pulled down team- and game-high 9 boards in win over St. Paul's, the team's fifth win over a CIAA school.

# BCSP Notes

## CIAA Tourney shaping up

The CIAA is in its last week of regular season play as it prepares for the 64th annual Men's and 35th annual Women's Tournaments next week in Charlotte, N.C.

Headed into the final week of the season, **Virginia Union** and **Elizabeth City State** are the top two men's seeds with **Bowie State** and **Fayetteville State** atop the women's standings. Tournament seeds are based on regular season conference records.

The women's tournament tips off Tuesday with two games at 7 and 9 p.m. pitting the four lowest seeded teams (7 vs. 10, 8 vs. 9) playing to get into Wednesday's quarterfinals.

Women's quarterfinals will run at 11 a.m., 1, 3 and 5 p.m. on Wednesday followed by two men's games between the lowest seeds (7 vs. 10, 8 vs. 9) playing at 7 and 9 p.m. to get into the men's Thursday quarterfinals.

Men's quarterfinals games are set for Thursday, Feb. 26 at 1, 3, 7 and 9 p.m. Friday's women's semifinals are at 1 and 3 p.m., with the men's semis to follow at 7 and 9 p.m.

The women's championship game is at 5 p.m. on Saturday with the men's final at 8 p.m.

Ticket booklets are still available and can be purchased thru Ticketmaster or thru conference schools. Individual session tickets

## GAMES THIS WEEK

### SATURDAY, FEB. 21

CIAA	St. Paul's vs. N.N. Apprentice in Lawrenceville, VA	4
	Eliz. City State vs. Va. Union in Eliz. City, NC	5
	Bowie State vs. Columbia Union in Bowie, MD	7

MEAC	B-Cookman vs. Delaware State in D. Beach, FL	4
	Florida A&M vs. UMES in Tallahassee, FL	4
	Towson vs. Morgan State in Baltimore, MD	4
	NC A&T vs. W-Salem State in Greensboro, N.C.	4
	Norfolk State vs. SC State in Norfolk, VA	6
	Hampton vs. Coppin State in Hampton, VA	6

SIAC	Claffin vs. Albany State in Orangeburg, SC	3
	Kentucky State vs. Tuskegee in Frankfort, KY	3
	Lane vs. Stillman in Jackson, TN	3
	Miles vs. LeMoyn-Owen in Fairfield, AL	3
	Paine vs. Benedict in Augusta, GA	3

SWAC	Southern vs. Alabama State in Baton Rouge, LA	4
	Jackson State vs. Grambling State in Jackson, MS	5:30
	Pr. View A&M vs. Miss Valley State in Pr. View, TX	7:30
	Alabama A&M vs. Alcorn State in Alcorn State, MS	7:30
	Texas Southern vs. Ark.-Pine Bluff in Houston, TX	7:30

INDEPENDENTS	Cheyney vs. E. Stroudsburg in Cheyney, PA	3
	Chowan vs. UDC in Murfreesboro, NC	2
	Texas-Pan Am vs. NC Central in Edinburg, TX	7
	Tennessee State vs. Detroit in Nashville, TN	7:30
	Fort Valley State vs. Clark Atlanta in Fort Valley, GA	8

### MONDAY, FEB. 23

MEAC	Hampton vs. Morgan State in Hampton, VA	7
	B-Cookman vs. UMES in Daytona Beach, FL	7:30
	Florida A&M vs. Delaware State in Tallahassee, FL	7:30
	Howard vs. Coppin State in Washington, DC	8
	NC A&T vs. SC State in Greensboro, N.C.	8
	Norfolk State vs. W-Salem State in Norfolk, VA	8

SIAC	Benedict vs. Morehouse in Columbia, SC	7:30
	Kentucky State vs. Miles in Frankfort, KY	7:30

SWAC	Southern vs. Alabama A&M in Baton Rouge, LA	6
	Alabama State vs. Alcorn State in Alcorn State, MS	7:30
	Prairie View vs. Ark.-Pine Bluff in Prairie View, TX	7:30
	Texas Southern vs. Miss Valley St. in Houston, TX	7:30
	Alcorn St. vs. Alabama St. in Lorman, MS	8

### TUESDAY, FEB. 24

CIAA	Women's Tournament Begins	7, 9 pm
SIAC	Tuskegee vs. Paine in Tuskegee, AL	7:30
	Clark Atlanta vs. Lane in Atlanta, GA	8

for Tuesday and Wednesday will be available next week at the Time Warner Cable Arena. No individual tickets will be available for Thursday, Friday or Saturday sessions.

## Hampton, Norfolk State rule MEAC Indoor Track

The **Hampton** Lady Pirates and **Norfolk State** Spartans won the 2009 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Track and Field titles Saturday afternoon at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex.

Hampton recorded 148 points en route to their seventh consecutive MEAC title and eighth overall. The Spartans of Norfolk State captured their fourth consecutive title with 150 total points.

Hampton's **Maurice Pierce** was named the women's outstanding coach for the seventh straight year. Hampton's **Racquel Vassell** posted 40.50 points to earn Outstanding Performer accolades. Vassell won the 60m dash, 200m dash and long jump.

Norfolk State finished in second with 107 points followed by **Maryland Eastern Shore** (88), **Morgan State** (61) and **Howard** (42).

Norfolk State's **Marlon Woods** was named the Outstanding Performer of the men. Woods won the high jump, triple jump and finished second in the long jump. **Kenneth Giles** of Norfolk State was named the outstanding coach.

Morgan State scored 103 points to finish second in the team standings. Hampton (96) and Maryland Eastern Shore (57) followed in second and third respectively.

## St. Aug's sweeps CIAA Indoor Track crowns

**Saint Augustine's** relied on its depth in running and jumping events to sweep the 2009 CIAA men's and women indoor track and field championships Saturday (Feb. 14) at the Freeman Center on Christopher Newport University's campus.

Both victories came easily for Saint Augustine's College, which won its 39th CIAA indoor crown in school history including 24 men's titles and 15 women's championships. In the men's standings, the Falcons scored 228 points followed by **Bowie State** (65), **Virginia Union** (43), **Virginia State** (41), **Johnson C. Smith** (18), **Saint Paul's** (12) and **Livingstone** (6). In the women's events, the Lady Falcons scored 153 points followed by Virginia State, (69), **Bowie State** (69), **Johnson C. Smith** (60), **Virginia Union** (7) and **Saint Paul's** (4).

Middle distance runner **Chayce Smith** and jumper **Joe Kindred** paced the Falcon men's team, who won 10 of 14 events, and jumper **Andrea Powell** led the Lady Falcons. Smith was named men's track MVP and Kindred was selected men's field MVP while Powell earned women's field MVP. Kindred, last year's Division II national men's outdoor field athlete of the year, won his third straight league MVP award. **Shermaine Williams** of **Johnson C. Smith** prevented a Falcon sweep as she was named women's track MVP after winning the 60 meter hurdles and finishing second in the 60 and 200 meters.

Smith placed second in the 800-meter run and one-mile run, and third in the 5,000-meter run to score 22 points while Kindred won the

high jump and finished second in the long jump and triple jump to score 26 points for the Falcons, the defending NCAA Division II national indoor champions

## Cooper-Dyke finalist for Basketball Hall of Fame

**Prairie View A&M** women's basketball



COOPER-DYKE

coach **Cynthia Cooper-Dyke** is officially a finalist for induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and she could arguably be joining the best group of inductees of all time with the likes of Michael Jordan, David Robinson, John Stockton and **C. Vivian Stringer** also being named finalists for the

class of 2009.

"It feels great to be considered a finalist and the first thing I thought of is how proud my mother would be if she was still here," said Cooper Dyke, whose Lady Panthers lead the **SWAC** race with two weeks left in the regular season.

Cooper-Dyke's induction would be the final exclamation point on an unbelievable playing career that included numerous accomplishments. She was a four-year letter winner at guard for USC from 1982-86 and led the Trojans to back-to-back NCAA tournament titles in 1983 and 1984 and closed out her collegiate career with an appearance in the 1986 NCAA tournament championship game and a spot on the NCAA Final Four All-Tournament Team. Cooper-Dyke ranks eighth on USC's all-time scoring list with 1,559 points, fifth in assists (381) and third in steals (256).

She started her professional career in Europe in 1986 and represented the United States proudly in the Olympic Games in 1988 and 1992. She returned to the United States to play in the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) in 1997 with the Houston Comets. She made a profound impact on the league leading the Comets to four consecutive WNBA titles and retired as the franchise's all-time leading scorer with 2,601 points.

Cooper Dyke began her collegiate coaching career in 2005 after being named head women's basketball coach at Prairie View. She recently coached the team to back-to-back regular season conference championships, the most wins in school history (22) and a berth to play in the 2008 Women's National Invitational Tournament (WNIT). More impressively, in only her second season she was named SWAC co-coach of the year after leading the Lady Panthers to their first winning season in program history. The team won the conference tournament in 2007 and advanced to play in the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship.

Cooper-Dyke is considered a basketball icon as a player and has already starting making progress toward becoming a coaching legend.

"I have the same goals as a head coach that I did as a player and as long as you want to be the best, you have to beat the best," said Cooper Dyke. "The reason I took the job at Prairie View is because I wanted to be the second coach ever to take a HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) to the Final Four and I want to go to the Final Four with Prairie View and win a NCAA Championship."

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