

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Southern Sports Photo

SWAC GRIDIRON PICKS

LEE: Preseason SWAC player of the year is also on Payton Award Watch List.

SWAC KICKS OFF FOOTBALL EVENTS; NEW COACHES AT ALCORN, GRAMBLING

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

REY TAKES OVER AT ALCORN:

Alcorn State University has named **Barrett Rey** as head baseball coach. Rey takes over the Braves' baseball program after the retirement of legendary coach, **Willie "Rat" McGowan, Sr.**



GSU Sports Photo

REY: Southern grad moves from Grambling to Alcorn State as head baseball coach.

Prior to becoming Alcorn State's head coach, Rey was head baseball coach at **Grambling State University** where he took over a 6-36 program which had not made it to the conference tournament in seven years. During the past two seasons, the GSU Tigers earned a berth in the SWAC tournament. Rey compiled a 56-94 record over a three year span and in 2009; GSU advanced to the semi finals.

The New Orleans, Louisiana native says that he is "excited to be a part of the Braves family."

As an undergraduate at **Southern University**, he was also part of the Jaguars' baseball team from 1993 to 1997.

"I've observed him as a student-athlete, assistant coach and head coach over the years," said **Brenda Square**, ASU's interim athletic director. "He is highly capable of leading the Braves and moving the program forward."

While at Southern University, Rey was part of nine championships, and recruited a host of draft picks.

Rey received both his B.S. in psychology in 1997 and master's in therapeutic recreation and leisure services in 1998 from Southern.

He is the Chairperson of the SWAC Head Baseball Coaches and is a member of the American Baseball Coaches Association.

NEW GSU BASEBALL COACH:



GSU Sports Photo

COOPER: Former player and assistant takes reins at alma mater after departure of head coach.

James Darrell Cooper has been tabbed as the new head baseball coach of **Grambling State University** as announced by GSU Athletics Director, **Lin Dawson** in a press conference held Friday in the student union atrium on the GSU campus. Cooper, 27, has long been a staple of the Grambling community and has most recently served as an assistant coach on the Tigers baseball staff.

A graduate of GSU, Cooper received a bachelors of science in marketing (2004) as well as a Masters in Sports Administrations (2008) while serving as a graduate assistant coach. During his playing days at GSU, Cooper was twice named second team all-conference and following his senior campaign received first-team All-SWAC honors.

A native of Cullen, LA, Cooper followed up his playing career at Grambling with a brief stint in the Houston Astros organization, before playing a year with the Sussex Skyhawks.

Cooper, only the fifth head baseball coach in school history, replaces former coach **Barrett Rey** who resigned earlier this summer after leading the team to a 17-37 record and within one game of the SWAC Baseball tournament finals.

JAMES RETIRES AT MILES:

Miles College Athletic Director **Augustus James** has retired effective June 30, 2009. James, a native of Centerville, Alabama has worked with the Golden Bears Athletic Department for 38 years, 19 years as Athletic Director. He spearheaded the college's increased commitment to intercollegiate athletics, transforming Miles into a contender in the **SIAC**.

He served as chairman of the SIAC Athletic Director's Association, a member of the SIAC Basketball Expansion and Tournament Committees, Co-Chair of the SIAC Baseball Tournament Committee, South Region Football Committee and a member of the NCAA South Region Basketball Committee. School officials announced an interim director will be named soon.

2009 SWAC predictions unveiled

The **Southwestern Athletic Conference** announced its 2009 Football Preseason Honors Tuesday, headlined by **Southern QB Bryant Lee** voted the Preseason Offensive Player of the Year, and **Grambling State** defensive lineman **Christian Anthony** voted Preseason Defensive Player of the Year.

Grambling State, the 2008 SWAC Champion, was picked to repeat. All preseason honors and predicted order of finish were voted on by the league's coaches, sports information departments and selected members of the media.

Lee, the 2008 SWAC Offensive Player of the Year and first team-all-SWAC selection, led the SWAC in completions (217), attempts (352), passing yards (2,682) and touchdown passes (20) while throwing just seven interceptions. Lee was seventh in the conference and second in rushing yards among quarterbacks with 534 yards (on 139 attempts) with six touchdowns. Lee had four games of at least 300 yards passing (including one 400-yard game), and posted back-to-back games where he accounted for at least five touchdowns.

Anthony was a first-team all-SWAC selection in 2008 and the Defensive Most Valuable Player of the SWAC Football Championship game. Last season he posted 55 tackles (17 for loss) and eight sacks for the SWAC and HBCU National Champions. Anthony was tied for fourth in the league in sacks last season and was sixth in the Conference in tackles for loss.

In the SWAC Championship game, Anthony posted seven tackles (three for loss), two sacks and two QB hurries in the win over **Jackson State**.

Grambling State was picked to repeat as SWAC Champions. GSU, the two-time reigning Western Division champs, has played in back-to-back title games, and last year avenged a 2007 SWAC Championship Game loss to Jackson State.

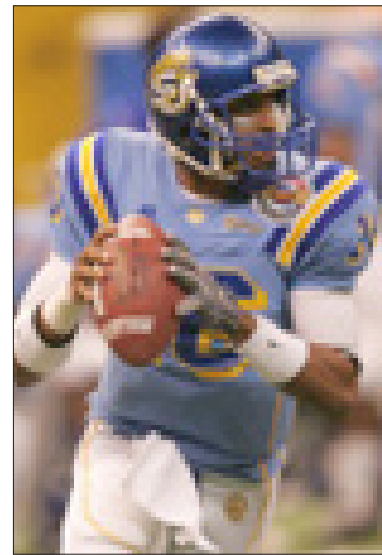
Jackson State, winners of the Eastern Division crown in each of the past two seasons, was picked to defend its division title.

There were 21 players named to this year's preseason all-conference team that earned 2008 postseason honors: WR **Thomas Harris**, DE **Jeremy Maddox**, OL **Xavier Manual**, and PK **Jeremy Licea** (Alabama A&M), Anthony, CB **Kenneth Anio**, QB **Greg Dillon**, OL **Reyav Smith**, and RB **Cornelius Walker** (Grambling State), OL **Mikeal Harshaw**, DB **Malcolm Palmer** and K **Eric Perri** (Jackson State), RB **Donald Babers**, DB **Anthony Beck**, OL **James Delke**, and DL **Quinton Spears** (Prairie View A&M), Lee and WR **Juamorris Stewart** (Southern), WR **William Osbourne** and DB **De'Markus Washington** (Texas Southern), and DB **Kevin Thornton** (Univ. Arkansas-Pine Bluff).

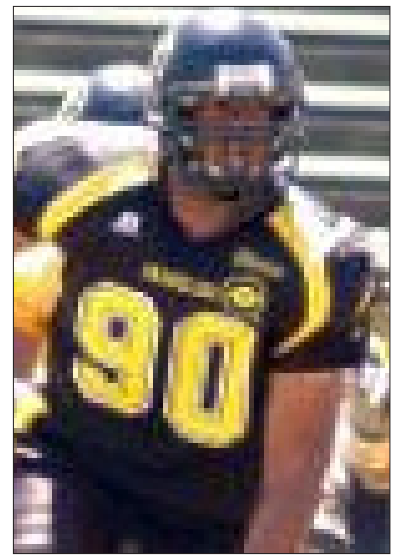
The 2009 SWAC Championship Game will be played Saturday, December 12 in Birmingham, AL at Legion Field.

2009 SWAC PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE			
OL Mikeal Harshaw, Grambling State	6-4	310	Sr. Memphis, TN
OL Xavier Manual, Alabama A&M	6-1	307	Sr. Vinegar Bend, AL
OL James Dekle, Prairie View A&M	6-2	285	Jr. Miami, FL
OL Reyav Smith, Grambling State	6-1	305	Sr. Port Allen, LA
OL Ramon Chinyoung, Southern	6-1	295	Sr. Houston, TX
TE Andrew Thomas, Texas Southern	6-2	210	Sr. Germantown, MD
WR Juamorris Stewart, Southern	6-3	195	Sr. Baton Rouge, LA
WR Thomas Harris, Alabama A&M	6-0	210	Sr. Alexander City, AL
RB Donald Babers, Prairie View A&M	5-9	170	Jr. Houston, TX
RB Mickey Dean, Arkansas-Pine Bluff	5-10	215	Sr. Little Rock, AR
QB Bryant Lee, Southern	6-2	195	Sr. Boutte, LA
K Jeremy Licea, Alabama A&M	5-7	147	Sr. Ventura, CA
FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE			
DL Christian Anthony, Grambling	6-4	246	Sr. Birmingham, AL
DL Jeremy Maddox, Alabama A&M	6-0	244	Sr. Grand Bay, AL
DL Sam Washington, Jackson State	6-4	265	Sr. Lexington, MS
DL Quinton Spears, Prairie View A&M	6-4	220	Sr. Montgomery, TX
LB Dejuan Fulgham, Texas Southern	6-1	220	Jr. Killeen, TX
LB Rory Malone, Mississippi Valley State	5-10	225	Jr. Mesquite, TX



SOUTHERN QB
BRYANT LEE



GRAMBLING DE
CHRISTIAN ANTHONY

LB Adrian Hardy, Alabama State	6-2	197	Sr. Selma, TX
DB Anthony Beck, Prairie View A&M	6-2	205	Sr. Channelville, TX
DB Kenneth Anio, Grambling State	6-0	180	Jr. Jackson, LA
DB Recharad Johnson, Alabama State	5-11	190	Sr. Montgomery, AL
DB De'Markus Washington, Texas Southern	5-9	160	So. Dallas, TX
P Pedro Ventura, Prairie View A&M	5-9	170	Jr. Houston, TX
RS William Osbourne, Texas Southern	5-8	162	Sr. Marshall, TX

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

OL Charles Smith, Texas Southern	6-5	325	Jr. Largo, MD
OL James Blanton, Prairie View A&M	6-7	335	Jr. Clute, TX
OL Jason Jones, Arkansas-Pine Bluff	6-2	295	Jr. Little Rock, AR
OL Robert Ogletree, Mississippi Valley State	6-2	290	Sr. Birmingham, AL
OL Lee Almanza, Southern	6-4	300	So. Houston, TX
TE Marlon Allen, Prairie View A&M	6-2	245	Sr. Stafford, TX
WR William Osbourne, Texas Southern	5-8	162	Sr. Marshall, TX
WR Brandon Stargell, Miss. Valley State	6-2	195	Jr. Pine Bluff, AR
RB Ulysses Banks, Alabama A&M	5-8	172	Sr. Birmingham, AL
RB Cornelius Walker, Grambling State	5-10	170	Jr. Atlanta, GA
QB Greg Dillon, Grambling State	6-0	200	Jr. Bogalusa, LA
K Eric Perri, Jackson State	5-8	155	Sr. Miami, FL

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

DL Jared Dom, Arkansas-Pine Bluff	6-3	255	Sr. Pine Bluff, AR
DL Malcolm Taylor, Alcorn State	6-3	242	Sr. Brooksville, MS
DL Dexter James, Southern	6-4	275	Sr. Brusly, LA
DL Chris Ivy, Mississippi Valley State	6-2	220	Sr. Louisville, MS
LB Allan Baugh, Southern	6-0	235	Sr. Houston, TX
LB Michael Weatherspoon, Ark.-Pine Bluff	6-3	225	Sr. Little Rock, AR
LB Marcus Jamison, Jackson State	6-1	225	Sr. Brooksville, MS
DB Kevin Thornton, Arkansas-Pine Bluff	6-1	210	Sr. Little Rock, AR
DB Malcolm Palmer, Jackson State	5-11	180	Sr. Autaugville, AL
DB Michael Higgins, Miss. Valley State	6-3	195	Sr. Greenwood, MS
DB Marcel Young, Jackson State	6-2	200	Sr. Jackson, MS
P Josh Duran, Southern	5-9	180	Jr. Eunice, LA
RS Mareo Howard, Arkansas-Pine Bluff	5-9	180	Jr. Fort Valley, GA

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

QB Bryant Lee Southern 6-2 195 Sr. Boutte, LA

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

DL Christian Anthony Grambling State 6-4 246 Sr. Birmingham, AL

COACHES' PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

(first place votes in parentheses)

EASTERN DIVISION	WESTERN DIVISION
Jackson State (13) 103 pts	Grambling State (14) 104 pts
Alabama A&M (8) 95	Southern (5) 86
Alabama State 56	Prairie View A&M (3) 76
Mississippi Valley State 46	Texas Southern 43
Alcorn State (2) 45	Univ. Arkansas-Pine Bluff (1) 36

BCSP Notes

Stephens earns new pact at Cheyney hoops coach

Cheyney University Men's Basketball Coach **Dominique Stephens** has signed a three-year contract extension to be permanent head coach.



Cheyney Sports Photo

STEPHENS: Parlays great first season into permanent head coaching position.

Last season, as interim head coach, Stephens guided the Wolves to the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference post season tournament compiling an 18-9 mark along the way.

He also led the Wolves to a victory over Division I **Delaware State**. It was the first time in more than 20 years that Cheyney had knocked off a DI opponent.

On the signing of his contact Cheyney athletic director China Jude stated, "Coach Stephens has demonstrated his commitment not only to the athletic department's success but to the University. He is a strong teacher, administrator and role model for our student athletes. We are very proud of his contribution and are happy that he has committed to remain at Cheyney."

Prior to being named head coach, Stephens spent the previous five seasons as an assistant coach under **Cleo Hill Jr.** The Philadelphia native is the younger brother of Cheyney University women's head coach and former Temple All-American **Marilyn Stephens** and the father of Cheyney standout **Dominique Curry**.

As a player, Stephens was a part of championship teams from Philadelphia and Durham, NC. He was a member of the Dobbins High School football team and 1984 basketball team that consisted of Doug Overton, Bo Kimble, and the late Hank Gathers. That famous hoop squad went onto win the Philadelphia Public League Championship.

After high school, Stephens enrolled at **North Carolina Central University**. As a sophomore, NCCU posted a 26-3 mark. The following year the Eagles won the NCAA Division II national title with a 28-4 season. During his senior year,

NCCU went 28-5.

Stephens was inducted into the North Carolina Central University Hall of Fame in 1995.

After college Stephens signed to play professionally in the Philippians Basketball League. He also played with the Lancaster Storm of the Eastern Basketball League.

Stephens earned his Bachelors of Science in Mathematics from NCCU in 1992. He earned a Masters of Science in Human Services from Springfield College in 2002.

Coaching vets added to NCCU women's basketball bench

North Carolina Central University head women's basketball coach **Joli Robinson** announced the hiring of two former head coaches, **Antonio Davis** and **Leah Frierson**, as assistant coaches. Davis and Frierson will join Robinson on the Eagles' sideline this upcoming season.

Davis comes to NCCU from **South Carolina State**, where he spent two seasons as an assistant coach for the women's basketball program. Prior to his stint at South Carolina State, he spent seven years as the head women's basketball coach at **Saint Augustine's College**.

Davis also had successful careers as a head coach at **Kentucky State** from 1993-98 and at **Livingstone College** from 1988-91. He also served as the head coach of the women's team at **Morristown College** in Tennessee from 1987-88.

As a player, Davis attended Livingstone, where he became one of the best players in CIAA history. He is Livingstone's all-time leading scorer, having scored more than 1,800 points in his career. In the summer of 2005, he was inducted into the Livingstone College Athletic Hall of Fame for his outstanding career with the Blue Bears.

Davis earned a bachelor of arts degree in history and later went on to **North Carolina A&T**, where he earned a master of science degree in history.

Frierson comes to NCCU from Livingstone College, where she spent one season as head coach of the Blue Bear women's program. Prior to Livingstone, Frierson was an assistant coach at St. Augustine's, where she served under Davis during the 2006-07 season.



DAVIS



FRIERSON

Before arriving at St. Augustine's, Frierson took on the position of director of basketball operations at North Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill., where she served as the coordinator and liaison for community service, marketing and facilities for the 2005-06 season.

Frierson played basketball at Belleville Area College. In 1999, she led her team to a 33-3 finish and second place in the NJCAA Championships. The following year, she helped the program earn a 20-10 record and reach their third-straight NJCAA Region XXIV semifinals. She became the school's all-time rebounding leader and earned both All-Region XXIV and Great Rivers Athletic All-Conference honors during both of her final two seasons.

In 2001, Frierson earned a scholarship to continue her basketball career at Austin Peay State University. As a senior, she helped her team capture their second-straight Ohio Valley Conference title, where they went undefeated in conference play.

Frierson earned her associate of arts degree from Southwestern Illinois and went on to earn a bachelor of science degree in communications with a minor in psychology from Austin Peay. In 2006, she earned a master of arts degree in education from the University of Phoenix and is currently pursuing a master's degree in sports administration from the University of North Carolina Pembroke.

"Having two coaches that have had the opportunity to be head coaches on the collegiate level and have experience on the Division I level is great," added Robinson. "Both of them have strong work ethics and knowledge of the game. As I have talked with both of them throughout this process, they have the same philosophies and understanding that a head coach searches for."