



Mississippi Valley State Photo

END OF SEASON WRAP

ALL-SPORTS AWARDS; HOOPS COACHING CHANGES AT ALABAMA A&M, LIVINGSTONE

DR. WILLIAM BYNUM: Miss. Valley State prez named head of NCAA HBCU and Limited Resource Institutions Academic Advisory Group.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

ANITA HOWARD LEAVES LIVINGSTONE:

SALISBURY, N.C. - **Anita Howard's** tenure as **Livingstone College** head women's basketball has come to an end.



Howard

Athletics Director **Andre Springs** announced Friday morning that Howard has resigned, effective immediately. She will be moving to Georgia to become head women's basketball coach at Columbus State.

Howard went 41-14 during her two years at Livingstone. The Blue Bears reached the **CIAA** tournament semi-finals in both years.

Overall, she has amassed a 79-30 record in her four years as a head coach. She coached at Division III Salem College (2012-2014) prior to her hire at Livingstone.

"We would like to thank Coach Howard for her leadership to the women's basketball program and wish her much success in her future endeavours," Springs said.

A national search will begin immediately.

VSU EXTENDS LONNIE BLOW:

ETTRICK, Va.-**Virginia State University** has announced that Trojans' head men's basketball coach **Lonnie Blow, Jr.** has signed a contract extension through 2021.



Blow

Blow led the Trojans to a 23-6 overall mark last season including winning VSU's first **CIAA** Tournament title since 1989. The Trojans then posted a first round NCAA Div. II playoff win before ending its season with a loss to West Liberty. For his efforts he was named CIAA Coach of the Year.

Blow came to VSU in 2013 following a stint at **St. Augustine's University**. During his three seasons as head coach, the Trojans have an overall record of 56-24 which extended his career coaching record to 118-54. He is the only coach to have won CIAA Tournament titles at two different schools. He won his first title at St. Augustine's in 2010.

"Coach Blow is a true leader for our men's team," said VSU President, **Dr. Makola Abdullah**. "Not only does he motivate them to excel on the court, but in the classroom as well. We are excited that he will remain an integral part of our Trojan family."

"Virginia State University is fortunate to have a head men's basketball coach of the caliber of Lonnie Blow, Jr.," says VSU Director of Athletics **Peggy Davis**. "His leadership ability, coaching style, and all around commitment to our student-athletes' academic success makes him the right fit for Virginia State University. We are proud that Coach Blow has made the commitment to continue to lead our men's basketball team."

ALABAMA A&M HIRES RICHARDS:

Alabama A&M Director of Athletics **Bryan Hicks**, has announced the hiring of **Margaret Richards** as the Lady Bulldogs head women's basketball coach.



Richards

Richards comes to The Hill after one season at Clemson. Prior to that, she was head coach at **St. Augustine** (2008-10); assistant coach at North Texas (2010-11); assistant coach at Weber State

(2011-12); and assistant coach at Western Kentucky (2012-15).

She was a four-year letter-winner at the University of Nebraska and ranked among the nation's top 25 scorers in her senior season. Richards received her degree in communication studies from Nebraska in 2003.

A native of Louisville, Ky., Richards was an all-state honoree at Louisville Central High School, averaging 35.5 points per game as a senior.

"We are excited to have Margaret Richards as our new Head Women's Basketball Coach. Margaret is a rising star in women's basketball," said Hicks. "Her leadership skills, and her enthusiastic approach to the game of women's basketball will serve our program well."

CIAA

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

WOMEN

CROSS COUNTRY - Winston-Salem State
VOLLEYBALL - Winston-Salem State
INDOOR TRACK - Winston-Salem State
SOFTBALL - Winston-Salem State
BASKETBALL - Virginia Union
BOWLING - Bowie State
TENNIS - Chowan
OUTDOOR TRACK - Johnson C. Smith

MEN

FOOTBALL - Winston-Salem State
INDOOR TRACK - St. Augustine's
BASKETBALL - Virginia State
BASEBALL - Chowan
GOLF - Chowan
TENNIS - Chowan
OUTDOOR TRACK - St. Augustine's

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

WOMEN

CROSS COUNTRY - Florida A&M
VOLLEYBALL - Bethune-Cookman
BOWLING - Delaware State
BASKETBALL - Bethune-Cookman
SOFTBALL - Florida A&M
TENNIS - Bethune-Cookman
OUTDOOR TRACK - Florida A&M

MEN

CROSS COUNTRY - Md. E. Shore
FOOTBALL - Bethune-Cookman, N. C. A&T, North Carolina Central
INDOOR TRACK - Bethune-Cookman
BASKETBALL - Hampton
BASEBALL - Bethune-Cookman
OUTDOOR TRACK - Bethune-Cookman
TENNIS - South Carolina State

SIAC

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

WOMEN

CROSS COUNTRY - Clark Atlanta
VOLLEYBALL - Kentucky State
BASKETBALL - Benedict
TENNIS - Benedict
OUTDOOR TRACK - Albany State
SOFTBALL - Tuskegee

MEN

CROSS COUNTRY - Benedict
FOOTBALL - Miles
BASKETBALL - Stillman
TENNIS - Benedict
GOLF - Benedict
GOLF - Miles
BASEBALL - Claflin

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

WOMEN

CROSS COUNTRY - Alabama State
VOLLEYBALL - Jackson State
BASKETBALL - Alabama State
INDOOR TRACK - Alabama State
BOWLING - Jackson State
GOLF - Alabama State
SOFTBALL - Alabama State
OUTDOOR TRACK - Alabama State
TENNIS - Alcorn State

MEN

CROSS COUNTRY - Grambling State
FOOTBALL - Alcorn State
BASKETBALL - Southern
INDOOR TRACK - Texas Southern
GOLF - Alabama State
BASEBALL - Alabama State
TENNIS - Jackson State
OUTDOOR TRACK - Texas Southern

BCSP Notes

Four top qualifiers

for NCAA Div. I Track nationals

Four black college tracksters qualified among the top ten in their respective events heading into this week's (June 8-11) NCAA Div. I Track and Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon.

North Carolina A&T junior sprinter **Christopher Belcher** had the third-best qualifying time in the 100 meters (10.07) and was tied for sixth in the 200 meters (20.39). **Hampton** senior half-miler **Ce'ara Brown's** time of 2:02.82 is eighth in the 800 meters. Hampton - 8th in 800 meters, 2:02:82

In field events, **Bethune-Cookman** junior high jumper **Ed'ricus Williams** is tied for eighth with a jump of 7-feet, 3-inches. **Tennessee State** junior triple jumper **Amber Hughes** is sixth with a leap of 44-feet, 2-inches.

SWAC, MEAC champs eliminated in Div. I baseball playoffs

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (SWAC.org) - South Alabama defeated **SWAC** champion **Alabama State** 6-3 in the elimination game of the first round of the NCAA Division I Baseball Tournament, ending the Hornets 2016 season.

Alabama State (38-17), lost an earlier game to top-seed Florida State, 18-6.

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (bcuathletics.com) - **MEAC** champion **Bethune-Cookman's** 15th NCAA Regional appearance ended with a 12-3 loss to Georgia Tech Saturday afternoon at McKethan Stadium at the University of Florida.

The Wildcats lost to the region's top seed, Florida, 9-3 on Friday. Bethune-Cookman finishes the season 29-27.

Bethune-Cookman, Florida A&M take MEAC all-Sports Awards

NAPLES, Fla. - **Bethune-Cookman** and **Florida A&M** shared the **Mary McLeod Bethune Women's All-Sports Award**, while Bethune-Cookman took its third straight **Talmadge Layman Hill Men's Award**, the **MEAC** announced on Wednesday.

The All-Sports Award are indicators of the overall strengths of the conference's men's and women's athletic programs. Each institution was presented with a \$20,000 check during a reception at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Naples, Florida on Wednesday evening.

The **University of Maryland Eastern Shore** was recognized during the reception as the 2015 recipient of the MEAC Highest Graduation Success Rate (GSR) for the seventh straight year. In addition to the recognition, UMES was presented a check for \$25,000 from the conference. UMES' 88-percent GSR is the highest among MEAC institutions spanning the 2005-08 cohorts.

Bethune-Cookman and Florida A&M totaled 92.8 points to share top honors in the All-Sports tally. The Lady Rattlers won conference titles in Cross Country, Outdoor Track and Field and softball, while the Wildcats had top finishes in Volleyball, Basketball and Tennis.

North Carolina A&T State took third place with 86 points to edge out Hampton University with 85.5 who finished fourth and Maryland Eastern Shore took fifth with 77.5 points.

On the men's side Bethune-Cookman continues to strengthen its programs, totaling 94.6 points for its third straight overall All-Sports trophy. The Wildcats earned a share of the football title and finished first in Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field along with a second place finish in Golf.

North Carolina A&T State took second on the men's side with 74.3 points to edge out Norfolk State who was third with 74 points. Hampton finished fourth (70) and North Carolina Central (62.3) rounded out the top five finishers.

Points are awarded in a descending order beginning with 14 points for champions or first place regular season finishes. The second place team receives 12 points. Tied teams split the point total.

The **Mary McLeod Bethune Award**, named after the founder of Bethune-Cookman College, awards the top overall women's athletic program during the course of one full academic year. The first Mary McLeod Bethune award was giving in 1987 to Delaware State University. Hampton leads all MEAC schools with 14 Women's Awards.

The men's All-Sports Award is named after the late Talmadge Layman Hill, a former player and coach at Morgan State, and former Chairman of the MEAC Steering and Planning Committee, as well as the conference's first President. Howard University was the recipient of the first Talmadge Layman Hill Award in 1972. South Carolina State holds the men's record with 11 awards from 1973-84.

Alabama State sweeps SWAC all-Sports awards

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - The **Southwestern Athletic Conference** has recognized **Alabama State University** as the winners of the **Sadie Magee/Barbara Jacket Award**, **C.D. Henry Award**, as well as the **James Frank Commissioner's Cup** for the 2015-16 academic year.

ASU, who won all three awards in 2013-14, brought eight SWAC championships back to Montgomery this past year to garner the honors, including titles for the first time in softball and baseball.

The trophies will be presented at the league's annual spring meetings. This is the fourth-straight year that Alabama State has won the Magee/Jacket Award, the second Henry accolade in the past three years, and the school's third consecutive Commissioner's Cup.

The Magee/Jacket Award is presented to the top women's athletic program in the SWAC. **Sadie Magee** was the first women's basketball coach at **Jackson State**, compiling four SWAC regular season titles and three-

straight National Association of Women's Sports National Championships from 1978-1980. **Barbara Jacket** led the **Prairie View A&M** to eight cross country, nine indoor and five outdoors SWAC titles from 1965 to 1991. Jacket was also the head coach of the 1992 Olympic Track team that brought home won four gold, three silver and three bronze medals.

The Lady Hornets beat their point total again, finishing over 30 points ahead of second place with 109.83 points. They captured six team titles, including cross country, women's basketball, indoor track and field, golf, outdoor track and field and softball. Alabama State's volleyball and women's soccer also finished second this season.

Texas Southern finished second with 79.83 points while Jackson State placed third with 71.5 points. Prairie View A&M (68.5), Southern (58.83), Grambling State (54.5), Alabama A&M (52), Alcorn State (45), Arkansas-Pine Bluff (36) and Mississippi Valley State (34.5) round out the group.

The Henry Award is presented to the top men's athletic program in the SWAC. The award is named for former **Grambling State** chairman of the College of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department from 1958-74. Henry became the first African American assistant commissioner of any conference office when he joined the Big Ten Conference

Alabama State was just six points ahead of second-place finishers in Texas Southern and Jackson State. The Hornets finished with 76 points after winning team titles in golf and baseball, as well as second place finishes in indoor track and field and tennis.

Prairie View A&M (54), Alcorn State (52.5), Grambling State (44.5), Southern (37.5), Arkansas-Pine Bluff (37), Alabama A&M (33.5) and Mississippi Valley State (29) finished fourth through tenth, respectively.

The Commissioner's Cup, named for former league commissioner **James Frank** who led the SWAC from 1983 through 1998, is awarded to the university compiling the highest combined total of men's and women's all-sport points. With 109.83 points from the Magee/Jacket Award and 76 from the Henry Award standings, ASU took first place with 185.83 total points.

Texas Southern finished second with 149.83 total points as Jackson State came in third with 141.5 total points. Prairie View A&M (99), Alcorn State (97.5), Southern (95.83), Alabama A&M (85.5), Arkansas-Pine Bluff (73) and Mississippi Valley State (63.5) round out the finishers.

Benedict takes second straight SIAC Commissioner's Cup

ATLANTA - For the second straight year, **Benedict College** has won the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Commissioner's Cup**, the conference's all-sports trophy.

The SIAC Commissioner's Cup is presented to the athletic department within the conference that has excelled in both men's and women's sports using a scoring system of 10 points for conference titles, seven points for runner-up championship finishes, and four points for third-place championship finishes.

In the 2015-16 men's standings, Benedict finished with a total of 37 points. The Tigers won three conference championship titles during the 2015-16 season including cross country, tennis, and golf. Benedict was also this year's runner-up at the SIAC golf tournament.

Miles was second with 24 points ahead of **Stillman** (21) who finished third in the standings. The Golden Bears won a pair of conference titles in football and golf and finished third in baseball. Stillman's Tigers finished first in basketball, second in baseball, and third in tennis.

In the women's standings, Benedict finished with a total of 34 points. The Tigers picked up titles in basketball and tennis along with second place finishes in cross country and track and field.

Albany State (21) was second followed by **Kentucky State** and **Tuskegee** who tied for third with 17 points each. The Golden Rams secured the track and field title and was the runner-up in volleyball. ASU also finished third in cross country. KSU clinched the volleyball title and was second in basketball. Tuskegee was the softball champion and the runner-up in tennis.

TIGER SWEEP

SIAC Commissioner Greg Moore (right) awards Benedict Director of Athletics Willie Washington (l.) with the 2015-2016 SIAC Commissioner's Cups.



SIAC Photo

Winston-Salem State women, Virginia State men capture CIAA all-Sports honors

CHARLOTTE, N. C. - The 2016 **CIAA Loretta Taylor** and the **C.H. Williams All-Sports Awards** were presented to **Winston-Salem State University** and **Virginia State University**, respectively in mid-May.

The awards are determined by a point system for achievement in all the institutions programs based on championship finish.

The Loretta Taylor All-Sports Award, granted to the top women's athletic program, was earned by Winston-Salem State after winning championship titles in women's cross country, volleyball, women's indoor track & field, and softball. The Rams also finished third in outdoor track & field and fourth in tennis of the women's CIAA championship competitions.

On the men's side, Virginia State University was presented with its third consecutive C.H. Williams All-Sports Award after securing the CIAA Men's Basketball Championship. The men's athletics program also recorded one runner-up finish in cross country and three third-place finishes with indoor track & field, outdoor track & field, and tennis.