



Southern Sports Photo

MOSCOTT: Southern assistant promoted to interim head men's basketball coach after Roman Banks named permanent AD.

CHANGE OF SEASONS

NEW COACHES AT BETHUNE-COOKMAN AND SOUTHERN; 2016-17 BAAD TEAM OF HOOPSTERS

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

BETHUNE-COOKMAN CHOOSES RIDDER:
DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. – **Lynn W. Thompson,**



Ridder

Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics, announced Friday, March 31, the appointment of **Ryan Ridder** as the next head coach for Bethune-Cookman Men's Basketball.

"I have watched and admired Ryan Ridder from his days as a stellar student-athlete in high school and college, and also witnessed his growth and success as a coach on the college level," said Thompson. "I know him. I know his family. His DNA is made up of integrity, passion and the ability to teach. He is an outstanding servant leader who just happens to be a phenomenal basketball coach. His progression as a college coach on each level has prepared him to accept this challenge. He is a local product with great knowledge and respect for our university and community, and we are proud to have one of the great young coaches in the nation to join the B-CU family."

No stranger to Daytona Beach area basketball as both a player and coach, Ridder comes to Bethune-Cookman after a four-year stint at Daytona State (Junior) College. Ridder was successful in helping lead a resurgence of the Falcons program that produced 95 victories and four Mid-Florida Conference championships. Daytona State also finished the regular season ranked in the NJCAA National Poll in all four of Ridder's seasons. Ridder was named Mid-Florida Conference Coach of the Year in each of his four seasons at the helm of the Falcons program.

Off the court, Ridder's student-athletes had a 100 percent graduation his first two years and 96 percent overall across four years.

No stranger to the Division I level of athletics, Ridder served three years as an assistant coach at Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina.

BANKS, SCOTT IN NEW ROLES AT SOUTHERN:

LORANGER -- The **Southern University System** (SUS) Board of Supervisors approved the appointment of **Roman Banks** as the director of athletics, University officials announced Friday.



Banks

The decision removes the existing interim title for Banks, who held the post in an interim capacity for more than 18 months while also serving as the head coach of the Southern men's basketball program.

"I was pleased to recommend Mr. Roman Banks to assume the role of athletic director for Southern University on a full-time, permanent basis," said Dr. **Ray L. Belton**, Southern University System President. "Having served in a dual role as interim athletic director and head men's basketball coach during a particularly challenging period, Coach Banks provided solid leadership and gained the respect and support of his colleagues, student-athletes, alumni, and stakeholders. His appointment will ensure a seamless transition to continue moving the department in a positive direction."

During his two-year tenure as interim athletics director, Banks spearheaded the University's broad-based efforts to address numerous compliance and academic progress rate (APR) shortcomings with the NCAA. As result, Southern learned the 2013-14 student-athlete data submitted to the NCAA has been deemed accurate and serves as the department's starting point for the calculation of future multi-year APR scores ending the NCAA-imposed postseason ban.

Among of his administrative achievements, Banks has cultivated a working relationship with the external units within the Southern University campus to ensure the department remains NCAA compliant. He also has increased the academic resources afforded the student-athletes by hiring additional compliance and academic support personnel. Banks guided Southern through NCAA-mandated postseason bans and successfully implemented the recovery of vital compliance data.

As Banks assumes his new role as athletics director full-time, the SUS Board also approved the appointment of associate head coach **Morris Scott** to interim head men's basketball coach. Scott, a former basketball player and a graduate of **Florida A&M University**, has served as an assistant for six seasons under Banks.

BCSP MEN'S FINAL TOP FIVES (DIV. I and DIV. II)

DIV. I

- 1. NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL** (25-9) - Won MEAC regular season title and then won Tournament crown over 2nd-seed Norfolk State, 67-59. With automatic NCAA Tournament berth, bowed to UC Davis in First Four game, 67-63.
- 2. TEXAS SOUTHERN** (23-12) - Won SWAC regular season by three games then beat 2nd seed Alcorn State (53-50) for SWAC Tournament title. Lost to eventual national champion North Carolina (103-64) in NCAA Tournament first round.
- 3. ALCORN STATE** (18-14) - Finished second in SWAC regular season and fell to top-seed Texas Southern in SWAC Tournament championship game (53-50).
- 4. NORFOLK STATE** (17-17) - Finished second in MEAC regular season and then lost to top seed NC Central 67-59 in MEAC Tournament finals. Lost in postseason College Insider.com Tournament to Liberty, 73-64.
- 5. GRAMBLING STATE** (16-17) - Surprising Tigers finished third in SWAC regular season and bowed to top seed Texas Southern in SWAC Tourney semifinals, 62-57.

DIV. II

- 1. CLARK ATLANTA** (21-12) - Tied for first in SIAC East regular season before knocking off 5th-seed Fort Valley State, 64-62 for SIAC Tournament crown. With automatic berth in NCAA Div. II South Region, bowed to Alabama-Huntsville (96-81) in first round.
- 2. BOWIE STATE** (16-15) - Came from North Division 4th-seed to win CIAA Tournament title over South Division 4th-seed Fayetteville State, 62-54. Fell in first round of Atlantic Regional to top seed Fairmont State, 93-67.
- 3. VIRGINIA UNION** (22-8) - North Division top seed bowed out in CIAA Tournament quarterfinals to Bowie State, 84-78. Received at-large berth in NCAA Div. II Atlantic Regional and lost in first round to Shippensburg, 79-59.
- 4. VIRGINIA STATE** (22-6) - As North Division second seed, lost to 4th-seed Fayetteville State in CIAA Tourney semifinals, 70-61. Did not receive at-large berth in NCAA Tournament.
- 5. MOREHOUSE** (18-10) - Regular season fourth seed from the East lost to Clark Atlanta in SIAC Tournament semifinals, 91-86.

BCSP WOMEN'S FINAL TOP FIVES (DIV. I and DIV. II)

DIV. I

- 1. TEXAS SOUTHERN** (23-10) - Finished tied for first in SWAC regular season with Grambling State and then beat GSU 70-66 in SWAC Tournament finals. Lost to 119-30 in first round of NCAA Tournament to top seed Baylor.
- 2. GRAMBLING STATE** (19-15) - Tied Texas Southern for SWAC regular season crown (14-4), lost to TSU in SWAC Tourney finals, 70-66. Beat Ole Miss (78-75) in first round of WNIT before bowing to Tulane in second round (66-49).
- 3. HAMPTON** (20-13) - Finished third in MEAC regular season but beat top seed Bethune-Cookman in MEAC finals, 52-49. Fell to 2nd-seed Duke in first round of NCAA Tournament, 94-31.
- 4. BETHUNE-COOKMAN** (21-11) - Won MEAC regular season title but bowed to 3rd-seed Hampton in Tournament title game, 52-49. Lost to Wake Forest in first round of WNIT, 71-42.
- 5. HOWARD** (20-13) - Lady Bison finished second in MEAC regular season but lost to NC A&T 68-58 in MEAC Tourney quarterfinals.

DIV. II

- 1. VIRGINIA UNION** (28-5) - Lost in CIAA Tournament semifinals but repeated as NCAA Div. II Atlantic Region champs before making return trip to Elite Eight and losing in D2 national championship game to undefeated Ashland, 93-77.
- 2. BENEDICT** (22-8) - Repeated as SIAC tournament champions with 77-72 win over Central State. Won first round game in D2 South Regional over Valdostate State (71-60) before falling in semifinals to West Florida, 74-51.
- 3. JOHNSON C. SMITH** (20-8) - South Division top seed knocked off North Division top seed Virginia Union en route to taking CIAA Tournament title over Virginia State (68-59). Lost in first round of Atlantic Regional, 59-55 to Indiana (Pa.).
- 4. CENTRAL STATE** (20-8) - Won SIAC West but lost to Benedict for the second straight season in SIAC Tourney finals (77-72).
- 5. VIRGINIA STATE** (22-8) - Tied with Virginia Union and Chowan for CIAA North title (7-3) in regular season, lost to J. C. Smith in CIAA finals, 68-59.

BCSP Notes

All four conferences represented in final top basketball teams for 2016-17 season

One team from each of the four black college conferences finished the 2016-17 season on top of the final BCSP Top Ten.

The **North Carolina Central** men (25-9), who won both regular season and tournament titles in the **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference**, topped the NCAA Div. I men's Top Five.

The women of **Texas Southern** (23-10) tied for the **Southwestern Athletic Conference** regular season title with **Grambling State** and then knocked off the Lady Tigers in the SWAC championship game to earn the top spot for the Div. I women.

The ladies of **Virginia Union** (28-5) did not win the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** Tournament title but went on to capture the NCAA Div. II Atlantic Region title and make it all the way to the D2 championship game to earn the women's Div. II top ranking.

And eventual men's champion **Clark Atlanta** (21-12) was seeded second in the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** Tournament and became the highest seeded team to capture a Div. II conference title as they defeated **Fort Valley State** for the SIAC title. That earned the Panthers and first-year head coach **Darrell Walker** the top Div. II designation.



Darrell Walker

Clark Atlanta's Walker joins another Walker, **Grambling State's** now departed head coach **Shawn Walker** in sharing the Men's Coach of the Year award.

Shawn Walker led the G-Men to a 16-17 finish overall after finishing 7-24 a season ago. Grambling finished third in the SWAC regular season and fell in the SWAC Tournament semifinals to eventual champion **Texas Southern**.

VUU second-year coach **AnnMarie Gilbert** repeated as the women's coach of the year as she led the Lady Panthers to their second straight Atlantic Region title and Elite Eight appearance. This year the Lady Panthers won two games at the Elite Eight before falling in the Div. II championship game to Ashland, 93-77.

2016-17 MEN'S "BAAD" TEAM OF BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL ALL-STARS



Lofton

Martin

Morris

Jones

Six-four senior guard **Patrick Cole** of **North Carolina Central** earns the 2016-17 **BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE** men's player of the year honor.

Cole, the MEAC player of the year, was the top scorer for **North Carolina Central** at 19.3 points per game, fourth-best in the MEAC, and led the conference in assists at 5.6 per contest while propelling the Eagles to the **MEAC** regular season and tournament titles.

Cole beat out the other members of the 2016-17 **BAAD TEAM OF BLACK COLLEGE ALL-STARS**: **Texas Southern** guard **Zach Lofton**, the top scorer (16.8 ppg.) for the SWAC champion Tigers; **Wayne Martin**, of the **Tennessee State** Tigers who averaged a near double-double at 14.4 points and 9.2 rebounds per game; **Benedict** forward **Brandon Morris**, the **SIAC** player of the year who put up 18.8 points and 7.3 rebounds per game and Texas Southern 7-foot center **Marvin Jones**, whose 6.8 rebounds and 1.6 blocks per game earned him the SWAC's defensive player of the year award.

FIRST TEAM

Patrick Cole, 6-4, Sr., G, NC CENTRAL; Zach Lofton, 6-3, Jr., G TEXAS SOUTHERN; Wayne Martin, 6-7, Sr., C, TENNESSEE STATE; Brandon Morris, 6-8, Jr., F, BENEDICT; Marvin Jones, 7-foot, Sr., C, TEXAS SOUTHERN
TOP PLAYER: Patrick Cole, NC CENTRAL
TOP COACH: Shawn Walker, GRAMBLING STATE and Darrell Walker, CLARK ATLANTA

SECOND TEAM

Shawn Prudhomme, 6-4, Sr., F, SOUTHERN; Ray Anderson, 6-3, Sr., G, VIRGINIA UNION; Twian Kendley, 6-5, Jr., F, MORGAN STATE; Terrance Bridgeman, 6-3, Sr., G, LANE; Reginald Johnson, 6-5, Jr., F, ALCORN STATE

THIRD TEAM

Tahjere McCall, 6-5, Sr., G, TENNESSEE STATE; Quincy January, 6-8, Jr., ST. AUGUSTINE'S; Kendarius Ash, 6-7, So., F, LANE; Eric Eaves, 6-2, Sr., G, SC STATE; Justin Street, 6-6, Sr., F, LEMOYNE-OWEN

2016-17 WOMEN'S "BAAD" TEAM OF BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL ALL-STARS



Wright

Betts

Heslip

Hill

Virginia Union women's players have now gone back-to-back with **BAAD TEAM** player of the year awards.

Lady Panthers' center **Lady Walker**, who swept CIAA regular season, tournament and Atlantic Region MVP honors, follows 2015-16 teammate **Kiana Johnson** is taking this year's top BCSP award.



Walker

Walker was a force in the middle of the VUU offense and defense that made it all the way to the NCAA Div. II championship game averaging 14.4 points, 11.7 rebounds and 1.5 blocks per game.

SWAC Player of the Year **Britney Wright** (18.3 ppg., 7.5 rpg.) of **Alabama State**, **SIAC POY Destiny Betts** (14.2 ppg., 13.0 rpg.) of **Benedict**, dynamic 5-4 **Grambling State** sophomore **Shakyla Hill** (15.4 ppg., 7.8 rpg., 482 FG%, 4.2 apg., 3.0 spg.) who led the SWAC in shooting from the field, assists and steals and MEAC POY **Te'Shiya Heslip** (15.4 ppg., 5.1 apg.) are the other first-teamers.

FIRST TEAM

Lady Walker, 6-2, Sr., C, VIRGINIA UNION; Britney Wright, 5-10, Sr., F, ALABAMA STATE; Destiny Betts, 6-2, Sr., C, BENEDICT; Te'Shiya Heslip, 5-5, Sr., G, HOWARD; Shakyla Hill, 5-7, So., G, GRAMBLING STATE;
TOP PLAYER - Lady Walker, Sr., C, Virginia Union
TOP COACH - Ann Marie Gilbert, VIRGINIA UNION

SECOND TEAM

Najai Pollard, 5-11, So., F, DELAWARE STATE; Kaijyn Williams, 6-4, Sr., C, BETHUNE-COOKMAN; Joyce Kennerson, 5-4, So., G, TEXAS SOUTHERN; Alexis Johnson, 6-foot, Jr., F, VIRGINIA UNION; Janisha Wilkerson, 6-0, Sr., F, PAINE

THIRD TEAM

Malia Tate-DeFreitas, 5-8, Sr., G, HAMPTON; Shekiya Tarpkins, 6-0, Sr., G/F, FORT VALLEY STATE; Ashley Beals, 6-0, Sr., F, MISS. VALLEY STATE; Jordan Payne, 5-9, Sr., F, CHOWAN;