

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



Howard Sports Photo

FLY LIKE A BYRD: Former Div. I scoring king James 'J-Byrd' Daniel of Howard appears to be following trend, leaving HBCU hoops.

GOING, GOING, GONE!

GRAMBLING SEWS UP WOMEN'S HOOPS COACH; UMES RETURNING TO NCAA BOWLING TOURNEY

2017 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION		CONF		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Winston-Salem State	10	0	24	12	
Chowan	10	3	19	19	
St. Augustine's	5	6	16	25	
Virginia State	3	9	14	19	
Lincoln	1	11	5	24	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE
NA
PITCHER
NA
DEFENSE
NA
COACH
NA

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		CONF		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Norfolk State	9	3	14	14	
Delaware State	5	7	9	17	
Maryland-E. Shore	5	7	7	23	
Coppin State	5	7	6	20	
Bethune-Cookman	8	4	21	14	
Florida A&M	7	5	17	14	
NC A&T	7	5	16	14	
NC Central	7	5	16	17	
Savannah State	1	11	10	23	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
Alex Mauricio, Jr., NSU - In 3-1 week, hit .538 (7-for-13) with 4 runs scored. Was 3-for-3 vs. DSU including a HR, 3-for-5 vs. CSU. Drove in run in three games.
PITCHER
Tyler Norris, Jr., B-CU - Had first no-hitter for 'Cats since 1995 in 1-0 win over SSU. Struck out five.
ROOKIE
Ciaron Devenney, Fr., DSU - Drove in 8 runs in four games, six in one game vs. NSU including a grand slam. Hit .385 for the week.

SIAC

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		CONF		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Benedict	9	3	19	9	
Albany State	9	3	11	20	
Paine	6	4	16	15	
Clark Atlanta	6	6	12	18	
Cliffin	3	9	9	25	
Morehouse	2	8	5	24	
Spring Hill	10	2	21	17	
Miles	9	3	17	14	
Kentucky State	4	4	11	24	
Tuskegee	5	7	20	17	
LeMoyne-Owen	0	3	2	18	
Lane	0	9	1	22	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
NA
PITCHER
NA

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		DIV		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Alabama State	13	2	17	15	
Jackson State	12	3	26	11	
Alabama A&M	5	10	8	29	
Alcorn State	3	9	7	21	
Miss. Valley State	3	12	4	21	
Texas Southern	8	6	10	23	
Southern	7	7	10	17	
Prairie View	6	6	13	23	
Grambling State	7	8	11	20	
Arkansas Pine Bluff	7	8	9	21	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

HITTER
NA
PITCHER
NA

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

GRAMBLING INKS MURRAY FOR TWO YEARS:

GRAMBLING, La. – **Grambling State University** interim women's basketball head coach **Freddie Murray** is no longer interim. Murray was named women's basketball head coach last Wednesday morning.

Murray, Athletics Director **Paul Bryant** and GSU President **Rick Gallot** signed a two-year agreement in the president's office. Murray had filled the job on an interim basis since July 2016. Bryant, who started as athletics director in January, said all coaches have been under review and it became clear to him early that retaining Murray should be a priority.

The university and Murray have agreed to a two-year deal with an annual salary of \$120,000, contingent on approval of the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors. The contract extends from April 2017 through May 2019.

Gallot praised Murray's vision and commitment to the university and the program. "I'm looking forward to us all growing old together here at Grambling State University," he said.

"As a lifelong athletics and sports enthusiast, I appreciate and enjoy all sports. As a former basketball coach, I think I know something about what it takes to be a good basketball coach -- and Murray has it all," said Bryant. "He's dedicated and focused, he knows the game, and he challenges and encourages his players to get the most out of them individually and as a team. Hiring him was a no-brainer."

Murray, a 1990 **Jackson State University** graduate, joined the Lady Tigers basketball program as an assistant coach under then head coach **Nadine Domond**. In his first year, he helped Domond and the Lady Tigers with a strong 17-14 overall record and 13-5 record in **Southwestern Athletic Conference** competition. Two players were selected SWAC All-Conference – **Jazmin Boyd** (SWAC Freshman of the Year) and **Shakyla Hill** (SWAC Second Team All-Conference). He took over as interim head coach when Domond left for Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Before joining GSU, Murray was assistant women's basketball coach at **Florida A&M University** from 2010-2015, helping the Lady Rattlers to their best record in 2010 when they finished the season 22-8. In previous roles, he worked as an assistant coach at **North Carolina A&T State University** twice from 2003-2005 and 2007-2010. During his second coaching job at A&T, the team won three **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** regular season championships and trips to the NCAA and WNIT Tournaments.

SC STATE TO DROP WOMEN'S TENNIS:

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – **South Carolina State** Acting Athletics Director **Doug Robertson** announced Friday that the Lady Bulldog tennis program will be suspended for the 2017-18 academic year as a part of the department's ongoing efforts to control operational expenses.

"It was an extremely hard decision to suspend the women's tennis program, but at this time, our current financial situation requires tough decisions to be made," Robertson said.

"At the moment, we are unable to fund the program in a manner that matches the championship caliber that the team deserves. We will provide the current members of the women's team with scholarships for next year to assist them in pursuing their academic goals, while we actively seek ways to return them to athletic competition."

The SC State women's tennis team has won 11 of the last 12 **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** (MEAC) championships under head coach **Hardeep Judge**. Last season, the Lady Bulldogs finished 8-11 overall and 4-1 in MEAC play. They won the conference title and earned the MEAC's automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament.

As a result of the decision, SC State Athletics has reduced its sports lineup to 13 teams. In order to maintain NCAA Division I status, Women's Golf will be added in 2017-18.

Transfer of talent draining HBCU hoops

LUT WILLIAMS
 BCSP Editor

You know things have changed in NCAA Div. I men's college basketball when HBCU teams are being raided of their talented players.

In the latest reported defection, **Howard** senior guard **James 'J-Byrd' Daniel**, who led the nation in scoring in the 2015-16 season but played in only two games this season after suffering a preseason high ankle sprain, has decided to leave the Bison for what he hopes will be greener pastures.

Reports this week indicate Daniel is choosing between Missouri, Michigan, Ohio State, Tennessee and DePaul.

That never happened before. For the most part, HBCUs got good but marginal players and certainly not the kind of blue-chip talent that major D1 schools went after and landed.

Now, HBCU coaches better keep their heads on the proverbial swivel and keep their talented players under wraps, or at least keep them happy. That's because the so-called 'high major' teams in the ACC, Big East, SEC, Big Ten, Pac 12 etc., and even the mid-majors are being drained by the NBA of their top talent, primarily by the NBA, and early in most cases, in players' first or second years. One-and-done is the new normal. That means they have to look elsewhere, anywhere for talented players.

Even to HBCUs, you might ask? Even to HBCUs is the answer. It's a dog-eat-dog world!

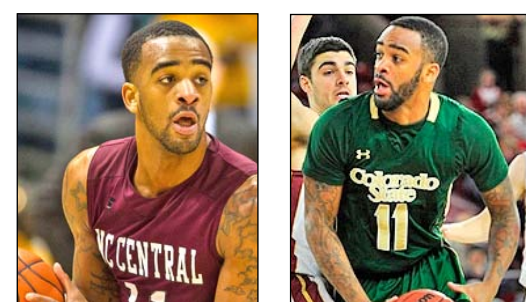
Howard head coach **Kevin Nickelberry**, who recruited Daniel out of Hampton, Virginia's Phoebus High School and has coached him in his four years playing for the Bison, says his biggest recruiting task each year Daniel has been at Howard has been keeping him there.

In the 2013-14 season, the 5-11 Daniel became the first freshman to lead the MEAC in scoring when he averaged 21.7 points per game and was named the conference's top freshman. With more talent around him as a sophomore, he put up 16.7 points per game and was named first team all-conference. Last year as a junior he topped the nation scoring 27.1 points per game and also led all Div. I players in free throws made and attempted, was fourth in total points and fifth in total field goals. He was the 2015-16 MEAC Player of the Year and the 2016-17



TRAVELLING MEN

Part one of a three-part BCSP series on talented players walking away from the HBCU hoops programs that nurtured them



WELL TRAVELLED: (L.) Kidd at NC Central (r.) and later at Colorado State.

Mid Eastern Athletic Conference has been hit particularly hard.

North Carolina Central's 6-7, 215-pound forward **Stanton Kidd** could be the poster boy for this new trend. Kidd averaged 14.5 points and 6.9 rebounds in 2013, his only year at NCCU after two years at South Plains Junior College in Texas and one year at Charleston Southern.

In 2013, he left the Eagles to play his last year of eligibility at Colorado State. The move so shocked and caught NCCU head coach **LeVelle Moton** off-guard that he refuses to talk about it even now.

He was first team all-MEAC at NCCU. But what got him to thinking about so-called 'greener pastures' was that he played well against the major programs, averaging right at 20 points in games against Wichita State, Drake and Marquette.

At the time, Kidd told his hometown newspaper, *The Baltimore Sun*, "I shocked myself. I said, 'If I can do that here, I know I can do it at another level against better competition.' I'm not saying I played down to my level, but if you play at a higher level, it brings out the best in you."

There it is. At least, that's one way the thinking goes.

Without Kidd, NCCU finished 28-6, won the MEAC Tournament and played and lost to Iowa State (93-75) in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. With Kidd, they may have gone farther. At CSU the following year, Kidd, after sitting out a year, averaged 11.6 points and 5.1 rebounds. CSU finished 27-7 and lost a first round NIT game to South Dakota State. Kidd is playing this year overseas in Germany.

Since then, the flood gates have opened.

BCSP Notes

Maryland-Eastern Shore earns NCAA Bowling Tournament berth

PRINCESS ANNE, Maryland – The **University of Maryland Eastern Shore** got the news it was waiting for last Wednesday afternoon as the **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** champion bowling team earned a berth to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in three years.

The Hawks (84-39, 19-5 MEAC) will now travel to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for the NCAA Championships (April 13-15) at the Raising Cane's



River Center after being one of the eight teams to receive an invitation. Joining the Shore in the NCAA's bowling finale are: Nebraska, McKendree, Arkansas State, Sam Houston State, Vanderbilt, Fairleigh Dickinson and Stephen F. Austin.

The Hawks have won the NCAA Championship three times: 2008, 2011 and 2012. The program also boasts two USBC Intercollegiate Team Championships: 2011 and 2013. The last time the team competed in a national championship was last season, when it finished third at the USBC Championship. All but three members of this year's squad competed in that event.

The championship final will air on ESPNU April 15 at 6:30 p.m.

2017 BLACK COLLEGE SOFTBALL (Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION		DIV		CONF		CONF		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L
NORTH									
Chowan	6	0	11	1	28	16			
Bowie State	4	0	9	1	12	12			
Virginia State	2	2	4	6	9	1			
Virginia Union	3	4	3	7	6	10			
Elizabeth City State	0	3	0	5	1	21			
Lincoln	0	6	1	10	4	18			
SOUTH									
St. Augustine's	6	0	8	1	13	9			
Fayetteville State	4	1	8	2	15	15			
J. C. Smith	4	4	8	6	13	14			
Winston-Salem State	3	3	6	5	10	26			
Shaw	2	4	4	7	6	25			
Livingstone	0	7	0	11	1	16			

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSIVE
NA
DEFENSIVE
NA
PITCHER
NA
COACH
NA

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		CONF		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Norfolk State	6	0	17	11	
Hampton	5	1	10	16	
Delaware State	8	3	11	20	
Maryland-E. Shore	4	4	10	14	
Coppin State	3	6	5	30	
Norfolk State	2	7	9	16	
Howard	1	8	1	24	
SOUTHERN					
Florida A&M	9	0	14	24	
Bethune-Cookman	7	2	16	26	
NC A&T	3	6	10	24	
NC Central	3	6	8	25	
S. C. State	2	4	2	28	
Savannah State	0	6	0	27	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
Damall Young, So., OF, B-CU - Hit .529 (9-of-17) with 8 RBI, 2 HRs in 3 games vs. Norfolk State. Also stole 7 bases to break school record now with 22.
PITCHER
Amy Begg, Jr., P, B-CU - Went 4-0 with 0.00 ERA against UMBC. Pitched 26.1 innings in five games, giving up no runs with 24 Ks.
ROOKIE
Ryan Jacison, Fr., INF, B-CU - 4-for-11 with 3 HRs in three wins vs. NCCU.
Taylor Warrick, Fr., OF, HAMPTON - Hit .500 in five games. 8-for-12 with 2 doubles, 2 triples, 3 SBs, 6 RBI in three games vs. DSU.

SIAC

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		CONF		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Albany State	17	2	22	17	
Cliffin	13	2	24	13	
Clark Atlanta	10	8	14	22	
Benedict	10	8	21	19	
Fort Valley State	3	16	3	26	
Paine	0	17	2	19	
Spring Hill	17	2	30	15	
Kentucky State	9	7	10	18	
Miles	5	4	6	23	
Lane	7	8	15	12	
LeMoyne-Owen	2	11	3	17	
Tuskegee	1	8	1	23	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
NA
PITCHER
NA

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		DIV		ALL	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Alcorn State	10	2	13	23	
Alabama State	6	6	11	26	
Alabama A&M	5	6	12	22	
Miss. Valley State	4	5	9	25	
Jackson State	2	7	9	27	
Prairie View	10	2	18	19	
Texas Southern	6	3	15	12	
Arkansas Pine Bluff	5	7	10	22	
Southern	3	5	11	12	
Grambling State	2	19	12	25	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

HITTER
NA
PITCHER
NA