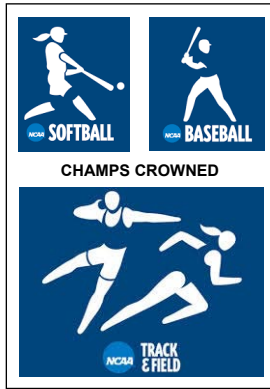


BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



NCAA Sports logos

SPRING TIME: CIAA and SIAC crown Softball and Baseball champs; SIAC, SWAC and MEAC crown Track & Field champs

SPRING RITES

NEW WOMEN'S HOOPS COACHES NAMED AT NC CENTRAL AND MISS. VALLEY STATE

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

STAFFORD-ODOM IN AT NC CENTRAL:

DURHAM, N.C. – **Trisha Stafford-Odom** was announced as **North Carolina Central University's** ninth head women's basketball coach on Monday, May 8.



Stafford-Odom

The former Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) player and collegiate Hall of Fame inductee returns to The Triangle to continue her head coaching career after coaching three seasons at Concordia University Irvine from 2013-2016. Prior to that, Stafford-Odom was a successful assistant coach for four seasons with both the UNC Tar Heels and Duke Blue Devils. She began her collegiate coaching career as an assistant for the UCLA Bruins.

Stafford-Odom won the Concordia Eagles first conference championship in 18 years to highlight her time coaching in California. In her second season as head coach, CUI posted a 23-7 record and won the Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Championship.

As an assistant coach at UNC under Hall of Fame coach Sylvia Hatchell from 2011-2013, Stafford-Odom was a valuable recruiter for the No. 1 nationally-ranked recruiting class in 2013. She brought her first No. 1 nationally-ranked recruiting class to Durham when she was an assistant at Duke from 2009-2011.

While at UCLA from 2005-2008, Stafford-Odom was the recruiting coordinator for a No. 3 nationally-ranked recruiting class. Stafford-Odom was enshrined into the Cal Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. She led the Golden Bears to their first two NCAA Tournament appearances. She was a multiple All-Pac-10 honoree as well as a Kodak All-America honorable mention. Stafford-Odom averaged 15.3 points during her four seasons (sixth all-time at Cal) and led the Pac-10 in scoring with over 23 points per senior year.

Stafford-Odom pursued a professional basketball playing career that included a couple years in the WNBA with Houston (2001) and Miami (2002) as well as time in the ABL, NWBL, NBDL, NBA Entertainment League and European leagues.

Stafford-Odom was enshrined into the Cal Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. She led the Golden Bears to their first two NCAA Tournament appearances. She was a multiple All-Pac-10 honoree as well as a Kodak All-America honorable mention. Stafford-Odom averaged 15.3 points during her four seasons (sixth all-time at Cal) and led the Pac-10 in scoring with over 23 points per senior year.

Stafford-Odom pursued a professional basketball playing career that included a couple years in the WNBA with Houston (2001) and Miami (2002) as well as time in the ABL, NWBL, NBDL, NBA Entertainment League and European leagues.

WALKER TO LEAD MVSU WOMEN'S HOOPS:

ITTA BENA, Miss. – **Mississippi Valley State's**



Walker

Director of Athletics **Dianthia Ford-Kee** has announced **Ashley Walker** as the fifth head women's basketball coach. Walker brings 12 years of collegiate coaching experience.

Walker comes to MVSU after serving two years as head coach at **Wiley College**. While at Wiley, she tallied an overall record of 39-

17.

Before taking on the head role at Wiley, Walker spent three seasons as an assistant at **South Carolina State**. Prior to SC State, Walker was an assistant coach at Angelina College in Lufkin, Texas for seven seasons (2005-2012).

Walker, a Bryan, Texas native, played two years at Angelina College after leaving Bryan High School as a highly sought-after recruit. Her success at the junior-college level led to a scholarship at Texas Wesleyan University where she played for another two seasons before receiving her Bachelor of Science in exercise of sports studies in 2005.

She will be introduced to the public on May 17 at noon in the MVSU Science and Technology Auditorium.

Spring Sports Results



Alabama State wins eighth straight SWAC Women's Outdoor Track & Field title

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – A dominant performance in the women's 100-meter dash aided **Alabama State** in winning its eighth-straight **Southwestern Athletic Conference Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championship**. It is the 12th overall for the program and the sixth-straight time ASU has won the SWAC "Triple Crown" of Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field in the same season.

Alabama State claimed the top five spots in the event, scoring 31 points in the race that ultimately put them atop the team standings for good. **Kaila Lewis** won the event in 11.60 seconds, as **Desiree Horn** (11.85) finished second and **Monica Howard** (11.89) was third.

Grambling's Halima Chepkwony was named the women's most outstanding track performer, earning 30 points in four events, including a win in the 10,000-meter run. **Texas Southern's Miriam Pierre** took home women's most outstanding field performer honors with 28 points in three events, winning the discus and javelin events and placing second in the women's hammer throw.

Ritchie Beene of Alabama State was named 2017 SWAC Women's Outdoor Track and Field Coach of the Year.

FINAL STANDINGS:

- 1) Alabama State (183.5) 2) Prairie View (155.5) 3) Texas Southern (133.5) 4) Mississippi Valley (73) 5) Grambling (72) 6) Jackson State (51) 7) Alabama A&M (49.5) 8) Alcorn State (45) 9) Southern (34) 10) Arkansas-Pine Bluff (17)

Grambling State claims 2017 SWAC Men's Outdoor Track & Field title

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – In a dramatic 4x400 relay final, **Grambling State** won its second **Southwestern Athletic Conference Men's Outdoor Track and Field Championship**, edging **Prairie View A&M** by half-a-point in the final standings.

With Prairie View ahead by 3.5 points entering the final event, Grambling anchor leg **Jonathon Sawyer** dusted the field on the final lap to clinch the title for the Tigers. Meanwhile, Prairie View faded late, finishing third while **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** took the silver medal.

Miles Dortch of Arkansas-Pine Bluff was named the Men's Most Outstanding Field Performer with 26 points. He won the javelin and discus events, and was third in the hammer throw. Grambling State's **Hasan Chepkwony** scored 31 points in four events to earn the Men's Most Outstanding Track Performer award. **Bertram Lovell** was named 2017 SWAC Men's Outdoor Track and Field Coach of the Year.

FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Grambling (150) 2. Prairie View (149.5) 3. Alabama State (137) 4. Texas Southern (121) 5. Jackson State (87) 6. Arkansas-Pine Bluff (64.5) 7. Alabama A&M (56) 8. Alcorn State (17) 9. Southern (16) 10. Mississippi Valley (15)

WSSU reclaims CIAA Baseball title

PETERSBURG, VA – The Rams of **Winston-Salem State** defeated the Hawks of **Chowan** Saturday afternoon in a two-game championship battle to take the **CIAA Baseball crown**. The Rams blew out the Hawks 10-1 in the first game and 10-4 in the second to take the title. Winston-Salem State and Chowan baseball teams met for the second year in a row in the conference championship contest.

In Game One, Winston-Salem State jumped out to 6-1 lead by the fifth inning and added a run in the sixth and eighth innings before posting two more runs in the top of the ninth to finish with the 10-1 win.

In Game Two, the Rams jumped out to an early 4-0 lead in the opening inning of the winner-take-all championship game. The Rams would take a commanding 7-0 lead in the bottom of the second, scoring three more runs with two outs.

2017 CIAA BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

Cody Smith, P, CHO; Jordan Carlton, P, WSSU; David Markins, C, VSU; Landon Steiner, 1B, WSSU; Julian Lopez, 2B, CHO; Emilio Abreu, 3B, WSSU (MVP); Marvin Harrell, SS, CHO; Colton Gunn, DH, VSU; Timothy Carter, OF, SAU; Harry Markotay, OF, CHO; Brandon Ford, OF, WSSU; Ivan Acuna, UTIL, WSSU

Chowan captures 2017 Softball title

ETTRICK, VA. – The **Chowan** Softball team defeated **Bowie State** 6-1 in the 2017 **CIAA Softball Championship Game** on Saturday afternoon to claim their third conference title in seven years since joining the league.

Chowan (40-18) finished the regular season with a record of 36-18 and was a perfect 4-0 in the CIAA Softball Championships outscoring their opponents 31-2.

As the 8th-seed, the Hawks will face top-seeded West Chester on Thursday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the NCAA Atlantic Region.

UVA-Wise will host the NCAA Atlantic Regional II part of the bracket in Wise, Va. UVA-Wise and Shepherd are in the bracket with Chowan and West Chester.

CIAA ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

Mercedes Hargett, P, WSSU; Kaitlin Santos, OF, JCSU; McKayla August, SS/P, SAU; Carly Green, 2B, FSU; Kynn Walker, P, FSU; Danielle Baccus, 1B, CHO; Tina White, SS, CHO; Kayla Robins, P, CHO (MVP); Tiffany Beams, 3B, BSU; Ja'Seph Smith, OF, BSU; Stefanie Ray, P, BSU;

Miles wins 2017 SIAC Baseball title

AUGUSTA, Ga. (May 7, 2017) – **Miles College** won its first-ever **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Baseball Championship** on Sunday evening with a 13-8 win over **LeMoyne-Owen** at Lake Olmstead Stadium in Augusta, Ga.

Miles (31-19 overall) earned the automatic berth in the upcoming NCAA Division II Baseball South Region Tournament set to take place May 18-22. The NCAA selection show will air at 10 p.m. on www.NCAA.com on Sunday, May 14.

The Golden Bears recorded 12 hits and had four players finish with two hits each (**Ryan Bargery**, **Xavius Burden**, **Peyton Logan** and **Kolby Brannon**).

Burden was named the 2017 SIAC Baseball Championship Tournament Most Valuable Player. LeMoyne-Owen head coach **Marcus Smith** was tabbed the Outstanding Coach of the Tournament.

2017 SIAC BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

MVP - Xavius Burden, (474, 9 hits, 7 RBI, 5 runs, 11 strikeouts); Christopher Elias, P, Trevon Bates, Miles; Damion Williams, Miles; Caleem Serrant, Robert Sheard, LOC; Cameron Starks, Justin Stinson, KSU; Nick Greiggs, Kelvin Wimbush, ASU

Clafin wins 2017 SIAC Softball championship

HEPHZIBAH, Ga. – The Lady Panthers of **Clafin** won the 2017 **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Softball Championship** with a 13-5 win over **Miles** in six innings on Saturday afternoon at Diamond Lakes Regional Park.

Clafin's **Tiaria Norman** was named the 2017 SIAC Softball Tournament Most Valuable Performer. Norman tossed four games, all wins for the Lady Panthers and finished with a tournament-leading 19 strikeouts. Against Miles she tallied seven strikeouts.

James "Marty" Kinard of Clafin was selected as the Outstanding Coach of the Tournament.

Clafin (33-18) is ranked eighth in the South 1 Region and will face top-seed West Florida (40-13) in the first round Thursday (May 13). Mississippi College and Valdosta State are also in the region.

2017 SIAC SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

Tiaria Norman – Tournament MVP, P, CLAF; Chelsea Hall, Shaquaila German, CLAF; Kendruena McPherson, Victoria McDaniel, MILES; Toni Coleman, Malea Maye, ALBST; Tatianna Kelly, CAU; Erika Dargan, Starkeira Daniel, BEN

Albany State men, Benedict women take SIAC Outdoor Track & Field crowns

ALBANY, Ga. – **Albany State** captured the 2017 **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Men's Track & Field Championship** and **Benedict** won the women's track & field title on Saturday afternoon at Hugh Mills Stadium in Albany, Ga.

The Golden Rams finished with 248 points to secure the title ahead of Benedict who was second with 220.5 points.

Albany State's **Cervantes Jackson** won the SIAC **Cleve Abbott Award** as the top individual performer throughout the championship and also was the Men's Field Most Valuable Performer. Jackson recorded 58 points winning the decathlon (6,016), long jump (7.19m) and javelin (47.23m). Jackson earned silver medals in the high jump (1.93) and triple jump (15.45m). He also finished third in the 110-meter hurdles (14.64) and pole vault (2.89m).

Morehouse's **Kiplimo Collins** was tabbed the SIAC Men's Track Most Valuable Performer totaling 32 points with wins in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (9:57.59), a second-places in the 1,500-meter run (4:11.18), and 5,000-meter run (16:22.87) and third in the 10,000-meter run (34:34.98).

Kenneth Taylor of **Albany State** was named the SIAC Men's Track & Field Championship Outstanding Coach after leading the Golden Rams to their second title in three years.

On the women's side, Benedict finished with 216 points to win the title ahead of Albany State (187).

Curshonne Johnson of Clark Atlanta was selected as the SIAC Women's Track Most Valuable Performer scoring 42 points with a win in the 10,000-meters (4:32.12) and seconds in the 800-meter run (2:28.34), 1,500-meter run (5:10.70), 5,000-meter run (22:01.03), and 3,000-meter steeplechase (12:42.56).

Paine's **LaKeeba Redfield** totaled 32 points to earn the SIAC Women's Field Most Valuable Performer after winning the long jump (5.61 m), finishing second in the pole vault (2.29m) and triple jump (11.63m) and third in the high jump (1.53m). **Frank Hyland** of Benedict earned the SIAC Women's Track & Field Championship Outstanding Coach honor.

NC A&T sweeps MEAC Outdoor Track titles

GREENSBORO, N.C. - **North Carolina A&T State** made history on the track with its first **MEAC Men's Outdoor Track & Field Championship** title in 21 years. The championship also marks the first time since 2013 that one school has swept both the outdoor and indoor championships and the first time since 2003 that one school has swept all four track championships (indoor and outdoor) on both the men's and women's side.

MEN:

The Aggie men recorded 176 points to break from a close race and take the title. **Bethune-Cookman** was second with 115 points.

The A&T quartet of **Christopher Belcher**, **Rodney Rowe**, **Caleb Gabriel** and **Joel Thomas** broke their own MEAC Championship record in a run of 39.44. A&T's **TeQuille Jackson** captured the 110-meter hurdles championship in a time of 13.92 as he held off **Maryland Eastern Shore's Taj Showalter** (13.97) by five-tenths of a second. A&T picked up 14 points and created further separation after the 400-meter dash as **Dajuan Harding** topped the field in a time of 46.18. In the highly anticipated 100-meter dash, A&T's Belcher broke his own MEAC Outdoor Championship record in a time of 10.04.

MDES' **Rmidi Kinini** closed out his career in style after winning the 5,000 with a run of 15:20.23. Kinini once again was named Most Outstanding Runner after totaling 30 points and three first-place wins.

Steven Thomas of Coppin State was named Most Outstanding Field Performer for the second consecutive season with a total of 26 points. Thomas won the hammer throw along with a pair of second-place finishes in the discus and shot put.

WOMEN:

The Aggie women finished with 155 points, while Hampton was second with 124 points and Florida A&M came in third with 95.5 points.

North Carolina A&T State took home seven event titles on Saturday, including two from **India Brown** – who won the 100 meters (11.24) and 200 meter (23.51) races. **Kayla White** also took home the title in the 100 meter hurdles, running a 13.40. Both runners were on the gold medal-winning 4x100 relay squad, which turned in a MEAC Championship-record 44.81.

Morgan Knight also set a MEAC Championship record in the pole vault, leaping 12 feet, 1.25 inches. The Aggies also took gold in the 4x400 relay with a 3:42.60.

Andrea Aaron of Florida A&M was named the meet's Outstanding Field Performer, while **Hampton's Faith Keitany** was named Outstanding Runner. North Carolina A&T's **Duane Ross** was named the Outstanding Coach.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

THIS WEEK'S SPRING SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULES

MEAC		SWAC	
SOFTBALL		SOFTBALL	
May 11-13		May 10-13	
Ormond Beach Sports Complex	Barbara Williams Softball Complex		
Ormond Beach, FL	Montgomery, AL		

2017 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE				SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L		DIV	ALL	W	L
NORTHERN	16	7	24	19	EASTERN	20	4	36	14
Norfolk State	14	10	19	22	Jackson State	18	6	27	23
Delaware State	9	15	12	36	Alabama State	9	15	12	41
Maryland-E. Shore	8	15	11	30	Alabama A&M	7	15	11	31
Coppin State	14	7	25	21	Alcorn State	6	18	7	34
SOUTHERN	12	8	27	23	Miss. Valley State	15	9	22	27
NC A&T	12	9	24	23	WESTERN	14	9	16	30
Bethune-Cookman	12	11	22	27	Grambling State	11	13	18	33
Florida A&M	3	18	12	35	Texas Southern	10	14	15	30
NC Central					Prairie View	9	14	15	24
Savannah State					Arkansas Pine Bluff				
					Southern				

2017 BLACK COLLEGE SOFTBALL

MEAC	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE				SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL	W	L		DIV	ALL	W	L
NORTHERN	17	1	22	20	EASTERN	13	5	16	29
Hampton	13	5	17	27	Alcorn State	10	8	16	30
Delaware State	12	6	23	21	Alabama State	9	8	16	28
Morgan State	7	11	10	40	Alabama A&M	8	10	13	31
Coppin State	5	13	12	24	Miss. Valley State	5	13	12	36
Norfolk State	5	13	11	27	Jackson State				
Maryland-E. Shore	4	14	4	32	WESTERN				
Howard	13	2	18	29	Texas Southern	12	6	21	16
SOUTHERN	11	4	21	31	Arkansas Pine Bluff	11	7	18	22
Florida A&M	8	7	16	28	Prairie View	7	10	15	26
Bethune-Cookman	6	8	11	28	Southern	7	10	15	20
NC A&T	4	11	4	36	Grambling State	3	15	13	32
NC Central	2	12	2	38					
Savannah State									
S. C. State									