



Howard Sports photo

## ANOTHER ONE OUT THE DOOR

**CIAA NAMES 2017 ALL-SPORTS CHAMPS; SWAC, MEAC GET BASEBALL CHAMPS**

**DANIEL:** After three outstanding years at Howard, high-scoring guard transferring to Tennessee.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### CIAA NAMES ALL-SPORTS WINNERS:

CHARLOTTE, NC - The **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA)** held its annual Spring General Assembly Meeting and End-of-Year Awards Reception in Charlotte, North Carolina. The conference office announced its highest administrative and team awards at the reception on Tuesday afternoon.

**Johnson C. Smith** won the *Loretta Taylor All-Sports* award as the CIAA member-institution with this year's top women's programs while **Virginia State** earned two of the CIAA's highest accolades with the *C.H. Williams Men's All-Sports* and *Most Positive Game Environment Awards*.

The Golden Bulls earned two championship trophies in women's basketball and indoor track and field while taking home the runner-up trophy in outdoor track and field for a total of 114 points this season.

The VSU Trojan men brought home the championship trophy in indoor track & field while ranking third in the conference in cross country, baseball, and outdoor track and field for a total of 92 points in the tally. The 2016-17 award is the Trojans' third consecutive All-Sports trophy while the athletics department and its programs have now captured back-to-back Most Positive Game Environment.

In his second year at **Bowie State**, **Clyde Dougherty, Jr.**, earns the CIAA Director of Athletics of the Year award. Under Dougherty's guidance, Bowie State athletics programs claimed two 2016-17 conference titles including men's basketball and women's bowling while the Bulldogs' football and softball squads both took home runner-up trophies.

**Jolisa Williams** of **Shaw** has been named CIAA *John Holley Sports Information Director of the Year*. **Felicia Johnson**, Associate Athletics Director for Compliance at **Virginia Union** accepted the 2017 CIAA *Senior Woman Administrator of the Year* award.

Shaw volleyball student-athlete **Kelly Murphy** was named CIAA *Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year*. Murphy is a sophomore exercise science major from Mukwonago, Wisconsin who posted a 3.9 grade point average this year. On the court she earned All-CIAA and Tournament MVP honors while guiding the Lady Bears to their first CIAA championship in 21 years. In the community, Murphy assisted with youth volleyball camps, Church Child Care, feeding the homeless, and Reading Day with Day Care. She also devoted her time to Samaritan's Feet and Boy's and Girl's Club Activities for pre-teens.

Senior **Shawn Rowe** of **Saint Augustine's** earned Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year for his performance in Track & Field and academic and community service marks. The criminal justice major from West Palm Beach, Florida is a track and field All-American who is currently ranked No. 1 in the nation in Division II in the 400-meter hurdles. He has the fastest Division II time in the country and the 13th fastest time in the world (49.36) in the event. The 2017 CIAA Outdoor Athlete of the Year in running events helped the Falcons win their 21st straight indoor track and field title and 20th consecutive outdoor crown. Rowe spends his free time assisting with campus and community cleaning while maintaining a 3.323 grade point average

# Howard's Daniel commits to Tennessee

**CARL LUT WILLIAMS**  
BCSP Editor

High-scoring 6-foot **Howard** guard **James 'J-Byrd' Daniel** has decided to play his last year of basketball eligibility at the University of Tennessee for head coach Rick Barnes.

Daniel, whose 27.1 points per game average as a junior led all NCAA Div. I men's basketball players in the 2015-16 season, graduated from Howard this month. He was granted another year of eligibility after missing all but two games in the 2016-17 season with an ankle injury.

"Of course, the decision was very tough. I probably started out with over 70 offers when I threw my name out," said Daniel Tuesday during a phone interview. "So, just ciphering through all the schools - trying to find the best fit for me and my family and also the schools that were checked off the box and stuff - it was pretty tough."

Ohio State, Michigan and DePaul were also among his final choices. Daniel said his relationship with Barnes helped push the Vols over the edge.

"The deciding factor was Coach Barnes himself, his charisma, what he has going for me, what he has going for the team," Daniel said. "And just how both our goals line up."

Tennessee went 16-16 in 2016-17 in Barnes' second season in Knoxville after a 17-year run at Texas. The Vols were 8-10 in Southeastern Conference (SEC) play and are 14-22 in conference play under Barnes. The Vols lost guard Robert Hubbs III, their scoring leader (13.7 ppg.), to graduation and dismissed their second-leading scorer, Detrick Mostella (10.5 ppg.), midseason in 2016-17. That means there is plenty of room for Daniel in the Tennessee backcourt.

Daniel, the first HBCU player to lead the nation in scoring since **Texas Southern's Kevin Granger** in the 1995-95 season and only the fifth in history, averaged 2.8 assists and also led Divi-



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**ON THE MOVE:** Former MEAC and NCAA scoring leader at Howard to play his final year of eligibility in the SEC at Tennessee.

sion I in total free throws made (280) and attempted (331) in the 2015-16 season. He was also fourth in total points and fifth in total field goals. He was named the **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference's** player of the year that season.

He was the MEAC freshman of the year in the 2013-14 season and was the first freshman to lead the conference in scoring at 21 points per game. He averaged 16.7 points in 2014-15 and was a first-team all-MEAC selection. He played all four years for head coach **Kevin Nickelberry** who recruited him out of Hampton, Virginia's Phoebus High School.

He played both guard positions at How-

ard. He said he is going to play "on the ball" at Tennessee.

"What Coach Barnes wants me to day is be myself - which is an attacking guard - of course making the right plays when they're there but he wants me to attack almost every possession whether it's getting somebody a dump-down, a drive-and-kick or my man can't guard me. He just wants me to always be in attack-mode."

Tennessee faced all NCAA Final Four teams this past season and fared pretty well. The Vols lost in December to eventual national champion North Carolina (73-71), to national runners-up Gonzaga (86-76) and national semifinalist Oregon (69-65 in OT). They also dropped two games to fellow SEC member South Carolina (70-60 and 82-55).

Daniel said he's not familiar with many of the players on the young Tennessee team.

"It's kind of crazy. Because I'm a fifth-year guy, everybody I played against (at Tennessee), they're out of school right now. So, these are kind of young guys. I met the guys when I went down there on a visit. It's a great group of guys. Everybody works hard. They want to win. They have a great team element."

"I'd have to say they opened their arms when I came on my visit and that was another big thing. I could feel the family (atmosphere) down there. The coaching staff, I really love them too."

Grant Williams, a 6-5 forward who made the all-SEC Freshman team, is the Vols' returning scoring (12.6 ppg.) and rebounding (5.9 rpg.) leader.

"They have a great front line," Daniel said of his new teammates. "They have shooters. They're just one of those solid teams."

"Honestly, with me, I feel like we can compete for a national championship."

### HBCU NCAA Div. I Single Season Scoring Leaders

2015-16	<b>James Daniel, Howard</b>	27.1
1995-96	Kevin Granger, Texas Southern	27.0
1982-83	Harry Kelly, Texas Southern	28.8
1981-82	Harry Kelly, Texas Southern	29.7
1979-80	Tony Murphy, Southern	32.1

## Spring Sports Results

### Winston-Salem State falls in NCAA Div. II Atlantic Region baseball finals

JAMESTOWN, NY - The West Chester Golden Rams proved to be too much for CIAA champion **Winston-Salem State** on Monday afternoon with a 12-7 win in the Atlantic Region Championship round. With the win, West Chester earns a trip to Grand Prairie, Texas and the Division II College World Series.

The teams battled early as the Rams fought back from a 7-2 deficit in the fourth inning to pull within 7-6 on **Brandon Ford's** solo home run and a three-run blast off the bat of **Randal Ortiz**. They then tied it at 7 in the bottom of the seventh as **Landon Steiner** doubled home **Ivan Acuna**.

But a five run eighth was the difference as West Chester pulled away to the 12-7 win.

Ford went two for five with two runs scored and two runs batted in to lead WSSU.

After losing its opener on Thursday to second-seed West Chester 5-4, the seventh-seeded Rams reeled off four straight dramatic wins to reach the final round.

The Rams defeated Seton Hill (5-3) Friday. On Saturday, they got a win over Millersville (10-8). They then defeated Shippensburg (9-8) and top-seed Mercyhurst (6-1) Sunday to reach Monday's final round.

### 13-inning thriller gives Texas Southern SWAC baseball title

NEW ORLEANS, La. - **Texas Southern** captured the 2017 SWAC baseball championship with a marathon 4-2 win over **Alabama State** to win its second conference championship in three years, and fourth in school history.

Tournament Most Valuable Player **Christian Sanchez** hit an RBI double to give the Tigers a 2-0 lead at that point. Alabama State would answer in the bottom of the fourth. **Gustavo Rios** hit a RBI single to drive in the Hornets first fun of the game and make the score 2-1.

Alabama State tied the game at 2 in the bottom of the sixth on freshman **Cage Cox's** solo home run.

The score remained 2-2 and the game went into extra innings and turned into a pitcher's duel until the 13th inning. In the top of the 13th, **Gerrick Jimenez** hit an RBI single to give the Tigers the 3-2 lead. **Jose Cabreja** added an infield fly that allowed **Gaudencio Lucca** to score to give the Tigers a two run lead heading to the bottom of the inning.

**Michael Villanueva** retired the side in the bottom of the frame to give the Tigers the win.

Sanchez went one-for-four with one RBI on the day to pace the Tigers offensively. Texas Southern only used two pitchers in the win. Martinez threw 7.0 innings, allowing just six hits and striking out four. Michael Villanueva went 6.0 innings in relief, allowing just two hits, no runs and striking out three.

All-Tournament Team  
Cody Den Beste - Prairie View A&M  
Austin Bizzle - Alabama State  
Christian Sanchez - Texas Southern  
Bryce Brown - Jackson State  
Marshawn Taylor - Grambling State  
Steven Williams - Prairie View A&M  
Tyler Howe - Alabama State  
Joseph Estrada - Alabama State  
Anthony Martinez - Texas Southern  
Ray Hernandez - Alabama State  
Michael Villanueva - Texas Southern  
Gaudencio Lucca - Texas Southern

### Bethune-Cookman prevails again in MEAC baseball championship

SALISBURY, Md., May 20, 2017 - **Bethune-Cookman** won the 2017 **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC)** baseball championship on Saturday afternoon at Arthur W. Perdue Stadium, thanks to an 11-1 seven-inning win over **Norfolk State** in a match-up of top seeds.

Bethune-Cookman won its second straight title and its third in the last four years. The Wildcats have 18 titles overall.



Even though the Spartans (26-22) struck first on an **Alex Mauricio** sac fly in the top of the first, Bethune-Cookman responded by pushing across three runs in the bottom of the frame. The Wildcats led 7-1 in the third.

**Demetrius Sims** went 3-for-4 in the championship game with a pair of RBIs. Donte Lindsay struck out six in seven innings of four-hit ball to pick up his third win of the season.

The Wildcats (33-23) receive the MEAC's automatic bid to the NCAA Baseball Championship; the Selection Show will air on ESPNU on Monday, May 29 at 12 p.m.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMER:

Danny Rodriguez, Bethune-Cookman  
OUTSTANDING COACH:  
Jason Beverlin, Bethune-Cookman

2017 MEAC BASEBALL ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

Evan Regez	Delaware State
Darnell Maisonet	Delaware State
Kyle Clary	North Carolina A&T State
Myles Sowell	North Carolina A&T State
Justin Burrell	Norfolk State
Devin Hemmerich	Norfolk State
Andre' Moore	Norfolk State
Stephen Baughan	Norfolk State
Danny Rodriguez	Bethune-Cookman
Austin Garcia	Bethune-Cookman
Anthony Maldonado	Bethune-Cookman
Demetrius Sims	Bethune-Cookman

### Miles' season ends in baseball slugfest to West Alabama

CLEVELAND, Miss. - **SIAC** champion **Miles** battled hard Friday, coming back from a seven-run deficit to take the lead over West Alabama, but lost in a 17-15 slugfest in an elimination game in the 2017 NCAA Division II South Region Baseball Tournament.

The Golden Bears (31-23) trailed 12-5 after five innings but would put together an 8-run sixth inning to take a 13-12 lead. They went down 14-13 before fighting back to take a 15-14 lead. But a one-out, bases-loaded walk tied the game for UWA before a clutch hit gave UWA the lead for good.

Senior second baseman **Damion Williams** went 3-for-5 with three runs batted in, freshman catcher **Roderick Ransom** had four hits, junior third baseman **Xavius Burden** had three hits that helped him finish the season with a batting average over .400, and junior center fielder **Ryan Bargery** and sophomore pitcher **Jacob Schuster** had appeared to put the Golden Bears in position to pull off a big upset before UWA (35-20) made the big plays in the eighth.

Miles lost in the opening round Thursday to Tampa 12-1.

### Alabama State golfers finish 14th at NCAA Baton Rouge Regional

BATON ROUGE, La. - The **Alabama State** men's golf team, champions of the **Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC)**, concluded the NCAA Division I Baton Rouge Regional Championship on Wednesday with a final-round 331 at the University Club Golf Course.

The Hornets finished 14th at the tournament with a combined score of 1015 (346-338-331).

"We finished the year by playing in the 'Big Dance,' so I am counting my blessings," Alabama State head coach **Dr. Gary Grandison** said. "We must learn from our experiences this year."

**Patricio Minondo** continued his consistent play from the week as he shot 79 to give him a 232 (79-74-79) for the tournament.

**Quincy Stith** improved in his final round, carding a 79 to finish with a 248.

The top five teams will move on to the National Championship. Host LSU won the regional with an 866. Duke finished second (874) and Oregon placed third (879).

The NCAA Baton Rouge Regional Championship brings another season to close for the Hornets. ASU won four tournaments, including the SWAC Championship for the sixth consecutive year.



## THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### 2017 HBCU Basketball Coaching Changes

SCHOOL	FORMER COACH	NEW COACH
Alabama A&M (M)	Willie Hayes	Donnie Marsh
Bethune-Cookman (M)	Gravelle Craig	Ryan Ridder
Clafin (W)	Deont'a McChester	TBA
Coppin State (M)	Michael Grant	Juan Dixon
Clark Atlanta (W)	Vanessa Moore	Yolanda Moore
Elizabeth City State (W)	Laquanda Dawkins	Antonio Davis
Elizabeth City State (M)	Alico Dunk	John Hill
Florida A&M (M)	Byron Samuels	Robert McCullum
Grambling State (M)	Shawn Walker	Donte Jackson
Miss. Valley State (W)	Jessica Kern	Ashley Walker
NC Central women	Vanessa Taylor	Trisha Stafford-Odom
Southern (M)	Roman Banks	Morris Scott (interim)
Tennessee State (W)	Larry Joe Inman	Jessica Kern