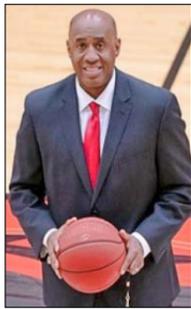


# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



WSSU Sports Photo

## SPRING WINNERS

**SWAC, MEAC BASEBALL CHAMPS CROWNED; NEW HOOPS COACHES AT WSSU, ALABAMA A&M**

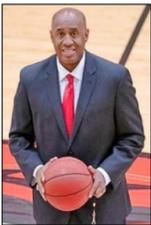
**CLEO HILL JR.**: From Shaw and Cheyney to his father's alma mater, Winston-Salem State, as hoops coach.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### HILL JR. NEW WSSU HOOPS COACH:

WINSTON-SALEM, NC – The **Winston-Salem State University** (WSSU) men's basketball program will look to its past to forge its future with the announcement of **Cleo Hill Jr.** as the head coach of the Rams' basketball team.



Cleo Hill Jr.

"There were 104 applicants for the position, which speaks to the excitement around Winston-Salem State University basketball," said WSSU Director of Athletics **Tonia Walker**. "After a thorough search process, there was no doubt that we have found the best candidate to usher in a new era for men's basketball. Cleo Hill Jr. has been successful at nearly all levels of college basketball—as a player, assistant coach, and head coach."

Hill was introduced as WSSU's ninth coach during a press conference on Monday, May 21. "We are thrilled to have Cleo Hill Jr. on board," said WSSU Chancellor **Elwood L. Robinson**. "He is uniquely qualified to lead our men's basketball program. He understands WSSU's legacy as a basketball powerhouse, and possesses the leadership, skill, and experience to take our men's basketball program to the next level."

Hill had a successful run as the head coach at **Shaw University** from 2008-15, where he led the Bears to a 116-67 record in seven seasons. In 2011, he guided the Bears to a **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** (CIAA) championship and an appearance in the NCAA Division II Atlantic Region Tournament.

Prior to leading the Shaw program, Hill spent five years as the head coach at **Cheyney University** where he led the Wolves to a 55-67 record, including a 23-8 record in the 2003-04 season. The Wolves also saw a pair of appearances in the NCAA Division II playoffs.

In addition to his experience as a head coach, Hill spent time as assistant coach at Nebraska. A native of Orange, New Jersey, Hill is the son of Rams basketball legend, the late **Cleo Hill Sr.**, a 2017 National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame inductee. Hill Sr., a 6-1 guard, scored 2,488 points in his career at WSSU, second only to **Earl "The Pearl" Monroe**. He was drafted eighth in the 1961 NBA draft by the St. Louis Hawk, the first player from an HBCU drafted in the NBA first round. Hill's jersey was officially retired in 2017 and is in a place of honor at WSSU's C.E. Gaines Center.

**HOWARD IN AT ALABAMA A&M:** HUNTSVILLE --- Director of Athletics **Byran Hicks** has announced that **Dylan Howard** has been elevated to interim head coach of the **Alabama A&M** men's basketball program for the 2018-19 season. Howard takes over following the resignation of **Donnie Marsh**.

Howard spent the last year as the associate head coach on the men's basketball staff. He has been integral in the recruitment for the Bulldogs and the development of the big man for the program.

Prior to AAMU, Howard spent five seasons as the associate head men's basketball coach at Morehead State. The team finished second in the Ohio Valley Conference with a 10-6 conference mark. In Coach Howard's five seasons at Morehead State, the Eagles won 89 games. He helped lead the Eagles to a 23-14 overall record and 11-5 Ohio Valley Conference mark in 2015-16, along with a second-place finish in the 2016 College Basketball Invitational.

"Coach Howard has done an excellent job since his arrival here at A&M," Hicks said. "His work ethic and leadership will provide us with continuity for our program going forward."

Howard was the top assistant at **Mississippi Valley State** from 2008-11. He assisted in putting together two top-50 recruiting classes in three seasons at MVSU.

Prior to MVSU, Howard had a seven-year run (2001-08) as the head coach at Division III Hardin-Simmons in Abilene, Texas. He was named American Southwest Conference Coach of the Year in 2005 after guiding the Cowboys to their first-ever league tournament appearance.

# BCSP Spring Round-Up

## Texas Southern wins second straight SWAC baseball championship

NEW ORLEANS – The Tigers of **Texas Southern** are headed back to the NCAA Tournament after defeating **Grambling State** 18-3 for the team's second consecutive Southwestern Athletic Conference tournament championship Sunday.

At Wesley Barrow Stadium, a nine-run third inning gave Texas Southern a comfortable advantage as the Tigers from the Lone Star State cruised to its third conference championship in four seasons.

**Christian Sanchez** went 2-for-4 with five RBIs, while **O.J. Oloruntimehin** drove in four runs as part of a 2-for-6 day for Texas Southern (27-26). **Aron Solis** struck out six batters over five innings to pick up his second victory of the tournament, improving his overall season record to 10-3.

In collecting four RBIs for the second consecutive game, Oloruntimehin was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Sanchez, **Kamren Dukes**, and **Gaudencio Lucca** also represented TSU on the All-Tournament team.

Dukes went 3-for-5 with two RBIs and four runs scored Sunday, as he reached base safely for the 45th consecutive game. Lucca went 2-for-4 with three RBIs in the game.

Sanchez's five-RBI game included a two-run home run in the eighth inning, which was his SWAC-leading 17th of the season.

Junior college transfer **Keanu Van Kuren** went 2-for-3 with a pair of RBIs and five runs scored. He was making only his second start of the tournament (and his first since the opener), and was not in the original starting lineup card sent to the press box an hour before the tournament.

It was Van Kuren's outfield assist on the third out of the second inning may have changed the direction of game. With two runners in scoring position, **Ace Felder** knocked a single to right field that scored **Isaiah Torres** from third to give Grambling a 2-1 lead. A two-run lead was thwarted when Van Kuren's throw to the plate was on target, with catcher **Ricky Urbano** making a stretching tag to retire **Richard Ortiz**.

The win sends Texas Southern to the NCAA Tournament. The location and opponents will be announced on Monday, May 28.

## North Carolina A&T wins 2018 MEAC baseball crown

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., May 20, 2018—**North Carolina A&T** defeated **Bethune-Cookman** 12-9 on Sunday evening at Sliwa Stadium to win the 2018 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Baseball Championship and earn the league's automatic berth to the NCAA playoffs.

The Aggies (32-23) won their fourth title overall and first since 2005. "Excited, pumped for our guys," Aggies head coach **Ben Hall**, the tournament's Outstanding Coach, said. "They put the work in and it's been a long road. Four years ago, we told our kids we were gonna do this, and we told them all week. They believed in it, they're the ones who put the work in ... just thrilled for them."

The Aggies scored double-digit runs in all three tournament games. With the game tied 8-8 in the bottom of the eighth, A&T – the top

# BCSP Notes

## Virginia State sweeps CIAA All-Sports award

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 Tuesday, where the conference office announced its highest administrative and team awards.

**Virginia State University** swept both of the CIAA's highest team accolades with the **Loretta Taylor** and **C.H. Williams All-Sports Awards**. Both recognitions are awarded to the conference institution with this year's top women's and men's athletic programs. The VSU women earned 102 points, leading with a runner-up finish in Outdoor Track & Field and third place team finishes in Indoor Track & Field and Cross Country.

The Trojan men captured their award with 104 points, due in part to championship titles in Football, Cross Country, Indoor Track & Field, and a runner-up finish in Outdoor Track & Field.

**Saint Augustine's University's** volleyball, indoor, and outdoor track and field student-athlete **Shakera Hall** was named CIAA Female Scholar Athlete of the Year. Hall is a senior business administration major from Bridgetown, Barbados who posted a 3.939 grade point average this year.

Hall, who was named the CIAA Volleyball Offensive Player of the Year, ranked first in the CIAA and fourth in Division II in kills per set, first in the CIAA and seventh nationally in points per game, and third in the conference in total kills.

Hall was also voted HERO Sports Division II Volleyball Fan Choice National Offensive Player of the Year. The dual sport athlete ranks No. 4 in the Atlantic Region and 26th in Division II in the 100m hurdles after winning the conference's 100m hurdles in the outdoor season and the 60m hurdle event at the indoor championship.

Senior **Philip Harrison** of **Livingstone College** earned Male Scholar Athlete of the Year for his performance on the Blue Bears' men's golf team. The business administration major from Richmond, Virginia earned a 4.0 cumulative grade point average all while helping his team to win this year's Northern, Southern, and CIAA Golf Championship Tournament titles.

Harrison was named to the CIAA All-Conference Golf Team as well as the CIAA Golf All-Tournament Team. Outside of his time on the course, the 2018 Class Valedictorian volunteers his time to feed the less fortunate, mentor young athletes at junior golf camp, and also spends time with the Special Olympics. This is Harrison's second Scholar Athlete recognition after earning 2016 CIAA Male Scholar Athlete of the Year.

The **Bowie State University** Athletics Department was recognized with the award of Most Positive Game Environment for the 2017-2018 season. Virginia Union's **Joe Taylor** was named Athletics Director of the Year.

**Dr. Lawanda Miller** of **Fayetteville State University** received the Senior Woman Administrator of the Year Award and **K.C. Culler** of **Johnson C. Smith University** was named CIAA *John Holley Sports Information Director of the Year*.

## Southern announces deal with Under Armour, BSN

BATON ROUGE – The **Southern University** Athletics Department has entered into a 5-year partnership with Under Armour through BSN SPORTS. The agreement, which will commence on July 1, 2018 is part of BSN SPORTS Collegiate Select program, which aims to make BSN SPORTS a one-stop provider for all collegiate athletic, intramural, club and staff apparel and equipment to all NCAA Division I, II, III, NJCAA and NAIA schools.

The multi-year deal through Under Armour and BSN Sports, which is

seed out of the Southern Division – took the lead after **Dawnoven Smith** doubled and later scored on a **Zach McLean** double to left center. McLean then went to third on a wild pitch – while **Jarrett Norman** scored – and McLean scored on a passed ball to give the Aggies an 11-8 lead.

Then **Forest Kimbrell** walked with the bases loaded to push across another run.

The Wildcats (24-34) scored a run in the top of the ninth, but **Josh Bottenfield** struck out **Joseph Fernando** with a runner on third to end the game and trigger the celebration.

Bethune-Cookman struck first, scoring five times in the top of the third. **Michael Deeb** got things started with an RBI single with the bases loaded, bringing in **Adonis Lao**. **Jameel Edney** followed with a two-run single and **Giovany Lorenzo** also had a two-run single.

But the Aggies responded in the bottom of the frame, plating four runs. Smith got the scoring started with an RBI single, and McLean had a two-run single. **Milton Rivera** added an RBI single of his own to cut Bethune-Cookman's lead to 5-4.

Lao scored on an error in the fourth to give the Wildcats a 6-4 lead, then he added a two-run double in the fifth to put the Wildcats on top 8-4.

McLean, the tournament's Outstanding Performer, launched a two-run homer in the bottom of the fifth, cutting the lead to 8-6, before Kimbrell added an RBI single to make it a one-run game. The Aggies tied the game in the seventh, when **Greg White** scored on a wild pitch.

The 64-team NCAA championship field will be announced on Monday, May 28.

### OUTSTANDING PERFORMER:

Zach McLean, North Carolina A&T State

### OUTSTANDING COACH:

Ben Hall, North Carolina A&T State

### 2018 MEAC ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

Caleb Duhay, CSU; Andres Santana, CSU; Jacky Miles, Jr., FAMU; Brian Davis, FAMU; Jameel Edney, B-CU; Brady Norris, B-CU; Danny Rodriguez, B-CU; Adonis Lao, B-CU; Myles Sowell, NC A&T; Milton Rivera, NC A&T; Zach McLean, NC A&T; Dawnoven Smith, NC A&T

## NCAA PLAYOFF RESULTS

### NCAA DIV II BASEBALL

LAKELAND, FL  
Tampa 12, Albany St. 2  
Albany St. vs. Mississippi College

### NCAA DIV I SOFTBALL

COLLEGE STATION, TX  
Texas A&M 9, Prairie View 0  
Baylor 9, Prairie View 0 (PVAM eliminated)

### GAINESVILLE, FL

Florida 8, Bethune-Cookman 0  
South Florida 3, Bethune-Cookman 0 (BCU eliminated)



scheduled to run through the 2022-23 season, will outfit the Jaguars 15 intercollegiate sports programs with custom uniforms, apparel, footballs and other accessories. Along with serving as the official apparel provider for athletics, Under Armour, BSN Sports and Southern have agreed to service the entire Southern University System, including the Human Jukebox and SU Cheerleaders.

"Through our partnership with Under Armour and BSN Sports, Southern University has successfully partnered with the industry leader in athletic apparel and accessories," said **Roman Banks**, Southern University Director of Athletics.

"Under Armour's mission to be a global leader through innovation coincides with the university's commitment to excellence. This partnership also allows us to fully expand the brand recognition of Southern University and the Jaguar Nation and we are extremely excited to be apart of the Under Armour and BSN Sports family"

The agreement includes numerous incentives in the form of discounts and rewards along with incentives for on-field achievements and additional marketing and promotional opportunities.

"We are excited to partner with Southern University and Under Armour in elevating the performance and impact of their athletics program. This strategic partnership provides the finest apparel and athletic products to the Jaguar athletic teams and benefits each student athlete representing the community on the athletic field or court" said Todd Northrop – Vice President. "We are proud to be their partner and pleased that we can elevate the student-athlete experience."

Southern becomes the fourth HBCU to join with Under Armour after **Howard University** inked a deal in 2016 to become the company's first HBCU client and were soon joined by **Hampton University** and **Edward Waters College**. The **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** (CIAA) announced in January of this year a deal for its athletic programs to be with Under Armour also through BSN. The CIAA's deal with Under Armour begins on July 1, 2018. The **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** (SIAC) announced a similar partnership with Nike through BSN in 2017.

BSN SPORTS Collegiate Select will partner with the company's key vendors to provide apparel and equipment to colleges and universities across the country.

## Hampton unveils 2018 football schedule

HAMPTON, Va. – **Hampton University**, who decided to leave the **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference** and join the Big South Conference, announced its 2018 football schedule last week.

"Despite opposition from certain quarters, it is with great pleasure that we can announce our 2018 football schedule," said Hampton University President Dr. **William R. Harvey**.

Hampton will have an 11-game non-conference schedule, with six home dates and five matchups with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

9/1 **Shaw** - 6 pm  
9/15 **Tennessee State** - 6 pm  
9/29 Charleston Southern - 2 pm  
10/13 @ Presbyterian - TBA  
11/3 @ SUNY Maritime - 1 pm  
11/17 St. Andrews University - 1 pm

9/8 @ Monmouth (NJ) - 3 pm  
9/22 @ Northern Iowa - TBA  
10/6 **Lane** - 2 pm  
10/27 **VU of Lynchburg** - 2pm - HC  
11/10 @ **Miss. Valley State** - TBA