

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Iowa Barnstormers Sports Photo

POWELL: Former CIAA standout wins MVP award, championship in Indoor Football League (IFL).

SUMMER MOVES

SIAC, SWAC HOLDING FOOTBALL KICKOFF EVENTS; HBCU SIDs MEET; O'QUINN ON TO INDY

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



Norfolk State Sports Photo

STILL MAKING MOVES: Former Norfolk State center Kyle O'Quinn, shown here in 2016 showing off his diploma from NSU, has signed a one-year deal to join the NBA's Indiana Pacers after three years with the New York Knicks.

O'QUINN OFF TO THE PACERS:

Former Norfolk State center and MEAC Player and Defensive Player of the Year Kyle O'Quinn has signed to join his third NBA team.

The Queens product agreed to terms on a one-year, \$4.5 million deal with the Indiana Pacers, an NBA source confirmed. The burly backup center who played for the New York Knicks last season got a small raise after opting out of his Knicks contract that would have paid him \$4.25 million next season.

He averaged career highs of 7.1 points, 6.1 rebounds, 2.1 assists, 3 blocks and 77.2 percent in free-throw percentage while shooting 58 percent from the field in 18 minutes per game for New York last season.

The 28-year-old O'Quinn is entering his seventh NBA season. He spent his first three seasons in the league with Orlando who drafted him in the second round of the 2012 NBA Draft out of Norfolk State.

He expected a bigger package to leave his hometown team, but finally gets a real shot at advancing to the playoffs. In O'Quinn's six seasons, he has never made the postseason — with Orlando or the Knicks. He is said to be close with Indiana's Victor Oladipo from their Orlando days.

O'Quinn finished his degree in interdisciplinary studies at Norfolk State in 2016 through online courses squeezed into spare minutes on the road with the Knicks. He said at the time he was inspired to go the distance by his late father, Tommie O'Quinn, who attended Hinds Community College in Mississippi but never finished. His father died in July 2015 in a car accident.

"He really, really wanted to go, but just the funding and, at that time, the way the world was, there just wasn't an opportunity for him to finish college," O'Quinn said. "So I guess I want to say I finished on his behalf."

O'Quinn has averaged 5.8 points and 4.9 boards per game in 398 appearances and 60 starts during his NBA career.

Former CIAA star wins IFL title, MVP award

Drew Powell, the former CIAA offensive player of the year while playing quarterback at Livingstone, has received a similar award while leading the Iowa Barnstormers to the 2018 championship in the Indoor Football League (IFL).

Powell (6-3, 220), who set 11 school records and four conference records while playing for the Blue Bears, continued his productive play as a pro, throwing for 1,604 yards and 34 touchdowns with just four interceptions while leading the Barnstormers to a 13-3 record and winning the league's MVP award.

He capped his incredible season leading a come-from-behind 42-38 win Saturday over the Sioux Falls Storm in a thrilling IFL title game, dubbed the United Bowl.

With his team trailing 38-35 heading into its final drive, Powell, led the 'Stormers down the field in less than three minutes for what proved to be an exhilarating game-winning drive. It was capped by a bruising and dramatic Jamal Tyler touchdown run with just 13 seconds left.

The 'Stormers championship banner will join existing division and conference championship banners, in addition to the one that NFL Hall of Famer Kurt Warner won for the Barnstormers.



Livingstone Sports Photo



Iowa Barnstormers Photo

PRO-DUCTION: Prolific former CIAA passer and player of the year Drew Powell of Livingstone (l.) has gone on to put up big numbers in the Indoor Football League, leading the Iowa Barnstormers to the IFL Championship and earning the league's MVP award (r.). Powell threw for 1,604 yards and 34 TDs and rushed for 945 yards and 23 scores for the Barnstormers.

"All this stuff that's going on, it's going to pass by," said Powell. "Some people might not know who the Iowa Barnstormers 2018 team was, but when you come in this arena and you look up at the rafters, it goes down in history. So for me to go down in history with these guys — you can't even make up dreams like this. I'm just thankful."

The IFL is a six-team league located primarily in the midwest. The title game was played in Des Moines, Iowa.

Wide Receiver Ryan Ballentine won the championship game MVP award with 91 receiving yards and three touchdowns.

"I love throwing to him, he's been great all season," Powell said of Ballentine. "I just can't help but be happy for him, because he's been in this league a long time, and he finally got his."

But Powell could easily have been given the award.

The dual-threat quarterback was 12-for-16 for 178 yards and four touchdowns. He ran for another 48 yards and a touchdown. The crowd was chanting "MVP" after Powell found the end zone to give the Barnstormers the lead late in the third quarter.

"He deserved the MVP chant. Everything we do is around him,"

BCSP Notes

SIAC to kick off 2018 pre-season HBCU Football Media events, SWAC to follow

ATLANTA (May 21, 2018) – The Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) and the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) will be the first of the four HBCU athletic conferences to hold their preseason football events as they unveil their head coaches and top players this week.

The SIAC gets things started Tuesday when it returns to the College Football Hall of Fame Tuesday in Atlanta for its 2018 Football Media Day.

The SWAC is next up as it hosts its Football Media Day on Friday, July 13 at the recently refurbished Birmingham Marriott Hotel in Birmingham.

SIAC Media Day

Head coaches from each of the ten SIAC football-playing program will be accompanied by two student-athletes from each team at the Hall of Fame venue in downtown Atlanta. They will be available for interviews and will have the opportunity to share their expectations and views on the upcoming football season.

The predicted order of finish along with the preseason all-SIAC teams will also be announced during the event. Additionally, players, coaches, and invited guests will have an interactive experience after the event with a self-guided tour of the Hall of Fame.

"Football Media Day is a signature event for our conference and we are pleased to announce the return to the College Football Hall of Fame to kick off the 2018 college football season," remarked SIAC Commissioner Greg Moore. "In light of the rich history which spans more than 100 years, I cannot think of a more appropriate place to hold this year's event."

There are no new head coaches in the SIAC this season. West Division champ Tuskegee won last year's SIAC Championship game over East Division champ Fort Valley State, 13-6.

SWAC Media Day

The SWAC event will be streamed live on the SWAC Digital Network found on SWAC.org beginning at 10 a.m. CT as longtime SWAC broadcaster Santoria Black will serve as the moderator and lead host in interviewing each of the 10 head football coaches.

Gaati Werema, who notably has worked in prior seasons as SDN's basketball analyst, will be conducting interviews with each school's student-athlete representatives. Each member institution will have two student-athletes that will accompany their respective head coach.

This year's media gathering will have noticeable changes as it will feature new head coaches at half (five) of the league's ten programs. Among the fresh faces and new head coaches making their first Media Day appearances are Alabama A&M's Connell Maynor, Alabama State's Donald Hill-Eley, Mississippi Valley State's Vincent Dancy, Prairie View A&M's Eric Dooley and Arkansas-Pine Bluff's Cedric Thomas.

Among the student athletes attending the Media Day is senior linebacker De'Arius



BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTORS: A host of African-American sports information directors and assistant directors descended on the Gaylord Hotel at the National Harbor in Maryland for the College Sports Information Directors (CoSIDA) national convention, June 27-30. The Black College Sports Information Directors Association (BCSIDA), which includes HBCU SIDs and African-Americans at non-HBCUs, held their annual meeting on Thursday, June 28 during the convention with over 50 participants. The photo above was taken right after the meeting. The BCSIDA, started by late former Mississippi Valley State SID Chuck Prophet, former Old Dominion SID Carol Hudson and the late Wallace Dooley, who served as an SID at numerous HBCU institutions, has been in existence for over 25 years. Longtime member Edward Hill Jr., who spent nearly 30 years as SID at Howard University, was inducted into the CoSIDA Hall of Fame in ceremonies on Saturday, June 30. Kyle Serba, SID at North Carolina Central since 1994, was presented an award for 25 years of excellent service.



Edward Hill Jr.



Kyle Serba



Christmas

Christmas of back-to-back champion Grambling State. Christmas was the 2017 SWAC defensive player of the year. West Division champ Grambling defeated East Division champ Alcorn State in last year's championship game, 40-32.

The list of head coaches and student-athletes participating in SWAC Media Day 2018 include:

Alabama State
Tytus Howard, senior offensive lineman
Devin Santana, senior defensive lineman
Donald Hill-Eley, head coach

Southern
Demerio Houston, senior defensive back
Dennis Craig, redshirt senior tight end
Dawson Odums, head coach

Grambling State
Percy Cargo, senior defensive back
De'Arius Christmas, senior linebacker
Broderick Fobbs, head coach

Arkansas-Pine Bluff
KeShawn Williams, senior running back
Jalen Steward, junior defensive end
Cedric Thomas, head coach

Alabama A&M
Dylan Hamilton-senior safety
Jordan Bentley-junior-running back
Connell Maynor, head coach

Texas Southern
Julian Marcantel, junior linebacker
Brad Woodard, senior running back
Michael Haywood, head coach

Alcorn State
P.J. Simmons, senior running back
Brady Smith, redshirt senior defensive back
Fred McNair, head coach

Mississippi Valley State
Patrick Harbin, senior linebacker
Jett Even, senior quarterback
Vincent Dancy, head coach

Prairie View A&M
Dawonya Tucker, junior running back
Anthony Stubbs, senior linebacker
Eric Dooley, head coach

Jackson State
Romello Shumake, senior wide receiver
Eric Bowie, senior linebacker
Tony Hughes, head coach

Edwards Waters to name Summers new hoops coach

The Edward Waters College Department of Intercollegiate Athletics will hold a press conference on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 where Frederick Summers will be introduced as the new head men's basketball coach.

Summers will replace Frank Burnell who resigned in June to take the same position at Florida State College at Jacksonville.

Summers comes to Edward Waters after serving one season in the same role at Talladega College, where he led the Tornadoes to a 21-11 overall record and 10-5 against Gulf Coast Athletic Conference competition. For his efforts, Summers was named the 2017-18 GCAC Men's Basketball Coach of the Year.

Prior to his time at Talladega, Summers coached five seasons as the Head Coach at Concordia College in Selma, Alabama.

He led the Hornets to four straight appearances to the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA) National Tournament. The Hornets finished as the tournament runner-up in 2015-16, while the following year, Concordia won its first USCAA National Championship.

Summers finished his time at Concordia as the winningest coach in CCAL history with a record of 82-47.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Summers is a 1999 graduate of Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee.

He also spent two seasons at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where he was a guard on the Men's Basketball team, sharing the same backcourt with former Los Angeles Lakers guard and New York Knicks Head Coach, Derek Fisher.

The Press Conference will begin at 11:00am at the Adams-Jenkins Community Sports & Music Center.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

Former Black College Players in the Indoor Football League (IFL)

IOWA BARNSTORMERS			
2	Drew Powell	QB	Livingstone
5	Sheldon Augustine	WR	Langston
77	Brandon Haskin	OL	Tennessee State

CEDAR RAPIDS TITANS			
1	Homer Causey	QB	Texas Southern
8	Raheem Bramwell	LB	Shaw
20	Qua Cox	DB	Jackson State
42	Bryce McClain	DL	Shaw
44	Moses White	LB	Shaw
65	Sean Brown	OL	Mississippi Valley State
72	Marques Haynes	DL	Hampton

NEBRASKA DANGER			
2	Najee Bright	DB	Alabama State
15	Jamaal Burgess	DB	Bethune-Cookman
10	Gregory Hankerson	QB	Norfolk State
17	Rahman Kamara	DB	Bowie State

SIOUX FALLS STORM			
1	Damian Ford	WR	Stillman

GREEN BAY BLIZZARD			
69	D'Mon Tucker	OL	Lane