

Sports Department Photos

MAKE YOUR CASE

SIAC, CIAA TIP TOURNAYS, NAME ALL-STARS; HOWARD GRAD TO HELM DC XFL FRANCHISE

TOURNEY'S TOP SEEDS: (Clockwise from top l.) Brewer (Morehouse), Rice (Benedict), Gilbert (Virginia Union) and Blow (Virginia State).

MEN'S 2018-19 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Standings and Top Players)

CIAA

Table with columns: DIV, CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows for North and South Division teams.

MEAC

Table with columns: CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L. Rows for Norfolk State, North Carolina A&T, etc.

SIAC

Table with columns: CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L. Rows for East Division and West Division teams.

SWAC

Table with columns: DIV, ALL, W, L, W, L. Rows for various Southwestern Athletic Conference teams.

INDEPENDENTS

Table with columns: W, L. Rows for Lincoln (Mo.), UDC, W. Va. State, etc.

CIAA PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

- Amir Hinton, 6-5, Jr., G, SHAW
William Jenkins, 6-7, Jr., F, VIRGINIA UNION
Demarius Pitts, 6-4, Fr., G, VIRGINIA UNION
Lonnie Blow Jr., VIRGINIA STATE

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

- Malik Mattland, 5-9, Jr., G, B-CU - Tied for team high with 20 points with 7 assists and 4 steals in win over Florida A&M.
Rasaan Davis, 6-9, Sr., C, NCCU - In two wins, averaged 14.5 points, 9 rebounds and 1.5 blocks.

SIAC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

- Omar Alston, 6-8, Sr., F, MOREHOUSE
Kendarius Ash, 6-9, Sr., F, LANE
Robert Andrews, 6-3, Jr., G, MOREHOUSE
Devin Booker, 6-4, Fr., G, LEMOYNE-OWEN
Grady Brewer, MOREHOUSE

SWAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Jeremy Combs, 6-7, Gr., F, TEXAS SOUTHERN - Continued stellar play averaging double-double or 25.5 points and 10.5 rebounds in two wins. He had 24 points and 10 rebounds in win over MVSU Monday, 27 points and 11 rebounds in win over UAFB Saturday.

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Jermaine Marrow, 6-0, Jr., G, HAMPTON - Averaged 25.0 points in two wins that ended five-game losing streak. Threw in team-high 24 points with 7 rebounds and 4 assists in win over Longwood Thursday. Had game-high 26 points on the road at first-place Radford Saturday canning 14 of 15 FTs with 4 assists.

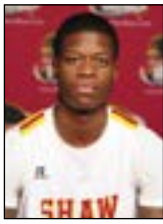
UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

ALL-CIAA BASKETBALL SELECTIONS:

MEN BACKCOURT - Amir Hinton, 6-5, Jr., SU; Roger Ray, 5-9, Jr., LIV; Tyre Gathright, G, SAU; Cameron Capbell, 6-4, Jr., LINC; Robert Colon, 6-1, Jr., WSSU
FRONTCOURT - William Crandell, 6-5, Sr., WSSU; Lydell Elmore, 6-9, So, LIV; Jahmere Howze, 6-6, Sr., VSU; William Jenkins, 6-7, Jr., VUU; Saiquan Jamison, 6-8, So., BSU; Roddric Ross, 6-7, Sr., JCSU, Deaquan Williams, 6-8, So., LINC

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Amir Hinton, SHAW - 30.1 ppg., tops in CIAA and NCAA Div. II; 38 minutes per game (1st in conference), 4.3 assists per game (3rd), 89.7% FT (1st), 296 of 330 (1st in nation in attempts and makes)
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: William Jenkins, VIRGINIA UNION - 15.1 ppg. (10th), 8.5 rpg. (3rd), 1.1 bpg. (7th), 1.3 spg. (13th)
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Demarius Pitts, VIRGINIA UNION - 13.1 ppg. (tops among freshmen), 71 assists, 28 stea.s, 101 rebounds.
COACH OF THE YEAR: Lonnie Blow Jr., VIRGINIA STATE - N. Div. champs, 9-1 in N. Div., 16-1 in conf., 24-4 overall, nationally ranked.



Hinton

WOMEN BACKCOURT Daisa Harris, 5-7, Jr., LIV; Shareka McNeill, 5-6, So., VUU; Jalyn Brown, 5-6, Sr., ECSU; Kwanza Murrah, 5-7, Jr., LINC; Amaya Tucker, 5-6, Fr., WSSU
FRONTCOURT Brionna Pate, 6-1, Sr., WSSU; Yakima Clifton, 6-0, Sr., FSU; Ashley Fields, 5-10, Gr., CLAF; Naterria Luster, 6-0, Jr., ECSU; Kyaja Williams, 5-8, Jr., BSU; Danielle Weldon, 6-0, Sr., CHOW; Pere Alexander, 5-9, R-Sr., BSU



McNeill

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Shareka McNeill, VIRGINIA UNION - 23.1 ppg. (1st), .347 3FG% (2nd), 3.0 3spg. (2nd), VUU N. Div. champs
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Ashley Fields, CLAFLIN - 16.1 ppg. (4th), 2.7 spg. (T-1st), 5.4 drpg. (3rd), 8.1 rpg. (9th)
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Amaya Tucker, WINSTON-SALEM STATE - 15.9 ppg., (6th), .407 3FG% (1st), 2.6 3s made (3rd)
COACH OF THE YEAR: SHADAE SWAN, BOWIE STATE - 7-3 N, 14-3 CIAA, 22-4 overall

ALL-SIAC BASKETBALL SELECTIONS:

MEN FIRST TEAM Omar Alston, 6-6, Sr., G/F, MHC; Ditalion Battle, 6-2, Sr., G, KSU; Shelvick Henry, 6-1, Sr., G, CAU; Devin Booker, 6-4, Fr., LOC; Kendarius Ash, 6-9, Sr., F, LC
SECOND TEAM Jaylon Mcmillan, 6-4, Sr., G, FVSU; Jared Harrington, 6-5, Sr., G, ASU; Robert Andrews, 6-3, Jr., G, MHC; Tyrone Banks, 5-11, Jr., G, LOC; Myles Thomas, 6-7, Jr., F, TU

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Omar Alston, MOREHOUSE - 14.5 ppg. (12th), 11.5 rpg. (2nd), 57.7% FG (4th), 3.8 app. (4th)
NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR: Robert Andrews, MOREHOUSE - 12.5 ppg. (18th), .440% 3FG (1st)
FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR: Devin Booker, LEMOYNE-OWEN - 15.6 ppg. (9th), .865 FT% (1st)
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Kendarius Ash, LANE - 11.6 rpg. (1st), 15.8 ppg. (8th)
COACH OF THE YEAR: Grady Brewer, MOREHOUSE - 14-3 SIAC, 20-4 overall



Alston

WOMEN FIRST TEAM Ayanna Bey, So., 6-2, So., F, BEN; Alexis Carter, 6-2, Sr., F, TU; Dana Gettis, 5-9, Sr., G, LOC; Tiffany Valentine, 6-2, Jr., F, SHC, Ayanna Armstead, 5-8, So., G, BEN
SECOND TEAM Brooke Wallace, 6-2, Sr., C, KSU; Alicia Franklin, Jr., G, FVSU; Reagan Jackson, 5-7, Fr., G, CAU; Keondra Archie, 5-10, So., F, PC, Jade Wilson, 5-11, Sr., F, TU

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Ay'Anna Bey, Benedict - 23.4 ppg. (1st), 11.9 rpg. (T-1st), .620 FG% (1st), .701 FT% (2nd), 1.0 bpg. (8th)
DEFENSIVE & NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Alexis Carter, Tuskegee - 18.4 ppg. (4th), 11.9 rpg. (1st), 2.0 spg. (7th), 3.9 bpg. (1st)
FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR Reagan Jackson, Clark Atlanta - 13.6 ppg. (7th), 2.3 app. (11th), .776 FT% (3rd), 2.1 3spg (3rd)
COACH OF THE YEAR: James Rice, Benedict - 15-0 SIAC (1st, E. Div.), 20-6 overall



Bey

SIAC, CIAA enter second hoops seasons

LUT WILLIAMS BCSP Editor
Men's and women's regular season basketball in the SIAC and CIAA was put to bed last week and this week teams in both conferences looked for fresh starts as Tournament play began Monday in Birmingham, Ala. and Charlotte, N. C. respectively.

The SIAC Tourney runs through Saturday at the Bill Harris Arena in Birmingham while the CIAA played Monday through Wednesday at Bojangles Arena in Charlotte and switches to the downtown Spectrum Center for play Thursday through Saturday.

SIAC

No SIAC men's team is guaranteed to advance beyond this week's tournament into the 64-team NCAA Div. II Championship Tournament field.

That's because East Division winner and top seed Morehouse (20-4) is the only conference team ranked among the top ten teams in the region as the tournament tipped off Monday. And the Maroon Tigers were ninth last week in the NCAA Div. II Regional Rankings, outside the top eight teams that will make the South Region field for the 64-team NCAA Div. II Championship Tournament. This week's rankings came out on Wednesday, Feb. 27 after press time.

Grady Brewer's squad likely has to win the tournament to make sure of grabbing one of those spots in the regional.

The Maroon Tigers began their quest in Wednesday's 7:45 p.m. quarterfinal as they faced East 5th-seed Paine (8-18). West Division top seed Miles (18-8) faced West 5th-seed Tuskegee (12-14) in the 3:15 p.m. Wed. quarterfinal game.

On the women's side, East Division champion and top seed Benedict (20-6) is sixth in the South Region and stands a good chance of advancing to regional play with a solid tournament showing. James Rice's Lady Tigers have won all 15 conference games so far this season. No other SIAC women's team is in the top ten in the region.

Benedict opened play Wed. at 5:30 p.m. vs. Lane (13-10), the 4th-seeded team from the West.

SIAC and CIAA Tournament logos and schedules for Opening Round, Quarterfinals, Semifinals, and Championship games for both men's and women's divisions.

CIAA North Division champ Virginia State is the favorite on the men's side of the CIAA Tourney. Lonnie Blow Jr.'s Trojans are all but guaranteed to advance to regional play. Their 24-4 overall includes a 16-1 record in conference games. VSU was 19th in last week's NABC Div. II poll and third in the NCAA Div. II Atlantic Region rankings. The top eight teams from the region advance into the Div. II championship field.

The Trojans are among the top two seeds from the North and South Division that received byes into Wednesday and Thursday's quarterfinal rounds.

They and S. Div. top seed Shaw (15-12) will play in Wednesday night's sessions at 6:40 and 8:50 p.m. The 2nd-seeds, last year's champion Virginia Union (18-10) from the North and Livingstone (16-11) from the South, face their opponents Thursday night at 7 and 9 p.m.

Ann-Marie Gilbert's Lady Panthers of Virginia Union enter the tourney with the highest national and regional ranking. VUU (24-2) is 12th in last week's WBCA national ranking and second behind Indiana (Pa.) in the Atlantic Region ranking.

VUU is sure to advance to regional play regardless of its tournament outcome. North 2nd-seed Bowie State (22-4) is fifth in the region and also stands a good chance of advancing to the regional.

A year ago, VUU won the CIAA Tournament over BSU and both advanced to regional play with BSU upsetting the Lady Panthers on their home floor.

VUU opened play in the tournament Wed. at 4:30 p.m. BSU plays Thursday at 1 p.m. South Div. top seed Fayetteville State (19-7) has its first game Wednesday at 2:20 p.m. N. Div. 2nd-seed J. C. Smith (16-12) plays its first game Thursday at 3 p.m. vs. Lincoln (16-13).

Women's games are played first in the CIAA Tournament followed by the men's games.

Semifinals for the women are Friday at 1 and 3 p.m. with the men's semis at 5 and 7 p.m. The women's title game is Saturday at 1 p.m. with the men to follow at 4:30 p.m.

BCSP Notes

Former Howard QB to lead DC XFL team

Pep Hamilton, who attended and played quarterback at Howard from 1997 to 2001 and had gone on over the last 22 years to positions as an offensive assistant at major college and NFL teams, will serve as the head coach and general manager of Washington, D.C.'s XFL franchise. The league's official Twitter account announced last week in a short video.

Hamilton is perhaps most recognized for his work coaching Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck both as an offensive coordinator for Stanford from 2011 to 2012 and the Colts from 2013 to 2015. Hamilton has also held offensive coaching positions with Howard, the New York Jets, San Francisco 49ers, Chicago Bears and Cleveland Browns. While at Michigan for the 2017 and 2018 seasons, Hamilton assisted Jim Harbaugh.

This is his first head coaching opportunity. Hamilton is now tied to another Luck, as Oliver Luck, Andrew's father, is the CEO of the XFL.

Fans will have to wait until 2020, the league's planned inaugural season, to see how Hamilton fares in D.C.



Hamilton

Granger has interim AD tag removed at TSU

HOUSTON - Texas Southern University's Board of Regents has opted to remove the interim label from Vice President of Athletics Kevin Granger and approve a 3-year contract for the former hoops star who had been serving in an interim capacity for most of the academic year.

"It's a great honor for me to get this opportunity," Granger said in a statement. "This is a school where I grew up, a school I love, and shed blood, sweat and tears for."

Granger took over the position from Dr. Charles McClelland, who left to become the commissioner of the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

"To gain the trust of [TSU President] Dr. Austin Lane, and for him to have the confidence in me to continue the program that Dr. McClelland left behind means a lot to me," Granger said.

A TSU alumnus, Granger led the Tigers basketball team to two SWAC championships and two NCAA Tournament appearances in 1994 and 1995. His No. 10 jersey was later retired by the program. Granger led the NCAA Div. I in scoring in the 1995-96 season at 27.0 points per game.



Granger

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Ashley Fields, 5-10, Gr., F, CLAFLIN
Amaya Tucker, 5-6, Fr., G, WINSTON-SALEM STATE
Shadae Swan, BOWIE STATE

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

- Jayla Thornton, 5-9, So., G, HOWARD - Had 15 points, 5 rebounds in win over Morgan State after getting 23 points. 1 board in win over Coppin State. Canned 7 of 16 3-pointers, 13 of 14 FTs in the two games.
NA
DEFENSIVE Imani Bryant, 6-1, Jr., G, HOWARD - Got 16 points with 8 rebounds, 2 blocks and 4 steals in win over MSU, also had 12 rebounds, 2 blocks and a steal without scoring in win over Coppin State.

SIAC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

- Ayanna Bey, 6-2, So., F, BENEDECIT
Alexis Carter, 6-2, Sr., F, TUSKEGEE
Reagan Jackson, 5-7, Fr., G, CLARK ATLANTA
James Rice, BENEDECIT

SWAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Nigeria Jones, 5-7, So., G, ALABAMA A&M - Had game-high 24 points with 4 steals in win over Alcorn State. Had 12 points with 2 assists and 3 rebounds in loss to Southern.

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Ashley Bates, HAMPTON - In 1-1 week, had team-high 19 points with 3 rebounds, assists and steals in loss to Gardner-Webb. In win over Longwood, had 18 points with 6 steals, 4 assists and 3 rebounds.