

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Sports Department Photos

DANCE BEFORE THE DANCE

SWAC, MEAC TOURNEYS UNDERWAY; MEAC NAMES HOOPS ALL-STARS; NEW GRID COACH AT SAV. STATE

TOURNEY'S TOP SEEDS: (From top l.) Funchess (Southern), Smith (Prairie View A&M), Robinson (NC A&T) and Jones (Norfolk State).

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

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

MEN (FINAL)	CONF			ALL		
	W	L	W L	W	L	W L
Norfolk State	14	2	19 12			
North Carolina A&T	13	3	18 12			
North Carolina Central	10	6	15 15			
Howard	10	6	16 15			
Bethune-Cookman	9	7	14 16			
Savannah State	8	8	11 20			
Coppin State	7	9	7 24			
Md. E. Shore	5	11	7 24			
SC State	5	11	7 25			
Morgan State	4	12	8 20			
Delaware State	2	14	6 24			
Florida A&M	9	7	12 19			

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
R. J. Cole, 6-0, Jr., G, HOWARD - Threw in game-high 36 points and canned 30-foot game winner and had seven assists as Bison knocked off first-place Norfolk State 98-95. Hit 10 of 19 shots, 7 of 10 from 3-point range and 9 of 11 FTs.
DEFENSIVE
Isiah Martin, 7-0, Sr., C, FAMU - Scored 21 points on 9 of 10 shots, with nine rebounds, 6 blocks and 2 steals in win over B-CU.
NEWCOMER
Gabriel Gyamfi, 6-6, Jr., F, UMES - Six points, 10 rebounds and 1 block in win over MSU; had 12 points, 4 rebounds, 3 blocks and a steal.

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

WOMEN (FINAL)	CONF			ALL		
	W	L	W L	W	L	W L
North Carolina A&T	16	0	19 10			
Md. E. Shore	12	4	16 13			
Bethune-Cookman	11	5	18 10			
Norfolk State	10	6	15 14			
Howard	10	6	18 11			
SC State	8	8	15 15			
Morgan State	8	8	10 21			
Savannah State	5	11	7 18			
North Carolina Central	5	11	8 21			
Delaware State	5	11	7 20			
Coppin State	4	12	5 24			
Florida A&M	2	14	4 25			

BCSP PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
Keyera Eaton, 5-8, Sr., G, UMES - Team-high 21 points, 5 rebounds, 4 of 10 3s, 7 of 15 from field, in win over DelState.
ROOKIE
NA
DEFENSIVE
Imani Bryant, 6-1, Jr., F, HOWARD - Had nine rebounds, 5 blocks with four points in win over Norfolk State.

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

MEN (FINAL)	CONF			ALL		
	W	L	W L	W	L	W L
Prairie View A&M	17	1	19 12			
Texas Southern	14	4	19 12			
Jackson State	10	8	13 18			
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	10	8	13 18			
Grambling State	10	8	16 15			
Alabama State	9	9	11 18			
Alcorn State	6	12	10 20			
Southern	6	12	7 24			
Miss. Valley State	4	14	6 26			
Alabama A&M	4	14	5 20			

SWAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Devonte Patterson, 6-7, Jr., F, PRAIRIE VIEW A&M - Averaged 22.5 points and 7.5 rebounds in two wins to close out the season. Scored 13 points with six rebounds in win over Southern then scored 32 points with nine rebounds in win over Alcorn State. Panthers are the top seed in the men's tournament.

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

WOMEN (FINAL)	CONF			ALL		
	W	L	W L	W	L	W L
Southern	14	4	17 12			
Prairie View A&M	13	5	16 12			
Jackson State	12	6	16 13			
Grambling State	12	6	15 15			
Texas Southern	11	7	15 14			
Alabama State	10	8	11 18			
Alabama A&M	8	10	13 16			
Miss. Valley State	5	13	6 23			
Alcorn State	3	15	4 26			
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	2	16	5 20			

SWAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Shakyla Hill, 5-7, Sr., G, GRAMBLING STATE - Closed out regular season career averaging 22.0 points, 8.0 rebounds, 5.5 assists and 2.5 steals in two wins. Had 14 points, nine rebounds and five assists with 2 steals and a block in win over Alabama State followed by 30 points, 7 rebounds, six assists and three steals in win over Alabama A&M. The Lady Tigers are seeded fourth in the SWAC Tournament.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

QUINN TO LEAD SAVANNAH STATE:

SAVANNAH, Ga.- Savannah State University has named **Shawn Quinn** as the Tigers' new head football coach. Quinn becomes the 26th head football coach in the program's history following a nationwide search and will take over a program that is making the transition from Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) to Division II.

Hired in February 2018 as the Tigers' defensive coordinator and linebacker coach, Quinn led a defense that finished the 2018 season ranked first in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) in pass defense (138.5 yards per game), and second in total defense (316.2 yards per game). SSU finished third in the FCS in pass defense and 19th in total defense.

Quinn came to Savannah State from The Citadel where he served as a defensive analyst for the 2017 season. Before that, he was the assistant head coach/defensive coordinator/linebackers coach at Tennessee Tech University (2016-17).

A native of Chicago, Quinn has also coached at Western Carolina University (2013-16), Charleston Southern University (2012), Georgia Southern University (2010-11), Northwestern State University (2009), Louisiana State University (2008), University of Louisiana Lafayette (2002-07) and University of Tennessee (1999-2002).

A four-year starter along the defensive line at Carson-Newman College, Quinn was an All-South Atlantic Conference (SAC) selection, helping the Eagles claim four conference championships. He graduated with a degree in history and political science in 1995 before earning a master's degree from Lincoln Memorial University.

SWAC, MEAC tourneys tip in B'ham, Norfolk

LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

The Mid Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) and Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) tipped off their men's and women's basketball tournaments this week looking to crown champions Saturday who will participate in next week's NCAA Tournaments.

Automatic berths into the men's and women's NCAA Tournaments go to the champions from both conferences.

MEAC

The MEAC tournament began Monday and runs through Saturday at the Scope Arena in Norfolk, Va.

On the women's side, defending tournament champion North Carolina A&T (19-10) under head coach **Tarrell Robinson** is the favorite after rolling through the regular season undefeated (16-0) in conference play. But the Lady Aggies have been challenged. They have posted seven single-digit wins en route to their regular season title. The balanced Lady Aggies are led by first-team all-MEAC selection **C'Coriea Foy** (13.3 ppg.) and second-teamer **Cinia McCray** (12.8 ppg.).

The second seed is **Maryland-Eastern Shore** (18-12, 13-3) who lost to the Lady Aggies in two close games. The Lady Hawks placed just one player, point guard **Ciani Byrom** (15.8 ppg.) who led the league in assists (5.2 apg.), on the all-MEAC team. UMES head coach **Fred Batchelor** was named this week the 2019 Coach of the Year (see STAT CORNER).

NC A&T and UMES got first round byes and played Wednesday in 1 and 3:30 p.m. quarterfinal games. Third-seed **Bethune-Cookman** (18-10, 11-5) and fourth-seed **Norfolk State** (15-14, 10-6) also received byes and will play in Thursday afternoon's quarterfinals.

Women's semifinals are set for Friday at 12 and 2 p.m. with the championship game set for 4 p.m. Saturday after the men's title game.

After losing nine straight games to open the season and 12 of its first 13, Coach of the year, **Rob Jones** and **Norfolk State** (19-11) rebounded to win the men's regular season title with a 14-2 record. The only losses for the Spartans were at **Bethune-Cookman** playing without two suspended starters and in the regular season finale vs. **Howard** after they had clinched the title.

The Spartans placed three players on the



WOMEN

OPENING ROUND - 3/11
#5 Howard 5p, #12 Florida A&M 5p
#11 Coppin St. 5p, #6 Morgan St. 4p

OPENING ROUND - 3/12
#8 Delaware St. vs. #9 NC Central - 1p
#7 SC State vs. #10 Savannah St. - 3:30p

QUARTERFINALS - 3/13
#1 NC A&T vs. DSU/NCCU - 1p
#2 Md-E. Shore vs. SCSU/SSU - 3:30p

QUARTERFINALS - 3/14
#3 B-Cookman vs. #11 Coppin St. - 12p
#4 Norfolk State vs. #5 Howard - 2p

SEMIFINALS - 3/15
12 p.m. & 2 p.m.

CHAMPIONSHIP - 3/16
4 p.m.

MEN

OPENING ROUND - 3/11
#11 Delaware St. 7p, #6 Savannah State 6p

OPENING ROUND - 3/12
#8 Md -E. Shore vs. #9 SC State - 6p
#7 Coppin St. vs. #10 Morgan St. - 8:30p

QUARTERFINALS - 3/13
#1 Norfolk State vs. UMES/SCSU - 6p
#2 NC A&T vs. CSU/MSU - 8:30p

QUARTERFINALS - 3/14
#3 NC Central vs. #11 Delaware St. - 6p
#4 Howard vs. #5 B-Cookman - 8p

SEMIFINALS - 3/15
6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

CHAMPIONSHIP - 3/16
1 p.m.



WOMEN

QUARTERFINALS - 3/12 - 7:30p
#8 Miss. Valley St. @ #1 Southern
#7 Alabama A&M @ #2 Prairie View A&M

#6 Alabama State @ #3 Jackson State
#5 Texas Southern @ #4 Grambling State

SEMIFINALS - 3/15
at Birmingham

SU/MVSV vs. GSU/TSU - 12p
PVAM/AA&M vs. JSU/ALS - 6p

CHAMPIONSHIP - 3/16
1:30 p.m.

MEN

QUARTERFINALS - 3/12
#8 Alcorn State @ #1 Prairie View

#7 Southern @ #2 Texas Southern
#6 Alabama St. @ #3 Jackson State
#5 Ark.-Pine Bluff @ #4 Grambling St.

SEMIFINALS - 3/15
at Birmingham

PV/ALC vs. GSU/UAPB - 2:30p
TSU/SU vs. JSU/ALS - 8:30p

CHAMPIONSHIP - 3/16
5 p.m.

SWAC

SWAC men's and women's tournament play began Tuesday on the home floors of the top four seeds before play switches to the Bill Harris Arena in Birmingham for Friday's semifinals and Saturday's championship games. Only the top eight teams in the men's and women's standings advanced to the tournament.

New head coach **Carlos Funchess** and **Southern** (17-12, 14-4 SWAC) emerged with the top seed for the women by a game over **Prairie View A&M** (16-12, 13-5). Another game back were **Jackson State** (16-13) and **Grambling State** (15-15), both with 12-6 conference marks. JSU is seeded third by virtue of sweeping two games vs. GSU.

Second-year head coach **Byron Smith** and **Prairie View A&M** (19-12), with its 17-1 conference record, was three games better than second place **Texas Southern** (19-12, 14-4) in the men's standings and is the tournament's top seed.

Jackson State (13-18), **Grambling State** (16-15) and **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** (13-18) finished in a tie for third place with 10-6 records. JSU got the third seed by virtue of a better record (4-0) in head-to-head matchups. Grambling State and UAPB both had 1-3 marks and split their two regular season games. Grambling is the fourth seed by virtue of a greater victory margin.

Friday's semifinal games are at 12 (W), 2:30 (M), 6 (W) and 8:30 (M) p.m. The women's final is 1:30 p.m. Saturday with the men's final at 5 p.m.

BCSP Notes

HBCU stars at NCAA Indoor Track & Field

S.C. State's Richard wins NCAA Gold in 400 Meters

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- South Carolina State senior **Tyrell Richard** is an NCAA indoor track & field champion. He nabbed the gold medal on Saturday in the Birmingham CrossPlex after clocking 44.82, the fastest time in the nation this season.

Running in lane six, Richard took control at the break point and ran away from the field -- including favorite Kahmari Montgomery of Houston, who posted the top time in Friday's preliminary round.

Saturday's time crushed Richard's previous school record for 45.39.

NCAT's White blazes way to women's 200-meter title

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- North Carolina A&T sprinter **Kayla White** came into Saturday's action at the Birmingham CrossPlex with two shots at an NCAA title -- the 60-meter hurdles and the 200-meter dash. She did just that in the latter race, reclaiming her spot as the fastest in the event in the process.

With a personal-best 22.66, White took NCAA gold in the 200 meters after winning her heat. Her winning time was .33 seconds faster than second-place Tamara Clark of Alabama.

Earlier on Saturday, White finished second in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 7.92.

B-CU's Morrison Finishes Second in NCAA High Jump

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- Bethune-Cookman's **Quamecha Morrison** finished second in the high jump Saturday at the NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships at the Birmingham CrossPlex.

The senior from Beaufort, S.C., cleared six



Richard



White



Morrison



BASKETBALL REGIONALS

WOMEN

Friday, March 15
ATLANTIC REGION
in Greenville, W. V.

- 12 p.m. -
#3 Indiana (PA) (26-3) vs.

#8 Bowie State (22-5)
- 2:30 p.m -

#2 Virginia Union (27-2) vs.
#7 Edinboro (20-8)

SOUTH REGION
in Lakeland, FL

- 5 p.m. -
#1 Florida Southern (28-3) vs.

#8 Lane (13-17)

MEN

Saturday, March 16
ATLANTIC REGION
in Indiana PA

- 12 p.m. -
#3 Virginia State (27-4) vs.

#6 Notre Dame (22-8)

SOUTH REGION
in Ft. Lauderdale, FL

- 4 p.m. -
#1 Nova Southeastern (26-3) vs.

#8 Miles (22-8)

feet, one-half inch on her second try and was one of four to advance to 6' 1 1/2".

Zarria Willis of Texas Tech was the lone competitor to clear that height and take the national championship. Morrison cleared her first three jumps to earn the tie breaker over Loretta Blaut of Cincinnati and Sanna Barnes of Villanova.

Norfolk State's Bissah Places Top-Five at Indoors 800

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- Norfolk State junior **Martha Bissah** turned in a top-five finish in the women's 800 meters on Saturday in the NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships, qualifying for All-American status.

Bissah ran a 2:04.48, just behind Monmouth's Allie Wilson. Penn State's Danae Rivers won gold with a time of 2:03.69.



Bissah