



Norfolk State Sports Photo

## POSTSEASON UPS AND DOWNS

**ROB JONES:** Leads Norfolk State to first round NIT upset of Alabama, wins NABC District Coach of the Year honor.

**TEXAS SOUTHERN INTO CIT QUARTERFINALS; BOZEMAN, PAYNE LET GO, HOWARD STAYS**

### DIV. 1 BASKETBALL TOURNEY RESULTS

#### NCAA MEN

##### FIRST FOUR

Fairleigh Dickinson 82, **Prairie View A&M** 76  
North Dakota State 78, **N. C. Central** 74

##### NIT

##### FIRST ROUND

**Norfolk State** 80, Alabama 79, OT

##### SECOND ROUND

Colorado 76, **Norfolk State** 60

##### CIT

(CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament)

##### FIRST ROUND

**Texas Southern** 85, New Orleans 79, OT  
UT Rio Grande Valley 74, **Grambling State** 73

**Hampton** 81, St. Francis 72

##### SECOND ROUND

**Texas Southern** 94, UT Rio Grande Valley 85  
Tuesday, March 26 - 7 p.m.

Charleston Southern (18-15) @ **Hampton** (16-16)

##### QUARTERFINALS

Thursday, March 28 - 8 p.m.

**Texas Southern** (23-13) @ Louisiana-Monroe (19-15)

##### CBI

##### FIRST ROUND

Coastal Carolina 81, **Howard** 72

#### WOMEN

##### NCAA

##### FIRST ROUND

Notre Dame 92, **Bethune-Cookman** 50

Mississippi State 103, **Southern** 46

##### WNIT

##### FIRST ROUND

TCU 72, **Prairie View A&M** 41

James Madison 48, **NC A&T** 37

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### BOZEMAN'S CONTRACT NOT RENEWED:

BALTIMORE, Md. -- Morgan State's Director of Intercollegiate Athletics **Edward Scott** announced last week his decision to not renew **Todd Bozeman's** contract as head coach of the Bear's basketball program. Bozeman served as the Bears' head coach since joining the University in 2006.

Bozeman finishes his tenure as Morgan State's all-time winningest coach with a 195-218 overall record. His teams participated in six of the last 13 **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** (MEAC) Tournament championship games, delivered three regular season titles, captured back-to-back-MEAC titles, and appearances in the NCAA Tournament (2009 & 2010) and the National Invitation Tournament (2008).

Bozeman set the Morgan State record for consecutive 20-win campaigns in 2007-08 with a 22-11 record and extended it with a 23-12 campaign in 2008-09. Those seasons were followed by a Division I school record 27-11 campaign in 2009-10. He was named MEAC Coach of the Year three times (2008, '09, '10) and was selected as the Hugh Durham Mid-Major Coach of the Year following his third season (2008-09).

### PAYNE OUT AT MISS. VALLEY STATE:

ITTA BENA, Miss. - **Mississippi Valley State** head men's basketball coach **Andre Payne's** contract will not be renewed, as announced by Director of Athletics **Dianthia Ford-Kee** on Monday.

"We would like to thank Coach Andre Payne for his service to the University and wish him the best in his future endeavors," Ford-Kee said. "The search for a new head coach will begin immediately."

Payne became the Delta Devils head coach in July 2014. During his five seasons, the Delta Devils were 31-132 (.190) and 26-64 (.288) in the **Southwestern Athletic Conference**.

### HOWARD SAFE AT ALABAMA A&M:

HUNTSVILLE — **Dylan Howard** officially was officially hired last week as the **Alabama A&M** men's basketball coach. In June, Howard was named Alabama A&M's interim men's basketball coach, leading the Bulldogs through the 2018-19 season.

The program showed significant progress, finishing with a 5-27 record, improving on the previous two seasons while being extremely competitive in SWAC play, in spite of having a roster that was significantly hampered with injuries.

# Two teams play on, still hoopin'

## LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

After a bevy of action involving 11 men's and women's NCAA Div. I black college teams in postseason action, three teams got wins and two – the **Texas Southern** and **Hampton** men – are still playing.

As of press time Tuesday, both were alive in the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT).

### CIT - Texas Southern

It's its first year under new head coach **Johnny Jones**, the Tigers of Texas Southern (23-13) posted regular season road wins over Baylor (72-69), Oregon (89-84) and Texas A&M (88-73) but finished second in the **Southwestern Athletic Conference** (SWAC) regular season to **Prairie View A&M** and lost in the tournament finals to the same team.

They have posted two road wins in the CIT and will have a chance for a third.

In last Wednesday's opening round of the CIT, TSU had five players score in double-digits but needed overtime to subdue New Orleans 85-79. Six-five redshirt sophomore forward **Justin Hopkins** led the way with 20 points and 10 rebounds while SWAC Player of the Year, 6-7 grad forward **Jeremy Combs** contributed 19 points and seven boards.

In Monday's second round, the Tigers again had five players score in double figures as they went into Edinburg, Texas and knocked off UT Rio Grande Valley 94-85 to punch their ticket to the CIT quarterfinals. The Tigers trailed 41-36 at the half but shot a sizzling 72.7% (24 of 33) from the floor including hitting five of seven 3-pointers (71.4%) in the second half of the comeback win. Combs (17.3 ppg., 9.3 rpg.) had his 13th double-double of the season as he posted game-highs of 27 points and 17 rebounds. Point guard **Tyrik Armstrong** tallied 16 points and handed out a team-high seven assists.

TSU will now travel to Monroe, Louisiana Thursday (8 p.m.) to face the University of Louisiana-Monroe (19-15) in the CIT quarterfinals. As one of the top-three seeded teams in the tournament, ULM, after a first round 87-77 win over Kent State, got a second round bye into the quarterfinals. All CIT games are played at on-campus sites. The CIT championship game, set for Saturday, April 4 will be carried by the CBS Sports Network.

Based on its regular season performance on the road against major Div. I competition, TSU's CIT road success should not be a surprise.

Baylor (20-14) made the NCAA field as a No. 9 seed out of the Big 12, beat 8th-seed Syracuse (78-69) in the first round of the West Regional before losing to top seed Gonzaga (83-71) Saturday in the second round.

Pac-12 tournament champion Oregon (25-12), a 12th-seed in the NCAA Tournament's South Region, beat 5th-seed Wisconsin (72-54) in the opening round and knocked off 13th-seed UC Irvine Saturday (73-54) to reach the Sweet 16. The Ducks will face the region's top seed Virginia on Thursday.

## BCSP Notes

### Virginia Union's McNeill named to D2CCA All-American team

Russellville, Ark. – On Monday, **Virginia Union** sophomore guard **Shareka McNeill** was one of 15 players named to the 2018-19 Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2CCA) Women's Basketball All-American Basketball Team.

McNeill was a D2CCA Third Team All-American selection after averaging 24.7 points per game (5th in all of Division II) while shooting 41 percent from the field and over 38% from behind the arc. She was named a first team All-Atlantic region by the same organization a few weeks ago, which qualified her for all-american honors.

The 5-6 Charlotte, NC native led the CIIA in scoring during the regular season at 23.1 points per game while ranking second in both three pointers per game and three-point field goal percentage, helping lead the Lady Panthers to the CIIA Northern Division title and league tournament crown.

After garnering CIIA Player of the Year honors, she went on a historic run during the 2019 CIIA Basketball Tournament that saw her average 44.6 points per game, including a 59-point performance against **Livingstone** that tied the tournament record for most points scored in a single game. McNeill finished the tournament with 134 points in three games, breaking the record of 123 points set by **North Carolina Central's Jacqueline Pinnix** set back in 1984. She was named Tournament MVP after leading Virginia Union to a tournament title, helping the Lady Panthers secure a #2 seed in the NCAA tournament.

### Norfolk State's Rob Jones named NABC District Coach of the Year

Norfolk State head basketball coach **Robert Jones** was named the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) District 15 Coach of the Year, the organization announced Friday.

Earlier, Jones was named MEAC Coach of the Year award for the first time. He led the Spartans to their second MEAC regular-season title at 14-2, and the fourth 20-win season since NSU moved to Division I in 1997.

The Spartans (22-13) upset No. 1 seed Alabama 80-79 in a first-round NIT game Wednesday. It was NSU's first win in its second appearance in the tournament, as well as the first victory by a MEAC team since the tournament's current format started in 2007.

Voting for the all-district coaches was done by member coaches of the NABC. District 15 includes all MEAC schools.

Jones is also a finalist for the Hugh Durham, Skip Prosser and **Ben Jobe** awards. Winners will be announced April 5.



Texas Southern Sports Photos

**TIGER LEADERS:** SWAC Player of the Year **Jeremy Combs** (r.) leads Texas Southern and new head coach **Johnny Jones** (l.) into the CIT quarterfinals Thursday vs. UL-Monroe.

### CIT - Hampton

The Pirates (16-16), who left the MEAC after last season to join the Big South Conference, bowed out in the Big South quarterfinals to Campbell. They hosted a first round CIT game dubbed the *John McClendon Classic* and posted a 81-72 win over St. Francis Brooklyn as senior **Trevond Barnes** tallied a career high 22 points to lead four teammates in double figures and earn Classic MVP honors.

The Pirates hosted fellow Big South member Charleston Southern (18-15) Tuesday for a spot in the CIT quarterfinals Thursday vs. NJIT.

Both Hampton and Charleston Southern finished 9-7 in league play. Charleston Southern lost in the Big South Tournament semifinals to Radford

The teams only meeting this season was a 94-82 win by the Pirates on Jan. 10. In that game, the Pirates shot 65.6% in the second half to come back from a 48-40 halftime deficit to get the win behind a game-high 35 points from **Jermaine Marrow**, HU's first-team all-Big South guard. Barnes had 21 points and **Kalin Fisher** had 16.

Marrow's 24.9 points per game was second in the Big South to conference and national scoring leader Chris Clemons of Campbell's 30.1 ppg. Marrow was also third in the conference in assists (5.0 apg.), fourth in free throw percentage (.813), third in steals (1.6 spg.), third in 3-point percentage (.373) and fourth in 3-pointers made (2.6 pg.).

### NIT - Norfolk State

The Spartans (22-14), regular season champions of the MEAC, pulled off the other big first round win as they went into Tuscaloosa and upset one of the NIT's top seeds, SEC member Alabama, 80-79 in overtime. Senior **Derrick Jamerson Jr.** led the way with 25 points as he connected on 7 of 13 3-point attempts.

NSU was seeded eighth while Alabama was seeded first in the region. Three days later on Saturday, Alabama fired fourth-year head coach **Avery Johnson**, the former **Southern University** and NBA standout as a player who also was an NBA head coach for the Brooklyn Nets and Dallas Mavericks.

In the second round Monday, the Spartans were on the road facing Colorado and came up on the short end of 76-60 score. Jamerson made just one of eight shots to finish with two points.

Mastadi Pitt's 14 points led NSU.

### NCAA MEN - North Carolina Central and Prairie View A&M

MEAC Tournament champion **North Carolina Central** and SWAC Tournament champion **Prairie View A&M** both had their chances before bowing out in First Four Games last week.

Prairie View (22-13) built 13-point leads in both halves before succumbing to Fairleigh Dickinson's second-half rally, 82-76 in the West Region's first game. All-SWAC first teamers **Gary Blackston** with 26 points and **Devonte Patterson** with 17 led the Panthers.

NCCU (18-16) trailed 40-34 at the half but came back to tie the score at 58 with 7:57 left and go up by as much as five points thereafter but could not hold the lead in falling to North Dakota State 78-74 in an East Region opener.

NCCU got 20 points from seniors **Raasean Davis** and **Larry McKnight Jr.** and 18 points from junior **Randy Miller Jr.** McKnight had 18 of his points during the second half rally. Davis also had 16 rebounds. It was NCCU's third loss in the First Four.

### CBI - Howard

The Bison (17-17) led 36-31 at the half and 53-39 with 13:16 left but could not hold off Coastal Carolina in a 81-72 road loss. **Charles Williams** had 17 and **R. J. Cole** 14 to lead Howard

### NCAA WOMEN - Southern and Bethune-Cookman

MEAC Tournament champion **Bethune-Cookman** and SWAC Tournament champion **Southern** fell hard in first round NCAA games against top seeds.

After being outscored 37-10 in the opening quarter, Southern (18-16) outscored Portland Region top seed Mississippi State 19-18 in the second quarter but was not able to stay with the Lady Bulldogs in falling, 103-46. The Lady Jags were led by **Skylar O'Bear's** 9 points and **Alyric Scott's** 8.

B-CU (21-11) fell behind 51-19 at the half and lost to the overall top seed Notre Dame, 92-50 in the Chicago Regional. The Lady Wildcats scored 31 second-half points to Notre Dame's 41. All-MEAC guard **Angel Golden** was the only B-CU player to score in double-digits finishing with 25 points.

### WNIT - North Carolina A&T and Prairie View A&M

Regular season MEAC champion **North Carolina A&T** and SWAC member **Prairie View A&M** both lost in first round WNIT action.

Prairie View (17-14) made just 16 of 54 shots (29.6%) and fell at TCU 72-41. **Actavia Ford** was the only Lady Panther to score in double figures with 12 points.

The Lady Aggies (20-12) made just 22.4% (13 of 58) of their shots in losing at James Madison, 48-37. **Charnise Tyler's** 10 points led A&T.



McNeill Blow Hinton Ray Howze

The Spartans fell to Colorado Monday in the NIT's second round.

### VSU's Blow, three CIIA players get NABC Atlantic Regional honors

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (March 25, 2019) -- The National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) announced Monday the 2019 NABC Coaches' Division II All-District teams and coaches, recognizing the best men's collegiate basketball student-athletes and coaches in the division.

The **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** (CIIA) was well-represented on the All-Atlantic Region Team as **Shaw** guard **Amir Hinton** was named to the first team while **Livingstone** guard **Roger Ray** and **Virginia State** forward **Jahmire Howze** were named to the second team. Virginia State Head Coach **Lonnie Blow, Jr.** was also named Co-Coach of the Year for the Atlantic Region.

The 6-5 Hinton earned first team honors after leading the nation in scoring, posting 29.4 points per game during 2018-19 season where he also captured the 2019 CIIA Player of the Year award while making the All-CIIA and All-Tournament Team and leading the Bears (17-13) to its third consecutive division title and runner-up finish in the conference championship. Additionally, the Philadelphia, PA native led the nation in free throws made (321) and ranked second in DII for total points scored (853).

Howze, a 6-6 senior, averaged over 14 points and 6 rebounds per game for the Trojans. The Cleveland, OH native was a All-CIIA and All-Tournament selection while also being named Tournament MVP after helping lead VSU to the 2019 CIIA Tournament title. Howze was a key part of the Trojans advancing to the 2nd round of the NCAA Tournament.

Ray, a native of Raleigh, NC, averaged over 21 points per contest. A two-time All-CIIA selection the last two years, the 5-9 junior ranked in the top 3 or higher within the CIIA in 3-point percentage (.394), 3-pointers made per game (2.6), free-throw percentage (.841), and assist per game (6.2).

Blow earned his Co-Coach of the Year honors in the region after leading his program to a conference best 16-1 record during the regular season to win the CIIA Northern Division title while winning a school-record 28 games this season. The sixth-year head coach also guided the Trojans to the 2019 CIIA Tournament title, their first since 2016, and a 2nd round appearance in the NCAA Tournament. Blow and the Trojans were nationally ranked for much of the season, finishing as high as 11th in some polls.