



Yusuf Abdullah Photo

THE RITES OF SPRING

NEW HOOPS COACHES AT HOWARD, MORGAN STATE & TEXAS SOUTHERN; SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE

AT THE MECCA: Kenny Blakeney takes the reins of the Howard's men's basketball program.

Blakeney to lead Howard hoops

WASHINGTON, DC – Howard University Director of Athletics **Kery Davis** announced Monday the hiring of **Kenneth Blakeney** as the school's 10th head men's basketball coach in program history.

"I am delighted to welcome Kenny Blakeney as our new men's basketball coach," said Davis at the press conference held at the new College Hall on campus.

"Kenny comes from a rich basketball pedigree having played for and coached under many of the best coaches in the history of the sport of basketball," said Davis. "Kenny's unique talents on and off the floor, his association with winning programs, and his innovative mind for business make him the right person to lead our program now and into the future."

Blakeney brings a decorated and unique basketball heritage having played under the tu-



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Blakeney

Coach **Kenny Blakeney** to the Bison family," said President **Wayne A. I. Frederick**. "From All-American student-athlete to coaching the game alongside a stellar line-up of basketball leaders to becoming a distinguished mentor in his own right, Kenny brings a new level of energy and excitement to our program. I look forward to watching our student-athletes excel in the classroom, on the court and in the most

important game, Life!" After graduating from Duke, Blakeney began his coaching career at James Madison University as an assistant to Hall of Fame Coach Lefty Driesell before both moved to LaSalle University. Blakeney later served as an assistant coach at St. Bonaventure University and Marshall University.

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After graduating from Duke, Blakeney began his coaching career at James Madison University as an assistant to Hall of Fame Coach Lefty Driesell before both moved to LaSalle University. Blakeney later served as an assistant coach at St. Bonaventure University and Marshall University.

He spent four years as an assistant to Mike Brey (current Notre Dame Head Coach) at the University of Delaware.

He also spent four seasons at Harvard University and was on the sidelines for Harvard's first Ivy League title in 2011. He most recently served as an assistant coach during the 2018-2019 season at Columbia.

In addition to his work on the sidelines, Blakeney co-founded a fashion accessory company named Sportin' Styles and a player development organization named World One Sports Academy. Additionally, he joined at apparel giant Under Armour where he worked in marketing with UA's Basketball Division.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

BROADUS TAKES MORGAN STATE JOB:

BALTIMORE, Md. – After a reported dalliance with **Howard**, former Maryland assistant and top recruiter **Kevin Broadus** has agreed to take the men's head basketball coaching job at **Morgan State**.



Ron Bailey Photo

Morgan State Director of Athletics **Edward Scott** announced Broadus's hiring over the weekend as the 16th head coach of the men's basketball program effective May 1, 2019. Broadus, introduced formally at a press conference Monday at the school's student center, brings more than 20 years of coaching and elite-level recruiting experience to MSU.

Broadus, who served a short stint as head coach at Binghamton (2007-09) and also had two stints as an assistant at Georgetown, comes to Morgan from Maryland where he has been the top assistant on Mark Turgeon's coaching staff. This past season Broadus was influential in the successful NCAA tournament run for the Terps. Consistently ranked in the top 20 nationally for recruiting, Broadus was instrumental in signing a number of local Baltimore talents for the Terps.

"Kevin Broadus embodies all of the characteristics that we desired in the hiring of our next head men's basketball coach," said Dr. Scott. "Throughout his career, Kevin has built a tremendous reputation for his ability to recruit outstanding talent and developing his student-athletes on and off the court."

"I thank University President, **Dr. David Wilson** and Director of Athletics, **Dr. Edward Scott** for this tremendous opportunity," said Broadus. "We look forward to working with the student-athletes, administration, and campus community at Morgan and bringing an exciting brand of basketball to Baltimore."

COOPER-DYKE BACK AT TXSU:

Texas Southern University will have a familiar face patrolling the sidelines in 2019-20, as the school announced **Cynthia Cooper-Dyke** will return to coach the women's basketball team.



Cooper-Dyke

One of the most decorated professional basketball players in the history of the sport, Cooper-Dyke served as TSU's head coach during the 2012-13 season before taking the reins at her alma mater, Southern California. She led the Lady Tigers to a 20-12 and a trip to the postseason Women's NIT in her only season at TSU.

"I'm thrilled to return to Houston and to Texas Southern, and to my Houston family," Cooper-Dyke said. "I'm thrilled to lead the Lady Tigers and can't wait to get started."

Cooper-Dyke has 12 seasons of NCAA Division I coaching to her credit and has a record of 220-163 during that time. She began her collegiate coaching career at **Prairie View A&M**, where she coached five seasons and led the Lady Panthers into the postseason four times.

She had a 70-57 record in four seasons at USC before stepping down in 2017. Cooper-Dyke provided color commentary for Texas Southern basketball home broadcasts on AT&T Sports Net Houston during the 2017-18 season.

"TSU is excited and thrilled to have Coach Cooper back to lead our women's basketball program," TSU's Vice President of Athletics **Kevin Granger** said. "With her coaching experience and background, we know she will continue the success that our program has experienced."

Prior to her first stint at Texas Southern, Cooper-Dyke coached two seasons at UNC-Wilmington, where she amassed a 44-22 record.

"I want to thank (TSU President) **Dr. Austin Lane** and **Kevin Granger** for their trust," Cooper-Dyke said. "I look forward to exceeding their expectations."

Cooper-Dyke began her professional career overseas and played 10 seasons in Spain and Italy. She returned to the United States in 1997 to play with the Houston Comets of the newly-formed WNBA.

She subsequently led the Comets to four consecutive WNBA championships and was named WNBA Finals MVP four times. Cooper-Dyke was voted the league's MVP in 1997 and 1998 and was a four-time WNBA All-Star before retiring in 2000.

Spring Championship Update

Alabama State claims Men's and Women's SWAC Outdoor Track and Field titles

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas- The **Alabama State** Women's Track and Field claimed their 10th consecutive **Southwestern Athletic Conference** Outdoor Track and Field title leading the field with 177.5 total points.

Prairie View A&M finished second with 154.5 points followed by **Grambling State** (101), **Texas Southern** (74), and **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** (73) to round out the top team standings.

On the men's side, Alabama State claimed the title in spectacular fashion as head coach **Ritchie Beene** won his first Men's Outdoor Track and Field Championship as head coach.

Jackson State finished in second place with 169.5 points, followed by **Prairie View A&M** (126), **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** (99), and **Southern** (72).

For the Alabama State women, **Nia Jack** claimed golds in the 100-meter dash and 200-meter dash, running times of 11.65 and 23.73, respectively. ASU's **Arion Span** won the 800-meter run and 1500-meter run with times of 2:10.26 and 4:44.65 while teammate **Shamaria Lovett** also doubled winning the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdles with time of 13.77 and 59.46.

On the men's side, Alabama State's **Kevin Spraggins** won the 100 and 200-meter dash events with times of 10.35 and 21.05. ASU's **Joshua Coffelt** won the 1500-meter run with a time of 4:00.58. Teammate **Caesar Kemp** won the discus with a throw of 48.67m.

Safiya John and **Miles Dortch** of UAPB were named women's and men's Most Outstanding Field Performers with 23 and 26 points respectively.

WSSU wins CIAA Softball crown

SALEM, VA – The **Winston-Salem State** Rams won the 2019 **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** (CIAA) Softball Championship with a dramatic 5-4 win over **Claffin** in game two of the final round of the conference championship tournament.

Junior **Erica Davis** took the pitching win. She threw all seven innings for the Rams and allowed four runs (four earned) with three strikeouts on 10 hits.

North Carolina A&T sweeps MEAC Outdoor Track and Field championships

GREENSBORO, N.C. – As dominant as Saturday as possible propelled **North Carolina A&T's** men and women to the 2019 **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** (MEAC) outdoor track & field championships at the Irwin Belk Track. The Lady Aggies won their second outdoor title in three years and their third overall. The men won their third straight outdoor title and sixth overall

Florida A&M came into the final day with a 120.5 to 75 lead in the women's competition with A&T third. But A&T racked up seven gold medals on Saturday, and swept the podium in two events to prevail 198.5-189.5 after taking gold in the 4x400-meter relay (3:35.59). **Bethune-Cookman** was third with 116 points, while **Howard** (67) and **Norfolk State** (65) rounded out the top five in the team standings.

The Aggie men had eight gold medals on Saturday and scored 211 points to outdistance **Bethune-Cookman** (178), **Norfolk State** (135.5), **Coppin State** (58) and **Morgan State** (45.5) rounded out the top five in the men's standings

Florida A&M's **Taylor Gorum** earned Outstanding Field Performer honors for the women. **B-CU's Jeremiah Peters** earned Outstanding Field Performer honors for the men while Wildcat **Carlin Berryhill** and **Norfolk State's Evans Cheruiyt** were named Co-Outstanding Runners. **Duane Ross** of North Carolina A&T State was named Outstanding Coach for both the men's and women's competition.

A&T's **Kayla White**, the women's Outstanding Runner, won gold in both the 100 and 200 meters for the second straight year. The 10.96 she ran in the 100 was not only a MEAC record and NCAA best this season, but according to the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Associa-

tion (USTFCCA), is the fifth-best collegiate time ever. She also ran an NCAA-best 22.52 in the 200 as the Lady Aggies swept the event with **Cambrea Sturgis** second (22.62) and **Kamaya Debose-Epps** third (23.14).

Tori Ray of A&T ran the 400 meters in 52.73 to take gold. The Lady Aggies ran 43.45 in the 4x100-meter relay to take the first running event of the day. **Madeleine Akobundu** then won the 100-meter hurdles in 12.81 as the Aggies swept the podium with **Tejryica Robinson** (12.98) second and **Paula Salmon** (13.35) third. **Jayne Roberts** gave the Aggies the first gold medal of the day, winning the women's pole vault after clearing the bar at 3.59 meters (11 feet, 9.25 inches).

A&T's **Trevor Stewart** ran an NCAA-best 44.38 in winning gold in the men's 400 meters. **Rodney Rowe** also shined, running a 20.12 – the second-fastest time in the NCAA – to take the 200 meters. Rowe also won the 100 meters in 10.05, the NCAA's fourth-fastest time. The Aggies also took gold in the 4x400-meter relay, ending the day on a high note after running a 3:09.51.

The Aggies also won the 4x100-meter relay in 39.14 and **Lasheon Strozier** of A&T won the triple jump with a distance of 15.36 meters (50 feet, 4.75 inches).

A&T's men's sweep of cross country, indoor track & field and outdoor track & field is the first MEAC program to accomplish that feat since the Hampton women did it in 2011-12.

Spring Hill clinches SIAC Softball Championship

ALBANY, Ga. -- **Spring Hill College's** softball team defeated **Tuskegee** 3-1, to win the 2019 **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** Championship at the Gordon Sports Complex.

SIAC Tournament Most Valuable Player **Hannah Brenton** pitched her third complete game of the tournament, allowing only one unearned run while striking out eight batters to pick up the victory for the Badgers. Second-year SHC head coach **Steve Kittrell** was named SIAC Coach of the Year.

St. Augustine's men, WSSU women take CIAA Outdoor Track and Field crowns

BOWIE, MD – **Saint Augustine's** ran away with the men's title and **Winston-Salem State** held off three teams for the women's crown on the final day of the 2019 **CIAA** Outdoor Track and Field Championships at **Bowie State** on Sunday.

Saint Augustine's relied on its traditional depth to cruise past **Virginia State** 194-101 for its 22nd straight men's outdoor championship. The title was the 39th in 41 years for the Falcons, led by the legendary **George Williams**, who was the head coach of each SAU championship team.

The Falcons crossed the finish line first in seven of 12 events. **Alazae Hester-Taylor** won both the 110 and 400 hurdles and **Shaquille Dill** was the winner in the 800 run. **Najair Jackson** won the javelin throw and **Darren Alfred** was first in the 400 meters. The Falcons swept the 4x100 and 4x400 relays.

Meanwhile, **Winston-Salem State** claimed its second women's championship in three years, but first under new Head Coach **Kaymarie Jones**. The Rams scored 113 points to nudge **Fayetteville State** (107), **Virginia State** (106) and **Saint Augustine's** (95). **Cierra Thompson** won the 100 meters for the Rams, who also took home the 4x400 relay. **Jenele Terry** of WSSU won the long jump on Saturday.

Individually, Virginia State swept the women's most valuable performer awards. **Kyla Frank** (1500 & 3000 meters) was the track MVP and **Jeia Gilliam** (shot put & discus) earned field MVP honors. For the men, **Davion McKnight** of **Claffin** (200m, 2nd in 100, 2nd in 4x400 and 4th in 4x100 relays) claimed track MVP honors and **Solomon Potter** of **Lincoln (Pa.)** (discus, 3rd in shot put and javelin) won field MVP.



Ross



Beene



Jones

2019 BLACK COLLEGE SOFTBALL

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

	CONF	ALL				
	W	L	T	W	L	
NORTHERN	11	4	0	24	18	0
Norfolk State	11	4	0	24	18	0
Morgan State	10	4	0	22	24	0
Howard	8	7	0	16	27	0
Delaware State	7	8	0	10	30	0
Coppin State	5	10	0	9	30	0
Maryland-E. Shore	3	11	0	8	31	0
SOUTHERN	13	2	0	22	25	0
Florida A&M	13	2	0	22	25	0
Bethune-Cookman	10	5	0	21	24	0
NC Central	5	10	0	8	29	0
NC A&T	4	11	0	9	27	0
Savannah State	4	11	0	9	27	0
South Carolina State	0	15	0	0	35	0

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
 HITTER
 NA
 PITCHER
 NA
 ROOKIE
 NA

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

	DIV	ALL			
	W	L	W	L	W
EASTERN	11	7	22	17	
Alabama A&M	11	7	22	17	
Alabama State	10	7	20	22	
Alcorn State	9	9	13	22	
Jackson State	7	11	12	34	
Miss. Valley State	5	12	11	31	
WESTERN	16	1	20	24	
Texas Southern	16	1	20	24	
Prairie View A&M	15	3	27	15	
Southern	6	11	8	25	
Grambling State	4	13	16	24	
Arkansas Pine Bluff	3	12	4	32	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
 HITTER
 NA
 PITCHER
 NA

2019 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL (Results, Standings and Honors)

MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

	CONF	ALL			
	W	L	T	W	L
NORTHERN	17	7	0	22	21
Norfolk State	17	7	0	22	21
Coppin State	15	9	0	24	21
Delaware State	12	12	0	17	22
Maryland-E. Shore	4	20	0	10	42
SOUTHERN	13	7	0	25	21
North Carolina A&T	13	7	0	25	21
Florida A&M	13	8	0	21	28
Bethune-Cookman	9	13	0	16	35
Savannah State	8	13	0	10	23

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
 PLAYER
Jared Gillis, Jr., DSU - 7-for-13 (.538) at the plate in 3-game sweep of Coppin State with 5 RBI, 5 runs scored, a double, HR and SB.
 PITCHER
Kyle Coleman, Jr., FAMU - Threw a complete game 2-hr shutout vs. NCCU with 8 Ks for third win.
 ROOKIE
Jared Weber, Fr., FAMU - Hit .364 (4-for-11) in sweep of NCCU. Had 4 RBI, 2 runs scored, 3 SB with .500 OB%.

SIAC SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

	CONF	ALL			
	W	L	W	L	
EAST	21	1	30	18	
Albany State	21	1	30	18	
Miles	15	5	23	21	
Spring Hill	17	7	26	20	
Kentucky State	14	7	26	14	
Clark Atlanta	10	11	14	26	
Benedict	9	10	14	19	
Lane	12	14	21	23	
Morehouse	7	11	10	26	
Tuskegee	8	15	13	28	
Paine	4	18	11	30	
LeMoyne-Owen	2	19	5	19	

ALL CONFERENCE HONORS
 PLAYER – Quantico Dodson-Wms., ALB
 COACH – Scott Hemmings, ALB
 FRESHMAN – Josh Graves, KSU
 STARTING PITCHER – Brady Bibbs, KSU
 RELIEF PITCHER – Will Carty, MIL
 UTILITY PLAYER – Jordan Ransom, KSU

SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

	DIV	ALL			
	W	L	W	L	
EAST	18	5	25	24	
Alabama State	18	5	25	24	
Jackson State	15	9	29	21	
Alabama A&M	11	11	15	35	
Alcorn State	7	16	14	29	
Miss. Valley State	6	16	8	26	
WEST	15	5	26	19	
Southern	15	5	26	19	
Grambling State	16	8	24	23	
Texas Southern	13	11	17	31	
Prairie View A&M	9	14	17	32	
Arkansas Pine Bluff	3	19	7	38	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
 HITTER
 NA
 PITCHER
 NA