

**BLACK COLLEGE  
SPORTS**



BCSP Photo

## JOBS WELL DONE REWARDED

**TITANS TO RETIRE McNAIR'S NUMBER; PATILLO  
RETIRING AT MOREHOUSE; THREE TAKE SIAC CUP**

**TED WHITE:** Former Howard QB, MEAC Player of the Year to join Pep Hamilton on Washington's XFL coaching staff.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### MOREHOUSE AD PATILLO TO RETIRE:

Longtime **Morehouse College** Athletics Director **Andre Patillo** has announced that he is retiring at the end of June.



Patillo

The announcement ends a 40-year relationship with the school that began when Patillo's baseball team at Decatur High School in Atlanta decided to become the same at Morehouse. Patillo went on to play both baseball and football, as a punter and receiver, at the school.

He began his career on the staff at Morehouse, after graduation in 1979, as an assistant football coach. That lasted for seven years until he moved into the admissions office in 1985 as a recruiter and counselor.

At the same time, he was hired by the SEC as a basketball official, affording him the opportunity to travel and recruit students and student/athletes for Morehouse from all over the South. He had a distinguished 25-year career as an official calling three SEC championship games and four NCAA Final Four matchups.

He moved up in the Morehouse admissions department before becoming the director in 1996.

In 2000, he transitioned into the position of athletics director, succeeding **Arthur McAfee**. In 2002, Morehouse did not have a baseball team nor a place to play. But Patillo, using his SEC connections, found the equipment, and thanks to a brother in the city's parks and recreation department, found a place to play (Perkerson Park). He became the team's coach for the next two years.

Since taking the reins in the athletics department, Morehouse has enjoyed an unprecedented level of success, including multiple cross country, tennis, and track and field conference champions, as well as conference championships in basketball.

Under his direction, the 2010 Morehouse football team achieved the #16 national ranking and was invited to play in the NCAA Division II playoffs, for the first time in school history.

Additionally, Morehouse has been awarded the SIAC Commissioner's All-Sports Award six times.

"Andre's contribution to Morehouse is too long to list and will likely never be matched," said the school's new president, **David A Thomas**. "We'll announce a national search for Andre's position soon, but we'll never replace his presence nor his love for Morehouse."

*Thanks to Sam Crenshaw and Lericia Harris of WAOK Radio in Atlanta and to columnist Hal Lamar for this story. Listen to Crenshaw and Harris's interview with Patillo at: <https://waok.radio.com/media/audio-channel/andre-patillo-retire-after-40-years-service>*

### SWAC TITLE GAME OFFICIALLY BACK:

BILOXI, Miss.- The **Southwestern Athletic Conference** held its annual spring meetings this past week in Biloxi with several significant pieces of legislation being adopted for the upcoming athletic year.

The SWAC Council of Presidents and Chancellors formally voted to permanently reinstate the league's football championship game after initially approving to bring the title game back for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

A formal announcement regarding the future sites of the SWAC football championship and men's and women's basketball championships will be unveiled during the league's upcoming 2019 SWAC Football Media Day set to be held July 16th in Birmingham.

The approved measures were recommendations from the leagues' Sports Administrators Committee (SAC) which consist of member institutions' Athletic Directors and Senior Woman Administrators.

### SIAC COMMISSIONER'S CUP FINAL TALLIES

MEN		WOMEN	
Albany State	28	Spring Hill	37
Miles	28	Benedict	21
Benedict	27	Kentucky State	18
Spring Hill	24	Tuskegee	14
Morehouse	21	Clark Atlanta	10
LeMoyne-Owen	7	Lane	10
Central State	4	Albany State	8
Paine	0	Paine	4
Kentucky State	0	Central State	0
Fort Valley State	0	Fort Valley State	0
Lane	0	LeMoyne-Owen	0
Tuskegee	0	Miles	0
Clark Atlanta	0		

# Titans to retire Steve McNair's number



spent the last two seasons of his NFL career with the Baltimore Ravens.

In his 13-year NFL career, McNair threw for 31,304 yards and 174 touchdowns while completing 60.1 percent of his passes in his career. He played in 161 games.

### AT ALCORN

A four-year letterwinner at Alcorn, McNair became the school's all-time career passing leader (14,496), all-time career completions leader (958), all-time career passing touchdowns leader (119), third all-time in career rushing yards (2,357), first in single-season passing yards with 5,377 in 1994, first in single-season passing touchdowns with 47 in 1994, first in single-season completions with 356 in 1994, first in single-game passing yards with 587 vs. Southern in 1994, first in single-game passing touchdowns with 8 vs. Chattanooga in 1994, first in single-game completions with 52 against Youngstown State in 1994.

McNair guided the Braves in becoming 1992 SWAC Champions, 1992 FCS Playoffs, 1994 SWAC Champions and 1994 FCS Playoffs.

Additionally, Alcorn was 13-0 at Jack Spinks-Marino Casem Stadium during his tenure and led the FCS in home attendance average (26,203) in 1994.

In the SWAC, McNair is the only player in league history to be a four-time SWAC Offensive Player of the Year (1991-94) winner. He was a four-time All-Conference First-Team selection, 1991 SWAC Freshman of the Year and eight-time SWAC Player of the Week winner in 1994 which is the most by anyone in a single-season in league history.

Nationally, McNair is the FCS All-Time Passing Leader (14,496), 1992 Passing Champion (4,057), 1994 Passing champion (5,799) and

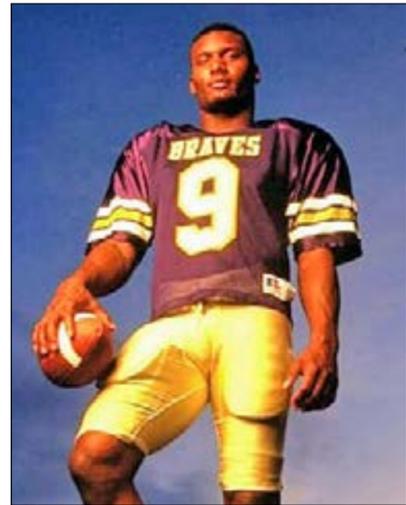
FCS All-Time Total Yards Leader (16,823). He was both a 1994 NCAA First-Team All-American and 1994 American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) First-Team All-American.

McNair won the 1994 **Walter Payton Award** for being the top player in I-AA. He also earned the 1994 **Eddie Robinson Trophy** for being the top HBCU player in the country. McNair was a finalist for the 1994 Heisman Trophy and finished third in the voting.

After four years, the Braves were 30-12-2 overall with McNair at quarterback and 23-4-1 SWAC.

McNair graduated from Alcorn in the spring of 1995 with a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education from the School of Education. He was a two-time Dean's Scholar recipient.

"Air II" McNair is the younger brother of current Alcorn head coach **Fred "Air" McNair**.



## BCSP Notes

### Albany State, Miles and Spring Hill claim 2018-19 SIAC Commissioner's Cup honors

ATLANTA, Ga. - With all sports regular seasons completed, the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC)** has announced **Albany State University**, **Miles College** and **Spring Hill College** as winners of the 2018-19 *Commissioner's Cup* symbolizing overall athletic excellence in conference sponsored championships.

Albany State and Miles received the men's honor and Spring Hill capture the women's award, the first such honor since its full transition to Division II.

Albany State and Miles paced the men's competition during the 2018-19 season as Albany State finished in first-place in men's golf, second-place in football and baseball, and their third-place finish in men's track and field. Miles matched that after finishing with a championship title in football and men's basketball while following up with two third-place finishes in men's golf and baseball.

The ASU Golden Rams and Miles Golden Bears, with 28 total points each, slightly edged **Benedict** (27) by one point and had a four-point lead over Spring Hill (24). **Morehouse** finished in fifth-place (21) followed by **LeMoyne-Owen College** who finished sixth (7). **Central State** rounded out the standings with four points.

Spring Hill won the women's competition as it took home championship titles in cross country, volleyball and softball while rounding out their first year with a second-place finish in track and field. The Badgers (37 total points) paced all member institutions and had a 16-point lead over Benedict (21), who won three Commissioner's Cup awards since the 2014-15 season. **Kentucky State** followed in third place with 18 points before **Tuskegee** who finished with 14 points. **Clark Atlanta** and **Lane** tied for fifth with 10 points each. Albany State (8) finished in sixth place followed by **Paine** (4).

The recipient of the *Commissioner's Cup* is based on a point system, reflecting the place of finish of each team in conference play. The coveted *SIAC Commissioner's Cup* is presented to the athletic department within the conference that has excelled in both men's and women's sports. A scoring system of 10 points for conference titles, seven points for runner-up championship finishes, and four points for third-place championship finishes is used to determine the all-sports standings.

The *Commissioner's Cup* trophy will be presented to Albany State's **Sherie Gordon**, Miles' **Reginald Ruffin**, and Spring Hill's **Joe Niland** at the 2018-19 Athletic Director's Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

### Ted White to join Hamilton on Washington's XFL coaching staff

Former Howard quarterback and new head coach of the Washington XFL franchise **Pep Hamilton** has added a Howard alum to his staff.

Hamilton recently named **Ted White**, a former record-setting quarterback and **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** Offensive player of the year at Howard, as his quarterbacks coach. White, who had short stints in the NFL and CFL, has served as a quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator at **Texas Southern**, **Southern**, Howard, **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** and most recently at **Prairie View A&M**.

Hamilton has seen his career rise from a quarterbacks coach at Howard to positions at Stanford (wide receivers/2010 and offensive coordinator & quarterbacks coach/2011-12) and Michigan (assistant head coach & passing game coordinator/2017-18). It also led to positions with five NFL teams (NY Jets, San Francisco, Chicago, Indianapolis and Cleveland) in various offensive positions.

When the eight teams in the new XFL begins kick off play in early February of 2020, two other African-Americans will be manning the head coaching positions.

One is Winston Moss, the former NFL linebacker and assistant head coach/linebackers coach for the Green Bay Packers, who will be leading the Los Angeles staff.

The head coach of the St. Louis franchise will be former NFL tight end and former tight ends coach for the Cincinnati Bengals of the NFL, Jonathan Hayes.

### HBCUs lead NCAA football attendance figures . . . again

IRVING, Texas- The National Football Foundation (NFF) & College Hall of Fame highlighted numerous powerful facts last week from the 2018 college football season that emphasize the strong popularity of col-



Gordon



Ruffin



Niland



Stitt

lege football among millions of fans across the country.

Among the highlights was the outstanding performance by black college conferences and institutions in leading home attendance figures.

The **Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC)** earned its 40th FCS attendance title in 41 years, averaging 15,240 fans for a total of 746,760 in 2018 in a recently released report by the National Football Foundation. The **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference** was third out of the 13 FCS conferences averaging 9,815 fans per game. The Missouri Valley Conference was second (9,864).

**Jackson State** claimed the FCS attendance title attracting 99,079 fans for an average of 24,770 fans for the Tigers' four home games in 2018. **Southern** (18,803 per game) was fourth while FCS champion North Dakota State (18,106) was fifth. The other HBCUs in the top ten were **Florida A&M** (17,873) at sixth and **Alabama State** (16,073 per game) tenth.

The **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC)** netted its 15th Division II attendance crown in 16 years, averaging 6,252 fans and a total attendance of 287,589.

**Morehouse** captured the Division II attendance title, attracting a total of 36,111 fans for a 12,037 average per home game. **Tuskegee**, with 11,058, landed in the No. 2 spot.

Last year's *Air Force Reserve Celebration Bowl*, broadcast on ABC, drew 31,672 fans and reached 2,345,000 viewers through live and same day data streams.

### Former WSSU head coach Phillip Stitt new hoops coach at Langston University

LANGSTON - Director of Athletics **Donnita Drain-Rogers** has announced the appointment of **Phillip Stitt** as the head men's basketball coach at **Langston University**.

Stitt most recently coached at Marion Military Institute (MMI) in Marian, Ala. where he led MMI to a 77-33 record over the past four seasons. Stitt has also received coaching accolades during his time at MMI where he was named the NJCAA Region II Coach of the Year, the NJCAA District 12 Coach of the Year and Birmingham's Tip-off Club's Alabama Junior College Coach of the Year in 2015-16. Over the span of 28 seasons, Stitt holds a record of 100-68 at MMI and a career coaching record of 215-156.

"I'm very excited, particularly after meeting with President (**Dr. Kent J. Smith, Jr.**), Director of Athletics Donnita (Drain) Rogers and the search committee," Stitt said. "Everybody has a passion for Langston University and I'm looking forward to working in that type of environment. One of the factors that stood out to me about Langston University is the people. In this business, the people are important. I'm excited to get started."

Stitt's coaching career began in 1991 as an assistant at Florida Community College at Jacksonville, Fla. After spending three seasons with the Stars, he moved on as the assistant coach at NCAA Div. I Jacksonville University. In 1997 Stitt joined the coaching staff at **Fayetteville State University**. In his only season at FSU, the Broncos finished with a 17-10 record, tied for second place in the CIAA Western Division. The next season, Stitt became an assistant at **Winston Salem State University (WSSU)**. At WSSU, he was part of five 20-win seasons, two CIAA conference championships, five NCAA Division II tournament berths and two NCAA Division II Sweet 16 appearances. He was also named the 2004-2005 CIAA Coach of the year.

Stitt returned to Florida Community College in 2006 to take over the program as head coach for two seasons before moving on to **Grambling State** as the Associate Head Coach (2008-2009). Stitt has also served as assistant men's basketball coach at **North Carolina A&T State**.

"I am more than thrilled and excited to see the direction of Langston University men's basketball under Coach Stitt," Drain-Rogers said. "We had a tremendous pool of candidates which included over 60 applicants with various coaching backgrounds. Coach (Phillip) Stitt came through with shining colors. He has a rich experience of coaching at other HBCUs, tremendous championship experience, and he's a proven winner and recruiter."