

# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



BCSP Photo

## NOT SOON TO BE FORGOTTEN

**A TRUE LEGEND:** Veteran sportswriter and black college advocate Roscoe Nance passes at 71.

**RACES TAKING SHAPE IN MID-JANUARY; THREE SET FOR POSTSEASON ALL-STAR GAMES**

## MEN'S 2019-20 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Standings and Outstanding Players)

### CIAA

MEN	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	DIV	CONF	ALL	
<b>NORTH DIVISION</b>	W	L	W	L
Virginia State	0	0	6	0
Virginia Union	0	0	3	1
Elizabeth City State	1	0	4	3
Bowie State	0	0	1	4
Lincoln	0	1	1	5
<b>SOUTH DIVISION</b>				
Cliffin	4	0	5	2
Fayetteville State	3	1	6	3
Livingstone	2	1	4	3
Winston-Salem State	1	1	3	3
J. C. Smith	1	1	3	3
St. Augustine's	0	3	0	6
Shaw	0	4	1	5

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**Justin Faison**, 5-11, Jr., G, **ECSU** - Averaged 17.3 ppg., 4 rpg. and 3.5 assists in 2-1 week. Made 10 of 20 (50%) from behind the arc. Had week-high 21 points in win over Livingstone.

**DEFENSIVE**  
**Dequan Williams**, 6-8, Jr., F, **LINCP** - Averaged 14.4 points and 15.5 rebounds in two games.

**ROOKIE**  
**Deonta Dunlop**, 6-3, Fr., G, **LINCP** - Averaged 8.5 points in three games with 2 steals, assists and a rebound on the week. Had 17 points vs. Shaw.

### MEAC

MEN	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL		
Norfolk State	3	0	7	11
North Carolina A&T	3	0	7	11
Bethune-Cookman	3	1	9	9
SC State	2	1	7	8
North Carolina Central	2	1	6	11
Morgan State	2	2	8	11
Maryland Eastern Shore	1	2	2	16
Delaware State	1	2	2	15
Coppin State	0	3	4	14
Howard	0	4	2	16
# Florida A&M	1	2	3	11
# Ineligible				

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**Ronald Jackson**, 6-8, Sr., F, **NCA&T** - Averaged 17.5 ppg., 10.5 rbs. in two wins, getting 13 pts., 9 rbs. vs. DSU, 22 pts., 12 rbs., vs. UMES.

**DEFENSIVE**  
**Clellent Pope**, 6-9, Sr., F, **B-CU** - Averaged double-double of 20.5 points and 16.5 rebounds in two Wildcat wins. Had 29 pts., 18 rebounds in vs. MSU, 12 pts., 15 rbs. vs. CSU.

**NEWCOMER**  
**John Crosby**, 6-3, Sr., G, **DSU** - Averaged 23.0 points in 1-1 week. Had 18 points including game-winning jumper to knock off NCCU. Had game-high 28 points in loss to NC A&T.

### SIAC

MEN	SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL		
<b>EAST DIVISION</b>	W	L	W	L
Clark Atlanta	6	1	6	9
Albany State	5	2	9	8
Morehouse	4	4	7	8
Benedict	4	4	7	8
Savannah State	1	5	1	8
Fort Valley State	1	5	3	12
Paine	1	8	1	12
<b>WEST DIVISION</b>				
Tuskegee	7	1	10	5
LeMoyne-Owen	5	3	8	5
Miles	4	2	9	3
Central State	4	4	7	6
Lane	3	3	7	6
Kentucky State	3	5	6	9
Spring Hill	2	6	3	13

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**James Eads**, Sr., G, **TU** - Averaged 35 points shooting 15 of 31 from the field in wins over Paine and Spring Hill.

**NEWCOMER**  
**Darveshi Hunter**, G, **CSU** - Finished with 20 points, 14 rebounds, 3 assists and a steal vs. Kentucky State. Had 15 points, 2 steals and a block vs. Salem. Averaged 17.5 points, 7.5 rebounds and 2.0 assists.

### SWAC

MEN	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL		
<b>EAST DIVISION</b>	W	L	W	L
Grambling State	3	1	9	7
Prairie View A&M	2	1	6	10
Alabama A&M	2	1	5	9
Texas Southern	2	1	5	11
Jackson State	2	2	5	12
Alcorn State	2	2	6	9
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	1	1	2	12
Alabama State	1	2	2	14
Southern	1	3	4	13
Miss. Valley State	0	2	0	14

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**Bryson Etienne**, 6-3, Jr., G, **TSU** - Had team high 18 points and 6 rebounds in win over PV A&M.

**DEFENSIVE & NEWCOMER**  
**Yahuza Rasas**, 6-7, So., F, **TSU** - Had 11 points, 13 rebounds and 4 blocks in win over PV A&M.

**ROOKIE**  
**NA**

### INDEPENDENTS

MEN	W		L	
	W	L	W	L
W. Va. State	10	3		
Tennessee State	11	6		
UDC	7	9		
Hampton	7	9		
Lincoln (Mo.)	6	8		

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**Jermaine Marrow**, 5-10, Sr., G, **HAMPTON** - Averaged 25.5 points and 7.0 assists in 1-1 week. Had 30 points and 9 assists in win over Longwood and 21 points and 5 assists in loss to USC Upstate.

**DEFENSIVE & NEWCOMER**  
**Ben Stanley**, 6-6, So., F, **HAMP** - Averaged 20 points and 9 rebounds in 1-1 week. Had 16 points and 9 rebounds in win over Longwood, and 24 points and 9 rebounds in loss to USC Upstate.

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



**THE LOSS OF A LEGEND AND A FRIEND:** Roscoe Nance (l.), the dean of black college journalists, is shown here with Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin (c.) and Black College Sports Page Editor Carl Lut Williams (r.) during the 2008 Sheridan All-American 'Skull Session' at the Steelers' practice facility. Nance passed last Thursday at 71.

## A LEGEND, ROSCOE NANCE, PASSES:

The BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE lost a trusted colleague and great friend when noted veteran sports journalist Roscoe Nance passed suddenly on Thursday, January 9 at his home in Herndon, Virginia.

Nance, 71, from Union Springs, Alabama, was a passionate advocate for black college sports and was considered the dean of black college sportswriters. Perhaps most importantly, he was a stand-up guy, a caring and true friend to countless others and a dedicated husband, father and brother, who didn't mind sharing his insight and perspective on just about any subject.

After graduating from Tuskegee University, Roscoe started his writing career at *The (Columbus, Ga.) Enquirer* in 1975 then moved to *The (Jackson, Miss.) Clarion-Ledger*, becoming the first black sportswriter for a Mississippi daily newspaper.

While at the Clarion-Ledger from 1978-85, he was the beat writer for Jackson State University and a press member on the famed Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Preseason Football Bus Tour that included head coaches and sportswriters. He became close to a number of those coaching legends including, among others, Edie Robinson of Grambling State, Marino Casem of Alcorn State and W. C. Gorden of Jackson State. He also covered a slew of black college and future NFL playing greats including Grambling quarterback Doug Williams and Mississippi Valley State wide receiver Jerry Rice.

In the course of his career in Jackson, Roscoe notably came to dub Casem "The Godfather" while also naming flamboyant Mississippi Valley State head coach Archie Cooley, "The Gunslinger." Both nicknames stuck and became synonymous with the larger-than-life personalities.

Roscoe said the nickname for Casem was spun after watching the authority he wielded on the Alcorn State campus. "He'd get calls from Muhammad Ali or a U.S. senator in his office. He ran the school," Nance said. Cooley earned his moniker because of the gambling style his wide-open record-breaking offense - dubbed 'The Satellite Express' and led by quarterback Willie Totten and Rice - displayed. After hearing the nickname, Cooley wore a signature wide-brim cowboy hat on the sidelines and in every public appearance.

When he left the Clarion-Ledger for USA Today in 1985, SWAC coaches and athletic directors hosted a reception for him.

Nance, who covered soccer for several years for USA Today, was one of two print journalists who travelled to China and wrote about the U.S. women's triumph at the very first Women's World Cup in 1991.

When asked how he could cover soccer when he knew virtually nothing about the sport, Roscoe said, "It's my job."

Roscoe wrote for USA TODAY from 1986-2007 spending his last years covering the NBA, colleges and the Olympics.

After his retirement, Nance worked as a free-lance journalist writing for entities such as Black America Web, the website of the *Tom Joyner Morning Show*, the MEAC and the BCSP among others. He was a founding member and the first president of the Southwestern Athletic Conference Alumni Association and also a board member closely involved with the Black College Football Hall of Fame.

In 2014, he was inducted into the Southwestern Athletic Conference Hall of Fame.

A Celebration of Life service was held on Tuesday in Vienna, Va. with another to be held this Friday at 11 a.m. at Carter Funeral Home in his hometown of Union Springs, Ala. In lieu of flowers, Nance's family has asked for tax deductible contributions to support the Y. C. Nance Foundation (Y C Nance Foundation, Post Office Box 510 Union Springs, AL 36089).

# Races too early to call; Just getting underway

## LUT WILLIAMS

BCSP Editor

One thing is clear based on early results of men's races in the four black college basketball conferences.

Nothing.

### CIAA

In the CIAA, **Bowie State**, picked by coaches in the preseason to set the pace in the conference, is just 9-7 overall with a 1-4 mark in league play.

Defending tournament champion **Virginia State** (11-5) is listed at the top of the standings with a 6-0 record but that leaves out three Trojan losses to **Livingstone**, **Johnson C. Smith** and **Fayetteville State** designated non-conference games. Even **FSU** (15-3, 6-3), who won its first nine games under new head coach **Luke D'Alessio**, has now dropped three games to conference opponents.

The bottom line is the race for CIAA supremacy appears to be wide open.

In key games this week, N. Div. leaders **VSU** and **VUU** tangle on Saturday in Richmond, Va.

**Cliffin** (9-7, 5-2), who has the best S. Div. record at 4-0, travels to Pennsylvania to face **Lincoln** Saturday before returning South to play at **Winston-Salem State** Monday.

### MEAC

Familiar names are at the top of the MEAC food chain.

Defending regular season champion **Norfolk State** (7-11), with four new starters, is off to the best start with a 3-0 conference mark.

**North Carolina A&T** (6-11), just completing its first handful of games under interim head coach **Wil Jones**, is also 3-0. The Aggies also have a line-up stocked with new blood.

### SIAC

**Clark Atlanta** (6-9, 6-1), under second-year head coach **George Lynch** in the East Division, and **Tuskegee** (9-5, 7-1) under first-year head coach **Benjy Taylor** in the West, have the best records.

CAU's only loss in league-play was 68-65 to TU on Dec. 14. The Panthers have won five straight since then. Tuskegee, winners of six straight, had its only conference loss, 74-69 loss at **Morehouse** (7-7, 4-3), in late November.

Tuskegee gets challenges at home from defending tournament champ **Miles** Saturday and **LeMoyne-Owen** Monday. **Savannah State** is at CAU on Monday.

### SWAC

**Grambling State** (9-7) dropped its first game in league play Monday, losing at **Alcorn State**, but still has the best record in the SWAC at 3-1.

Defending regular season and tournament champion **Prairie View A&M** (6-10), regular season and tournament runners-up **Texas Southern** (5-11) and **Alabama A&M** (5-9) are all at 2-1.

GSU will host two of its pursuers as PVA&M is in Saturday and then has TSU in on Monday. TSU is at **Jackson State** Saturday while PVA&M is at JSU Monday.

## HOOPS THIS WEEK

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16**

CIAA  
 Winston-Salem State @ Elizabeth City State

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18**

CIAA  
 Carver @ Fayetteville State  
 Shaw @ Bowie State  
 Cliffin @ Lincoln (PA)  
 J. C. Smith @ Livingstone  
 Virginia State @ Virginia Union

MEAC  
 NC A&T @ Coppin State  
 Florida A&M @ SC State  
 NC Central @ Bethune-Cookman  
 Howard @ Norfolk State  
 Md.-E. Shore @ Morgan State

SIAC  
 Miles @ Tuskegee  
 Savannah State @ Fort Valley State  
 Albany State @ Paine  
 Lane @ Kentucky State  
 Morehouse @ Benedict  
 LeMoyne Owen @ Spring Hill

SWAC  
 Alcorn State @ Mississippi Valley State  
 Alabama A&M @ Alabama State  
 Texas Southern @ Jackson State  
 Prairie View A&M @ Grambling State  
 Southern @ Arkansas-Pine Bluff

**MONDAY, JANUARY 20**

CIAA  
 Bowie State @ St. Augustine's  
 Cliffin @ Winston-Salem State  
 Virginia Union @ Shaw  
 Elizabeth City State @ Lincoln (PA)

MEAC  
 Yale @ Howard  
 NC Central @ Florida A&M  
 NC A&T @ Morgan State  
 Md.-E. Shore @ SC State

SIAC  
 LeMoyne Owen @ Tuskegee  
 Morehouse @ Paine  
 Albany State @ Benedict  
 Savannah State @ Clark Atlanta  
 Miles @ Spring Hill  
 Lane @ Central State

SWAC  
 Texas Southern @ Grambling State  
 Alcorn State @ Arkansas-Pine Bluff  
 Prairie View A&M @ Jackson State  
 Southern @ Miss. Valley State

# BCSP Notes

## Three slated for postseason all-star football

**Tennessee State** senior wide receiver/kick returner **Chris Rowland**, **South Carolina State** senior offensive lineman **Alex Taylor** and **Hampton** quarterback **Deondre Francois** have been selected to play in postseason all-star games.

Rowland, a 5-8, 180-pound dynamo from Nolensville, Tennessee, the Ohio Valley Conference offensive player of the year, will play in the 9th NFLPA Collegiate Bowl on Jan 18 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA.

At 6-9, 310 pounds, Taylor, from Moncks Corner, S. C., was a first team all-MEAC selection this season. He has been selected to play in the 71st Reese's Senior Bowl at Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, Alabama. That game will air on Jan. 25 at 2:30 p.m. ET on the NFL Network.

Former Florida State quarterback Francois out of Orlando, Fla., decided to declare for this year's NFL Draft after just one season competing for the Pirates and has accepted an invitation to play in this year's Hula Bowl to be played on Jan. 26 in Honolulu. CBS Sports Network will carry the game at 10:30 p.m. EST.

Rowland, perhaps the most decorated HBCU player this season, was named the BCSP's Offensive Player of the Year and to the Associated Press, Hero Sports and STATS FCS All America First Teams as an all-purpose player. He was also named to the FCS Athletics Directors Association (FCS ADA) All-American team as the top wide receiver in the nation.

Rowland led the FCS and the black college ranks in receiving yards with 1,437 and receiving yards per game at 119.8. He was second in the FCS and first among HBCU performers in receptions with 104 and was second in both the FCS and among black college players in all-purpose yards with 175.8 per game. He led HBCU players and was second in the FCS in receptions per game at 8.7. The TSU Tigers struggled to a 3-9 mark this season.

Taylor, who transferred from Appalachian State, was a third team all-MEAC selection in 2018 before being named a first teamer after this season. He was a stalwart on the line for the Bulldogs who finished 8-3 overall and earned a share of the MEAC title at 6-2. Scouts are intrigued by Taylor's height and blocking ability. He is currently projected as high



Rowland



Taylor



Francois

as a fourth round NFL draft pick. Taylor was named a STATS and Hero Sports FCS first team all-American and an Associated Press third teamer.

The highly-regarded Francois threw for 2,522 yards and 26 TDs while completing 56.8% of his passes this season for the 5-7 Pirates.

After red-shirting in 2015, his first year at FSU, he became the starter in 2016 and passed for 3,350 yards and 20 TDs (7 ints.) while leading the Seminoles to a 10-3 record and Orange Bowl victory over Michigan. In the first game of the 2017 season, he injured his patella tendon and missed the rest of the season. He returned as the starter in 2018, passing for 2,731 yards and 15 TDs (12 ints.) during a 5-7 season. He was removed from the Florida State football program after a domestic dispute and enrolled at Hampton just before the start of the 2019 season.

## Delaware State to miss 2021 MEAC Tourney

**DOVER** — The **Delaware State University** men's basketball team will be ineligible to participate in the 2021 **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** Basketball Tournament, the university announced last week.

The one-year ban is part of punishment handed down because the program's four-year Academic Progress Rate score has fallen below the national standard of 930. DSU is also required to reduce its 2020-2021 season schedule by three games.

The DelState men's basketball team's APR score went from 952 in 2016-2017 to 925 in 2017-2018, according to the NCAA's database.

Gines also stated these plans have been approved by the NCAA and, if the expectations are met, should help get the program's APR over 930.

DSU athletic director **Scott Gines** said the school submitted Performance Improvement Plans to the NCAA a year ago and, if the expectations are met, should help get the program APR over 930.

## WOMEN'S 2019-20 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Standings and Outstanding Players)

### CIAA

MEN	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION			
	DIV	CONF	ALL	
<b>NORTH DIVISION</b>	W	L	W	L
Virginia Union	0	0	4	0
Lincoln	1	0	4	1
Bowie State	0	0	4	1
Virginia State	0	0	4	2
Elizabeth City State	0	1	3	4
<b>SOUTH DIVISION</b>				
Fayetteville State	4	0	6	2
J. C. Smith	0	2	3	7
Winston-Salem State	2	0	3	4
Livingstone	2	1	3	4
Shaw	2	2	2	6
St. Augustine's	1	2	1	4
Cliffin	0	4	0	7

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**  
**Jasmine Carter**, 6-2, Gr., F, **VUU** - Averaged 15 points and 9.5 boards in three games. Had 14 pts., 14 rbs. vs. Cliffin.

**DEFENSIVE**  
**Diana Long**, 5-4, So., C, **CLAF** - Pulled down 18 rebounds in three games and got seven steals vs. Shaw. Averaged 3.3 steals.

**ROOKIE**  
**Sydni Callis**, 5-6, Fr., G, **SHAW** - Averaged 8 ppg., 4.5 rpg. in three games.

### MEAC

MEN	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			
	CONF	ALL		