

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Miles Sports Photo

PREP BEGINS FOR CIAA, SIAC TOURNAYS

FRED WATSON: Photo coach has Miles Golden Bears on 11-game win streak as SIAC Tournament nears.

REGULAR SEASON HOOPS ENDING IN CIAA, SIAC; UAPB HEAD COACH CEDRIC THOMAS RESIGNS

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

CIAA

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Table with columns: MEN, CONF, DIV, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include North Division and South Division teams like Virginia State, Virginia Union, etc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Robert Colon, Sr., G, WSSU - Averaged 17 points in two wins including 20 vs. FSU with 3 rebounds, 3 assists and a steal.

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Table with columns: MEN, CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Norfolk State, North Carolina A&T, etc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Ronald Jackson, Sr., F, NCA&T - Shot 12 of 16 from the field for game-high 26 points with 8 boards in win over NC Central.

SIAC

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Table with columns: EAST DIVISION, CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Albany State, Clark Atlanta, etc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Avery Brown, Sr., G, MILES - Averaged 25.5 points and 8.5 rebounds in two wins getting career-high 30 points with 11 rebounds in win over Central State.

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Table with columns: CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Prairie View A&M, Texas Southern, etc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Gerard Andrus, Sr., G, PVA&M - Averaged 20.0 points in two wins leading Panthers with 19 points and pulled down 7 rebounds in win over JSU.

INDEPENDENTS

Table with columns: W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include W. Va. State, Tennessee State, etc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Anthony Pittman, Sr., F, WVSU - Had team-high 18 points with 3 rebounds, 1 block and 5 steals in win over Davis & Elkins.

HOOPS THIS WEEK

Table listing basketball games by day (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) and conference (SWAC, CIAA, MEAC, SIAC, Independents).

Final week of CIAA and SIAC hoops

In this, the final week of regular season play before next week's tournament in Charlotte (Feb. 25-29), there are still a few matters to be decided. Virginia State (12-2) has clinched the top seed in the men's North Division...

Savannah State, third in the East at 9-8, moved down from the MEAC to the SIAC this season. The Tigers are eligible for the basketball tournament and all other SIAC championships...

In the men's South, Winston-Salem State (12-3) enters the final week with a one-game lead over Johnson C. Smith (11-4). The two met Wednesday in Charlotte before closing out regular season play at home Saturday with JCSU hosting Shaw and WSSU hosting Livingstone...

The first round of the North Carolina A&T vs. North Carolina Central showdown at the top of the men's race went to the home-standing Aggies, 77-60 Saturday as Ronald Jackson (28 points) and Kameron Langley (triple-double, 12 points, 13 assists, 11 rebounds) did work. The loss by NCCU allowed Norfolk State - after home wins over Morgan State and Coppin State - to move back into first place at 9-2. A&T (9-3) and NCCU (8-3) are close behind...

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

THOMAS MOVING TO SOUTHERN MISS:

Arkansas-Pine Bluff Athletics Director Chris Peterson told the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette on Monday that head football coach Cedric Thomas has resigned after two seasons and is headed to the University of Southern Mississippi where he is expected to coach the secondary. The school announced that UAPB assistant head coach/quarterbacks coach Doc Gamble will step in as the Golden Lions' interim head coach.

Thomas led UAPB to their first winning season since 2012 this past season with a 6-5 record (3-4 SWAC). The Golden Lions tripled their win total from 2018, improving from two wins to six under Thomas. UAPB went 2-9 in Thomas' first season at the helm, with the Lions losing four games by a touchdown or less, including a pair of overtime defeats.

Thomas took over as head coach at UAPB after spending six seasons at Alcorn State, initially coaching defensive backs (2012-15), before spending the last two seasons as defensive coordinator (2016-17). The Braves won four straight SWAC Eastern Division titles, including back-to-back SWAC titles in 2014 and 2015 and played in the inaugural Celebration Bowl. At Southern Miss, he will be rejoining head coach Jay Hopson, who was head coach at Alcorn State from 2012-15.

"This was a very difficult decision for me and my family because of the deep love I have for my alma mater," Thomas said in a statement. "When enrolling here as a student-athlete in the fall of 1998, I could not have envisioned the impact this university would have on my life. I've said it many times and I will continue to express it -- UAPB saved my life when I came to Pine Bluff because of what many individuals on this campus and in this community poured into me as a young man. I was extremely blessed to have the opportunity to come back and give back as head coach of this proud program and will be eternally grateful for the support of Golden Lion nation."

Peterson, who's been on the job as athletic director less than four weeks, said he intends to keep the current coaching staff in place for the foreseeable future.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

UPCOMING 2020 HBCU BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

CIAA - Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association February 25-26 - Bojangles Coliseum February 27-29 - Spectrum Center Charlotte, NC

SIAC - Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference March 2-7 - Rock Hill Sports & Events Center - Rock Hill, SC

Fayetteville State women claim first ever CIAA Indoor Track title, Virginia State and St. Augustine's share men's crown

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - Fayetteville State claimed the women's crown while Saint Augustine's and Virginia State shared the men's title at the CIAA Indoor Track & Field Championships at JDL Fast Track on Monday.

The women's title is the first for Fayetteville State in its second year of existence as a university-sponsored track and field program. Saint Augustine's captured its 23rd straight men's championship and Virginia State won its second men's title.

Saint Augustine's and Virginia State tied for the CIAA men's championship for the second time in three years.

The Fayetteville State women finished ahead of Saint Augustine's and Virginia State with 123 points. Saint Augustine's was second with 91 points and Virginia State placed third with 83 points. Fayetteville State led Saint Augustine's by two points late in Monday's meet before pulling away.

The Saint Augustine's and Virginia State men both scored 163 points to outdistance Vir-

ginia Union, which placed third with 65 points. Virginia State held a huge lead early but Saint Augustine's pulled within 158-153 entering the meet's final event - the 4x400 relay.

The men's battle ended in a tie after Saint Augustine's placed first and Virginia State finished fourth in the 4x400 relay. Saint Augustine's is the nation's top-ranked Division II 4x400 relay team.

Virginia State swept the CIAA individual track awards. Sukeil Foucha was named men's MVP and Kyla Frank was the women's MVP. In the field events, Jalen Fykes of Livingstone was the men's MVP and Alisha St. Louis of Johnson C. Smith and Shania Ingram of FSU were the co-women's MVP winners.

Inez Turner of FSU was chosen CIAA Women's Coach of the Year. George Williams of Saint Aug's and Wilbert Johnson of Virginia State were named CIAA Men's Co-Coaches of the Year.

The women's winners Monday were Ingram of Fayetteville State (Pentathlon), Jaria

Hoyle of Saint Aug's (400 Meters), St. Louis of Johnson C. Smith (Triple Jump), Samaria Chance of Livingstone (Shot Put), Jerinique Brooks of Fayetteville State (60 Meters, 200 Meters), Aalandina Hyppolite of Virginia State (800 Meters), Danielle Scantlebury of Saint Augustine's (60 Meter Hurdles), Frank of Virginia State (3,000 Meters) and the Saint Aug's foursome of Hoyte, Scantlebury, Davia Smith, Shannon Kalawan (4x400 Meter Relay).

The men's winners were Jahvante Marcelle of Virginia State (Heptathlon), Teahrian Tyler of Virginia Union (Triple Jump), Kenny Fuentez of Bowie State (Shot Put), Fykes of Livingstone (High Jump), Brandon Parris of Saint Aug's (400 Meters), Shivanarie Smalling of Saint Aug's (60 Meters), Foucha of Virginia State (800 Meters), Quincy Watts of Virginia State (60 Meter Hurdles), Kurt Modeste of Saint Aug's (200 Meters), Baron Freeman of Saint Aug's (5,000 Meters) and the Saint Aug's quartet of Jalen Jones, Phillip Marcelle, Modeste, Parris (4x400 Meter Relay).

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

CIAA

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Table with columns: NORTH DIVISION, CONF, DIV, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Lincoln (PA), Virginia Union, etc.

PLAYER & DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Devona Stell, Sr., F, ECSU - Averaged double-double of 15.5 points and 13.0 rebounds including 20 pts., 12 boards vs. VSU.

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Table with columns: CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Bethune-Cookman, Norfolk State, etc.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Kiecho White, Sr., G, NCCU - Dropped game-high 24 points in 2 OT win vs. NC A&T with 4 assists and two steals. Shot 9 of 18 and made seven of 10 FTs. Scored 10 points in overtime including game-tying shot to force second OT.

SIAC

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Table with columns: EAST DIVISION, CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Benedict, Fort Valley State, etc.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Takya Gilbert, Sr., G, CENTRAL STATE - Averaged 21.0 points, 3.8 assists, 4.3 rebounds and 3.0 steals in three games. Finished with 27 points in OT win vs. Tuskegee. Had 25 points, 7 rebounds, 3 assists and 2 steals vs. Bluefield State.

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Table with columns: CONF, ALL, W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Jackson State, Southern, etc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Dominique Newman Sr., G, PVA&M - Had 14 points and as many rebounds in win over GSU, 11 points, 5 rebounds and 4 steals in handing JSU its first SWAC loss.

INDEPENDENTS

Table with columns: W, L, W, L, W, L. Rows include Hampton, W. Va. State, etc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Lamin Vandersdale, Sr., G, HAMPTON - Back-to-back 22-point games in two wins shooting 10 of 18 from the field with 6 rebounds vs. Winthrop, added 10 rebounds in win over Longwood.