



Grambling Athletics Photo

BRANDON LOGAN: Former Grambling player to lead Doug Williams Center for the Study of Race and Politics in Sports at his alma mater.

KICKIN' IT OFF

NFL KICKS OFF AS DOES ONE HBCU; BCSP PROFILE DEBUT; MANNING ENDOWS SIX HBCU SCHOLARSHIPS

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

TSU GOLF PIONEER STARKS PASSES:

NASHVILLE --- Trailblazing Tennessee State golf coach **Dr. Catana Starks** passed away on Sunday morning at the age of 75.



Starks

Starks made history becoming the first African-American woman to coach an all men's team at the collegiate level. Starks coached the TSU men's golf team from 1986 until 2005 when she led the Tigers to a National Minority Golf Championship. The team shot a record-setting 840 as a unit.

Starks, a Tennessee State University graduate, returned to Nashville in 1980 to become the swimming coach for the Tigers. When TSU entered the Ohio Valley Conference, the athletic department dropped the swimming program to add golf and tabbed Starks as the head coach.

During her time as a coach, Starks earned her doctorate degree, began teaching and eventually becoming the department head of Human Performance and Sports Sciences at TSU.

Under her guidance, the team also produced **Sean Foley**, who went on to be Tiger Woods' swing coach; **Sam Puryear**, who became the first African American men's head golf coach in any major conference (Michigan State); and **Robert Dinwiddie**, an All-American who went on to play on the European professional tour.

In 2011, her story inspired the movie *"From the Rough"* starring the late Michael Clarke Duncan and Oscar nominee **Taraji P. Henson**.

FLORIDA MEMORIAL TAKES THE FIELD:

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. - **Florida Memorial University** played its first football game in 62 years Saturday when the Lions squared off with NAIA No. 9 Keiser University.

While the re-start was quite memorable for the program, the outcome may not have been, a 62-0 loss.

The game was played in front of just 110 fans, as Keiser University limited the number of fans and prohibited any fans from the visiting team from attending the game.

FMU (0-1) got off to an inauspicious start, allowing the Seahawks to return the opening kickoff 82 yards down to the Lions' 9-yard line. Keiser (1-0) scored four plays later - beginning what would be a 28-point quarter for the Seahawks.

Falling behind by multiple touchdowns not even five minutes into the first quarter - and ultimately trailing 48-0 by halftime - left FMU, who will travel to face Ave Maria University next Saturday (Sept. 19), playing "catch up" for essentially the entire game.

Lions head coach **Tim Harris Sr.** said having a slow start against an opponent like Keiser is asking for long day.

"When things start off slow for you...against anyone really, but especially for us against Keiser today, it put us in bad spots and we couldn't get much of anything going," Harris said. "We struggled in all three phases because of it and we saw where we have to improve moving forward - and we will improve moving forward."

WILLIAMS CENTER DIRECTOR & BOARD:

GRAMBLING, La. -- **Grambling State University** has named **Brandon A. Logan** as Executive Director for the **Doug Williams Center for the Study of Race & Politics in Sports**. Members of the inaugural Advisory Board have also been named.

Logan has been serving as chief executive officer of Urban Capital Partners in San Antonio, Texas. He is a graduate of Grambling State University, where he played football and majored in business management.

The Center is named after **Doug Williams**, a National Football League executive and Grambling State alumnus and former GSU head football coach. In 1988, Williams was the first Black quarterback to win a Super Bowl. Logan played at Grambling when Williams served as head coach.

The newly named Advisory Board members includes, among others, former NFL quarterback and Black College Football Hall of Fame co-Founder **James "Shack" Harris**, **Southwestern Athletic Conference** Commissioner **Dr. Charles McClelland**, **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** Commissioner **Jacqie McWilliams**, **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** Commissioner **Greory Moore**, **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference** Commissioner **Dr. Dennis Thomas**, **Shannon Sharpe**, Earvin "Magic" Johnson and Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow.

Peyton Manning foundation endows scholarships at six Historically Black Colleges and Universities

From Chris Mortensen
NFL Reporter - ESPN.com

Doug Williams endured some painful blindsides as an NFL quarterback, but he embraced a recent blindside when he was informed that a certain foundation had endowed a scholarship in his name at his alma mater, **Grambling State University**.

"When I asked who did this, I was told the donor wished it to be anonymous," said Williams, a senior vice president for the Washington Football Team.

"Ha, you know I have my connections at Grambling. I made a phone call and found out it was Peyton Manning's foundation and it was endowing a half-dozen scholarships at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).



Peyton is a Louisiana boy. I know he's given to a lot of wonderful causes without publicity but this was a most pleasant surprise for me."

Manning's Peayback Foundation, which was founded in 1999 by Peyton and his wife Ashley, has endowed six scholarships at four HBCU schools in his home state of Louisiana and two in Tennessee, where he played collegiately at the University of Tennessee.

Williams, the first Black quarterback to ever win a Super Bowl, has his name on the Grambling endowment at the request of the Peayback Foundation.

Harold Carmichael, a former Philadelphia



Williams



Carmichael



Rudolph



Mitchell



Francis



Lomax

Eagles receiver and 2020 Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee, also was named on an identical endowment at **Southern University** in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Wilma Rudolph, a sprinter who was the first woman to ever win three gold medals in the Olympics in 1960, has her name attached to an endowed scholarship at **Tennessee State**, her alma mater. Rudolph died from cancer in 1994.

The other three HBCU endowed namesakes are not athletically renowned, but are no strangers to their historical contributions:

- **Fisk University** (Nashville, Tennessee) for the late **Dr. Reavis L. Mitchell Jr.**, a 40-year history professor who was frequently consulted on African-American heritage and often cited in publications and documentaries.

- **Xavier University of Louisiana** for **Dr. Norman Francis**, the school's president since 1968 who received a presidential medal of freedom in 2006 for his efforts planning the recovery and rebuilding of New Orleans and surrounding areas after Hurricane Katrina.

- **Dillard University** in New Orleans, for

Dr. Michael Lomax, president and CEO of the United Negro College Fund since 2004 and a former university president.

"The Peayback Foundation is honored to partner with these six colleges to honor distinguished Alumni and staff members, and to help college students at these schools now and many years to come. Really, for perpetuity," said a statement from the organization.

"I think Peyton needs to be recognized so we can expand the circle of potential donors out there for a great cause," said Williams.

Carmichael likewise added: "I feel the same as Doug when it comes to what Peyton's foundation is doing with HBCUs. It's really an honor to have my name on that scholarship. I go back long time with Archie, his Dad. We played in a Pro Bowl together. I know this is not necessarily an athletic scholarship -- HBCUs are much more than that -- but when I played at Southern, all I got was \$14 a month for laundry and there were times when even that money missed payments. An endowed scholarship with my name attached? I am really humbled and blessed."

BCSP Notes

Xavier (La.) leaving Gulf Coast to join Red River Conference

NEW ORLEANS — **Xavier University of Louisiana** announced Tuesday that it will join the NAIA's Red River Athletic Conference as a full-time member, effective July 1, 2021.

XULA was unanimously approved in August by RRAC member institutions to become the league's 13th member.

The move to the Red River will end XULA's 40-year affiliation with the NAIA's **Gulf Coast Athletic Conference**, of which it was a charter member in 1981. XULA teams will compete for GCAC championships in at least seven sports in 2020-21.

The RRAC was founded in 1998 and consists of teams in Louisiana, Texas and New Mexico.

"We are excited to add Xavier University of Louisiana to our conference," said RRAC Commissioner Tony Stigliano. "Xavier has a great history in the NAIA and has been a frequent opponent for our current members. Our conference will be strengthened by the quality of Xavier's athletics program, and the university is an excellent fit with the RRAC as an institution and geographically."

Said XULA President **Reynold Verret**: "The move to the Red River Athletic Conference allows Xavier to evaluate our position in intercollegiate athletics. It provides us the opportunity to expand our reach in key geographic areas for future students interested in continuing their athletic pursuits. This move expands our connectivity with alumni who are concentrated in the areas of athletic competition. The majority of our teams will now have the opportunity to compete for conference championships and automatic bids to NAIA national tournaments."

Current RRAC membership resembles the GCAC original lineup that XULA helped found — a mixture of HBCUs (historically black colleges and universities) and non-HBCUs.

Current RRAC members are:

- University of Houston-Victoria in Victoria, Texas
- **Huston-Tillotson University** in Austin, Texas (HBCU)
- **Jarvis Christian College** in Hawkins, Texas (HBCU)
- Louisiana State University of Alexandria in Alexandria, La.
- Louisiana State University Shreveport in Shreveport, La.
- Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas
- **Paul Quinn College** in Dallas, Texas (HBCU)
- University of the Southwest in Hobbs, N.M.
- **Texas College** in Tyler, Texas (HBCU)
- Texas A&M University-San Antonio in San Antonio, Texas
- Texas A&M University-Tearkana in Tearkana, Texas
- **Wiley College** in Marshall, Texas (HBCU)

HBCUs **Huston-Tillotson**, **Jarvis Christian**, **Paul Quinn**, **Texas College** and **Wiley** are charter RRAC members, as is Southwest. XULA will resume conference competition with LSUS, a GCAC member from 2003-10.



BCSP NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For games of September 10 - 14, 2020

OFFENSE



- **TARIK COHEN**, RB, Chicago (4th season, **NORTH CAROLINA A&T**) - Seven carries for 41 yards (5.8 ypc.) with a long run of 16 yards, two receptions for six yards, one punt return for 0 yards in come-from-behind win over Detroit. Played 30 offensive snaps (46%) and four on special teams (12%).

DEFENSE



- **DARIUS LEONARD**, LB, Indianapolis (3rd season, **SOUTH CAROLINA STATE**) - Led Colts with nine total tackles, four solos, in loss to Jacksonville. Played all 50 defensive snaps and five on special teams (21%).

SPECIAL TEAMS



- **JAMIE GILLAN**, P, Cleveland (2nd season, **ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF**) - Three punts for 137 yards (45.6-yard average) with a long punt of 59 yards in loss to Baltimore. Also lost a fumble on fake punt run.



TRIPPED AND UPSET!!! (L.) Detroit safety Duron Harmon (#26) barely tackles Chicago running back **Tarik Cohen** (#29, **NORTH CAROLINA A&T**) just as he is about to break into the clear in a first quarter 16-yard run, Cohen's longest of the game. (R.) Cohen is upset after the tackle that the run could have gone for more. Cohen had 47 yards of total offense in the Bears' 27-23 win over the Lions. chicogobears.com Photo