



# Sports



## Tops In Scholastic Sports

## Basketball In the Black Colleges A Historical Chronology 1891 - 1980

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Black College Basketball Yearbook  
JNW Publications

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### Part IV Period IV, 1950-1960

1959-1960

On Saturday, January 30, 1960, Cal Jacox, then a leading sports writer for the *Journal and Guide* of Norfolk, Virginia, summarized the years 1950-1960 as follows:

**"A DECADE OF PROGRESS"**  
"Back in the late 40's, Colored college athletic coaches labored in relative obscurity and under the blanket charge that their athletes were unable to compete with other collegiate athletes on a national level.

"Today, ten years later, the mentors and their athletes have remedied both of these shortcomings. Between 1950 and 1960, the Eddie Hurts, Johnny McLendons, "Jake" Gaithers, L.T. Walkers, Eddie Robinsons, Billy Hickses, "Skip" McCains, Herman Riddicks, Alexander Durleys and Arnette Mumfords not only take their rightful places among the nation's top coaches, but their athletes are more than holding their own in national and international competition.

"Given the opportunity via the lowering of segregation barriers, Colored collegiate athletic programs proceeded to smash the outmoded contentions of the diehards to smithereens. In 1960, our future appears brighter than ever.

"The proteges of our outstanding mentors are listed among sportdom's most outstanding athletes. . . . Johnny Samples, Willie Gallimore, John Baker, Rosy Brown, J.D. Smith, Willie Lee and Sherman Plunkett are some of their football products. Dick Barnett, Earl Lloyd, Sam Jones, Bob Hopkins, are pro-basketball counterparts of their cage coaching colleagues. Vance Robinson, Lee Calhoun, Paul Winder, Elias Gilbert are the cinder track representatives.

Colored coaches and their products have completely disproved the theory of the critics of the 40's that "it couldn't be done."

The foregoing article, incomplete as it is with many great names missing, represented generally, the attitude of pride reflected by blacks who were a part of the sports scene of this time.

Ending the decade and beginning a new and accelerated action era. Tennessee State with a new coach, Harold Hunter, made yet another trip to the nationals and progressed to the semi-finals before losing to Westminster (Pa.) in a 39-38 cliffhanger. The 18-game all-time consecutive wins record by Tennessee has never been eclipsed.

Following the 1959 season, the writer left college coaching to take another job, joining the Cleveland Pipers in the nine team National Industrial Basketball League.

Significantly, the NIBL, a semi-pro loop had contributed over 70% of all U.S. Olympic players from 1936 to 1960, and was a part of an employee recreation program of Goodyear Rubber Company, Phillips Petroleum Company, Peoria Caterpillar, New York Tuck Taping Company, Denver-Chicago Trucking Company, San Francisco Investors, Seattle Buchann Bakers and the Wichita Vickers Oil Company. Each team played about 40 games drawing a combined total of a million fans. . . . a big league operation.

Marion Jackson, *Atlanta Daily World*, observed "As part of a scheme to test McLendon's coaching prowess for the Cleveland job, he was selected to coach the college All-Stars of 1959 against the NIBL champions, the Denver-Chicago Truckers. The All-Stars won 123-108. McLendon had passed his test."

Back on the college basketball scene in 1959, the 32 team NAIA national tournament field included, five teams.

ARKANSAS AM&N, Pine Bluff, Ark. SWAC and District 29  
GRAMBLING COLLEGE, Grambling La. MWA and District 29  
MARYLAND STATE COLLEGE, Princess Anne, Md. CIAA and District 6A  
SAVANNAH STATE COLLEGE, Savannah, Ga. SIAC and District 6B  
TENNESSEE A&I STATE, Nashville, Tenn. MWA and District 29

The tremendous impact of black awareness, respect and pride exemplified by the four black conferences, represented an accomplishment that cannot be fully appreciated by many young people in this country.

Not enough credit has been given to the democratic philosophy of NAIA, especially the leadership of executive secretary, A.O. Duer, the most influential force in providing upward mobility and athletic opportunities for black college athletics during the period 1950-1960.

In keeping with the NAIA purpose, black colleges were involved in all regional and national sports competitions.

NAIA leadership was enhanced greatly with the inclusion of black college athletic personnel into committee membership positions. Blacks included on the Executive Committee were Arnett Mumford of SWAC's Southern University, Alexander Durley, then of Texas Southern University and this writer. The NAIA placement of blacks during 1950-1960 in positions of Committee membership and leadership was unprecedented in USA sports history. No other athletic association had the moral leadership to even entertain the idea.

In "A History of the National Association of Inter-collegiate Athletics" by Carroll B. Land, he stated "One gigantic step was made during this time (1950-60) by the NAIA toward the relief of oppression of the predominantly black colleges and universities. The campaigns that resulted in the athletic emancipation of the black schools were long, and involved many people. This was a milestone fully known and understood by relatively few people. The records of these events should be preserved as accurately as possible.

"The role of the NAIA in this athletic emancipation was validated in the testimonies of many of the men involved in athletics at the black schools."

Alexander Durley of Texas Southern University gave this opinion:

"It is true the NAIA was the first organization to give black colleges a chance for national competition. It was Al Duer's leadership and his stubborn resistance to political pressure and bigotry and his firm insistence that revolutionized the thinking of the American people.

"Historians will tell you that the NAIA was integrated before the Civil Rights Bill was born. It is a tribute to NAIA that many of the Southern NAIA districts desegregated voluntarily and without incident. As I personally view it, the NAIA became the NCAA's Achilles heel and the black colleges opportunity."

Carroll Land's publication, "My Own Views," repeated, to some extent, early observations. He wrote: The NAIA contribution to the athletic development of historical black colleges is one of the big sports stories of the century. NAIA was the lone sports-activity-sponsoring-organization with the courage and conviction to correct a grievous injustice. Without fanfare, it opened the doors of its nationwide constituency to over 100 black colleges and universities.

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### Eagles Win Two of Three; Finish Season 14-12

The NCCU Eagles sought and got that winning season as they upset UNC-Wilmington 96-90 in triple overtime, beat Bowie 95-70 and lost to Longwood College 99-71.

The Eagles are 14-12 prior to their play in the CIAA Tourney in the Norfolk Scope this weekend.

The last time that the Eagles won more games than lost in a season was 1968-69 when Floyd Brown's squad finished 12-10.

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## Eagles Rally To Top Seahawks In Overtime

WILMINGTON — John Bishop hit 32 points and Charles Murphy a career-high 26 as the Eagles rallied to tie the Seahawks in regulation and upset them in triple overtime 96-90.

Bishop hit 13 of 25 field goals and 6 of 7 free throws in leading Central. Murphy was 9 of 13 from the field; 8 of 8 from the line and grabbed a game-high 16 rebounds.

Donald Sinclair and David Binion added 10 points apiece.

Danny Davis led UNCW with 22 points. Shawn Williams had 21 and Ed Timmons 14.

In an earlier contest in Durham, the Eagles prevailed 82-73.

NCCU (96) Binion 10, Griffin 8, Murphy 26, Bishop 32, Sinclair 10, Oakley 4, Evans 2, Tyson 4, Taylor, Moore.

UNCW (90) Williams 21, McMillan 8, Davis 22, Timmons 14, Dickens 6, Tobin 2, Salzano 8, Prudhoe 9, Denton, Nickelson.

Halftime: UNCW 44-33. Regulation: 71-all; Overtime: 76-all; 78-all. NCCU 95, Bowie 70

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## Longwood Races To 99-71 Victory

FARMVILLE, VA — Mike McCroey hit 27 points as Longwood College raced past North Carolina Central 99-71.

The Lancers raised their record to 19-9 while the Eagles dropped to 14-12.

It was not to be a NCCU night as the Eagles shot only 42 per cent from the floor — the first time under 50 in the last eight games.

Jerome Kersey and Ron Orr had 17 and 15 points respectively.

Joe Remar scored 13 and James Ford 11.

Reserve Darnell Evans led the Eagles with 12 points. John Bishop had 11 and Donald Sinclair 10.

NCCU (71) Sinclair 10, Binion 4, Bishop 11, Griffin 2, Murphy 4, Faucette, Moore 4, Taylor 4, Oakley 7, Evans 12, House 4, Johnson, Willie 4, Tyson, Wright 5.

Longwood (99) Remar 13, McCroey 27, Kersey 17, Ford 11, Orr 15, Alston 2, Johnson 4, Lee, Sixsmith 6, Jenkins 2, Turner, Walker 2.

Halftime: Longwood 54-36.

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The faces may not be familiar, but the trio of young athletes gathered here represent the best in college and high school football and track and field.

Centering the group is Herschel Walker, the freshman running back sensation who led the University of Georgia to a victory over Notre Dame in the Sugar Bowl and to a number one national ranking in 1980-81.

On the right is Bill Fralic, a senior lineman from Penn Hills (PA) High School, who led his team to three Western Pennsylvania championships and a four-year mark of 46-4-1. On the left is Carol Walker, a track and field star par excellence from Willingboro (NJ) High School, who was a member of the 1980 Olympic Team that would have competed in the Moscow-based games and who is a top-ranked national performer.

Lewis was there to receive her award as the Dial 1980 Female High School Athlete of the Year, which was presented to her by the Hon. Shirley Hufstader, U.S. Secretary of Education. In 1980, Lewis, who is coached by her mother, Evelyn, had three long jumps of over 21 feet and also excelled in high jumping, sprinting and hurdling. In the past three years, she has been named to the *Track and Field News* All-American team twice and has been named as New Jersey's Athlete of the Year twice.

The occasion was the recent Touchdown Club Dinner in Washington, D.C., the annual prestigious event held to honor top professional, collegiate and high school coaches and athletes from across the country.

Remember their names and faces because they'll be heard from a great deal in the years to come.

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Dr. Cleveland Hammonds, Superintendent  
Durham City Schools

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CLASS TITLE	Co-Sponsor	DATE	TIME	FEES	DAYS	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Small Engine Repair	DTI	3/16-5/18	7-10	\$15	M	Durham High School	Minor repairs on lawnmowers and small engines
Data Processing	DTI	3/18-5/20	7-10	\$15	W	Hillside/NCCU	Learning basic principles of key punch and Cobol
Auto Mechanics Male & Female	DTI	3/19-5/21	7-10	\$15	TH	Durham High School	Basics of auto repair and engine tune-up
Photography (basic/Adv.)	DTI	3/19-5/21	7-10	\$10	TH	Holton Jr. High	Operation of 35 mm camera, flash, composition. Introduction to darkroom, film development, equipment, set-up, enlargements.
Adult High School Diploma and GED	DTI	3/10-5/14	7-9	\$10	T-TH	Hillside	Programmed materials are used for completion of requirements for AHSD and GED.
Typing (Begin/Adv.)	DTI	3/18-5/20	7/10	\$10	W	Hillside	Business correspondence, tabulations and manuscripts.
Home Repair/Basic Carpentry	DTI	3/19-5/21	7-10	\$15	TH	Hillside	Learning simple repairs around the home and fundamentals of building.
Motorcycle Repair	DTI	3/16-5/18	7-10	\$15	M	Durham High School	Minor engine repair, operation and motorcycle safety.
Brick Masonry	DTI	3/18-5/20	7-10	\$15	W	Hillside	Fundamentals of building
Home Cooking	DTI	3/18-5/20	7-10	\$10	W	Durham High School	This class will cover wise shopping tips, preparation of main dishes with emphasis on nutritional and dietary cooking.
Intermediate Sewing	DTI	3/18-5/20	7-9	\$9	W	Rogers-Herr	This course includes techniques of fitting and pattern selection.

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- Auto Mechanics (Advanced)**  
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