



MEAC Basketball Review - A Dream Come True



UCLA's New Coach

Larry Farmer, long time assistant basketball coach at UCLA, is all smiles at Los Angeles after signing up as head coach of the Bruin team last Tuesday. Farmer, who has been working with the UCLA basketball team since 1969, succeeds Larry Brown, who resigned.

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference's fathers, founders, and followers finally had their dream come true after ten years of waiting, watching, and hoping for a MEAC team to compete in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Basketball Tournament.

Through the dedicated efforts of Commissioner Kenneth Free and the MEAC Delegate Assembly, the Conference was granted an automatic berth last September, and it was decided that the Tournament champion should receive the opportunity to make history.

The berth would not have been possible if another step had not been made two months earlier to establish Division I status as a conference. That goal was accomplished when the NCAA declared new member

Bethune-Cookman College as a Division I institution. Florida A&M University had been voted into the MEAC at the same time as B-CC (October 1979), but was already Division I. The two joined original members Delaware State College, Howard University, North Carolina A&T State University, and South Carolina State College.

Morgan State, N.C. Central, and Maryland-Eastern Shore, all original MEAC members, opted to remain Division II. Morgan and UMES are presently independents, while NCCU rejoined the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

The Howard Bison won their second straight MEAC championship and boasting rights as the first MEAC team to play in the NCAA Division I Tournament.

The Conference's brilliant history continued to shine when regular season champion and Tournament runner-up NCA&T was selected to play in the National Invitation Tournament (NIT).

Howard was placed in the West Regionals where they lost in the first round March 12 to Wyoming 78-43 in Los Angeles' Pauley Pavilion. NCA&T was matched against Duke University on the same night in Durham, and dropped a 79-69 decision to the Blue Devils in Duke's Cameron Indoor Stadium. The Aggies had not played on that floor since the first two MEAC tournaments were held there in 1972 and 1973.

After this year's tournament, Howard's Larry Spriggs was named the Most Outstanding Player for the third year in a row, setting a MEAC record. Also during the Tenth Annual Tournament, legendary basketball coach John B. McLendon (now a Converse representative), conducted his famous basketball clinic, and was assisted by former New York Knick great, Willis Reed.

Converse also sponsored the annual MEAC Tip-Off Banquet, and Coca-Cola, USA sponsored the MEAC All-Star Press Luncheon.

For the second consecutive year, the MEAC championship game was shown on regional television, produced by Larry Mials' New World Productions.

Jim Wooten and Prevoist Foushee of Anheuser-Busch, Incorporated supplied the champions with watches, and William Blakely of Engelhard Industries (Iselin, New Jersey)

Brown, November 7; and Grambling, November 14. Other road games include Howard, September 26; Alcorn State, October 3; Johnson C. Smith, October 10; and Florida A&M at Miami, Florida, October 24.

The Bulldogs finished 10-1 last season, losing only to Grambling in the season finale, and won the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference with a 5-0 mark.

All S.C. State home games will kick-off at 1:30 p.m.

S. C. State Announces 1981 Football Schedule

ORANGEBURG, S.C. — Eastern Kentucky, which replaces Virginia State, is the only new team in the South Carolina State College 1981 football lineup. The Bulldogs will open against the Colonels September 5 at Richmond, Kentucky.

Delaware State visits Orangeburg September 12 in the S.C. State home opener. Other home contests are North Carolina A&T, September 19; Morgan State (Homecoming), October 17; Bethune-Cookman, October 31; Morris

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NCCU Gets CIAA Football Championship Gold

Henry C. Lattimore (left), head football coach and athletic director at North Carolina Central University, receives the 1980 CIAA Football Championship trophy from Tampa Bay quarterback Doug Williams at the recent CIAA Basketball Tournament.

Central was 7-0 in the CIAA; 7-5 overall. They returned to the CIAA after leaving for the MEAC in 1971.

presented gold pen and pencil sets.

Until Howard upended NCA&T 66-63, the Aggies were 6-0 in championship competition, and had defeated the Bison three times in MEAC finals.

FINAL STANDINGS Conference

NCA&T, 7-3-700
Fla. A&M, 6-4-600
Howard, 6-4-600
Bethune-Cookman, 4-6-400
S.C. State, 4-6-400
Delaware State, 3-7-300

Overall

NCA&T, 20-6-789
Fla. A&M, 16-10-615
Howard, 14-11-560
Bethune-Cookman, 12-13-480
S.C. State, 11-14-440
Delaware State, 8-17-320

Bulls Working Hard in Florida

What players will make up the 1981 edition of the Durham Bulls?

No one knows just yet but reports out of the Atlanta Braves spring training teepee in West Palm Beach indicate that 110 young men are fiercely competing for a spot on one of the minor league squads.

"In the years I've been associated with Atlanta's minor league system, this is by far the most com-

petitive camp I've seen," Bulls manager Dirty Al Gallagher said recently in a phone interview. "The system, from AAA to Rookie ball, is well stocked at most every position. We have definitely reached our pinnacle in the minors."

Al made a special point that the competition was so tough that he wasn't sure who would be making the trip north to Durham with him. He did comment on one prospect who

is targeted for the Bulls squad — outfielder Brad Kominsk. "This kid has got awesome power. He'll hit many homers for us this year."

Gallagher piloted a team last year that was blessed with unbelievable team speed, led by Albert Hall. 1981 will probably see the Braves stock Durham with a team strong on pitching and power. Gallagher com-

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