

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS REVIEW

INSTANT REPLAYS

CONTINUED

laudable attempt to showcase the league's football highlights each week and profile its players and coaches, has gone the way of the dinosaur.

I got the notion that the show might not return when co-host Sallie Hayes popped up on a video music channel last summer as a veejay.

A subsequent call to producer Stuart Davis revealed that he had to swim ashore in a sea of red ink because of the venture and found solace in a profitable community cable channel he now handles for Reidsville, N.C.

Though the "MEAC Review" had reams of potential, Davis said in a phone interview, advertisers were few and far between.

MEAC Commissioner Ken Free agreed, noting that the show had been a big plus for the league.

"We think it's a great loss," Free said. "But we didn't produce the type sponsors we needed"

Free also said the show's airtime on Sunday nights, which sometimes shifted, was another problem, but he said Davis' firm, Mid-Atlantic Communications, did a "super job."

Free said he likes the concept of the show and that it may be resurrected in the future.

"I would love to go back to that," he said of the show. "I'm hoping we can do it again."

Meanwhile, Free is excited at the prospect of 13 MEAC basketball games being televised live by the All College Sports Group, based in Durham, N.C.

The first telecast will air Jan. 12.

Perhaps now, Free said, black colleges won't be "the best-kept secret in the world."

Instinct

Speaking of the MEAC and television coverage, the league reaped more exposure during the third weekend of September than it may receive for the rest of the year.

Connecticut was pasting poor Morgan State 35-7 when, in the fourth quarter, Morgan Assistant Coach Darrell Coulter, a former Bear quarterback, could stand no more.

As Connecticut running back Greg Morrison broke down the sideline for what might have been his team's 41st point, Coulter hurtled across the sideline and threw a perfect body block.

The officials ruled that the touchdown would be allowed. But the biggest news is that the nation's media jumped on the story with as much surprising eagerness as Coulter had made the tackle.

ESPN showed clips of the tackle time and again on its "Sportscenter" broadcasts and "The NFL Today" covered the feat in both its pregame and halftime shows.

Meanwhile, Coulter, who faced the prospect of disciplinary action at press time, offered a simple enough

explanation for his actions. It was instinct, he said.

Devils Stay Hot

Hold the presses! Mississippi Valley did it again, romping over SWAC favorite Southern University 63-45 Sept. 29.

Wide receiver Jerry Rice threw for three touchdowns and caught 17 passes for two more touchdowns while quarterback Willie Totten completed 46 of 66 passes for 563 yards and five touchdowns.

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