

FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 9 THROUGH JULY 15, 2002

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Photo by Lut Williams
LEGEND: Grambling's Collie Nicholson speaks to audience after receiving Trailblazer Award in Rochester.

OVERDUE HONOR

MILWAUKEE BUCKS TAKE SHAW'S RONALD MURRAY IN SECOND ROUND OF NBA DRAFT

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

PLAYER	SCHOOL	POS.	CL.	HT.	WT.
Tony Flomo	Eastern Illinois	QB	Sr.	6-3	204
Ryan Johnson	Montana State	RB	Sr.	6-0	210
P.J. Mays	Youngstown State	RB	Sr.	5-9	206
Chas Gessner	Brown	WR	Sr.	6-5	200
Carl Morris	Harvard	WR	Sr.	6-3	210
Chris Coleman	Alabama State	TE	Sr.	6-3	235
Jeff Santacroce	Lehigh	C	Sr.	6-3	290
Kevin Hill	Eastern Illinois	G	Sr.	6-3	285
Chris Price	Western Kentucky	G	Sr.	6-0	290
Dwight Beard	William & Mary	T	Sr.	6-4	315
Chad Setterstrom	Northern Iowa	T	Sr.	6-3	296
Mac Hoambrecker	Northern Iowa	K	Sr.	6-0	196
Curtis DeLoatch	N. Carolina A&T	RS	Jr.	6-3	205

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

PLAYER	SCHOOL	POS.	CL.	HT.	WT.
Justin Wood	Portland State	QB	Sr.	6-1	192
C.J. Hudson	Eastern Kentucky	RB	So.	5-7	200
Stephan Lewis	New Hampshire	RB	Sr.	5-8	200
Michael Hayes	Southern	WR	Sr.	6-5	220
Rich Musinski	William & Mary	WR	Jr.	6-1	195

Steve Farmer	Tennessee State	TE	Sr.	6-5	255
Kareem Sanders	N. Carolina A&T	C	So.	6-3	325
Gary Jenkins	Southern	G	Sr.	6-3	290
Kevin Noone	Dartmouth	G	Sr.	6-3	260
Mike Brigandi	Hofstra	T	Sr.	6-3	321
Mike Bujnak	Eastern Illinois	T	So.	6-5	288
Brian Morgan	Grambling State	K	So.	5-10	185
Brian Bratton	Furman	RS	So.	5-11	175

HONORABLE MENTION OFFENSE

Robert Kent	Jackson State	QB	Jr.	6-5	205
Erik Steiner	Hampton	G	Sr.	6-3	300

FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE

D.J. Bleisath	Tennessee Tech	DE	Sr.	6-4	255
Josh Jeffries	Appalachian State	DE	Sr.	6-2	265
Valdamer Brower	Massachusetts	DT	Jr.	6-5	253
Freddy Pesqueira	Georgia Southern	DT	Sr.	6-1	250
Stephen Cooper	Maine	LB	Sr.	6-1	218
Erik Dandy	Western Kentucky	LB	Jr.	6-0	205
Nick Ricks	Eastern Illinois	LB	Jr.	5-11	219
Tracy White	Howard	LB	Sr.	6-0	230
Jon Ambrose	St. Peter's	S	Sr.	5-10	180

David Young	Georgia Southern	S	Sr.	6-2	205
Chris Brown	Grambling	CB	Sr.	6-1	200
Tony Tiller	E.Tenn. St.	CB	Jr.	6-1	185
Eddie Johnson	Idaho St.	P	Sr.	6-4	225

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

Sean Kelly	FAMU	DE	So.	6-1	218
Ahmad Willis	NW State	DE	Sr.	6-1	255
Marcus Adams	E. Kentucky	DT	Sr.	5-11	278
Nathan Fuqua	Wofford	DT	Sr.	6-2	285
Dante Balestracci	Harvard	LB	Jr.	6-2	230
Matt McFadden	Weber St.	LB	Jr.	6-2	225
Dan Mulhern	Delaware	LB	Sr.	6-3	222
Greg Pitts	SW Texas	LB	Sr.	6-4	230
Hadley Prince	McN.St.	S	Sr.	5-9	195
Ameer Riley	Colgate	S	Sr.	6-0	193
Santino Hall	Tex. S'tern	CB	Sr.	6-1	185
Joey Thomas	Montana St.	CB	Jr.	6-2	185
David Beckford	Alabama St.	P	Sr.	6-0	185

HONORABLE MENTION DEFENSE

Earl Cochran	Alabama St.	DE	Sr.	6-4	225
Rashean Mathis	B-Cookman	S	Sr.	6-2	185
D. Rheubottom	Del State	CB	So.	5-9	

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

LONGTIME UAPB AD PASSES

After 56 years of service, the University of **uff** is mourning the loss of its athletic director **O. Clemmons** who died early (6) at Jefferson Regional Medical Center in April to retire as athletic director. In addition to his 56 years of service, Clemmons served as an assistant professor of Health, Physical Education and Recreation for more than 40 years. He played a vital role in UAPB's return to the Southwestern Athletic Conference and is credited as the "pioneer" for the Golden Lions rejoining the conference in 1997 after a 20-year absence. Clemmons, who served as head basketball coach for 20 years before resigning in 1977, compiled a 296-217 record which ranked seventh at that time among active NCAA Division II coaches. His most accomplished season was in 1967 when he was named NAIA-District 30 Coach of the Year after leading UAPB to its only SWAC basketball championship and to the NCAA Division II national post season tournament. The Lions posted a 24-7 record that year. Led by All-American shooting guard **James "Mack" Allen** and prolific scoring guard **Harold Blevins**, the Lions led the NCAA Division II ranks in team scoring with an average of 100 points per contest during the 1963-64 basketball season. Blevins later became the first-ever Golden Lion basketball player to be drafted when the New York Knicks of the National Basketball Association selected him in the second round of the 1965 draft. A native of Almyra, Arkansas, Clemmons received his undergraduate degree from **Arkansas AM&N College** and his master's degree from **Indiana University**. Clemmons is survived by his wife of 54 years, Faye, three sons and a daughter. Funeral services were held Wednesday in the auditorium of the Hathaway-Howard Fine Arts Center on campus. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the H.O. Clemmons Athletic Scholarship Fund at UAPB.



UAPB Photo
CLEMMONS: Spent 56 years at UAPB as teacher, coach and athletic director.



Photo by Lut Williams
AWARDEE: Famed Grambling SID Collie Nicholson (r.) receives CoSIDA Trailblazer Award from Syracuse University's Pete Moore, outgoing president of CoSIDA.



Photo by Carol Hudson
NEW OFFICERS: Newly elected officers of the Black College Sports Information Directors Association (BCSIDA) are (l. to r.): Treasurer, Marlon Reed (Mississippi Valley State), Secretary, April Emory (Elizabeth City State), President, Bill Hamilton (South Carolina State), Vice President, Patricia Harvey (Hampton), Sergeant at Arms, Kia Mason (N. C. A&T) and CIAA Representative, Shera White.

Grambling trailblazer honored by peers

ERIC MOORE

Special to the BCSP

ROCHESTER, NY - The Black College Sports Information Directors Association (BCSIDA) heard inspiring words from **Grambling** famed pitcher **Collie Nicholson** to highlight their annual meeting during the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Workshop here June 30 - July 3.

Considered the public relations genius behind the ascension of **Grambling University** football to international recognition, Nicholson was at the convention to receive CoSIDA's prestigious Trailblazer Award, which had been awarded only one other time to a pioneer in the sports information field. He provided a brief recap to BCSIDA members of a carefully executed plan to bring recognition to a small school in Louisiana.

"I was at the right place at the right time," said Nicholson who served as Grambling's public relations director from 1948 to 1978. "We had a five-year plan to make Grambling black America's football team. Just like Notre Dame built a Catholic base, we wanted to build a black base with Grambling football." And they did.

The combination of creative

Grambling President, **Dr. Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones**, legendary head football coach **Eddie Robinson** and Nicholson made the execution of the plan a smashing success.

"We had a strategy that included getting stories to some 400 black newspapers, the Grambling Football Highlights Show on television and playing games throughout the country," Nicholson stated. "We played in 27 of the 50 states, in Hawaii and Japan, before packed stadiums and the highlights show was on 90 TV stations across the nation."

Nicholson joined Penn State's Mary Jo Haverbeck, a pioneer in fostering meaningful gains for women in sports information, as a recipient of the Trailblazer Award. **South Carolina State** Sports Information Director, **Bill Hamilton**, the newly elected president of the BCSIDA, will be forwarding a proposal to the CoSIDA Special Awards Committee to name the Trailblazer Award for Nicholson and Haverbeck.

"Collie Nicholson set a standard of integrity, professionalism and competence that has served as a role for hundreds of black sportswriters and sports information directors to follow," said Rod Commons, SID at Washington State quoting from the *Shreveport Sun* in his

introduction of Nicholson.

"This is the best birthday present I could possible receive," said Nicholson on accepting the award. He turned 81 on July 5.

Nicholson's name was put forward for the award by former SWAC associate commissioner, **Lonza Hardy**, who is now athletic director at **Mississippi Valley State University**. Hardy nominated Nicholson for the award a year ago when Haverbeck was honored and declined to attend the convention last year when the organization's board only voted for Haverbeck. Hardy was in attendance in Rochester.

BCSIDA elected officers for the next three years. Along with Hamilton other officers are **Patricia Harvey** (Hampton, Vice President), **April Emory** (Elizabeth City State, Secretary), **Marlon Reed** (Mississippi Valley State, Treasurer) and **Kia Mason** (N. C. A&T, Parliamentarian). Conference and Independent Representatives to the Executive Board are **Shera White** - Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, **Leconte Conaway** - Mid Eastern Athletic Conference, **Wallace Dooley** - Southwestern Athletic Conference and **Ken Marshall** (Central State) - Independents. The membership post-



Photo by Lut Williams
HARDY AND NICHOLSON: Honoree Collie Nicholson (l.) is flanked by Lonza Hardy, the Mississippi Valley athletic director that nominated him for the Trailblazer Award.

poned filling the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** representative position until further information was available concerning the illness of **Charles Mooney**, SIAC Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations.

BCSIDA was founded in 1984 for the purpose of preserving and promoting intercollegiate athletics at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The organization meets annually at the national CoSIDA convention which was attended this year by nearly 500 of the nation's sports information directors.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE

DATES FOR PRESEASON BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL EVENTS

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (CIAA)

PRESS CONFERENCE AND LUNCHEON
Thursday, July 25, 11:30 am
Virginia State University
Jones Dining Hall
Ettrick, Va.

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (SIAC)

KICKOFF LUNCHEON
Friday, July 26, 12 noon
Radisson Hotel Atlanta Northlake
4156 LaVista Rd.
Tucker, Ga.

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (SWAC)

FOOTBALL MEDIA DAY
Friday, Aug. 2, 9 am to 4 pm
Harbert Center and SWAC Office
Birmingham, Al.

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (MEAC)

FOOTBALL PRESS LUNCHEON
Friday, Aug. 2, 12 noon
Hilton Crystal City at National Airport
Arlington, Va.

BCSP Notes

Murray taken in second round of NBA Draft by Milwaukee

Shaw guard **Ronald Murray**, the CIAA and NCAA Div. II player of the year, was taken with the 42nd pick, the 13th selection of the second round, of the June 26 NBA Draft by the Milwaukee Bucks.

Murray, who averaged 23 points and six assists while leading the Bears to their first-ever CIAA title and NCAA Div. II Final Four appearance, is the first black college player to go in the draft since **St. Paul's** forward **Antwain Smith** was taken in the second round of the 1999 draft.

"Murray's a real talent. He can score," said NBA Director of Scouting, Marty Blake, in his post-draft analysis on NBA.com.

On the Bucks website (www.nba.com/bucks), General Manager Ernie Grunfeld has this description of the 6-4 Philadelphia native.

"And Ronald Murray who we got at the 42nd pick was the Division II Player of the Year. He's a combo guard who's very good defensively. He has great size for a point guard and is a very tough, hard-nosed competitive guy and we were really glad to get him also."

MEAC makes staff appointments

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference has announced two staff appointments. **Luis B. Grillo** has been appointed coordinator of men's basketball officials and **LeCounte Conaway** has been appointed director of media relations.

"Grillo is a major added professional to the Conference. His officiating knowledge, allegiance to the MEAC during his formative years and experience will greatly assist the Conference basketball officiating program to maximize its potential," stated MEAC Interim Commissioner Brenda H. McCoy.

He is presently serving as a NBA Referee, a position he has held since 1988. Prior to joining the NBA ranks, he mastered his officiating skills on the collegiate level in the MEAC, SEC, ACC, CAA and the CIAA. He was assigned to his first NCAA Division I Tournament in 1986 and worked the

Division I Final Four in 1987 and 1988.

During the past year Conaway served as assistant director of athletics for sports information and Marketing at **Shaw University**, his alma mater. Prior to Shaw, he served as sports information director at Hampton University for 12 years (1988-2000).

"LeCounte brings over 25 years of collegiate athletic public relations experience to this office, along with dedicated knowledge and service to the MEAC. I am looking forward to having him as a part of our team," stated McCoy.

Conaway began his career in 1977 at the **University of Maryland Eastern Shore** as sports information director and served in that capacity until 1980. After a year at Shaw University as operations manager of WSHA-FM and part-time sports information director, he was appointed sports information director at **Virginia State University**, a position he held for three years (1981-84).

In 1984, Conaway was appointed public relations director for the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** (CIAA) and served in that capacity until 1987. Following his CIAA tenure, he served a year as SID at **Norfolk State University** before moving to Hampton.

Whitney to receive inaugural NCAA award

Davey L. Whitney, the legendary basketball coach for more than 26 years at **Alcorn State University** in Mississippi, has been named the first recipient of the NCAA Hall of Champions Journey Award. The award was created to honor those who have encouraged excellence in collegiate student-athletes. To be eligible for the Journey Award, nominees must have:

- Inspired NCAA student-athletes.
- Championed the purpose of the NCAA.
- Established and maintained an environment that values cultural diversity and gender equity, and
- Exemplified the RICHER principles in their daily lives. The RICHER principles are the bedrock values of the NCAA Stay in Bounds program for youth in grades three through

eight and stand for Respect, Integrity, Caring, Harmony and Excellence.

The NCAA will give a Journey Award (or awards) annually. George Smith, the director of the Hall of Champions, will present the award to Whitney at 1 p.m. Saturday at the NCAA Hall of Champions in White River State Park. The presentation will be part of the festivities surrounding the current traveling exhibit, "Discover Greatness." This exhibit contains the largest collection of baseball photographs from the Negro Leagues that flourished from 1920 to the early 1960s. The collection is on loan from the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Missouri.

Whitney actually played professional baseball with the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Baseball Leagues as a shortstop from 1952 to 1954. Several other former Negro Leagues players also will be available at the Hall this weekend. Former members of the Indianapolis Clowns team and their batboy will be on hand from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, and from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday. The Hall of Champions is located at 700 West Washington Street in Indianapolis.

Whitney has set standards that no other basketball coach has matched in the history of Alcorn State or the **Southwestern Athletic Conference** (SWAC). He has a career record of 551-338 as a collegiate head coach and a career record of 496-275 at Alcorn State.

The oldest living African-American current head basketball coach in the NCAA, the 72-year-old has spearheaded more winning seasons than any of his predecessors at Alcorn State and was the first SWAC coach to lead his team to a victory in the NCAA Division I Basketball Championships. Notably his teams have participated in 12 national post-season tournaments, including five NAAs and one NIT.

On December 20, 1999, Whitney, affectionately nicknamed the "Wiz," reached a milestone in his storied career as a college head coach when he became part of a select group of Division I coaches to reach the 500-win mark during their careers. In addition, Whitney, a graduate of **Kentucky State University**, has won SWAC Coach-of-the-Year honors nine times, and is ranked among the top-six winningest active coaches in America.