

PRESEASON MAGAZINE PREDICTIONS AND SELECTIONS

LINDY'S 2002 COLLEGE FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

- NCAA DIV. I-AA TOP 25**  
 5. Grambling State  
 16. Florida A&M  
 19. Hampton  
 20. Southern
- MEAC**  
 Florida A&M  
**SWAC**  
 Grambling (West)  
 Alabama State (East)

**ALL-AMERICANS**

- First Team**  
 WR Kris Peters, Jr., Alcorn State  
 PK Brian Morgan, So., Grambling  
 LB Tracey White, Sr., Howard  
 DB Rashean Mathis, Sr., B-Cookman  
 P Aaron Wall, Sr., Ark.-Pine Bluff
- Second Team**  
 QB Casey Printers, Sr., Florida A&M  
 TE Chris Coleman, Sr., Alabama State  
 DB Chris Brown, Sr., Grambling

**NCAA DIV. II TOP 25**

12. Tuskegee  
 25. Winston-Salem State

ATHLON 2002 NATIONAL EDITION

- NCAA DIV. I-AA TOP 25**  
 7. Grambling State  
 8. Florida A&M  
 19. Jackson State  
 21. Hampton  
 24. Southern

- SWAC**  
 Jackson State (East)  
 Grambling State (West)

- MEAC**  
 Florida A&M

FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 16 THROUGH JULY 22, 2002

**BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE**



**WELL-SUITED**

▼ NC A&T HIRES FORMER PLAYER OF THE YEAR AS NEW WOMEN'S B-BALL COACH

Photo by Eric Moore  
**MITCHELL:** JC Smith grad adds a new crop of NBA hoopsters to his stable of clients.

**UNDER THE BANNER**

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

**UAPB FIRES HOOP COACHES:**

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff will not reappoint

**Harold Blevins** as men's head basketball coach and **Kenneth Conley** as women's head basketball coach for the 2002-2003 academic year, according to Chancellor **Lawrence A. Davis, Jr.** "We appreciate the services and sacrifices made by both Coach Conley and Coach Blevins," said Davis. "The transition from NAIA to NCAA Division I competition has been difficult. However, as we anticipate the appointment of an athletic director and other current challenges, it is imperative that we make changes." Blevins had served as the men's coach for the past seven years and compiled a 36-147 overall record, including a 14-74 mark in the **Southwestern Athletic Conference**. Conley, who became the women's coach 11 years ago, compiled an 86-183 overall record and 17-69 SWAC ledger. He had only three winning seasons during his tenure: 16-9 in 1991-92; 13-10 in 1994-95 and 15-9 in 1995-96. A former Golden Lion basketball standout, Blevins was the first UAPB player drafted into the National Basketball Association when the New York Knicks selected him in the second round after a stellar senior season in 1965. His coaching tenure was highlighted by UAPB's 66-64 upset victory over the University of Houston in 1996. Before taking over as head women's coach in June, 1991, Conley was an assistant coach for the men's team for five years. A native of Pine Bluff, Conley was a four-year starter for the Golden Lions and earned NAIA All-District recognition for three years from 1979 to 1981.

**HU PENALTY REDUCTION:** The NCAA Division I Infractions Appeals Committee has reduced the period of probation against **Howard University** from five years to three. The university's probationary period will end November 27, 2004. The Division I Committee on Infractions issued the findings and penalties on November 27, 2001. The case involved the baseball, men's and women's basketball, and men's and women's swimming programs, specifically violation of bylaws governing recruiting, extra benefits, academic eligibility, academic fraud, ethical conduct and a lack of institutional control. Howard appealed the five-year probation because it believed the Committee on Infractions failed to give adequate consideration to what it called "the mitigating factor of exemplary institutional cooperation" when determining the length of the probationary period. The University conducted an extensive and comprehensive investigation of its own, which first revealed most of the violations for which it was being penalized. The Infractions Appeals Committee concluded that the factor of institutional cooperation was not properly weighed and the maximum penalty of five years probation was excessive and inappropriate. President **H. Patrick Swygert** thanked the NCAA's Appeals Committee for agreeing with the University's position and added, "We had confidence that the appeal process would result in the fairness that was warranted by the circumstances. Howard runs an exceptional athletics program, and we look forward to continuing our great tradition."

**THE STAT CORNER**  
 WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

**MEAC FOOTBALL PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH**  
 (as chosen by conference coaches and SIDs)

1	Florida A&M (12)	254
2	N.C. A&T (2)	210
3	Hampton U.	204
4	Bethune Cookman (2)	190
5	S.C. State	134
6	Delaware State	97
7	Howard U.	84
8	Norfolk State U.	63
9	Morgan State U.	46

**First round pick**

Black college grad gets the nod from players on Draft Day

**LUT WILLIAMS**

BCSP Editor  
 When it comes to NBA first round draft picks, nobody lands as many as **Cary Mitchell**. No, he's not an NBA general manager. He's not even an agent. But it's become a regular thing now for the Charlotte, N. C.-based Mitchell to have the young, high-profile ballers on his client list. That's because in 12 years his Cary Mitchell Designs has developed a sterling reputation for putting the finest threads on the young hot shots. And we're talking about literally suiting up the best of them for nationally televised ESPN Draft Day coverage.

Last year Mitchell, a 1983 **Johnson C. Smith University** graduate and a member of the school's board of trustees, outfitted five of the top nine picks - Tyson Chandler, Jason Richardson, Eddie Griffin, Rodney White and Sagana Diop.

This year was better. He had the top four picks in the June 26 draft - China's Yao Ming who went first to Houston, Duke's Jay Williams and Mike Dunleavy who went to Chicago and Golden State at two and three, and Kansas forward Drew Gooden, taken fourth by Memphis. Yao couldn't make it over from China in time for the draft, but if he had he'd have sported a number with 54-inch long cuffed pants made by Mitchell, who measured the 7-5 stringbean back in May.

Mitchell also fixed up Maryland's Chris Wilcox, the eighth pick, Connecticut's Caron Butler, the tenth selection, Missouri's Kareem Rush, who went at 20 and junior college product Qyntel Woods who went 21st. All were invited and showed their stuff at Draft Day in New York.

Oregon's Fred Jones and Kentucky's Tayshaun Prince, taken 14th and 23rd in the first round, were also Mitchell's clients but were not invited to New York.

That brought his total to ten first rounders, more than a third of the 28 taken. That makes him the unofficial 'pick' of first rounders.

It's also bigger than the haul of eight instant millionaires he dressed for the '97 draft that included Joe Smith and Antonio McDyess. Gooden and Rush actually wore suits made by someone else on Draft Day but are still his clients.

"The draft was hectic," said the 42-year old who had just come back from Hawaii doing suits (yellow linen ones) for 23 members of Mike Tyson's

entourage that the clan wore to Tyson's fight in Memphis against Lennox Lewis.

"It got even wilder when I had just three days to make a suit for Dunleavy, who made a late decision to keep his name in the draft."

He was also followed around at the draft by an ESPN film crew shooting a segment for the network's *Outside the Lines* series. The show, about fashion trends of new NBA players, aired June 30 with Mitchell as the centerpiece. The show included interviews with a *Savoy Magazine* fashion editor and Miami Heat center Alonzo Mourning, a Mitchell client, about his work.

Williams, who won ESPN.com's best-dressed poll, was decked out in a black tuxedo with a white shirt and silver tie for the draft.

"I took the satin off the lapels so it was only on the buttons and the trim of the pockets," said Mitchell, aware of the fashionably competitive nature of the affair. "It had a formal wear feel but looked very contemporary."

Making an early fashion statement can go a long way to conveying just how marketable a particular player might be, he said.

"Agents like it because it gives a good first impression for both the team and potential sponsors. That's why they call me. Sometimes I have to educate the players on how important it is to look a certain way."

Mitchell usually takes the measurements, suggests the fabric and style of the suits. He contracts out the stitching. Suits usually start at \$1,100.

"I'm really more of a tailor/clothier," he said. "All of the clothes are tailor-made. But I also do wardrobe consulting which means I usually put together entire outfits."

It's helped him build a clientele of some 70 NBA players that includes superstars Gary Payton, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Mourning, Baron Davis as well as members of just about every NBA team. It's not unusual during the season for Mitchell to hop between four or five NBA cities per week.

Cultivating relationships with agents like California-based Bill Duffy, who had five first round selections and was an advisor to Yao this year, is critical to Mitchell's business. Veteran agent Bill Strickland had Woods while Raymond Brothers represented Butler. All three of the agents are African-Americans.

"Agents are usually the buffer between players

**BEHIND THE SEAMS**



**HARD AT WORK:** In *ESPN The Magazine* layout, Mitchell (photo, top r.) straightens the tie of Duke's Jay Williams, the second player picked in this year's NBA Draft. He then gives his take on the fashion sense of other top picks. Mitchell's clients include ten of the 28 first round picks in the Draft.

and potential suitors," said Mitchell. "That's to some degree how my business started and how it continues to grow."

Mitchell talked about how the process of bringing Yao from China to the NBA involved Duffy soliciting the help of former president George W. Bush, Sr. (yeah, Dubya's father) a former ambassador to China.

"They had to get him involved to finalize some aspect of the negotiations," said Mitchell. "It's a huge deal, more for the NBA than for Houston. There are 73,000 Asians in Houston, 35,000 Chinese."

Mitchell also makes Tiger Woods' pants for Nike. "I just sent him nine pair to take to the British Open."

He says he got his fashion sense from his father and mother. John P. "Tiger Tom" Mitchell, was the disc jockey at Richmond, Va.'s first black radio station, WANT, in 1938. He was a fixture in the city for 40 years.

"DJs back then were the pulse and voice of the black community," said Mitchell. "They had to be stylish. From the time I was three or four (years old), my father would take me backstage at concerts with the likes of James Brown or Curtis Mayfield and the Impressions. All those guys were fashionable dressers. I've been around the entertainment industry, in some way or another, much of my life."

**Roundtree new women's coach at NC A&T**

**ERIC MOORE**

Special to the BCSP  
**North Carolina A&T** named former women's hoops great **Saudia Roundtree** as its new head women's basketball coach Monday. Roundtree, who signed a five-year contract, was introduced at a packed press conference on the school's campus.

"She brings to the university the experience and expertise needed to build our women's basketball program," said **Dr. James Renick**, N.C. A&T's chancellor who was on hand for the press conference.

Roundtree comes to A&T from **Morris Brown College** where she had taken over as interim head women's basketball coach during the past year after serving one year as an assistant. Prior to MBC, she was basketball director for Suwanee Sports Academy where she organized AAU tournaments and various individual and exposure camps for boys and girls.

"This is fate, I'm supposed to be here," said Roundtree, a former national player of the year at the University of Georgia. "I prayed about this really hard and I'm happy and proud to be here."

"I believe in my players having an attitude of winning, because I believe in winning. I want to bring in players that have my work ethic and drive. My team will play hard every night, win or lose. You will be proud of your team. I'm not making any promises, because I don't



Photo by Joe Daniels

**HARDY AND NICHOLSON:** New Lady Aggie basketball coach Saudia Roundtree (c.) is flanked by North Carolina A&T Chancellor, Dr. James Renick (r.) and interim Athletics Director, Dr. Roselle Wilson (l.) at press conference announcing her appointment.

have to."

Roundtree is coming in after a somewhat tumultuous year with the A&T women's basketball program. She will succeed former athletics director **Dr. Alfonso Scandrett, Jr.**, who took over as head coach of the Lady Aggies after reassigning third-year head coach **Karen Hall** midway through last season. The Lady Aggies were 6-61 under Hall's leadership and 0-13 when Scandrett took over in January. They finished 2-24 this season. Scandrett was suddenly dismissed as athletic director six

weeks ago.  
 At Morris Brown, Roundtree compiled a 1-17 mark after taking over from **Jackie Carruthers** eight games into the 2001-02 season. The team finished with a 3-23 mark. Her only coaching victory came against **Clark-Atlanta University** (66-61) on Jan. 14.  
 "We are fortunate to have someone of Saudia's caliber join us," added **Dr. Roselle Wilson**, interim athletics director and vice chancellor for student affairs. "She will be a superb role model for our

student-athletes."

Before taking up coaching, Roundtree was an outstanding athlete enjoying success on both the college and professional levels. She was a first round draft choice and played in the American Basketball League for two years with the Atlanta Glory and Nashville Noise. During her brief professional career she was selected to the ABL All-Star Team. She also served as a women's sports commentator for Media One.

From 1994-96, Roundtree starred at Georgia where she led the Bulldogs to unprecedented heights. In '96 she averaged 16.7 points and 5.6 assists per game in being named the Southeastern Conference (SEC) player of the year and consensus national player of the year. She led Georgia to only its second ever number one national ranking and its second straight Final Four appearance. The Bulldogs reached the final game in '96 before losing to Tennessee.

Before coming to Georgia, Roundtree played for Kilgore (TX) Junior College where she was named National Junior College Player of the Year.

In 1996, she signed a shoe endorsement with Reebok International, making her the first woman to have her own shoe with Reebok.

She has an A.A. degree in criminal justice from Kilgore Junior College and a B.A. in sociology from the University of Georgia.