

# Shaw inducts eight into hall of fame

BY BONITTA BEST  
THE TRIANGLE TRIBUNE

**RALEIGH** - Shaw President Talbert O. Shaw will receive many farewell gifts and accolades before he leaves Dec. 31. But none will probably surprise or delight him more than being inducted into the Shaw Athletic Hall of Fame.

William A. Spann, a 1956 Shaw graduate and chair of the hall of fame committee, surprised Shaw with the honorary award at the hall of fame banquet Nov. 21.

The university has won more athletic championships under Shaw's tenure than any other president.

"Now I will have an excuse to come back once a year," an elated Shaw said.

In addition to Shaw, seven alumni were inducted in the hall of fame.

- Joseph B. Bell ('70). Bell was a four-year letterman in sports and baseball. After graduating, he became the offensive line coach in football and a dormitory director. Bell is an active member of the Shaw University Board of Trustees and was instrumental in bringing back football.

- Bennie J. Byers ('66). Byers played guard under former basketball coach Robert Jackson. He averaged more than 20 points per game and received the Most Illustrious Player award. Myers played semiprofessional basketball for the Harlem Astronauts for four years.



The 2002 inductees into the Shaw Athletic Hall of Fame: front row, left to right: James M. Cassaberry, Talbert O. Shaw, Robert F. Garrison and Preston T. McClain Jr. Back row, left to right: Joseph B. Bell, Bennie J. Byers, Freddie D. Ryan and Gregory R. Jenkins.

PHOTO BY BONITTA BEST

"I accept this honor with great humility and gratitude," Byers said.

- James M. Cassaberry ('85). A Presidential Scholar, Cassaberry was a four-year starter

at third base. He was a member of the 1983 CIAA baseball championship team and All-CIAA. With a career batting average of .300, he received awards for Most Improved

Player, 1985 Academic Award for the highest GPA on the team and the Scholastic Award.

- Robert F. Garrison ('70). Garrison played four years as a pitcher on the baseball team.

He held team records for the number of innings pitched (49), strikeouts (46) and a won-loss record of 6-1. He was a member of three CIAA championship teams.

"Shaw has meant so much to me throughout the years, and I'm so grateful to be inducted," Garrison said.

- Gregory R. Jenkins ('71). Jenkins was a four-year letterman in basketball. Playing at the starting forward spot, he was one of the conference's statistical leaders in rebounding, shooting percentage and scoring, while receiving the Outstanding Player award.

"When I came to Shaw, little did I know what to expect," Jenkins said. "My Shaw years proved to be the best experience of my life."

- Preston T. McClain Jr. ('61). In 28 years of coaching, McClain won five city championships, eight conference championships and seven district championships. For three straight years, he was voted Coach of the Year by the Raleigh Times newspaper and the Raleigh Sports Club.

- Freddie D. Ryan ('74). Ryan played basketball and lettered in football, baseball and volleyball. In '72, he received recognition for the Miller High Life Most Outstanding Individual Athlete and in 1973 was selected as the Most Outstanding Defensive Lineman.

The evening was dedicated to the memory of coach Howard Kenneth "Brutus" Wilson. Wilson led the 1947 football team to a national championship. He was inducted, posthumously, into the Shaw Athletic Hall of Fame in 1982. He died Nov. 27, 1984.

## MEAC

from page B1

finished the season ranked second in scoring, averaging 33.8 points per game.

Bradshaw Littlejohn of Morgan State was voted Rookie of the Year for his production as quarterback of the Bears. He was second on the team in rushing (74 yards per game) and first in passing with 1,128 yards, 10 touchdowns and a 125.3 per game average.

### 2002 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Football Honors

- Offensive Player of the Year: Allen Suber, Bethune-Cookman.
- Defensive Player of the Year: RaShean Mathis, Bethune-Cookman.
- Offensive Lineman of the Year: Erik Steiner, Hampton.
- Rookie of the Year: Bradshaw Littlejohn, Morgan State.
- Coach of the Year: Donald Hill-Eley, Morgan State.

### MEAC All-Conference Football First Team

#### Offensive Team

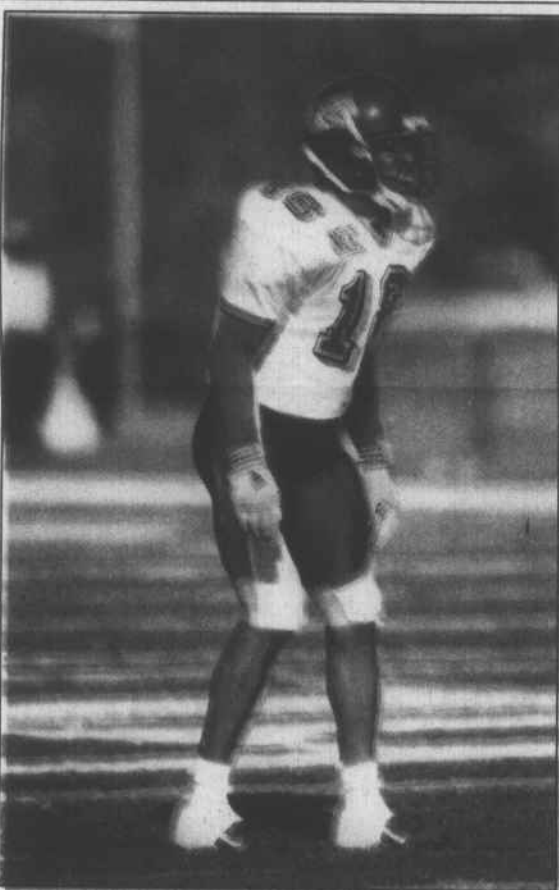
- Offensive linemen Napoleon Joseph of Bethune-Cookman, Fletcher Williams of Florida A&M, Marcus Ogden of Howard and Erik Steiner of Hampton.
- Center Jelani Clement of Hampton.
- Tight end Vashante Shaincoe of Morgan State.
- Wide receivers Charlie Allen of Florida A&M and Zuriel Smith of Hampton.
- Quarterback Allen Suber of Bethune-Cookman.
- Running backs Jay Colbert of Howard and Thomas Stallings of Morgan State.
- Kick returner DeShaun Morris of Delaware State.
- Place-kicker Juan Vasquez of Florida A&M.

#### Defensive Team

- Linemen Steve Baggs of Bethune-Cookman, Ivan Butler of N.C. A&T, Jamal Naji of Norfolk State, Isaac Hilton of Hampton.
- Linebackers Tracy White of Howard, Albert Gamble of Morgan State, Vernon Woodson of Hampton.
- Secondary: RaShean Mathis of Bethune-Cookman, Levy Brown of Florida A&M, Vontrae Long of Howard, Montrail Pittman of N.C. A&T.
- Punter Tellis Bolden of Hampton.

### MEAC All-Conference Football Second Team

#### Offensive Team



BCC linebacker RaShean Mathis

- Offensive linemen Gabe Piniella of Bethune-Cookman, Joseph Wright of Morgan State, Kareem Sanders of N.C. A&T, Shedrick Moten of Florida A&M.
- Center Jamaal Jackson of Delaware State.
- Tight end Goodluck Owi of Norfolk State.
- Wide receivers Erik Lash of Bethune-Cookman, Terrance Metcalf of S.C. State.
- Quarterback Reese McCampbell of S.C. State.
- Running backs Terrell Johnson of Norfolk State, Brad Lee of Bethune-Cookman.
- Kick returner Zuriel Smith of Hampton.
- Place-kicker Tellis Bolden of Hampton.
- Linebackers Jamal Muhammad of Bethune-Cookman, Derek Harrison of S.C. State, Vereese Utley of N.C. A&T.
- Secondary: Tor-EI Robinson of Bethune-Cookman, Marcus Gray of Norfolk State, Johnnie Williams of S.C. State, Travis Oliver of Hampton.
- Punter: tie between Coby Brandenburg of S.C. State and Damon Miller of Florida A&M.

#### Defensive Team

- Linemen Charles Woodall of Howard, Jeff Green of Florida A&M, Ken Jones of S.C. State, Jason Whaley of Morgan State.

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