



William Crandell, No. 22, takes a shot in the game against Virginia Union University on Dec. 3.



TJ Wilson, No. 24, takes time to look at the landscape before passing the ball in the game against Virginia Union University on Dec. 3.

# WSSU rolls over Virginia Union

## 87-78

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

WSSU's William Crandell scored a career high 33 points and Robert Colon added 18 points, as the Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) Rams cruised to a 87-73 win over Virginia Union University at the CE Gaines Center.

The win moves the Rams to 4-4 on the season, while Virginia Union falls to 6-3.

Winston-Salem State took a 12-day break from the Saturday night, Dec. 3 game for final exams before hitting the road for a conference game for their next contest today, Dec. 15, as the Rams will travel to Lincoln, Pennsylvania to take on Lincoln University.

The Rams shock and awe style of play was on full display in the first half, as WSSU trailing 7-6, used a 28-8 run to move out in front 34-15 with 3:25 left in the first half.

Winston-Salem State University would keep the pressure squarely on the Panthers, and would take a 21 point

lead into half time.

William Crandell worked on a monster night, going eight of 10 from the field, and WSSU held Virginia Union to 3 percent shooting and forced nine turnovers.

Early in the second half, it looked as though the Rams would blow the Panthers out the gym, extending their lead to 27 points on two occasions, before the VUU Panthers would regroup and make a run of their own, using a 28-13 run to cut the lead to 14 at 69-54 with 6:29 remaining.

But Winston-Salem State would regroup, and settle back in to some good basketball on both ends of the court, and with 4:03 left to play extended their lead back to 21 points, at 75-64.

Virginia Union had one more run in them, as they cut

the lead to just 12 points at the 45 second mark of the second half, but the Rams would go six for six from the free throw line coming down the stretch to secure the win.

WSSU shot a blistering 52 percent from the floor, and were just as good from the charity stripe, 23 of 30 (77 percent).

Winston-Salem State got a career high 33 points from William Crandell, to go with eight rebounds and two steals, to pace the Rams. Robert Colon added 18 points, three assists and two rebounds, and Carlos Rankins added 11 points, four rebounds and an assist. Nate Long chipped in eight points and pulled down eight rebounds, and TJ Wilson added six points, five rebounds, one assist and one steal. Xavier Mills finished with six points and two rebounds and Stephen Pippins finished with five points, four rebounds and three blocks.

Virginia Union was led by Ray Anderson, who pumped in 32 points and seven rebounds, and Kory Cooley added 13 points, three rebounds and three assists in a losing effort.

# WSSU's Coach Kienus Boulware gains contract extension



Boulware

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State University officials rewarded the head football coach, Kienus Boulware, with a contract extension that will keep him with the Rams through 2020, the university announced Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Boulware, in his 20th year of coaching, has guided the Rams to three consecutive CIAA Championship games, and WSSU won back-to-back CIAA titles on Nov. 12, and he returned the Rams to the NCAA Division II playoffs for the first time since 2013.

Boulware was given a four-year extension of his original contract. The new deal is laced with performance-based incentives, allowing the university to reward both athletics and student-athlete academic successes.

"Coach Boulware and his staff have done an excellent job in a short time at the helm of our football program", said Director of Athletics Tonia Walker. "Our student-

athletes have bought into Kienus' vision, and we are extremely excited about the future of the program."

Known as a defensive stalwart, Boulware is regarded by his peers as one of the top defensive coaches in NCAA Division II football. He has spent his coaching career as talent developer, motivator and a professional with an unbridled passion for the game of football.

"It is truly a blessing and an honor to get an extension from WSSU", said Boulware. "For our administration to reward me with an extension, is humbling and exciting at the same time."

"I am appreciative of Dr. Robinson's and our administration's show of support," Boulware said in a statement. "Our staff and players have worked diligently to lay a strong foundation for the years to come. We still have work to do to get to where we ultimately want to be, and we look forward to continuing to take on that challenge. I am excited about the future of this program and

am very honored to be the man leading it," added Boulware.

A native of Thomasville, N.C., Boulware starred in football and was a two-time state champion wrestler at Thomasville High School. He would go on to play two seasons (1993-94) as an inside linebacker at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill before his football career was shortened by the discovery of a spinal cord abnormality. He remained on the sideline as a student coach for two seasons under former coach Mack Brown, working with linebackers and defensive linemen. He graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in May 1997 with a degree in organizational communication.

He has spent stints coaching at several CIAA schools, including Livingstone and Shaw University, as well as N.C. Central, when the Eagles were in the CIAA.

He and his wife, Kelli, reside in Winston-Salem.

# Tickets on sale to 2017 CIAA Basketball Tournament

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

It's a "Full Court Press" as tickets are now on sale to the 2017 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament in two great Charlotte, N.C., venues from February 21-25.

This year's basketball action will commence at Bojangles Coliseum on Feb. 21 and 22 with early round game sessions, and continue with the quarterfinals, semifinals, and championship finals at Spectrum Center, formerly known as Time Warner Cable Arena, on Feb. 23 through 25.

"We are excited about the opportunity to host our men's and women's basketball teams in these two great venues," says CIAA Commissioner Jacque McWilliams. "This allows us to expand our footprint across the city to deepen our engagement within the community the CIAA calls home, and create experiences that everyone can be a part of."

All-session tickets provide fans with access to 22 action-packed games, live

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performances by national recording artists, premium vendors, great food, shopping, contests, prizes and more. Tickets can be purchased at [www.ciaatournament.org/tickets](http://www.ciaatournament.org/tickets) and Ticketmaster.com. Details on how to purchase court-side tickets and suites can be found at [www.ciaatournament.org/tickets](http://www.ciaatournament.org/tickets).

Fans are encouraged to use the CIAA's hotel housing program, which provides tournament attendees with the best available rates for more than 25 hotel brands within and surrounding Uptown Charlotte.

The variety of lodging options are within a short walk, Lynx rail stop, or quick car ride to Bojangles

Coliseum, Spectrum Center and the Charlotte Convention Center where all of the official CIAA event action will be hosted.

Hotel reservations can be made online at [www.ciaatournament.org/hotels](http://www.ciaatournament.org/hotels) or via phone at 844-293-6678 on Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. The deadline to book a hotel room is Thursday, Feb. 2 at 11:59 p.m.

Information about official events associated with the CIAA tournament can be found at [www.ciaatournament.org](http://www.ciaatournament.org). For details about the CIAA conference and its 15 championship sports, visit [www.theciaa.com](http://www.theciaa.com).

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