

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 6 THROUGH MAY 12, 1997

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

STRUTTIN' THEIR STUFF

▼ BLACK COLLEGE HOOP STARS SHOW-CASE THEIR SKILLS IN ATLANTA



Target Sports Mktg. Photo
LAWSON: Classic game fulfillment of her dream.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

CIAA SPRING COACHES: The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) announced

their Spring Coaches of the Year this week and heading the list were men's and women's track coaches that swept both indoor and outdoor honors. **Norfolk State's Steve Riddick** guided his Spartan's men's teams to both crowns while **St. Augustine's George "Pup" Williams** did the same for the Lady Falcons and each earned their respective coach of the year awards.



Va. State Sports Photo
WILLIAMS: Sweeps CIAA women's track coaching honors.

Williams' indoor team swept to the title scoring 142 points while the outdoor squad registered 196 in outduelling Norfolk State. NSU's men's outdoor team rolled up 196 points in the outdoor championship. **Turan Smith** of Norfolk State won the Softball Coach of the Year award after leading the Spartans to a 38-9 mark, 14-2 in the conference and the 1997 championship, his first since 1992. Rookie coach **Larry Freer** of **Bowie State** won the baseball coach's award after leading the Bulldogs to the conference championship, a 12-6 conference mark, and overall record of 24-13. For the fourth consecutive year, **Fayetteville State** head golf coach, **Ray McDougald** won the conference coach's award. The Broncos finished second in the 1997 championship with a scored of 664. **Gladwell Williams** of **Shaw University** was named the Tennis Coach of the Year after leading the Bears to a second place finish in the conference, a 8-1 CIAA record and 10-2 overall mark.

NEW COACH AT MBC: **Morris Brown** College has reached back to name a black college veteran and **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** Hall of Famer as their new basketball coach. **Russell Ellington**, a 1960 Morris Brown graduate and former football and basketball player was named April 15 to head the Wolverine hoops program. Ellington comes to MBC from Savannah Technical Institute where he has coached since 1993 posting an 80-45 record. He is fresh off a trip to the National Junior College Men's Basketball Tournament. Last season, Ellington was named District 10 Coach of the Year after his team won the district championship. In 1995 and 1997, Ellington led his team to the Region XVII Junior College Championship. Ellington formerly coached and served as athletic director at **Savannah State College** in the late '70s and '80s. During that time he built a record of 267-57 and led the Tigers to three SIAC titles and an NCAA Division III South Region Championship. Early in his career, Ellington built a dynasty at Beach High School in Savannah winning six state titles.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

BLACK COLLEGE NFL ROOKIE FREE AGENT SIGNINGS

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS
Tommy Dorsey, LB, North Carolina Central
BALTIMORE RAVENS
Richard Alvarado, LB, Jackson State
Robert Walker, DT, Southern
John Williams, DB, Southern
BUFFALO BILLS
Clifford Green, DB, Tennessee State
CINCINNATI BENGALS
Damon Daniels, WR, Delaware State
Michael Jenkins, WR, Hampton
DALLAS COWBOYS
Quincy Culbertson, WR, Jackson State
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS
Owen Nell, OT, Florida A&M
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS
Marvin Bagley, WR, North Carolina A&T
Lee Harvey, DB, Texas Southern
Michael Lattimore, DT, NC Central
PITTSBURGH STEELERS
Marcus Evers, DE, Clark Atlanta
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS
Carlos Thornton, DE, Alcorn State

MEAC BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEAC

MID EASTERN
ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
Bethune Cookman 10 - Del State 4
Coppin State 7 - NC A&T 4
Florida A&M 21 - UMES 1
NC A&T 8 - UMES 3
(UMES Eliminated)

Bethune-Cookman 7 - Howard 1
Coppin State 8 - Florida A&M 7
Florida A&M 11 - NC A&T 10
(A&T Eliminated)
Howard 7 - Del State 5 (8 innings)
(Del State Eliminated)

Bethune-Cookman 7 - Coppin State 2
Florida A&M 9 - Howard 5
Florida A&M 8 - Coppin State 5

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
Bethune-Cookman 13 - Florida A&M 4

ALL TOURNAMENT TEAM

Infield
Cecil Christwell, Coppin State
Al Holland, NC A&T
Brian Pisani, Coppin State
Anthony Robinson, Florida A&M
Outfield
Ruffin Bell, Coppin State
Rory Beauford, Bethune-Cookman
Keith McConnehead, Bethune-Cookman
DH
Robert Averette, Florida A&M
Catcher
Keith Maxwell, Florida A&M
Pitcher
Mike Rawls, Bethune-Cookman
Outstanding Performer
Mike Rawls
Outstanding Coach
Richard Skeel, Bethune-Cookman

SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

SC State 3 - Morgan State 2
Bethune-Cookman 7 - UMES 2
Hampton 7 - Delaware State 2
Florida A&M 6 - NC A&T 1
Morgan State 12 - UMES 2
(UMES Eliminated)
NC A&T 7 - Del State 2
(Del State Eliminated)

SC State 5 - Bethune-Cookman 4
Florida A&M 12 - Hampton 1
Hampton 10 - Morgan State 5
(Morgan State Eliminated)
BCC 8 - NC A&T 0
(NC A&T Eliminated)
Florida A&M 9 - SC State 1
BCC 7 - Hampton 2
(Hampton Eliminated)
BCC 6 - SC State 1
CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
Florida A&M 3 - BCC 2, 8 innings

ALL TOURNAMENT TEAM

Infield
Kim Browning, FAMU
Tanisha Kemp, Morgan State
Shonda Davis, BCC
Tamara Magee, BCC
Outfielders
Valerie Stoudanire, FAMU
Shawna Williams, FAMU
Iyanna Pullum, BCC
DH
Evangeline Vasquez, BCC
Catcher
Kamilah Johnson, BCC
Pitcher
Stephanie Arnold, FAMU
Outstanding Performer
Kim Browning, FAMU
Outstanding Coach
Veronica Wiggins, FAMU

"Game of their own" goes well

BY ERIC N. MOORE
BCSP Correspondent

With the aroma of barbecue ribs floating through the Morehouse Olympic Arena, the Second Annual Mobil Black College Basketball Classic took a major step toward respectability last Saturday. Showcasing players from 17 different black colleges for pro scouts, an estimated live audience of 1,500 and an undetermined television viewership, the Classic presented an atmosphere that few will soon forget.

"This event represents the realization of a five-year dream", said Executive Producer LaShun Lawson. "It presents an opportunity to not only display talents, but also promote Historically Black Colleges and Universities to the world."

The festivities began at a reception Friday night when Atlanta's Extra Point Club announced its Black College All-America team. The Club also awarded its **John B. McLendon Trophy** to the outstanding male basketball player at an HBCU. In his acceptance remarks, **South Carolina State's Roderick Blakney**, a junior guard announced how he was looking forward to playing in the Classic next year.

Saturday in the Morehouse Arena lobby, there was good food and the obligatory souvenir tee shirt sales with the Classic logo on the front. On the gym floor, there was a David vs. Goliath game setup matching two former coach-

ing rivals and an outstanding halftime show featuring the acrobatics and stunts of Atlanta's Kids Gym USA.

The South team, comprised of players from the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC)** and **Southern Athletic Conference (SWAC)**, was coached by legendary former **Winston-Salem State University** basketball coach **Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines** and former NBA great **Dan Roundfield**. On the opposite bench with players from the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA)** and **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC)**, retired **North Carolina A&T** hoops coach **Cal Irvin** and former NBA star **Walt Bellamy** were calling the shots. Gaines and Irvin, who where were classmates at **Morgan State**, were staunch coaching rivals in the CIAA. It was the first time they had met on the court since Irvin retired from A&T 16 years ago.

Alabama A&M's **Bethel Hendricks** was selected Most Valuable Player after leading his South team of predominantly Division II players to a 114-103 win over the much taller North squad. Hendricks scored 18 points and grabbed eight rebounds for the South team. His 11 first half points propelled the team to a commanding 66-45 halftime lead.

Hendricks felt motivated going into the game. "I was disappointed at not making the (Extra Point Club's) All-American team so I felt I had something to prove", he said. "I also felt I had

something to prove to the Division I guys and the scouts."

On paper, the North squad had a significant size advantage with three of its 11 players standing six-seven or taller. The South's tallest player was **Kentucky State's James Crutcher** at six-eight. No other player stood above six-six.

"I knew we could run the floor with our guards", said Hendricks. "But I wasn't sure how we would handle their big guys."

The South used the quickness of guards **William Burr (Clark Atlanta)** and **Derrick McGriff (Alabama State)** to overcome their lack of size. Burr didn't score but handed out six assists and had five steals. McGriff, a two-time All-SWAC performer, chipped in 13 points.

The North was led by **Coppin State's Reggie Welch** who led all scorers with 25 points. He was followed by **Kimani Stewart (N.C. A&T)** with 19 points and **Eric Harris (St. Augustine's)** with 18. **Morgan State's Chris Watson** was the games top rebounder pulling down 10 boards in just over 22 minutes of play.

With corporate sponsorship from Mobil Oil, And 1, and McDonalds, the Classic appears to be finding the financial support to grow and develop. Lawson hopes that a developing relationship with Host Communications will help expand corporate support of the game.

BOX SCORE

NORTH	FG	3FG	FT	REB	TP
N A M E					
WATSON, Chris	2-5	0-1	3-4	10	7
STEWART, Kimani	8-13	2-3	1-2	4	19
NURSE, Chris	1-2	0-0	0-0	1	2
WHITFIELD, Maurice	3-5	0-1	5-7	5	11
WELCH, Reggie	8-17	3-7	6-8	1	25
MINCEY, Maurice	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0
BELL, Al	1-7	0-4	1-1	0	3
CARMICHAEL, Rodney	3-5	1-2	0-0	2	7
BEST, Joseph	0-0	0-0	1-2	1	0
HASKETT, Mario	4-7	2-5	0-0	5	10
HARRIS, Eric	9-12	0-0	0-0	4	18
TOTALS	39-74	8-24	17-24	37	103

SOUTH	FG	3FG	FT	REB	TP
N A M E					
WILSON, Monty	5-10	0-2	4-6	4	14
LOPEZ, Sam	4-6	0-0	0-0	6	8
MCCALL, Marcus	4-7	0-0	7-10	4	15
BURR, William	0-2	0-0	0-0	3	0
MCGRIFF, Derrick	3-8	0-3	7-8	3	13
JACKSON, Montavious	1-4	0-2	3-4	4	5
JOSEY, Ervin	6-8	2-2	2-2	1	16
CORNER, Wallace	1-6	0-2	3-4	4	5
HOWARD, Kevin	1-7	0-0	1-2	3	3
HENDRICKS, Bethel	6-10	0-0	6-10	8	18
CRUTCHER, James	4-7	1-2	8-8	4	17
TOTALS	35-75	3-15	41-54	47	114

OFFICIALS: Tony Means, Bruce Bell, & Terry Moore
North 45 58 103
South 66 48 114
Stats by The Onnidan Group

Lawson and her Target Sports Marketing organization enjoy a large and dedicated volunteer group. Several volunteers, some who drove nearly four hours to be at the contest, talked about their commitment to the Classic.

"I believe in LaShun's vision", said Cynthia Hill, a black college graduate and former resident of Atlanta who drove from Birmingham to help sell tee shirts in the lobby. "We need to do whatever we can to promote our colleges."

Pine Bluff's move to SWAC almost complete

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

The long winding road back to membership in the **Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC)** for the **University of Arkansas Pine Bluff** may see its fulfillment when the conference holds their Spring Meeting, May 21-23 in New Orleans.

Among the major decisions before presidents and officials then will be voting on UAPB's re-entrance to the conference after a 27-year absence.

Pine Bluff was voted affiliate membership in the SWAC at last Spring's meeting and, barring any unexpected occurrences, should be voted in as a full member this time around. The school however will not be eligible for championships until the 1998-99 season.

The news of the impending move back to the SWAC has generated excitement on campus, amongst alumni and with administrators, said **Carl Whimper**, the school's public information director who also serves as head of sports information.

He along with athletic director, **H. O. Clemmons**, the school's coaches and other administrators will attend the meetings at the New Orleans Intercontinental Hotel. They are expecting to be received warmly.

"We're going down as a full staff," Whimper said.

Clemmons, a UAPB graduate, spent 20 years as the school's men's basketball coach and is in his fifth year as athletic director. School president, **Dr. Lawrence A. Davis, Jr.**, also a UAPB grad, has been at his post since 1991. They have been the driving forces towards reentering the conference.

"From a financial standpoint, the only way to go was to join the SWAC," said Whimper. The school was granted provisional I-AA member status by the NCAA last summer. That designation meant the school had to abide by NCAA rules and regulations for the past year. "That basically gave us a year to get everything together," said Whimper. They should reach full NCAA membership status after July 1 of this year.



UAPB Photo
CLEMMONS: UAPB Athletic Director driving force behind rejoining the SWAC.

UAPB, originally known as Branch Normal College, competed in the SWAC as Arkansas AM&N beginning in the early 1940's. Upon leaving the SWAC in 1970, the school competed in the NAIA's Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference for three years before being thrown out of the conference for fighting. They competed as NAIA independents before rejoining the AIC from 1983-87. They have been NAIA independents since then.

In 1991, the school's football program was given the "death penalty" by the NAIA for rules violations. That prevented UAPB from competing in football. The university decided not to field a team in 1992. UAPB grad **Lee Hardman** took over the program in 1993 and led the team to the NAIA finals in 1995.

Ironically, hard financial times led to the school's decision to leave the SWAC. Whimper said administrators at the time thought in-state travel in the AIC would be more feasible and manageable than the cross states travel required to compete in the SWAC. Economics is also at the root of their return. "Games (football) against the Gramblings and Jackson States generate more funds," said Whimper noting that the school's loyal fans are looking forward to a football schedule that includes all eight SWAC schools this year and play in three classic games. UAPB opens with **Lane College** in the *Arkan-*

sas Classic, faces **Grambling** in the *Red River Classic* in Shreveport, La. and plays **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference** defending champion **Howard** in *St. Louis Gateway Classic*.

The school, located on 318 acres in Pine Bluff the state's fourth largest city, has about 3,000 students, said Whimper, and is the only predominantly black state-supported institution.

In basketball this year, Pine Bluff played a predominantly Div. I schedule finishing 10-14 under head coach **Harold Blevins**, a UAPB alumnus and former

NBA draft choice. The most significant win was a 66-64 win over the University of Houston in Houston.

Among the notable athletic products of UAPB are former Pittsburgh Steelers all-pro defensive end **L. C. Greenwood**, a 1969 graduate, former Washington Redskins defensive tackle **Manny Sistrunk** and **Bob Brown**, a defensive tackle with the world champion Green Bay Packers teams of the 1960s.

BCSP Notes

▼ **DON'T HOLD THAT TIGER:** The **Jackson State University** golf team is awaiting word on securing their second consecutive bid to the NCAA golf championship. Coach **Eddie Payton** was in New York and unavailable for comment. The Tigers are not ranked in the top five of their district but have put together a record worthy of NCAA consideration. The top five in the district are invited to the central Region Championship along with one at-large team. The Tigers finished seventh out of 20 teams in the Dr. Pepper Intercollegiate Championship in Pottsboro, Texas with a three-round score of 906 (302 average). Southern Methodist, the third-ranked team in the District finished first. JSU finished fifth out of 15 entrants in the Border Olympic Golf Tournament on March 22-23 with a score of 870 (290 average). Last year the Tigers won seven tournaments and the SWAC championship en route to earning the first ever berth for a black college in the NCAA Div. I championship. They captured their seventh consecutive conference title this year but have not posted as impressive a record or scoring average as last year's team. Last year's squad had an impressive 297 stroke average.

▼ **NOT MISSING IN ACTION:** NBA fans had to notice the play of black college products **Darrell Armstrong** and **Lindsay Hunter** in the first round of the playoffs. Armstrong, a **Fayetteville State** hoops product, was a key factor defending Miami's **Tim Hardaway** as his Orlando Magic took the Heat to the limit in a five-game series. **Hunter**, a starting guard for the Detroit Pistons out of **Jackson State**, scored 27 points as the Pistons defeated Atlanta in game three of their five game series. Among other notable black college products making playoff appearances were Charlotte's **Anthony Mason** (Tennessee State) and New York's **Charles Oakley** (Virginia Union).