

Panthers hire Gregory to run collegiate scouting

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Carolina Panthers last week hired Don Gregory from the Kansas City Chiefs as their new director of college scouting.

Gregory, who spent the last five years working as the Chiefs' national scout, replaces Tony Softli, who recently was named vice

president of player personnel for the St. Louis Rams.

Gregory, along with general manager Marty Hurney and head coach John Fox, will have a big say in whom the Panthers select in future NFL drafts.

"Don is a very experienced and talented evaluator who will fit in perfectly within our organization," Hurney said. "He will be a great addition to what we feel like is an extremely talented college scouting department."

Gregory served as a national scout in the South and Southeast for the Chiefs.

Before joining the Chiefs, he held the post of player personnel director for the NFL's Las Vegas Outlaws in 2001.

Prior to the NFL, Gregory worked as a scout for the San Diego Chargers from 1995-99. A graduate of Whitworth College, Gregory has also worked in player personnel for the CFL's Edmonton Eskimos and Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

NFL policy bans amphetamines

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NEW YORK - The NFL has toughened up its drug policy, adding amphetamines to the list of banned performance-enhancers starting this season.

Amphetamines were previously listed as a "substance-abuse drug," but are now in the same category as steroids and other enhancers that carry much stronger penalties. This season will serve as a transition year, where a first positive test would bring a warning and put a player into the drug program.

But in 2007, amphetamines will be tested for on a regular basis. A first positive test will result in a four-game suspension, the same penalty now levied for positive steroids tests. Major League Baseball also started testing for amphetamines this season as part of its steroids policy.

Harold Henderson, NFL executive vice president of labor relations, said the league and union worked together to toughen the penalties for amphetamines

after the Congressional hearings last year on drugs in sports.

"We never looked at it as a competitive issue for our players, like steroids and other things, but realized the possibility that some players would use it for a gameday edge," Henderson said Tuesday in a phone interview from San Diego, where he was attending the annual rookie symposium. "The union quickly agreed with us."

The two sides worked together to hammer out a deal to put into place as part of the new collective bargaining agreement.

"We were all working together during the Congressional investigation," Henderson said. "We learned about it, we wondered whether this was an issue to be concerned about. In the abundance of caution, we probably should be. We all understood we needed to do something here."

In addition to the amphetamines change, the penalty for a second positive test for performance-enhancing drugs was increased from six to eight games. A third positive test still carries a one-year suspension.

INDEPENDENCE SOUVENIR



PHOTO: CURTIS WILSON

Charlotte Knights manager Razor Shines tosses a baseball to fans after stopping a foul ball during the Knights' 2-1 win over Norfolk Tuesday at Knights Stadium. Charlotte earned a split in a doubleheader played before a franchise record 14,952 fans. The Knights are 55-30, good for first in the International League South Division.

N.C. Central coordinator heads across Triangle to lead Shaw

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coordinator, and wide receivers and quarterbacks coach at Albany State, and running backs coach and offensive coordinator at Jackson State.

Asberry was offensive coordinator at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, Miss., before taking the offensive coordinator's job at NCCU two years ago.

"Offensively, we're going to score, score, score," said Asberry in describing his philosophy. "I'm going to have my hands on everything. Every time we touch the football, we're going to try to score."

Although this is his first head coaching job, Asberry has served under some legendary bosses.

"Coach John Shannon, W.C. Gordon, Robert Hughes and James Carson (all at Jackson State) helped me be the coordinator that I am today," he said.

Asberry also worked under Hampton Smith at Albany State for two years, helping the Golden Rams earn their fifth consecutive SIAC football championship in 1997.

Asberry acknowledged that although he has

a short timeframe to get started, he won't be starting from scratch.

"I got a chance to watch some film, and I saw a lot of good things out there," he said. "I saw a lot of young men with a lot of character, and I'm going to try and buff that and make it a little brighter."

Ironically, Asberry's first game will be against his old team when the Bears face the Eagles Sept. 3 in Durham.

"North Carolina Central gave me an opportunity to get back into a four-year system so people could see my work," he said. "I appreciate Coach Broadway giving me an opportunity to come in and lead his team, but now it's my time and Shaw University will not be second to any school in the CIAA as long as I'm head coach."

Although Asberry's departure puts him in a crunch, Broadway said he's proud of his accomplishment.

"It's a good position to be in when you start losing guys to head coaching jobs, that means you've got good staff," he said. "The timing is bad, but you've got to be happy for him."

WSSU aims to stay in D-I

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"an athletics president."

He or she could decide that athletics is not that important, i.e. Fayetteville State President T.J. Bryan. Or they could look at some HBCU history and question if it's worth it.

Think it can't happen? Ask NCCU. The university left the CIAA for the MEAC in 1972, then returned when things got too tough in 1980. NCCU Chancellor James Ammons came from D-I Florida A&M so you knew it was only a matter of time for the Eagles to take the plunge again.

Savannah State, which moved up to D-I from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference three years ago, has become the laughingstock of D-I. Two years ago, the men's basketball program didn't win a single game. They did manage to win two last season.

The Tigers' application for membership in the MEAC has been put on hold. Not a good sign. SSW should return to its SIAC roots, but President Carlton Brown's ego won't allow that. He'd rather be laughed at than be con-

petitive.

Then there's Morris Brown. Their pitiful travails since moving up to D-I was enough to inspire a feature in Sports Illustrated.

The poster child for doing it right belongs to Hampton. The Pirates have been quite successful on the D-I level, but that's a rarity — especially for HBCUs.

So Rams fans, don't count those MEAC chickens just yet.

"Even though Dr. Martin is our leader and he initiated the move, our decision to go to Division I was an institutional decision. And the institution must go on," Athletics Director Chico Caldwell said. "I think it will be kind of a travesty for Dr. Martin, who has done as much to this university as he's done, that we decide to go back. He set a vision and it's been good for the university. It is in our best interest to see that vision through."

That vision could get blurry once a successor is named.

BONITA BEST is sports editor at *The Triangle Tribune* in Durham.



9th Annual Titus L. Ivory, Sr. Memorial Golf Tournament

August 4, 2006

irkdale Golf Course, Huntersville, NC



H.L. McCrorey Family YMCA

Tournament Information

- Registration: 8:00 a.m.
- Shotgun Start: 9:00 a.m.
- Format: Captain's Choice
- Register as an individual or as a team
- Captains are responsible for registering teams and submitting fees and applications
- Teams consist of (1) Captain and (3) other players
- Mulligans available for \$5 each

Registration Includes:

- 18 holes of golf
- Range balls
- Golf Cart rental for the team
- Signature event golf shirt
- Continental breakfast
- Lunch delivered to you during the tournament
- Awards dinner in air conditioned Pavilion following the tournament
- Contests

- Hole in one
- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Goodie Bag
- Program Booklet
- Door Prizes and Giveaways

Location:

Birkdale Golf Club
16500 Birkdale Commons Parkway
Huntersville, NC 28078
www.birkdale.com

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Titus L. Ivory, Sr. demonstrated the principles of character development promoted by the H.L. McCrorey Family YMCA. His illustration of caring, responsibility, faith, honesty, and respect was manifested in the life he led and the legacy that remains: Titus' commitment to God, family, career, community, brotherhood and the uplifting of his fellow man. Is a true testimony of his character.

Thank you for taking the time to join us in fellowship and remembrance of our dear friend and staunch supporter.

Mission

To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Contact information:

Please mail registration form and check payable to:
H.L. McCrorey Family YMCA
3801 Reattus Ford Road,
Charlotte, NC 28216
Attn: Daniel Stafford

Or contact Daniel Stafford at:

E-mail: daniel.stafford@ymcacharlotte.org
Phone: (704) 716-6510
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