

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Houston Rockets Photo

COUNT DOWN TO HOOPS TOURNEYS

SOUTHERN HIT WITH POSTSEASON BANS; MEAC, CIAA INDOOR TRACK TITLES CLAIMED

RISING STAR: Former Tennessee State hoops standout rocks D-League All-Star game for 33 points, wins MVP honor.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

SOUTHERN FIGHTING POSTSEASON BAN:

All of the sports teams at Southern University are under a postseason ban from the NCAA pending the school providing documentation of academic performance program data.

The ban was announced publicly at a press conference last Thursday by Southern Athletic Director Dr. William Broussard. The "most imminent impact," Broussard said is on the winter sports teams that are now competing, including the men's and women's basketball teams that currently sit atop the SWAC standings. Women's bowling and men's and women's indoor track are the other winter sports teams Southern fields.

Southern was selected by the NCAA for review of its academic data dating back to the 2009-2010 season and the school's support staff has been working with the NCAA since the fall of 2013 gathering that information. Broussard said some of the data is related to students enrolled as far back as 2003.

Southern has met all deadlines for providing the information and is in the process of reconciling any discrepancies, he said, but the school has more deadlines to meet. If those discrepancies are resolved and other deadlines are met satisfactorily, Broussard said the bans could potentially be lifted before the start of the winter sports championship seasons.

Broussard said the school has not been notified that the penalties will be levied retroactively and involve the forfeiture of Southern's 2013 football championship.

If the ban is upheld, Southern would be the fourth SWAC men's basketball team, joining Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Grambling State and Mississippi Valley State, barred from postseason play for academic reasons. Texas Southern, last season's men's regular season champion, was barred from the tournament along with UAPB, GSU and MVSU, but was re-instated this season.

COVINGTON GRABS D-LEAGUE HONOR:

Former Tennessee State standout Robert Covington of the Rio Grande Valley Vipers, playing on assignment from the Houston Rockets, scored a record 33 points and added six rebounds and three steals on his way to being named MVP of the 2014 NBA D-League All-Star Game.

Covington played for the winning Prospects who dethroned the Futures 145-142 at Sprint Arena at NBA All-Star Jam Session in the highest scoring game in D-League All-Star game history. He scored the 33 points in just 20 minutes of playing time, including 22 second-half points in a six-minute stretch. Covington made 12 of 23 shots, including 4 of 8 3-pointers to set the record and earn the award.

Covington, a 6-8 forward who went undrafted in 2013 out of Tennessee State, has spent most of his rookie season on assignment with the Vipers, averaging 21.4 points in 23 games on 42% shooting from the field and 35% from deep and is getting 9.0 rebounds, to go along with 2.4 steals, 2.0 assists, and 1.3 blocks per game. His contributions have helped the Vipers hold onto the top seed in the D-League over the course of this season.

He's appeared in five games with the Rockets, averaging 3.8 minutes.

"It's a great feeling being able to play well in this game in front of our GM Daryl Morey and all these other scouts and NBA people," said Covington. "I feel like I've gotten better during my time with Rio Grande Valley, and it's good to see the hard work paying off in a game like this."



Broussard

2013-14 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Men's Results, Standings and Weekly Honors thru 2/17/14)

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DIV		CONF			CONF		ALL			CONF		ALL			CONF		ALL			CONF		ALL		
W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	
<p>CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Mark Thomas Sr. G LIVINGSTONE - Averaged 31.5 points in two wins. Talled 21 points in win over JC Smith Saturday and career-high 42 points in win over Fayetteville State Monday in FSU game. Hit on 12 of 19 field goals including 7 of 9 ft. Jody Hill Sr. G LIVINGSTONE - Had 19 points in win over JCSU and 35 in win over FSU. Shot 10 of 18 from the field vs. FSU including 7 of 15 from behind the arc. COACH: James Stinson. LIVINGSTONE - Got wins over JCSU and FSU to move to stay on top of CIAA South at 7-1.</p> <p>MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Tyshawn Bell 6-7 Sr. F DELSTATE - Back to back 21-point games in wins over Sav. State and B-CU. Shot 7 of 9 (78%) on 2-of-2 from long range and 5 of 5 from the line vs. SSU. Had double double of 21 points, 10 boards and 4 assists vs. B-CU. ROOKIE: James Daniel 5-11 Fr. G HOWARD - Averaged 29.0 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist and 1.5 steals in games vs. NSU and UMES. Had 25 points and six 3s vs. NSU, 33 points vs. UMES. DEFENSE: DuVaughn Maxwell 6-7 Jr. F NCCU - 22 boards, 3 blocks in win over UMES (14 rebs, 8 blk) vs. NSU. Added 26 points on offense.</p> <p>SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Lamar Adkins, 6-8 Sr. F BENEDICT - Finished with 26 points, 8 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal and 4 blocks in 77-74 OT win vs. Clark Atlanta. Ulysses Thomas III Jr. F KENTUCKY STATE - Averaged 14.3 points, 1.3 rebounds, 1.3 assists, 7 steals and 4 blocks in two wins. NEWCOMER: Toby Neal 5-8 Sr. F/C PAINE - Averaged 11 points, 9.5 rebounds, 1 steal and 3 blocks in two wins.</p> <p>SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: LaShawn Luckett, 6-4 So. F ALCON STATE - Averaged 20.5 points in two wins. Scored 16 points and had three rebounds in win over Arkansas-Pine Bluff Monday. Scored game-high 25 points in win over Miss. Valley State Saturday. NEWCOMER: NA</p> <p>INDEPENDENTS IND. PLAYER OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Patrick Miller, 6-4 Jr. G TENNESSEE STATE - Got his average, dropping 23 points vs. Belmont. Averaging 23.2 points thru 27 games. NEWCOMER: Raheem Lemons, 6-5 Jr. F CENTRAL - Totalled 17 points and 17 rebounds in Kentucky Wesleyan after getting 9 points, 10 boards vs. Trevecca Nazarene.</p>																								

Tourneys on the horizon

CIAA

This is the final week of regular season play in the CIAA and some of the four first round byes for the men and women into next week's tournament in Charlotte (Feb. 26 to March 2) are decided.

Livingstone's men (17-6) appear to be ending the regular season on a high note. James Stinson's Bears stretched their current win streak to five games with big home wins Saturday over Johnson C. Smith (87-82) and Monday over Fayetteville State (116-101). In the latter contest, the Bears' lethal backcourt of Mark Thomas and Jody Hill each had seven 3s and dropped 42 and 35 points respectively.

With the wins, the Bears moved to 7-1 in the South Division and clinched one of the two first-round byes by virtue of its sweep of FSU. The other bye will be determined by how Winston-Salem State (6-2) and Fayetteville State (5-3) finish. The teams split their head-to-head matchup.

WSSU played at JC Smith Wednesday before closing out the season hosting Livingstone Saturday. Fayetteville State was at Shaw Wednesday and entertains St. Augustine's Saturday in its finale.

No one has clinched in the men's North Division. Bowie State (6-2), Lincoln (5-3) and Elizabeth City State (4-4) are the teams still alive for the byes.

BSU can clinch one of the byes with a win either Wednesday host-

MEAC

ing Virginia State or Saturday hosting ECSU. Lincoln played at Chowan Wednesday and is at Virginia State Saturday. ECSU hosts Virginia Union Wednesday before heading to Bowie State Saturday.

In the women's North, Virginia State (8-0) is in with the first bye. The other four teams in the division are separated by two games with two games to play.

In the South, Fayetteville State (7-1) and Shaw (6-2) have clinched the byes.

SIAC

The SIAC Tournament (March 3-8) is two weeks away and the top two teams in each division for its men and women also receive first-round byes.

In the men's East, Fort Valley State (11-1) has secured one of the byes with three games left on its schedule.

Paine (9-5), Clark Atlanta (8-5) and Benedict (9-6) are fighting it out for second place and the other bye.

Benedict plays at Claflin Thursday before squaring off on the road at Paine Saturday. Clark Atlanta entertains Morehouse Saturday and Albany State on Monday.

The lead for Tuskegee in the West is down to one game over Kentucky State (10-5) and Stillman (9-5).

Tuskegee closes with two games in the division, Thursday vs. KSU and Saturday vs. Lane. Stillman

SWAC

faces the same two teams at home in reverse order and also has a date Monday (Feb. 24) vs. LeMoyne-Owen.

The Tuskegee and Stillman match-ups close out the SIAC regular season for KSU.

MEAC

With wins over South Carolina State (67-53) and Savannah State (76-62) North Carolina Central (11-1) has run its win streak to 11 games and increased its MEAC lead to two games over three teams with four conference games left.

LeVelle Moton's Eagles are at N. C. A&T Saturday before a non-conference game vs. New Jersey Institute of Technology Monday.

Hampton (9-3), Norfolk State (8-3) and Morgan State are bunched behind the Eagles in a virtual tie for second place.

Hampton is at Howard Saturday and at Maryland-Eastern Shore Monday. Norfolk State is at Coppin State Saturday and at Howard Monday. Morgan State hosts Delaware State Monday.

SWAC

The SWAC race has been thrown into a tizzy with the news that Southern's men and women, leaders in their respective races, are under a postseason and championship ban from the NCAA (See UNDER THE BANNER).

Teams are tightly bunched behind Southern in the men's race with

HOOPS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22	
CIAA	
St. Augustine's @ Fayetteville State	Elizabeth City State @ Bowie State
Lincoln @ Virginia State	Shaw @ J. C. Smith
Livingstone @ W-Salem State	Chowan @ Virginia Union
MEAC	
N. C. Central @ N. C. A&T	Savannah State @ S. C. State
Norfolk State @ Coppin State	UMES @ Delaware State
Hampton @ Howard	
SIAC	
Paine @ Benedict	LeMoyne-Owen @ Miles
Lane @ Tuskegee	Kentucky State @ Stillman
Fort Valley State @ Albany State	Morehouse @ Clark Atlanta
SWAC	
Alcorn State @ Alabama State	Jackson State @ Grambling
Southern @ Arkansas-Pine Bluff	Prairie View @ Arkansas-Pine Bluff
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24	
MEAC	
Hampton @ UMES	Delaware State @ Morgan State
Norfolk State @ Howard	N. C. Central @ N. J. Inst. Tech.
SIAC	
LeMoyne-Owen @ Stillman	Albany State @ Clark Atlanta
SWAC	
Southern @ Alabama State	Texas Southern @ Arkansas-Pine Bluff
Prairie View @ Miss. Valley State	
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25	
CIAA	
Tournament Begins (4 W 2 M)	
SIAC	
Benedict @ Morehouse	Paine @ Tuskegee
Kentucky Wesleyan @ Kentucky State	

five eligible teams (Alabama State, Alabama A&M, Alcorn State, Southern and Prairie View) split by just two games. Texas Southern's Lady (11-1) are in a virtual tie with Lady Jaguars (12-1).

BCSP Notes

Hampton sweeps MEAC Indoor Track titles

LANDOVER, Md. - Hampton University swept the 2014 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Indoor Track and Field Championships at the Prince George's Sports Complex on Saturday.

The Lady Pirates celebrated their second consecutive and seventh overall MEAC indoor crown with a total of 147 points. Florida A&M placed second with 133 points and Morgan State finished third with 74 points.

Hampton's Teiara Denmark finished with 32 points to earn the Outstanding Field Athlete and teammate Ceaira Brown garnered the Outstanding Runner with 25 points. Hampton head coach Maurice Pierce earned Outstanding Coach honors for both teams.

On the men's side, Hampton won its first crown since 1996 with 114 points and snapped Norfolk State's run of five of the last six championships. The Spartans were unable to defend the title due to postseason ineligibility.

Bethune-Cookman finished second with 109 points, while North Carolina A&T placed third with 95 points.

Maryland Eastern Shore's Dillon Simon finished with 18 points and set a MEAC record in the shot put with 18.35m (60-02.50 ft.) to earn Outstanding Field Athlete. Simon broke Morgan State's Tyron Benjamin's mark of 18.01m, set in 2009.

Deon Clifford of Florida A&M, who won the 5,000m on Friday and the 3,000m on Saturday, took top honors as the Outstanding Track Athlete

with 30.50 points. Clifford also was second in the mile and a member of the Rattlers' first-place team in the distance medley relay.

The Hampton 4x400 relay team of Rayon Black, Edose Chidi Okozie and Je'von Hutchinson also set a meet record by breaking Norfolk State's mark with a time of 3:14.22.

St. Augustine's sweeps CIAA Indoor Track

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - Saint Augustine's University swept the men's and women's titles for the second consecutive year at CIAA Indoor Track & Field Championships at JDL East Track complex on Monday, February 17.

The Falcons captured their 17th straight CIAA indoor crown, 29th conference championship overall. They are the defending Division II indoor and outdoor champions. The Lady Falcons won second CIAA crown in a row and their 17th in 18 seasons.

The Falcons (men) scored 194 points to win easily over their opponents. Virginia Union was second with 99 points and Virginia State was third with 72 points. The trio of DeJon Wilkinson, JaQuan Davis and David Shaw of the Falcons were named Men's CIAA MVPs in field events.

The Lady Falcons scored 117 points to outdistance the field of women. Virginia State was second with 90 points and Johnson State was third with 87.

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W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	
<p>CIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Lamasha Deal Sr. VA STATE - Scored 19 points and had 15 rebounds in win over UNCW. Had 24 and 15 points and 8 rebounds in win over UNCW. NEWCOMER: NA ROOKIE: NA DEFENSE: James Hill, Jr. VIRGINIA STATE - Averaged 11.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in wins over UNCW and UNCW.</p> <p>MEAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Jasmine Grace - FLORIDA A&M - Averaged 11.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in wins over UNCW and UNCW. ROOKIE: Moka Tate-DeFretas - HAMPTON - Averaged 11.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in wins over UNCW and UNCW. DEFENSE: Rachel Gordon - NORFOLK STATE - Averaged 11.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in wins over UNCW and UNCW.</p> <p>SIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Kaitiana Rivers 5-4 So. G TUSKEGEE - Averaged 11.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in wins over UNCW and UNCW. ROOKIE: Jamesha Watkins 5-2 Jr. G STILLMAN - Averaged 11.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in wins over UNCW and UNCW. DEFENSE: NA</p> <p>SWAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK PLAYER: Britney Washington, 5-10 So. G SOUTHERN - Averaged 15.0 points in two wins. Had 20 points in win over UAPB and had 10 points in win over Miss. Valley State. NEWCOMER: NA ROOKIE: Alesha Johnson, 6-2 R/F TEXAS SOUTHERN - Averaged 11.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in wins over Jackson State Monday. Had 22 points, 9 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 steals and 3 blocks in win over Grambling State Monday. Had 15 points, 15 rebounds and 2 of 3 from behind the arc.</p>																								