

# SPORTS REVIEW

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## Please Lem, just tell us about the game

Lem Barney's career as a cornerback with the Detroit Lions was one that should have earned him a spot in the NFL Hall of Fame. Sadly, the same can't be said about Barney's performance as an analyst on Black Entertainment Television college football broadcasts.

As a cornerback, Barney was crafty and daring. He was perhaps the Lions top offensive threat — he scored 10 touchdowns — even though he played defense. He was just that dangerous after intercepting passes (something he did 56 times) or when he was returning punts.

As an analyst, unfortunately, Barney is proving he can still be offensive.

During a lull in a recent telecast involving Jackson State (his alma mater) and Southern University, Barney — a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity — told viewers, "I had a chance to fraternize with the Ques (Omegas) last night and drank up all their beer."

How out of place. Who cares how much or whose beer Lem drank? Just please tell us about game.

Barney's performance during the telecast might have led one to believe that he was still suffering from the after effects of the previous evening's fraternization. He repeatedly talked across play-by-play man Charlie Neal, a cardinal sin in broadcasting. Several times he did so by yelling and screaming — a combination of John Madden and Dick Vitale (ugh).

Example: Jackson State blitzed Southern's quarterback. While Neal was describing the play, Barney blurted out "Heat! Heat!"

At times, it was difficult to determine just who was doing the play-by-play. It's wonderful to see that Barney is enthusiastic about his work. But there are limits to what viewers can and should tolerate.

BET's Game of the Week has done much to help bring exposure to athletic programs at historically black schools. But Barney's act undermines the telecasts' positive effects. Behavior such as his is the reason anything that is all-black is equated with being second-class.

— Roscoe Nance

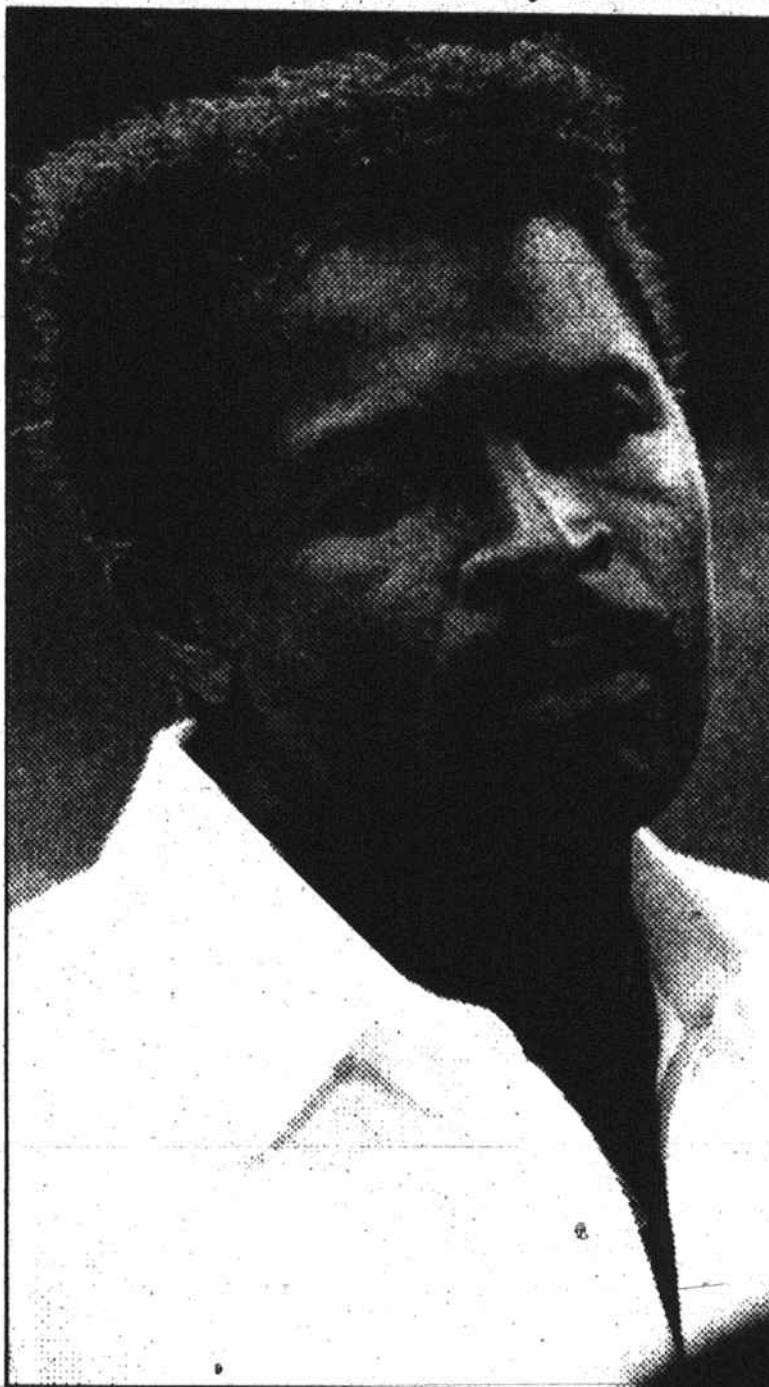
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## Pugh resigns as A&M coach

George Pugh, Alabama A&M's head football coach resigned his post last month in an announcement made by the school's



Pugh left Alabama A&M with a 17-12 record and two SIAC championships. Photo by Mark Gail

interim president Dr. Alan Keyes. The president also announced that 10 players, including one that left the team earlier this season, had been suspended from the university. Keyes added that he would consider permanently expelling the athletes.

Pugh served as head coach for two-and-a-half years, compiling an overall record of 17-12 while guiding the Bulldogs to two SIAC championships. Assistant coach Raymond Bonner was named as Pugh's interim replacement.

Pugh's resignation came on the heels of the suspensions of the ten players, five of them were starters. The players were suspended because of an altercation which took place between several members of the A&M football team and a student. The A&M judicial board recommended that the 10 players, who witnesses identified at the scene of the fracas, be suspended.

"Violence will not be tolerated at Alabama A&M," Keyes said at a press conference. "This is an educational institution. This type of behavior has no place in the campus community."

The suspensions and Pugh's resignation became effective immediately.

The players involved were: former quarterback Chris Raymond; starting defensive backs Rod Isaac and Tyrone English; starting defensive end David Peterson; placekicker Joey Thornton; starting linebacker Anthony Williams; back-up wide receiver Rashidi Jones, back-up linebacker Bernard Berry; and freshmen recruits Charles Treece and Alexander Boone.

## Division II Basketball Preview

Shaw University's Sheldon Owens headlines a list of talented athletes in Division II hoops this year. To get the scoop on Owens, plus the rest of the CIAA and SIAC, check out the December issue of *Black College Sports Review*, the nation's most complete source on black college sports.

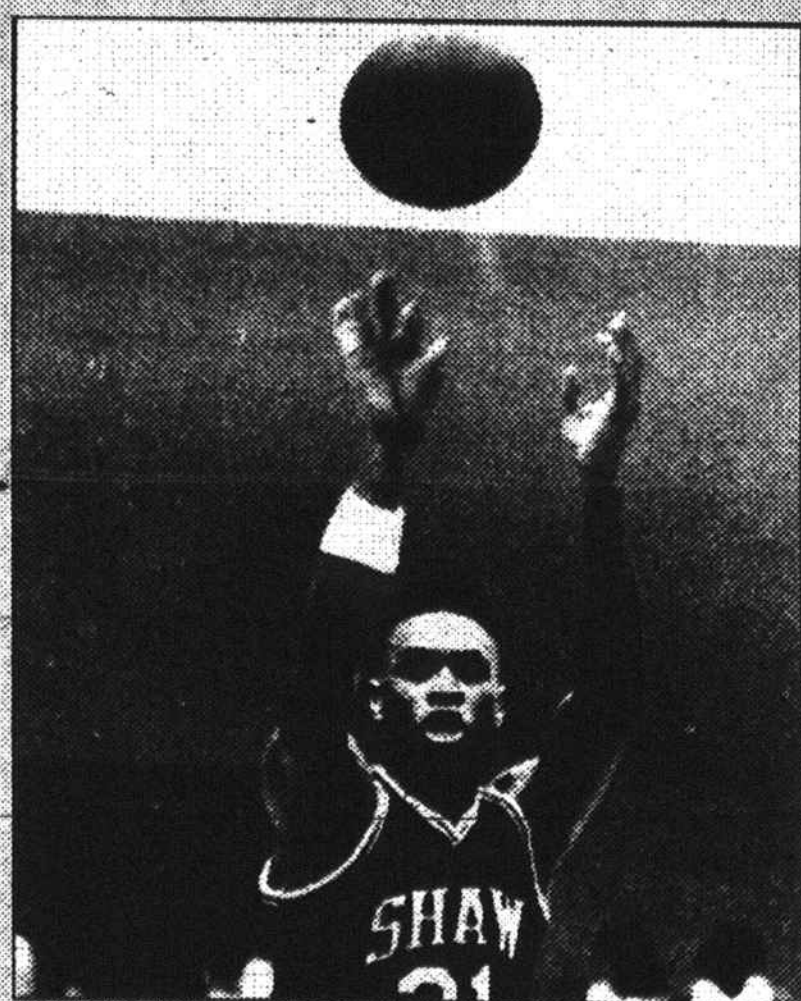


Photo by Max Dunhill