

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 28 1999 THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2000

# BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS



SWAC Photo

## LET'S GO TO THE HOOPS

**WHITNEY:** Gets his 500th win and team debuts as BCSP No. 1.

ALCORN STATE (MEN), GRAMBLING

## 1999 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Men's Results, Standings, and Weekly Honors)

### SCORES

Dec. 27  
LSU 81, Howard 55  
S. Miss. 73, Jackson State 65  
Dec. 23  
Memphis 98, Grambling St. 59  
The Citadel 68, Florida A&M 60  
Dec. 22  
Alcorn St. 70, Texas S'thm 67  
Hampton 79, Chicago State 68  
Maine 83, Florida A&M 73  
McJannet St. 68, Jackson St. 59  
Southern 91, Prairie View 79  
Villanova 77, S. C. State 71  
Wagner 86, Norfolk State 67

### CIAA CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

THRU 12/27	DIV	ALL
	W L	W L
EAST DIVISION		
Elizabeth City	0 0	6 1
Virginia Union	0 0	5 1
Shaw	0 0	5 4
Virginia State	0 0	4 5
St. Paul's	0 0	3 7
Bowie St.	0 0	1 10
WEST DIVISION		
Winston-Salem St.	0 0	7 1
Fayetteville St.	0 0	8 2
NC Central	0 0	5 3
St. Augustine's	0 0	4 4
JC Smith	0 0	3 5
Livingstone	0 0	2 7

CIAA PLAYER OF THE WEEK  
NA

### MEAC MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

THRU 12/27	CONF	ALL
	W L	W L
Maryland-ES	1 0	3 5
Bethune-Cookman	1 0	2 6
Norfolk State	1 0	1 7
Morgan State	1 0	1 8
Coppin State	2 1	2 9
Howard	0 0	0 7
SC State	0 1	3 8
Hampton	0 1	1 5
NC A&T	0 1	1 6
Florida A&M	0 1	1 8
Delaware State	0 1	0 8

MEAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK  
NA

### SIAC SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

THRU 12/27	CONF	ALL
	W L	W L
Clark Atlanta	1 0	4 4
Albany State	1 1	1 8
Morris Brown	0 0	6 4
Fort Valley State	0 1	4 4
Paine	0 1	2 4
Savannah State	0 2	2 4
WEST		
Lane	1 0	4 3
LeMoyne-Owen	1 0	2 5
Kentucky State	3 1	3 4
Miles	3 3	3 4
Tuskegee	1 1	1 5
Morehouse	1 2	3 7

SIAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK  
NA

### SWAC SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

THRU 12/26	CONF	ALL
	W L	W L
Alcorn State	2 0	5 5
Alabama A&M	2 0	4 4
Southern	1 0	3 5
Miss Valley	1 0	1 8
Alabama State	1 1	3 4
Jackson State	1 1	5 8
Texas Southern	0 1	4 5
Ark. Pine Bluff	0 1	0 7
Prairie View	0 2	2 7
Grambling	0 2	1 12

SWAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK  
NA

### INDEPENDENTS

THRU 12/26	W	L
Tennessee State	0	6
Cheyney	-	-
Central State	-	-
UDC	-	-

## UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

**STEPPING UP:** Delaware State University President **William B. Delauder** announced last week that



SC State Sports Photo

29-year coaching veteran **Benjamin "Ben" Blacknall** will be the Hornets new head football coach. This past season, Blacknall, 50, was the assistant head coach/defensive coordinator at **Morehouse College** in Atlanta. The previous 24 years he served as an assistant under **Willie Jeffries** at **South Carolina State** (1977-78; 1989-1998), **Wichita State** (1979-1983), and **Howard** (1984-1988). Blacknall is a 1973 graduate of **North Carolina A&T**. He earned four varsity letters as a member of the Aggies football squad while Jeffries was an assistant coach there. He replaces **John McKenzie** who posted a 7-26 mark in three years including a 4-7 record this season.

**WALKING PAPERS:** **Ron Dickerson** was fired last week as head football coach at **Alabama State University** and his assistant coach, **Ben Harris**, was named to replace him on an interim basis. Dickerson took the reins of the ASU program in 1998 after serving five years as the head man at Temple. In his two years, the Hornets compiled a 6-16 mark including a disappointing 2-9 record this season.

**McGIRT SUCCUMBS:** Former **Johnson C. Smith University** football coach and athletic director **Eddie C. McGirt** died last Tuesday in Charlotte, N. C. McGirt, 79, a 1947 JCSU graduate, coached the football team from 1958-1978 and led the Golden Bulls to one championship, two divisional championships and two second place finishes. He was named the CIAA Coach of the Year in 1969 and won NAIA Coach of the Year on two occasions. He retired from coaching in 1978 but remained as athletic director and head of the department of health and physical education until 1985.

**MILESTONES:** **Dave Whitney**, on his second round coaching basketball at **Alcorn State**, and **Arthur McAfee, Jr.**, who is in his 25th year as the head coach at **Morehouse College**, have both passed the 500-career victory mark this season. Whitney got his 500th with a 91-72 win over **Prairie View** on Dec. 20. Whitney now has a 501-307 record in 29 years as a college head coach. Whitney, a 1953 graduate of **Kentucky State**, is 447-224 in 24 years at Alcorn. McAfee entered the season just one short of the milestone and got it with his first win of the season. He now has a 502-504 career record. The two join a select group of 10 black college coaches that have topped the 500-career victory plateau led by **Clarence "Big House" Gaines'** 828 wins, all at **Winston-Salem State**. The last to join the elite club before them was **Virginia Union's Dave Robbins** who entered last season and now has 519 career victories, all at Virginia Union. The next active coach to join will be **Tuskegee** head man **Ben Jobe** who entered the season with 498 wins (with 280 losses) and has a 1-5 mark so far this season.

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SIAC Sports Photo

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## Hoops season has something old, plenty new

**LUT WILLIAMS**  
BCSP Editor

There's a whole lot similar and a whole lot different from last year as the BCSP begins coverage of the final black college basketball season of the 1990s.

Part of the familiar is the fact that only two NCAA Div. I black college men's teams will enter January with above .500 records. We should be used to that by now.

Defending SWAC champ and 1998-99 final BCSP No. 1, **Alcorn State**, at 5-5 under head coach **Dave Whitney**, is one of them and gets the nod in our first ranking as the top black college hoops team.

**Whitney** and **Alabama A&M** head man **Vann Pettaway**, have both gotten to .500 with a couple of early wins over SWAC opponents. Pettaway, whose Bulldogs dominated the 90's in the SIAC before joining the SWAC, has posted a 4-4

**BCSP MEN'S TOP TEN**

1. Alcorn State (5-5)
2. Winston-Salem State (7-1)
3. Virginia Union (5-1)
4. Elizabeth City State (7-1)
5. Alabama A&M (4-4)
6. Southern (3-5)
7. Fayetteville State (8-2)
8. Morris Brown (6-4)
9. NC Central (5-3)
10. Md. E-Shore (3-5)

mark and served notice that they will be a force in their first year being eligible for the conference title.

Amongst the Div. II squads debuting in the top ten are defending CIAA champion #2 **Winston-Salem State** at 7-1, as well as CIAA powers #3 **Virginia Union** (5-1) and #4 **Elizabeth City State** (7-1). These three have already taken turns beating up on each other. Each finished in our final top ten a year ago (WSSU 2nd, ECSU 6th and VUU 10th).

**Southern** (3-5) finished second to **Alcorn State** last year in the SWAC regular season and fell to the Braves in the conference tournament finals. The **Jaguars** return the SWAC Player of the Year in 6-9 senior center **Adarrial Smylie**. They finished fifth a year ago.

Who's the best team in the MEAC is anybody's guess as **Florida A&M's** emergence from the conference tournament proved a year ago. This year **South Carolina State** had made the biggest noise with a win over Atlantic Coast Conference-member **Clemson** but the **Bulldogs** (3-8) already have a 15-point loss to **Coppin State** (2-9) in MEAC play. It looks like the MEAC will be a toss-up once again. **Maryland-Eastern Shore** (3-5), at 10th, enters our ranking as the only MEAC team.

**Smylie** and MEAC returning player of the year **Damian Woolfolk**, a senior forward at

**BCSP WOMEN'S TOP TEN**

1. Grambling State (8-3)
2. Bowie State (8-2)
3. Morgan State (5-5)
4. Bethune-Cookman (5-3)
5. Winston-Salem St. (7-3)
6. Clark Atlanta (6-2)
7. Southern (4-3)
8. Alcorn State (4-5)
9. St. Augustine's (7-3)
10. Livingstone (6-5)

**Norfolk State**, are the most familiar names out of the top ten players named to the BCSP "Baad" Team of all-stars after last season. **Virginia Union** center **Chandar Bingham** is another. But after that, get ready for a host of up-and-coming players that will be carrying the black college banner this season.

And that's where the differences come in. It may take a while getting used to some of these new names.

The preseason all-conference men's teams are littered

with names only the die-hard black college fan would recognize.

On the women's side, it's much of the same. **Grambling State**, under **David "Rusty" Ponton** grabbed the final BCSP No. 1 spot for the second year in a row. He'll be working this year on his third straight SWAC title since taking over from **Patricia Bibbs**, now at **Hampton**. **Bibbs'** Lady Pirates took the regular season MEAC crown last year but were knocked off in the conference tournament. They are 2-6 so far this season.

The **Bowie State** Lady Bulldogs look again to be among the elite women's teams under head coach **Ed Davis**. They're off to an 8-2 start but have already suffered a loss in conference to **Livingstone's** Lady Bears. **Morgan State** has been impressive, winning three MEAC games in blowouts and playing respectfully out of conference.

## Sixth Annual BCSP "Baad Team" of Black College All-Stars



Thurman



Wideman



Murray



Wright



Massimini



Thompson



Slaughter

## Thompson breaks through in '99 to win POY award

**LUT WILLIAMS**  
BCSP Editor

After six years of running backs and quarterbacks dominating the BCSP Player of the Year award, **Virginia State's Damon Thompson** had a breakthrough year for wide receivers.

**Thompson**, a 5-11, 182-pound junior wide receiver/kick returner from **Richmond, Va.**, led all black college receivers this year with 90 receptions for 1,517 yards in just 10 games as he repeated as CIAA Offensive Player of the Year. His yardage total, nine receptions per game (third best in Div. II) and 151.7 receiving yards per game (first in Div. II) were also tops as he established himself as black college football's most dangerous offensive weapon.

He had 10 receiving touchdowns, returned 30 punts for a 13.7 yard average and a TD, and brought back 22 kickoffs at a 21.1-yard rate including one for a score. He also had two rushing touchdowns. His 248 all purpose yards per game (second in Div. II) was also tops among black college players.

By the way, with 203 career catches, and another year to strut his stuff, **Thompson** is just nine catches short of

breaking the CIAA career reception record. And with just a little more production, he could eclipse **Mississippi Valley State** and **San Francisco 49ers** great **Jerry Rice's** black college record of 301 career grabs.

That's why **Thompson** was chosen as the BCSP Offensive Player of the Year and the leader of the "Baad" Team of 1999 black college all-stars. He and **Jackson State RB Destry Wright** are the only repeaters from last year's team.

**Thompson** is joined in the receiving ranks by **Howard** senior **Elijah Thurman**, who racked up all-American and Academic all-American honors on his way to having a breakthrough season of his own. After toiling in the shadows of a host of cat-quick, diminutive Bison receivers, the 6-2 **Thurman** emerged this year to gain national honors with 84 catches for 1,366 yards and nine TDs while maintaining a 3.87 GPA in mathematics.

Six-four, 260-pound senior **Adrian Wideman** of **Hampton** (16 rec., 189 yds., 1 TD) is the tight end.

Manning the quarterback spot is **Tennessee State** senior **Leon Murray**, who recently won the **Street & Smith's Eddie Robinson Award** as the black col-



All Pro Photography

**RECEIVING AWARD:** Repeat CIAA Offensive Player of the Year was a threat to go all the way running, receiving and returning kicks.

lege player of the year. **Murray's** season was cut short after the **Tigers'** seventh game with a severe knee injury but not before he put up the kind of numbers (over 1,900 yards passing and 18 TDs) and displayed the kind of talent and poise that made him a standout. **TSU** posted the only undefeated (11-0) regular season in all of I-AA football.

**Murray's** backfield mates are **Wright** and **Mississippi Valley State** junior **Corey Holmes**. **Wright** (283 carries, 1,613 yds., 12 TDs) and **Holmes** (333 car., 1,692, 11 TDs) are the only black college runners this season to top 1,400 yards rushing. **Wright** ran for 1,528 yards last year.

The guys up front on the offensive line are **Tennessee State** senior tackle **Michael Thompson**, senior **Chad Slaughter** (6-7, 317) of **Alcorn State**, **Howard's** massive (6-5, 320) senior **Mpumi Massimini**, **Fort Valley State** senior **Jerry Jackson** (6-6, 295) and **Arkansas Pine Bluff** senior **Terrance Beadles** (6-4, 291).

**2nd Team Offense**  
QB - **Lionel Hayes**, **Grambling St.**; RB - **Alvon Brown**, **Ky. State** and **Maurice Smith**, **NC A&T**; WR - **Scotty Anderson**, **Grambling St.** and **Sylvester Morris**, **Jackson St.**; TE - **Ike Ihejeto**, **Ky. State**; OL - **Jeramogi Todd**, **Jackson St.**; **Damon Nieves**, **Southern**; **Kelly McLendon** and **Mitchell Foreman**, **Hampton**; and **Bennie Anderson**, **Tenn. State**.

**3rd Team Offense**  
QB - **Jajuan Seider**, **Florida A&M**; RB - **Michael Scott**, **Tuskegee** and **Terrie Newkirk**, **WSSU**; WR - **Cainon Lamb**, **Florida A&M** and **Corey Sullivan**, **Tennessee State**; TE - **Marcus Holbert**, **Alcorn State**; OL - **Chad Fann** and **Jon Hall**, **NC A&T**; **Jason Reaves**, **Va. Union**; **Kevin Thomas**, **Jackson St.**; and **Seneca Gray**, **Ky. State**.

NEXT WEEK: The Defensive All-Stars.

## 1999 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Women's Results, Standings, and Weekly Honors)

### SCORES

Dec. 27  
Norfolk State 59, Jacksonville 53  
Stony Brook 63, B-Cookman 54  
Dec. 22  
Alcorn State 77, Tex. S'thm 61  
Grambling St. 85, Alabama A&M 50  
S. Carolina 100, S. C. State 55  
Southern 69, Prairie View 68  
St. Louis 78, Hampton 66  
Dec. 21  
Marshall 83, Delaware State 75

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