

FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 13 - 19, 2007

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

DOWN THE STRETCH THEY COME

HOOPS TEAMS JOCKEY FOR TOURNEY SEEDING; NC CENTRAL FB KEEPS RISON



BSU Sports Photo

BEALE: Bowie State power forward is the Bulldogs' secret weapon.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

RISON TO LEAD N.C. CENTRAL:

North Carolina Central University Chancellor



NCCU Sports Photo

RISON: Veteran assistant moves into top spot in NC Central grid program.

James H. Ammons announced last week that 25-year coaching veteran Mose Rison has been selected as the school's 19th head football coach. Rison, who served as assistant head coach, offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach during the Eagles historic 11-1 campaign in 2006, steps in for former NCCU head coach Rod Broadway, who accepted the head coaching position at Grambling State University on Jan. 18. Rison had been serving as interim head coach since Broadway's departure. Rison has signed a five-year contract with the University that guarantees him \$120,000 a year, with an increase to \$130,000 on July 1, 2007. With Rison directing NCCU's offense, the 2006 Eagles scored 371 points (30.9 per game), the most in school history. Under Rison's tutelage, freshman quarterback Stafford Brown was named SBN Sports Doug Williams Offensive Player of the Year, the 2006 CIAA Offensive Player of the Year and CIAA Rookie of the Year. A 1978 graduate of Central Michigan University, Rison spent the 2005 season as the Quarterbacks Coach/Passing Coordinator at Davidson College, where the Wildcats averaged more than 200 yards passing per game running a West Coast offensive system. He has also held positions at Livingstone College (Offensive Coordinator, 2004), the University of Arizona (Wide Receivers/Passing Coordinator, 2003), Stanford University (Wide Receivers, 1995-2000), Rutgers University (Wide Receivers/Tight Ends, 1991-94), the U.S. Naval Academy (Wide Receivers, 1988-90), and Central Michigan University (Wide Receivers, 1981-87). During his tenure at Stanford, Rison coached in three bowl games, including the 2000 Rose Bowl. Rison, the cousin of five-time NFL All-Pro receiver Andre Rison, spent two seasons (2001-02) in the National Football League coaching ranks as the wide receivers coach with the New York Jets, helping to develop Laveranues Coles and Santana Moss. He has also held NFL summer internships with the Baltimore Ravens (2000), Chicago Bears (1999), New York Jets (1993) and Detroit Lions (1988). A standout running back for Central Michigan from 1974-77, Rison helped the Chippewas to a 13-1 record and a Division II national title as a freshman. He rushed for 1,283 yards and scored 12 touchdowns as a senior to earn all-conference and team MVP honors. Rison and his wife, Marilyn, have two children, Dominique (20) and Tara (17).

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

FOOTBALL RECRUITS COMMITTED ON NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

Table with columns for Conference (CIAA, MEAC, SIAC, SWAC), Division (E, W, S), and Player Name, listing recruits committed on National Signing Day.

2006-07 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Men's Results, Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA table with columns for CONF, ALL, DIV, W, L, W, L, listing team records.

MEAC table with columns for CONF, ALL, DIV, W, L, W, L, listing team records.

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SWAC table with columns for CONF, ALL, DIV, W, L, W, L, listing team records.

INDEPENDENTS table with columns for CONF, ALL, DIV, W, L, W, L, listing team records.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK NICHOLAS KING, 6-7, Sr., F, SAC - Averaged 28.5 ppg., in 2 games with career-high 35 points vs. Bowie State.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK TYWAN MCKEE, 6-2, Jr., G, CSU - Had 25 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 steals and a block in win over Norfolk State.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK KENNY JONES, 6-6, Jr., F, KSU - Averaged 21.5 points, 8.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists as The Panthers went 2-0. Best game was 22 points, 9 rebounds vs. LOC.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK CHRIS MOORE, 6-8, So., F, TEXAS SOUTHERN - Paced TSU to a win over conference-leader Jackson State Saturday with 29 points and 11 rebounds.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK TONY CORNETT, 6-5, Sr., F, WYSU - Averaged 17.5 points, 14.0 rebounds and 5.5 steals in 2-0 week. Had a triple-double of 17 pts., 15 rebs., 10 assists in win over Greenville State.

Races tighten in SWAC, CIAA

LUT WILLIAMS, BCSP Editor. Morgan State head coach Todd Bozeman was to turn himself in to authorities in Virginia Tuesday while South Carolina State head coach Jamal Brown returned to the bench Saturday.

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT DATES

Graphic showing basketball tournament dates for CIAA (Feb. 26 - March 3 Charlotte), MEAC (March 5 - 10, Raleigh), SIAC (Feb. 28 - March 4 Birmingham, AL), and SWAC (March 7 - 10, Birmingham, AL).

in a 116-104 win. Fitzgerald, fighting a stomach virus, scored 26 points and handed out nine assists in the loss. St. Aug's won the first meeting 87-80 on Dec. 12.

After its 86-68 win over Shaw Saturday, Bowie State is at 11-5 in CIAA play, tied with St. Aug's, a 61-60 loser to Fayetteville State Saturday, behind conference leader Virginia Union (12-4). BSU's Tyrone Beale (21.1 ppg.) is the Bulldogs' secret weapon. The 6-9 power forward had 31 points vs. Shaw and 22 vs. SAC.

Last week in the CIAA, Benedict (20-2, 17-1) got wins over Stillman (59-50) and Morehouse (68-66) to remain atop that conference's race. The Tigers had a big date Tuesday (Feb. 13) vs. second-place Paine (15-6, 13-4) before facing Tuskegee Thursday and Stillman again on Saturday.

Entering play for the past week, Benedict (20-2, 17-1) was the top team in the South Region of NCAA Div. II basketball with Paine ninth. Virginia Union was third in the Southeast Region with St. Aug's sixth, Bowie State seventh and Virginia State tenth.

The CIAA and SIAC finish regular season play next Saturday (Feb. 24).

In the SWAC, Texas Southern held conference and Div. I scoring leader Trey Johnson (28.2 ppg.) to 20 points and the TSU's Chris Moore had 29 points and 11 rebounds in a 90-83 overtime win vs. the Blue Tigers Saturday. TSU knocked off Prairie View A&M Monday and is now tied at 8-4 with Mississippi Valley State a half-game behind JSU (9-4). MVSU is at TSU Monday.

Both the SWAC and MEAC will begin their tournament play a week after the CIAA and SIAC. The MEAC begins Monday, March 5 in Raleigh while the SWAC begins Wed., March 7 in Birmingham.

While Bozeman was prepared to take care of his business Tuesday, going down to Farmville, Va., to answer charges of misdemeanor assault and battery and curse and abuse, his team moved into second place in the MEAC with wins in two of its last three games.

The Bears are currently 8-4 in MEAC play, only two games behind two-time regular season champ Delaware State, who leads the conference at 10-2. MSU blew a 14-point lead and lost 67-65 to Hampton on Saturday but came back to get a 71-61 win over Norfolk State Monday.

"Contrary to popular belief it hasn't necessarily been rough," said Bozeman of the last week. "Anytime you get falsely accused... it's unfortunate. I have to wait to get my chance to defend myself. It is what it is."

With the Bears at 10-13 overall and in second place in the MEAC race, Bozeman is likely the leading candidate for conference coach of the year honors. The Bears won four games all of last season.

Brown returned to the S.C. State bench on Saturday after missing three games for what he termed "family issues." Brown said prior to Saturday's game, "I'm definitely going to be here," putting to rest rumors that the first-year coach would not continue.

"In anything that goes on, I think regardless of who you are, we should all have our own private moments, and my life is not a book for everybody to read nor is everybody else's," Brown said to the Orangeburg Times and Democrat Friday.

"So, regardless, people are going to have their opinions. They're going to have their speculations about anything. You can't please everybody, so I just have to live my life the right way."

After going 2-1 in Brown's absence, the Bulldogs lost back-to-back overtime games with the coach back. They fell to Florida A&M Saturday (72-69) and to Bethune-Cookman (46-44) Monday. SCSU is currently at 7-7 in conference play, alone in seventh place.

Over in the CIAA, the Bowie State men extended their winning streak to six games as they went to Raleigh and got wins over St. Augustine's and Shaw.

The St. Aug's game Thursday was not only a battle between two of the top teams in the CIAA but pitted CIAA and Div. II scoring leader Gil Goodrich (26.9 ppg.) of BSU against St. Aug's high-scoring guard Antonio Fitzgerald (21.9 ppg.).

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BCSP Notes

St. Aug's sweeps CIAA indoor Track

Saint Augustine's dominated the 2007 CIAA Indoor Track and Field Championships at the Falcons claimed both the men's and women's titles at Christopher Newport University's Freeman Center Sunday.

In the men's standings, the Falcons scored 206 points to outdistance North Carolina Central, which finished second with 126.5 points. Bowie State placed third with 31.5 points, Virginia Union was fourth with 26 points, Virginia State was fifth with 21 points, Livingstone was sixth with six points and Saint Paul's was seventh with four points.

The Lady Falcons took the women's crown with 177 points to easily beat North Carolina Central, which scored 85 points. Bowie State placed third with 71 points, Virginia State was fourth with 33 points and Livingstone finished fifth with two points.

Saint Augustine's College claimed its 22nd CIAA men's crown and 13th CIAA women's championship. The Falcons are the defending NCAA Division II National Men's Champions in indoor track and field.

Saint Aug's also swept the individual awards. On the men's side, Philippe DeRosier was named track most valuable performer and Joe Kindred, the 2006 National Junior High Jump Champion, was named field MVP. Among the women, Johnsie Liles was selected track MVP and Kwonya Ferguson was chosen field MVP.

SAC won 10 of 14 men's events and 9 of 12 women's events. DeRosier won the 60 and 200 dashes, and Kindred captured the long jump and placed second in the high jump to lead the Falcons' men. Liles finished first in the 200 and 400 dashes, and Ferguson won the high jump, long jump and triple jump to spark the Lady Falcons.

Both Liles and DeRosier set facility records at the Freeman Center. Liles won the 400 dash in a time of 55.10, and DeRosier won the 200 dash in a time of 21.64.

Seven players headed to Indy Combine

Four seniors off the squad of three-time MEAC champion Hampton lead a contingent of seven black college players who will perform before scouts from just about every NFL team at the National Combine next week (Feb. 21-27) at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis.

MEAC career rushing leader Altonzo Coleman of the Pirates will be joined by three teammates at the workouts - linebacker Justin Durant, a three-time MEAC defensive player of the year, 2007 all-MEAC defensive back Travarous Bain and productive wide receiver Onrea Jones (57 rec., 679 yds., 5 TDs).

Coleman topped 1,000 yards in all four years he played for the Pirates and finished as the school's and conference's career rushing leader with 4,648 yards.

The other three black college seniors to earn an invite to the Combine are Lane wide receiver/kick returner Jacoby Jones, who led all black college players in all-purpose yards (189.9 ypg.), Tennessee State wide receiver Mike Mason (31 rec., 322 yds.) and Alabama State defensive back Michael Coe. First in the 200 and 400 dashes, and Ferguson won the high jump, long jump and triple jump to spark the Lady Falcons.



O. JONES

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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK LASHERRA CHRISTIAN, JACKSON STATE - Led the Lady Tigers to two wins, getting 21 points, 11 assists and 3 rebounds in win over Prairie View Monday and 23 points, 6 assists and 9 rebounds in Saturday's win over Texas Southern. For the week, she averaged 22 ppg., 5.5 ppg. and 8.5 apg.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK RASHIDA SUBER, 5-8, Jr., G, CSU - Had 22 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist and 2 steals while shooting 61% (8 of 13) from the field and 50% (3 of 6) from behind the arc.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK RISHAUNDA GARTRELL, 5-10, So., F, TU - Averaged 12.3 points, 3.0 rebounds, 3.3 steals and 3.0 assists in 2-1 week. She had 10 points, 20 rebounds, 3 steals vs. FYSU.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK LASHERRA CHRISTIAN, JACKSON STATE - Led the Lady Tigers to two wins, getting 21 points, 11 assists and 3 rebounds in win over Prairie View Monday and 23 points, 6 assists and 9 rebounds in Saturday's win over Texas Southern. For the week, she averaged 22 ppg., 5.5 ppg. and 8.5 apg.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK ASHLEY ALEXANDER, 5-7, Jr., G, UDC - Had a team-high 17 points, 8 rebounds and 3 rebounds in win over Davis & Elkins.