



Photo by Randy Singleton

LADY COMMISH: CIAA Commissioner Jacqie McWilliams looking forward to another outstanding football season in 2015.

NEW GRID SEASON ON THE HORIZON

CIAA FOOTBALL PICKS UNVEILED; MEAC SET FOR THIS WEEK; VET SID PASSES

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

MEDIA VET WALLACE DOOLEY PASSES:

NASHVILLE, Tn. – Longtime HBCU sports information and media relations administrator **Wallace Dooley** passed last Tuesday (July 21).



Wallace Dooley

In a 28-year span, Dooley held positions in sports information/media relations at several schools and two conference offices. He completed a full circle when he returned to his alma mater, **Tennessee State University**, and his hometown of Nashville to finish his career.

In 2012, the former TSU associate athletic director for media relations was honored with the CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) Lifetime Achievement Award. After retiring from TSU, Dooley maintained connection to the field working as the media contact (radio/internet) in support of HBCU student-athletes and programs through BoxtowRow and HSRN Radio.

His interest in sports information began as an undergraduate student at TSU. He assisted the intramural director with compiling statistics for football and basketball games. In 1978, and after working as a part-time sports-writer at *The Tennessean* and as an assistant in the sports information office at then-Memphis State, he was named the first full-time sports information director at **Alabama A&M**.

Dooley won 11 CoSIDA publications awards during his career in addition to earning the CoSIDA 25-Year Award. He counted the Lifetime Achievement Award and its recognition as one of the most cherished of his career.

His many years in the profession included tenures as SID at the **University of District of Columbia** (1981-1984), **Virginia State** (1984-88) and **North Carolina Central** (1988-92). He served the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association** (1992-96) as public relations director and the **Southwestern Athletic Conference** (2001-2006) as assistant commissioner for media relations before returning to Nashville.

In 1982, Dooley joined several other SIDs from HBCUs (historically black colleges and universities) to partner with the National Association for Women's Sports (NAWS) in recognizing female student-athletes as All-Americans.

In 1984 at the CoSIDA workshop in St. Louis, he teamed with 11 other SIDs to form the Black College Sports Information Directors Association (BCSIDA).

BULLARD OUT AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S:

Rachel Bullard will step down after five seasons as head women's basketball coach at **Saint Augustine's** to spend more time with her family, the SAU athletic department announced Tuesday, July 21, 2015. A national search for a new head coach will begin immediately.



Bullard

"We appreciate the service she has given us the past five seasons," SAU Athletic Director **George Williams** said.

The Lady Falcons performed well on the court and in the classroom under Bullard, earning five consecutive CIAA conference highest team grade point average awards. They also posted a winning overall record during Bullard's tenure including a 19-11 mark her first season.

Bullard will continue her head coaching duties through August 17.

Six Virginia State players picked to preseason all-CIAA team

Coaches pick WSSU, VSU to rule CIAA

HAMPTON, Va. -- **Winston-Salem State**, the defending South Division champion and 2014 runner-up, was selected the favorite for the upcoming season and Northern Division champ and defending conference champ **Virginia State** was picked second as the **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA)** in conjunction with its Football Coaches Association announced the 2015 Predicted Order of Finish and the Preseason all-Conference Team.

The announcements were made during the annual Football Media Day held in Durham, North Carolina last week.

WSSU and VSU have won division titles in each of the past two seasons.

The Rams finished 9-2 overall last season with a 7-0 conference record under new head coach **Kienus Boulware** before falling to **Virginia State** in the CIAA Championship Game. Just three Rams were selected to the 2015 all-CIAA Preseason team.

Virginia State won the North Division crown and the CIAA championship game under former coach **Latrell Scott** last season. The Trojans advanced to the second round of the NCAA DII playoffs and finished with a 10-3 overall record last year.



Scott left after the season to become head coach at **Norfolk State** of the **MEAC**. It was the second consecutive year that the championship coach left to jump to the MEAC. Head coach **Connel Maynor** of 2013 champion **Winston-Salem State** left following that season to become head coach at **Hampton**.

VSU, under new first-year head coach **Byron Thweatt**, was selected to finish second this season. Six Trojans, tops among CIAA teams, were voted to the preseason all-conference team.

In addition to the predicted order, the Preseason All-CIAA was also announced during the event. Though no preseason player of the year was selected, 2014 CIAA Offensive Player of the Year **Jalen Hendricks**, a senior wide receiver from **Livingstone**, highlights the preseason team.



2nd-year Winston-Salem State Head Coach **KIENUS BOULWARE**



New Virginia State Head Coach **BYRON THWEATT**

2015 PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

NORTHERN DIVISION

- 1st Virginia State
- 2nd Virginia Union
- 3rd Bowie State
- 4th Elizabeth City State
- 5th Chowan
- 6th The Lincoln



SOUTHERN DIVISION

- 1st Winston-Salem State
- 2nd Fayetteville State
- 3rd Livingstone
- 4th Shaw
- 5th Johnson C. Smith
- 6th St. Augustine's

WITHOUT DIVISION

- 1 - Winston-Salem State
- 2 - Virginia State
- 3 - Virginia Union
- 4 - Fayetteville State
- 5 - Bowie State
- 6 - Elizabeth City State
- 7 - Livingstone
- 8 - Shaw
- 9 - Chowan
- 10 - Johnson C. Smith
- 11 - Saint Augustine's
- 12 - Lincoln

2015 PRESEASON ALL-CIAA FOOTBALL TEAM

OFFENSE

TE - AJ Mundle, Sr., ECSU; OL - Addison Hayes*, Sr., VUU; Jhamil Haley, Jr., VSU; Jac'que Polite, Jr., WSSU; Justin Nester, Jr., BSU; Kristjan Brown, So., FSU; WR - Jalen Hendricks*, Sr., LC; Jaivon Smallwood*, Sr., VSU; QB - Drew Powell*, Sr., LC; RB - Roderick Davenport II*, Sr., SAU; Kavon Bellamy, Jr., VSU; PK - William Johnson, Jr., WSSU; KR - Antonio Huff, Sr., ECSU

DEFENSE

DL - Anthony McDaniel*, Sr., BSU; Michael Bloomfield, Sr., WSSU; Ray Prosize, Sr., VSU; Kemaree Alcorn, So., CU; LB - Austin Jacques*, Sr., JCSU; Joseph Blanks, Sr., VUU; Brandon Lynch, So., VSU; DB - Curtis Pumphrey*, Sr., BSU; Darion Thomas, Sr., VSU; Brion Robinson*, Sr., LU; Rodeshawn Joseph, Sr., VUU; P - Christopher Palmer*, Sr., BSU; PR - Antonio Huff, Sr., ECSU

* 2014 all-CIAA member

Hendricks led the CIAA and all of black college football last season with 71 catches, 7.9 per game, for 1,070 yards, 118.9 yards per game, and 12 TDs. He was just one of three black college receivers to top 1,000 receiving yards.

Livingstone quarterback **Drew Powell** threw for 2,241 yards and 26 touchdowns with 14 interceptions and is the all-CIAA signal caller. **Saint Augustine's** running back **Roderick Davenport** was the only CIAA runner to top 1,000 yards last season. Davenport ran for 1,133 yards and six TDs. Fellow running back selectee

Kavon Bellamy of Virginia State ran for 989 yards and a league-best 13 TDs.

Five defenders selected to the preseason all-conference team were on the 2014 squad. They include **Bowie State** defensive lineman **Anthony McDaniel**, **Johnson C. Smith** linebacker **Austin Jacques**, who led the league with 133 tackles, Bowie State defensive back **Curtis Pumphrey**, Livingstone DB **Brion Robinson** and Bowie State punter **Christopher Palmer**.

Twelve of the 2015 honorees were members of the 2014 All-CIAA Team.

BCSP Notes

Two SWAC and two MEAC programs earn NCAA academic assistance grants

The NCAA has awarded more than \$4 million in grants to nine Division I schools – including **Alcorn State** and **Texas Southern** of the **SWAC** and **Hampton** and **Florida A&M** of the **MEAC** - to support academic programs that help student-athletes earn their degrees.

The schools are recipients of the Accelerating Academic Success Program (AASP) Comprehensive Grant (multi-year) that will provide resources to help schools improve the academic success of their student-athletes by funding additional academic advisors, graduate assistants and computer technology during team travel.

The goal is to support the school's efforts to meet the requirements of the Division I Academic Performance Program, which was developed to ensure schools provide an environment that supports education while enhancing the ability of student-athletes to earn a degree.

The grant to Alcorn State is worth \$900,000, while Texas Southern received the Accelerated Academic Success Program Initiatives Grant (single year) worth \$80,608.

Hampton and Florida A&M Departments of Athletics received \$675,000 each, over a three-year period, to support its athletic programs.

Schools eligible to apply for the program are non-FBS Division I schools in the bottom 10 percent of resources as determined by per capita institutional expenditures, athletics department funding and Pell Grant aid.

"We have some very bright and gifted student-athletes who are already a source of pride for the University," said **Eugene Marshall Jr.**, Hampton Director of Athletics. "This grant will help us equip them with the tools and support to continue to excel."

The comprehensive grants will be distributed over a three-year period and used to fund increased academic support services staffing and space; technology upgrades (software and hardware); career planning; professional development; and increased availability of summer financial aid for student-athletes.

Schools can request a maximum of \$300,000 per year for three years. The participating schools are required to match grant dollars each year of the program, with either direct funds and/or in-kind contributions. In the first year, the school must commit a 25-percent match, 50 percent in year two and 75 percent in year three.

The announced awards mark the third round of Accelerating Academic Success Program funding distributed by the NCAA.

NCCU's Hilliard signs Denmark pro contract

DURHAM, N.C. – On July 20, **North Carolina Central University** men's basketball alum **Nimrod Hilliard** received a phone call that many basketball players await, and the point guard signed a professional contract with **Horsens IC** in **Horsens, Denmark**.

"It was like a weight off my chest, it was such a great feeling," Hilliard said about receiving the call. "I thanked the Lord first thing and I called my mom and they all went crazy."

Hilliard finished up his collegiate career at NCCU this past season and was voted first team all-MEAC after a stellar season wearing the maroon and gray. He ranked 10th in the NCAA with an average of 6.3 assists per game, and finished 25th with a free throw percentage of 86.9 percent,

which topped the **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference** in both categories.

The playmaker was able to find his own shot as well, as he finished second in the MEAC with a three-point field goal percentage of 41.8 percent, ninth in field goal percentage at 48.3 percent, and was 18th in scoring with 12.0 points per contest.

"I'm elated that Nimrod has an opportunity to extend his basketball career and take care of his family at the same time," NCCU head coach **LeVelle Moton** said about his former player. "It's an honor to see his dreams come true. Well deserved."

Likewise, Hilliard had kind words to say about his former coach. "Coach Moton and N.C. Central has helped me learn and grow as a man on and off the court, and I feel like I'm fully ready to go over there and accomplish good things."

Horsens IC competes in the 10-team Basketligaen, which is the top league in Denmark. The club won the league championship in the 2014-15 season with a record of 33-8.

Sutton turns heads in NBA Summer League

Four former black college players were on rosters in recent NBA Summer Leagues with only one really distinguishing himself.

2014-15 **MEAC** Player and Defensive Player of the Year **Kendall Gray**, a 6-10 center out of **Delaware State** toiled for the Detroit Pistons in the Orlando Summer League. Gray played in four of the six games, averaging eight minutes per contest. He finished with averages of 0.7 points, 1.3 rebounds and 0.3 blocks.

Former **Maryland-Eastern Shore** standout **Tim Parham**, a 6-9 forward, was listed on the Los Angeles Clippers squad in the Orlando Summer League but did not see any action.

Abraham Millsap, who played at both **Paine** and **Tennessee State**, saw action on the Atlanta Hawks squad in the Las Vegas Summer League. Millsap, a 6-4 guard, saw action in four games averaging 12.2 minutes per contest and 2.2 points per game. Millsap is the younger brother of current Atlanta star forward Paul Millsap.

The player that put up good numbers is former **North Carolina Central** forward **Dominique Sutton**, who played for the world champion Golden State Warriors team in Las Vegas.

Sutton, a 6-5 high-flyer and defensive sparkplug, averaged 10.2 points, 5.2 rebounds and 2.2 steals while playing in all six Warriors (3-3) games with one start. Sutton shot .449 (22 of 49) from the field and .429 (3 of 7) from 3-point range but clanged 14 of 30 free throws (.467). He scored 23, 14 and nine points in three of the outings.

He played for the NBA D-League champion Santa Cruz Warriors this past season and turned some heads with his Summer League performance.



NCCU Sports Photo

HILLIARD: NC Central's first-team all-MEAC guard drives by UNC defender. Now to play in Denmark.



Sutton

STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

2015 FOOTBALL MEDIA DAYS

MEAC

Friday, July 31

Norfolk (VA) Waterside Marriott • 9 am