



Howard Sports Photo

THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

THREE TAKEN IN NFL DRAFT, 14 SIGN ROOKIE FREE AGENT CONTRACTS; SPRING RESULTS

REDEMPTION: New ESPN documentary chronicles story of Howard's historic 1971 and 1974 NCAA Div. I soccer championships.

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

LAMONTE TO LEAD WSSU WOMEN'S HOOPS:

The Winston-Salem State University Department of Athletics introduced **L'Tona Lamonte** as the 11th head women's basketball coach in school history Tuesday.

Lamonte spent last season as assistant head coach at **North Carolina Central University** after serving as an assistant coach at Belmont for the previous two seasons. Lamonte also spent four seasons at North Carolina State from 2009 to 2013 as director of basketball Operations.

She was also an assistant coach at Western Carolina (2004-09) and Georgia Southern (1999-2001).

She started her coaching career at Winston-Salem's Carver High School and also coached basketball, softball and cross country at Lexington (N. C.) city schools for three years including being named coach of the year in 2004.

Lamonte grew up in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and she stayed local as a two-sport student-athlete at WSSU. She is in the NCAA softball history book in five different categories and led the nation in stolen bases her junior season with the Rams.

The sports management major graduated cum laude with her bachelor's of science degree in 1999. Lamonte obtained a master's degree in kinesiology from Georgia Southern in 2003.

MCWILLIAMS TO LEAD LINCOLN WOMEN:

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – **Ayana McWilliams** was named Monday as the next head women's basketball coach at **Lincoln (Mo.) University**.

McWilliams succeeds **Nicole Collier** who had been head coach for the past four years.

McWilliams spent the past five years as an assistant coach at the University of South Carolina Upstate, an NCAA Division I program.

Before joining the Spartans, McWilliams spent two years as an assistant at **Elizabeth City State** and has also coached at **Livingstone** and **Winston-Salem State**.

"We were looking for an individual that could recruit a mixture of talent; would have a terrific work ethic, discipline and high character; as well as display passion for the opportunity to build a successful program here at Lincoln University," said John Moseley, Lincoln University Director of Athletics. "We found all of that, and more, in Ayana McWilliams."

Hargrave leads three in NFL Draft

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

For black college players, the 2016 NFL Draft went just about as projected.

The three players selected in last week's three-day draft – **South Carolina State** defensive tackle **Javon Hargrave**, **North Carolina Central** defensive back **Ryan Smith** and **S. C. State** tight end **Temarrick Hemingway** – all from the **MEAC**, were the three heralded on literally all draft boards to be taken by NFL teams.

Hargrave, the two-time **MEAC** defensive player of the year and FCS all-American, was taken by the Pittsburgh Steelers with the 26th pick of Friday's third round. He was the 89th overall selection and the 11th defensive tackle to go off the boards.

Prior to the draft, Hargrave had been rated by several draft services well inside the top 100 overall prospects, from ninth to 11th among players at his position and was given a third-round grade.

Smith was perhaps the highest riser among the three. He entered the draft with projections that ranged from among the top 100 overall prospects to 35th or 39th amongst defensive backs.

He was selected by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers with the tenth pick in Saturday's fourth round, 108th overall. He was the 22nd cornerback selected.

Hemingway matched his projection as the ninth or tenth tight end in the draft. He was taken by the Los Angeles Rams Saturday with the second pick of the sixth round, 177th overall. He was the ninth tight end selected.

Both Hargrave and Smith earned titles as 'steals' in the draft.

"If he would have played at a Division I program, he would have gone in the first round," said NFL Media Analyst, Daniel Jeremiah of Hargrave in a story on NFL.com entitled 'Five

BLACK COLLEGE PLAYERS IN 2016 NFL DRAFT



PITTSBURGH
Javon Hargrave
6-1, 309, DT
South Carolina State
3rd Round - 26th pick
89th overall



TAMPA BAY
Ryan Smith
5-11, 189, CB
North Carolina Central
4th Round - 10th pick
108th overall



LOS ANGELES RAMS
Temarrick Hemingway
6-5, 244, TE
South Carolina State
6th Round - 2nd pick
177th overall

picks I loved.'

"He was one of the most dynamic interior pass rushers in the draft. He had 29.5 sacks over the past two seasons. That is big-time production. If you look at his testing numbers, they stack up favorably with a lot of the best interior defensive linemen from the past two drafts," Jeremiah said.

"This guy is a first, second and third down player," said Steelers' Defensive Line Coach John Mitchell of Hargrave. "The things that we do, where we can put him, he can help us. He will give us a new dimension for a big guy in our sub package."

Greg Auman of the *Tampa Bay Times* writes that the Bucs brought Smith in for a visit

and left impressed with his toughness, and drafted him to join a revamped secondary that will include first-round corner Vernon Hargreaves and veteran cornerbacks Brent Grimes and Josh Robinson.

"He's fast. He's a low 4.4 (40-yard dash) guy, we've had him timed as high as 4.3," Auman quoted Bucs general manager Jason Licht as saying. "He's an aggressive guy. He'll hit you. He's got a great mentality. He's a super kid."

"He's played safety and corner there (at NCCU). We see the possibility of him being a safety here. That versatility is always good. ... He's tough, he's athletic. He's got a chance."

Hemingway was the second tight end taken by the Rams and third receiver following tight end Tyler Higbee of Western Kentucky and South Carolina wide receiver Pharoah Cooper, both taken in the fourth round. All three are expected to play a major role in the development of Rams' rookie quarterback Jared Goff, the first overall pick in the draft.

Hemingway, whose 4.71 40 time and two other marks were best among tight ends at the Combine, made a visit to the Rams two weeks ago and was told by head coach Jeff Fisher that the team was interested in acquiring his services.

He was full of emotion and could hardly respond when he got the call from Fisher notifying him of his selection.

Hargrave was the 54th player from South Carolina State taken in NFL Draft history. Hemingway's selection made it 55.

Smith is only the second NCCU selectee in the last 25 years joining defensive lineman **Greg Peterson** who was selected in the fifth round of the 2007 draft. They are the first two selected since former defensive back **Robert Massey** was a second round selection in the 1989 draft.

See the STAT CORNER for a list of 2016 Black College Undrafted Free Agent Signings.

Redemption Song debuts at Howard to air on ESPN on June 7

"Redemption Song," a documentary on the legendary **Howard University** soccer program of the 1970s under coach **Lincoln Phillips**, will be shown soon on ESPN.

Howard was the first historically black university to win an NCAA soccer championship in 1971 — but was quickly stripped of the title under racially-charged circumstances. The Bison set out for vindication and, just three years later, reclaimed the title with an undefeated season.

The short film, directed by Kenan Holley and produced by Howard graduate **Mark Wright**, will be one of the first features released as part of ESPN's *The Undefeated*, the network's project exploring the intersections of race, culture, and sports. The Spike Lee Joint will air on June 7.

Borrowing its name from the timeless Bob Marley ballad, "Redemption Song," the film debuted at Howard's Cramton Auditorium on Tuesday, April 26 with Phillips and several former players in attendance.

THE UNDEFEATED: Howard grad Mark Wright, (l.) producer for "Redemption Song," stands by the placard for the documentary that will air on ESPN on June 7.



BCSP Spring Notes

WSSU (CIAA) and Tuskegee (SIAC) take softball titles, advance to NCAA Div. II playoffs

Late heroics propelled **Winston-Salem State** to its eighth CIAA Softball Championship with a 5-4 win over **Chowan** Saturday afternoon and **Tuskegee** won its third consecutive **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC)** Softball Championship title Saturday with a 10-8 win over **Miles College** at Lovejoy Regional Complex.

In WSSU's final at-bat, **Mercedes Hargett** hit an RBI single to set the stage for **Rebecca Demko**, who capitalized on a bases-loaded situation and knocked a single to left to propel the Lady Rams to the 5-4 walk-off win.

Hargett was named the tournament's most outstanding player.

Tuskegee (24-28 overall) took a 2-0 lead after the second inning as **Karisa Foye**, the 2016 SIAC Softball Tournament MVP, kept the Golden Bears (20-26) hitless until the fourth inning.

Foye (6-5) recorded the win and finished with a game-high five strikeouts

WSSU (30-21), seeded eighth in the Atlantic Region, will open play Thursday, May 5 at 2:30 p.m. vs. top-seeded West Virginia Wesleyan (50-8) in Buckhannon, WV. This will be the first meeting between the two teams this season.

Tuskegee (24-29), the eighth seed in the South Region, faces top-seeded North Alabama (49-5) in the opening round game May 5 at 5:30

p.m. in Florence, AL. The two met earlier this season, in the Gulf Coast Invitational Tournament, with UNA winning that contest 8-0.

Clafin takes SIAC baseball crown

OZARK, Ala. – **Clafin** won the 2016 **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC)** Baseball Championship in 10 innings with an 8-7 victory over **Stillman** Sunday evening at Historic Eagle Stadium in Ozark, Ala.

Clafin's **Lyndale Morley** was named the 2016 SIAC Baseball Championship Tournament MVP.

Chowan storms back to win CIAA baseball title over Winston-Salem State

Cary, NC – The **Chowan** Hawks came back from opening the day with a loss to down **Winston-Salem State** in two games for their first-ever CIAA Baseball Championship title.

The Hawks recorded a 12-2 score in game one and upset the Rams 7-2 in the second battle. Pitcher **Matt Kaplan**, who pitched all eight innings in the first win, was named the tournament's most valuable player.

Both Clafin (above) and Chowan will find out their opponents and sites for the upcoming NCAA Division II Regional on Sunday, May 15.

The NCAA Selection Show is at 10 p.m. on NCAA.com.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

2016 BLACK COLLEGE UNDRAFTED FREE AGENT NFL SIGNINGS

MIAMI

Akil Blount, LB, Florida A&M

INDIANAPOLIS

Chester Rogers, WR, Grambling State

MINNESOTA

Eric Rawls, DB, Kentucky State

DALLAS

Deon King, LB, Norfolk State

ARIZONA

Chris Hubert, WR, Fayetteville State

WASHINGTON

Anthony Lanier, DE, Alabama A&M
Johnta Hebert, RB/KR, Prairie View A&M

OAKLAND

Antonio Hamilton, DB/KR, South Carolina State
Michael Bloomfield, DT, Winston-Salem State
Tony McRae, DB, North Carolina A&T

GREEN BAY

Warren Gatewood, DB, Alcorn State

NEW YORK JETS

Dahon Taylor, OL, Virginia Union

TENNESSEE

Golden Ukou, OL, Mississippi Valley State

SEATTLE

Devin Fosselman, WR, Jackson State

2016 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

NORTHERN	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Norfolk State	16	5	23	18
Delaware State	11	9	11	32
Coppin State	8	12	11	31
Maryland-E. Shore	5	14	13	29
SOUTHERN				
Florida A&M	14	4	24	17
Bethune-Cookman	15	6	23	22
NC Central	10	11	23	25
Savannah State	6	12	11	34
NC A&T	3	15	10	36

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

HITTER
Michael Cruz, Jr., C, **B-CU** - Hit .438 (7 of 16) with three HRs, 7 runs and 5 RBI.
Angel Rosario, Sr., OF, **NSU** - Hit .375 (6 for 16) with 2 doubles, 2 triples, 3 runs, 3 SBs and 8 RBI in five games.
PITCHER
Tyler Krull, Fr., P, **B-CU** - Tossed a complete-game one-hitter in a 6-0 win over NC A&T. He struck out 7 and walked none.
ROOKIE
Josten Heron, Fr., CF, **B-CU** - Hit .400 (8 for 15) with 4 RBI vs NC A&T.

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

EASTERN	DIV		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Alabama State	21	0	31	14
Jackson State	11	10	26	23
Alcorn State	10	14	15	29
Alabama A&M	8	13	13	36
Miss. Valley State	4	17	6	32
WESTERN				
Grambling State	15	5	22	20
Arkansas Pine Bluff	13	5	17	21
Texas Southern	10	10	18	22
Southern	6	11	12	25
Prairie View	5	18	10	28

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

HITTER
Larry Barraza, Sr., INF, **GRAMBLING STATE** - Hit .500 (9 for 18) in four games with a double, three HRs, 10 RBI, six runs scored in four games vs. PV.
PITCHER
Angel Alicea, Jr., RHP, **ALABAMA STATE** - In first career start, scattered six singles and one walk over seven innings in win vs. Tennessee.

2016 BLACK COLLEGE SOFTBALL

MEAC

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

NORTHERN	CONF		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Delaware State	16	2	23	16
Norfolk State	11	6	17	23
Hampton	11	7	19	25
Morgan State	8	8	13	26
Howard	5	12	9	32
Coppin State	5	12	11	30
Maryland-E. Shore	4	13	11	30
SOUTHERN				
Savannah State	12	2	24	21
Florida A&M	11	4	23	26
Bethune-Cookman	11	4	17	30
North Carolina A&T	6	9	17	28
South Carolina State	2	12	5	26
NC Central	2	13	6	42

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

PLAYER
Raven Gray, So., OF, **NC A&T** - Hit .500 in three-game sweep of NCCU. Had five hits, incl. 2 triples, 4 runs, and one RBI.
PITCHER
Amanda Hallman, Jr., P, **SSU** - Posted 0.64 ERA in two games vs. Ga. Southern, scattering six hits with 13 Ks in both games.
ROOKIE
Cortni Jones, Fr., OF, **SSU** - Went 4-for-10 in four games vs. Ga. Southern and SC State. Had 3 hits, one double, two triples, 4 RBI and one SB.

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

EASTERN	DIV		ALL	
	W	L	W	L
Alabama State	15	3	24	25
Alcorn State	11	7	15	26
Miss. Valley State	9	9	13	26
Alabama A&M	9	9	11	33
Jackson State	6	11	9	28
WESTERN				
Texas Southern	16	2	24	16
Southern	7	8	10	17
Prairie View	6	10	9	25
Arkansas Pine Bluff	6	11	15	33
Grambling State	1	16	4	31

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

HITTER
Kendall Core, Jr., 3B, **ALABAMA STATE** - Was 9 for 11 with two doubles, one HR and seven RBI. Hitting .345 on the season.
PITCHER
Delphia Holmes, Sr., P, **SOUTHERN** - Went 2-0 in two appearances with wins over GSU and PV. Pitched two complete games allowing five earned runs and striking out four.