



Clark Atlanta Sports Photo

**TIM SANDERS:** SIAC Tournament MVP leads Clark Atlanta into NCAA Div. II South Regional in Huntsville, Ala. Saturday.

**TOURNEYS PLAY ON**

**SIAC CHAMPS CROWNED; SIX HBCU IN D2 HOOPS TOURNEYS; MEAC & SWAC TOURNEYS TIP**

**MEAC** MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

CONF	ALL	W	L	W	L
<b>FINAL WOMEN</b>					
*Bethune-Cookman	15	1	19	9	
Howard	12	4	16	12	
Hampton	11	5	17	12	
Florida A&M	9	7	11	18	
Norfolk State	9	7	14	14	
NC A&T State	8	8	12	17	
Savannah State	8	8	11	18	
Coppin State	8	8	8	20	
Morgan State	7	9	9	20	
North Carolina Central	7	9	8	20	
Maryland-Eastern Shore	6	10	12	15	
South Carolina State	2	14	5	22	
Delaware State	2	14	3	26	

**MEAC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**

**PLAYER**  
**Te'Shya Heslip**, 5-7, R-Sr., G, HOWARD - Averaged 15.1 points (3rd), 5.1 assists (1st) and 3.6 steals (1st) for second place Lady Bison.  
**ROOKIE**  
**Chance Graham**, 6-3, Fr., C, COPPIN STATE - Averaged 6.8 points and 8.7 rebounds.  
**DEFENDER**  
**Kailyn Williams**, 6-3, Sr., C, B-CU - Averaged 8.1 rebounds (8th), 4.0 blocks (1st), 9.8 points (22nd), shot .464 from the field (3rd).  
**COACH**  
**Vanessa Blair-Lewis**, BETHUNE-COOKMAN - Led Lady Wildcats to 15-1 MEAC record (1st), 19-9 overall mark.

**MEAC** MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

CONF	ALL	W	L	W	L
<b>FINAL MEN</b>					
*North Carolina Central	13	3	22	8	
Norfolk State	12	4	15	15	
Morgan State	11	5	14	15	
Hampton	11	5	14	15	
# Savannah State	10	6	13	16	
Maryland-Eastern Shore	9	7	12	19	
South Carolina State	7	9	10	19	
Coppin State	7	9	8	23	
Delaware State	7	9	10	21	
Bethune-Cookman	6	10	9	21	
Howard	5	11	8	23	
Florida A&M	5	11	7	22	
NC A&T State	1	15	3	28	

**MEAC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**

**PLAYER**  
**Patrick Cole**, 6-3, Sr., G, NC CENTRAL - Averaged 19.6 points (3rd), 5.8 assists (1st) while leading Eagles to regular season title.  
**ROOKIE**  
**Charles Williams**, 6-5, Fr., G, HOWARD - Averaged 15.7 points, leading freshman scorer in conference.  
**DEFENDER**  
**Phillip Carr**, 6-8, Jr., F, MORGAN STATE - Averaged 9.5 rebounds, had 22 blocks and 13 steals.  
**COACH**  
**LeVelle Moton**, NC CENTRAL - Led Eagles to 13-3 MEAC record (1st) and 22-8 overall mark.

**SWAC** SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

DIV	ALL	W	L	W	L
<b>FINAL WOMEN</b>					
Grambling State	14	4	16	13	
Texas Southern	14	4	20	9	
Alabama State	12	6	13	15	
Southern	11	7	13	13	
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	9	9	12	17	
Alcorn State	9	9	9	20	
Prairie View A&M	8	10	13	17	
Miss. Valley State	7	11	10	19	
Jackson State	6	12	12	16	
Alabama A&M	0	18	2	25	

**SWAC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**

**PLAYER**  
**Britney Wright**, 5-7, So., G, ALABAMA STATE - Averaged 18.4 points (1st), 7.4 rebounds (4th), .802 FT% (1st), 43.9FG% (7th).  
**DEFENDER**  
**Henrietta Wells**, ALBANY STATE - Averaged 3.0 blocks (1st), 1.4 steals (10th).  
**NEWCOMER**  
**Alexus Freeman**, ALBANY STATE - Averaged 10.7 points, 5.5 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 2.3 steals.  
**FRESHMAN**  
**Jameica Cobb**, ALABAMA A&M - Averaged 13.3 points, 6.3 rebounds.  
**COACH**  
**Freddie Murray**, GRAMBLING STATE - Lady Tigers shared regular season SWAC title with 14-4 mark, was 16-13 overall.

**SWAC** SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

DIV	ALL	W	L	W	L
<b>FINAL MEN</b>					
Texas Southern	16	2	20	11	
Alcorn State	13	5	16	13	
Grambling State	10	8	15	16	
Southern	10	8	14	17	
Jackson State	10	8	14	17	
Prairie View A&M	10	8	13	19	
Alabama State	6	10	8	20	
Miss. Valley State	7	11	7	24	
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	6	12	7	24	
Alabama A&M	2	16	2	27	

**SWAC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**

**PLAYER**  
**Zach Lofton**, 6-4, Jr., G, TEXAS SOUTHERN - Averaged 17.9 points (1st), 2.3 assists (14th), shot .787 FT% (5th), and averaged 1.3 steals (9th).  
**DEFENDER**  
**Marvin Jones**, 6-11, Sr., TEXAS SOUTHERN - Averaged 1.5 blocks (1st), 6.6 rebounds (8th).  
**FRESHMAN**  
**Demontae Jefferson**, 5-8, Fr., G, TEXAS SOUTHERN - Averaged 14.4 points, 1.4 3-pointers, 3.3 assists and 0.9 steals.  
**COACH**  
**Montez Robinson**, ALBANY STATE - Finished second in SWAC at 13-5 was 16-13 overall.

**INDEPENDENTS**

FINAL WOMEN	W	L
W. Va. State	14	14
- Did not make MEC Tournament		
Tennessee State	10	16
- Did not make OVC Tournament		
Cheyney	6	17
- Did not make PSAC Tournament		
Lincoln (Mo.)	5	21
- Did not make OVC Tournament		
UDC	3	25
- Did not make ECC Tournament		

**FINAL MEN**

FINAL MEN	W	L
Lincoln (Mo.)	17	13
- Lost to NW Mo. 89-76 in first round of MIAA Tourney		
Tennessee State	17	13
- Lost to SE Missouri in first round of OVC Tourney		
UDC	14	13
- Did not make MEC Tournament		
W. Va. State	7	21
- Did not make MEC Tournament		
Cheyney	2	25
- Did not make PSAC Tournament		

**2017 MEAC and SWAC hoops honors**

Players of the year **Patrick Cole** of North Carolina Central (men) and **Te'Shya Heslip** of Howard (women) lead the 2017 all-Mid Eastern Athletic Conference basketball teams.

**MEN**  
**PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Patrick Cole, North Carolina Central  
**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:** Charles Williams, Howard  
**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Phillip Carr, Morgan State  
**COACH OF THE YEAR:** LeVelle Moton, North Carolina Central

**FIRST TEAM**  
 Patrick Cole, 6-5, Sr., G, NC CENTRAL; Jonathan Wade, 6-4, R-Sr. NORFOLK STATE; Bakari Copeland, 6-6, Sr., F, MARYLAND-EASTERN SHORE; Tavian Kendley, 6-5, Jr., G, MORGAN STATE; Phillip Carr, 6-8, Jr., MORGAN STATE

**SECOND TEAM**  
 Troyce Manassa, 6-4, Sr., G, SSU; Eric Eaves, 6-3, Sr., G, SCSU; Dejuan Graf, 6-0, R-Sr., G, NCCU; Brandon Tabb, 6-5, Jr., G/F, B-CU; Zaynah Robinson, 5-11, Jr., G, NSU

**THIRD TEAM**  
 Dexter McLanahan, 6-5, So., G, SSU; Devin Morgan, 5-10, So., G, DSU; Desmond Williams, 6-6, Jr., F, FAMU; Jermaine Marrow, 6-0, Fr., G, HAM, Charles Williams, 6-5, Fr., G/F, HOW

**ALL-ROOKIE TEAM**  
 Dejuan Clayton, 6-2, Fr., G, CSU; Charles Williams, 6-5, Fr., G/F, HOW; Jermaine Marrow, 6-0, Fr., G, HAM; Zach Sellers, 6-1, Fr., G, SSU; Robert Kelly Jr., 6-7, Fr., F, SSU

**WOMEN**  
**PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Te'Shya Heslip, Howard  
**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:** Chance Graham, Coppin State  
**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Kailyn Williams, Bethune-Cookman  
**COACH OF THE YEAR:** Vanessa Blair-Lewis, Bethune-Cookman

**FIRST TEAM**  
 Te'Shya Heslip, 5-5, R-Sr., G, HOWARD; Genesis Lucas, 5-7, r-Jr., COPPIN STATE; Kayla Roberts, 6-1, Jr., G/F, NORFOLK STATE; Najai Pollard, 5-11, So., F, DELAWARE STATE; Kailyn Williams, 6-4, Sr., C, BETHUNE-COOKMAN

**SECOND TEAM**  
 Kendra Cooper, 5-5, Sr., G, B-CU; Bryeasha Blair, 5-4, Gr., G, SCSU; Ashanti Hunt, 5-11, So., G/F, B-CU; Kaylah Lupoe, 6-2, Jr., F, HAM; Tiyonda Davis, 6-4, Sr., C, SSU

**THIRD TEAM**  
 Kenyatta Hendrix, 5-10, Sr., G, SSU; Jordan Strode, 5-8, r-Sr., G, NSU; Sydney Johnson, 6-0, Sr., G/F, HOW; Taylor Houston, 6-0, Sr., F, B-CU; Chance Graham, 5-11, Fr., C, CSU

**ALL-ROOKIE TEAM**  
 Chance Graham, C, CSU; Alexis Lessears, C, NC A&T; Ashley Bates, G, HAM; Sarah Edmond, G, HOW; Jayla Myles, C, HOW

**Texas Southern guard Zach Lofton** (men) and **Alabama State senior forward Britney Wright** (women) were named the top individual players as the all-Southwestern Athletic Conference basketball teams were named.

**PLAYER & NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR**  
 Zach Lofton, Jr., G, Texas Southern  
**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
 Marvin Jones, 7-0, Gr., F, Texas Southern  
**FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR**  
 Demontae Jefferson 5-7, Fr., G, Texas Southern  
**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
 Montez Robinson, 2nd year, Alcorn State

**FIRST TEAM**  
 Zach Lofton, 6-3, Jr., G, TEXAS SOUTHERN; Marcus Romain, 6-2, Sr., G, MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE; Shawn Prudhomme, 6-4, Sr., F, SOUTHERN; Marquis Vance 6-7, Sr., F, ALBANY STATE; Avery Ugba, 6-7, Jr., C, GRAMBLING STATE

**SECOND TEAM**  
 Yetta Specks, 5-10, Sr., G, JSU; Tevin Bellinger, 6-0, Sr., G, PVAM; Reginal Johnson, 6-5, Jr., F, ALC; Kevin Scott, 6-4, Jr., F, TSU; Jared Sam, 6-9, Jr., C, SU

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
 Britney Wright, Sr., F, Alabama State  
**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
 Henrietta Wells, Sr., C, Alcorn State  
**NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR**  
 Alexis Freeman, 5-4, Jr., G, Alcorn State  
**FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR**  
 Jameica Cobb, 5-7, Fr., G, Alabama A&M  
**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
 Freddie Murray, 2nd year, Grambling State

**FIRST TEAM**  
 Shakyla Hill, 5-7, So., G, GRAMBLING STATE; Joyce Kennerson, 5-4, So., G, TEXAS SOUTHERN; Britney Wright, 5-10, Sr., F, ALABAMA STATE; Briana Green, 5-11, Jr., F, SOUTHERN; Ashley Beals, 6-0, Sr., C, MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE

**SECOND TEAM**  
 Alexus Parker, 5-10, Sr., G, PVAM; Jazmin Boyd, 5-8, So., G, GSU; Artavia Ford, 6-3, So., C, TSU; Cortnei Purnell, 6-0, Sr., F, SU; Henrietta Wells, 6-1, Sr., C, ALC



Cole



Heslip



Lofton



Wright



Walker



Betts

**LUT WILLIAMS**  
 BCSP Editor

Play began Monday in the **Mid Eastern Athletic Conference** Tournaments in Norfolk, Va. and on Tuesday at the higher seeded teams' homecourts in the **Southwestern Athletic Conference** Tournaments.

The SWAC tournament moves to Houston's Toyota Center for semifinals and finals play on Friday and Saturday.

Both conferences will crown champions on Saturday and award their respective automatic berths into the NCAA Div. I Men's and Women's Tournaments.

**SWAC TOURNAMENTS**

Texas Southern is the men's top seed and Grambling State emerged as the top ladies seed in the SWAC Tournaments.

Only the top eight finishers in the regular season earned berths in the SWAC Tournaments. Grambling (16-12, 14-4 SWAC) tied for the regular season women's title with Texas Southern (20-9, 14-4) both with 14-4 conference records.

GSU was awarded the top seed by virtue of the league's tie-breaking procedure. The teams split two games in the regular season with TSU winning 69-61 and GSU winning 64-52. The point differential gave the tie-breaker to Grambling.

Grambling hosted 8th-seeded Mississippi Valley State Tuesday while TSU entertained 7th-seed Prairie View A&M.

Texas Southern (20-11, 16-2 SWAC) won the men's regular season crown by three games over second-place Alcorn State (16-13, 13-5).

TSU hosted 8th-seed Alabama State in Tuesday's opening round. Alcorn State played at home vs. 7th-seed Mississippi Valley State.

TSU men swept the 2016-17 regular season awards (See related story).

SWAC scoring leader (17.9 ppg.), junior guard **Zach Lofton** was named the player and newcomer of the year. Seven-foot graduate center **Marvin Jones**, who led the league in blocks (1.5 pg.) and pulled down 6.6 rebounds per game (8th) was named the top defender. Dynamic 5-7 guard **Demontae Jefferson** (14.4 ppg., 3.3 app.) was named the top freshman.

**MEAC TOURNAMENTS**

The North Carolina Central men and Bethune-Cookman women are the top seeds in the MEAC Tournaments at the Norfolk (Va.) Score Arena.

The NCCU Eagles (22-8, 13-3 MEAC) were clipped a little, losing their last two conference games in the regular season, after winning 13 straight. They won't take the court until Wednesday's first quarterfinal round when they will play the winner of Tuesday's opening round game between Delaware State and Bethune-Cookman.

Norfolk State (15-15, 12-4), Morgan State (14-15, 11-5) and Hampton (14-15, 11-5) are seeded second thru fourth and received byes into Wednesday's and Thursday's quarterfinals.

NCCU senior guard **Patrick Cole** earned the league's player of the year award. Cole averaged 19.6 points per game (3rd) and led the league handing out 5.7 assists per game. He also average 6.9 rebounds (5th).

**2017 SIAC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS (Results and Tournament Honors)**

**MEN**

**OPENING ROUND**

#5E Fort Valley State 79, #4W Kentucky St. 73  
 #4E Morehouse 72, #5W Tuskegee 55  
 #5W LeMoynoe-Owen 94, #7W Paine 82

**SECOND ROUND**

#3E Benedict 68, #6W Central State 60  
 #3W Miles 73, #6E Albany State 65

**QUARTERFINALS**

#5E Fort Valley State 76, #1E Clafin 58  
 #4E Morehouse 74, #1E Lane 64  
 #3E Benedict 75, #2W LeMoynoe-Owen 70  
 #2E Clark Atlanta 75, #3W Miles 73

**SEMIFINALS**

#5E Fort Valley State 69, #3E Benedict 54  
 #2E Clark Atlanta 91, #4E Morehouse 86

**CHAMPIONSHIP**

#2E Clark Atlanta 64, #5E Fort Valley State 62

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYER**

Tim Sanders, Clark Atlanta

**ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM**

Tim Sanders - Clark Atlanta  
 James Barnes - Fort Valley State  
 Brandon Morris - Benedict  
 Quayshun Hawkins - Benedict  
 Rashawn Brown - LeMoynoe-Owen

**COACH OF THE TOURNAMENT**

Darrell Walker, Clark Atlanta

**WOMEN**

**OPENING ROUND**

#5E Albany St. 61, #4W Kentucky St. 59  
 #5W LeMoynoe-Owen 67, #4W Paine 53

**SECOND ROUND**

#3E Fort Valley St. 67 vs. #6W Tuskegee 61  
 #6E Clark Atlanta 79, #3W Lane 76

**QUARTERFINALS**

#1E Benedict 66, #5E Albany State 61, OT  
 #1W Central State 75, #5W LeMoynoe-Owen 54  
 #3E Fort Valley State 81, #2W Miles 65  
 #2E Clafin 70, #6E Clark Atlanta 55

**SEMIFINALS**

#1E Benedict 86, #3E Fort Valley State 66  
 #1W Central State 57, #2E Clafin 50

**CHAMPIONSHIP**

#1E Benedict 77, #1W Central State 72

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYER**

Destiny Betts, Benedict

**ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM**

Destiny Betts, Benedict  
 LeAnna Morrison - Benedict  
 Ghomeerah McCullers - Central State  
 Mustafa Nottter - Central State  
 Shekiya Tarpins - Fort Valley State

**COACH OF THE TOURNAMENT**

James Rice, Benedict

**MONDAY - MARCH 6 - OPENING ROUND WOMEN**

#4 Florida A&M 65, #13 South Carolina State 62  
 #5 Norfolk State 60, #12 Delaware State 40  
 #11 Maryland-Eastern Shore 62, #6 Coppin State 59

**MONDAY - MARCH 6 - OPENING ROUND MEN**