

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



N.C. A&T Sports Photo

HOTTER IN JULY**JAMES BACK AS GRAMBLING AD; WVSU TO NEW CONFERENCE; GRIDIRON MOVES****UNDER THE BANNER**

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

JAMES BACK AS AD AT GRAMBLING:

Grambling, LA — **Aaron James**, a 2012 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame member and a member of the Grambling Legends Sports Hall of Fame, has assumed the role of interim athletics director at **Grambling State University**, effective Monday (July 1). It is his second stint as interim AD.



"We're so blessed to have someone like Aaron on staff at our institution," said President **Frank G. Pogue**. "He's a star in his own right, on the basketball court, in college sports generally and in higher education administration. He's a flexible, smart, knowledgeable administrator and leader capable of filling any of several roles, and we're happy that he's agreed to help us once again."

James succeeds **Percy "Chico" Caldwell**, who was named AD at Grambling in February 2012. Caldwell gave Pogue his resignation on Tuesday. During his tenure he put a lot of emphasis on student athlete academics and team academic standings. He also started an athletic fundraising effort called the 250 Club.

James, an associate athletic director for marketing and promotion who was recently assigned as the university's interim development director, will return to the Hobdy Assembly Center and lead Grambling State's 15 sports programs: men's football, basketball, baseball, cross country, track and field/outdoor; women's basketball, bowling, track and field indoor/outdoor, cross country, tennis, soccer, softball and volleyball.

James was interim AD from late June 2011, after **J. Lin Dawson** resigned, until early 2012 when Caldwell was hired.

"I'm a Gramblinite, committed to my school, sports and higher education," said James, 60. "Whatever I need to do, I will do to help dear ole Grambling."

W. VA. STATE IN NEW LEAGUE:

WHEELING, W.Va. — As of Monday, July 1st, the Mountain East Conference officially welcomed the twelve charter members of the newest NCAA Division II league.

"While we are still more than a month away from when action begins in the Mountain East Conference, we are very excited that our twelve members are moving forward as members of the MEC as of today," said Commissioner Reid Amos. "This is one of several landmark days for the Mountain East as we officially become the newest active NCAA Division II conference this year. We have every confidence that our new conference will be highly competitive and will provide great opportunities and memorable experiences for our student-athletes."

The new league's charter members include: Concord University (W.Va.), Fairmont State University (W.Va.), Glenville State College (W.Va.), Notre Dame College (Ohio), Shepherd University (W.Va.), The University of Charleston (W.Va.), The University of Virginia's College at Wise (Va.), Urbana University (Ohio), West Liberty University (W.Va.), **West Virginia State University** (W.Va.), Wheeling Jesuit University (W.Va.), and West Virginia Wesleyan College (W.Va.).

The new conference will begin competition in the fall of 2013 after receiving approval from the NCAA in February. Eleven schools are currently members of NCAA Division II with Virginia-Wise nearing completion of Candidacy Year 1 of the NCAA Division II membership process.

The 12-team regional all-sports league will sponsor championship competition in 16 men's and women's sports during the 2013-14 academic year.

MOUNTAIN EAST

BCSP Notes**Morehouse's all-star Andrae Nelson****to play in NBA Summer League**

Orlando, Fla. — Former **Morehouse** all-SIAC basketballer **Andrae Nelson** has been selected to play on the NBA's Orlando Magic team, as the franchise released its roster for the 2013 Southwest Airlines Orlando Pro Summer League.



Nelson

The event takes place at the team's practice court at the Amway Center from July 7-12, 2013. The 25-game, six-day event will feature the Orlando Magic, Boston Celtics, Brooklyn Nets, Detroit Pistons, Houston Rockets, Indiana Pacers, Miami Heat, Oklahoma City Thunder, Philadelphia 76ers and Utah Jazz.

Nelson, a 6-foot-7 senior power forward from Valley Stream, NY, was the backbone of the East Division Co-Champion Maroon Tigers this season. A stout defender with an array of skill and post-moves, Nelson averaged 11.9 points and 8.1 rebounds and helped Morehouse return to prominence posting a 20-8 overall record, 16-2 in the SIAC en route to its runner-up finish in the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** Men's Basketball Tournament. He averaged 16.8 points and 8.9 rebounds as a junior.

Nelson, who recently graduated from Morehouse with a degree in political science, was named to the 2013 All-SIAC First Team, which was his second consecutive selection.

He will join former **Norfolk State** and **MEAC** standout **Kyle O'Quinn** on the summer league roster. O'Quinn just finished his rookie season with the Magic averaging 4.1 points and 3.7 rebounds and appearing in 57 games.

One last look and appreciation for Bethune-Cookman's Johnnie Allen

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — In showing continued appreciation for his success on and off the court for the Wildcats, BCUathletics.com takes a final look and appreciation for the career of **Johnnie Allen**, the **Bethune-Cookman** men's basketball all-time scoring leader who passed away in late June.

Here is a look at some of his accomplishments:

1) Allen's debut in a Bethune-Cookman uniform was December 2, 1965, against **CIAA**-defending champion and (NCAA Division II Tournament participant) **Norfolk State** in the Georgia Invitational Tournament — then a prestigious HBCU basketball regular season event in Atlanta. He scored 38 points, but the Spartans won 109-103, hitting 31 free throws to the Wildcats' 13.

2) With three games remaining in the 22-game regular season of 1965-66, Allen needed just three points to break **Calvin Johnson's** single-season record of 592 points. One night after scoring 40 against **Benedict**, Allen hit 30 against **Savannah State** to break the record. Allen finished his freshman season scoring 759 points and averaging 27.1 points per game.

3) Allen shot 60.3 percent from the field his freshman season.

4) During the Johnnie Allen era, Bethune-Cookman scored 100 points or more 42 times. Number of 100-point games since 1969: 46.

5) Allen and fellow senior **Melvin Jackson** finished their Bethune-Cookman careers in 1969 with 79 victories, second only to **Carl Fuller's** 82 for most wins by a Wildcat basketball player. Owen Harris, a freshman on the 1967-68 team when Allen was a junior, would depart in 1971 with 74. It would not be until **Stanley Elliott** in 2012 that a Bethune-Cookman player would register four winning seasons with 70 or more victories. Elliott, now a graduate assistant, holds the Division I record for player victories with 73.

6) Of the 135 recorded 30-point games by Bethune-Cookman players, Allen had 36 (27 percent of the total). Of the 36 other Wildcats to hit 30, only three — **Warren Baker**, Johnson and **Vernon Taylor** — did it more than 10 times.

7) Allen's 3,067 career points still ranks him 10th on the NCAA's all-

time Division II scoring list. He battled for the national scoring title, but his 32.7 ppg in 31 games fell short to **Mike Davis** of **Virginia Union**, who posted an average of 36.3 points per game in 25 games. Allen finished fifth in the nation that senior year.

8) Allen scored 994 points in 31 games his senior year. Since then, only 20 Bethune-Cookman players have surpassed that in their careers. Of those 20, only Taylor, Baker, **Aulcie Perry**, **Clifford Reed**, **Richard Toussaint**, **Reggie Cunningham**, **C.J. Reed** and **Adrien Coleman** scored 1,000 points in two seasons — the latter five after the three-point shot was adapted in 1986.

9) At the 1968 **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** (SIAC) Tournament, Allen scored 44 points on **Florida A&M** in the Wildcats' 104-101 championship game victory that capped a three-game tournament mark of 110 points that still stands to this date.

10) While the focus of Allen's career has been on his scoring, he is also Bethune-Cookman's second-leading rebounder with 1,352, trailing only Fuller's 1,685. Allen's best season on the boards was 1966-67, when he averaged 12.9 rebounds per game and edged Fuller by two boards (401-399) for the team rebounding title. Allen had 15 games with 15 or more rebounds, with his high of 26 coming against **Edward Waters** on January 17, 1968.

Johnnie Allen

Courtesy: BCUathletics.com

Sale of Bowman-Gray Stadium to WSSU moves along

WINSTON-SALEM (Winston-Salem Journal) — A bill designed in part to ease Winston-Salem's sale of Bowman Gray Stadium to **Winston-Salem State University** cleared a hurdle last week when it passed the N.C. Senate on a vote of 47-0.

The bill, part of a measure regulating capital improvements in the UNC system, allows the university to issue debt for the proposed purchase of the stadium, and codifies requirements that the name of the stadium not be changed and other provisions relating to NASCAR races taking place at the stadium.

The bill now goes to the N.C. House.

**WSSU to host CIAA volleyball championship**

The CIAA will hold its volleyball championship this fall at the Gaines Center and in Whitaker Gym on the campus of Winston-Salem State University.

The championship will be held Nov. 15-17, and it's the first time since 2005 that it will be held in Winston-Salem.

CIAA Commissioner **Jacquie Carpenter** said in a statement she's thrilled that the football and the volleyball championships will both be in Winston-Salem. It was announced in the spring that the CIAA football championship will be held at Bowman Gray Stadium on Nov. 16.

"Winston-Salem State University will be a fantastic host for both the CIAA volleyball and football championships," Carpenter said. "Their experience in hosting will assist the conference in ensuring the fans, sponsors and student-athletes have a spectacular weekend."

The top four schools from the Northern and Southern divisions will meet in a double-elimination volleyball tournament. **Fayetteville State** is the defending champion.



Rivers

Caesar

Kindle

Carrothers

gram that was closer to his hometown of Miami.

Michigan State announced in May that Caesar requested and was granted a scholarship release after not having played for the Spartans in two seasons with the program.

Caesar was listed fourth on Michigan State's spring depth chart in a receiver's position and also worked out at tight end before leaving the program.

NC A&T QB Kindle suspended

GREENSBORO, July 5, 2013 - North Carolina A&T senior quarterback **Lewis Kindle** has been suspended from all football related team activities pending the resolution of two criminal charges.

At approximately 3:06 a.m., Friday, July 5, Kindle was stopped by an A&T campus police officer while driving his vehicle on East Lindsay Street and attempting to make a left turn onto Sullivan Street with no operating headlights, and at what appeared to be an accelerated speed.

Kindle was later charged with failure to burn headlights from sunset to sunrise and driving while impaired. He is scheduled to appear in court on Aug. 26, 2013.

North Carolina A&T said it will have no further comment concerning this matter until the judicial process is completed.

WSSU QB Carrothers on the mend

According to a story from the *Winston-Salem Journal's* John Dell, **Winston-Salem State** quarterback **Anthony Carrothers** is just about back in the saddle.

Carrothers, who started and won two play-

offs games in the Rams' run to the NCAA Div. II championship game last year and is expected to be the Rams' starter this year, had surgery on his non-throwing left shoulder in late April.

He was given clearance to throw on June 24 and says he'll be ready to go by the first day of summer practice.

"It feels good to throw again," Carrothers told Dell last week during a break from summer school. "I just want to get in that groove again and I've been throwing to my guys about three or four times a week."

Listed at only 5-9, 185 pounds, Carrothers is the only quarterback on the roster who has started a game in college. He went 8-2 as a freshman in 2010 at **Grambling** before transferring to WSSU. He redshirted at WSSU in 2011 and then stepped up last fall when **Kam Smith**, the Rams' record-setting senior quarterback, went down with a shoulder injury.

"I'm taking this like it's my freshman year at Grambling and I have something to prove," said Carrothers, who was a star quarterback at Charlotte (N.C.) Independence in high school. "I'm getting better each week and I'm rehabbing my shoulder and doing everything that (Dr. Michael Freehill) tells me to. I'm climbing the ladder to get back to 100 percent."

Carrothers, **Deshean Townsend** and transfer **E. J. Abrams-Ward** were the three quarterbacks in camp during spring practice. Abrams-Ward, who is from Thomasville and started his career at Tennessee, hasn't played a game in college yet. He redshirted in his one season at Tennessee in 2009.

The Rams will begin practice in early August and will open the season at UNC Pembroke on Sept. 5 on a Thursday night.

Football Notes**Grambling's Rivers to Albany State**

ALBANY, GA — Albany State head coach **Mike White** confirmed last week that the Golden Lions have signed former **Grambling State** quarterback **Frank Rivers**.

Rivers, a rising junior, started eight games the last two years at Grambling State but decided to transfer after GSU head coach **Doug Williams**' son **D. J. Williams** emerged as the starter.

Rivers, a 6-foot-5, 205-pound native of Fairfield, Ala., said he is excited to be the newest member of the Albany State program.

"I am really happy to be here," said Rivers, who combines a strong arm with excellent running ability. "I have been working out with the guys, and them and the coaches all accept me. This team gets a lot of support from the surrounding areas, so I am excited to see how this goes."

Rivers started six games in 2011 and helped lead the Tigers to a SWAC championship. He threw for 967 yards and 10 TDs that season but also tossed 10 interceptions. In 2012, Rivers started just two games but appeared in nine and finished the season as Grambling's top passer with 954 yards, seven TDs and four interceptions.

After deciding to transfer, Rivers was pursued by **Winston-Salem State**, **Edward Waters**, **Fort Valley State** and **Benedict**.

Rivers is currently enrolled in summer school at Albany State and will also play baseball for the Rams. Last season at Grambling, Rivers, a relief pitcher, appeared in seven games and had an ERA of 9.00 with 1.2 strikeouts per inning.

WR Caesar transfers to FAMU

Former Michigan State wide receiver **Juan Caesar** is transferring to **Florida A&M University**, he tweeted Sunday.

The 6-foot-4, 212-pound Caesar moved on to a Football Championship Subdivision pro-

gram that was closer to his hometown of Miami.

Michigan State announced in May that Caesar requested and was granted a scholarship release after not having played for the Spartans in two seasons with the program.

Caesar was listed fourth on Michigan State's spring depth chart in a receiver's position and also worked out at tight end before leaving the program.

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