FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 16 - 22, 2024





GETTING A SHOT

center Angel Jackson goes off the boards in Monday's third round of WNBA Draft.

IN THE MIX: Jackson State 6-6

FIVE NEW FOOTBALL COACHES AT SWAC MEDIA DAY; NFL DRAFT NEARING; LEWIS OUT AT ECSU

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

JSU'S JACKSON TAKEN IN WNBA DRAFT:

The 2024 SWAC Defensive Player of the Year, 6-6



Jackson State grad senior forward Angel Jackson, was selected Monday in the third and final round of the WNBA Draft.

The 6-6 Richmond, Ca. native was taken 36th overall by the Las Vegas Aces in the draft held at the

Jackson

Brooklyn Academy of Music. Jackson was the last player selected.

She was also one of four players the Aces took in the draft. They also selected three players in the second round - Syracuse guard Dyaisha Fair (16th overall), guard Kate Martin of national runners-up Iowa (18th overall) and Virginia Tech center Elizabeth Kitley (24th overall).

Jackson spent two years at JSU after transferring from Southern Cal and averaged 10.0 points, 6.8 rebounds and a league-best 2.9 blocks per game this season. Her 2.9 blocks per game were fourth best in the nation. She also shot 81.2% from the line (95 of 117), fourth best in the SWAC. In her two seasons at JSU, Jackson averaged 9.8 points, 7.0 rebounds and 2.5 blocks per game while shooting 44.7% from the field and 78.9% from the charity stripe.

She was the anchor of the Lady Tigers' defense that helped them post an 18-0 regular season SWAC record and take the conference tournament title in a 68-44 win over Alcorn State last month. JSU (26-7), as a 14th-seed, lost to 3rd-seed UConn in a first round NCAA Tournament game, 86-64. Jackson had 13 points, four rebounds and two blocks in the season-ending contest.

"I'm extremely excited for Angel," Jackson State Head Coach Tomekia Reed told HBCU Legends. "She has always reminded me of a pro athlete with her abilities to score from the outside being 6-6. I totally believe she will have an amazing career at the next level. She has great abilities in protecting the basket as a shot blocker, she runs the floor well and she has done an amazing job playing against P5 (Power 5) opponents. She's versatile being able to play facing the basket and playing with her back to the basket. She's a true pro. I'm excited for her and this opportunity. She's another great representation for our HBCU commu-

2023 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL (Standings and Weekly Hohors)

SWAC

SOUTHWESTERN

ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

SIAC SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE							
	CONF		ALL				
	W	L	W	L			
Albany State	21	2	23	7			
Spring Hill	19	4	21	15			
Savannah State	15	5	19	7			
Miles	14	9	17	18			
Morehouse	14	12	16	14			
Kentucky State	13	7	14	15			
Lane	9	11	14	16			
Edward Waters	7	10	12	15			
Clark Atlanta	6	16	11	21			
Benedict	5	13	9	14			
Tuskegee	5	17	6	27			
LeMoyne-Owen	0	12	0	21			
PLAYERS OF THE WEEK							

PLAYER

Joseph

Jaden Oden, Jr., OF, SSU - In sweep of Tuskegee had 6 hits, 7 runs and 6 RBI while batting .600 overall He stole 3 bases and registered six putouts. He is batting .356 with a .508 slugging percentage. PITCHER

Enrico Peele Sr P SSU - Pitched Tigers to 5-0 shutout of Tuskegee Friday allowing no runs on five hits with no walks and four Ks. It was his eighth win, tops in the SIAC. He has a 2.42 ERA in 44.2 innings

BCSP Notes

Graves

at 2024 Football Media Day

at the Sheraton-Birmingham.

upcoming 2024 football season.

Southern during the 2023 season.

SWAC to premier five new coaches

	CON	F	ALL		
EAST	W	L	W	L	
Florida A&M	12	2	17	18	
Bethune-Cookman	10	4	18	17	
Jackson State	8	6	23	11	
Alabama State	7	7	16	17	
Alabama A&M	4	11	6	28	
Mississippi Valley State WEST	1	12	9	20	
Texas Southern	13	3	17	18	
Southern	10	3	16	15	
Grambling State	9	5	12	20	
Prairie View A&M	8	7	17	22	
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	4	11	13	22	
Alcorn State	1	13	2	26	
PLAYERS OF THE WEEK HITTER Adam Haidermota, FAMU - 8 of 16 (.500) with 2 doubles, 1 HR, 8 RBI, 5 runs scored. Lenny Montesano, JSU - Hit .615 in 3 games vs. B-CU, 5 runs scored, 7 RBI. PITCHER Tanner Boccabello, B-CU - 8.2 innings, 1 earned run vs. JSU, with 6 Ks, one BB.					

game to punch their ticket to the NCAA tournament. The Lady Vikes lost 84-60 to Glenville State in the first round

CAA

7 NC A&T

COLONIAL ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

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Her final season with the team this season ended with a 20-11 overall record, 10-6 in the CIAA and another close 64-59 loss to Fayetteville State in the championship game.

Before embarking on a career in coaching, Lewis was a standout player at North Carolina State University, being named one of three All-ACC teams

The star guard played in the WNBA from 2001 to 2006 with the Houston Comets, Charlotte Sting, and Minnesota Lynx, respectively. She joined Elizabeth City State following stints as an assistant coach with her alma mater NC State, Illinois State University, and North Carolina Central.

Lewis will be taking over a UNC Asheville team that has not had a winning season since 2019-2020, having finished with an 11-20 overall record this past season.

UAPB's Green transferring to Alabama

Arkansas-Pine Bluff scoring leader and talented first-team all-SWAC selection Zaay Green has decided to leave the Golden Lions and take up residence at Alabama for her final collegiate season.



Green, a 6-2 former five-star high schooler who had stints at Tennessee and Texas A&M before coming to UAPB, averaged a team-best 16.7 points per game this season, second-best in the SWAC. In her previous stops, she finished the 2018-19 season at Tennessee with an SEC All-Freshman Team selection after averaging 9.6 points, 4 rebounds and 2.3 assists per game in 24 starts in 32 games. She was named SEC Freshman of the Week twice.

Her sophomore season at Tennessee was cut short by injury in 2019-2020 and she transferred to Texas A&M. Green spent one season with the Aggies where she averaged 2.9 points per game on a .390 shooting percentage in limited minutes.

Green averaged 15.8 points per game as a redshirt junior while starting all 26 games in the 2021-22 season at UAPB. As a redshirt senior in the 2022-23 season, she did not suit up. She started all 29 games for the 13-16 Lady Golden Lions this season shooting 42.3% from the field, 30% (30 of 100) from 3-point range and 65.5% from the free throw line.

As NFL Draft nears, black college prospects slim

Which black college players' names that will be called in the 2024 NFL Draft is anybody's guess.

As the final stages unfold, there appears to be no one clear sure-fire

Graves at Southern, Cris Dishman at Texas Southern, James Colzie III at Florida A&M and Cedric Thomas at Alcorn State. Graves took over at

Colzie

The league will also announce the 2024 SWAC Football Preseason Teams as well as the Predicted Order of Finish at the event.

Dishman

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.- The Southwestern Athletic Conference will

All twelve SWAC head football coaches and two student-athletes

There will be five new head coaches leading SWAC programs in the

host its annual Football Media Day on Tuesday, July 16 at 10:00 a.m. CST

from each team will be in attendance to address the media regarding the

2024 season including Mickey Joseph at Grambling State, Terrence

2023 preseason favorite Florida A&M took last year's title. The Rattlers won the East Division with an 8-0 record and defeated West Division champion Prairie View A&M, 35-14 in the SWAC Championship game. The Rattlers then defeated MEAC champion Howard in the Celebration Bowl, 30-26. FAMU Head Coach Willie Simmons departed after the season to become the running backs coach at Duke.

A complete listing of the student-athletes slated to be in attendance will be released at a later date. Media one-on-one interviews with coaches and student-athletes will begin at 10:00 a.m. CST.

South Carolina State sweeps MEAC men's and women's tennis titles

NORFOLK, Va., April 15, 2024 --- The South Carolina State men's and women's tennis teams claimed the 2024 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) regular season championship title.

The women won for the second straight season, after defeating North Carolina Central 4-3 Sunday in the regular season conference finale.

South Carolina State women swept through conference play with 7-0 wins over Coppin State, Morgan State, and Norfolk State. S.C. State defeated Delaware State and Howard 5-2 in both matchups, then concluded their season with a final 4-3 victory against North Carolina Central to clinch the MEAC regular season championship title.

Green

Thomas

nity and for Jackson State.

Jackson shot 50% from 3-point range in her JSU career canning 1 of 2 shots from behind the arc in the 2022-23 season and 3 of 6 from long range this season.

She becomes the seventh HBCU player, third player from the SWAC and second from JSU to be selected in the WNBA Draft (see STAT CORNER, below).

She joins former JSU SWAC Player of the Year Ameysha Williams-Holliday who was selected in third round of the 2022 draft by Indiana. Williams-Holliday lasted until the final cut with the Fever before being let go. Williams-Holliday was the first HBCU player to go in the WNBA Draft in 20 years.

Howard forward/center Denique Graves was the first black college player to be drafted in the league, taken by the Sacramento Monarchs in the second round of the 1997 Draft. Graves only played sparingly in her one season for the Monarchs. Howard's Karen Wilkins was taken the following year by the Phoenix Mercury and was cut before the season started. Ditto for SWAC Player of the Year Jaclyn Winfield of Southern taken by Utah in the fourth round of the 2002 draft and NC Central center Amba Kongolo taken by Phoenix in the fourth rounnd of the same draft.

Two-time MEAC Player of the Year Andrea Gardner of Howard was taken in the second round of the 2002 Draft by Utah and played one season with the Starzz and one season with the Washington Mystics.

The men also claimed their second straight title after defeating NC Central 4-3 Sunday to finish 5-0 in the regular season.

The men's and women's tennis championship tournament is set for April 25-27 in Cary, N.C.

Lewis leaves ECSU women to take over UNC-Asheville program

Former WNBA player and Elizabeth City State head women's



basketball coach Tynesha Lewis has announced she is leaving after three seasons to accept the head coaching job at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

Joining ECSU in 2021, Lewis left her stamp on the program and the CIAA as she led the team to league championship game appearances in each of her three years at the helm.

In her first season, she helped improve the team

from a 12-18 record over the previous season to a 21-7 record. Lewis was named the 2021-22 CIAA Coach of the Year after leading the Lady Vikings to an 11-5 record good for second in the North Division. ECSU lost 64-59 in the tournament championship game to Fayetteville State.

The following year, in 2023, Lewis led the team to a 20-11 overall mark, a 10-6 conference record and topped it off with ECSU's first-ever conference tournament title, knocking off Shaw 55-54 in the championship

HBCU pick to go off the April 25-27 draft boards in Detroit where the league will hold its seven-round confab.

Among the names most prominently mentioned is Howard's huge offensive lineman Anim Dankwah. He is considered by some to be the top FCS HBCU draft prospect in 2024. Dankwah was dominant in the MEAC at left tackle and his 6-foot-8, 362-pound frame and 35-and-1/8 inch arms have long caught the attention of NFL scouts.

Virginia State's Willie Drew was one of the top cornerbacks in NCAA Div. II football, picking off six passes this past season. Drew is a 5-11, 191-pound cornerback that ran a 4.46 40-yard dash with a 1.49 10-yard split — the third-fastest at the NFL Combine. Drew got to show what he could do against higher-level competition at the Senior Bowl to give scouts a better look.

Grambling State edge rusher Sundiata Anderson is a 6-5, 240-pound edge rusher with a great mix of speed and power. Anderson, who reminds some of former Jackson State edge James Houston now with the Detroit Lions, put his talents on display at the East-West Shrine Bowl and his pro day among NFL scouts with a 38.5-inch vertical. Alabama A&M edge rusher Zareon Hayes certainly helped his chances to be drafted with a three-sack (some say four) MVP performance at the HBCU Legacy Bowl in New Orleans. Hayes continued to add to his pre-draft resume with a 4.7 40-yard dash at UAB's pro day.

Other names to watch for include Alcorn State running back Jarveon Howard, Morgan State linebacker Lawrence Richardson, Jackson State safety John Huggins and Texas Southern running back LaDarius Owens.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HBCU PLAYERS	5 IN
WNBA DRAFT HIS	TORY

Name / School	Round / Selection	Team				
2024	4					
Angel Jackson, Jackson State	3rd-12-36	Las Vegas				
2022	2					
Ameshya Williams-Holliday, Jackson State	3rd-1-25	Indiana				
2002	2					
Andrea Gardner, Howard	2nd-11-27	Utah				
Amba Kongolo, NC Central	4th-8-56	Phoenix				
Jaclyn Winfield, Southern	4th-11-59	Utah				
1998						
Karen Wilkins, Howard	4th-8-38	Phoenix				
1997						
Denique Graves, Howard	2nd-7-15	Sacramento				

2023 BLACK COLLEGE SOFTBALL (Standings and Weekly Hohors)

Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association						
NORTH	div W	L	CONF W	L	all W	L
Virginia State	7	1	13	1	19	3
Bluefield State	2	2	7	3	12	19
Lincoln (PA)	2		7	3	11	22
Bowie State	1	2	6	3	12	19
Virginia Union	2	4	6	6	6	18
Elizabeth City State	0	3	4	5	5	10
SOUTH						
Winston-Salem State	8	0	10	4	11	18
Claflin	4	0	7	3	14	`17
Fayetteville State	4	2	5	7	11	17
Shaw	0	2	1	7	3	14
J. C. Smith	2	6	5	9	6	13
Livingstone	0	5	0	12	5	19
St. Augustine's	0	5	0	12	2	21
St. Augustine's 0 5 0 12 2 21 PLAYERS OF THE WEEK OFFENSIVE PLAYER Taisha Bratton, Sr., C/UT, WSSU - In 3-0 weekend, was 5 of 8 (.622) with 3 runs scored, 6 RBI. PITCHER Kara Green, Sr., P, VSU - Pitched a complete game giving up 7 hits vs. ECSU with 5Ks, 2 HBPs, in 5-1 win to improve to 6-1 on season. Went to 7-1 with complete game giving up 8 hits with 5Ks in 3-1 win over Bluefield State.						

MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE						
Howard Morgan State	CON W 13 12	L 2 2	ALL W 29 24	L 8 14		
Coppin State NC Central Delaware State SC State	11 9 4 4	4 6 11 11	16 13 11 7	29 23 24		
Norfolk State Maryland ES	3 3	11 12	4 8	36 28		
PLAYER OF THE WEEK Amber Rivas , Fr., C/OF, MSU - Was 5 of 7 (.714(with a double, triple, 5 runs scored, 2 RBI in two wins vs. NSU, 8-0 and 10-6. ROOKIE PITCHER						
Victoria Fletcher, Gr., P, MSU - Got two wins to improve to 3-3 on season with 1-hit shutout of Norfolk State on Saturday in 8-0 win getting 5 Ks. Came back to pitch 3.1 innings in relief Sunday vs. NSU giving up 1 hits and 1 earned run in 10-6 win.						

SIAC SOUTH ATH	IERN IN			
	CON	F	ALL	
EAST	W	L	W	L
Fort Valley State	17	3	23	12
Edward Waters	15	4	33	14
Albany State	15	5	27	11
Savannah State	8	13	12	24
Benedict	7	14	11	25
Clark Atlanta	4	17	14	31
Allen	3	21	3	38
WEST				
Spring Hill	19	0	20	15
Lane	14	5	28	10
Tuskegee	14	5	25	20
Kentucky State	8	11	13	17
Miles	5	14	8	25
LeMoyne-Owen	1	18	2	23
PLAYERS OF THE WEE PLAYER	K			
Leah Leonard, Fr., UT, F		for 11 (.728), 4	runs

scored, 7 RBI, 1 HR, 3 SB PITCHER

Jersey Cabana, So., P, LANE - Went 2-1 last week with 3 complete games, two vs. Tuskegee, allowing 1 earned run in 22 innings with 27 strike outs and 2 walks. Vs. Tuskegee, allowed no earned runs with 15 strike outs

SWAC	SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE				
	CONF	ALL			
EAST	W	L	W	L	
Florida A&M	14	4	18	17	
Jackson State	12	5	24	13	
Bethune-Cookman	12	6	14	24	
Alabama State	11	7	21	23	
Alabama A&M	3	14	7	22	
Miss. Valley State	1	17	3	28	
WEST					
Prairie View A&M	16	1	21	16	
Texas Southern	8	7	14	14	
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	7	7	16	18	
Southern	9	9	13	21	
Grambling State	5	12	13	24	
Alcorn State	4	13	9	27	

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Julie Lopez, JSU - Hit .667 in 3-game sweep of B-CU with 7 hits, a double, 3 RBI Nvah Morgan, FAMU - 8 RBI on 4 of 10 hitting, 8 putouts, 3 caught stealing PITCHER Miranda Roldan, SU - Complete game ERA of 0.00 giving up no hits with13 strike outs vs UAPG