

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



GolfDigest photo

SCALING NEW HEIGHTS

TIM O'NEAL: Former Jackson State golfer continues to grind, finding success on PGA Champions Tour.

LEGEND DOUG PORTER SUCCUMBS; HOOPS ALL-STARS PARIS BOUND; OUTDOOR TRACK RESULTS

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

HBCU FOOTBALL LEGEND PORTER PASSES:

College Football Hall of Famer **Doug Porter**, who was head coach at **Mississippi Valley State, Howard** and had two stints at **Fort Valley State**, passed on Sunday. He was 94 years old.

Porter, who hailed from Mississippi, started his collegiate career playing the quarterback position at **Xavier of Louisiana** before enlisting in the U.S. Army. He began his college coaching career when he took over the head coaching position at **MVSU** from 1961-65.

The next year, he joined the staff of legendary coach **Eddie G. Robinson** as an assistant at **Grambling State University**, where he stayed until 1973. He became a head coach again when he joined **Howard University** from 1974-78. Porter coached at **Fort Valley State University** from 1979 to 1985 and then again from 1987 to 1996.

Porter, had been the oldest living member of the College Football Hall of Fame.

While coaching at Fort Valley, Porter won the **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC)** Coach of the Year seven times while operating as the athletic director for 16 years. He was chairman of the Division II Football Committee and president of the National Athletic Steering Committee.

He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2008 and the **FVSU Athletics Hall of Fame** in 2009. Porter's funeral service is scheduled for **June 15** at **St. Benedict Catholic Church** in **Grambling, La.**

HAMILTON TO HEAD SC HALL OF FAME:

COLUMBIA, S.C. - **Bill Hamilton**, the legendary publicist and historian from **South Carolina State University**, has been named President of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame.

"The Board of Directors is fortunate to have **Bill Hamilton** serve as this year's president as he has been the long-time and successful publicist of SC State's rich athletic history and a committed board member," said **SCAHOF Executive Director Andy Solomon**. "We will benefit greatly from his vast experiences."

"I am honored to serve as president of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame," said **Hamilton**. "The Hall enjoys a storied past and has a bright future as it continues to honor those individuals who have contributed to the great athletic legacy in South Carolina and throughout the nation."

Hamilton, who was reared in **Chesterfield, S.C.** and graduated from **S.C. State**, retired in 2013 after 40 years as the only full-time sports information director in **SCSU** history, beginning his career in **July 1973**. He remains active with **SCSU** athletics as the college's athletic historian and as a football broadcaster. In 2009, he was enshrined in the **CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors Association) Hall of Fame** and in 2012, was the recipient of the **SCAHOF's annual Herman Helms Excellence in Media Award**.

Former **SC State** head football coach **Willie Jeffries** (2009) is a former president of the organization. **Hamilton** is replacing **Jeff May** of **Greenwood and Lander University**.

Another tough finish for Timothy O'Neal on Champions Tour

LUT WILLIAMS
BCSP Editor

The ups and downs of former **Jackson State** golfer **Timothy O'Neal** on the **PGA Champions Tour** continued last week.

The 51-year old **Savannah, Ga.** native, the only **African-American** on the **Champions Tour**, shot a final round 4-over 76 Sunday to finish in a tie with six others for 31st at -2, 214 at **Madison, Wisconsin's American Family Insurance Championship**.

His disappointing finish came after a promising start to the tournament.

He entered Sunday's final round at 6-under par, tied for fourth with **Jerry Kelly** before posting his worst score of the three-day event.

O'Neal was tied for eighth after a 2-under 70 in Friday's first round. He followed that up Saturday with a 4-under 68 to enter the final round just three strokes behind leaders **Ernie Els** and **Wisconsin native** and host **Steve Stricker** who were at -9. In Saturday's round, O'Neal carded



O'NEAL: Has all the form, looking for better results.

an eagle and three birdies on the five par-5 holes at the **University Ridge Golf Course** but he bogeyed his 18th and final hole.

O'Neal had two double-bogeys and one bogey against just one birdie in Sunday's final round.

Els won the tournament on the first hole of a playoff over **Stricker**.

This week O'Neal won \$16,160 for his 31st-place finish. So far this season over 12 events

— halfway thru the season — he has won \$104,432.

He entered last week's **AFIC** event 71st in the **Charles Schwab Cup** Money standings and stayed at 71st after his finish. The top 72 players advance to the **Schwab Cup Championship** playoffs which will be held the first weekend in **November (Nov. 7-10)** in **Phoenix**.

O'Neal's best finish so far this season was a tie for 19th at the **Inspire Classic** in **May**, his only top 25 result of the year. He also had his best payday there as he pocketed \$28,417.50.

Since joining what was formerly called the **Seniors Tour** in 2022, O'Neal has fashioned three top 10 finishes and pocketed \$614,276 in prize money thru 37 events. That three-year total far surpasses anything he has garnered in his 27-year pro career.

He got exemptions into two events in his inaugural **Champions** season (2022) before earning full status thru **Q-School** qualification in 2023.

In 2023, he finished 44th on the **Schwab Money List** with \$490,470 after competing in all 24 events.

O'Neal has had an up and down professional career after starring at **JSU** from 1993 to 1997. He won 16 collegiate golf tournaments while playing for the **Tigers** and had the nation's lowest scoring average during his senior season. He led **JSU** to its first-ever **NCAA** championship appearance in 1995. He also won the **Georgia Amateur Championship** in 1997.

As a professional, he has played in tournaments and on competition all around the world including the **Korn Ferry, PGA Tour Latinoamérica** and **Web.com** Tours. He has won seven professional events on four continents: **North America, Europe, Africa** and **South America**.

He is also known for his heart-breaking failures at **PGA Tour Q School**, where he missed earning a **PGA Tour** card by a single stroke on two occasions.

HBCU All-Star hoopers heading to Paris

Travis Williams continues to break new ground for **HBCU** basketball.

Ten **HBCU All-Stars** alumni will embark on introducing **HBCUs** to an international audience with the first-ever **HBCU All-Stars International Tour** to **Paris, France**. The excursion begins **Wednesday, June 19**, to **June 26**, as several of the nation's top **HBCU All-Stars** will participate.

"This is one of the most important and rare moments in history where we get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and global platform during the Olympic year in **Paris** to represent our esteemed **HBCUs**, four premier **Black College** conferences, the **Best in Black College Basketball**, and the **United States of America** in a part of the world where **HBCUs** and the **HBCU** culture do not exist," said **Travis L. Williams**, **Founder and CEO of HBCU All Stars LLC**.

Alums from the 2022, 2023, and 2024 **HBCU All-Star Games** in **New Orleans, Houston**, and **Phoenix** will be partake in the **Quai 54 World Streetball Championship** at the prestigious **Pierre de Coubertin Stadium** in **Paris**. Celebrities and even **NBA stars** will travel overseas to enjoy the annual basketball tournament, which sold out in less than two hours.

"This is history in the making to host the first-ever **HBCU All-Stars International Tour** in **Paris**, one month before the 2024 **Summer Olympics** take place," **Williams** said. "The very deserving 10 players that have been selected from our 2022, 2023, and 2024 **HBCU All-Star Games** are playing professionally now in the **NBA G-League**, internationally overseas, and doing well in pursuing their goals, dreams, and aspirations of playing at the highest level in the **NBA**."

"They are truly excited to represent the **HBCU All-Stars Basketball Movement**, and the best in college basketball from our country's most esteemed **HBCUs**."

Legendary former **HBCU** coach **Cy Alexander** will serve as the head coach of the all-star squad, bringing a wealth of valuable experience, knowledge, expertise, and respect.

"I am very honored and humbled to be asked to be a part of such an historic event," said **Alexander**, who led programs at **South Carolina State, Tennessee State** and **North Carolina A&T** during an impressive 45-year **HBCU** coaching career that included six **NCAA** Tournament appearances. "Travis Williams has done an outstanding job establishing the **HBCU All-Star Brand**. We plan to compete at a very high level and try to win the tournament."



Williams



Alexander



Sessoms



Doss



Foster



Brown



Christon



O'Neal



Richardson



Green



Gresham



Alston

Since October 2019, **Williams** said he has been working extremely hard through his sports marketing, events and media company **HBCU All-Stars, LLC**, "to provide these amazing national and global opportunities for our proud and prestigious **HBCUs**, deserving student-athletes, and brilliant coaches across the country."

"This God-driven vision will provide exposure, access, recognition, and opportunities on a global platform in **Paris** against some of the top international teams competing in this event and in two friendly exhibition games. There were many outstanding players very deserving of this great honor and opportunity to play at the highest level and on the biggest international stage in **Paris**."

With a mission to advocate, educate, expose, mentor, and invest in **HBCU** students, student-athletes, and coaches across the country, the event aims to showcase the "Best in **Black College Basketball**."

Launched by **HBCU All-Stars LLC**, a black-owned sports marketing, events, and media company in **Atlanta**, the **HBCU All-Star Game** brings much-needed **E.A.R. (Exposure, Access, Recognition)** and **O.R.R. (Opportunities, Resources, Results)** while celebrating **Black excellence**.

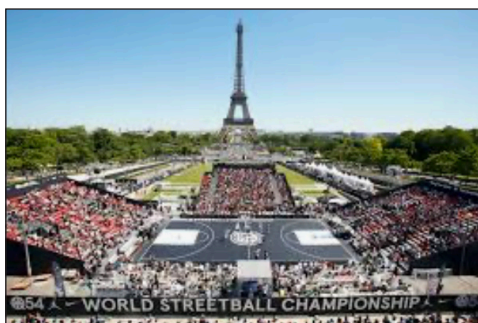
HBCU ALL-STARS INTERNATIONAL TOUR | 2024 HBCU ALL-STARS
Sam Sessoms, 6-0, PG, **Coppin State** ('23); **Shaun Doss**, 6-5, SG, **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** ('23); **Kyle Foster**, 6-6, SG, **Howard** ('22); **Christian Brown**, 6-6, G/F, **Tennessee State** ('24); **Kameron Christon**, 6-6, G/F, **Grambling State** ('23); **Jordan O'Neal**, 6-7, F/C, **Jackson State** ('24); **Kerry Richardson**, 6-7, F/C, **Morehouse** ('23); **Tahj Green**, 6-8, SF/PF, **Benedict** ('22); **Brishon Gresham**, 6-9, F/C, **Texas Southern** ('22); **Jaylen Alston**, 6-5, G/F, **Winston-Salem State** ('24).

ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT

Quai 54, considered the must-attend event for street basketball and urban culture, is back in **Paris**. After the 20th anniversary of the **French Open** at **Roland-Garros**, the world's biggest streetball tournament moves to the **Stade Pierre de Coubertin**, for the first time indoors! For two days, basketball fans and curious onlookers will be treated to top-level sporting competition and top-quality entertainment, for an exceptional show.

16 teams from 14 different nations, representing almost 160 pro and amateur players, including **NBA stars**, will compete for the title in knockout matches, with the men's final on **Sunday at 8pm**, just after the women's final! A real highlight of the event, the **Dunk Contest** will bring together the world's best high-flying dunkers with four big names!

Throughout the weekend, you'll also be able to enjoy live concerts and entertainment between matches, with some 10 **DJs** taking turns at the decks. After the arrival of a women's tournament in 2021, the new feature this year is the arrival of youth, with the **U15s** facing off in a series of knockout matches, to showcase the future of street basketball!



NEW VENUE: The **Quai World Streetball Championship** had been played outdoors in the shadow of the **Eiffel Tower (l.)** but moves to the indoor **Pierre de Coubertin Stadium (r.)** this year.



THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

2024 HBCU NCAA DIV. I OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD RESULTS

MEN

HIGH JUMP

Caleb Snowden - Arkansas-Pine Bluff
3rd - 2.23m (7 ft. 3 3/4 in.) - 6 pts.

110-METER HURDLES

Samuel Bennett - Howard
6th - 13.45 - 3 pts.

200 METERS

Jamarion Stubbs - Alabama State
7th - 20.59 - 2 pts

TEAM

1	Florida	41
T42	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	6
T56	Howard	3
T62	Alabama State	2

BCSP Spring Round-Up

Points few and far between for HBCU athletes, programs at NCAA Div. I Track Outdoors

EUGENE, OR - Only three black college athletes scored points at last week's **NCAA Div. I Outdoor Track & Field Championships**.

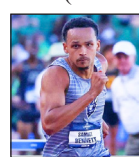
Arkansas-Pine Bluff high jumper **Caleb Snowden**, **Howard** high hurdler **Samuel Bennett** and **Alabama State** sprinter **Jamarion Stubbs** were the only **HBCU** athletes to finish in the top eight to earn points — and first team all-American status — in their respective events (See **STAT CORNER**).

Snowden, a 6-6 senior and two-time **SWAC** high jump champion, had the best finish. He placed third in the high jump with a clearance of 2.23 meters (7 feet, 3 3/4 inches), the same height as **Nebraska's Tyus Wilson**. **Snowden** earned six points for **UAPB**. **Romain Beckford** of **Arkansas** won the event with his season's best height of 2.26 meters (7 feet, 5 inches). **Snowden** entered the competition tied with **Beckford** for the best jump of the season.

Earlier this year, at the **NCAA Indoor Championships**, **Snowden** made history by becoming the first student-athlete in **UAPB** program history to be named an **All-American** since joining the **NCAA**.

Additionally, **Snowden** is the first high jumper from an **HBCU** to

achieve a top-three position in both the **NCAA Indoor and Outdoor Championships** in the same year. He finished second in the indoor championships with a leap of 2.24 meters (7 feet, 4 1/4 inches) behind **Beckford** (2.27 meters, 7 feet, 5 1/4 inches).



Howard graduate student **Bennett**, from the **United Kingdom**, saved his best performance in the 110-meter hurdles final. **Bennett** wrapped up the season with a sixth-place finish, clocking in at a personal best 13.45 seconds, while becoming the first **Bison** in more than 20 years to score points (three) at the national stage.

Additionally, he earned **All-American** first team honors, becoming the first men's **All-American** since former **Bison** standout and current **Howard** Director of **Track & Field David Oliver** (2003).

Stubbs placed seventh overall in the 200-meter dash with a time of 20.59 to earn two points for the **Hornets**. The **Las Vegas** native also earned **First Team All-American** honors for earning a top-eight finish.

He will return to **Oregon's Hayward Field** in a couple of weeks and compete for an opportunity to represent the **United States** in the 200-meter dash at the **Paris Summer Olympics**.