

# **LADIES FIRST**

**DIAMOND JOHNSON: Senior** point guard has led Norfolk State to 16-4 start, 4-0 in the MEAC. and to Top Ten Mid-Major ranking.

NEW COACH AT SHAW, STAFFS COMPLETED AT NC A&T, NORFOLK STATE; WOMEN'S HOOPS ROUND-UP

### 2024-25 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Men's Standings and Weekly Honors)

CIAA	CENTRAL INTER ATHLETIC AS						MEAC A	MID EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE							
	D	IV	CC	NF		ALL		CONF		ALL					
NORTH DIVISION	V	V L	W	L	W	L		W	L	W	L	-			
Virginia State	(	0	5	0	10	4	Howard	3	0	8	9	(			
Lincoln (PA)	(	0	5	0	11	5	S. C. State	3	1	9	10	- 1			
Bluefield State	(	0	2	2	9	5	Norfolk State	3	1	12	8	- 1			
Elizabeth City Sta	te 0	0	2	4	8	6	N. C. Central	2	2	9	12	-			
Virginia Union	(	0	1	2	7	8	Morgan State	2	2	8	12	F			
Bowie State	0	0	1	4	8	8	Delaware State	1	3	8	10	9			
SOUTH DIVISION	٧	V L	W	L	W	L	Coppin State	1	3	2	16	E			
Shaw	(	0	3	2	8	7	Md. E-Shore	0	3	4	15				
Fayetteville State	1	0	3	3	10	6						1			
Claflin	(	0	3	3	9	7	OFFENSIVE PLAYERS	Kamero	on H	obbs	, 5-10,				
Johnson C. Smith	(	1	3	2	7	6	R-Sr., G, MSU - Led Bea	, MSU - Led Bears with 24 points Sat. in loss							
Livingstone	(	0	1	5	9	8	at Howard and then led	with 23 pc	oints,	8 reb	ounds	,			
Winston-Salem St	ate 0	0	0	1	2	10	in handing NSU its first	handing NSU its first MEAC loss Mon. Marcus							
							Dockery, 6-2, Sr., G, HOW - Back-to-back 25-point								
DI AVERS OF THE	WEEK					games in wins over MSL	games in wins over MSU and CSU hitting (9-15, 3-5								

3s, 4-6 FTs) and 8-11, 6-8 3s, 2-3 FT)  $\textbf{Rell Williams, 6-3, } Jr., \, G, \, \textbf{BLST -} \, 24 \, \, points \, \, on \, \, 9$ **ROOKIE** of 13 FG, 1-3 3s, 7-9 FTs, 9 assists, 5 rebounds. Blake Harper, 6-2, Fr., G, HOW - Had 23

DEFENSIVE PLAYER assists in win over MSU Sat., 25 points, 12 Peter Sorber, Sr., F, LINCP - Averaged 14.5 rebounds in win over CSU Monday, Leads points, 8.0 rebounds in two wins with 12 points, league in scoring (19.1 ppg.) and rebounding 10 rebounds vs. WSSU, 17 points, 6 rebounds (6.9 rpg.) DEFENSIVE ROOKIE

Daniel Akitoby, 6-9, Sr., C, MSU - 10 re-Jahmire Brewer, 6-7, Fr., F, LINCP - Had 7 bounds, six blocks in 2 OT win vs. NCCU, 17 points, 7 rebounds, in win vs. WSSU Monday. points, 10 rebounds, 2 blocks in loss to HU.

**EAST** Clark Atlanta 10 5 8 7 Edward Waters Morehouse Fort Valley State 6 Savannah State 8 6 Kentucky State Tuskegee Spring Hill LeMoyne-Owen

PLAYER Alvin Miles, 5-11, Sr., G. MILES - Scored 28 points with 8 rebounds and 5 assists and 2 steals in 2 OT win vs. CSU Monday, 11 points, 3 boards in win over

DEFENSE Blaise Wallace, 6-7, So., ALB - Averaged double-double of 16.0 points, 12.5 rebounds in two games with 18 points, 14 rebounds in win Sav. State, 14 points, 11 rebounds in loss vs. EWU.

#### Southern Jackson State 3 Prairie View A&M Bethune-Cookman Alcorn State Alabama A&M Alabama State **Grambling State**

Arkansas-Pine Bluff

Miss. Valley State

Tanahj Pettaway, 6-2, Gr., PG, PVA&M -Averaged 27.5 points, 9.0 rebounds in two wins with 33 points, 11 rebounds vs. UAPB, 22 points, 7 rebounds vs. MVSU.

Daeshun Ruffin, 5-11, Jr., G, JSU - 11 points, 2 rebounds, 5 assists vs. ALST, 17 points, 4 rebs., 4 steals in 3 OT win vs. ALA&M. **NEWCOMER** 

Dorian McMillan, 6-3, Fr., G, JSU - Led Tiin win over ALST, 5 pts., 2 boards vs. AA&M.



INDEPENDENTS

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Malcolm Davis 6-2, Jr., G, LINCM - Averaged 17.0 points and 6.5 rebounds in two wins with 12 points 7 rebounds vs. SW Baptist, 22 points, 6 rebounds vs. Drury.

Ryan Forrest, 6-4, So., G, NC A&T - In 0-2 week, averaged 26.5 points, 4.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists with 26 points, 3, rebounds 3 assists vs. Delaware, 27 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists and blocks vs. W&M

# UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

# MANIGO RETURNS TO LEAD SHAW FOOTBALL:

Raleigh, NC - On Tuesday of last week, Shaw



Manigo

University announced that Lamar Manigo would be returning to become the Bears' new head football coach.

He returns to Shaw where he previously served as the offensive coordinator from 2016 to 2021, leading the Bears to some of their best offensive statistical seasons in program history.

Most recently, Manigo served as the assistant head coach, offensive coordinator, and quarterbacks coach at Virginia State University, where he played an integral role in the Trojans' resurgence as a powerhouse most recently winning the CIAA regular season title and appearing in the 2024 CIAA championship game. Known for his innovative offensive strategies and ability to inspire his players, Manigo is widely regarded as one of the brightest minds in college football coaching today.

"I am honored and excited to return to Shaw University as head football coach," Manigo said. "This is a homecoming for me, and I look forward to working with our talented student-athletes to build a program that makes our university and alumni proud.

Shaw will host an introductory press conference for Manigo on January 21, 2025, at 11 a.m. inside historic Estey Hall on campus.

## VICK (NORFOLK STATE), GIBBS (NC A&T), **COMPLETE FOOTBALL STAFFS:**

Shawn Gibbs, the new football head coach at North Carolina A&T, and Michael Vick, the new head coach at Norfolk State, have released their much-anticipated coaching staffs.

"I hired guys with experience and mental toughness who understand the game of football," Vick said. "The one thing I know is that they are going to put these guys in a position to win. We all have the same mindset, and I felt it was only right to hire guys who thought like me and want to lead like me. I'm extremely proud of these guys, and I'm excited for them."

T'm excited about the staff we have assembled here. Gibbs said in a statement released by the university. "We have several guys who have ties to A&T and have accomplished many things as players and coaches in the HBCU world and in the pros as players."

# Michael Vick, Head Coach, Norfolk State

Terence Garvin (Defensive Coordinator); Elton Brown (Offensive Line); Jabo Smith (Defensive Backs): Izaan Cross - Defensive Line): LaRov Revnolds (Linebackers): Darryl Bullock (Asst. Head Coach); Steve Adams (Special Teams / Recruiting Coordinator); DeMarcus McMillan (Director of Football Operations)

Shawn Gibbs, Head Coach, North Carolina A&T Denzel Jones (Defensive Coordinator); Tony McRae (Defensvie Backs); Ron Mattes

(Offensive Line); Nate Poole (Receivers); Keith Henry (Running Backs); Terry Lantz (Linebackers); Stephen Barnette (Tight Ends); Alex Purviance (Asst. LBs); Greg McGhee (Offensive Coordinator); O. C. Williams (Defensie Line); Theric Holt (Director of Football Operations).

# THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

### **ALL-CONFERENCE BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL TRANSFERS**

Javonnie Gibson, - 6-3, 205, R-So., WR Ark.-Pine Bluff Oklahoma 70 rec. (T1st), 1,215 yds. (1st), 9 TDs (2nd), 17.4 ypc. (6th), 5.8 rpg. (T1st), 101.3 ypg. (1st)

1st team all-SWAC

Reginald Vick, Jr., 6-3, 185, R-Jr., WR Virginia Union 48 rec. (2nd), 1,164 yds (1st), 12 TDs (1st), 24.2 ypc. (2nd), 4.0 cpg. (4rh), 97.0 ypg. (2nd) 1st team all-CIAA

Caden High, 5-10, 160, So., WR S. C. State Stanford 62 rec. (1st), 908 yds. (1st), 7 TDs (1st), 14.6 ypc.(9th), 5.2 cpg. (1st), 75.7 ypg. (1st) 1st team all-MEAC

Nathan Rembert, 5-9, 170, So., WR Miss. Valley State Jackson State 70 rec. (T-1st in SWAC), 1,038 yds. (2nd), 4 TDs (T6th), 14.8 ypc., (12th), 5.8 cpg. (T8), 86.5 ypg. (2nd) 1st team all-SWAC

J'Mari Taylor, 5-11, 200, R-Jr., RB NC Central Virginia 196 car. (1st in MEAC), 1,146 yds. (2nd), 5.8 ypc. (3rd), 15 TDs (1st), 104.2 ypg. (1st) 1st team all-MEAC

**Andrew Jones**, 6-2, 220, R-Jr., LB Grambling State South Carolina 122 tackles (1st in SWAC), 57 solos (1st), 65 assists (1st), 20.5 TFL, 1.71 tpg. (2nd), 10.2 tpg., (1st), 3 sacks 1st team all-SWAC - Co-Defensive Player of the Year

William Davis, 5-10, 195, Jr., DB Virginia Union West Virginia 56 tackles, 39 solos, 17 assists, 11.5 TFL, 2 ints., 1 sack, 1 FF (CIAA) 1st team all-CIAA

Karon Prunty, 6-2, 180, R-Sr., DB Wake Forest 27 tackles, 23 solos, 4 assists, 10 TFL, 1.0 sacks, 1 int., 4 BU (CAA) 3rd team all-CAA

Malachi Bailey, 6-2, 180, R-Sr., DB **Alcorn State** Arizona 19.5 TFL (3rd in SWAC), 9.5 sacks (3rd), .79 spg. (3rd)

# Women hoopsters leading the way

**LUT WILLIAMS** 

1 steal vs. King (TN)

**BCSP Editor** 

Unbeaten ladies teams in conference play are leading the way in the early

## CIAA

The Lady Panthers of Virginia Union are off to a 4-0 start in conference play. Preseason all-CIAA six-foot grad forward Tanivah Greene is leading VUU in scoring at 15.7 points per game. Five-seven grad guard Rori Cox (11.4 ppg.) and 5-5 senior point guard Nevaeh Reaves (10.3 ppg.) are the other double-figure scorers. Greene also pulls down 7.6 rebounds per game, fifth best in the conference

Bowie State (5-1), with its only loss to Fayetteville State in league play, is right behind VUU in the N. Div. race. Five-three senior guard Destiny **Ryles** (18.6 ppg.) is the scoring leader, third in league stats. Five-eight junior guard **Mia Smith** (10.4 ppg.) also scores in double-digits and is tied for the lead in assists (3.8 pg.).

Virginia State (3-1) is just behind VUU. Six-foot junior forward Carmen Kweti is averaging 7.2 points and a league-best 12.2 rebounds per game. Three VSU players selected to the preseason all-CIAA team lead in scoring. Five-nine senior backcourt ace **Anil Harris** (13.9 ppg.) is the Trojans' scoring leader followed by 6-1 senior frontcourter Amesha Miller (13.1 ppg.) and 5-5 junior point guard **Mihjae Hayes** (9.7 ppg.). Hayes is tied for first in the league at 3.7 assists per game.

VUU is at VSU Saturday (1:05 p.m.) in a key N. Div. match-up and is at Bowie State Wednesday. VSU hosts Winston-Salem State Thursday (5:30

Norfolk State (4-0), and Howard (3-0), teams that have met in the last two MEAC Tournament finals (both wins by NSU) are setting the early pace

The start for Larry Vickers' NSU ladies has included wins over two SEC schools (Auburn and Missouri) and has been led by the dynamic duo of Diamond Johnson and Kierra Wheeler. Johnson, the 5-5 grad senior point guard is leading the league at 18.6 points per game and is second at 4.2 assists per game. Johnson is shooting fourth in shooting (.342) from behind the arc. Wheeler, the 6-1 senior forward is posting a near double-double of 15.1 ppg. (5th) and 9.1 rebounds per game (2nd) while leading the MEAC in blocks at

The Lady Spartans were up to eighth last week in the College Insider's Mid Major Top 25, the only black college team to make the poll.

Howard head coach Ty Grace's Lady Bison have been buoyed by the return of 6-foot senior guard **Destiny Howell**, the 2022-23 MEAC player of the year who sat out the 2023-24 season with a knee injury. She has returned to form scoring at 15.4 points per game. Howell also connects on 84.1% (2nd) at the line. Five-seven freshman guard Saniyah King has been a revelation scoring 11.2 points per game and dishing out a league-best 5.0 assists per game. Six-two junior forward Zennia Thomas checks in at 9.5 ppg., a teambest 7.1 rpg. (6th) while shooting .459 (2nd) from the field.

Howard and Norfolk State are headed for a showdown on Sat., Jan. 25 in Norfolk's gym (2 p.m.)

# **SWAC**

Jackson State and Texas Southern, both at 3-0 sit atop the early SWAC

New JSU head coach Margaret Richards is continuing the Lady Tigers recent success that included the 2023-24 tournament title under departed head coach Tomekia Reed. Five-eight senior guard Taleah Dilworth, a Kentucky State transfer, is leading the league in scoring at 14.6 points per game. She is currently the only Lady Tiger scoring in double digits. Dilworth's .473 shooting percentage is also best in the SWAC.

Third-year head coach Vernette Skeete has TSU off to a 3-0 start with home wins over Grambling (85-74) and Southern (55-51) and a road win at Miss. Valley State (80-54). Five-eight grad guard Courtlyn Loudermill has been setting the pace scoring at 13.5 points per game, fourth-best in the SWAC. Five-eleven sophomore guard **Aylasia Fantroy** is getting 10.9 ppg. and 5.3 rebounds per game.

JSU is at TSU Thursday in a the match-up of SWAC leaders.

The SIAC is the only black college conference without a team with an unblemished conference record. The best records are currently held by Clark Atlanta (6-2) in the East and Miles (7-2) in the West.

CAU has won five consecutive SIAC games after losing to Central State (66-64) and Lane (77-67) in December. Five-nine sophomore wing Atreonia Garner (15.3 ppg.), 6-foot grad student Corianna Evans (11.9 ppg.) and 5-6

MEAC

CIAA

NORTH

rebounds in win vs. FSU.

Carmen Kweti, 6-0, Jr., F, VSU - In two wins

averaged 15.0 points, 13.0 rebounds, 4.5 blocks

with 20 rebs., 12 pts., 3 blks. vs. Livingstone, 10

Kanyah O'Neal, 5-8, So., G, FSU - 6 points, 4

steals, 3 assists, 1 rebounds in loss vs. LINCP.

pts., 14 rebs., 6 blks., 3 steals vs. WVSU.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER













Wheeler

Dilworth

Garner Dorsev

grad point guard Trinity Jones (11.0 ppg.) lead the Lady Panthers in scoring. CAU is second at 68.3 ppg. in league scoring while Clark leads in field goal percentage (.563). Miles head coach Pete Asmond has only senior swing Feliah Greer

(10.7 ppg.) scoring in double digits. Senior guard **Iemyiah Harris** leads the SIAC canning 2.8 3s per game while making 30 of 85 attempts (.315). CAU is at Savannah State Thursday (2 p.m.) and at Edward Waters

Monday (5:30 p.m.). Miles hosts **LeMoyne Owen** Monday (6:30 p.m.). **OTHERS** 

Florida Memorial (6-0) in the Sun Conference and North Carolina **A&T** (4-0) in the CAA are on top of the standings in their conferences.

FMU has a balanced line-up with three double-figure scorers led by senior point guard Kamesha Moore's 12.7 ppg. Seven others average between 10.8 and 7.1 ppg. Five-eleven center Agar Farres-Garcia pulls down a league-best 11.2 rebounds per game. Five-nine do-everything senior guard **Jordyn Dorsey** is scoring 15.7 points per game, third-best in the CAA, to lead the Lady Aggies while shooting .792 from the line, second-best. Sixfoot soph forward Paris Locke (10.5 ppg.) and 6-4 redshirt junior center Chaniya Clark (9.5 ppg., 6.8 rpg.) are key contributors.



DURANT ON DARNOLD!! Los Angeles defensive back COBIE **DURANT** (#14, **SOUTH CAROLINA STATE**) flew off the Vikings right edge to bring down Minnesota QB Sam Darnold (#14) for a sack in the second quarter of the Rams' 27-9 thrashing of the Vikes Monday. It was one of nine sacks for the Rams in the game. Durant also had an interception in the quarter.



# BCSP NFL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

For Wildcard playoff games of January 11-13, 2025

# **DEFENSE**

- #14 COBIE DURANT, DB, LA Rams (3rd season, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE) - In the Rams' 27-9 win Monday over Minnesota, Durant had an outstanding game with two tackles, one solo, a sack where he came off the edge and took down Vikings QB Sam Darnold for a 12-yard loss in the second quarter. Durant also had a secondquarter interception while playing 44 defensive snaps (59%) and 11 on special teams (46%).

# **OFFENSE**

- #71 TYTUS HOWARD, OL, Houston (6th season, ALABAMA **STATE**) - In Houston's 32-12 win over the Los Angeles Chargers Saturday, Howard started at left offensive guard as the Texans rushed for 168 yards on 34 carries with one TD and passed for 282 yards and one TD while the Texans' line gave up three sacks for -21 yards. Howard was in on all 73 offensive plays (100%) and six on special teams (21%) in the first round playoff win. SPECIAL TEAMS

- #19 XAVIER SMITH, WR/KR, Los Angeles Rams (3rd season, FLORIDA A&M) - In the Rams' 27-9 win Monday over Minnesota, Smith had one punt return for 8 yards while getting in on two plays on offense (4%) and 17 on special teams (71%).

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

3 2

3 4

# 2024-25 BLACK COLLEGE BASKETBALL (Women's Standings and Weekly Honors)

SIAC

SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

	NORTH DIVISION	W	L	W	L	W	L		W	L	W	L	EAST	W	L	W
	Virginia Union	0	0	4	0	10	3	Norfolk State	4	0	16	4	Clark Atlanta	6	2	12
	Bowie State	0	0	5	1	11	7	Howard	3	0	10	8	Allen	4	3	9
	Virginia State	0	0	3	1	10	3	Coppin State	2	2	11	9	Edward Waters	5	4	8
	Elizabeth City State	0	0	4	2	7	7	Morgan State	2	2	9	10	Albany State	4	4	7
	Lincoln (PA)	0	0	4	2	7	8	N. C. Central	2	2	4	14	Benedict	3	5	5
	Bluefield State	0	0	0	4	6	8	Md. E-Shore	1	2	6	12	Savannah State	3	6	7
	SOUTH DIVISION	W	L	W	L	W	L	S. C. State	1	3	2	18	Fort Valley State	3	6	6
	Fayetteville State	1	0	3	2	7	6	Delaware State	0	4	3	14	WEST			
	Claflin	0	0	3	3	7	6						Miles	7	2	10
	Livingstone	0	0	2		4	9	OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF	THE	WE	Central State	6	3	7		
	Shaw	0	0	2	3	5	9	Kyla Bryant, 5-8, Gr., G	Lane	5	3	9				
	Johnson C. Smith	0	1	0	5	3	8	27.0 points, 4.0 assists ar		Spring Hill	4	4	5			
	Winston-Salem State	0	0	0	4	3	9	22 pts., 3 assists, 6 rebs.	ts., 7	Tuskegee	3	4	6			
								rebs., 5 assists in 2 OT win vs. UMES.					Kentucky State	3	5	4
Anvssa Fields, 6-0. Sr., G. LINCP - 24 points, 13								Diamond Johnson, Gr., G, NSU - In 2-0					LeMoyne-Owen	2	7	5
								week, averaged 22.5 points, 3.5 assists, 3.5								
rebounds in win vs. FSU.						rebounds and 4.5 steals. Had 24 pts., 5 rebs.,					PLAYERS OF THE WEEK					

7 assists vs. MSU, 21 vs. CSU. NEWCOMER Saniya King, Fr., G, HOW - 23 pts., 4 assists, 4 steals, 3 rebs., in win over MSU, 17 pts., 5 rebs., 6 assists vs. CSU.

DEFENSIVE Kierra Wheeler. 6-1. Sr., F. NSU - Averaged 21.5 pts., 13.5 rebs., 1.5 blks., in two wins with 24 pts., 13 rebs.,, 1 steal, 2 blocks vs. MSU, 19 pts., 14 rebs,. 1 blk., 2 steals vs. CSU.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Atreonia Garner 5-9, So., G/F, CLATL In 2-0 week averaged 17.5 points, 4.0 rebounds, 2.5 steals with 19 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals vs.SHC, 16 points, 3 rebounds, 3 steals vs.Benedict.

Faith Bland, 5-10, Gr., G/Fd, CLATL - 11 pts.. 9 rebs., 4 stls., 2 blks. vs. Benedict, 5 pts., 4 rebs., 2 steals, 2 blocks vs. SHC

#### 0 Jackson State Texas Southern 0 4 Alabama A&M 10 6 Southern Alabama State 2 Grambling State Florida A&M 4 Bethune-Cookman 2 4

**SWAC** 

Alcorn State

Miss. Valley State

Prairie View A&M

Arkansas-Pine Bliuff

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK Taleah Dilworth, 5-8, Sr., G, JSU - KSU PLAYERS OF THE WEEK transfer avgd. 16.5 points, 3.0 boards, 2.5 Chaniya Clark, 6-4, R-Jr., C, NC A&T steals in two wins with 14 pts., 3 rebs, 2 - In two wins averaged 12.5 points, 9.0 resteals vs. ALST, 19 pts., 3 boards, 3 steals bounds with 8 points, 8 rebounds vs. Delavs. AA&M

DEFENSE MVSU. **NEWCOMER** 

10 Florida Memorial - 1st 12 NC A&T - 1st Hampton - 9th 10 Langston - 2nd 10 11 MEC W. Virginia State - 9th Tennessee State - T10th 0 6 4 12 0 3 2 11 GLVC Lincoln (Mo.) - 15th 0 7 1 12

**INDEPENDENTS** 

ware, 17 points, 10 rebounds vs. Towson. **DEFENSE** 

Treasure Thompson, 6-2, Sr., F, TSU - 15 Mikayla Woods, 5-7, Gr., C, LANG - Avpoints, 11 rebounds, 4 blocks, 1 steal vs. eraged double-double of 11.5 points, 11.5 rebounds in two wins with 11 points, 11 boards, 5 assists, 9 steals vs. Science & Arts, 14 points, 12 rebounds, 3 steals vs.

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