



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAU PANTHERS SOLID IN SPRING SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Atlanta, GA - The 2008 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Spring Sports Championships were held in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on April 16-19. Hosted by Stillman College, championship competition was held in baseball, softball, tennis, and track and field.

In addition to the Panthers of CAU, teams from Albany State University, Benedict College, Fort Valley State University, Kentucky State University, Lane College, LeMoyne-Owen College, Miles College, Morehouse College, Paine College, Stillman College and Tuskegee University participated in the championships.

Softball

In softball competition, the Lady Panthers, who finished the regular season ranked 2nd in the Eastern Division of the SIAC, turned in their best performance in championship play since the inception of the softball program at CAU ten years ago. The Lady Panthers took third in the SIAC Championships. The third-place finish is the highest ever for the Lady Panthers who had first- and second-round tournament wins over Fort Valley State University (3-2) and Miles College (4-2). A loss to eventual champion Albany State University (6-2) forced a rematch with Miles College to determine which team would play Albany State University for the conference title. The Lady Panthers fell to the Lady Bears, 7-1.

CAU shortstop Sheaywond Williams and outfielder Synne Baker were named to the SIAC All-Tournament Team. For play during the regular season, outfielder Ashley Kennedy was named to the 2008 SIAC All-Conference Softball Team and Cache'ne Barrett was named to the All-Academic Team.

Track & Field

After day one of track and field competition, the Lady Panthers were in second place overall. Over the next two days of competition, the Lady Panthers would retain that position and finish the competition in second place with a total of 160 team points. The CAU men finished in the seventh overall position with a total of 30 team points.

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Shantrell Moss (200M Dash), Phyllis Shelman-Ford (300M S. Chase), and Kalea McNeil (Shot Put, Discus & Hammer) were named to the 2008 SIAC All-Conference Track & Field Team. Rahim Bradshaw (3.78 GPA), Maury Swift (3.43 GPA), Chassity Johnson (3.73 GPA), JaLia Moody (3.62 GPA), Christen Clarke (3.45 GPA), and Neilah Burnett (3.44 GPA) were named to the SIAC Track & Field All-Academic Team.

Tennis

The Lady Panthers of CAU were the defending SIAC Women's Tennis Champions as play began in the 2008 Spring Sports Championships. And despite having only four players in their first-round matchup against the Lady Magicians of LeMoyne-Owen College, the 2nd ranked Lady Panthers were still able to advance to the semifinals of the tournament. Overcoming three defaults, the Lady Panthers won two of the doubles contests behind an 8-1 performance by partners Simone Greene and Tara Turner and an 8-1 performance by teammates Shaundrea Brooks and Tyronda Starks. Couple that with singles wins by Greene (6-1, 6-0), Turner (6-0, 6-0), and Brooks (6-0, 6-0), and the Lady Panthers advanced to the semifinals to meet the Lady Tigers of Benedict College.

The Lady Panthers attempt to repeat as back-to-back conference champions was spoiled after a 5-2 loss to the Lady Tigers of Benedict College in the semifinal.

CAU's Simone Greene and Tara Turner were selected to the SIAC All-Tournament Team for singles play, and the team of Green and Turner was also selected to the SIAC All-Tournament Team as doubles partners.

For play during the regular season, Greene was named to the SIAC All-Conference Team (1st Team), and she was recognized as the SIAC Player of the Year. Turner was named to the SIAC All-Conference Team (2nd Team) and the doubles duo of Simone Greene and Tyronda Starks was selected 1st Team All-Conference, and the team of Tara Turner and Shaundrea Brooks was selected 2nd Team All-Conference.

Baseball

In baseball action, the Panthers of CAU began first-round play against the defending SIAC Champions, the Tigers of Stillman College. After a 23-4 loss to Stillman, the Panthers were eliminated from championship play after a loss to LeMoyne-Owen College in the second round.

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