

# Pipeline

## Points of Interest

- ASU Sting Dome
- ASU Acting & Interim President
- 2008 Football Schedule
- 2008 Host Hotels
- Alumni Networking Websites
- NCAA Violations



# NAA PIPELINE

## INFORMATION CHANNEL FOR ALUMNI

### A Name Is Just A Name, Or Is It?

by Tessie Bradford

What's in a name? It is apparent by the resolution the ASU Board of Trustees passed that the answer is everything. This resolution renames the Joe L. Reed Acadome to the ASU Acadome. It also serves to honor two (2) former ASU legendary basketball coaches.

The main concourse of the dome is named in honor of the late C.J. Dunn, who was the first basketball coach at ASU. In a statement released by ASU, "Dunn coached at ASU from 1934-1963, and retired just short of 300 wins with a 298-209 record. Previously, Dunn's name was on the building that preceded the Acadome as the home of the Hornets basketball teams. In its heyday, C.J. Dunn Arena was home to raucous, standing room only crowds and many of

the most memorable wins in ASU history."

The dome's court is named in honor of the late James V. Oliver. According to ASU's statement, "Oliver, 1966 ASU alum, is the University's second winningest basketball coach. From 1978-1995, Oliver was 291-191 - a run that featured back-to-back SWAC championships. His overall career record was 360-209. Off the court, Oliver served as mentor to his players, including current ASU head coach Lewis Jackson."

As printed in the *Montgomery Advertiser* (May 30, 2008), the resolution reads:

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed has completely and utterly destroyed any and all confidence in his commitment to positively represent the University and its legacy; and

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed continues to generate negative publicity for Alabama State University through media interviews and authoring articles in news publications that are factually incorrect and unsubstantiated; and

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed has on several occasions in recent years abused the tax payers dollars with frivolous litigations costing the University thousands of dollars; and

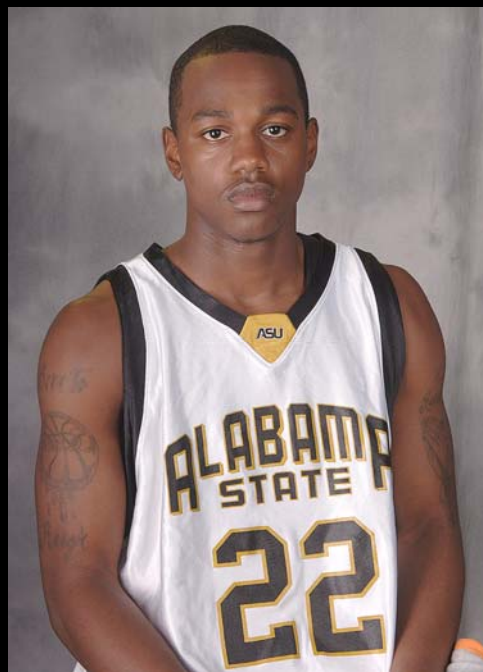
**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed, through multiple court litigations in opposition to the ASU Board of Trustee's majority vote, and any matter he deems adverse to his will, continues to present a conflict of interest and opposition to basic democratic concepts such as majority rules and one-man-one vote; and  
*(continued under Acadome on page 9)*

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**The National Alumni Association, Inc. of  
Alabama State University dedicates this issue**

# **In Memory of**



# **Deshean Porchea**

**1988 - 2008**

Deshean Porchea was a member of the 2008 SWAC regular season championship basketball team. He was a sophomore from Rochester, New York. Porchea died suddenly after collapsing during a pick-up basketball game on campus April 23, 2008.

# 11 Down—12 Up: Dr. Lee Resigns

by La-Tanya Dunham

It's graduation time on the campus of every college or university in America---ASU is no different. The pageantry of the event gives me goose bumps. Hearing your name called; walking across the stage; shaking the hands of platform guests and the President of your alma mater. The Summer of 1998, when I walked across the stage the President at the time was Dr. William H. Harris. Then soon after came Dr. Joe A. Lee ASU's 11<sup>th</sup> President.

In case you have not heard, Dr. Joe A. Lee submitted his letter of resignation to the Board of Trustees in February, announcing that his last day as President of Alabama State University will be on May 31, 2008. Looking over the history of the University, from its humble beginnings in Marion, Alabama, 11 Presidents isn't bad. **BUT**, in the last 20 years, we just haven't been able to **keep** a President. Could the alumni be the problem? Could the Board of Trustees be a factor? What about the student body? Could they have supported the President, or are they the reason he is leaving? These questions and many more can be asked and answered, but what do some key people think. I had the opportunity to speak with the incoming Student Government Association, President Bryan Weaver and Trustee Herbert Young via telephone. Though both conversations proved to be interesting, I am still seeking more. I left several messages with Dr. Lee's office, but all went unreturned.

## Bryan Weaver (BW)

**Q**-Thanks Mr. Weaver for taking the time to speak with me and congratulations on your win.

**BW**-Thank you.

**Q**-Does the student body know that President Lee resigned?

**BW**- Yes, now.

**Q**- When did they find out and how?

**BW**- It was about a 2-3 week span. It was more word of mouth, and it was also thought to be a rumor. I was the only one that conducted an in-depth interview with him. Even after the interview ran in *The Hornet Tribune*, stu-

dents still didn't know.

**Q**- Can you tell me after speaking with some of the students, what were their feelings?

**BW**- Me, myself, I thought he was student-oriented. Others thought he wasn't connected to the students at all. They even went as far as to say it was time for him to go.

**Q**- What is it that you thought he could have done to make his Presidency better/easier?

**BW**- "I believe that the staff of the Vice Presidents and Directors that Lee chose to surround him did him an injustice. Many times I observed him in board meetings with a dumbfounded look on his face when certain issues were brought up because those who he delegated responsibilities and oversight had failed to inform him of overtly important issues that affected the university. He has been too kind to many of these persons... they never bought into his ideology of treating students as paying customers. Instead he repeated himself entirely too much and persons chose not to take him seriously... This caused many problems to fester and presented problems for him in the end." (*The Hornet Tribune*, Bryan Weaver, Feb. 16, 2008.) Also, I think that the Board of Trustees micro-managed the University leaving him to question who he served - the students or the Board. There seemed to be a tug-a-war. Instead, the Board of Trustees are trying to handle the day-to-day operations instead of the President.

## Herbert Young (HY)

**Q**- Trustee Young, it is official that President Lee is resigning and when is his last day?

**HY**- Yes, it is official and his last day is May 31<sup>st</sup>. The interim will be announced on May 30<sup>th</sup> and there is a list that we are choosing from to serve in that position as interim.

**Q**- Can you tell me who is on that list and if there is one in particular that the board is considering

**HY**- I can't say, but it will be announced on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Q**- Can you tell me if there is a search committee and who is on the committee?

**HY**- Yes there is an active search committee. I cannot remember who and how many are on the committee, but the NAA President Brenda Kahn-Spells is [on the committee] along with Marvin Wiggins (chairperson), I think Oscar Crawley but I am not sure.

**Q**- Can the interim apply for the position of President?

**HY**- No.

**Q**- Has the committee met?

**HY**- I am not sure.

**Q**-What is the committee or the board looking for in the next President?

**HY**- We are asking that everyone just be patient. This can take as long as two (2) years. We are looking for someone who can work with the business community, somewhat of a marketing type; [that] he/she is proactive and demands a lot from his/her faculty and student body. Someone with high standards.

**Q**- When you say 'high standards' what do you mean?

**HY**- The University is going in a New Direction. In addition to adding buildings to the campus we are in a new plan of development. For example, there is an active committee looking into changing the enrollment standards. We don't want to stray away from the original culture, but we also want to be competitive. We require more of our athletes to be admitted in the school than regular students (because of NCAA rules & regulations). We are graduating more athletes than general enrolled students at this time.

**Q**- What do you think when people say that the Board of Trustees are trying to run the school and not the President?

**HY**- It is misunderstood. We aren't involved as much as people may think. Just frustration sets in when things aren't carried out. Example, the Student Center should have been started last year and it (*continued under President on page 8*)

## President Page

Greetings Fellow Alumni:

I commend Tessie Bradford, our National Secretary, for her leadership in producing the NAA Pipeline, a first-rate, quality newsletter presented to keep members informed about the activities and programs of the NAA and the university. Hats off to Tessie!

As I have traveled around the country to the regional conferences in the Southeast, Northeast and the Midwest, it is obvious that we have tremendous work to do in recruiting and retaining members in the National Alumni Association. We must work to publicize how ASU alumni will benefit from joining our organization; we must be specific about the programs we sponsor; we must share the goals and mission of the NAA; we must ask current members why they join and share this information with perspective members. Let us join together in building an organization we can be proud of.

My involvement with the National Alumni Association has extended for more than 20 years during which time I have witnessed many capable and energetic volunteers come and go. The questions I have asked myself on many occasions are “what is it that draws people to volunteer their time? And, what is it that causes their eventual, almost inevitable, departure? I suspect the answer to the first is simply pride in the university and the desire to give back to make it a better institution. The second is a little more complex and perhaps not as evident to those who have never been involved.

There are two primary stumbling blocks that continually frustrate volunteers and hamper the potential for success of the alumni association: **apathy and time**. It is an abundance of apathy and a lack time that creates the problems. Apathy is present in a number of ways. I do not wish to alarm you but I must be honest because it takes honesty to cultivate your communities in order to grow your chapters. Along with honesty you must have humility and courtesy. Humility is the oil that smoothes and soothes relationships. The proper dress for fellowship is a humble attitude. Self-importance, smugness and stubborn pride destroy fellowship faster

than anything else. Courtesy is respecting our differences, being considerate of each other’s feelings, and being patient with people who irritate us. In every organization there is always at least one “difficult” person, usually more than one. You might call them EGR “Extra Grace Required” People. God put these people in our midst for both their benefit and ours. They are there to give us an opportunity for growth and a test of fellowship. Remember! This is a volunteer organization!

The lack of time is another primary stumbling block. The bottom line is that we are all extremely busy. I am as guilty of procrastination in my volunteer duties as the next person. The prioritization of family, work, leisure time, whatever may be on our respective plates leaves us with too little time, and likely insufficient energy, to divert to something as far removed from our everyday life as the university we attended any number of years past. These frustrations have been prevalent throughout the history of the NAA. I do not pretend to offer solutions to them now. Perhaps there are no solutions but these are issues with which we must contend. Or perhaps it is something in our approach that could be altered. What can we do to encourage participation of those who are currently interested? Is there anything we can do to make someone want to reunite that bond with Alma Mater?

I feel that the NAA and its affiliated chapters have enormous potential to help the university and its alumni, and I know from experience that the quest for improvement is an enjoyable pursuit, most times. All organizations have a reason to exist and work to do and having active members is crucial to implementing our plans successfully. Members are the basis for most organizations, and we should take them seriously. Organizations often get off to a good start and many people are recruited, only to lose them after a few months. Once you have recruited someone, you should work hard in keeping them happy and active in the organization.

Members bring skills and experiences that can be used to benefit the

organization. More members mean that you can do more work as an organization. The more members you have in your organization the more different ideas and opinions are expressed and discussed, which will lead to better decisions being made. So, the question is:

*Do you just belong?  
Are you an active member?  
The kind that would be missed,  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meeting?  
And mingle with the crowd,  
Or do you stay at home  
And crab both long and loud?  
Do you take an active part?  
To help the organization along,  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind – to just belong?  
There is quite a program scheduled  
That means success, if done,  
And it can be accomplished  
With the help of everyone!  
So attend the meeting regularly  
And help both hand and heart,  
Don’t just be a member,  
But take an active part.  
Think this over, member,  
Are we right or wrong?  
Are you an active member?  
Or – do you just belong?  
-Author unknown*

I implore you to actively participate in your chapter, go to the meetings and provide whatever fresh ideas and energy you may have to offer. Many hands truly do result in lighter work.

So let us resolve individually and collectively to do all we can, while we can, where we are, with what we have, every time we can to lift the black and gold banner of ASU. Let us reach out to our fellow alumni and encourage greater involvement. We can do it by building our local chapters, one member at a time. We can building regions and the national, one chapter at a time. We can put our few dollars together and let them grow, one dollar at time. We can build our university one student at a time. Let us join together in Building an Organization We Can Be Proud Of.

*Brenda Kahn-Spells  
NAA President, Class of 1974*

## Midwest Region

The 21st Midwest Regional Conference was held May 16-17th. It was hosted by the Detroit Chapter at the Doubletree Hotel in Detroit, Michigan. There were 24 delegates in attendance representing Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Flint, Milwaukee, and Motor City chapters. NAA President Brenda Kahn Spells, and Director of Admissions, Dr. Martha Pettway were in attendance as well.

During the conference, Region Secretary Jocelyn Travis contacted graduating high school seniors in the Ohio and Michigan area who have been accepted at Alabama State. These students were invited to a meet and greet session with Dr. Pettway and alumni who were attending the conference. Approximately 35 students and their parents participated. The feedback from parents and students attending this session was phenomenal. They indicated that the session was very informative.

This was the first regional conference for Director Lucius Black, Jr., and it was a very successful conference. The 22nd Midwest Regional Conference will be hosted by the Chicago Chapter in May 2010, at which time election of officers will take place.

**Upcoming Events:** On August 16, 2008 the Midwest Region will hold a Leadership Development Session in Cleveland, OH. The location is TBD.

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Dr. Martha Pettway, parents and prospective ASU students listen to alumni at the meet and greet session held during the 21st Midwest Regional Conference.



NAA President, Brenda Kahn-Spells, addresses alumni at the 21st Midwest Regional Conference.



Alumni address parents and prospective ASU students at the meet and greet session held during the 21st Midwest Regional Conference.

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# CHAPTER CORNER

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## Detroit Chapter

The Detroit Chapter has started 2008 with a BANG!!!! The chapter has two (2) successful events under their belts and even recently hosted the 2008 Midwest Regional Conference.

The first event was the chapter's annual Founders Day program. It was held Saturday, February 16, 2008 at Vassel's Catering & Banquet Hall in Southfield, Michigan. The Keynote speaker was Detroit City Council Member JoAnn Watson. The event raised over \$3,000 in scholarships. The Chairperson of the event was Darren Tatum.

The second event was the Detroit Pistons Family Fun Night, held Saturday, March 29, 2008 at the Palace of Auburn Hills. The chapter sold all 104 tickets to this event. The Cleveland Cavaliers played the Detroit Pistons. Of course, the Pistons beat the Cavaliers 85-71. Guess who made the big screen? It was none-other than Detroit Chapter Member Donitisha Bursey.

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## Philadelphia Chapter

The **Philadelphia Alumni Chapter** of ASU/NAA is hosting its first Awards and Scholarship Breakfast on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. The breakfast will be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel, located at 4100 Presidential Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19131. Donation is \$35.00. Contact Mrs. Leola McFadden, Event Chairperson, at (215) 236-6407.

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## Tuscaloosa Chapter

The Tuscaloosa Alumni Chapter awarded two (2) \$1,000.00 scholarships for the 2008-2009 semesters, a first for the chapter. The two (2) recipients are Cheregna Hughes and Taiki Richardson. Cheregna, the daughter of Robert and Regina Hughes, is a 2008 graduate of Paul W. Bryant High School. Taiki Richardson, the daughter of Twanetta Richardson, is a 2008 graduate of Tuscaloosa County High School. Both recipients were honor students and active in school activities.

## MEMBERS NEEDED

**Are you a 2008 active member of the NAA?**

**If not, this will be your last issue of the *NAA Pipeline*.**

**Please contact your local chapter representative and join today.**



**WE  
NEED  
YOU!**

**Have you submitted your 2008 chapter membership roster? If you have not done so, please submit your 2008 chapter membership roster to:**

**Bea Forniss  
NAA Secretary-Treasurer  
P.O. Box 6078  
Montgomery, AL 36106-6078**

# Who will be the first Alumni Relations Intern?



## General Summary

The National Alumni Association, Inc. (NAA) of Alabama State University seeks a junior or senior ASU student for an internship during the fall 2008 and spring 2009 semesters. The Intern will work closely with the NAA Secretary, NAA President, and Director of Alumni Relations and will be integrally involved in the development and implementation of a communications and marketing plan for the NAA. Ideal majors include marketing, communications, public relations, management or CIS. All majors are encouraged to apply.

## Compensation

The Intern will receive a \$500 stipend per semester to be dispersed in eight (8) monthly payments of \$125, beginning October 1, 2008. The Intern will also receive a laptop for use throughout the Internship. The laptop must be returned at the completion of the Internship.

## Location

The Internship will be located in Montgomery, Alabama with the collaboration of the Office of Alumni Relations at Alabama State University. The Intern will be required to complete a minimum of ten (10) hours per week in the Office of Alumni Relations.

## Intern Duties & Responsibilities

- Design, update and maintain the NAA website ([www.asunaa.org](http://www.asunaa.org))
- Assist with preparing and distributing the NAA newsletter
- Assist in developing and implementing a communications/marketing strategy for the NAA
- Assist in preparing press releases, advertisements and other promotional material
- Respond to inquiries regarding the NAA received via email, mail, telephone or in the Office of Alumni Relations
- Assist with alumni mail-outs
- Assist with NAA special projects/events
- Perform miscellaneous office duties (answer phones, coordinate meetings, organize files)

## Knowledge & Skills Required

- Excellent communication skills essential (writing and speaking)
- Ability to multi-tasks
- Strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office products
- Ability to design website (preferably using FrontPage)
- Working knowledge of HTML coding
- Initiative, drive, creativity and flexibility essential

## Supervision

Reports directly to the NAA Secretary; also reports to NAA President and Director of Alumni Relations

## Application Procedures

To apply for the Alumni Relations Intern position, please prepare a packet to include a cover letter, resume, three (3) letters of reference and preferably a list of websites the applicant has developed as well as any materials the applicant has developed showing proficiency in the skills and experiences requested. Email the complete application packet to [administrator@asunaa.org](mailto:administrator@asunaa.org).

## Application Deadline & Review Process

Completed application packets must be received no later than **September 5, 2008**. Applications will only be accepted via email. The review process will begin as soon as application packets are received. A decision will be made and all candidates will be notified in writing no later than September 15, 2008.

## Questions/Comments

Questions or comments may be directed to Tessie Bradford via email at [administrator@asunaa.org](mailto:administrator@asunaa.org).

## Technology Today, Tomorrow & Forever

by Shauntell L. Campbell

Social network sites can best be described as web-based services that allow individuals to (1) construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system, (2) articulate a list of other users with whom they share a connection, and (3) view and traverse their list of connections and those made by others within the system. The nature and nomenclature of these connections may vary from site to site. According to the definition above, the first recognizable social network site launched in 1997. SixDegrees.com allowed users to create profiles, list their Friends and, beginning in 1998, surf the Friends lists. Profiles existed on most major dating sites and many community sites. AIM and ICQ buddy lists supported lists of Friends, although those Friends were not visible to others. Classmates.com allowed people to affiliate with their high school or college and surf the network for others who were also affiliated, but users could not create profiles or list Friends until years later. SixDegrees was the first to combine these features. Utilizing technology to communicate has been vastly utilized by those who were more familiar with social networking technologies and their usage. Moreover, as the social networking technology advances and continues to be developed, on the basis of ease of use and simplicity, many technology-shy users have become more willing to utilize social networking technologies.

The latest in social networking

technologies are those sites that offer users the capability to connect with friends, co-workers, and family members. Some of these social networking sites are MySpace, LinkedIn, and Facebook. Earlier this year three social networking sites were launched for Alabama State University Alumni to reconnect: (1) [www.hornetunit.com](http://www.hornetunit.com), (2) [www.asuroundup.com](http://www.asuroundup.com), and (3) [www.alabamastatelivenetwork.ning.com](http://www.alabamastatelivenetwork.ning.com). These sites were created to provide all ASU alumni a mechanism to reconnect and rekindle with college friends and professors. An article about AlumniRoundup.com and its creator was recently in *Jet* magazine. The creator of Hornetunit.com and affiliate with the AlumniUnit.com, C. LeFoy Grant, stated, "We are not the only alumni network 'brand' out there," Grant said. "However, we believe that our networks have been more successful than others due [to] the initial alliance we build with the alumni and the institutions. We're able to disseminate important information in an un-evasive way."

How can these social networking sites serve to support the universities? How can it support or benefit the National Alumni Association, Inc. (NAA). The answer is simple. The NAA can collaborate with these sites to attract chapter members, increase fundraising, and increase the visibility of the entire organization. According to Denise Gardner, Midwest Region Member-at-Large Director, "The sites can be beneficial to the NAA in such ways as

seeking out new members. [That is] what I've done on the sites in the Detroit group[.] I've posted information about our upcoming chapter meetings and encourage alumni to attend." Conveniently, alumni are already grouped by location, such as the Detroit group, making it easy to identify alumni in a specific region or area.

In just a few weeks, approximately 2,000 alumni have joined and created profiles on these websites. Most of the 2,000 alumni all graduated within the past two (2) decades, which is a group well under-represented in the NAA. This growth rate far outnumbers the recruitment efforts of the NAA. "The reality is the generation of alumni that the NAA has failed to reclaim or capture is ours," said Shannon Lawrence, Farwest Region Director and 2001 ASU graduate. Lawrence further explains, "We are a technology generation. We use computers, email, text messaging, instant messenger, etc. I think we must ask ourselves, what we are trying to accomplish through the NAA. Is it to have members, raise money, or disseminate information? We can accomplish all of it through these sites. We can collect dues; inform people of when and where the meetings and events are...you name it. I think these sites should be a complement to the NAA, not competition."

Now, the question is, "When do we begin utilizing these sites?" I'm ready; are you?

(contributing writer: Tessie Bradford)

**President** - continued from page 3 - hasn't, especially when monies were allocated. We (the Board of Trustees) really just ask questions. Yes, when we (the Board of Trustees) are in session, we are in charge of the school, the main premise of the board is to set policies. We do not handle day-to-day operations the President does, except when we are in session, we are in control of the University.

**Q-** Trustee Young, are there statutes or by-laws posted somewhere where people could read them?

**HY-** Yes, the By-Laws are at the school and the statutes can be found on the internet on the State of Alabama's website ([www.alabama.gov](http://www.alabama.gov)).

On May 30, 2008, ASU announced the acting and interim Presidents. John Knight will serve as acting President until July 14, 2008, in which Dr. William H. Harris will take over and serve as interim President until an official President is named.

Let's not forget the tenure of Dr. Joe A. Lee. My short time being in his company was great. He is a people's person, didn't mind sitting with

the common folk during any event and if he didn't know your name, he knew your face. I have heard only good things about President Lee before he came, and I will remember the good after he leaves our beloved alma mater.

Also, check out the articles entitled *Before you point fingers, what have you done to help?* (2/16/08) and *University President Speaks: Lee talks about his tenure at ASU, his accomplishments and concerns* (2/16/08), both written by Bryan Weaver on [www.thehornettribune.com](http://www.thehornettribune.com).

## Purchase an ad in the next publication of the *NAA Pipeline*

### Ad Prices

#### Single Publication

**Full Page/\$100.00**

**Half Page/\$75.00**

**Quarter Page/\$50.00**

**Business Card/\$35.00**

#### Remaining 2 Publications\*

**Full Page/\$150.00**

**Half Page/\$112.50**

**Quarter Page/\$75.00**

**Business Card/\$52.50**

All ads will be printed in black and white, but will be displayed in color on the NAA's website ([www.asunaa.org](http://www.asunaa.org)). When submitting an ad and payment, please include name of person, company, and/or group submitting the ad along with a number of a contact person. Make check or money order payable to the National Alumni Association, Inc. of Alabama State University (NAA/ASU). Mail payment and a copy of your \*ad on CD or floppy disk [Acrobat (.pdf) or Microsoft Word (.doc) documents preferred] to:

Tessie Bradford  
989 Scenic Oak Lane  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

Ads may be emailed to: [administrator@asunaa.org](mailto:administrator@asunaa.org). Please contact Tessie Bradford at (850) 315-8809 with any questions you may have.

**\*Payment for remaining 2 publications must be received by the submission deadline - August 15, 2008.**

### Submission Deadline: August 15, 2008

*Acadome - continued from page 1 -*

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed, through multiple court litigations in opposition to the ASU Board of Trustee's majority vote, has repeatedly demonstrated a lack of comprehension of, and lack of respect for Article V, Section ` of the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees for Alabama State University, which regulates that "Action by the Board and by committees shall be taken by a majority of the quorum present,..."; and

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed violates the spirit of democracy by continuing to contest the majority vote when the majority's decision opposes his own; and

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed's lack of total vision has caused the University to miss many global opportunities; and

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed, through recent public and printed displays of negativity toward Alabama State University and the ASU Community at-large, has not only given negative connotation to his own name, but to the Alabama State University name as well; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Trustees, the exclusive governing board of Alabama State University, has deemed it detrimental for Alabama State University and for the facility known as the Joe L. Reed Acadome, the University's premiere public revenue generating venue, to bear any name that conjures negative connotation; and

**Whereas**, Joe L. Reed never played basketball and never actively supported the ASU basketball program in any way or form, financial or otherwise;

**Now**, Therefore, be it resolved, that the name Joe L. Reed is hereby immediately and forever disassociated with and permanently removed from the structure now known as the Joe L. Reed Acadome multipurpose academic and physical education complex located on the campus of Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama, and that the name of the facility is hereby immediately and forever changed from the Joe L. Reed Acadome to the ASU Acadome.

**Be it further resolved**, that the floor of the ASU Acadome is hereby immediately and forever named the James V. Oliver Court, and that the main concourse of the ASU Acadome is hereby immediately and forever named the C.J. Dunn Concourse, in honor of those who have contributed positively to the spirit of Alabama State University; and

**Be it further resolved**, that for the purpose of promoting an outstanding basketball program, the ASU Acadome is hereby immediately and forever affectionately referred to as the "ASU Sting Dome".

Although some people fully support the resolution passed by the Board of Trustees, they feel the release of information caused more negative publicity for ASU. However, it was really good to see ASU put its own spin on the news instead of waiting to see what the media will say about it. Sometimes, it is better to spread the word yourself, especially when the information may not be too pleasant.

**Alabama State vs. Florida A&M**

Tallahassee, FL - Saturday, August 30, 2008



**Rate: \$89 (plus tax per night)**

- Ask for *Alabama State University Alumni Relations* group rate.
- All reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card or an advance deposit.
- Reservations may be made by either calling our toll free number at **(800) 222-8733** or via the Internet.
- To reserve rooms via the Internet, visit the DoubleTree website ([www.doubletree.com](http://www.doubletree.com)) and type in "Tallahassee" under the city requested and the arrival/departure dates. Scroll down to the section titled "Special Accounts" and type in **ASU** next to Group/Convention field. Follow the instructions to make a new reservation.

**All individual reservations need to be made prior to the cut off date of July 31, 2008.**

# ASU Alumni HOST HOTELS

**Alabama State vs. Bethune-Cookman**

Dayton Beach, FL - Saturday, September 6, 2008



**Rate: \$95 (plus tax per night)**

- Ask for *Alabama State University* rate
- Reservations may be made by calling the Central Reservations Office at 1-800-874-7420 or Plaza Ocean Club at (386) 239-9800
- All guest rooms feature a full-sized private balcony, micro-waves and refrigerators.
- Heated oceanfront pool with spacious sundeck and poolside bar
- Atlantic Jack's Restaurant and Bar

**Magic City Classic 2008**

Birmingham, AL  
Saturday, October 25, 2008



**Birmingham Perimeter Park**

**The official host hotel for ASU Alumni during the 2008 Magic City Classic**

**Rate: \$129.00 (plus tax per night)**

- Ask for ASU Alumni Relations block of rooms
- Reservations must be made by **September 24, 2008**
- Two night minimum stay and guarantee required

**To Make Your Reservations  
Call (205) 976-2700**

**ASU & The Renaissance Hotel  
Team Up For**

**Turkey Day Classic 2008**

Thursday, November 27, 2008



**Rate: \$99 (plus tax per night)**

To Make Your Reservation Call 1-888-668-7221

Alumni Rates for the Turkey Day Classic are also available at the Springhill Suites Montgomery for \$79/night and the Prattville Courtyard for \$104/night.



(334) 409-9999



(334) 290-1270



TownePlace Suites by Marriott extend the following rate to Alabama State guests, beginning October 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. For reservations call (334) 396-5505.

Length of Stay	Studio Suite	2 Bedroom Suite
1-6 Nights	\$ 79.00	\$99.00

# 2008 Football Schedule

(Schedule is tentative and subject to change.)

Date	School	Location	Time
August 30	Florida A&M	Tallahassee, FL	6:00 PM (EST)
September 8	Bethune-Cookman	Daytona Beach, FL	4:00 PM (EST)
September 13	~~~OPEN~~~	~~~	~~~
September 20	Univ. of Alabama @ Birmingham	Birmingham, AL	3:00 PM
September 25	Mississippi Valley State	Montgomery, AL	TBA
October 4	~~~OPEN~~~	~~~	~~~
October 11	Prairie View A&M	Prairie View, TX	1:00 PM
October 18	Grambling State	Grambling, LA	2:30 PM
October 25	Alabama A&M (Magic City Classic)	Birmingham, AL	2:30 PM
November 1	Alcorn State	Lorman, MS	1:00 PM
November 8	Jackson State (Connection Day)	Montgomery, AL	1:00 PM
November 15	Southern (Gulf Coast Classic)	Mobile, AL	6:00 PM
November 22	~~~OPEN~~~	~~~	~~~
November 27	Tuskegee (Turkey Day Classic)	Montgomery, AL	1:00 PM


## GO HORNETS!

Keep track of ASU sports at [www.bamastatesports.com](http://www.bamastatesports.com)



## The Gathering - July 12, 2008

The Gathering will be held Saturday, July 12, 2008 in the ASU Acadome at 7:30 PM. Come out and enjoy a performance by Jazz Saxophonist Ronnie Laws. Donation is \$50. Tables are \$1,000 each (8 per table). Tickets are available at the ASU Ticket Office. Contact Sheyann Christburg at (334) 229-4431 to purchase a table. Attire: Cocktail.



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## **Athletics Gone Wild: How will they save the program?**

by Marlon Meeks

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has accused Alabama State University (ASU) of 24 rule violations, alleging widespread use of ineligible players, grade changes and recruiting misdeeds and charging the school with lack of institutional control. A repeat of these same violations ran the total up to over 600 violations that made headlines in most newspapers across the country. For instance, if one ineligible player practices 50 times that's actually one rule violation that is counted 50 times.

The alleged violations occurred from 1999-2003 and mostly involved the football program, including the participation of 25 players who were ineligible because they had not completed the required percentage of coursework toward their degrees. The NCAA said coaches, athletes, faculty and administrators were not properly educated on NCAA rules.

How does an institution of higher learning not educate its leaders?

Who is hiring these unqualified individuals? Inquiring minds want to know, how does the university recover from a fumble of this magnitude?

First and foremost, they must seek advice from outside sources, i.e., other universities who have committed similar violations or a law firm that handles NCAA litigations. It is not uncommon for schools in trouble with the NCAA to obtain outside legal help from lawyers specializing in NCAA's rules and regulations.

Next, they should own up to their mistakes, which ASU actually did in a self-report made to the NCAA years ago. Honesty is one of the sacred qualities the NCAA expects of its athletes, coaches and staff members, and recent history shows the NCAA disciplines those people who don't tell the truth more severely than those who do. Take Baylor University, for example, they had perhaps the most notorious case in college sports history. Former Bears basketball coach Dave Bliss and

three of his assistants violated NCAA rules and then tried to cover up the violations after Baylor player Patrick Dennehy was murdered by a teammate in 2003.

Finally, formulate a plan to assure that the program never embarrasses itself again. Some simple suggestions include:

- provide extensive education for all athletic department staff
- expand its full-time compliance staff and also add some part-time staff members
- perform an annual audit of its compliance procedures

As a highly acclaimed HBCU, Alabama State University has a world renowned college of education and college of business. Now it has established itself as a rule violator. I guess we finally got what we wanted to be mentioned in the sentence with Alabama and Auburn as those who win and cheat too!