

SportsPerspectives By: Bud Johnson

Jacoby Jones Prophecy Unfolds



Jacoby Jones

HOUSTON -Inasmuch as a prophet is without honor among his own folks, as a Sports Editor emeritus I don't expect to be credited with mystical insight into the nebulous fortunes of untested athletes. Even so, if you check out **African American News&Issues'** May 9-15, 2007, **This Bud's For You** you'll read: "For sure, the first Black Houston Texans General Manager's performance at the NFL Draft greatly enhanced his status as a made in America African warrior like the late, great **Lloyd C. A. Wells**, aka "The Judge," who revolutionized pro football by scouting small Black schools that made the Kansas City Chiefs a perennial Super Bowl caliber team.

I say this, because **Gary Kubiak**, the Texans' coach obviously has the same respect for Smith's ability to judge hidden talents in Black athletes as the late Chief's coach **Hank Stram** had for The Judge. The Texans deserves kudos for snapping up **Amobi Okeye**, the Louisville defensive end with their first pick, but that was a given. However, Smith had to have been keeping a keen eye on small Black colleges to select **Jacoby Jones**, a Lane College wide-out with their second pick in the third round (73rd overall). Hey, the brother was one of the best-kept secrets in the collegiate ranks. This former track and basketball star was a late bloomer on the gridiron. He did not begin playing organized football until his junior year in high school and actually began his college career on a track scholarship at Southeastern Louisiana before transferring to Lane College in 2003.

"Once football became Jones' sole priority he put on twenty pounds of muscle and was the SIAC MVP and Offensive Player of the Year in 2006. This is the player to watch. He just might define Smith's career as a great GM. Even if he just happens to be Black." I told you so notwithstanding, but you can be sure that local radio sports talk show pundits (saturating Houston, Texas' airwaves) will be "expertly" discussing Jacoby's exploits ad nauseam henceforth. In addition, like programmed lemmings, my brothers and sisters will regurgitate their shallow-minded misinformation as if it's gospel. Square business, there's no way to discuss sports, or any other topic intelligently, unless you have enough information to know that today's clueless, ill prepared talking heads polluting the media usually don't know what they're talking about.

That's why I must persistently remind my history challenged brothers and sisters (depending on national wire reports filtered though the local mainstream media for their major source of information) that I have no peers when it comes to telling it like it is about any subject in the known, civilized, English-speaking universe. Hey, I can't care less when my wannabe competitors try to ignore my near prophetic musings. However, it pains me to hear my brothers and sisters embroiled in the senseless babble about hot topics like the **Michael Vick** fiasco, when their information is totally based on what clueless sports pundits propagate. What I'm saying is, if professional communicators lack the ability to peep through muddy water and spot dry land (aka Gift of Prophecy), they aren't likely to think critically. Ergo, for that reason, I've decided to juggle **Sports Perspectives** with **This Bud For You** periodically so that my audited estimated 2 million readers and millions more visiting our Web site at www.afamnews.com will be able to tell their brothers and sisters (that think White folks ice is colder, and their media is gospel), that they're not surprised that Jacoby Jones is another reason that the moribund Houston Texans expects a break-out season. After all, they read it in **African American News&Issues** long before he ran those two punts back for touchdowns, or made us old timers recall the exploits of "Bullet Bob Hayes." **COMING EVENTS: The conspiracy to destroy Texas Southern University targeted its great sports legacy.** ★



Jacoby Jones is the real thing.

SBA reopens disaster recovery center

HUNTSVILLE- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will reopen its mobile disaster recovery center in Huntsville. The center will be open from Saturday, September 8 through Wednesday, September 12, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Bank of America Building, 1313 University Avenue. This center will reopen to provide homeowners, renters, and business owners with personalized assistance as a result of the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding that occurred June 16 through August 3, 2007. To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, victims must first call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at 1-800-621-3362. SBA disaster assistance information is available by calling the SBA Customer Service at 1-800-659-2955, or visit their website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. ★

Community Calendar of Events

BEDFORD/FORT WORTH -

Dialogue, an American Cancer Society Support Group

This group is designed to help patients and their families and friends cope with cancer, and meets 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Tuesdays in the pastoral care office, second floor, Harris Methodist, H.E.B., 1600 Hospital Parkway in **Bedford**; and the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00- 8:00 p.m. in the cancer resource library at Harris Methodist Fort Worth, Klazuba Tower, 1300 West Terrell in **Fort Worth**. This is an ongoing event. For more information, call the American Cancer Society at (817)737-9992.

FORT WORTH-

Amon Carter Museum- 3501 Camp Bowie Blvd.

Masterworks of American Photography-one of the most important collections of photographs. Now showing until January 13, 2008. For more information, please call (817)738-1933.

HOUSTON-

The Black Child Development Institute, Inc. will hold its 35th annual meeting and luncheon on Saturday, September 15, 2007 at 12:00 noon at the Victual Restaurant, 3814 Lyons Avenue @ Pannell St. The keynote address will be delivered by Councilman Jarvis Johnson, District B. The luncheon theme is: "Black Children: Our Responsibility." The focus of Black child development is the adoption of Black children and the educational and social development of Black children. BCDI is an affiliate of the National Black Child Development Institute of Washington, D.C. For information, please call (713)633-2752. ★

Houstonian leads Alpha Xi Sigma at state meeting

TULSA, OK- The Alpha Xi Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho will host the state meeting of the International Sorority on September 22, 2007 at the Southern Hills Marriott at 1902 East 71st Street at 8:30am.

The Regional President, Brenda Sloan Johnson of Houston, Texas will be the conference leader. Ms. Johnson is a Life Member of Sigma Gamma Rho and have served in many local and regional capacities. She is employed in the Houston Independence School System. Her responsibilities include the Southwestern Region which includes Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana. Soror Brenda Canty of Baton Rouge, Louisiana is the undergraduate chapter coordinator for the Southwestern Region and will be present to provide training and development on sorority undergraduate membership. Mecial Wommack of Epsilon Omega Sigma of Logan County is the State Coordinator and is responsible for the four graduate and four undergraduate chapters in the state. Sigma Gamma Rho has been a consistent supporter of educational scholarships, Wee Savers Financial Literacy Program and the Rhoers Youth Club in the Tulsa community. Alpha Xi Sigma is a member of the Tulsa Pan-Hellenic Council and the Rudisill Friends of the Library. Members interested in attending should contact Trabar@valornet.com. Barbara L. Eikner is the Chapter State Meeting Coordinator and Wyvonne E. Marshall is Alpha Xi Sigma President. ★



Brenda Johnson

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