

## **CHEYNEY ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO ATHLETIC PROGRAM; WILL WITHDRAW FROM PSAC, NCAA DIVISION II**

March 20, 2018

Cheyney University announced today that it will withdraw from the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) and drop its National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II status as it seeks to restructure its athletic program to help the university achieve financial sustainability.

The university will seek another athletic conference association for its men's and women's basketball teams and women's volleyball program as it works to develop a stronger, more sustainable program. Meanwhile, the teams will assume independent status during the 2018-19 academic year.

"These are extremely difficult but necessary decisions that are being made on behalf of our entire student population, and to help ensure the university's future," said Cheyney President Aaron A. Walton. "We want to continue to provide our student athletes the opportunity to participate as part of the overall college experience.

"Unfortunately, we cannot continue to do so at the current level of competition. These changes are essential if the university is to achieve financial sustainability. They will remain in effect until we achieve our financial objectives."

Cheyney previously announced it was suspending its football program until the university's financial position showed significant improvement.

University officials consulted extensively with PSAC officials on all of the moves, which will take effect at the end of the current academic year.

The university's Council of Trustees were informed of the actions during its meeting today.

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