

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PAW PRINTS

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STAY CONNECTED!

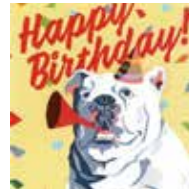
Helping you stay connected to Holmes Community College and each other is what the HCC Alumni Association is here to do for you.



Holmes Alumni Community

holmesccalumni.360alumni.com

The newest alumni benefit!



Birthday Campaign

<https://holmesccalumni.360alumni.com/campaign/356/happy-birthday/>

Support Holmes on your Birthday



Holmes Car Tag

dorms.gov/TagsTitles/Pages/License-Plates.aspx

Ask for it at your Tax Assessor's Office!



Alumni Job Board

holmesccalumni.360alumni.com/job-board/job

Free benefit for Holmes alumni business owners



Giving to the Foundation

holmescc.edu/foundation/index.aspx

Send your donations online or by mail!



First Row (Left to Right):

Leonard and Vera Blanton, Kay Gowan Asken, Mary Evelyn Hand Canter, Beth McKnight Austin, Pete Aldy (Sara)

Second Row (Left to Right):

Tommy Love, Nola Ann Sprayberry Herring, Gloria Teaster B, Jean Parker Newton, J.L. Peebles (Lynette)

Third Row (Left to Right):

Bill Bailey, Hank James, Bill Strawbridge, Joan Anne Ivas Foncree, John Day

Fourth Row (Left to Right):

Rancie Brantley Cummins, Frank Branch (Dixie), Elton Wright

McKinley to be Inducted to MCC Sports Hall of Fame

Alvin McKinley will be inducted into the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame at a special ceremony in Pearl April 27.

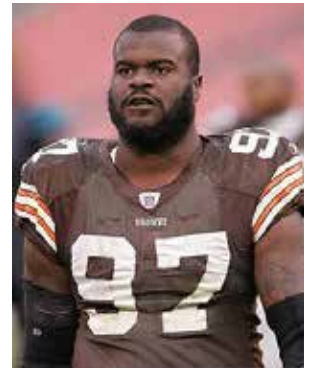
A McCool native, McKinley attended Weir High School, leading the Lions to a state championship starting at wide receiver and defensive end.

While at Holmes, McKinley played defensive end under Coach Hugh Shurden. He was recognized as an All American first team for 100 plus tackles with 26 behind the line of scrimmage. Among other accomplishments while at Holmes, he was picked to play in the 1997 Community College All-Star game.

“I enjoyed going to the Holmes baseball and basketball games to root on our fellow Bulldogs,” McKinley said. “We all had classes together and most of us had competed against each other in high school.”

After Holmes, McKinley earned a degree from Mississippi State University while playing football. During McKinley’s time at Mississippi State, the football team celebrated their successes of the season participating in two bowl appearances, the 1998 Peach Bowl and the 1999 Cotton Bowl.

McKinley continued to achieve success on the field. In 1999, he was the number one defensive nose guard in the nation and played in the east/west Shrine Bowl. In 2000, he participated in the NFL Combine and measured the longest arms and biggest hands out of all the players invited.



During the 2000 NFL draft, McKinley was the 120th pick of the fourth round to the Carolina Panthers. McKinley continued on to play for the Cleveland Browns, Denver Broncos and the New Orleans Saints as a defensive tackle.

Following his career in the NFL, McKinley continued working in football but followed his passion into coaching. McKinley coached defensive line at Mesa Community College in Mesa, Arizona, until he was appointed as defensive coordinator.

Now, McKinley resides in Gilbert, Arizona with his wife, Ebony and their four children: Alvis (18), Alada (13), Ace (11), and Aston (9). McKinley continues to train, mentor, coach and sponsor youth at football camps nationwide.

Alumni Highlights



Phylis Odum

Congratulations to Phylis Odum for being selected as Yazoo County High School’s Teacher of the Year for the 2020–2021 school year.



Ben Terry

Kosciusko native Ben Terry, a meteorologist at KPLC in Lake Charles, Louisiana, recently lived through Category 4 Hurricane Laura, probably the toughest experience in both his professional and personal life.



Kylie Warren

Kylie Warren started a produce business to raise money to attend Mississippi State University after Holmes; however, it has turned into a full-fledged family business.



Activate your Alumni Account to read the full stories.

Stay Connected and send us your article to be highlighted in our Alumni Community.

Jonathan Boyd, Basketball



The late Jonathan Boyd of Durant played basketball at Holmes Community College for two seasons under Coach Todd Kimble. Boyd was a 2008 graduate of Holmes.

Boyd was part of the 2007 Holmes Men's Basketball Team which won the MACJC Men's Basketball Championship. In 2006-2007 season, Boyd was recognized as the highest men's free throw percentage leader. The following sea-

son Boyd was really recognized for his talent. He was the recipient of the Frank B. Branch Award, MVP for the Holmes men's basketball and participated on the MACJC North All-Star Team.

After Holmes, Boyd continued his career in basketball at Alcorn State University (ASU). Among some of his accomplishments was the opportunity to play on the sub-regional all-tournament team in 2009, ASU Men's Basketball Best 3 point shooter 2008-2009, ASU Outstanding Young Adult in 2010 and ASU Academic Award in 2010. While at Alcorn, Boyd earned a Bachelor of Science in Recreation and a Master of Arts in Secondary Education/Guidance Education.

After college, Boyd continued to share his love of basketball and youth. He taught physical education at Linwood Elementary School and was named 2012 Teacher of the Year. In 2013, Boyd was hired as head coach of Durant Public Schools boys' basketball team. After two years of coaching, his boys basketball team went to the Region 6-1A championship, after which he was named 2015 6-1A Coach of the Year.

Boyd was diagnosed with leukemia in early March 2015 and lost the fight only three weeks later at age 26. Boyd had a daughter, Riley Janae Boyd, who is now six.

Durwin Carpenter, Basketball



Durwin Carpenter, a native of Holcomb, graduated from John Rundle High School in Grenada and headed to Holmes Community College to play basketball.

Carpenter graduated from Holmes in 1971 and continued on to Delta State to play basketball. In 1973, Carpenter earned a B.S. from Delta State University.

After college, Carpenter began his coaching career at Grenada Lake Academy as the head

boys' basketball coach, track coach and assistant football coach. After a one-year stay, he went to Central Holmes Academy where he served in multiple capacities for twenty years.

In the fall of 1994, Carpenter accepted the position as head girls' basketball coach at Pillow Academy. He continues to coach varsity and junior high girls at Pillow, assist with girls' track and softball, and serve as athletic director.

Carpenter began his 49th year as a coach in the MAIS. His girls' basketball record is 1,099 wins and 387 losses. He has won state championships on several occasions in basketball and track.

Carpenter has been recognized as "Overall Coach of the Year" four times and "State Coach of the Year" 10 times. He has served as a coach on 12 MAIS All-Star teams.

In 2005, Carpenter was inducted into the Delta State University Alumni Coaches Hall of Fame. In 2010, he was inducted into the MAIS Hall of Fame. In 2017, he was inducted into the Pillow Academy Sports Hall of Fame.

Carpenter resides in Greenwood with his wife Judy. Together the Carpenters have two daughters, Angie and Dana, along with four grandchildren.

Willie Carl Harris, Basketball



Willie Carl Harris, Sr. graduated from Bentonia High School and headed to Goodman to play basketball for Holmes Community College. Harris played under Bennie Kimble for the 1985-1987 seasons.

At Bentonia High School, Harris excelled as a basketball player, as his high school team won the Class B State Championship. He was on the South State All-Star team

and he was Co-MVP for the Yazoo County All-Star team.

While at Holmes, Harris' success continued. He was the lead scorer, rebounder and team Most Valuable Player (MVP). He continued to excel his sophomore year as he was recognized as the Bulldog MVP and selected for the MVP for the Region 23 All-Tournament team.

After Holmes, Harris went straight to work in the beverage industry and worked his way up. He is now serving as branch manager for Keurig/Dr. Pepper where he has been for 25 years. Harris' hard work and

dedication in the beverage industry earned him the title of being territory manager in 2001.

Starting in 2020, in addition to his other position, he became a non-alcoholic manager for Southern Beverage. Harris is also co-owner of Harris Graphics and Designs.

In 2010, Harris returned to further his education and earned a bachelor's degree in business from Penn State University.

Harris and his wife, Darlene, live in Brandon. Together they have three children: Willie Harris, Jr. (34), Quincy Harris (30) and Diandra Harris (27).

Jocobby Robinson, *Baseball*



A native of Meridian and graduate of Meridian High School, Jocobby Robinson played baseball for Holmes Community College during the 2011–2012 seasons.

Robinson was second baseman for the Dirt Bags under Coach Kenny Dupont. As a successful infielder, Robinson was recognized by the division by making the first team all-state in 2012 and was one of the Holmes baseball team captains in 2012. Robinson

was on the North Division Championship team in 2011.

After Holmes, Robinson went on to play at the University of West Alabama. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management with a minor in business.

Upon completing his degree, Robinson started his professional career as an assistant coach at his alma mater of West Alabama. He guided that team to the 2015 Gulf South Conference Championship.

In 2016, Robinson took a job with the Onterio Blue Jays travel team as an assistant coach. Robinson continued to make impacts

in coaching at several other colleges. He coached at Young Harris College and had two coaching stints in the Coastal Plains Summer Wooden Bat League for the Asheboro Copperheads and the Macon Bacon before landing a coaching job at Lee University.

Now, Robinson is an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee.

Robinson lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee and plans to marry his fiancée Jenna when she completes her doctoral program at the University of Alabama in August of 2022.

Trumaine “Joe” Sykes, *Football*



A native of Grenada and graduate of Grenada High School, Trumaine “Joe” Sykes played football at Holmes Community College for the

2001–2003 seasons under Coach Hugh Shurden.

While Sykes did not start his first game at Holmes, when Coach Shurden put him in, he was on fire. Sykes did not miss a starting position the rest of the time he was

at Holmes due to his hard work, dedication and good performance on the field.

Sykes went on to be a leader on and off the football field at Holmes. As an outstanding defensive end, he was named NJCAA All-American. Sykes had several scholarship offers but committed to West Virginia University in 2003.

After West Virginia, he also played at Southern University where he was named first team All-SWAC. Sykes entered the NFL as an undrafted free agent in 2006 for the Washington Redskins. Then Sykes went on to play a successful career in the

Canadian Football League for several years before trying his talent in National Arena League.

In 2018, while playing for the Albany Empire in New York, Sykes was awarded Defensive Lineman of the Year. In 2019, Sykes was part of the team that won the Arena Bowl XXXII. After the big season success, in 2019 Sykes retired from the sport.

Sykes lives in New York with his family and helps youth prepare and plan to be successful on the field teaching them all the things he did not know when he started his career.

Danya Turner, *Football*



Danya Turner, a graduate of Weir High School, headed to Goodman with his twin brother, Dashan, to play football for the Holmes Community College Bulldogs for the 1997–1999 seasons.

Turner was an offensive lineman at Holmes under Hugh Shurden and Jeff Koonz. At the time Turner was at Holmes, Andy Wood was his offensive line coach. Turner was very successful on the field which led

to his participation in the 1998 Community College All-Star Game.

After Holmes, Turner played football at Liberty University while earning his Bachelor of Science in Education. Turner’s connection to sports did not stop after he returned home from college. He returned to his hometown to give back to the youth to help them achieve the same opportunities. Turner started his coaching and teaching career at Weir High School.

In 2004, Turner was awarded New Teacher of the Year. Three years in a row (2006-2009), he was awarded District Coach of the Year.

Furthering his education in 2017, Turner earned his master’s in educational leadership from the University of Phoenix. Earning his masters allowed Turner to obtain a leadership position at Louisville High School, where he is today.

Twenty years later, Turner has twin sons who play for Holmes. The Turner twins will be starting their second season at Holmes in the fall under Coach Raymond Gross.

Tuner and his wife live in Europa with their three kids, Donovan (19), Devean (19) and Mitchell (12). He also serves as a Pastor of Mt. Sinai M.B. Church in Louisville.



Read the full stories about our Holmes 2021 Sports Hall of Fame inductees at www.holmescc.edu/alumni/shof.aspx.



HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Goodman | Grenada | Ridgeland
P.O. BOX 527, Goodman, MS 39079

Stay in touch! Helping you stay connected to Holmes Community College and to each other is what the HCC Alumni Association is all about. Update your contact information by sending an email to: kellard@holmescc.edu



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@HolmesCCAlumni
@HolmesAthletics



Instagram

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@HolmesCCAlumni



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Official Hashtag

#NoPlaceLikeHolmes 🐾

Events to Remember!

Streaming Spring Sports:

Softball:

holmesccmedia.com/white-channel/

Baseball:

holmesccmedia.com/white-channel/

Women's Basketball:

holmesccmedia.com/cardinal-channel/

Men's Basketball:

holmesccmedia.com/cardinal-channel/

Softball:

holmesccmedia.com/white-channel/

Sports Hall of Fame

Goes Live on April 1st

[View on Social Media](#)

Ribbon Cutting

April 23rd

McMorrough Library and Archives & Maintenance Facility and Pavillion | Goodman Campus

Groundbreaking

April 23rd

Lineman Facility & Athletic Training Center | Goodman Campus

Golf Tournament

May 5th

Deerfield Golf Club | Madison, MS

Alumni Zoom Lunches

July 7th

Grenada County
Montgomery County
Webster County

July 8th

Attala County
Choctaw County

July 9th

Madison County
Yazoo County

July 14th

Holmes County
Carroll County



WHERE AM I?

Do you know where this picture was taken?

Send your guess to kellard@holmescc.edu. We will unveil the location in the next edition of *Paw Prints*.

In the last issue we pictured a crest from the side columns in McDaniel Auditorium. In the recent remodel the columns were refurbished and painted to match the repainted ceiling and crown molding. Although little is known about the crest that is displayed on each half column along the side walls of the auditorium, the crest adds true elegance to the atmosphere of the classic theater which is now used as a multi-purpose entertainment facility.