

PAW PRINTS

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



BULLDOGS SEIZE GRAPHIC EDGE BOWL VICTORY

The Holmes Community College Bulldogs season was capped off by winning their first NJCAA Bowl with a 28-21 win over the Iowa Western Community College Reivers in the Graphic Edge Bowl.

Holmes trailed 21-14 at halftime, but the Holmes defense stiffened in the second half, and the offense used big plays to pull out the win.

Holmes went into the game ranked No. 9 in the NJCAA, but they came out as Graphic Edge Bowl Champions and finished the year as the No. 7-ranked team. The bowl appearance was the first in 28 years. Holmes is 1-2 in NJCAA bowl games.

"We found a way to win," Holmes Head Coach Jeff Koonz said. "It's a great day to be a Bulldog."

Sophomore receiver D.J. Montgomery from Durant was named the game's Most Valuable Offensive Player while sophomore defensive end Desmond Lester of Batesville was named the game's Most Valuable Defensive Player. Montgomery finished the game with seven catches for 205 yards and two touchdowns, one from 30 in the second quarter and one from 54 in the third quarter. Lester finished the game with only eight tackles but added one sack, four tackles for loss but had two key fumble recoveries. Coach Jeff Koonz was named MACJC Coach of the Year, this was Coach Koonz's second time to receive this award.



MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE HALL OF FAME HONORS OSWALT

On April 25, Roy Oswalt will be inducted into the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame at a special ceremony in Jackson. Oswalt enrolled in Holmes Community College after graduating from Weir High School in 1995. While at Holmes, Oswalt pitched for the Holmes baseball team.

Oswalt was selected as an All-Star in 1996 and 1997. He was also selected as National Community/Junior College Pitcher of the Year in 1997. In 1996, Oswalt was selected by the Houston Astros in the Major League Baseball (MLB) draft and signed to play with the club in 1997. From 1997 to 2001, Oswalt played for the Houston Astros' minor league teams. In 2000, he was selected to play on the U.S. Summer Olympics Baseball Team and won gold.

In 2001, Oswalt made his major league debut with the Houston Astros. He helped them get to their World Series appearance in 2005; that year he was named Most Valuable Player of the National League Championship Series (NLCS) and acknowledged for most wins in Major League Baseball (MLB). Oswalt was named 2006 MLB ERA leader. He played with the Astros until 2010. From 2001-2010, Oswalt had the most wins and most innings pitched in the National League. In 2010, he went to play for the Philadelphia Phillies, in 2012, he played for the Texas Rangers, and he finished his baseball career with the Colorado Rockies in 2013. His overall pitching record was 161-102.

Oswalt now resides in Starkville. He has three children Arlee (12), Ainslee (9) and Aubree (6).



At left, Oswalt wears number 44 while pitching for the Astros. He wore the number 18, however, while pitching at Holmes, pictured above.



HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CALL US!

**WE WANT TO INCLUDE YOU IN
OUR NEW ALUMNI DIRECTORY!**

Time is running out to be included in our Holmes Alumni Directory. If you haven't gotten in touch with us, please do. If you know a Holmes Alumni, share the word!

CONTACT: Publishing Concepts Inc.
(Dedicated line for Holmes) 800-892-1494

CLASS REUNION TIME

1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000

Homecoming is a great time to have your class reunion! We will be having a special reception Homecoming, October 21, 2017 for each of our honored classes. Contact Katherine Ellard for more information: kellard@holmescc.edu, 662-472-9134



**2017 HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**WEDNESDAY
MAY 10, 2017**

Deerfield Golf Club
Madison, Mississippi
11 a.m. Registration & Lunch
12 P.M. Tee Time

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Allison DeWeese at 601-605-3430, or follow the link on our website at holmescc.edu

SPORTS HALL OF FAME

ACTIVITIES FOR THE DAY - APRIL 27, 2017

- 1:30 – 2:00** **President's Reception** Honorees check-in at President's Home and visit with Head Coaches, Cheerleaders, and Ambassadors
- 2:00 – 2:15** **Welcome by Dr. Jim Haffey, President of the College**
- 2:15 – 3:15** **Campus Tour for Honorees**
- 4:00 – 4:30** **Connection! and Coachmen Performance**
McDaniel Hall Auditorium
- 5:00** **Gathering at Coliseum** Honorees, family members and invited guests to meet and socialize with Alumni and general public
- 6:00** **Banquet and Awards Program**
at Frank Branch Coliseum

**BUY YOUR
TICKETS
NOW!**

Reserved Tickets are required – Ticket cost is \$20.00 each. For more detailed information, contact Katherine Ellard, Coordinator of Alumni Affairs, to reserve your required tickets @ 662-472-9134 or email kellard@holmescc.edu

BULLDOGS SPORTS UPDATES



BASEBALL

Started division play at the middle of March. Coach Kenny Dupont received his 500th win on March 15.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Competed in the State and Regional Tournaments. Finished the season fourth in the North.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Competed in the State and Regional Tournaments. Finished the season second in the North.



SOFTBALL

Started division play at the first week of March.



MEN'S TENNIS

First match was a victory February 16 and will continue to play through April 11.



CHEERLEADING

Traveled to Orlando, FL for the UCA Cheer Nationals Competition in January.



WOMEN'S TENNIS

First match was February 16 and the season play will continue through April 11.



WOMEN'S SOCCER

Fished the season first in the North and second in the MA-JCC/Region 23 Tournament



MEN'S SOCCER

Finished the season fourth in the North.

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INDUCTEES



**AUSTIN
TAYLOR**

Austin Taylor enrolled at Holmes Community College after graduating from Kosciusko High. Taylor followed in both his grandfathers' footsteps coming to Holmes: Alton Taylor and Dewitte Belk.

Taylor shined under Coach Kenny Dupont. He hit .346 with a combined 50 RBI in his two seasons at Holmes. Taylor garnered MACJC All-State honors and

was selected to represent his team in the Mississippi Junior College Baseball Showcase. Taylor was a scholar-athlete earning an invitation to be part of Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

"The most memorable part of Holmes was the family atmosphere throughout campus," Taylor said.

In the 2006 MLB Draft, Taylor was a 49th round draft pick by the St. Louis Cardinals. He also played ball with the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2008 and earned his bachelor's in business administration. Taylor has worked for the past eight years at Mitchell Metal Products in Kosciusko as the sales manager for the southeast territory.

Taylor and his wife, Mary Claire, have three children.



**TODD
KIMBLE**

Bennie Todd Kimble served head men's basketball coach at Holmes from July 1997-August 2012. Kimble followed in his father Bennie Kimble's footsteps.

A graduate of East Holmes Academy, Kimble played basketball at Holmes from 1987-88.

After Holmes, Kimble transferred to Delta State University where he earned his bachelor's degree and continued to play basketball. Kimble continued his education with additional graduate work in physical education at Mississippi State University and in education at William Carey University.

As basketball coach at Holmes, he received many awards. Kimble took the Bulldogs to the MACJC State Tournament seven times, led the team to become North Division Runner-up four times, and North Division Champions in 2003. He also led the Bulldogs to be MACJC State Champions three times, took them to the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament six times, and helped them place as NJCAA Region 23 Runner-up in 2003.

Kimble and his wife, Shannon, have three children.



**CHARLES
MCCLUSKY**

Charles H. McCluskey was a star athlete for his two years as a Bulldog, he co-captained the football team and pitched for the baseball team.

As a football player, he was voted Most Improved Back, named an Honorable Mention for All-State Fullback, and was an offensive leader with 162 total plays. He was voted Most Athletic in 1963.

"Coach Mustin was solely responsible for my being at HJC...I was scouted by Ole Miss my senior year at J.Z. George High, but in the end my abilities did not come up to SEC standards. I decided not to attend college. Coach Mustin, talked me into coming to Holmes on a full football scholarship, which I have been proud of every day since."

After Holmes he continued his baseball career, playing semi-pro for 23 years. He also began working in construction at J.J. Ferguson Sand & Gravel Co. in 1967 and is still with the company today.

McCluskey has four children and 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



For full stories visit:
Holmescc.edu/alumni/shof.aspx

2017 HOLMES SPORTS HALL OF FAME



**ELIZABETH
MOSLEY ELLIS**

Elizabeth Ellis, a graduate of Canton Academy played basketball and tennis at Holmes from 1995-1997. At Holmes, she accumulated numerous basketball honors, and some in tennis such as Most Improved Player in the 1995-96 season and most dedicated in 1996-97. She was on the President's List and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

"My fondest memory from Holmes, of course, is meeting my now-husband Michael," Ellis said. "I also thoroughly enjoyed dorm life."

Upon graduating Holmes, Ellis transferred to the University of Louisiana in Lafayette. In 1999, she received the Sun Belt Conference Sportsmanship Award, and in 2000, she completed her degree. Ellis worked in pharmaceutical sales, and received the Special Achievement Award from Roche Pharmaceuticals in 2012. After working as a pharmaceutical sales representative for three years, she left the workforce and has remained a stay-at-home-mom since then.

Ellis' husband, Michael, is also a Holmes alumnus. They have three children and reside in Oxford.



**PHILLIP
SISTRUNK**

William "Phillip" Sistrunk played soccer on the Ridgeland Campus from 2005-2006.

"I am absolutely elated that Phil is the first-ever Holmes Community College men's soccer player to be inducted into the Holmes Sports Hall of Fame," Coach Matt Convertino said.

Serving as captain of the Bulldogs soccer team, Sistrunk was the highest goal-scorer and assist-leader his sophomore year. In 2006, he was named to the All-Region 23 Team, named MACJC Region 23 Co-Player of the Year, and selected for the Mississippi Junior College All-State Team. He was also named MVP for the Bulldogs each year of his tenure.

Sistrunk majored in business administration/accounting and was a Dean's List scholar, a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and named to the Holmes Hall of Fame.

Upon graduation from Holmes, he attended Mississippi State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Risk Management and Financial Planning in 2009. He currently serves as a human resources director for a restaurant group in North Mississippi.



**DEREK
STARLING, SR.**

Derek Starling, Sr. a graduate of Canton High School, played under Coach Bennie Kimble from 1984-1986.

Starling, the team captain, was named to the All-Region 23 Team, MJCAA All-State, and chosen to play in the MJCAA All-Star game. He received other accolades which included the Academic Award, the Sportsmanship Award, the Ras Branch Award, and the Bulldog Award.

Outside of basketball, Starling was president of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), a Hall of Fame inductee, an honor student, and on the Homecoming Court in 1985.

Upon graduation from Holmes, he attended Mississippi State University and earned his bachelor's in Industrial and Systems engineering with a minor in mathematics. Today, he is the owner of SOL Engineering Services, in Jackson, with offices throughout the Southeast. Prior to owning SOL Engineering, he served as corporate director of quality and enterprise resource planning at Proliance, Inc., in New Haven, Connecticut.

Starling and his wife, Daphenia, have one son, Derek, Jr., who is 11.





Holmes Community College
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Helping you stay connected to Holmes Community College and to each other is what the HCC Alumni Association is all about. You can also update your contact information by sending an email to: kellard@holmescc.edu

BE Connected | Update Us

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Foundation Golf Tournament May 10

Homecoming October 21

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HOLMES

AT LAST!



Meet
MAJOR
Our new mascot!