

DENHAM SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Class of 2011

LOUIS CARLISLE
(COACH)

“Loody” Carlisle compiled a 66-31-9 record as DSHS football coach and athletic director from 1965-1974, with a Class 3A state runner-up finish against Hahnville in 1972. His teams won three district titles and made 13 post season appearances. He was named District Coach of the Year four times. Carlisle served as DSHS principal from 1975-1985 and on the Livingston Parish School Board for 24 years after retirement. Earlier in his career, he led Assumption High School to the Class 2A football state title. He was inducted into the LHSAA Sports Hall of Fame in 1993.

GRADY HORNSBY
(COACH)

Grady Hornsby is renowned locally for his 35-year tenure as the longest serving principal in DSHS history. Yet, he was a coaching pioneer as well, leading the boys’ basketball team to Class B State Championships in 1948 and 1950. He also coached the school’s first 11-man football team in 1930, while his six-man teams were state runners-up in 1946 and 1947. Hornsby changed the school mascot from “Tomcats” to “Yellow Jackets” in 1930 and adopted purple and gold as the school colors. After his death in 1985, Grady Hornsby Gymnasium was named in his honor in 1992.

ALTON LEGGETTE
(COACH)

Alton Leggette served as DSHS boys’ basketball coach from 1965-1978, compiling a record of 247-111. His teams won one district title, making the playoffs three times and reaching the Top 24 State Tournament in 1967 with a 33-5 record. Leggette was named District Coach of the Year once and Parish Coach of the Year two times. Earlier in his career, he led Holden to a Class C basketball state title. He was voted Mr. Louisiana Basketball by the LABC in 1990, inducted into the LHSAA Sports Hall of Fame in 1991, and presented the SLU Legends in Coaching Award in 1999.

HAROLD “BUTCH” WAX
(COACH)

Butch Wax compiled a record of 152-84-2 as the DSHS football coach and athletic director from 1976-1997, the winningest gridiron coach in Yellow Jacket history. His teams won five district titles and made 20 post season appearances, reaching the quarterfinals four times. He coached two regular season undefeated teams, one 12-win team, two 11-win teams, and five 9-win teams. Wax was named District Coach of the Year five times and inducted into the LHSAA Sports Hall of Fame in 2006. He served as principal of his alma mater from 1997-2009.

LESLIE McDOWELL
(ATHLETE & COACH)

Leslie McDowell was a two-time All State basketball player, winning the Class B State Championship in 1948 under DSHS Hall of Fame coach Grady Hornsby. He was also selected to the All State six-man football team in 1948. He received an athletic scholarship to play basketball at SLU. McDowell returned to DSHS after college to coach the 1955-56 school year, capturing the Class A boys' basketball State Championship and the boys' State Softball Championship in the same year. He was picked to coach the Louisiana High School All Star Basketball Game in 1956.

IVY BROWN
(ATHLETE)

Ivy Brown was a five-sport letterman considered one of the best all-round athletes to ever play for the Yellow Jackets. He was a Class A All State baseball player in 1959 and an All State basketball player in 1960 who averaged 18 points per game over four years. He was also an All District running back in football and the starting pitcher on three successive boys' State Softball Championship teams. Brown was selected to play in the Louisiana High School All Star Basketball Game in 1960. He received an athletic scholarship to play basketball at Louisiana College.

GLENN GLASS
(ATHLETE)

Glenn Glass was a two-sport All State athlete in football (1985) and baseball (1986), voted the rare honor of playing in the Louisiana High School All Star Game in both sports. He is the all-time Yellow Jacket career rushing leader with 4,014 yards and 39 touchdowns. He was the first runner in DSHS history to break the single season 2,000 yard barrier with 2,036 yards. Glass was a four-year starter in baseball, playing on the 1986 Class 4A State Championship Team and blasting the winning hit in the title game. He received an athletic scholarship to play baseball at SLU.

CECIL HARRIS
(ATHLETE)

As the school's only three-sport first team All State pick, Cecil Harris is arguably the best all-round athlete in DSHS history. He was All State in basketball in 1967 and 1968 (MVP) and named to the elite Top 5 All State-All Class Basketball Team in 1968. He was All District in baseball twice (MVP once) and All State in 1968. Harris was District Champion in track and field four times and the Class 2A State Champion in 1968. He was also All District in football, booming a school record 66-yard punt as a senior. He received an athletic scholarship to play basketball at SLU.

BEN McDONALD
(ATHLETE)

As an all star at the high school, collegiate, Olympic, and professional levels, Ben McDonald is the school's most elite athlete. He was a two-time Street and Smith basketball honorable mention All American and a two-sport All State pick in basketball and baseball. He led DSHS to the Class 4A State Baseball Championship in 1986, with 20 strikeouts in the quarterfinal game. McDonald was also a two-time All District football player. He received an athletic scholarship to play basketball and baseball at LSU, later drafted #1 overall in MLB by the Baltimore Orioles.

SARAH MEADORS MESTEPEY
(ATHLETE)

Sarah Meadors enjoyed a storied career as a fast-pitch softball star, leading DSHS to Class 5A State Championships in 1998 and 2000 and a #8 national ranking by Fox Sports. She was a three-time All State pitcher, with MVP honors as a senior and an overall record of 74-8-2. She received prep softball's highest honor when she was selected Miss Louisiana Softball in 2000. Meadors was named to the LHSAA Academic All State Team with a 4.0 GPA and was Co-Valedictorian of her senior class in 2000. She received an athletic scholarship to play softball at LSU.

JANA GARRISON ORILLION
(ATHLETE)

Jana Garrison helped her coach-father establish the school's first-ever tennis team in 1983 and became its first superstar overnight. She shocked the tennis world by being named to the National High School All American Team in 1985 and 1986, compiling an overall record of 65-1 at DSHS. Garrison was a four-time Class 4A State Champion and the first girl in Louisiana history to win four high school state singles titles. The Southern Tennis Association ranked her the #1 girls' doubles player in the south. She received an athletic scholarship to play tennis at LSU.

DREXEL ROBINSON
(ATHLETE)

Drexel Robinson was a distinguished basketball player voted All District in 1971, 1972, and 1973 (MVP). He was a three-time All Parish MVP, plus Defensive Player of the Year and Playmaker of the Year in 1973. He was also a three-time DSHS Team Captain, MVP, Leading Scorer, Best Defense, and Team Assist Leader. As a senior, Robinson averaged 20.5 points per game and made 75% of his free throws. He was a versatile three-sport letterman, winning honors as offensive MVP in baseball. He received an athletic scholarship to play basketball at Louisiana College.

KELVIN ROBINSON
(ATHLETE)

In 1979 Kelvin Robinson became the first football player in school history named to the National High School All American Team. He was a two-time Class 4A All State running back in 1978 and 1979 who was also selected to the All Southern Team by the Orlando Sentinel. Robinson achieved the rare honor of making All District four times, plus being picked on both offense and defense his junior and senior years. His overall career rushing total was 2,821 yards, averaging 5.1 yards per carry with 46 touchdowns. He received an athletic scholarship to play football at Tulane.

RANDY RUSHING
(ATHLETE)

Randy Rushing is universally considered the Yellow Jackets' first great football player whose explosive running style inspired a small town for two fabulous seasons. He was a two-time Class A All State running back in 1957 and 1958, gaining 1,873 and 1,862 yards respectively. Rushing scored 23 touchdowns and averaged 13 yards per carry as a senior, making five touchdowns in the 1958 Dairy Bowl. A two-time District Champion in track, he ran 100 yards in 9.9 seconds, still a school record. He received an athletic scholarship to play football at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College.

ROGER WEST
(ATHLETE)

Roger West is one of the Yellow Jackets' all-time finest athletes who was All District in basketball (twice), football (twice), and District Champion in track (8 times). He was a Class A All State basketball player in 1959, leading his team to a 35-7 record. He was the State Champion in the broad jump and an honorable mention All State running back in football, averaging 8.1 yards per carry as a senior. In his last game as a Jacket, West returned the second-half kickoff 85 yards for a touchdown in the 1958 Dairy Bowl. He received an athletic scholarship to play basketball at SLU.