

Your Pioneer Update - February 2024

Glenville State University <foundation@glenville.edu>

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Pioneer Update

Glenville State University Newsletter for Alumni & Friends | February 2024



Kevin Gray '14 is currently serving as a Financial Literacy Teacher at his high school alma mater, Reynoldsburg High School in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. He has been with RHS since 2019. Kevin is also the co-founder and Director of Operations of 1Up Stats, a gamified sports training service.



There's Still Time to Purchase Mardi Gras Gala Tickets

Our Mardi Gras themed gala will be held on Saturday, February 24 in the Mollohan Campus Community Center Ballroom.

The event begins with a reception at 6:00 PM followed by the gala with dinner and dancing at 7:00 PM. We hope you can join us as we, "laissez les bons temps rouler" (let the good times roll)!

The Columbus, Ohio native graduated from Glenville State in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in Computer Information & Systems. During his time on campus he was captain of the men's basketball team from 2011-2014 and was a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. He tallied up 1,202 points on the court with the Pioneers, helped lead the team to its first NCAA Tournament appearance in 40 years, is second in all-time 3-pointers made, fourth in all-time 3-pointers made in a single season, and was a two-time Mountain East Conference Player of the Week.

Kevin is married to Kenyell Goodson '14 who was a member of the Lady Pioneer basketball teams that won the WVIAC Championship in 2011 and the MEC Championship in 2014. She was a member of the MEC All-Tournament Team and racked up 1,240 career points. Kevin and Kenyell have two children, Kevin II and Kaymonie.

After leaving Glenville State, Kevin played professional basketball with the Basketball Ireland Super League Team Killorglin KCYMS BC. He played in Ireland, Norway, and Lithuania. He and the team won a championship in Ireland for KCYMS BC. Additionally, he was a three-time All Star, a two-time Golden Ball Winner (Player of the Month), and earned a club record with 10 3-pointers made in a single game.

In his spare time, Kevin enjoys spending time with his family, scaling up his business, playing video games, sports, and helping athletes reach their potential.

When asked what Glenville

The favor of an RSVP by Friday, February 9 is appreciated, so act quickly! Semi-formal or Mardi Gras-themed dress is requested.

[Click here to purchase tickets.](#)

Gearing up for Day of Giving

Glenville State University will celebrate its 152nd anniversary on Monday, February 19. That date coincides with the annual Founders Day of Giving campaign. The giving campaign focuses on raising money for areas of need on campus such as academics, athletics, scholarships, campus improvements, and more.



"First off, I have to say thank you to our donors and friends," said David Hutchison, Vice President of Advancement. "These past few years have been record-breaking and that is all thanks to our supporters. I encourage everyone to keep an eye out for our fundraising projects and participate as you are able. And remember, each gift – no matter the size – makes an impact and helps bring us closer to our goals."

Hutchison notes that the Morris Family Foundation has a generous \$500,000 match in place for the Founders Day of Giving again this year. Once \$500,000 has been raised, the match is unlocked.

Fundraising projects have been established for each academic department and athletic team, scholarship funds, and other specific projects.

The Day of Giving website – give.glenville.edu – opens on February 12.



State means to him, Kevin said, “Glenville is not just my alma mater; it is a fundamental part of my identity, shaping who I am personally and professionally. I am forever grateful for the experiences, education, and connections Glenville State University provided. As an alum, I proudly carry the distinction of being associated with Glenville, an institution that means everything to me. I tell my wife all the time that I bleed blue.”

He adds, “During my three years at Glenville, I had the privilege of pursuing my passion for basketball under the guidance of influential coaches Stephen Dye and Joe Mazzulla. Their mentorship played a pivotal role in shaping my basketball career and inspired the founding of my business, 1Up Stats, where I aim to pass on the knowledge and discipline instilled in me to the next generation. I want to help others like everyone who has helped me along my journey.”

We are pleased to feature Kevin in this month’s Alumni Spotlight and are proud to call him an alumnus.

Students pass through the campus amphitheater, which is scheduled to receive a facelift thanks to deferred maintenance funding. In this photo, utility lines have already been marked with flags and spray paint along the walkway.

Deferred Maintenance Funding to Facilitate Upgrades, Changes at GSU

Last year, it was announced that Glenville State University would receive nearly \$12 million in deferred maintenance funding from the State of West Virginia. Deferred maintenance projects have piled up at institutions all around the state over the past decade due to decreased appropriations. This funding will allow state universities to tackle many long-overdue projects.

At Glenville State, the funding will go toward heating and cooling system controls and upgrades throughout campus, security camera and exterior lighting replacement and installation, and technology upgrades such as new Wi-Fi hotspots and a server replacement. The monies will also be used to upgrade and expand usage of the campus amphitheater and to facilitate partial demolition of Louis Bennett Hall.

Architectural and engineering contracts have been completed for the building projects and the campus Physical Plant and Office of Technology employees are gearing up for the upgrades. The funding is being dispersed in 25% increments and Glenville State received its first \$2.9 million in December 2023.



Winter Homecoming Just Around the Corner!

Glenville State University will celebrate Winter Homecoming on Saturday, February 10.

Starting at 12:30 p.m., the GSU Alumni and Foundation Offices will open “The Deck” – which is the ultimate fan section where alumni and friends of the University can come together inside the Waco Center for food, beverages, and a great time. Cheer on the Pioneers from this special section while catching up with alumni and old friends. Entry to “The Deck” is \$10.

The women’s and men’s basketball teams will host the Notre Dame College Falcons at GSU’s Waco Center that afternoon; the Lady Pioneer game is at 1:00 p.m. and the Pioneer game is scheduled to tip at 3:00 p.m. Returning basketball alumni and coaches will be recognized during halftime of both games.

Fans may tailgate in the Waco Center parking lot, weather permitting. Students will have other activities planned during the day as well.

Members of the Pioneer Family are encouraged to contact their friends and invite them to join the fun on February 10. For more information about Winter Homecoming, contact GSU’s Athletic Department at (304) 462-4102 or the Alumni Office at (304) 462-6116.



GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
Reception for Alumni, Friends, & Legislators
Monday, February 12 | Woman’s Club of Charleston

Charleston-Area Alumni & Friends Invited to February 12 Reception

Those living in the Charleston, West Virginia area are invited to a Glenville State University reception for alumni, friends, and legislators at the Woman's Club of Charleston (1600 Virginia Street East, Charleston, WV 25311) on Monday, February 12 at 5:00 PM. Join us for hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Bring a friend, the event is free.

Questions? Contact alumni@glenville.edu or call (304) 462-6116.



GSU President Dr. Mark Manchin Honored as WV News Educator of the Year

WV News and The State Journal have named Dr. Mark A. Manchin the Educator of the Year for 2023. This prestigious award recognizes Manchin's contributions to education, leadership, and his unwavering commitment to the advancement of higher learning.

Of receiving the award, Manchin said, "I am truly honored and humbled to receive the WV News/State Journal Educator of the Year Award. This recognition reflects the collective efforts of the entire Glenville State University community. Together, we are dedicated to providing a transformative education that empowers our students to excel in their chosen fields and

make meaningful contributions to society."

Department of Fine Arts Music Audition & Art Portfolio Day is February 13

Do you know a student who is interested in studying music, music education, or art? Encourage them to sign up for Glenville State University's Music Audition & Art Portfolio Day on Tuesday, February 13! Attendance at Music Audition & Art Portfolio Day allows for acceptance into the department and scholarship opportunities. Register by [clicking here](#).

Skiles to be Inducted into WV Wesleyan College Athletic Hall of Fame

Glenville State University Athletic Director Jesse Skiles '87 has been named to the 2023 Hall of Fame Class at West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Skiles coached men's and women's cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field at WV Wesleyan where he won over 50 conference titles. Thirty-four of his athletes qualified for nationals at

Wesleyan and 10 were named All-American. On four separate occasions at Wesleyan, Skiles' teams won all four league titles in the same academic year; 1995-96, 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2014-15. His career (at Wesleyan and Glenville State) resulted in a total of 64 conference championships and he was named Coach of the Year 53 times.

Skiles and the other members of the 2023 class will be inducted at a ceremony on Saturday, April 20, 2024.



Alumnus Finds Success with Tattoo Shop

Tvaris "T" King '16 has become the go-to tattoo artist for many Ohio State University student athletes and other professional athletes – and the wall of his shop proves it. The interior of his [Tattoo Kings](#) shop in Columbus, Ohio is lined with photos of satisfied customers who proudly sport his artwork.

"They are allowing me to leave my mark on them, they're entrusting me with doing this for them. I don't think I could ever take it for granted. It's a constant appreciation," King said in an interview with [The Lantern](#), OSU's student newspaper.

King says that he first was exposed to art as a child watching his mother paint, but it wasn't until years later that a friend asked him to use his artistic skills for a tattoo.



Wrestling Nabs MEC Championship, Boxing Picks up Two Wins

Glenville State has claimed the 2024 Mountain East Conference Wrestling Championship and two Pioneer boxers were victorious at the War in the Waco VIII.

The Pioneers dethroned reigning MEC wrestling champs West Liberty at the tournament that was held in late January. Five GSU wrestlers took home individual championships in their weight classes: Hunter Ross (125), Gavin Quioco (133), Guy DeLeonardis (157), Brady Ross (165), and Isaiha Casto (174). The win marks Glenville State's first MEC Championship in wrestling since the program relaunched during the 2020-21 season.

At the War in the Waco, GSU senior Daniel Hinger fought back in his final round to defeat Leo Cuellar in one of the most exciting fights of the night. Sophomore Payton Packer's was the final fight of the evening; he picked up the win by unanimous decision. The War in the Waco featured seven fights with four Pioneers competing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, February 3 - GSU Cheer Purse/Basket Bingo Fundraiser

1:00 PM - Gilmer County Recreation Center

Saturday, February 10 - Winter Homecoming

Waco Center

Monday, February 12 - Reception for GSU Alumni, Friends, & Legislators

5:00 PM - Woman's Club of Charleston, Charleston, WV

Monday, February 12 - Trillium Art Show Opens

Fine Arts Center Gallery

Tuesday, February 13 - GSU Day at the State Capitol

Senate Chamber - Charleston, WV

Tuesday, February 13 - Music Audition & Art Portfolio Day

9:00 AM - Fine Arts Center

Monday, February 19 - Founders Day of Giving

Save the Date!

Thursday, February 22 - WV Brass Quintet Concert

7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Saturday, February 24 - Founders Day Gala

Mollohan Campus Community Center

[Purchase Tickets - Click Here](#)

Thursday, March 21 - Little Kanawha Reading Series: A Reading by George Dudding '73
4:00 PM - Robert F. Kidd Library

Saturday, April 27 - Alumni Baseball Reunion
1:00 PM - Sue Morris Sports Complex

Saturday, April 27 - Alumni Awards Banquet
5:00 PM - Mollohan Campus Community Center Ballroom

PIONEER ATHLETICS

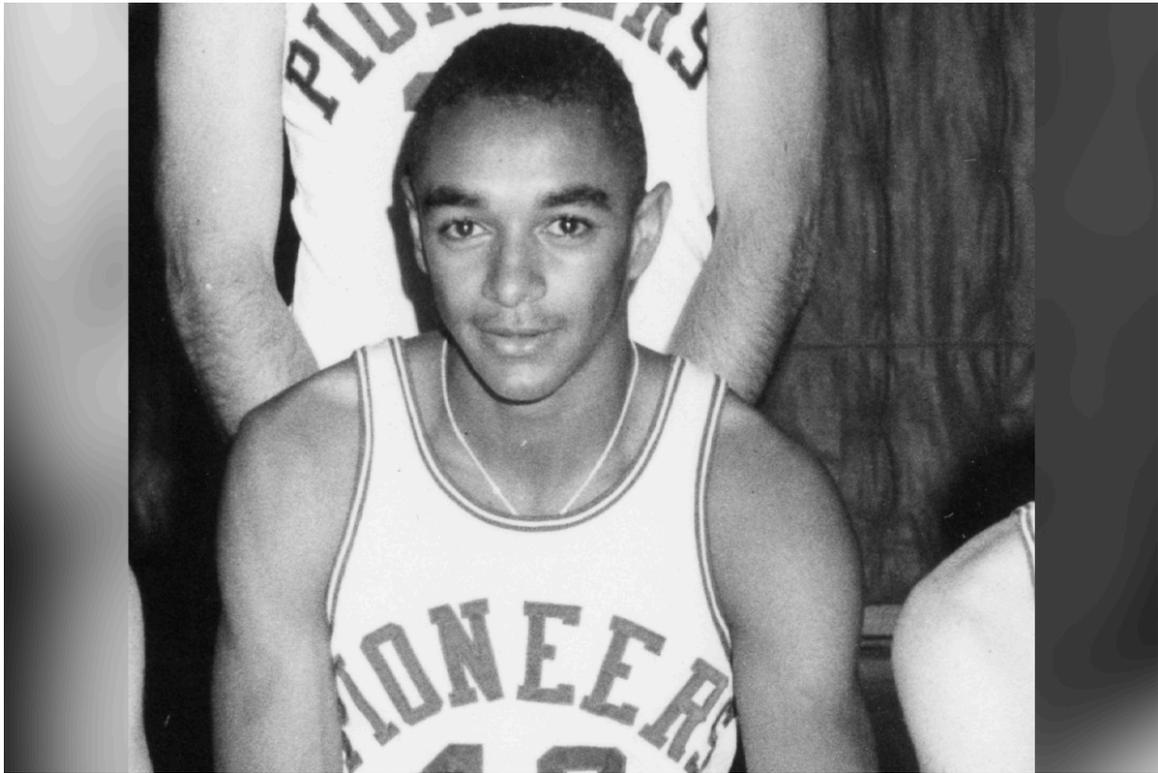
Check out these game schedules and come out to support the Pioneers!



Scholarship Corner

A monthly spotlight on one of the scholarship funds managed by the GSU Foundation





Bob “Skinny” Minnieweather Scholarship

Bob “Skinny” Minnieweather '67 came to Glenville State in the fall of 1963 with his friend Sammy Burns to play basketball. He would compete in both basketball and track, and held the Pioneer rebounding record for some 35 years.

Being the first persons of color on GSC’s campus, Bob and Sammy paved the way for the likes of Hall of Famer Jackie Joe Robinson '70, Marion Gordon '70, Willie McGee, Bill Perry, and Roosevelt Lynch to find their way to campus in the 1960s. This ushered in Glenville State teams that won the WVIAC Conference and went on to Kansas City in both 1970 and 1972; these teams included greats such as Hall of Famer Steve Datcher '73, Hall of Famer Earl Hawkins '74, Hall of Famer Ron Jones '73, Ken Ledbetter '73, and other black student athletes of that era.

Bob earned the prestigious Frank Montrose Award in 1967. Following graduation, he served as a counselor at the Job Corps Center before joining the U.S. Army and serving on active duty in the Vietnam War. He enrolled in the Sears Roebuck Managerial School in 1972 and continued with the company as a credit service manager in several locations. Bob was active in the Baptist church where he taught Sunday School, served on the Usher’s Board, and was a member of the brotherhood.

Minnieweather was an inaugural (posthumous) inductee into Glenville State’s Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2001.

The Bob “Skinny” Minnieweather Scholarship was first established by African American alumni from the 60s and 70s. Created in Bob’s memory, it is designed to provide financial support for African American students enrolled at Glenville State.

Donate to this fund by clicking the button below and choosing “Bob Minnieweather Fund” from the Designation drop-down menu.

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