

# CELEBRATING **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



## GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# JACKIE JOE ROBINSON

CLASS OF 1970

Jackie Joe Robinson remains one of the greatest all-around student-athletes in the history of Glenville State University and the State of West Virginia as a whole. He remains the only player in school history to be named First-Team All-Conference in three sports; Baseball, Basketball, and Football.

A 1966 graduate of White Sulphur Springs High School in Greenbrier County, Robinson made an immediate impact in the old WVIAC. He was a four-year starter in basketball, and led the Pioneers of Coach Jesse Lilly into a Golden Era of hoops. In his senior year, he led Glenville to the WVIAC Tournament title, defeating national powers Fairmont and Morris Harvey in epic contests at the Old Charleston Civic Center. Now, over 50 years later, Robinson remains second on Glenville's all-time scoring list with 2,156 points, and is fourth on the all-time rebounding list at 1,087.

Jackie Joe was a standout "five-tool" star on the baseball diamond, and was an All-WVIAC first baseman for the Pioneers. He did not play football until his senior year, but became an All-WVIAC tight end for Coach Bill Hanlin.

After Glenville, Robinson was a graduate assistant at WVU, and earned his Master's Degree during that stint. After a business career at IBM, Robinson returned to his native area of Southern West Virginia. He served stints as an Art Teacher and Basketball Coach at Woodrow Wilson High School and back in his home area at Eastern Greenbrier Junior High.

Robinson was inducted into Glenville's Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**MONIQUE  
JOHNSON**

CLASS OF 1990

Monique Johnson remains one of the all-time greats in Lady Pioneer Basketball history. The Huntington, West Virginia native was a star on Glenville's first conference championship team in 1989. She played for two Hall of Fame head coaches in Tim Carney and Russ Shepherd, and she tallied 1,731 career points, which still has her sixth on Glenville's all-time list.

Johnson is also still on several other GSU all-time lists; rebounds, assists, and steals. She was named First Team All-WVIAC in three different seasons. Her game was well ahead of her time as she consistently beat players off the dribble and possessed a prolific mid-range jumper.

Johnson was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2020.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**BOB "SKINNY"  
MINNIEWEATHER**

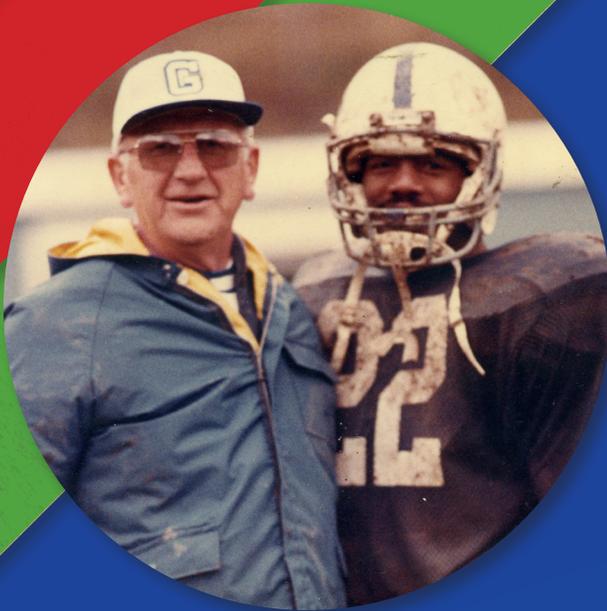
CLASS OF 1967

Bob "Skinny" Minnieweather was inducted into the Glenville State Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001. A 1963 graduate of White Sulphur Springs High School in Greenbrier County, Minnieweather was a four-year standout at Glenville, and graduated as the school's all-time leader in rebounding.

Minnieweather was also a standout in the Pioneer Track program. He played for a pair of Hall of Fame head coaches in Leland Byrd and Jesse Lilly. He was a First-Team All-WVIAC performer in both 1966 and 1967. He was named the school's Montrose Award Winner for 1967.

Minnieweather was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame as a member of the 2001 inaugural class.

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ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# BYRON BROOKS

CLASS OF 1984

Byron Brooks remains one of the most durable running backs to ever play at Glenville State. In 1982, he set three single season rushing records; most carries in a game (42), most carries in a season (279), and most yards rushing in a season (1,418). A year later he became the school's career rushing leader while only a junior, and went on to close his career with 3,481 career yards.

Brooks was a three-time First-Team All-WVIAC performer, and made two appearances on the Kodak All-American Team, a First-Team selection in 1983, and a Second-Team selection in 1984. Brooks' running was a strong complement to a great Pioneer defense that helped lead the Pioneers to a Second place finish in the WVIAC in 1983.

A native of Jeanette, Pennsylvania, Brooks was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007.

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## GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# LOYD WILLIS

## CLASS OF 1987

Lloyd Willis was a leader and a star for the Glenville Track program during a true Golden Era of that program. Willis pulled the jumping event "sweep" three times during his career, taking both the long jump and triple victories at the WVIAC Championships.

Competing for Hall of Fame head coach Jerry Milliken and later for coach Lou Geary, Willis was a key leader on Glenville's first two league title teams in 1984 and 1986. He went to Nationals on three different occasions; twice outdoor and one indoor. He finished 10th individually at the 1986 National Meet.

A native of Strasburg, Virginia, Willis competed for head coach Glenn Proctor, a legendary coach in Virginia and a GSU alumnus.

Willis was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2020.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

## **LEANDIS HODGES**

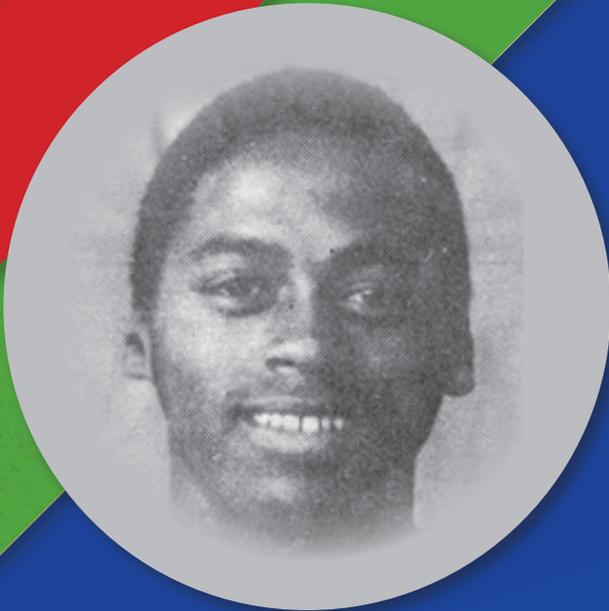
CLASS OF 1979

A native of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Leandis Hodges developed into one of the premier running backs in the nation during his time at Glenville State. Hodges began his career playing in the iconic Rohrbaugh Stadium, and played in the final GSU games on those hallowed grounds. He followed that by being on the team that played the first game in the new Pioneer Stadium (now Morris Stadium), and holds the distinction of scoring the first touchdown in the new facility.

Hodges rushed for a then school record 1,351 yards in 1976, and earned NAIA All-America recognition. He served as co-captain of the 1977 team, and was also a standout on the Glenville State track team.

Hodges was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2015.

# CELEBRATING **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME**

**DON  
BULLETT**

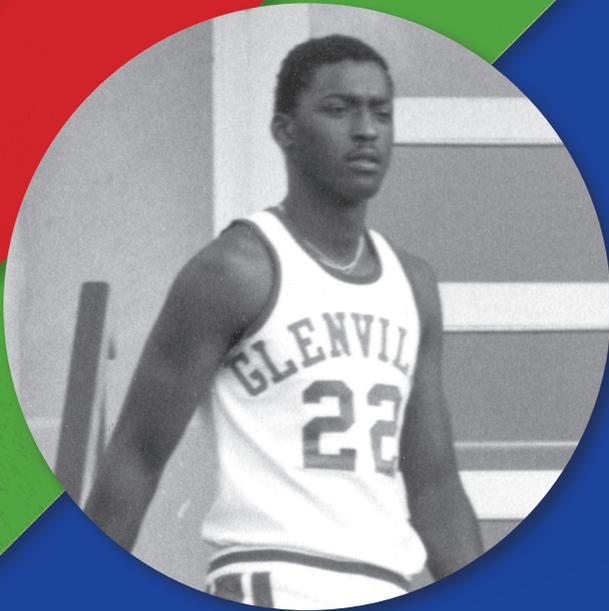
**CLASS OF 1982**

Don Bullett was a four-year star for Coach Jesse Lilly on the Glenville Basketball team, and also competed on the track team his senior year. He was a First Team All-WVIAC performer in both 1981 and 1982.

Bullett captured the coveted Montrose Award at GSU, and closed his career with 1,865 career points. After college, Bullett returned to his native Martinsburg, serving as a teacher and coach for over 30 years in basketball and track. This included a very successful 21-year stint as head coach of the Bulldog Girls' Basketball program, where he tallied a school record 323 career wins.

Bullett was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2012.

# CELEBRATING **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



## GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# MATT BULLETT

CLASS OF 1989

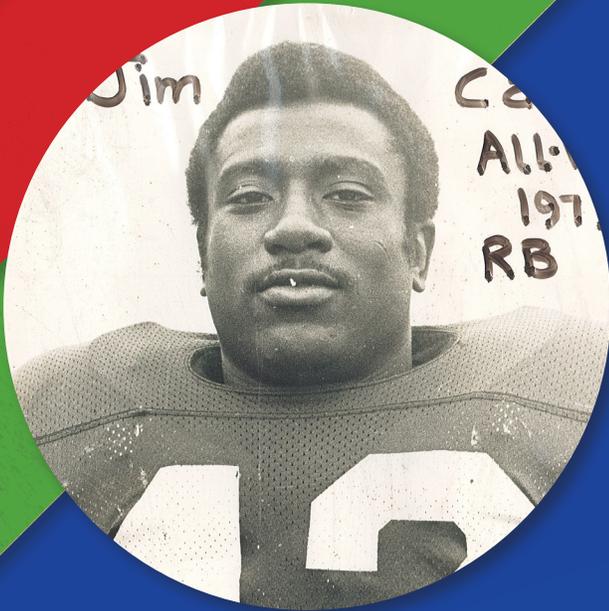
Matt Bullett followed in his older brother Don's footsteps to star for Glenville State in basketball. He played on the first team of Hall of Fame head coach Gary Nottingham, and developed into one of the most prolific scorers in league history.

Bullett, a native of Martinsburg, West Virginia, was a First-Team All-WVIAC selection in 1987 and was an NAIA All-American. That season Bullett averaged a school record 31.7 points per game. He closed his career with 2,091 points which placed him third on GSU's all-time list. He also grabbed 597 rebounds, placing him 15th all-time.

The three-point line was instituted in college basketball late in Bullett's career, making his long range marksmanship even more effective.

Bullett was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005.

# CELEBRATING *BLACK HISTORY MONTH*



GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

## JIM CARTER

CLASS OF 1974

Jim Carter was the key running back on the 1973 National Runner-up Glenville State football team under Hall of Fame head coach Bill Hanlin. He spent the early part of his career as an electrifying special teams return man, but developed into the feature back of the Pioneer running game.

In the iconic 1973 season, Carter rushed for a then school record of 949 yards, and rushed for a record 142 yards in the title game loss. He was a First-Team All-WVIAC performer. The Oak Hill, West Virginia native recorded a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown that spearheaded the 15-14 upset of nationally ranked Hillsdale to open that historic season.

Carter was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2020.

# CELEBRATING **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**TOM  
COATES**

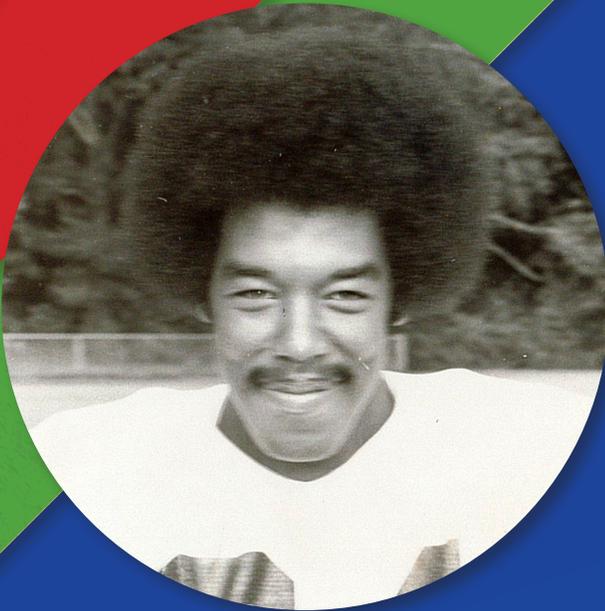
CLASS OF 1978

Tom Coates transferred to Glenville from Allegheny Community College and quickly became an immediate star for the Pioneers. He became the team's leading scorer and was an All-WVIAC performer in both of his seasons at Glenville. He scored 470 points in 1976 and 479 in 1977, including a 46-point performance against Alderson Broaddus.

Coates won the 1978 Montrose Award, and made it into two NBA Training Camps; with the Detroit Pistons and the New Orleans Jazz.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Coates was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2015.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

## **JEROME FRUIT**

CLASS OF 1976

Jerome Fruit came to Glenville out of Oak Hill High School. A native of the town of Scarbro, Fruit blossomed into one of the top defensive backs in league history, and was a First Team All-WVIAC Performer in both 1974 and 1975. He closed his career with a school and conference record 24 interceptions. To this day, he still holds the GSU mark.

Fruit won the Montrose Award in 1976, and went on to a long and successful career coaching at his alma mater of Oak Hill. He has coached football, basketball, and girls track at OHHS.

Fruit was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.

*CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH*



GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# STEVE DATCHER

CLASS OF 1973

Steve Datcher was a four-year starter for the Pioneers, and a key player on the two WVIAC Tournament title teams in 1970 and 1972. He tallied 1,397 career points and 683 rebounds, ranking in the GSU all-time lists in both categories.

Datcher was a multiple All-WVIAC performer, and was an NAIA All-American in 1972. In 1973, he was on an All-Star team of NAIA All-Americans that toured Israel.

A native of Indian Head, Maryland, Datcher was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**PAUL  
GRIER**

CLASS OF 1991

Grier was the point guard that led the Pioneers to the WVIAC Tournament Final Four in three of his four seasons. He was an All-WVIAC Selection both 1988 and 1989.

He set the program record with nine three-pointers in a single game. He shot a sterling 43.1% from beyond the arc for his career, and accumulated 1,670 career points. He is noted as one of the premier clutch shooters during the Coach Gary Nottingham Era.

Grier, a native of Charlotte, North Carolina, was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2015.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

## **EARL HAWKINS**

CLASS OF 1974

Hawkins was a multi-dimensional star on the great Pioneer teams under Hall of Fame head coach Jesse Lilly in the early 1970's. He closed his career fourth on the program's all-time scoring list, and third in rebounding. He was an All-WVIAC performer and was a key cog on the 1972 WVIAC Tournament Championship team.

A native of Brandywine, Maryland, Hawkins went on to become the Athletic Director of the Prince George County School System in Maryland.

Hawkins served as head coach at Maryland-Baltimore County for seven seasons.

He was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002.

# CELEBRATING **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME**

**BRIAN "BUBBA"  
HILL**

**CLASS OF 1990**

Brian Hill was one of the most dynamic defensive linemen in history. A local product, Hill came to Glenville from nearby Liberty High School in Harrison County, in the Fall of 1986.

He broke the school's single season record for tackles with 145 in 1988, and earned First Team All-WVIAC Honors. He would go on to close his career with 366 total tackles.

Since his playing days, he has enjoyed a long and decorated coaching career on the college level. He returned to his alma mater in 2020 and serves as Glenville's Chief Diversity Officer, and is also the Defensive Coordinator for the football program.

Hill was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2022.

## CELEBRATING **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME**

**RON  
JONES**

**CLASS OF 1973**

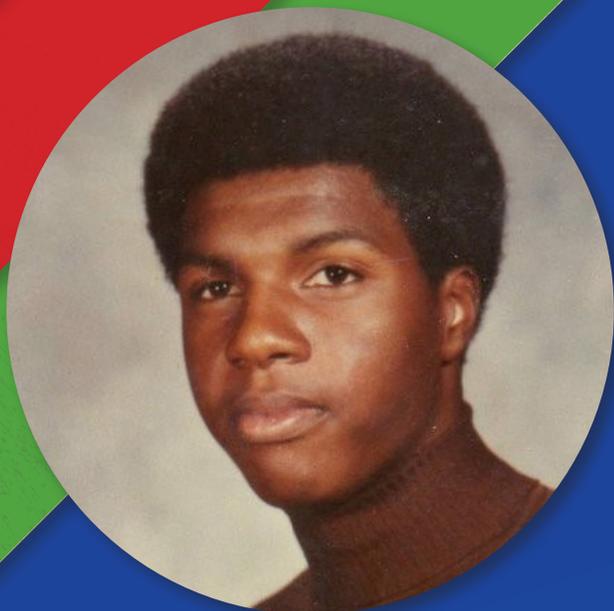
Ron Jones was a standout guard during a true Golden Era of Pioneer Basketball. During his four years of wearing the Blue and White, the program under Hall of Fame head coach Jesse Lilly went a remarkable 88-29. During this run, GSU captured the WVIAC Tournament title in both 1970 and 1972.

Jones made the All-Tournament team in 1973, and also served Coach Lilly as a team Co-Captain. He played alongside a group of Glenville legends, opening his career as a key facilitator for stars such as Jackie Joe Robinson and Steve Datcher, and closed his career alongside Hall of Famers such as Earl Hawkins and Jim Garnett.

He was long noted as one of Lilly's most clutch performers in big games.

Jones was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**RALPH  
LEDBETTER**

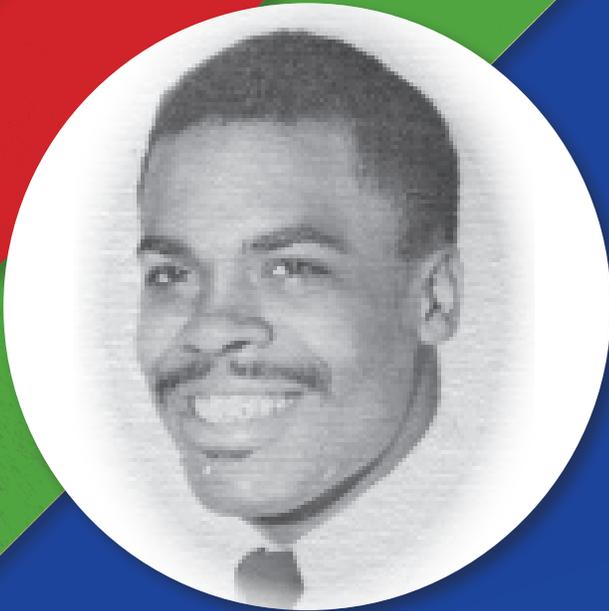
CLASS OF 1978

Ralph Ledbetter was one of the first D-I transfers to come to Glenville's basketball program. He played a year and a half at St. Francis College of Pennsylvania, where he most notably had a 26-point performance against Notre Dame at South Bend.

In a year and a half of playing for GSU, Ledbetter was twice an All-WVIAC selection, and was an Honorable Mention All-American. He scored 699 points and tallied 340 rebounds in his short but remarkable career. He helped lead the Pioneers to a 16-2 league record and a second place finish in 1977. After his time at Glenville, he played basketball professionally in Europe for 17 years.

Ledbetter was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016.

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## GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# STEVE SEALS

CLASS OF 1970

Steve Seals came to Glenville after playing for some great teams at Charleston High, where he played football for GSU alumnus Frank Vincent, basketball for GSU alumnus Lou Romano, and ran track for GSU alumnus Keith Pritt. Seals was twice a First Team All-WVIAC performer for the Pioneers, where he was a two-way player; starring at both fullback and defensive end.

In 1968, Seals served coach Bill Hanlin's squad as Co-Captain alongside fellow Charleston High graduate Dale Sheets. After Glenville, Seals returned to Charleston where he taught at Roosevelt Junior High for nine years, then served as Manager for Shawnee Regional Park for 29 years.

Seals was inducted into the Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013.

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GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**TED  
VALENTINE**

CLASS OF 1980

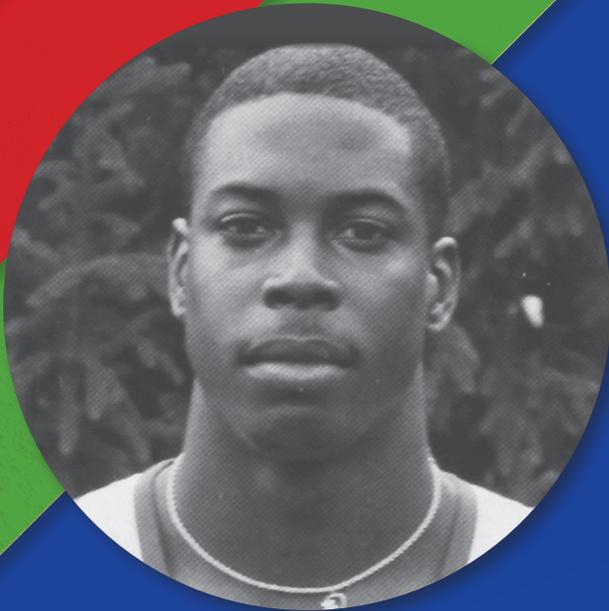
Ted Valentine remains one of the highest profile officials in the history of NCAA College Basketball. He has called 28 different NCAA Tournaments, 10 Final Fours, and in 2006, was named the Naismith National Official of the Year.

A native of Moundsville, West Virginia where he attended John Marshall High School, Valentine played first base for the Glenville baseball team and graduated in 1980. He began his officiating career while at Glenville, calling elementary games in Gilmer County. After his baseball career, Valentine spent one year as an assistant coach for legendary head coach Tim Carney of the Lady Pioneers.

Valentine has now spent over three decades as a decorated official in the college ranks.

He was inducted into Glenville's Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.

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### GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

# RUDY WATTS

CLASS OF 1987

Rudy Watts was an All-WVIAC Standout on some strong Gary Nottingham Pioneer Basketball teams of the mid-80's. A product of the Washington, DC area, Watts was a skilled power forward who could score, defend, and rebound. With All-American teammate Matt Bullett, he helped lead the Pioneers to back-to-back Final Four appearances at the WVIAC Tournament in 1986 and 1987.

Still today, some 36 years later, the 1987 graduate Watts remains ninth on GSU's all-time rebounding list (732), and 12th on the all-time scoring list (1,626).

Watts was inducted into Glenville's Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019.