

### JODIE (HOODS) ANDRYS Softball

Jodie Andrys participated as a starter on the women's softball team. She became an outstanding pitcher, earning the team's Most Valuable Player Award and the Outstanding Pitching Award for the 1996 and 1997 seasons. Her Coach, Oscar Down, Jr. stated that she was the beginning of the success story for KSU Women's Softball.

While attending KSU, she earned three athletic letters, two in softball and one in the sport of Cross Country (1998). She also was a member of the 1997 and 1998 KSU Cheerleading team.

Jodie is in the top ten on several statistics in women's softball at KSU in a season. She is tied for 6<sup>th</sup> in wins for a with 15 (1997); Tied for 6<sup>th</sup> in ERA with a 2.37 (1997); Ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in innings pitch with 139 (997); 8<sup>th</sup> in stikeouts with 126 (1997); 9<sup>th</sup> in shutouts with 4 (1997); After graduation, she served as a girl's softball coach with the Charleston Recreation Department League in Charleston, Illinois. In addition, she taught young ladies in her community the techniques of "fast pitching".



# JAMES W. DUNN Football & Baseball

James Dunn, a Burgin, Kentucky native, was recruited by Coach Melville Whedbee to play football for Kentucky State College in 1966. He started out as a two-sport athlete by also playing baseball in his first year. Due to the riots in 1967 and the burning of the field house, he was advised to concentrate on his scholarship sport of football.

James was a sure tackler and anchored the right side of the defense, along side KSU Hall-of-Famer, Roger Laird. During each of his four years, he led the team in interceptions. In his senior year, he led the team with six (6) interceptions which included having three interceptions in his final game against Morehead State University.

While earning four athletic letters in football and one athletic letter as a freshman in baseball, James showed that he was an outstanding multi-sport athlete. In 1969, The great O.J. Simpson was the guest speaker at the KSC Annual Fall Sports Banquet. Mr. Simpson awarded James the KSC "Golden Helmet Award", representing The Most Valuable Player to James. He also was awarded, the "Most Valuable Defensive Player". Not having a conference to compete in stopped him from earning National Honors.

In 1970, James signed as a free agent with the Dallas Cowboys. He also played professional softball for several years with the Lexington Stallions.

James currently resides in Danville, Kentucky. He is retired from the State of Kentucky, after 29 years of outstanding service. He is currently the President of the KSUNAA Danville (KY) Alumni Chapter. He's a longtime member of the KSU K-Club and supporter to the KSU Athletic Department. While at KSC, he became a member of the "Omega Psi Phi" Fraternity (Psi Psi Chapter). James is married to Linda Dunn (KSU graduate) and has a daughter, Dr. Tyra Dunn-Thomas.



### XAMON GLASPER Football

Xamon Glasper, a Memphis, Tennessee (Westwood High School) native, was recruited by Coach Wesley McGriff and played for Head Coach George Small in 1997.

Xamon was one of KSU's great wide receivers during his four-year career. He was a three-time All-Conference wide receiver with Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC). While under three different quarterbacks, he earned First Team All-Conference in 1999 and Second Team All-Conference in 1998 and 2000. He also was nominated three times for the NCAA "Paul Tank Younger Wide Receiver Award". He was awarded KSU's Most Valuable Receiver in 1998 and 1999, where he led the team in receptions each of those years. On several occasions, he was the SIAC "Player of the Week". He was a member of the 1997 Inaugural Pioneer Bowl championship team.

Notable accomplishments came in the 1999 season when Xamon led the Thorobred's with 51 receptions for 709 yards. His best performance came against the Ohio Valley Conference powerhouse, Eastern Kentucky University, where he recorded eight receptions for 120 yards. During this season he threw over 10 touchdown passes as quarterback. Xamon proved to be a multi-purpose athlete.

Not only was Xamon an outstanding athlete, in 1997 he earned SIAC First Team All-Academic honors with a 3.75 GPA.

Xamon may be one of the very few football players in KSU history, who was Captain and earned his athletic letter, each of his four years. In 2000, he had a pre-season ranking of third for all wide receivers among all black collegesuniversities. Also, as a senior, he earned "Street & Smith" Pre-Season Honorable Mention. Per his peers, he was a strong leader and had great character, both on and off the field.

Once Xamon's college career was completed, he played two years of professional Arena Football for the Norfolk Night Hawks and the Carolina Rhino's before retiring. When his football career was over, he returned to KSU to finish his education in 2005. Another proud accomplishment. Xamon is currently residing in Atlanta, Georgia. He is an American film and television actor. He has three children, sons Xamon Jr., Xavien, and daughter Tenetria. He's a member of KSU's Psi Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.



# **DONALD W. LYONS** Athletic Director / Contributor

Donald Lyons, a Lexington, Kentucky native has been a part of Kentucky State College (University) since his arrival in the fall of 1964 on a band scholarship.

Mr. Lyons graduated with distinction and departmental honors in June, 1968. Upon his graduation, his first employment began one month later working for KSC . Mr. Lyons has been a part of the Kentucky State University for nearly 54 years, minus a few years while teaching in Detroit, MI and Lexington, KY. He has been a career educator and administrator.

The most important part of Mr. Lyons career was during the nine and a half years (January, 1990 to June, 1999) as the KSU's Athletic Director. Only two other individuals have served a longer period as Athletic Director, Mr. Henry Arthur

Kean and Dr. Williams Exum. Both Kean and Exum are members of the KSU Hallof-Fame.

Under Mr. Lyons leadership as Athletic Director from 1995 to 1998, he was able to have the best overall seasons since the early to mid 1970's. Mr. Lyons guidance contributed to the following successes:

- In the 1995-96 season, the Football team had a 7-4 record which was the first winning season since 1978. The Football team's defense was ranked number one in the NCAA Division II.
- The Women's Cross Country team won the SIAC Championship.
- The Women's Basketball team was nationally ranked as they compiled a 20-8 record.
- Coach George Small was named the SIAC Football Coach of the Year and Coach William Miller was named the SIAC women's Cross County Coach of the Year.
- In the 1996-97 season, the Women's Cross Country team repeated as SIAC Champions.
- The Men's Basketball team compiled a 17-10 winning season.
- The Women's Basketball team finished with a 25-6 record, capturing the SIAC Championship and advanced to the semi-finals in the NCAA Division II South Region, plus several member earned All-Conference and All-Regional honors.
- The Football team participated in the first football classic since the early 1980's
  the "William E. Summer Football Classic in Louisville".
- William Miller was named the SIAC Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year and Antonio Davis was named SIAC Women's Basketball Coach of the Year.
- The Women's Basketball team won the SIAC West Region Championship; and, the Men's Golf team won the National Minority Golf Championship.
- Finally, the 1997-98 season, the Women's Volleyball team won the SIAC Championship with a 18-9 record; the Football team ended the season with a victory in the Inaugural NCAA Pioneer Bowl by defeating Livingston College (7-5 record). This was the first bowl victory for KSU since 1948; the football team had fourteen football athletes that earned All-SIAC honors on the first and second team.

Mr. Lyons, has always contributed to the KSU athletic department. He has been a member of the KSU K-Club for over 47 years. During his tenure with the K-Club, he has been the treasurer. He is currently the KSU Foundation Executive

Secretary. His total contribution has help KSU maintain its excellence to all scholar-athletes.

Not only does Mr. Lyons support the athletic department financially, he attends nearly every home sporting event at KSU. He has the record for the most home football games attended. Since 1961 (60 years), Mr. Lyons has only missed two (2) home football games, both in 1968. This record may never be duplicated.

Mr. Lyons currently resides in Lexington, KY. He is married to Mynra and have two sons, along with six grandchildren. He is retired from KSU but still works part time with the KSU Foundation.



VICTOR RICE Football

Victor Rice, a Birmingham, Alabama (C.W. Hayes High School) native, was recruited by and played for the legendary Coach Leroy C. "Red Top" Smith.

Victor was a standout athlete where he started at quarterback as a freshman. He was the starting quarterback for his three-year career at KSU. He was the last

quarterback that help win three Homecoming Games in a row. This is an accomplishment that has not been done in the last 36 years. This includes when he was a freshman, KSU was down by 14 points against Central State University at the Shiners Classic and he led the team to victory. He was selected the MVP of the Shiner's Classic. As an historical fact, he was the first quarterback to start in the new stadium during homecoming in 1978.

Victor earned his athletic letter three times. He was named KSU Freshman of the year in 1978. In 1979 Victor earned NAIA All-American Honorable Mention honors.

Victor started feeding the KSU Football team after the last fall scrimmage each year, once his college career was completed.

Victor currently lives in Lexington, KY and is married to former KSU Alumni, Bridgett (*Sewell*). He currently is employed with Toyota Corporation.



### VERNELL TURNER Track & Field

Vernell Turner is a city of New York native who came to KSU nearly 59 years ago on a track and field scholarship in 1964. He was recruited and coached by world renown, Dr. William Exum.

Vernell was a versatile track and field star for Kentucky State University during his four-year career. He ran middle distance and sprints from the 220 to the 880 yards. During his time at KSU he helped make the track team one of the top programs in the nation.

From his sophomore to his senior year, Vernell earned six track & field athletic letters. Three each for the indoor and outdoor track seasons. During his junior and senior year, KSU had one of the top relay teams in the United States. In 1966 he was a member of KSU's One Mile Relay and Sprint Medley Relay teams that's were ranked 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, respectively, by U.S. Track & Field News.

Vernell earned All-American honor as a member of the 4<sup>th</sup> place team in the onemile relay at the NCAA Division II National Championship, where he ran the second leg, in 1966. During that year, he was one of nine KSU team members who earned All-American honors. He also was a member of the mile relay and sprint medley relay championship teams at the Midwestern Athletic Conference in 1966 and 1967.

Participating at the world's greatest relay event, The Penn Relays in Philadelphia, PA. Vernell was a member of the three-time One Mile Relay championship team from 1965-67. He also was a member on three school record relay teams, the one-mile relay (*3:08.90 at the Central Collegiate Conference*), the sprint medley relay (*3:21.10*) and the 880-yard relay (*1:24.30 at the Qunatico Virginia Relay*).

Vernell retired from the New York City Board of Education. He has been coaching track and field for over 37 years. He is married to Gloria, who is also a graduate from KSU.