

Vision Statement

The St. Francis Community Foundation makes grants to improve the quality of life in St. Francis County and partners with individuals, families and organizations to build our local community through philanthropy. You can be a part of our family of philanthropists working for good, for St. Francis County, forever. For more information contact Robin Jayroe, Exec. Director at 870-261-2060 or email: stfranciscounty@arcf.org

Forrest City Athletic Hall of Fame

September 5, 2025

The 25th Annual Forrest City Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony will honor eleven new members this year. The honorees are chosen from three eras: Lincoln High School, Forrest City High School before 1970 and Forrest City High School after 1970.

This year's honorees include: The 1968 Lincoln Undeclared Football Team,

Leodis 'Wildman' Williams, Charlie Ellis (Deceased) from Lincoln; Tommy Higgs (Deceased) from Forrest City before 1970; Bryan Allen-Barton, Mark Lewis, Larry Rogers, Fareedah Washington, Adrain Winfrey, 2014 Forrest City Mustang Basketball Team, from Forrest City after 1970, and Dr. Tiffany Hardrick for Meritorious Service.

The induction ceremony will be held on September 5, 2025 at the

Forrest City High School Cafeteria at 4:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at Cedric Williams State Farm, Delta OfficeWorks, Forrest City High School or the Forrest City Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information on the Hall of Fame or to purchase your tickets, please call Fredrick Freeman at 870-270-6853.



1968 UNDEFEATED LINCOLN HIGH FOOTBALL TEAM

10 wins-0 losses

6 of the 10 opponents were held to 0 points

They scored 391 points during the undefeated season.

Coached by Eugene Rooks.



THE 2014 BASKETBALL TEAM Dominated:

The Rumble in the Ridge – Slam Dunk Champions (2013)

5A East Conference Champions (2014)

5A State Champions (2014)

Record: 24–3 Overall | 13–0 Conference

National Rank: #306 | State Rank: #5

UNDEFEATED IN CONFERENCE

UNSTOPPABLE IN THE STATE.



FAREEDAH WASHINGTON a 2007 graduate of Forrest City High School, Fareedah Washington was a standout player for the Lady Mustangs basketball team from 9th through 12th grade. A consistent All-Conference selection, she led the team in both scoring and rebounding under the guidance of head coach Jacky England. In her senior season, she propelled the Lady Mustangs to

an 8–4 record in the highly competitive 6A East Conference. Washington continued her basketball career at Three Rivers College in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, where she earned All-Region and All-Conference honors. As a freshman, she averaged 8 points per game while shooting an impressive 51% from the field, helping the Lady Raiders achieve a 19–11 record. Her sophomore year saw even greater success as she averaged over 14 points per game and increased her shooting percentage to 55%. She then transferred to the University of Missouri Science and Technology, where she became the second all-time rebounder in program history and served as team captain for the Lady Miners. Under her leadership, the team set a program record with 11 straight wins and earned a berth in the 2011 NCAA Division II Tournament. Washington's strong performances also earned her recognition as Conference Player of the Week.



ADRAIN WINFREY a 1991 graduate of Forrest City High School, was a standout multi-sport athlete whose impact was felt on both the football field and the track. A dominant linebacker, Winfrey earned 4A East All-State honors in 1990 and 1991, along with 4A East All-Conference recognition. He was

a three-year starter for the Mustangs from 1989 to 1991 and a three-year football letterman, playing a pivotal role in the team's defensive success. His exceptional play earned him a spot on Hooten's Arkansas High School Defensive Player watch list in 1991. In addition to football, Winfrey excelled in track and field, capturing 4A East All-Conference honors in the "Shootout" event during the 1990 and 1991 seasons. Following his high school career, Winfrey continued his football journey at Henderson State University, where he became a four-year letterman and a key contributor for the Reddies. His dedication, leadership, and consistent performance cemented his legacy as one of Forrest City's finest athletes of his era.



DR. TIFFANY HARDRICK is a proud 1994 graduate of Forrest City High School and as of August 2025, began serving her 11th years as the Superintendent of the Forrest City School District. Through her outstanding leadership, vision, and dedication, the district has completed several major projects that have greatly enhanced the learning

and athletic environment for students and the community as a whole.

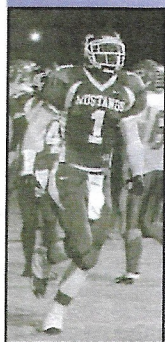
Dr. Hardrick has selflessly worked to ensure that the children of Forrest City have access to the best facilities and resources to meet their academic and personal needs. Under her leadership, renovations have brought air conditioning to school buildings, and a new basketball court was installed. The district built its first-ever track and field facility, now named the Donnie Willis Track and Field.

Significant improvements were also made to Sam Smith Stadium, including new turf, a video playback scoreboard, a new ticket booth, and visitor restrooms. Two brand-new gymnasiums were constructed at Central Elementary and Stewart Elementary Schools, each featuring wellness centers for students and their parents.

During 2024-2025, the Forrest City Junior High gymnasium underwent renovations to include an on-site clinic and a state-of-the-art weight room. Additionally, the district purchased two customized travel buses for athletic teams.

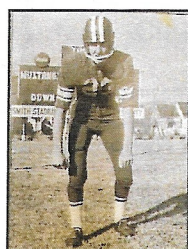
Remarkably, all of these projects were completed without a millage increase, driven instead by Dr. Hardrick's vision, resourcefulness, and unwavering commitment to the students of Forrest City.





LARRY ROGERS is a 2010 graduate of Forrest City High School, where he excelled as a multi-sport athlete. On the football field, he earned 6A Super Sophomore of the Year honors and was a three-time All-Conference selection (2007–2009) as well as a two-time All-State honoree (2008–2009). Recognized as an ESPN 2-star recruit and the #155-ranked wide receiver in the nation, he also earned a spot in the Arkansas All-Star Football Game (2010) and was named one of the Top 10 high school football players in Arkansas (2010).

In basketball, Rogers was a two-time All-Conference player and All-State selection. Following high school, he signed to play football at Northeast Mississippi Community College.



TOMMY HIGGS (Deceased) A standout multi-sport athlete at Forrest City High School prior to 1970, Tommy Higgs excelled in football, basketball, and track.

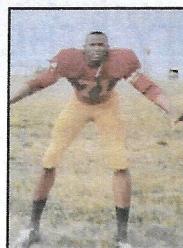
On the football field, Higgs earned varsity letters as a freshman, junior, and senior,

demonstrating skill and determination across four seasons. On the basketball court, he proved to be one of the school's most consistent and dangerous scorers, lettering three times and finishing his senior season as the #2 overall scorer in the district. His performance earned him All-District honors as both a freshman and a senior — a rare feat that showcased his talent from the very start of his high school career. In addition to his football and basketball success, Higgs also competed in track for three years, adding to his reputation as one of Forrest City's most versatile and committed athletes. Tommy Higgs' achievements reflect a legacy of dedication, leadership, and all-around athletic excellence.



CHARLIE ELLIS (Deceased) Class of 1967, Lincoln High School Track Letterman, 880 Yard, Mile Relay (3rd Leg).

Charlie attended Arkansas AM&N, and then he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was Killed in Action.



LEODIS "WILDMAN" WILLIAMS a 1969 graduate of Lincoln High School, Leodis Williams was a standout multi-sport athlete. In track and field, he lettered all four years (9th–12th grades) and posted an impressive 220-yard dash time of 21.4 seconds, just shy of the state record of 21.2. On the football field, Williams played linebacker and lettered in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. His athletic achievements earned him scholarship offers from Jackson State University.

He ultimately walked on at Arkansas AM&N (now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff), continuing his athletic journey at the collegiate level.



BRYAN ALLEN BARTON a 2015 graduate of Forrest City High School, was a standout in both football and track & field. On the gridiron, he earned 2× All-Conference honors (2013, 2014), All-State recognition in 2014, and was named to the Arkansas Gazette 5A Top Performance list six times between 2013 and 2015. His 2013 football season showcased his versatility with 670 rushing yards, 14 touchdowns, 80 tackles, 32 solo tackles, 2 sacks, 4 interceptions, and a forced fumble.

On the track, Allen was a 4× All-Conference and 2× All-State performer, setting the Heber Springs 4×100 relay record in 2013 and winning three 5A East Track Conference Championships (2012, 2014, 2015). Continuing his athletic career at Arkansas Tech University, Allen became a 4-year starter, earning All-Region honors and 2× All-Conference recognition from 2015 to 2018.



MARK LEWIS a 2001 graduate of Forrest City High School, excelled as a multi-sport athlete, earning 2× All-Conference honors in football, baseball, and track & field, along with an All-State nomination in track & field and selection as an American Legion All-Star. At the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Lewis

became a 2× All-SWAC Conference shortstop and was later inducted into the UAPB Hall of Fame for baseball. His talent carried him into professional baseball, where he played for the Laredo Broncos, San Angelo Colts, St. George Roadrunners, and Gary Southshore Rail Cats in Minor League Baseball.

FORREST CITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME



Forrest City and Lincoln High Schools Forrest City Athletic Hall of Fame 2025 Nomination Criteria Information



The individual making the nomination is **REQUIRED** to provide supporting information, specific athletic accomplishments, statistics, newspaper articles, eyewitness accounts and occupational accomplishments to the Hall of Fame Committee **no later than Saturday, July 12, 2025**. Information and nomination received after Saturday, July 12, 2025 will be considered for the following year. To nominate someone for the Hall of Fame, complete the nomination form and return to the Hall of Fame Committee. Posthumous candidates are to be considered on an equal basis with living candidates.

Criteria and qualifications will be based primarily upon the candidate's athletic participation while attending Forrest city or Lincoln High Schools. However, accomplishments after leaving Forrest City or Lincoln High Schools may be an important point of consideration. For example:

College athletic participation	College all-conference
College all-American	College outstanding position player
Academic all-American	Participation on a national championship team
Honorable mention all-conference	All-American (first or second team)

Specific criteria for athlete nominations

The candidate must have graduated from Forrest City or Lincoln High School. Candidate must have had outstanding athletic achievement at Forrest City or Lincoln High School such as:

Setting of school track records, most points in a game	Matches won in a row
Selected all-conference	Selected all-state
Selected all-state	Selected for all-star game
Selected High School or College All-American	Selected Democrat-Gazette Outstanding Athlete
Selected outstanding position player	Selected MVP
Selected best offensive or defensive player	Leading scorer
Record holder	

The candidate must have been a graduate from Forrest City or Lincoln High School for a minimum of 10 years

Specific criteria for team nominations

A team shall be eligible for induction as one inductee. The induction of a team shall not prohibit the separate induction of one or more of its members. For example, teams that have distinguished themselves on the playing field (i.e. outstanding win-loss record, undefeated season, league championship, state championship)

Specific criteria for other nominations

Individuals other than athletes, coaches and teams may be considered for induction. Examples would include managers, officials, athletic trainers, medical doctor therapists, administrators, program contributors, meritorious service and etc. Considerations for selection shall be based on the unique contributions the candidate has made to Forrest City or Lincoln High Schools.

Size of Hall of Fame Class

There is no set number for the size of each class of inductees for a given year, but an exceptionally high standard of excellence shall be maintained from year to year.

Induction Ceremony

The induction ceremony date will be established by the selection committee. Nominees selected for induction shall be presented at the ceremony. Family members may represent posthumous inductees. An 8 X 10 picture of the inductees (Individual, Honorary, Team and Meritorious Service) will be displayed in the Athletic Hall of Fame Circle in Mustang Arena. Inductees, (Individual, Honorary, and Meritorious Service) will receive a plaque at the time of their induction. Team members will receive a Hall of Fame Certificate or Plaque. A Hall of Fame Banquet Program will be sponsored for recognizing the accomplishments of all the inductees.