

Benton County High School Athletics Hall of Fame
Nominee Form

The public is invited to submit nominations for the Benton County High School Athletics Hall of Fame

Criteria for selection:

1. The nominee must have been a part of the athletic department in the Benton County high school system.
2. The nominee must have been out of high school for 10 years.
3. In the case of a professional athlete/coach he or she must have been inactive for one year following the announcement of retirement.
4. Nominations will be considered for a period of 10 years.

Inductee Form

Name TODD HERNDON
Address 3 WELLINGTON PLACE, WAVERLY, TN 37185
School Attended CAMDEN CENTRAL HIGH
Sport/s Played FOOTBALL / BASEBALL
Nominated by JAY MAIDEN Phone (731) 697-9941
Date of nomination 1/14/14

In narrative form please tell why this person should be inducted into the Benton County high school athletics Hall of Fame. Feel free to add additional sheets if necessary.

IN HIS SENIOR YEAR, 1983-84, HE LED CAMDEN TO
A 10-1 SEASON. HE HELD MANY HIGH SCHOOL
RUSHING RECORDS AT THE TIME.

Please turn this nomination form into a board member or:

Mail to: David Markham
1343 Cedar Drive
Camden, TN 38320

Must be returned by February 27, 2014

Todd Herndon: Over-achiever

Todd Herndon may not be one of the largest or most physical athletes to play the game of football, but to Austin Peay State University he was more than enough to anchor their defensive backfield for four years. To the Camden Lions, he may just have been the best running back in their history.

A true over-achiever, Herndon had a tremendous career at Camden Central High School. But this didn't come as a surprise to the Camden Central coaching staff. They had gotten a taste of what Herndon was capable of when he was in junior high. As an eighth-grader, Herndon led the Lions to a 6 and 1 record with over 1,000 yards rushing and 70 points of scoring. These numbers seem even more impressive when you realize the Junior High Lions played only seven games.

It wasn't to anyone's surprise when Todd got the call as a starter as wide receiver in his very first high school game and he never looked back. Herndon went on to start every game at Camden Central as either wide receiver or running back. He also returned kick-offs, punts, and played on special teams or shared time at defensive back.

It was on offense where Herndon became a force to be reckoned with and his stats support it. In his four years at Camden Central he had a combined total of over 3,800 yards rushing, over 4,500 yards total offense, and scored 236 points. Even more impressive, Herndon averaged 9 yards every time he touched the football. Herndon helped Camden to a 25 wins - 17 losses record in his four years.

The team topped out in Herndon's senior year when the Lions went 10 wins and one loss, with a trip to the St. Jude Bowl in Martin. In that final game, Herndon



Todd Herndon

rushed for 168 yards and received the MVP award for offense. Herndon was awarded for his four fine years of work at CHS with three All-District selections, two All-West, Tenn. selections and was selected All-State in his senior year.

With a high school career like this, one would think that college recruiters would be knocking the door down to enlist Herndon. This wasn't so. Despite Herndon's 4.5 speed, and his cat-like quickness, his small frame wasn't attractive to college coaches. A 5-foot, 9-inch, 155-pound running back just couldn't survive at the hard-hitting college level.

But Herndon was determined to play college football so he had to make a few changes in his plans. One, he had to enter a college program as a walk-on, and two, he had to change position from running back to defensive back. The college he chose was Austin Peay State University, a member of the OVC.

Herndon soon found out that the life of a walk-on is no picnic. The

non-scholarship walk-on player gets no respect from the coaching staff and is less likely to play in their first season. More commonly known as "dummy holders," a walk-on has to really stand out to even be considered as a member of the dressing squad. But Herndon wasn't your ordinary walk-on; for not only did he make the team, but he lettered as well. This earned him a full scholarship and started him on his way to a fantastic career at Austin Peay.

He finished his career this year in a game against Murray (Ky.) State University. Throughout his four years at Austin Peay, he started 20 games and earned four letters. He had five career interceptions and broke up more than 20 passes. He was also a stand out punt returner with an average of over 8 yards a return and was second in the OVC his sophomore year to MTSU's Don Griffen, who is now with the San Francisco Forty-Niners.

Not only did Herndon excel during the season, he also excelled in the off-season. He twice received the award Iron Peay, which is given to the strongest player, pound for pound, on the team.

Herndon is also strong in the classroom. He is a business administrative major with a 2.7 GPA, which is extremely good when one realizes how much time is spent in football. He is scheduled to graduate in 1988 with his bachelor's degree.

So, as you can see, Todd Herndon is truly an over-achiever. He has shown everyone who knows him and those who have simply followed his career, that a positive attitude and hard work can get you far, not only in football but in life as well.

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In Todd's four years at Camden Central High School he had a combined total of over 3,800 yards rushing, over 4,500 yards total offense, and scored 236 points. He averaged 9 yards every time he touched the football. He helped Camden to a 25 wins/17 losses record in his four years.

In his senior year the team had 10 wins/1 loss and gained a trip to the St. Jude Bowl in Martin. In that final game, Todd rushed for 168 yards and received the MVP award for offense. During his four years at Camden Central High School, he was awarded three All-District selections, two All-West, TN selections, and was selected All-State in his senior year.

Since Todd was only 5' 9" tall and weighed 155 lbs., colleges were not interested in him despite his high school record. He was determined to play football in college so he entered Austin Peay State University (OVC) and entered as a walk-on defensive back. Walk-on players got no respect from the coaching staff and were less likely to play their first season. Todd not only made the team, but lettered as well. This earned him a full scholarship and started him on his way to a fantastic career at Austin Peay.

Throughout his Austin Peay career, he started 20 games and earned 4 letters. He had 5 interceptions and broke up more than 20 passes. He averaged over 8 yards on punt returns and was second in the OVC his sophomore year to MTSU's Don Griffen, who later played for the San Francisco Forty-Niners.

During off-season at Austin Peay, Todd received the Iron Peay award twice which is given to the strongest player, pound for pound on the team. He earned his bachelor's degree with a business administrative major with a 2.7 GPA.