

DENNIS JOHNSON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS AN ATHLETE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

Football

- In 1986 Dennis at 6 years old became the first second (2nd) grader in US History to play in a high school varsity football game.
- Dennis was the first player in Kentucky History to be voted to the Kentucky ALL-STATE first team a record 10 Times
- Dennis was inducted into the KY Chapter of the National Football Hall of Fame in 2006
- Dennis Johnson received the following awards during high school:
 - USA Today – National Player of the Year
 - Mr. Football – State of Kentucky
 - Sports Illustrated – National Player of the Year
 - Touch Down Club of Atlanta – National Player of the Year
 - Tom Lemmings – National Player of the Year
 - Johnny Unitas Frank Camp – National Football Hall of Fame: Kentucky Player of the year
 - Parade Magazine – National Defensive Player of the Year
 - Prep Star Magazine – National Player of the Year
 - Gatorade Circle of Champions – Regional Player of the Year
 - Parade – All American 1st Team
 - Ale 8 One – KY Coaches Player of the Year for the State of Kentucky
 - Courier Journal – 1st team All-State on Offense and Defense
 - Associated Press – 1st Team Offense and Defense
 - Cotton States Insurance Co. – Lineman of the Year
 - Advocate Messenger – Lineman of the Year
 - Columbus Touch Down Club – Finalist for National Player of the Year
 - WLEX-TV 18 – World Famous Prep Report Player of the Year
 - Paul Horning – Kentucky Player of the Year
 - Kentucky Utilities – Player of the Year
 - WTVQ-TV 36 Gridiron Great Player of the Year
 - Sporting News – Defensive Player of the Year
- Career Statistics:
 - Solo Tackles – 136
 - Assists – 385
 - Interceptions – 5
 - Sacks – 76
 - Fumbles Recovered – 25

- Fumbles Caused – 43
- Tackles for Loss – 140
- Blocked Kicks - 19

Basketball

- Dennis played in 117 Varsity Games over a five year period
 - 2,306 Total Points Scored
 - 1,347 Total Rebounds
 - 335 Blocked Shots
 - 315 Assists
 - 161 Steals
 - Game High 38 points
 - Game High Rebounds – 22
 - Career Average: 61% FG, 19.7 PPG, 11.5 Rebound Per Game
- Dennis Johnson also had a great basketball career while in high school and was voted numerous times as an All District, All Region, and All State team member.
 - 12th Region All-Tournament Team – 5 Times
 - 12th Region Coaches Association All-Regional Team – 3 Times
 - Courier Journal/Lexington Herald Second Team
 - All-State Honorable Mention – Twice
 - All-State Team – Senior Year
 - All-District – 5 Years
 - All-Area Team – 4 Years
 - All-Area “Player of the Year” – 1 Year
 - On Class A Region Champs Team – 1995
 - On 12th Region Team that won the region – 1997
 - 12th Region Runner Up Team – 1997
 - On the Harrodsburg High Team that won their District 4 out of 5 years

Track and Field

- Johnson continued his success in Track and Field where he won a record 12 state titles in the Triple Jump, Shot Put, and Discuss competitions.
- Statistics:
 - HHS School Record for Shot Put – 56’6”
 - HHS School Record in Discus – 179’8”
 - State Runner-Up in Shot Put and Discus – 1994

- State 3rd Place in Triple Jump – 1994
- State Champion in Shot Put and Discus – 1995
- State Runner-Up in Triple Jump – 1995
- State Champion in Shot Put & Discus & Triple Jump Runner-Up – 1996
- State Champion in Shot Put & Triple Jump, runner-Up Discus – 1997

ACADEMICALLY

- High School GPA: 3.18
- Member of the Beta Club
- DARE Student of the Month
- Class Officer
- Took College Prep Advance Course Work
- Central Kentucky Youth Salute Honoree
- High School Student of the Month Honoree
- Qualified for NCAA as well as ACT

POST GRADUATION

- Pursued by over 300 Colleges and Universities for a scholarship in either football, basketball or track and field
- Signed with the University of Kentucky where he played for three years.
 - He received All-American Honors
 - Named SEC Player of the Year as a junior by the Knoxville News Sentinel
- Entered the professional football league being drafted by the Arizona Cardinals on the first day of the draft
- Played under the legendary Mean Joe Green where he led the defensive line in quarterback sacks and tackles for losses during the 2002 season
- Dennis continues to be involved in family, church, and community activities
 - Administers the Dennis Johnson Football Camp in July each year at the UK Nutter Field House
 - Assists his father and mother with their two businesses in Harrodsburg
 - Participates in many church related activities
 - Is a devoted father and husband living in Lexington, KY
 - He continues to speak to numerous youth groups and others about lessons that can be learned from life's experiences

OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Dear Hall of Fame Committee:

I am quite happy to recommend Dennis Johnson to the KSHAA Hall of Fame. As a former teacher, coach, administrator, and radio play-by-play high school football game announcer it has been my pleasure to be associated with this very talented young man. As you can see by his accomplishments you are already aware of his outstanding athletic and academic record. I am also in a position, however, to be aware of Dennis' record of personal and social development as well as his community involvement.

Whether as a student, athlete, or just a person Dennis has always been a responsible, enthusiastic, person with the unique ability to admit his mistakes and learn from them.

Socially I know Dennis to be a person of high moral principle, grace and polish, and someone who can handle the amenities of any situation. He is bright, inquisitive, and multi-talented. He has a gentle and delightful sense of humor which stands him in good stead with his old friends as well as people he has just met. Perhaps this is an indication of his personality and proficiency and why he is so well respected and popular with everyone he comes in contact.

It is without reservation that I recommend Mr. Dennis Johnson as a member of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,



Mr. Genie G. Sims