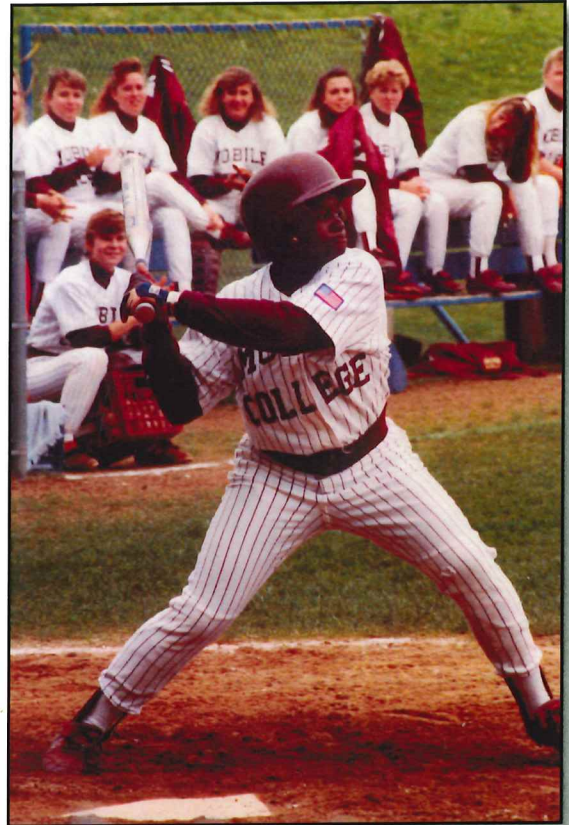


## MARY HENDERSON-SLAUGHTER

**M**ARY WAS THE SEVENTH OF ELEVEN CHILDREN BORN MARCH 10, 1969, TO NELLIE JEAN AND THE LATE BUSTER

McCollum of Carbon Hill. Mary attended Carbon Hill High School where she excelled in softball, volleyball and basketball. She led the volleyball team to one area championship and two state runner-up titles, and in basketball to one area championship and one basketball and one softball state runner-up title. Her personal accolades include three time All-Area Basketball Team, one All-Area Softball Team and one All-Area Volleyball Team, as well as, the Mattie Sue Hollingsworth Leadership Award.

After a successful high school career, she received a scholarship to Brewer State Community College to play softball. While there, she led the Lady Bears to a third place finish in the NJCAA State Tournament and 5th place in the Nationals. Mary was chosen as the 1989 Team Captain.



She continued her career at Mobile College (now University of Mobile) where she was a three year starter on Mike Jacobs' Lady Rams Team. She made the NAIA All-District 30 Team 2 years in a row, the Livingston and the University of West Florida All-Tournament Teams. She graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education in 1992.

Mary accepted as coaching job at Carbon Hill High School, becoming the first African American Head Coach in any sport (boys or girls) at Carbon Hill. She began an outstanding career in which she garnered the following championships: 7 County Champions, 4 Area Champions, 2 Invitational Championships, 2 Sectional Champion appearances, Volleyball Elite 8, appearances in 2 Sub-State Championships, as well as, 5 straight appearances in the softball State Playoffs. She started the first fast pitch softball team at Carbon Hill and re-established the Volleyball program at Parrish High School where she was destined to become the first African American principal at that school.

Mary is on numerous boards, organizations, and committees. She gives credit for her success to the coaches that have influenced and guided her life. Mary now lives in Jasper and is married to Steven Slaughter (who played on the only State Baseball Championship Team Oakman High School has ever had). They have two children: Mayson and Keenan "KJ" Slaughter. She is now employed as Director of Student Assessments and Guidance Counseling with the WCOBE, where she has been employed for the past twenty-seven years.