Donavon Banks

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Skilled, passionate, results-driven individual currently training for the 2025 World Championships, 2026 Ultimate Championships, 2027 World Championships, and the 2028 Olympic Games. Striving to utilize acquired leadership skills, abilities, and experiences that will help advance career development. Driven to succeed by a strong work ethic and excellent leadership abilities. Currently ranked 3rd in the U.S. and 30th in the world in the men’s Javelin.

# EDUCATION

**McNeese State University**, College of Business, Lake Charles, LA

Bachelor of Science in Business Management *May 2021*

Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing *May 2020*

# LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Current Status *September 2023-Present*

* Currently training with Coach and Former World Record holder in the Javelin, Tom Petranoff.

USA Javelin Project Member *September 2021-May 2023*

* Devote 25+ hours a week to practice, competition, and travel, while maintaining a full-time job
* Coach younger individuals at clinics to assist in teaching them how to throw the javelin
* Strong ability to maintain personal schedule and time management

Division I Men’s Track and Field Captain  *September 2018-May 2021*

* Led, supported, and represented the members of the track and field team by organizing service opportunities and team bonding activities
* Listened and spoke on behalf of team members as to what was thought to be best for the team as a whole

Division I Men’s Outdoor Track and Field Member *September 2015-May 2021*

* Devote 20+ hours a week to practice, competition, and travel, while maintaining a full academic course load
* Strong ability to maintain a personal schedule, while also assisting teammates with their time management

# WORK EXPERIENCE

Teacher, Windy Hill Middle School, Clermont, FL *August 2023 – May 2024*

* Planning/preparing lesson plans /Encouraging student participation
* Developing new material while recording student performance along with creating assessments.

Teacher, Erwin Intermediate Elementary, CenterPoint, AL *August 2022- May 2023*

* Planning/preparing lesson plans /Encouraging student participation
* Developing new material while recording student performance along with creating assessments.

Server, Outback, Shreveport, LA *June 2021- September 2021*

* Made reservations, answered phone calls, seated customers, and attended to the manager’s needs

# HONORS AND AWARDS

United States Olympic Trials Bronze Medalist *June 2024*

* Threw a mark of 79 meters to earn Bronze at the 2024 Olympic Trials in Eugene, Oregon

United States Olympic Trials Qualifier *March 2021*

* Threw a qualifying mark of 75 meters to make it to the Olympic Trials in Eugene, Oregon

NCAA Division I All-American *May 2021*

* Honorific title given to outstanding United States athletes who finish in the top 24 at the national meet

McNeese State Record Holder – Javelin *March 2021*

* Threw 246’3” at University of South Alabama Invitational, breaking the previous McNeese State

University Javelin record last set in 2012

* Was voted Southland Conference Athlete of the Week following this record

NCAA Division I East Preliminary Qualifier *March 2016, March 2017, May 2018, March 2021*

* + Top 48 athletes in each event in the Eastern United States qualify for the track meet each year

Honor Roll *December 2020*

* Received a grade point average of a 3.0 or higher

President’s List *December 2019*

* Received a grade point average of a 3.5 or higher

Southland Conference Outdoor Championship Medalist *May 2016, May 2017, May 2018, May 2021*

* Won the Southland Conference Outdoor Championship in May 2018
* Runner-up at the Southland Conference Outdoor Championship in May 2016, May 2017, and May 2021

# COMMUNITY SERVICE

McNeese State Track and Field *May 2015-May 2019 & May 2021*

* Officiated middle school track meets and high school state qualifier track meets
* Split the Pot Fundraiser – interacted with the public by selling raffle tickets to spectators at Home Football Games

Captain Shreve High School *May 2015-May 2019 & May 2021*

* Worked with underprivileged African American children teaching fundamentals of football

**REFERENCES**

Tom Petranoff

(401) 440-0878

Olympic Training Center Throws Coach, Former American Record Holder in the Javelin and Olympian

Lavarius Thomas

(334) 559-0052

Head Principal of Erwin Intermediate School

Dr. Lonnie Phelps

(337) 496-4818

Dean of Business department at McNeese State University