



Dillard University Athletic Director and Coach Kiki Baker Barnes knows a thing or two about leading girls into greatness. Her past achievements in school as a student athlete and her current status as head of the Athletics Department demonstrate her ability to make things happen. It's those exact leadership qualities Girl Scouts Louisiana East want her to display at their Centennial Extravaganza, held Saturday, March 17, 2012 at the Lanar Dixon Expo Center in Gonzales, La.

Barnes will be part of the "To Get Her There" panel, created to motivate girls on setting and reaching goals and aspirations. Along with University of New Orleans Dean of Engineering Dr. Norma Mattei, University of New Orleans Women's Basketball Head Coach Keeshawn Carter, Owner of the Omni Advertising Agency Dee Clubb, and Chief Operating Officer of Quaternary Resource Investigations Cheryl Wells, Barnes will share her story on achieving her own goals and encourage other young girls to do so as well.

As she enters her sixth year as Athletic Director and Head Women's Basketball Coach for the Dillard University Lady Bleu Devils, Barnes brings experience and hard work to the university campus. The dynamic leader has been selected to participate as one of ten minority coaches in the Black Coaches and Administrators' (BCA) 2008 Achieving Coaching Excellence (ACE) Program. Barnes also is one of two African-Americans named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) newly formed National Administrative Council (NAC). Barnes is also President of the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (GCAC), a position she has held since 2009 and is the first African-American to be given the title.

Barnes set many goals for herself as a student and continues to do so today. She was a standout basketball player and track star for the University of New Orleans (UNO). She currently holds UNO's triple long jump record. Before being recruited by UNO, Barnes led the South Plains College Lady Texans Basketball Team to a 23-7 record while leading the team in steals and seconding in scoring.

Her educational background includes an associate's degree in telecommunication from South Plains College (1995), a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of New Orleans (1997), and a master's degree in communications with concentration in Public Relations from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2001). Not one to rest on her laurels, she continues to set goals for herself and is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in educational administration at UNO.

For more information on the Girl Scouts Centennial Extravaganza, visit www.gsle.org .