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## **MSCC Greyhound Standout Signs with Southern University**

Mid-South Community College student-athlete Russell Hill has signed a National Letter of Intent to continue his academic and basketball careers at Southern University in Baton Rouge.

A graduate of Mitchell High School in Memphis, Hill is the first MSCC men's basketball player to earn a scholarship at a four-year college, a major milestone for the fledgling program.

"It's big for us as a first-year program to be able to get players opportunities, especially at the Division I level," said Greyhounds' head coach Andy Stoglin. "This lets other players know that they can come play for us and have the opportunity to earn a scholarship at a four-year school, and that's why we're here."



In only its first year of existence, the Greyhound sports program has already produced two upper division NCAA opportunities for area student-athletes. In addition to Hill, West Memphis' Breanna Wiley, who averaged 18.6 points and 8.2 rebounds per game to lead the Lady Greyhounds last year, has inked with Delta State University.

Unlike some collegiate sports programs, the one at MSCC focuses on helping young men and women reach their academic and athletic potential while giving them opportunities for additional higher education.

"We see the basketball program as another way to help young men and women of our region improve their lives as well as our communities and our region," said Dr. Glen Fenter,

MSCC president. “This is not an attempt to win trophies and garner championships. It is an attempt to prove that you can still do these things in the right way with the right motives and produce great results in the lives of students.”

Hill, a 6-2 shooting guard, led the Greyhounds in scoring in the team’s first season of competition, averaging 18 points a contest. He also contributed 3 rebounds and 3 assists per game. Stoglin said he expects Hill to excel at the next level.



“Russell will be a better Division I player than a junior college player,” Stoglin said. “He was clearly the best player on our team, but he will be an even better player when he has better competition to challenge him.”

Hill will have three years of eligibility remaining with the Jaguars, an NCAA Division I member competing in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC).

At MSCC, Hill led the Greyhounds to an 11-15 record in their first season of National Junior Collegiate Athletic Association action. He scored 17 points in Mid-South’s stunning upset of Jackson State Community College which was ranked as high as No. 14 in the NJCAA Division I basketball poll.

At Mitchell, Hill helped the Tigers to two city championships and two second-place finishes. During his junior and senior years, Hill led Mitchell to runner-up performances in the Tennessee state tournament. He earned All-Region Honors in 2008 and 2009 and captured MVP honors at the All-Star game.

With the help of a 10-year, \$250,000 donation from Southland Park Gaming and Racing, MSCC fielded men’s and women’s intercollegiate basketball teams for the first time in 2010-2011.