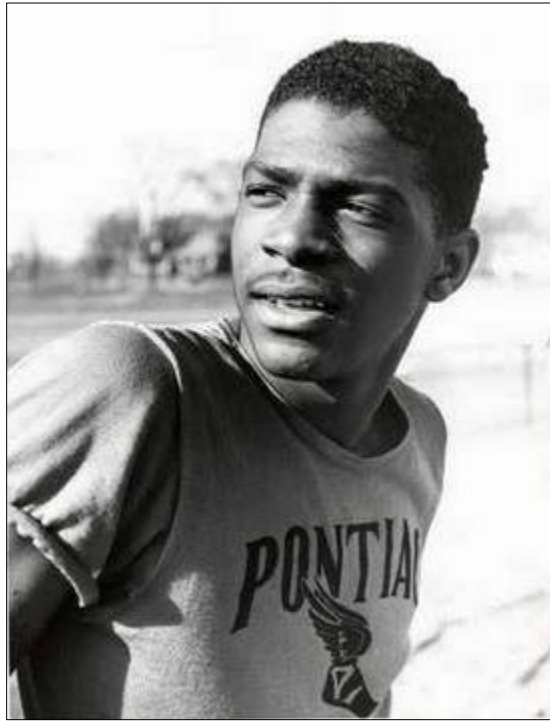


Hayes Jones – Pontiac Central 1956



Hayes Jones, even more than 50 years after winning the gold medal in the 110-meter hurdles in the Tokyo Olympics of 1964, remains the greatest high hurdler ever produced in the state of Michigan.

Born August 4, 1938, in Starkville, Mississippi, Jones won Class A state titles in the hurdles (1955-56) and the long jump (1956). In high school, he had best performances of 14.5 and 23-8.75.

At Eastern Michigan, he kept winning, capturing his first national title as a sophomore in 1958. The 5-11/168 Jones went on to capture four more USA titles outdoors, in addition to the 1959 NCAA crown. In the 1960 Rome Olympics, he won the bronze medal in the highs. Four years later, he came back for the gold medal, winning in an official 13.4 (FAT timed at 13.67). Indoors, however, was where Jones truly shone. From 1959 to 1964, he ran undefeated in 55 straight indoor hurdle races.