Tim Barnes, from Henderson, KY, played for SIC basketball coach Todd Franklin during the 2000-2002 seasons. Barnes was later recruited by the Iowa State University Cyclones.

His freshman year at Southeastern, Barnes led the Falcons to a 26-4 season by averaging 15.3 points, 8.4 assists, 2.4 steals, and 3.3 rebounds per game. During his sophomore year, he averaged 19.4 points, 7.2 assists, and 2.1 steals per game, leading the team to the NJCAA Region 24 championship game and a 26-7 record. That same year, Barnes was named Region 24 Player of the Year.

Barnes completed his two years at Southeastern by setting the single season and career school records for assists, 260 and 498 respectively.

According to Iowa State’s Cyclone Sports Report.com, “At Southeastern Illinois Community College, Barnes was regarded as one of the nation’s best junior college products, blossoming into a top-notch point guard. His improvement and emergence on the national scene went full circle his sophomore year at Southeastern… garnering second-team All-American accolades, first-team Region XXIV honors and rated as the nation’s No. 1 junior college point guard prospect.”

While at Iowa, Barnes averaged 11.3 points, 5 assists, 3.6 rebounds, and 1.3 steals per game. He was named Big 12 Rookie of the Week for his stellar performance against Kansas State during the 2003 season. During that game, he scored 23 points to lead the Cyclones to a 64-61 win.

Barnes transferred to Cal State at Bakersfield in 2005. The following year, he joined the world famous Harlem Globetrotters for a brief time. Afterwards, he played for a number of US Basketball League and NBA Development League teams, including the Oklahoma Storm, Bakersfield Jam, Idaho Stampede, and Iowa Energy, ending his professional basketball career in 2009.