

1991 Dawahares-Kentucky High School Athletic Association Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

Myra Van Hoose Blackwelder - The name Myra Van Hoose stands alone in the record books of Kentucky high school golf...Now married, Myra Van Hoose Blackwelder is the only golfer -- male or female -- to win four state high school championships...Myra did it for Lexington Lafayette High School in 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973...She also led Lafayette to the state team championship her junior and senior years...In the classroom, Myra was just as outstanding...She was graduated with high distinction (3.7 grade-point-average) and was a member of the National Honor Society...Her classmates elected her vice president of the senior class and she won a D.A.R. Good Citizen Award...She went on to a distinguished career at the University of Kentucky and is now a successful member of the women's professional golf tour.

Walter J. Brugh - Walter Brugh was an outstanding athlete at Paintsville High, playing football, basketball and baseball -- "the only sports we had"...He made the varsity football team while in the eighth grade...Paintsville won the Big Sandy Conference football championship during his four years in high school, and he was honored as All-Conference three years...His life's work during 39 years at Paintsville has been coaching football, golf, baseball, track and assisting in basketball...But it is his success in coaching football that made him and his teams known across Kentucky...He is 22 victories shy of being the state's winningest high school coach...His teams have won 250, lost 111 and have had 5 ties...His colleagues have honored him with many Coach-of-the-Year awards...His motto: "The strength of our country is shaping a young person's character through sincere coaching and direction...Football teaches boys to become men, teaches self-confidence, discipline, good attitude, character, dedication, movability, strength, and the will to excel...Coaching merely implements techniques utilizing talents in an honest effort to win".

Mike Casey - Mike Casey's dream season was 1966 when he led Coach Bill Harrell's Shelby County Rockets to the state championship in basketball...Casey was "Mr. Everything" that year. All-State, All-State Tournament and Mr. Basketball...He was high point man with 23 points in Shelby County's championship victory over a fine Louisville Male team, 62-57...Perhaps no other team has had to battle as hard as Shelby County did to win its championship...The Rockets nipped Knox Central 71-70 in the first round and advanced again with another one-point victory, 63-62 over Harrison County...Shelby County beat Thomas Jefferson of Jefferson County 79-72 in the semifinals...Casey was a player who could get two points when his team needed them...He was always around the ball, no matter what...He had great court sense and was a heady player...He went on to a fine career for the University of Kentucky.

Ernie Chattin - To the young people of Ashland as well as the state of Kentucky, Ernie Chattin gave unselfishly of both his time and talents, without hesitation...His wealth was his many friends...He lived every day to its fullest with love and understanding for his fellow man...He was an All-State player for Ashland High School in both football as a quarterback and in basketball as a forward...He served as captain in both sports...After playing football for the University of Illinois, he returned to Kentucky, coaching at Prichard High in Grayson before returning to Ashland High...He officiated both football and basketball for the Kentucky High School Athletic Association for 33 years and was an assigning secretary...He also was on the KHSAA State Track Committee for 20 years...Ernie loved visiting with Kentucky friends at the State Basketball Tournament and he attended 55 consecutive Sweet Sixteen® Tournaments...Active in recreation and Y.M.C.A. work, he was honored as Mr. Recreation of Kentucky.

Jack L. Coleman - Jack Coleman played for one of Kentucky's smallest high schools, Burgin in Mercer County, and he ranks as one of the Commonwealth's finest all-around athletes...He showed early promise as a basketball player, performing in the 1938 State Tournament as an eighth grader...But his athletic career was just starting...He led his team to the Duke University High School Tournament championship in 1942...He represented Kentucky against Indiana in the All-Star game that year...In 1941, he led Burgin to the six-man state football championship...Modestly, he said, "Individually I was not

great, but I played for winners"...He was a basketball, football and baseball star for the University of Louisville and helped the St. Louis Hawks to win the championship of the National Basketball Association.

Jim Conner - A coaching legend in Northern Kentucky, Jim Connor got his start at Newport Catholic High School...His baseball teams captured three state championships, winning 16 districts and 12 regionals...During his 16 years at Catholic, his basketball teams won 339 and lost 144...Three of his teams reached the Sweet Sixteen®...They also won 10 district titles...He also served two colleges as basketball coach, Bellarmine in Louisville and Thomas More in his native Northern Kentucky...He also coached at Boone County from 1970-1979 and served that school as assistant principal.

Bunny Daugherty - A leader and pioneer in girls' sports in Kentucky, Bunny Daugherty has been an athletic director and coach for 41 years...She has coached basketball 40 years, field hockey and volleyball 37 years, track 25 years, tennis and golf 25 years, and swimming and gymnastics 10 years...It was at Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville where she became known statewide when her team won the State Basketball Tournament in 1976...It was the second season after the Kentucky High School Athletic Association resumed girls' basketball in 1975...In the championship game, Sacred Heart turned back defending champion Butler of Jefferson County 68-55 behind the 20 points of Missy Brown, who earned All-Tournament honors...Bunny was founder and is still director of the Girls' Louisville Invitational Basketball Tournament and also of the Apple Field Hockey Tournament...She was Coach-of-the-Year for basketball in 1976...Her motto: "Kids plus Sports equal Fun!".

Bunny Davis - Few athletes, coaches, businessmen and politicians have earned the respect that Bunny Davis has in Danville...He was an All-State and All-American basketball player at Danville Bate High School...He also was an All-Conference tailback in football, where he was called "Bunny Rabbit" for his great speed, ducking and dodging ability...He ran the dashes in track and ran a consistent 9.7 for the 100-yard dash...He was the anchorman on the 440 and 880 relay teams...He coached at his alma mater and also at Westside High in Harrodsburg...He is proud of the fact that he was the first Black to umpire integrated baseball on the high school level, and he worked four State Baseball Tournaments...He also served the KHSAA as clinic director in baseball...He also officiated basketball...His motto: "Patience, hard work, a goal set in life, a winning spirit (with God as center attraction) will mature one into a most satisfying lifestyle"...He currently serves his hometown as Commissioner and Mayor Pro Term.

Jack Fultz - There are few things this multi-talented athlete, coach and educator hasn't done for Olive Hill High School and the Carter County schools...He was a member of the first Olive Hill team to win a regional tournament game and to play in the State Tournament, in 1944...That Comet team lost in the Sweet Sixteen® semifinals to eventual champion Harlan and Wah Wah Jones...As the Olive Hill basketball coach, he was the school's most successful, winning 395 games in 17 years...He coached three Olive Hill teams to the State Tournament...Jack also served as principal at Olive Hill for three years after five years as assistant and 18 years as a teacher and coach...He also was principal at West Carter High for six years...He served on the KHSAA Board of Control for four years...Jack also has served as commissioner of the Eastern Kentucky Athletic Conference since 1967 during which the conference sports increased from two to 10...He also served as sports writer for the local paper, The Carter County Herald, from 1938 when he was in the seventh grade until the paper went out of business in 1965...He covered all Olive Hill sports, even when coaching.

Tony Guffy - The most successful coach in Kentucky soccer history, Tony Guffy coached state championship teams at three different high schools!...His teams won state titles in 1978 and 1980 at Westport, in 1983 at Male High, and in 1986 and 1987 at Ballard...His teams reached the final four eight times...He was voted soccer Coach-of-the-Year four times and was the only Kentucky soccer coach to be selected as National High School Athletic Association Coach-of-the-Year in the Southeastern United States...He was selected to coach Kentucky against Ohio in the only year the all-star game was held...Three of his players earned All-American honors and 38 were first team All-State...During the 15 years that this soccer pioneer coached, Guffy won 221, lost just 49 and posted 9 ties...In addition to his state championships, he is proud of the fact that he and his teams played important roles in making

soccer a major sport...Although retired from high school coaching, Guffy continues to conduct youth clinics in Louisville.

John G. Heber - "Mr. Heber was a legend to be remembered by all those whose lives he touched and helped to mold," said Henry Clay basketball coach and director of athletics Al Prewitt, who played football for Heber..."He took boys and made them men, for which they can never thank him enough"...Heber started coaching at Lexington High and stayed when that school became Henry Clay...He coached for 41 years, compiling amazing records in football, basketball and track...For instance, his Lexington High basketball team won the state championship in 1924 and his teams made seven State Tournament appearances and two in the national tournament...His 23-year record (1923-1946) was 310-162...He coached football for 34 years (1923-1957) and his teams won 188, lost 78 and tied 21...He also coached the girls' Blue Angels basketball team...He was a top track coach and track authority for 41 years and directed the State Track Meet for several years...The Henry Clay stadium is named for him...One of his best-known football players was Hall of Famer Tommy Bell...Mr. Heber's unique voice will be remembered by countless UK football fans who heard him as the game announcer at Stoll Field...He is the only UK football player ever to letter five years (he was able to do this because of World War I).

Bain "Tiny" Jones - Perhaps the best known coach of his time in Kentucky, Tiny Jones, really a huge man, was a native of Kuttawa in Lyon County...It was at Mount Sterling where he became a legend, coaching all sports for over 30 years...He also coached at two other Kentucky schools, Dayton for three years and Bourbon County for one year before returning to Mount Sterling...His encouragement enabled players and pupils to exceed their expectations...He was not only a great coach, but a good teacher, too...For years he taught four science subjects...Tiny's basketball Trojans won championships when there were 16 teams in the district...Mount Sterling won nine districts and reached the Sweet Sixteen® four times, in 1930, 1935, 1942 and 1943...The 1943 Mount Sterling team lost to St. Xavier 33-27 in the semifinals and then won third place by beating Benton 48- 35...Hindman won the championship by beating St. Xavier 29-26...Mount Sterling's Walter Johnson was on the five-man All-State Tournament team...Jones' Trojans succeeded although competing in the 16th Region with powers Clark County and Ashland.

Bob Keith - Coach Bob Keith and his Clay County Tigers have upheld their team's motto: "Pride of the Mountains"...During the period from 1971 to 1990, Keith and his Tigers enjoyed extraordinary success on the highest levels of Kentucky high school basketball...Led by Richie Farmer, Clay County reached the zenith of high school basketball when Keith directed the Tigers to the 1987 state championship before a record crowd of over 24,000 in Rupp Arena...But that was just the culmination of an amazing run for Clay County, which made 14 appearances in the Sweet Sixteen® between 1973-1990...Keith's Tigers made seven straight trips to the State Tournament from 1984-1990...From 1971-1990, Keith led Clay County to 587 victories and only 97 losses while winning 37 invitational tournaments, 14 S.E.K.C. titles, 17 49th District crowns, and 14 13th Region championships...No other coach has taken more teams to the Sweet Sixteen...The Tigers also were state finalists in 1985 and 1988, and the 1990 team lost in the semifinals to eventual champion Fairdale...Keith was "Coach-of-the-Decade" and Clay County was "Team-of-the-Decade" for the 1980s...Immensely popular with his colleagues, this master coach earned several state Coach-of-the-Year honors.

Ralph C. Kimmel - This astute coach made duPont Manual of Louisville a baseball power even before the KHSAA starting sanctioning State Tournaments in 1940...In fact, his greatest player, Cooperstown Hall of Fame shortstop Harold "Pee Wee" Reese, captain of the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers, played for Kimmel prior to that...Kimmel won his first state title in 1947 and also coached the Crimson to state championships in 1952, 1955, 1957 and 1959. The 1959 championship team posted a 32-1 record...Four other Manual teams lost just one game during Kimmel's 29-year reign...His overall record from 1932 through 1960 was 535 victories and 125 losses, a winning percentage of .811...In addition to his five state championships, Kimmel also captured 10 district titles and 10 regional titles...Sixty of Kimmel's players went on to professional baseball...In addition to Reese, perhaps the best known players are Moe Thacker and Earl Brown.

Herbie Phelps - This outstanding runner led Kentucky football scorers in both his junior and senior years at Old Kentucky Home High School in Nelson County...In 1962 Herbie erupted for 292 points and then topped that the next year with 313, including 68 in one game (10 touchdowns and 8 extra points)!...He was first team All-State both years and was honorary captain his senior year because he led the voting among the state's coaches...He was also All-Mid Kentucky Conference both years and All-American his senior year...After rushing for over 3,000 yards his final season, he was selected for the East-West All-Star game...He also starred in basketball and track...Herbie was All-Conference three times in basketball, averaging 21 points-per-game his senior year...He was a top hurdler in track, finishing runner-up in the 180 in the State Track Meet in both his junior and senior years...He is now the girls' basketball head coach at Nelson County High School.

Sam Potter - One of Kentucky's most storied athletes and coaches, Sam Potter has the distinction of receiving world-wide prominence in 1931 when Ripley's Believe It or Not featured him as the nation's leading football scorer after he tallied 234 points in nine games for Whitesburg's unbeaten team...As a coach at Lynch for 10 years, his teams won 76, lost just 19 and tied 6...His football teams of 1951-1953 won 30 consecutive regular season games...He was runner-up for The Courier-Journal's Coach-of-the-Year award in 1952, and won it the following year...He was coach of the East All-Stars that upset the highly favored West, led by Heisman Trophy winner Paul Hornung, 14-13...He then retired from coaching and served as principal and superintendent at Lynch, and then retired after serving as superintendent of Shelbyville Independent Schools...He is one of the few men ever to letter in both football and basketball at the University of Kentucky...He started for the 1934 and 1935 Wildcat football teams.

Goebel Ritter - The Sweet Sixteen® and the multi-talented Goebel Ritter are synonymous because he took four Hazard teams to the Big Show, winning the championship in 1955, and served as a referee for three State Tournaments...Ritter joins his star, the great Johnny Cox, in the Hall of Fame...Cox scored 32 points for Ritter's Hazard Bulldogs in their 74-66 championship victory over Adair County...His State Tournament record was 73...In addition to his 10 years at Hazard, Ritter coached one year at Fleming-Neon and four years at Whitesburg...He officiated for 18 years...Ritter was one of Kentucky's finest athletes, playing basketball, football and golf for Madison High in Richmond...He signed a football scholarship at Eastern Kentucky University, but wound up playing basketball, golf, baseball and track...He was such an outstanding player that he performed for the New York Knicks in the National Basketball Association.

Forest "Aggie" Sale - Aggie Sale was one of many great products of Kavanaugh High School in Lawrenceburg...He played basketball there from 1925-1929 and returned after an All-America. playing career at the University of Kentucky to coach Kavanaugh from 1933-1937...Then he moved to Harrodsburg where he became one of Kentucky's most respected coaches...He took the Pioneers to the State Tournament in 1960...That Harrodsburg team was one of two that won championships in the 20-team Central Kentucky Conference, and he was C.K.C. Coach-of-the-Year in 1960...He also served as football coach at Harrodsburg from 1946-1948...Sale played semi-pro basketball on a team with the great John Wooden while Wooden was coaching at Dayton, Ky., High School....The Harrodsburg Herald wrote of Sale: "A great player in life. He served young people, his county, his church, and his family...His greatness came from his simple, humble way of doing what he considered the right things."

Howard L. Schnellenberger - One of the great athletes who made Flaget High School legendary for its prowess, Howard Schnellenberger played football, basketball and baseball for the former school in Louisville's West End...People naturally think of him first for football (he was an All-American end at the University of Kentucky and coached the University of Miami to national prominence, winning a national championship at the Florida school)...But he also was outstanding in basketball and baseball at Flaget...Still, it was his football skills for Hall of Famer Paulie Miller's Flaget Braves that earned Schnellenberger his greatest attention...He played both football and basketball for four years at Flaget, and baseball for two...He was captain of the football and basketball teams, and played in the Kentucky East-West football All-Star game. He was an All-State football player...He now works with many football

products of Kentucky high schools as the head coach at the University of Louisville...His U. of L. team beat Alabama in the 1991 Fiesta Bowl.

Barney Thweatt - Few Hall of Famers have qualified in as many different ways as Barney Thweatt...He was a star player -- and not for just any team, but for Hall of Famer McCoy Tarry's state championship Brewers Redmen, the last champion to finish unbeaten...The 1948 team posted an amazing record of 36-0 and avenged a final-game loss to Maysville in 1947...The 1947 Brewers team finished 34-2...Thweatt was team captain both years, and he also was a starting guard his sophomore year...He was All-State Tournament his junior year...Thweatt also qualifies as a coach...His 13-year record was 225-112 and he took two teams to the State Tournament...His 1963 Oldham County team was 31-3 and lost to Seneca's great state championship team led by Hall of Famer Wes Unseld...Thweatt also coached Paducah Tilghman to the 1967 Sweet Sixteen®...And he qualifies as an administrator, too...He served on the Board of Control for four years and was KHSAA president in 1981...He was president of the Kentucky Association of Secondary School Principals in 1985-1986...While principal at Christian County, Thweatt saw the school win two 4-A football championships...The Colonels also were twice runners-up in the state in basketball, wrestling and girls' softball.

Bobby Watson - An outstanding long-range set-shot artist, Bobby Watson helped Hall of Famer Lawrence McGinnis' Owensboro Red Devils win three consecutive trips to the Sweet Sixteen®...A younger teammate was Hall of Famer Cliff Hagan, who led Owensboro to the 1949 state championship...The sharp-shooting guard was All-State in 1948...Watson and Hagan teamed up again to win a national championship at the University of Kentucky...After playing in the National Basketball Association, Watson started his coaching career at Henderson County High School...He then succeeded McGinnis at Owensboro in 1957, starting a fabulously successful coaching career that saw the Red Devils win two state championships while posting a 23-year record of 537-169...Owensboro won the Sweet Sixteen® in 1972 and 1980, and Watson was Courier-Journal Coach-of-the-Year in 1980. He took a record 14 teams to the State Tournament, and won 17 district championships...Watson's motto: "On the fields of athletic competition are sown the seeds that in later years will bear the fruits of success".