

Bobby McGuire
2556 River Oak Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30033

OCTOBER 30, 2006

MS. BRIGID DEVRIES
COMMISSIONER, KHSAA
2280 EXECUTIVE DRIVE
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40505

DEAR COMMISSIONER DEVRIES,

I AM RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTING THE NAME OF WALLACE "DICK" MITCHELL AS A CANDIDATE FOR ADMISSION TO THE KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION'S HALL OF FAME.

DICK WAS INDUCTED INTO SOMERSET HIGH SCHOOL'S FIRST ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME CLASS ON OCTOBER 29, 2006. ENCLOSED IS A SUMMARY OF HIS OUTSTANDING ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THREE SPORTS AT SOMERSET HIGH AND VARSITY FOOTBALL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY UNDER COACHES PAUL "BEAR" BRYANT AND BLANTON COLLIER.

HIS ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES, BUT I WOULD PERSONALLY ADD THAT DICK MITCHELL WAS THE MOST COMPETITIVE ATHLETE I EVER PLAYED WITH DURING MY FOUR YEARS AT HAZARD HIGH AND FOUR YEARS OF VARSITY BASKETBALL AND BASEBALL AT VANDERBILT AND WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY.

IT HAS BEEN 52 YEARS SINCE HE PLAYED HIS LAST GAME, BUT I BELIEVE SOME OF YOUR BOARD OF CONTROL MEMBERS WILL RECALL THE LASTING IMPRESSION HE MADE ON SOMERSET AND KENTUCKY ATHLETICS.

I AM ESPECIALLY PROUD OF HOW HE "SHOWED UP" IN LIFE AFTER ATHLETICS. HIS 26 YEARS AS AN AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT COLONEL FIGHTER PILOT WITH 177 MISSIONS IN VIETNAM, 17 AIR MEDALS AND 4 DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSSES BRINGS SPECIAL HONOR TO HIS NAME.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF I CAN BE OF ADDITIONAL HELP IN THIS MATTER.

MY BEST WISHES TO YOU FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN YOUR POSITION AS COMMISSIONER.

SINCERELY,

Bobby McGuire

BOBBY MCGUIRE
MEMBER, KHSAA HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 1996

To: Somerset Hall of Fame Committee

From: Wallace Eugene "Dick" Mitchell
535 Mimosa Road
Sumter, South Carolina 29150
Phone: 803-469-3297

Wallace Eugene "Dick" Mitchell was born on October 6, 1930 in Blue Diamond, Kentucky near Hazard. Eagle Scout 1945 Troop 100. Hazard Football Team 1945-46-47 under Earl "Pop" Collins. First team back on single wing 46-47. Elected captain of the 1948 Hazard Team. Moved to Somerset in March 1948. Led Somerset with 11 touchdowns and 9-2 record that year. Scored two touchdowns again Henry Clay in 20-13 victory and first win in 13 years. Had an 82 and 52 yd touchdown again in the first Recreation Bowl victory 27-0 was first team associated press halfback in 1948. Lost to KMI in the Shrine Game (Coach Bill Clark).

Dick was all district and all regional on the 1948-49 basketball team that lost to Lafayette in the state tournament.

Dick scored 23 and 14 points in the two state tournament games. He won four events in the regional track meet in the Spring of 1949. Dick played fullback and co-captain of the 1949 Somerset Football Team that won 7 lost 3. Dick missed two games that we lost due to a leg injury. Dick was second team all state that year.

After playing basketball for Coach Bill Clark for half a season Dick, went to Kentucky to play football (1950-54). He red shirted in 1951 but, played first string halfback 1952-53-54. Dick played both offense and defense averaging 38 minutes a game. He was a good safety man and ran most of the punts and kick-offs back. In his senior year he had 381 yards in 81 carries for 4.7 yard average. Dick played for Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant from 1950-1954, 4 springs and 4 falls. His last year was under Blanton Collier in 1954 Dick played four games against Tennessee and never lost a game. Kentucky was 19-9-3. The team voted down the Gator Bowl in 1953 and 1954. Our record was 7-2-1 and 7-3. Dick received the UK Football Scholarship Award after the 1954 season.

Dick spent 26 years as a fighter pilot in the Air Force retiring as Lt. Colonel. His 177 missions in Vietnam honored him with 17 air metals and 4 distinguished flying crosses. He never lost a plane in 26 years of flying.


Wallace E "Dick" Mitchell