October 20, 2003

DAWAHARES/KHSAA HALL OF FAME

Re: Nomination of Samuel Ivan Moore

On behalf of the Central High School Hall of Fame Committee, please consider this to be a formal nomination of Samuel Ivan Moore for induction into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame for 2004.

Sammy is a native Louisvillian, born July 23, 1933, and burst on the local sports pages as a star of the Central High School Yellowjackets. From 1950 to 1952 Moore dominated schoolboy basketball in the Kentucky High School Athletic League with his deft ball handling. He was honored with All-District, All-Regional, and All-State all three years. He led the state in scoring during his senior year with a 24 point average. The yellowjackets finished second in the state in 1950 and captured the state crown in both Moore's junior and senior years. Not only was Sammy voted "Most Valuable" in the three state tournaments, he led Central to the National Negro High School Tournament championship and there was voted "Most Valuable."

It should be underscored that during Sammy's career at Central, due in no small measure to Moore's personal example and poise, the first basketball games ever played in the state of Kentucky with black and white players were held as Central battled Flaget and St. Xavier. In each of the contest, Moore was the by far the most outstanding player.

Upon leaving high school, Sammy attended Tennessee State University, lettering all four years and leading the "Whiz Kids" to capture the NAIA national Crown, the first team with black players to ever achieve that distinction. After graduating from college, Moore starred professionally, with both the Harlem Globetrotters and the Harlem Magicians.

After concluding his playing career, Sammy Moore began a lengthy and illustrious career as a teacher, coach and community leader. He began teaching and coaching at Lincoln Institute in Simpsonville, Kentucky. He later served in the Louisville, Jefferson County Public School System, where he coached at Manly Junior High School and Noe Middle School.

Sammy Moore now directs the recreation program at the Southwick Community Center. During his tenure here, he has served as guide and mentor, both on and off the court to literally thousands of youngsters - including Darryl Griffith, Bobby Turner, Wesley Cox, Keith Williams, Jermaine Brown, and Maurice Morris.

It is therefore our mutual privilege to nominate Samuel I. Moore to this prestigious group. He is clearly deserving of such recognition.

Joseph McPherson

John R. Whiting

Sammie Moore

I was born in Louisville, Ky., and grew up in the Beecher Terrace Housing Project in the West End. I attended S. C. Taylor Elementary School and enjoyed attending the Baxter Recreation Center after School. Upon graduation from elementary school, I proceeded to Madison Junior High school, where I found my love, basketball. Under the direction of Bill Johnson, the P. E. teacher I learned the basics of basketball. After graduation I enrolled in Central High School and began to blossom as an upcoming basketball star. During my 3 years at Central High School, I was All District Player, All Region and All State player of the year all 3 years. Leading Central to 2 Districts Championships, 2 Regional Championships, and 2 State Championships. Not only did I lead the State Tournament all 3 years, but I was also selected as most valuable player

Upon graduation from high school, I attended Tennessee State University where I received my B.S. degree. After graduation from college I starred professionally, with both the Harlem Globetrotters and the Harlem Magicians.

I have worked for Louisville Metro Parks for 35 plus years. Starting as a locker boy for the Shepherds Square Pool, when I was only 14 years old. Upon finishing college, I returned to Louisville Metro Parks working full time at Russell High Community School. When I left Russell, I began working for Southwick community Center, and 2 years at St. George Community, returning back to the Southwick Community Center, where I've continued my career up to now.

During my career I have received numerous honors and awards, such as, "The Golden Shovel Award", "Mr. Clean Award", "Recreation Worker of the Year Award", "The Resolution Award" that was sponsored by Council Woman Denise Bentley, The Metro Parks Recreation Boards Award for "Outstanding Progress of Parks and Recreation for the Betterment of the City of Louisville and Jefferson County", "The Bridge Award for Others to Cross", "The Village Award" for community service or recreation and family, "The Distinguished Citizen Award" from the City of Louisville and "Southwick recreation Center Camp of the Year for 2006" just to name a few.

I have continued my career as a Jefferson County Board of Education School Teacher and Metro Parks & Recreation Supervisor for 35 plus years. Why? Because, I love being a mentor and role model for the children that I come in contact with daily. Over the years I have touched literally the lives of thousands of kids. As adults, they visit the center and walk around and reminisce how they came to this center and were forever touched by their experiences here. Whether it was skating, playing basketball, softball, football, track and field, arts and crafts or just hanging out, and not on the city streets. They express their thanks for my guidance and sometimes, strict policies, that have enabled them to be productive citizens of our great community and nation. Some of the kids who were touched by this center have gone on to become college basketball players, NBA basketball players, football players, doctors, city officials, and just good people.

Derek Enderson les Cox