

### **Livingston County Schools**

Darryl Chittenden, Superintendent 127 East Adair Street P.O. Box 219 Smithland, Kentucky 42081 Phone (270) 928-2111 Fax (270) 928-2112

October 02, 2012

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame ATTN: Nominations 2280 Executive Drive Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

It is with great pride, respect, and admiration that I submit Mr. Mike Riley's credentials for consideration for the KHSAA Hall of Fame. Mr. Riley served the Livingston County School System for 33 years as a teacher, multi-sport coach, athletic director and Principal. In 1975, he returned to Livingston Central High School, his alma mater, from where he had played high school baseball and basketball to start his career as an Industrial Arts teacher and coach. His dedication to Livingston County students and community never wavered over the next 33 years. His retirement in 2008 brought an end to era at Livingston Central High School; an era of success and longevity that will be very difficult for anyone to match in the future.

Mr. Riley served Livingston Central High School and community in numerous roles in his career. He was an assistant basketball coach for 11 years, head basketball coach for 11 years, and was head baseball coach for 18 years. In addition to his coaching, he moved into administration and in that role he served 4 years as athletic director, 15 years as board appointed representative, and 11 years as principal. In his administrative roles, he was a tireless advocate for athletics and he believed strongly in the opportunities KHSAA sports provided to our students. In all 33 years of his career, he was directly involved in the athletic program at Livingston Central High School. He was

very dedicated to providing equal opportunities in sports and was very concerned with promoting Livingston Central's status as related to Title IX. Under his watch, the school's staff was very diligent in remaining in Title IX compliance and he can be credited with the development of additional sports for girls at Livingston Central such as golf and volleyball.

During his coaching career, Livingston Central was a perennial force in 5<sup>th</sup> district baseball and basketball. His head coaching resume includes 7 district championships, 4 district runner-ups, and 11 regional appearances in 18 years. He also served for 11 years as an assistant basketball coach under Mr. Don Ringstaff, a 2002 inductee into the KHSAA Hall of Fame. Including his years as an assistant coach, Mr. Riley made 22 coaching appearances in 2<sup>nd</sup> region tournaments in his 33 year career. He coached in 2<sup>nd</sup> region championship games on two occasions, as head coach in the 1977 baseball championship and in the 1978 basketball championship as an assistant coach.

There are 3 key points about Mr. Riley that I believe make him an excellent candidate for your consideration for the KHSAA Hall of Fame. These are: 1) his dedication to one school's athletic program and community for 33 years. His career accomplishments were based on building a winning program from the ground up. In a world today where coaches are often seen relocating and following the talent, prestige, and the monetary rewards that come with coaching in a larger school, Mr. Riley never considered doing that. No doubt he could have followed that path if he had chosen to do so. Instead, his heart and loyalty were with his home school and community where he grew up, attended school, and played sports himself. In today's environment, I believe the days of seeing a person serve as a coach and administrator in one school for this long will become even rarer over time; 2) his role as a teacher and educator made his influence extend well beyond athletics. His example and positive influence he provided for thousands of students, not just those involved in athletics, cannot be overstated. He constantly stressed the need for students to challenge themselves and succeed academically. He was a great motivator who made people believe in themselves and aspire to reach higher goals. Mr. Riley taught sportsmanship, morals and values not only by words but more importantly, by example; 3) his high standards of personal excellence in everything he did during his career. Mr. Riley was very concerned with his school and community being represented in a positive manner. He held everyone around him to this standard, including students, players, coaches, and staff members. For nearly his entire career, he maintained his own baseball fields, sometimes even using his own mower and equipment. He donated a countless and untold number of volunteer hours to Livingston Central High School for which he was never compensated. He kept his bus driving credentials for his entire career so he could transport his teams and save transportation costs, so more funds would be available to spend on the student athlete. In today's world, I see men with the work ethic, dedication, selflessness, longevity, and commitment as displayed by Mr. Mike Riley for 33 years as a quickly vanishing breed.

The mission of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association reads "The KHSAA shall establish and deliver the highest quality interscholastic programs and activities in an efficient manner which emphasizes sportsmanship and integrity and enhances the education of the student athlete." Mr. Mike Riley lived and carried out this mission for 33 years in his service to Livingston Central High School, its students, athletes, and community. For this reason, I urge you to give his nomination to the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame the utmost consideration.

Sincerely,

Darryl Chittenden

Superintendent, Livingston County Schools

## Mike Riley Career- Timeline

1966-67	Started basketball playing career as an 8 <sup>th</sup> grader at Livingston Central High School.
1967-68	Started playing career as a 9 <sup>th</sup> grader at Livingston Central High School. He played on the basketball team.
1968-69	10 <sup>th</sup> grader at Livingston Central High School. He played on the basketball team.
1969-70	11 <sup>th</sup> grader at Livingston Central High School. He played on the basketball and baseball teams. The baseball team won the 5 <sup>th</sup> District Championship and was 1 <sup>st</sup> Region Runner-Up
1970-71	12 <sup>th</sup> grader at Livingston Central High School. He played on the basketball and baseball teams. The baseball team won the 5 <sup>th</sup> District Championship and was1st Region Runner-Up. The basketball team was District Runner-Up.
1973-74	While a student at Murray State University, coached 7 <sup>th</sup> grade basketball at Salem Elementary, a K-8 elementary in Livingston County School District.
1974-75	Still a student at MSU, coached 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade basketball at Salem Elementary.
1975-76	Returned to Livingston Central to teach Industrial Arts after earning his degree at Murray State, starting a 33 year career at the school, all of which were involved with athletics. He was an assistant basketball coach under Don Ringstaff (2002 KHSAA Hall of Fame Inductee).
1976-77	Continued as assistant basketball coach and became head baseball coach. The baseball team won the 5 <sup>th</sup> District Championship and was the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Region Runner-Up. The basketball team won the first of four consecutive 5 <sup>th</sup> District titles.
1977-78	Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The basketball team won the second of four consecutive 5 <sup>th</sup> District titles and was the Runner-Up in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Region Tournament. The baseball team was district runner-up.
1978-79	Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The basketball team won the third of four consecutive 5 <sup>th</sup> District titles.

1979-80 Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The basketball team won their fourth consecutive 5<sup>th</sup> District title. The baseball team was District Runner-Up. 1980-81 Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The baseball team won the 5<sup>th</sup> District championship and was Regional Runner-up. 1981-82 Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The basketball team was Runner-Up in the 5<sup>th</sup> District tournament. Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The basketball 1982-83 team won the 5<sup>th</sup> District title and also the Baseball team did as well. The basketball team made it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional semi-finals. The baseball team was Regional Runner-Up. 1983-84 Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The basketball team won the 5<sup>th</sup> District title and made it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional semi-finals. The baseball team was District Runner-Up. 1984-85 Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. This was the first year in the new high school in Smithland. The baseball team was District-Runner-Up. 1985-86 Continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. This was Mr. Riley's last year to coach with Don Ringstaff who retired from coaching at the end of the season. 1986-87 Mr. Riley was selected to be the Head Basketball Coach and finished as the 5<sup>th</sup> District Runner-Up and also reached the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Semi-Finals. He continued as Baseball Head Coach and won the 5<sup>th</sup> District title. Continued as Head Basketball and Baseball coaches. His team won the 5<sup>th</sup> District 1987-88 Title in baseball.

1988-89	Continued as Head Basketball and Baseball coaches. His team won the 5 <sup>th</sup> District Title in baseball.
1989-90	Continued as Head Basketball and Baseball coaches.
1990-91	Continued as Head Basketball and Baseball coaches.
1991-92	Continued as Head Basketball coach. He announced his retirement in Baseball effective at the end of the season and went out with his <u>seventh</u> 5 <sup>th</sup> District Title in baseball.
1992-93	Continued as Head Basketball Coach and won the 5 <sup>th</sup> District Title.
1993-94	Continued as Head Basketball Coach and won his second consecutive 5 <sup>th</sup> District Title and was a Regional semi-finalist. Assumed duties as the school's Athletic Director and KHSAA Board appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
1994-95	Continued as Head Basketball Coach and Athletic Director/Board Appointed Rep and was Runner-Up in the 5 <sup>th</sup> District Tournament.
1995-96	Continued as Head Basketball Coach and Athletic Director/Board Appointed Rep
1996-97	Became Assistant Principal but continued as Head Basketball Coach and Athletic Director/Board Appointed Rep and announced his retirement from coaching at the end of the season.
1997-98	Was hired as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
1998-99	Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
1999-00	Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
2000-01	Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
2001-02	Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.

the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
 Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
 Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central. He was instrumental in forming a Girls Volleyball Team at LCHS.
 Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as

Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as

- 2005-06 Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.
- 2006-07 Continued as the Principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central. He returned to the Baseball team as the Head Coach.
- 2007-08 Announced his retirement as the Principal of Livingston Central High School effective at the end of the school year. He remained as Head Baseball Coach and continued as the KHSAA Board Appointed Rep for Livingston Central.

#### **Summary**

2002-03

<u>Asst. Basketball Coach-</u> 11 years; <u>Head Basketball Coach-</u> 11 years; <u>Head Baseball Coach-</u> 18 years.

<u>Baseball/Basketball Head Coach</u>--- 7 district championships and 4 district runner-ups. He made 11 regional appearances in 18 years. Including years as assistant coach, he made 22 coaching appearances in regional tournaments.

Athletic Director- 4 years

Board Appointed Rep- 15 years

Principal- 11 years

Involved with KHSAA Athletics at Livingston Central- 33 years



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Quin Sutton Superintendent Diane Still
Supervisor of Instruction

# Lyon County Schools

July 12, 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation on behalf of Mike Riley so that he may be considered as an inductee to the KHSAA Hall of Fame. Mr. Riley was involved in athletics for over 33 years either as a multi-sports coach, athletic director, board appointed representative to KHSAA, assistant principal, and/or as principal at Livingston Central High School. In addition, Mr. Riley participated in athletics as a student in the same school system. It is highly unusual for an individual to play sports in high school, and then devote their entire career, much of which was largely invested in athletics, to the same school system. Mr. Riley was truly a champion for Livingston Central High School students and to all their athletic programs.

As a student Mr. Riley began playing basketball as an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at Livingston Central High School. He continued playing basketball at Livingston Central High School throughout his high school career. In addition, he played baseball his junior and senior year. During his basketball and baseball career, Mr. Riley's teams found success at the district and regional levels.

While in college, Mr. Riley served as the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball coach at Salem Elementary located in Livingston County. After graduation from Murray State University, Mr. Riley was hired as an Industrial Arts teacher and began his 33 year career serving the students of Livingston Central and promoting athletics in the district.

Mr. Riley began his coaching career as an assistant basketball coach under the direction of 2002 KHSAA Hall of Fame inductee Don Ringstaff. He continued to serve as Coach Ringstaff's assistant until the retirement of Coach Ringstaff in 1986. Then, Mr. Riley was named as head basketball coach in 1986 and served in that capacity through the 1996-97 school year, when he was named as principal of Livingston Central High School.

While serving as assistant and head basketball coach, Mr. Riley also served as head baseball coach from 1976 through 1992. While serving in the capacity of baseball and basketball



Quin Sutton Superintendent

Diane Still
Supervisor of Instruction

# Lyon County Schools

coach, Mr. Riley's teams were very successful by winning several district championships as well as district runners up and making it as far as the regional runners up.

In 1993, Mr. Riley began his administrative career by becoming the Livingston Central High School's athletic director and KHSAA board appointed representative for the school, while still serving as the head basketball coach. In the 1996-97 school year, Mr. Riley was named as assistant principal of Livingston Central High School, but continued as the athletic director, board appointed representative to KHSAA and head basketball coach. At the end that school year, Mr. Riley announced his retirement from coaching.

The next school year (1997-98), Mr. Riley was named as principal of Livingston Central High School where he served until his retirement in 2008. While serving as principal, he continued to be the board appointed representative to KHSAA. In the 2004-05 school year while serving as principal, Mr. Riley was instrumental in forming the girls volleyball team at Livingston Central High School. During the 2006-07 and 2007-08 school year while serving as principal, Mr. Riley also reassumed the responsibility as head baseball coach.

As a high school basketball and baseball player myself from 1980-84, my teams played against the teams coached by Mr. Riley at Livingston Central High School. Then, as I began teaching, coaching, and serving in various administrative roles, my teams also competed against Mr. Riley's teams. Even though Mr. Riley taught his players to win and be competitive, Mr. Riley most importantly taught his players how to live life beyond sports through teaching sportsmanship, how to accept winning but also how to accept losing, and being a friend to his players/students.

As I mentioned earlier, it is very unusual to see an individual dedicating their entire life to one school system and to the athletics of one high school as Mr. Riley did throughout his career. For these reasons, I hope you give consideration to Mike Riley as a candidate for the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sincerely

Quin Sutton

Lyon County Schools

Superintendent



## Livingston Central High School

750 U.S. 60 West Smithland, Kentucky 42081 Phone (270) 928-2065 Fax (270) 928-2066

SCOTT GRAY Principal

STEPHANIE RICE Assistant Principal

July 17, 2012

SHAWNEE PACE Secretary

ANGIE McGEE Guidance Counselor

Dear Selection Committee:

This letter is written in support of Mr. Michael Riley for induction in the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. I have known Mr. Michael Riley for over thirty years, so I feel like I know him well enough to make accurate statements regarding his character, values and overall commitment to the academic and athletic contributions he has made to the Livingston County School system.

Mr. Michael Riley's contributions span a time period over four decades. He started playing basketball at Livingston Central High School as an eighth grader in 1966. He continued to play on the basketball and baseball teams throughout his high school career. He was a valuable and contributing member and asset to many of the basketball and baseball teams that secured several 5th district championships and many regional runner up titles.

After graduating from Livingston Central in 1971, Mr. Riley continued his education pursing a teaching degree at Murray State University and began his coaching career in Livingston County at the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade level. In 1975, Mr. Riley began his teaching career at Livingston Central High School in Industrial Arts and became the boys assistant coach under Mr. Don Ringstaff (2002 KHSAA Hall of Fame Inductee).

In 1976, Mr. Riley continued as assistant basketball coach and head baseball coach. The baseball team won the district title and region runner-up under his reign the first year. In 1986, Mr. Riley was selected as head basketball coach after Mr. Don Ringstaff retired from his coaching position. He continued to be head basketball and baseball coach until 1992 when he announced his resignation as head baseball coach at the end of the season. He secured seven district baseball titles and regional appearances during his tenure as head baseball coach.



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750 U.S. 60 West Smithland, Kentucky 42081 Phone (270) 928-2065 Fax (270) 928-2066

SCOTT GRAY Principal

STEPHANIE RICE Assistant Principal SHAWNEE PACE Secretary

ANGIE McGEE Guidance Counselor

From 1992 until 1996, Mr. Riley continued his head coaching position in basketball at Livingston Central. He secured two district titles and a district runner up title during this time frame.

In 1996, Mr. Riley was selected as assistant principal, athletic director and KHSAA board appointed rep of Livingston Central High School and continued to be the head coach of the boy's basketball team. In 1997, Mr. Riley was hired as the principal of Livingston Central High School. He continued his position as the KHSAA board appointed representative and announced his retirement of coach of the boy's basketball team. In 2006, Mr. Riley coached again as the head coach of the varsity baseball team. In 2007, Mr. Riley remained head coach of the varsity baseball team and announced his retirement from education and coaching effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school-year.

### In summary,

- o Assistant Basketball coach 11 years
- Head Basketball coach 11 years
- o Head Baseball coach 18 years

#### Baseball/Basketball Head Coaching

- 7 District championships
- o 4 district Runner-ups
- o 11 Regional appearances (in 18 years)

Athletic Director 4 years

Board appointed representative 15 years

Principal 11 years

22 Regional Appearances in regional tournaments (including assistant coaching)

Involved with KHSAA athletics at Livingston Central 33 years



## Livingston Central High School

750 U.S. 60 West Smithland, Kentucky 42081 Phone (270) 928-2065 Fax (270) 928-2066

SCOTT GRAY Principal

STEPHANIE RICE Assistant Principal SHAWNEE PACE Secretary

ANGIE McGEE Guidance Counselor

As a player, teacher or administrator, Mr. Michael Riley has given much time and devotion to the athletic program of Livingston Central High School. His accomplishments have put me in awe of his dedication to the overall function of the athletic program at Livingston Central High School for years. Just to accomplish what he has done while working on his master's degree and rank I degree is mind-boggling. I trust his overall performance and accomplishments will be taken seriously in the decision making process of this prestigious recognition.

If additional information is needed, please contact me at (270)-928-2065 or scott.gray@livingston.kyschools.us

Respectfully,

Scott Gray, Principal

Livingston Central High School

730 Gillum Road Grand Rivers, Kentucky 42045 September 27, 2012

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Attn: Nominations 2280 Executive Drive Lexington, Kentucky 40505

Dear Screening/Selection Committee Members:

It is indeed my privilege and my honor to prepare this letter in support of Mr. Michael E. Riley as a nominee for induction into the Dawahares/Kentucky High School Athletic Association Sports Hall of Fame. I have known Mr. Riley for more that four decades both professionally and as a family friend. When I pause to consider this nomination process, I can think of no one that would be more deserving or that would be a better match for the qualifications for this prestigious honor than Michael Riley.

Since childhood, his athletic interests and skills have been more than noteworthy. His participation in the high school sports of basketball and baseball laid the groundwork for a career spanning 33 years, not only as a dedicated educator, but also a skilled and loyal high school basketball and baseball coach. And, to this day, there is not a truer, more loyal fan of Livingston Central High School athletics than Michael Riley.

There may be other deserving nominees for this honor with perhaps just a few more "w's" in the win/lose column, but I dare say that there are none more dedicated, loyal and committed. Also, I think it worthy to mention that one can see from the successes of many of his former players and students that they learned far more from Mr. Riley than just how to play the game.

I am not certain what the organizers of this nomination process would consider as the primary category for this nomination, but I can certainly vouch for his credibility as an athlete, coach, and contributor. I find Mr. Riley and his significantly long career can certainly be defined by good sportsmanship, ethical conduct, the highest moral character, hard work, and a never ending love for his family.

It is without reservation that I can recommend Mr. Michael E. Riley. I believe him to be an extremely worthy candidate for your consideration as an inductee into the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Respectfully,

Jack Monroe

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Retired Administrator, Livingston County Schools

### To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Mr. Mike Riley being nominated into the KHSAA Hall of Fame. The reason that I am writing this letter is that Mr. Rilev not only has been a coach to me, but has been my boss, my fellow coach, and most importantly my mentor and friend. I would like to just write this letter showing my support of Mr. Riley being nominated for this prestigious award. I first got to know Mr. Riley when I was just a young kid and even then he was able to touch my life in that he allowed me and my best friend to be the ball boys for the basketball team during the district tournament. That may not sound like much but to a young kid it meant the world and he has done this for several students over the years. I then had the privilege to be able to go through the basketball system and play for him throughout my high school career. He taught me so many things about the game of basketball but also taught me about the game of life to which I would find out was so much more important. After I graduated college he gave me the opportunity to become a teacher and a basketball coach and baseball coach as well. He helped to groom me into the person that I am today and I am forever grateful for what he has done for me over the years. When I talk about Mr. Riley I can't say really anything else but that he loved his family and his school and devoted everything to making it successfull. He was successful as a coach and also as a teacher and principal in that he touched so many lives over the years and helped our school to prosper. I have already talked about the opportunity of him being my coach and my boss but I also had the privilege to coach beside him before he retired and it was something that I enjoyed greatly and will never forget. We coached baseball together and when talking about baseball you can't help but talk about the love that he had for the game and for the schools success in the sport. He won numerous district titles as the coach and also helped build the baseball field with his own hands and really made it his pride and joy. He would always take care of the field and make sure that it was in the best shape possible and was something that every school admired when they came to play at Livingston. I could go on an on about the great things that Mr. Riley has done but what I want to leave you with is that he is a person who had a passion for changing peoples lives and he was Livingston Central for many years. He had a deep passion for his school and in turn all of the teachers and students had that deep passion as well because we knew that we were behind a great leader. He is the epitamy of leadership and pride at Livingston Central and I would really like for you to consider him for this great honor. Again he has touched my life and I am only one of many. He is a great man and a great mentor and friend to me and I will never forget what he has done for my life so I hope that he gets the credit he deserves for all of his years of hard work and faithfulness to our county and school system.

Sincerely,

Matt Hargrove

I would like to support the nomination of Mike Riley from Livingston Central High School to the KHSAA Hall of Fame. I have known Mike for over thirty five years both as an opposing coach and fellow athletic director and principal. I have always had the greatest respect for him as a person and school official. Over his thirty three teaching career, Mike has achieved many successes in athletics as his record speaks for itself. Coming from a small school, Mike was not always blessed with the most athletic talents but his teams were always fundamentally sound and competitive .Please consider his loyalty to his school and community when he could have gone to other schools with more talent .

Respectfully

Mike K. Duncan

Former coach, athletic director, and principal at West Hopkins H. S. and Hopkins County Central H. S.