

### Dixie Heights Golonels Basketball

3010 Dixie Highway Ft. Mitchell, Ky. 41017 (606) 341-7650 Head Coach - Scott Draud



August 13, 2002

Dawahares- KHSAA Hall of Fame 2280 Executive Drive Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Selection Committee Member:

Permit me to recommend Coach Ken Shields to your attention as a potential member of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. No other high school basketball coach from the Northern Kentucky area would be as deserving to enter the hall of fame as Coach Shields. He has coached for thirty-seven years in full, twenty-three on the high school level, fourteen on the collegiate level. Ken is a great coach. He has the peculiar talent for the efficient and effective use of practice. He understands what the particular aims of practice are, and how they contribute to the polish and skill of the whole game. During games, he concentrates with rare speed and power, both tactically and strategically, always calm under pressure. Between both levels of basketball, he has amassed an amazing 725 wins. Ken's credentials on both levels are unparalled by any other coach in the history of Northern Kentucky basketball.

Some of Ken's highlights as a high school coach at both St. Thomas High School (ten seasons) and at Highlands High School (thirteen seasons) are as follows:

- Northern Kentucky's All-Time Winningest Coach 460-257
- Posted Fifteen-20 Win Seasons
- Won five 9<sup>th</sup> Region Titles (Tied For All-Time 9<sup>th</sup> Region Record)
- .642 Winning Percentage
- Five Kentucky Sweet 16 Tournament Appearances

After Ken's superlative high school coaching career, he took over a stagnant program at Northern Kentucky University, building a national power in the highly competitive Great Lakes Valley Conference. His accomplishments at Northern have been equally as impressive as his high school coaching accolades. As he enters his fifteenth season at NKU, a few of his collegiate highlights follows:

- Division II Bulletin National Coach of The Year (1994-95)
- 265-149 in 14 Years With The Norse
- Coached in Back-to Back Division II National Championship Games (95,96)
- NABC Great Lakes Region Coach of The Year (1996)
- GLVC Champion (1996)



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As successful as Coach Shields has been on the court, off the court has been, perhaps, his greatest life achievement. Ken is at once a proud and modest person; he is loyal, honest, and considerate. He has respect for what sport can do for the young, unmarred by any of the modern obsessions with winning alone. His life priorities have always been in the proper perspective: God first, family second, school third, and basketball fourth. Coach Shields is loved and revered by former players, assistant coaches, the community, and schools with whom he has been associated. Many of his former players have chosen teaching and coaching as a career, following in his footsteps. Coach Shields gives back to the community. For nearly forty years, Coach Shields has devoted his time refereeing basketball games at Covington Turners Youth Basketball League, helping promote basketball for Northern Kentucky. Ken has an uncanny ability to connect with his players, not only reaching their potential, but also often exceeding it. Coach Shields is truly great person and coach, and he has been a boon to all people who have had the chance to draw upon his counsel and example. Simply put, Coach Shields is the embodiment of Northern Kentucky basketball.

Please consider Coach Ken Shields as you review potential candidates to enter the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Indeed, this Northern Kentucky coaching legend is deserving of this honor. As a former player under Coach Shields, and as a current member of the KHSAA Hall of Fame, I commend Coach Ken Shields without qualification.

Best Regards,

Scott M. Draud Asst. Principal

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame 2280 Enterprise Drive Lexington, KY 40505

Hall of Fame Committee:

I would like to recommend Robert Kenney Shields for induction into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Kenney is currently the Head Basketball Coach of Northern Kentucky University.



I have known Kenney since 1957 when I began school at Covington Catholic High School. We played baseball and basketball together for three years at Covington Catholic.

After his graduation from the University of Dayton in 1964 and my graduation from Louisiana State University in 1966, we began coaching basketball together at St. Thomas High School in Ft. Thomas, KY.

Our relationship has continued since then in coaching, but more significantly as good friends. We have raised our families together and now enjoy the fruits of grandchildren and experience our children and grandchildren continuing the relationship that Kenney and I have shared throughout the years.

Kenney's record in basketball speaks for itself. He is the all time leader in coaching wins in the Ninth Region. He has led five teams to the Sweet Sixteen. He continues to be very successful at the college level.

I feel the main reason he should be inducted into this Hall of Fame is that he epitomizes the family man, teacher and coach role model that is what all parents would like their children to experience in their education.

Kenney has not only been a winning coach but he has taught thousands of students and players, through his example, what it means to be a man, a husband, a father and a teacher. I have observed this as Kenney's assistant coach, as his friend, and by the fact that my son played basketball for Kenney at Highlands (1980-1984).

I could not think of a better man to honor in this Hall of Fame. He has not only taught the ideals and values that are most important in our society, but he has lived them in a way that has touched many young people.

I recommend Robert Kenney Shields for induction into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

With Best Regards,

Dick Maile



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## **University/School Partnerships** (859) 572-5727

September 3, 2002

Dear Ken,

It is my pleasure to nominate Kenney Shields to become a member of the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Ken has excellent credentials and would bring honor to the Hall of Fame.

I have included the nomination form and appropriate letters of recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jorf E. Draud, Ed. D.

Director, School/University Partnerships



August 30, 2002

#### Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Committee

This letter is written in support of Kenney Shields, the Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach at Highlands High School from 1975 to 1987. I have known Kenney for 27 years and he is a wonderful man. He is honest, truthful, caring, and extremely knowledgeable about the game of basketball. Kenney is a fine family man who has a deep spiritual belief – not a man who simply attends church, but one who lives this way of life daily. In simple terms, he walks his talk.

I was fortunate to serve as Kenney's assistant varsity coach for 13 years at Highlands High School. During that time, Kenney never missed a day of teaching classes, a day of practice, or a game. Before every practice, a "quote of the day" was included on the practice schedule and posted on the wall of the gym. This phrase was not about basketball, but a message about life and becoming a better person. He would take a few minutes every practice to discuss the quote. He constantly stressed the importance of character, honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, cooperation, and commitment. Kenney wanted his players to be good sons, good citizens, good employees and, eventually, good parents. He was always positive. He wanted them to strive to be the best they could be.

Kenney Shields is definitely a competitor. During his 13 years as head coach at Highlands, his teams qualified for the regional tournament each year, and won five 9<sup>th</sup> Region titles. Kenney still, after all these years, has more wins to his credit than any other 9<sup>th</sup> Region coach, past or present. One of his favorite quotes is "Winning is not the ultimate, but the WILL to win is." He always included basketball drills to develop skills and firmly believed that the same skills that make you a better basketball player would also make you a productive citizen and family man. He always put the athlete first and winning a distant second. In those coaching years with Kenney, we always huddled in front of the bench before tipoff (both players and coaches), and he would say "You know we love you." I truly hope you give serious consideration to the induction of Kenney Shields into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

William E. Petty

Former Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach

Highlands High School

Dawahares – KHSAA Hall of Fame 2280 Executive Drive Lexington, KY 40505

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Kenney Shields, former head basketball coach at Highlands High School in Ft. Thomas, is being nominated for membership in the Dawahares – KHSAA Hall of Fame. I have been asked to provide a letter of support. It is a pleasure for me to honor the request.

On July 1, 1975, I became superintendent of the Ft. Thomas Independent school district. Coach Shields became a teacher and the head coach of the boy's basketball team at the beginning of the 1975-76 school year. He continued to serve in both capacities through the 1987-88 school year. Throughout his tenure as a teacher/coach at Highlands, he brought honor, success, high ideals and standards to the entire school district and served as an exemplary role model to his fellow teachers and to the students.

This letter of support will not contain information about his numerous accomplishments as a head coach because these will be addressed in the completed nomination form. I want to address the contributions he made to the overall atmosphere at Highlands and to the entire student body. Too often, coaches limit their spheres of influence to those students who are members of a particular athletic team. This was not true of Coach Shields. Whenever the principal needed assistance in dealing with any student who misbehaved, he could always count on Coach Shields to assist him. A counseling session with the wayward student or a pat on the back from Coach Shields oftentimes proved more beneficial than the same action from the principal, his assistant or a counselor. Since Coach Shields was so visible in the hallways prior to the beginning of the school day, in the cafeteria at lunch time or during most extra and co-curricular activities, all students knew him and he knew most of them by name. Consequently, his influence on students reached far beyond the basketball court.

Since Coach Shields was such a team player, he oftentimes influenced what positions teachers would take on issues and concerns that impacted the entire operation at the high school. He was able to accomplish this in such a manner that he was not perceived by his fellow teachers as a part of the school's leadership. His settling influence and demeanor served the entire high school environment in a most positive manner. When he left Highlands, his presence was greatly missed.

Under Coach Shield's tutelage and instructorship, Scott Draud became one of Kentucky's most outstanding and premier basketball players. Coupled with the influence of Scott's parents and Coach Shield's dedication, Scott is an outstanding individual, parent, professional educator and coach. Likewise, there are many former students at Highlands who were influenced by Coach Shields and encouraged to stay in school through graduation who are now contributing members to society.

When the 2002 high school boy's regional basketball tournament was being played, three of the four coaches in the semi-finals had been associated with Coach Shields and had been greatly influenced by his wise counsel and sage advise. These included Coach Listerman at Covington Catholic, Coach Draud at Dixie Heights and Coach Missmer at Highlands. Each was a credit to his team and to the school he served. Much of the credit for their success as teachers and coaches can be attributed to what they had learned from Coach Shields.

I am honored to be able to provide this letter of support. And, the Dawahares – KHSAA Hall of Fame will be greatly enriched with the addition of Kenney Shields. I look forward to the opportunity to attend his induction into this illustrious organization.

Sincerely Yours,

Fred D. Williams, Superintendent (Retired)

Ft. Thomas Independent School District

Ken Shields

25 Scenic View Drive Ft. Thomas, KY 41075 Phone: 859.781.1161

Cell: 859.801.6137

email: kenneyandmarie@fuse.net

St. Thomas High School (1965-1975)Wins-199

Highlands High School (1975-1988)**Wins-261** 

Northern Kentucky University (1988-2004)Wins 306

Total Wins-766

JUN9, 2008

Brigid,

MANY thanks to All that voted me into the prestigious

DAWHARES/KHSNA HAll OF FAME.

MY 23 head coaching high school CARRER YEARS WERE TRUIT

Wondenful. MY 16 Year TENURE AS the NKU HEAD coach were Also

Veal Special.

Enclosed is My Bio. The GOV7 photographs will be

Forthcomins.

UNFORTVALTEN, MY WIKE, Some children and grandchildren will be on Vacation and will have to Miss the golf scramble.

Siwcere/Y, Hilds

## Ken Shields

#### **Ken Shields**

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Cell: 859.801.6137

email: kenneyandmarie@fuse.net

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**Total Wins-766** 

JUNE, 2008

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MANY thanks FOR All who SAW Fit to vote FOR MY
induction into the prestisions Dawhores / KHSAA HALL OF Fame.
UNFORTUNETH, MY Wife, Some children and grandchildren
Will be in SAN Diego on VACATION ON JUNE 17.
Good luck with the scramble.

Since RelV, Kenshells

# Ken Shields

**Ken Shields** 

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**Total Wins-766** 

Sept 5, 08

Enclosed are some photographor from my first KH5AA State
Tournament at Rupp in March (1979). My first of five trips (29,82,83,81,87)
to the tournament. 1979 was the first State Tournament held in large. Special!
Showealready forwarded my bio.

Sooking forward to agril 11.

Sincordy,
for Mille

P.S. Say hello to Larry & Julian - too former GLVC Office!

## Ken Shields