

Craynor Slone is a 1954 graduate of Wayland High School and a 1961 graduate of Morehead State University. Slone coached high school basketball for 32 years with over 500 wins. Slone's coaching tenure included jobs at St. Catherine High School, Trimble County, Henry County, Caldwell County, Carlisle County, Ashland, Betsy Layne and Fort Knox. His teams were noted for their offensive efficiency and man-to-man defense. Fifteen of his former players became head coaches in high school basketball. Slone worked for 30 years in Don Lane's Transylvania Basketball Camp as an instructor and supervisor.

His 1982 Carlisle County Team won the first Class "A" Tournament before that tournament became a state wide tournament. Slone's 1983 Carlisle County Team was state runner-up, losing 35 to 33 in 3 overtimes to Lexington Henry Clay. Carlisle County was the crowd favorite and that state championship game is still considered as one of the greatest state tournament final games of all time.

Slone's 1983 Carlisle County Team won 40 and lost 4. They were ranked number 26 in the nation and were 19-0 in the regular season and 19-4 in tournament play. Slone is a two-time Paducah Sun coach of the year. He was the Courier-Journal and Lexington Herald coach of the year in 1983. He coached the Kentucky All Stars to a sweep over the Indiana All Stars in 1984. He was named one of the top coaches of the 1980's. Slone was named to the KABC Court of Honor in 2006.

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To whom it may concern,

I am recommending that Craynor Slone be admitted to the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame. He should be considered for his outstanding accomplishments in coaching basketball. I personally played for Coach Slone and attribute much of my success as an individual and as professional, to the discipline and hard work ethic he instilled into me.

Coach Slone has not coached in Region One since 1993 but his legacy lives on through the players he once coached. Six of the sixteen different schools in Region One are represented by at least one former player from his program at Carlisle County. In 2003, the Region One semi-finals were played with three of the four represented schools having at least two former players, as either a Head Coach or Assistant Coach.

The 1983 Comet basketball team was an example to every small school in the state of what hard work and dreams could accomplish. Coach Slone built a program that is still one the most competitive and draws one of the largest crowds each year despite a small enrollment. Coach Slone accomplished this without recruiting or bending the rules. Every player from the 1982 and 1983 teams that combine to win 70 games and lost only 9 were players that were all born and raised in Carlisle County.

I feel honored to have had the opportunity to play for Craynor Slone. I feel he would be very deserving of a spot in the Hall of Fame for his lifelong accomplishments to basketball in the state of Kentucky.

Thank you,



Burlin Brower

September 18, 2003

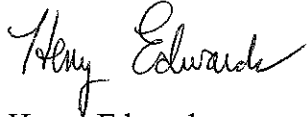
To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in reference to the recommendation of Craynor Slone for his induction into the Kentucky High School Basketball Hall of Fame. I have known Coach Slone for a number of years and his record speaks for itself. When he coached at Carlisle County he had a major impact on First Region Basketball. His teams always played with discipline and they always portrayed this characteristic off the court. Craynor was probably the best defensive coach in the state of Kentucky at one time. When I coached at Hickman County I always patterned my defensive scheme around his. I did this because his philosophy was always successful.

Craynor was not only an excellent coach and motivator but also a good friend. I have watched him many times go out of his way to help or give advice to a new coach. Coach Slone is always willing to share ideas to help someone's program.

In conclusion, the magical 1983 Carlisle County team was a prime example of Craynor Slone's philosophy. Hard work, defense, and discipline are key ingredients to success on and off the court and he taught this everyday. I feel Coach Slone would be a definite asset to the Hall of Fame and would appreciate his consideration.

Respectfully,

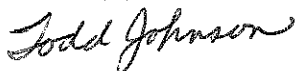
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Edwards".

Henry Edwards
Head Boys Basketball Coach: 1991-1999
Teacher/Athletic Director: 2001-Present
Hickman County High School

To KHSAA Hall Of Fame,

I am writing you concerning one of our state's great basketball coaches, Craynor Slone. He was a boys coach for many years in our state. His career covered many different schools, but he's probably best known for being the coach of the 1982-83 Carlisle County Comets who advanced to the state finals that year, won 40 basketball games, and lost to Lexington Henry Clay in one of the greatest basketball games in state finals history. He has won over 500 games. He was known as a tough teacher of man-to-man defense. He invented a well-known offense that he called "pick offense." He is well-known, and well-respected among the circles of coaches throughout the state. He was a good player in high school himself, playing for the Waylon Wasps. There he was a former teammate of "King" Kelly Coleman. I can't think of a better nominee for the KHSAA Hall of Fame this year than Craynor Slone, I hope that you can give him your best considerations.

Sincerely yours,



**Todd Johnson
Teacher and Golf Coach
Hickman County High School
Clinton, Ky, 42031
270-653-4044
tjohnson@hickman.k12.ky.us**

It is my pleasure to nominate Craynor Slone to the Kentucky Basketball Hall of Fame for 2004.

Coach Slone has been a personal friend of mine for the last 26 years. He came to Carlisle County in 1978 as the new Basketball coach. At the end of his fifth year at the Comet helm, he had masterminded the Comet drive to the finals of the Kentucky High School Basketball Tournament. The 35 – 33 loss in three overtimes, to Lexington’s Henry Clay basketball team was a tragic loss for the Cinderella team. Which made the 1983 state championship game go down in sports history as one of the most classic games in Kentucky.

Notable records of this five years were 136 wins with only 37 losses for a 78.6 winning percentage.

1978 – 1979	20-12
1979 – 1980	24-7
1980 – 1981	22-9
1981 – 1982	30-5
1982 – 1983	40-4

The 40-4 record of the 82 – 83 year will stand as a basketball record for all times as rules were changed and teams cannot play that many games in one year.

Coach Slone received the 1983 First Region Coach of the Year Award, the Courier-Journal Coach of the Year Award and the Lexington Herald-Leader’s State Coach of the Year trophy he received all 39 votes for this award. Keith York and Phillip Hall of the 1983 basketball squad were selected for the All-Tournament team and the Ted Sanford Award.

Coach Slone’s coaching technique was always ‘defense’. He was a master of this plan and his teams lost few games when these manuevers were followed. His methods of

coaching taught the young men to relay on each other to know where the basketball is at all times and watch each other for the open shots.

Coach Slone left the Comets at the end of the 1983 season. He returned to the Comet program for the 1988 – 1989 season and stayed until the 1991 season.

While defense and slowed down basketball is not what most fans like to see, but the Slone defense system, as it was often called was something to watch. In teaching these young men to believe in and rely on each other, he was also teaching the lessons of life. You have to believe in yourself and you have to rely on others many times of your life. Coach Slone's teams relied on a leader's knowledge of the game and leadership in perfecting a system that really does work, bonding with fellow teammates, for the good of all and seeing a plan work from beginning to end.

I watched from the side lines as one man took twelve individuals, cemented these together and dictated the outcome of the game. As Slone orchestrated the next play and then a small smile began as the play near completion then the ball go thru the goal, the crowd goes wild and you know you are watching a great coach.

As I watch Coach Slone direct these young players getting them to rely on each other, teaching them life's lessons. I thank God for men like Coach Slone who not only knows basketball, but he supports young people in their endeavors and encourages them to seek to be the best they can be.

Coach Slone took a small school team to the top of the mountain and did not just leave them there. He instilled pride in a whole rural county, the First Region and all parts of the great state of Kentucky as they showed all what playing with all HEART means.

Again for his style and confidence and his love of the game, I support Craynor Slone for the Kentucky Basketball Hall of Fame.

Burley Mathis
Retired Principal
Carlisle County High School
1967 – 1992

Heath High School

4330 Metropolis Lake Road, West Paducah, KY 42086

Barbara McGinty
Principal

Phone 270-538-4090
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Alan Warford
Guidance Counselor

Russ Tilford
Assistant Principal

Sheri Davis
Activities Director

To Whom It May Concern:

I am recommending that Craynor Slone be inducted in the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame. I strongly feel that Coach Slone is a worthy candidate for this honor. I coached basketball several years while at Lowes High School against Coach Slone in the First Region. His teams were always very competitive and well disciplined.

Listed below are a few of his accomplishments while coaching in the First Region from 1978-1983:

Record—136-37

1983—40-4

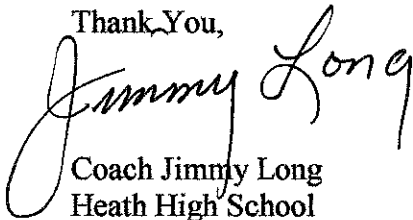
Runner-up in the State Tournament

Coach of the Year 1982 and 1983

Total record—500+ wins

I feel honored to be able to recommend Coach Slone to the Hall of Fame.

Thank You,


Coach Jimmy Long
Heath High School

June 11, 2009

Kentucky High School
Athletic Association
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

Dear Mr. Cope:

enclosed are the biographical sketches
and photos that you requested.
you may use the colored photo
on the plaque.

If you should need any other
information, please let me know.
my phone number is: (270) 642-2673.

Sincerely yours,

Craynor Stone

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~~Craynor Stone~~