

**MARCH 26, 2001
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

KENTUCKY'S RUTER TO ENTER NATIONAL HALL

Charlie Ruter of Louisville will become only the seventh Kentuckian inducted into the National High School Sports Hall of Fame, the NFHS announced March 20.

The class is the 19th group to be inducted into the Hall of Fame, which was started in 1982 by the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS) to honor athletes, coaches, contest officials, administrators and others for their extraordinary achievements and accomplishments in high school athletics.

Mr. Ruter has spent his professional career as an official, teacher, coach and administrator in Louisville. For 45 years, Ruter was the public-address announcer, referee and field judge for the KHSAA State Track & Field Meet. He has been the official scorer for the Boys' State Basketball Tournament since 1965 and the official scorer for the girls' event since 1992. In addition, Mr. Ruter served from 1958 to 1976 as the official scorer of the Kentucky-Indiana High School All-Star game.

Among Mr. Ruter's impressive credentials is his work with the United States Track & Field Federation. He was administrator of official selection for the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles and judged the Olympic games and Olympic trials. He also served in the same capacity for the 10th Pan American Games and was chief umpire for the games in 1987.

Joining Mr. Ruter will be Keith Jackson (Little Rock Parkview High School, AK), Wilbur Crisp (Little Falls High School, NY), Bob Ladouceur (Concord De La Salle High School, CA), Rich Jordan (Fennville High School, MI), Tanya Haave (Evergreen High School, CO), Charlie Adams (North Carolina High School Athletic Association), Barbara Twardus (Seattle Public Schools and the Washington Secondary Schools Athletic Administrators), Al Flischel (official from Missouri) and Colin Kapitan (official from South Dakota).

Mr. Ruter joins past Kentucky inductees Paul Hornung (1989), Geri Grigsby (1993), S.T. Roach (1996), Cliff Hagan (1988), William Kean (1993) and Garnis Martin (1994)

This year's class increases the number in the hall to 270. The induction ceremony will be held July 1, in Hawaii, to close the 82nd annual summer meeting of the NFHS.

HOPKINSVILLE GETS STATE FP TOURNAMENT

The Board of Control of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association has voted to award the City of Hopkinsville and

Tie-Breaker Park the 2002 and 2003 Girls' State Fast Pitch Softball Tournament.

The Board awarded the tournament following presentations made last Friday at its meeting in Bowling Green by representatives Owensboro, Jeffersontown and Hopkinsville.

Tie-Breaker Park is a newly constructed five-field facility that is set to open in April. It will be the first time the event will be held in Hopkinsville. This year's tournament is set for Skyview Park in Jeffersontown and will be played June 8-9.

Past State Fast Pitch Softball Tournament Sites:

- 1995 – Jack Fisher Park, Owensboro
- 1996 – Jack Fisher Park, Owensboro
- 1997 – Panther Creek Park, Owensboro
- 1998 – Skyview Park, Jeffersontown
- 1999 – Panther Creek Park, Owensboro
- 2000 – Skyview Park, Jeffersontown
- 2001 – Skyview Park, Jeffersontown
- 2002 – Tie-Breaker Park, Hopkinsville
- 2003 – Tie-Breaker Park, Hopkinsville

LEXINGTON CATHOLIC PUTBACK EARNS TITLE

After defeating tournament favorite Jackson County (54-39) in the quarterfinals and a tough Henderson County squad in the semifinals (53-45), Lexington Catholic picked up the school's second girls' state championship with a win on a last second-shot by Sarah Schell to defeat DuPont Manual, 36-34, to win the 2001 State Basketball Tournament in Diddle Arena last Saturday night before 3,841 fans.

Schell rebounded her own miss and then fired up the game-winner in dramatic fashion as the Knights won their second consecutive State Championship played in Diddle Arena. Lexington Catholic knocked off Assumption in 1999, 57-42.

Catholic trailed DuPont Manual by as many as 14 points as late as mid-way through the second quarter. The Lady Knights pulled to within nine at the half, but the real tide of the game turned when Lady Crimson's star Chelsea Thompson went down with just over three minutes remaining in the third quarter with a bad ankle sprain. At that point, Manual held a 24-22 lead, but without the play of Thompson, Lexington Catholic took control.

For complete tournament results, log on to the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org

Following are tournament honorees:

All-Tournament Team:

Chelsea Chowning (Lexington Catholic), Jade Perry (Muhlenberg North), Princess Wimsatt (Henderson Co.), Stacy Felchner (Allen Co.-Scottsville), Chelsey Thompson (DuPont Manual), Holly Mills (Muhlenberg North), Liz Plass (DuPont Manual), Katie Mendenhall (Lexington Catholic), Stephanie Isaacs (Hart Co.), Tara Boothe (Highlands), Tiffany Roaden (Jackson Co.), Brooke Fisher (Henderson Co.), Sara McKemie (DuPont Manual), Erin Brown (Scott Co.), Laura Shelton (Hart Co.).

MVP: Chelsea Chowning (Lexington Catholic)

J.B. Mansfield Award: Katie Schweggman (Bishop Brossart)

Ted Cook Tire Scholarship: Tiffany Roaden (Jackson Co.)

FirStar Bank of Bowling Green Scholarship: Cathy Day (West Carter)

GIRLS' BK ATTENDANCE SECOND-HIGHEST

Spurred by the 7,123 in attendance for Friday's quarterfinals (DuPont Manual vs. Allen Co.-Scottsville and Muhlenberg North vs. Hart Co.), the KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournament enjoyed its highest attendance for total attendance in Bowling Green and the second-highest at any venue with 35,201 total fans in attendance.

The previous record for Bowling Green was 35,075 total fans set back in 1996. The record is 40,425, set in Richmond last year. Final audited paid figures will be announced when they become available.

GENERALS RALLY TO WIN SIXTH BOYS' BK TITLE

The Lafayette Generals picked up the school's sixth Boys' State Basketball Tournament title with a come-from-behind 54-49 win over Male before 19,288 fans in Rupp Arena in Lexington.

Lafayette won in the school's first appearance in the event since 1979 when the Generals took home the big trophy after a 62-52 win over Christian County.

In the championship, it looked as if tournament favorite Male would vanish any continued Cinderella story Lafayette was trying to write. The Dogs built a 15-point lead with 3:56 left in the second quarter only to go ice cold in the second half with 21.7% field goal shooting and scoring only 18 points.

For complete tournament results, log on to the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org

Following are tournament honorees:

All-Tournament Team:

Larry O'Bannon (Male), Robert Madison (Lafayette), Teco Dickerson (Russellville), Mike Bush (Male), Quinton Smith (North Hardin), Coric Riggs (Fairdale), Maurice Hamilton (Russellville), LaVar Carter (Male), Jeremy Asher (Clay Co.), Mark Surgalski (Ashland Blazer), Richie Riley (South Laurel), Michael Haney (Madisonville-North Hopkins), Quinton Roberts (Lafayette), James Gentry (Lafayette), Cedric Burton (North Hardin).

MVP: Robert Madison (Lafayette)

Ted Sanford Award: John Haurly (Male)

Ted Cook Tire Scholarship: Nathan Valentine (South Laurel)

Bob Roberts Insurance Scholarship: Spencer Johnson (Madisonville-North Hopkins).

HOW TO GET INFO IN THE WEEKLY RELEASE

The KHSAA requests assistance from member schools and media outlets to aid in the compilation and dissemination of notes of interest, coaches association polls and upcoming events in all sports. Information should be forwarded to the KHSAA, attention Butch Cope, by 1 p.m. (ET) on Monday of each week. You may e-mail (bcope@khsaa.org) the information or fax it to the KHSAA at (859) 293-5999. Information will be reviewed and published at the discretion of the Association. The KHSAA strives to publicize all of its sports to the fullest extent and appreciates any and all assistance.

REMAINING KHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

May 11-12 - Slow Pitch Softball - TBA

May 31-June 2 - Boys' & Girls' Tennis - UK Boone/Downing Complex, Lexington

June 1-2 - Track & Field - UK Shively Track Complex, Lexington

June 8-9 - Fast Pitch Softball - Skyview Park, Jeffersontown

June 14-15 - Baseball - UK Cliff Hagan Stadium, Lexington

THE NEXT NEWS RELEASE WILL BE MON., APRIL 16