Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame

Class of 2021 Induction Banquet Saturday, January 8, 2022

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Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame, we are excited to welcome you to this very special evening. After a long wait due to Covid, it is with much excitement that we welcome 17 new members to the Hall of Fame. Each of these individuals stand for all that is good in athletics and all have made great contributions to their schools, communities and country. It is our hope that all supporters of athletics will respect and treasure the spirit of the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame and the positive influence that it and its members stand for. Values such as

sportsmanship, dedication, teamwork, honesty, loyalty, self-discipline and sacrifice will be recognized in each of these individuals. We thank you for your attendance tonight and for your continued support of the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame.

Greg Bell President,

Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame

BANQUET AGENDA

- ★ Music/Video Kristin Suter
- ★ Welcome Greg Bell
- ★ Master of Ceremonies Stan Gibby
- ***** Spotlight of Inductees Stan Gibby
- ★ Invocation Len Colvin
- ★ National Anthem
- \star Dinner
- **Dinner Music/Video** Kristin Suter
- ★ Introductions:
- * Board Member Recognition Greg Bell
- **★** Guests/Sponsorships Larry Morris
- **Scholarship Recipients** Greg Bell
- ★ Induction Ceremony

Stan Gibby, Greg Bell, Jason Bowen, Stacy Ledwell

- Response for Inductees Tom Esslinger
- ★ Closing Remarks Jason Bowen







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JACKSON COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME





Greg Bell President



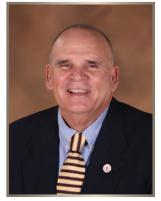
Larry Morris Vice-President



Jason Bowen Secretary



Robert Clemens Treasurer



Tony Baker



Bill Beard



Alicia Bell



Len Colvin



Russ Deerman



Stacy Ledwell



Don Webb

Congratulations

2021 Hall of Fame Inductees



Mayor McCamy, the City Council, & City of Scottsboro Employees congratulate you on this accomplishment!



Welcome from the Mayor of Scottsboro

On behalf of the City of Scottsboro and the Scottsboro City Council, we welcome you to the Goose Pond Colony Civic Center and the induction of the 2021 Class of The Jackson County Sports Hall of fame.

Congratulations to all of those who have been selected for the 2021 Class. Members of this class have received state and national recognition during their careers. Athletes and coaches from all different sports at the high school and college level are represented in this class.

Thank you to the committee who has worked very hard the last year to make tonight's event so special, and a night to remember. A special thanks goes to the Families of our inductees for their support during their careers and assistance in making this an extraordinary night for their loved ones.

Thank you for attending tonight and I hope you have an enjoyable evening as we reminisce, laugh and even shed a few tears.

Again, congratulations to the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2021.

Jim McCamy, Mayor City of Scottsboro



Marty Vernon

ffffffo

The Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame recognizes the outstanding contributions of Marty Vernon. Marty served as a board member from 2014 until his death in 2020. Marty was a selfless individual who loved the Hall of Fame and all that it stood for. We miss Marty and thank him and his family for what he meant to the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame.

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SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL Congratulates the inductees who have walked the halls of Scottsboro High School, mentoring students and preserving tradition.

Roy Anderson Dr. Clyde Butler Dr. David Campbell Tom Esslinger Holland Floyd Ben Hunt Tom McCrary



Dr. Morris Seymour Bobby Talley Ronnie Thompson William Commodore "Bill" Wood, Jr. Rupert Wright Heath Zapf

THE REAL PROPERTY OF

Inductees



David Campbell



CLASS OF 2021

Butch Cassidy



Bill Elder



Tom Esslinger



Roy Anderson

Holland Floyd



Clyde Butler

Ben Hunt





Ricky Ragsdale



Morris Seymour



Bobby Talley



Ronnie Thompson



William Wood Jr.



Rupert Wright



Heath Zapf



Pat Patterson Contributor

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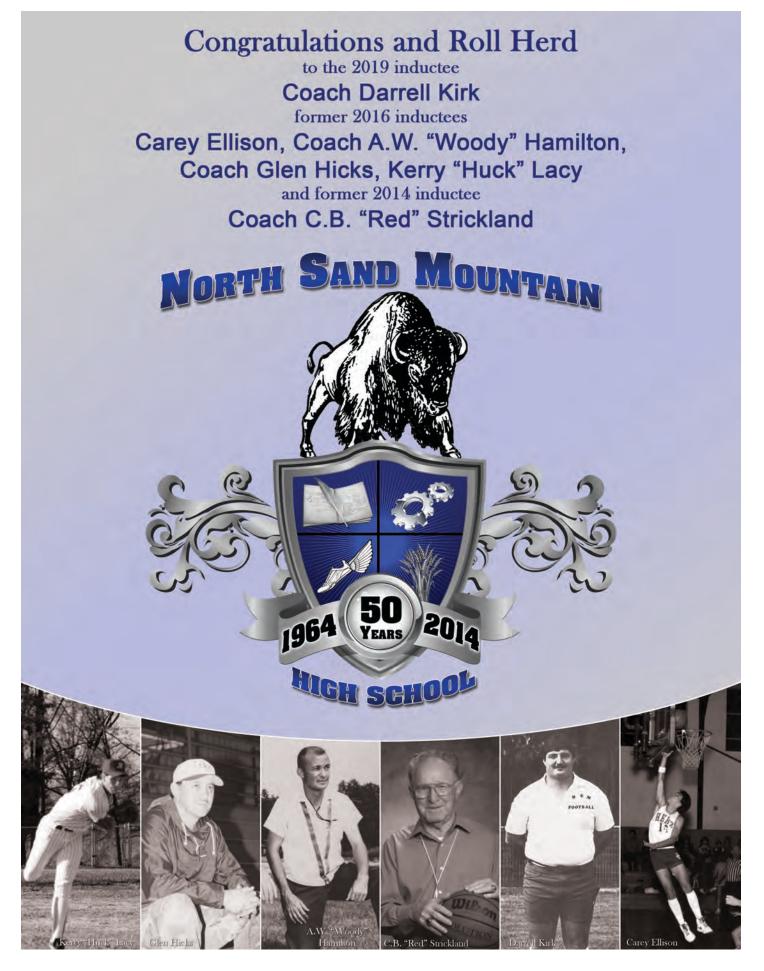
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Tomm McCrary





Roy Anderson was a key member of The Jackson County High School basketball teams in the mid-1940's and is the last living link to one of the state's all-time most successful coaches. Born in Fort Payne in February of 1927, Anderson attended Jackson County High School in Scottsboro as there was no high school basketball in his hometown of Dutton. He was a member of what turned out to be the final season for legendary coach Mickey O'Brien as a basketball coach. Anderson, a junior forward, appeared off the bench as a role player for the 1943-44 Wildcats which finished the season 26-3, winning the state championship over Lexington 32-29. O'Brien, who passed away tragically in June of 1944 was replaced by former Wildcat player Preston Bryant as the new head coach. Anderson cracked the starting five in that 1944-45 season and the Wildcats returned to the state tournament and the championship game, falling to Parrish of Selma 35-20. Anderson received All-District and All-State honors for his efforts.

Following graduation, he was drafted into the United States Army as the World War II conflict was still going on. Returning to the states following about a year-and-a-half of military service and the end of the war, Anderson received a basketball scholarship to Jacksonville State College, making the starting five for the 1947-48 season under coach J.W. Stephenson and helping the Gamecocks to a 25-5 record. He transferred to Howard College in Birmingham, now known as Samford University, playing

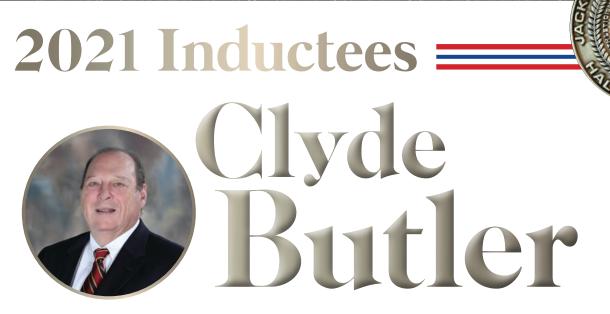


and starting for his final three years of eligibility with the seasons of 1949, 1950 and 1951, teaming up for former Wildcat Harold "Red" Parks. While at Howard, the baseball program was formed and Anderson was a key role in the start-up, playing as a pitcher and first baseman and batting over .300. Anderson received his degree and enjoyed a career as a pharmacist and pharmaceutical salesman in the Birmingham area for around 35 years and was very active in church and civic projects. Anderson participated in competitive tennis in the Birmingham area until the age of 89, winning a number of tournaments.



uss Auto & Tire Service, Inc. Engine Diagnostics • Alignments • Oil Changes • Tune-ups Transmission Service • Radiator Flushing • Brakes • Belts • Hoses Axles & Bearings • Water Pumps • And Other Minor Engine Repair **TRUCK & TRACTOR TIRE REPAIR SERVICE** 256-259-2307 533 W. Willow Street • Scottsboro, AL 35768 Congratulations to all the inductees of the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame **Jackson County** A Chapter of The University of Alabama National Alumni Association Former Crimson Tide Athletes

Dr. Clyde Butler • Holland Floyd • Ben Hunt • Tom McCrary

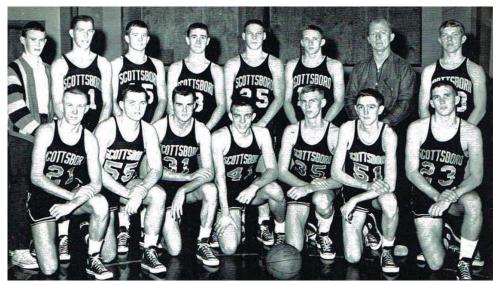


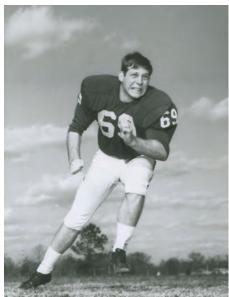
lyde Buter was a three-sport standout and football state champion at Scottsboro High School before going on to play college football for the Crimson Tide. Butler participated in football, basketball and track as a Wildcat, earning letters in all three. As a member of Hall of Fame coach John Meadows football teams, Butler played linebacker and tight end on the 1964 and 1965 squads. The 1964 Wildcats finished 6-2-1 as a ranked team from start to finish. That '64 squad faced the number two team in the state rankings twice, falling to both Haleyville and Fort Payne in very close contests. The 1965 Wildcats, ranked in nine of ten games completed an unbeaten season and was named Class 3A state champions by the Birmingham Post-Herald. Butler earned All-State honors from both the Birmingham News and Associated Press for the '65 season. As a member of Hall

of Fame coach Q.K. "Dusty" Carter's basketball Wildcats, Butler was a role player, contributing to 45 wins in 59 games over a two-year period from 1965 to 1966. Following high school graduation, Butler continued both athletics and education, receiving a scholarship to the University of Alabama where he played football for Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant and the Alabama Crimson Tide. Butler made Alabama's varsity rosters for 1968, 1969 and 1970, earning a letter for his Senior season of 1970. Butler was listed at offensive end on the rosters of 1968 and 1969 and moved to offensive guard on the roster of 1970. After graduating from dental school at the University of Alabama, Butler returned to Jackson County to open his own practice and serve his communities as members and in leadership roles with the Scottsboro City School Board, the Scottsboro Library

Board, President of the Jackson County Alabama Alumni Association, the Goose Pond Board, and holds professional affiliations with the American Dental Association, the Alabama Dental Association and the 8th District Dental Society.







Congratulations to the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class of 2021







Before he made a major impact on higher education in the Jackson County area, David Campbell made an impact on the athletic fields and courts for Scottsboro High School. A 1963 graduate of Scottsboro High School, Campbell, nicknamed "Stick" because of his slim build, played varsity football for Hall of Fame coach John Meadows for the seasons of 1961 and 1962. Those teams combined for a record of 15-2-3 over that two-year span. Campbell accounted for six touchdowns during his Wildcat football career, one in the 1961 season and five for the 1962 season. Campbell also played basketball for Hall of Fame coach Q.K. "Dusty" Carter for the seasons of 1961-62 and 1962-63. Both seasons were part of a three-year rebuilding span for the Scotties. For the 1962 season, Scottsboro enjoyed wins over Guntersville, Section, Stevenson and Fort Payne. The 1963 season saw

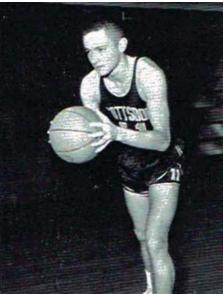
Wildcat wins over rivals Section, Stevenson and Fort Payne. His career high in points came against Crossville with 27. Campbell also participated on Scottsboro first track team in 1962, winning the county's 60-yard dash competition.

Though he did not pursue athletics on the next level, Campbell was scouted by Memphis State University. Campbell's educational and leadership resume is extensive and he has received numerous awards for his many contributions. In 2001, Campbell was named President of Northeast Alabama Community College. During his tenure at Northeast, the college has been recognized as one of only 29 American community colleges that the Aspen Institute has named as a top American community college each of the five times the recognition has been given. Campbell established the college as the site of the Alabama Community College

System's Master Teacher Experience, a professional development program conducted by faculty members themselves. The program has served more than 250 ACCS instructors in intensive training workshops.









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Dr. Morris Seymour

on your induction into the

Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame

Thank you for years of dedication to youth

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laude "Butch" Cassidy helped start and mold one of Jackson County's and the state of Alabama's great girls' basketball programs at Pisgah. A graduate of Fort Payne High School, Cassidy earned a business degree from Jacksonville State University but had the itch to get into coaching. With that desire in mind, Cassidy enrolled at UAB and obtained his Master's Degree in Health and Physical Education. Starting at Henagar and coaching junior high basketball, his teams compiled 125 between 1968 and 1973. After a varsity stint at Fort Payne High School, Cassidy was offered and accepted the boys' varsity job at Pisgah. While there, he was tasked with the job of starting a girl's program. His junior high girl's teams had a record of 38 and 7 during a twoyear span, winning the Jackson County

Junior High Tournament both years. The move was made to the varsity level and the winning ways continued. From 1978 through 1982, Cassidy's Lady Eagles won 131 games, losing only 18. That span included a perfect season in 1981, winning 31 games followed by a 30-1 season in 1982, a 48-game winning streak and Class 2A state titles both years. The Lady Eagles won four Jackson County tournament championships, three Sand Mountain tournament titles, three area tournament championships, three region tournament championships under Cassidy's leadership. He was named Jackson County Coach of the Year for 1979 and 1981 and Associated Press 2A Coach of the Year for 1981. The Jackson County girls' tournament trophy is currently named the Butch Cassidy -Carey Ellison Trophy. Under his leadership in starting the girl's program, the Pisgah program has become the standard of excellence for basketball in the state of Alabama. Cassidy was also inducted into the Dekalb County Sports Hall of Fame for the Class of 2020.









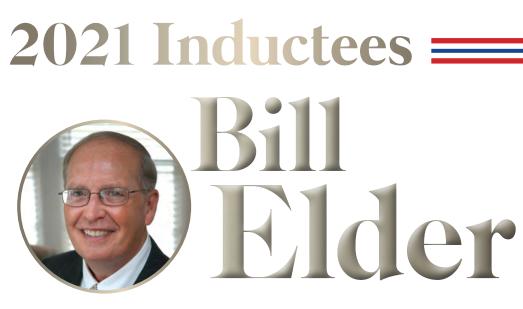
STEVE LIVINGSTON

STATE SENATE









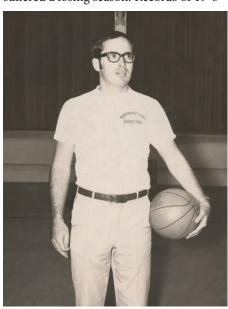
Starting the Northeast Alabama Community College basketball program in 1966, Bill Elder built the Mustangs into a formidable program in the Alabama Junior College System. The Northeast basketball program was born in November 1966 with a season-opening loss to Calhoun Junior College and then proceeded to win 15 of their next 20 games enroute to the Alabama Junior College State Championship.

That championship season came full circle as the Mustangs defeated Calhoun Junior College for the title.

Success continued for the next six seasons under Elder's leadership despite racial tensions as he was tasked with integrating the program for the 1968-69 campaign. During Elder's seven seasons as head coach of the Mustangs, they never suffered a losing season. Records of 19-6

for 1968, 19-10 for 1969, 15-13 for 1970, 16-6 for 1971, 21-8 for 1972, and 14-11 for his final season at Northeast in 1973. The 1968 Mustangs finished as the number one defensive team in the nation, state and region. The 1969 campaign saw the Mustangs finish as the Alabama Junior College State Runner-up, losing to Walker Junior College in the state tournament. Again, the Mustangs were the number one defensive team in Alabama and the number nine defensive team in the nation. Defense was a strong suit of the program for the next three seasons, 1970, 1971 and 1972. All three seasons the Mustangs finished as the number one defensive team in the state and region and was the number five defensive team in the country for 1972. With a 21-8 record for that 1972 season,

Elder was named Conference Coach of the Year. His final season with Northeast came at the end of the 1972-73 campaign with a 14-11 record and again leading the state and region in defense and number seven nationwide for Junior College basketball. For his Northeast career, Elder had a record of 119 wins and 61 losses, one state junior college title and one state runner-up. After leaving the Northeast program, Elder served as head basketball coach at the University of Montevallo from 1974-1985 and at the University of Mobile from 1985-1996. He also served as Athletic Director at Auburn University-Montgomery. Following his retirement from coaching, Elder wrote a book about his journey at Northeast titled "All Guts and No Glory" which was published in 2007.







State Rep. Tommy Hanes

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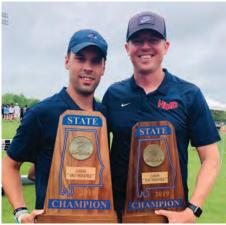


Tom Esslinger was a standout track and field athlete for Scottsboro High School and the University of South Alabama before going on to a statechampionship coaching career in the sport. A 1998 graduate of Scottsboro, Esslinger was an AAU All-American in the decathlon and earned multiple All-State honors.

Coached by his Hall of Fame father, John Esslinger, Tom excelled both athletically and academically. Esslinger competed in jumps, hurdles, sprints, and decathlon during his Scottsboro track and field career. He broke the long jump school record in 1998, won multiple sectional championships, and earned All-State honors 1995-1998. Esslinger also enjoyed a stellar basketball career under coaches Jerry Kirkland and Randy Brown, scoring 577 points and pulling down over 200

rebounds during his four-year career. He was named to the All-Area team and won the Wildcat Award in 1998. His track and field efforts earned him a scholarship to the University of South Alabama where he was an All-Conference decathlete in 2001 and 2003 while competing in the Sun Belt Conference, and he is currently 4th on their all-time list. Esslinger's love of the sport led him into coaching as he was hired as the track and field and crosscountry coach at Homewood High School in 2005. Esslinger led the Patriots to 20 state championships in track and field as the head coach, and Homewood won a total of 31 state championships, including five Triple Crowns, during his tenure as track and field and cross country program director. Esslinger was named the 2017 Girls' Track and Field National Coach of the Year by the National High School











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Sports Center



olland Floyd starred on the basketball court for Scottsboro High School before taking his talents to the University of Alabama. A three-year varsity starter for Hall of Fame Coach Q.K. "Dusty" Carter, Floyd first appeared on the Scottsboro basketball scene as a gangly, 6-foot, sixth grader. He was playing for the Center Point Baptist Church team, competing against other local church teams. A year later, as aseventh grader, he began his school basketball career on Scottsboro's Junior High team. By the time he reached his freshman year, the team had won the County Championship and the 8th District Championship, comprised of teams from Jackson, Dekalb, Marshall and Blount counties. Floyd moved to the varsity team as a 6-foot, 7-inch tall sophomore, where he began an outstanding career.

With a three-year record of 82-13, the Wildcats played in two state tournaments and often-times scored100-plus points in a game long before the three-point shot went into effect. Floyd was voted to the state's All-tournament team in 1960 and also received All-District honors. For his career, he tossed in 36 documented double-digit scoring games, including a career-high 27 against John Carroll in the 1958-59 season. During his senior season of 1960, Floyd accounted for 365 points. His outstanding play earned him a scholarship to the University of Alabama, where he lettered for the seasons of 1962, 1963 and 1964 under coach Hayden Riley. Floyd appeared in 52 games for Alabama over his

three-year career, including a 65-59 upset of number two Kentucky on February 24, 1964 at Foster Auditorium.

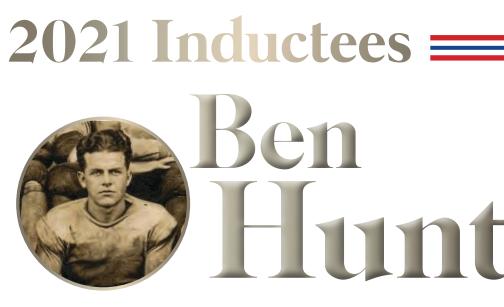
That win concluded a five-game win streak for the Tide before losing the season finale to Auburn. His career totals at Alabama, 144 points, 126 rebounds and 46 of 55 free throws. After graduating from Alabama, Floyd served one year as a teacher and coach at Miami Military Academy before returning home. For ten years, until his death in 1984 at the age of 42, Floyd served as Director of the Physical Plant at The University of Montevallo. During a Founder's Day ceremony in October of 1984, that plant/complex was named in his honor.





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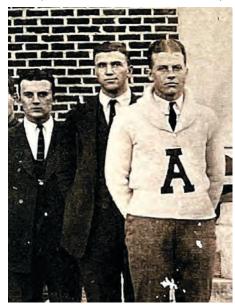


Ben Hunt played on the first Jackson County High School football team before helping the Alabama football program gain national attention for the first time. Hunt, a handsome, smart and gifted athlete was among those that suited up for the black and gold of Jackson County high for that first game on October 18, 1913. Though the 1913 team did not taste victory in that initial season, they did tie Bridgeport in a Thanksgiving Day contest, 7-7. He graduated from Jackson County High in 1917 and attended the University of Alabama, where he played football for four years, lettering in 1920, 1921 and 1922. Playing for head coach Xen Scott, Hunt was part of the "Thin Red Line" that helped 'Bama first gain national attention when the Tide defeated the University of Pennsylvania in 1922, a team coached by

John Heisman. Alabama won the game 9-7 becoming the first Southern team to beat an Eastern powerhouse. Hunt played multiple positions at Alabama, including center, guard, tackle and end. That same 1922 team beat Marion Military Institute 110-0, which is still a record for most points scored in a single-game by the Alabama football program. Hunt was captain of the sophomore and junior class football teams at Alabama from 1918-1920 and also captain of the sophomore class basketball team for the same period. He was a member of Alabama's A-Club for the years of 1920, 1921 and 1922.

According to the NFL Encyclopedia, Hunt played in three games for the Toledo Maroons in the league's second official season in 1923, however stories passed down from Hunt himself dispute those

claims. A 1966 Huntsville Times article stated that Hunt worked for a firm in Nashville following graduation from college and played "local pro football" in the Nashville area, earning \$15 per game. Hunt worked as an assistant football coach at Huntsville College from 1924 to 1926. "Hunt Field", the home of Wildcat football from 1922 through 1930 was named after his family, who owned a dairy farm in the area of where Unclaimed Baggage is located. Hunt served his country during World War II as a Lt. Commander in the United States Navy. University of Alabama President George Denny wrote a letter of recommendation for Hunt when he volunteered for military service, stating that "Mr. Hunt is a man of the highest character. He is absolutely loyal to the United States and is faithful in every duty".







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om McCrary was a two-sport standout at Scottsboro High School who went on to play for a coaching legend at the University of Alabama. McCrary played football and wrestled at Scottsboro. Under head coach Larry Keys, McCrary was a three-year starter on the gridiron for the seasons of 1977, 1978 and 1979. Playing offensive tackle during his sophomore and junior seasons, he became a two-way starter during his senior campaign, anchoring both the offensive and defensive line for the Wildcats. During his junior season, McCrary began catching the attention of SEC football recruiters, eventually signing a football scholarship with the University of Alabama following his senior season. Honors during his senior season include first-team all-state offensive line by the Montgomery Advertiser; honorable mention by the Birmingham

News and he was selected to play in the Alabama All-Star football game.

McCrary's wrestling resume includes a fifth-place finish in the state tournament as a junior and fourth runner-up in the state tournament in 1978; first place in the Big Orange Invitational and third in the state in 1979. McCrary started all six games for Alabama's freshman team in 1980, recording 20 tackles on the season. He was red-shirted early in the 1981 season but was listed as a member of the 1981 SEC Championship team, receiving a championship ring. In 1982, McCrary appeared in 351 defensive plays, recording 16 tackles, including a sack of Illinois quarterback Tony Eason in the Tide's Liberty Bowl win, which turned out to be Coach Bryant's final game. For the 1983 season, McCrary started against Ole Miss and Vanderbilt, earning a letter for that

season and playing in Alabama's Sun Bowl appearance.

During the 1983 Ole Miss game, McCrary nabbed Rebel quarterback Ken Austin behind the line of Scrimmage for a seven-yard loss in a 40-0 Tide route. His football career ended during the 1984 season due to a knee injury. For his Alabama Crimson Tide career, McCrary posted 25 tackles and two sacks.







Congratulations

NACC wishes to congratulate all inductees of the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame! We are especially proud of NACC President Dr. David Campbell and Mr. Bill Elder.



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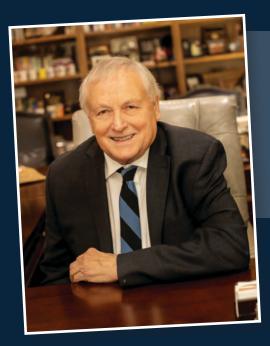


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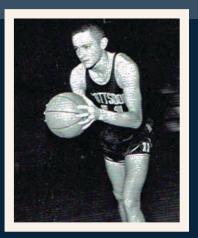
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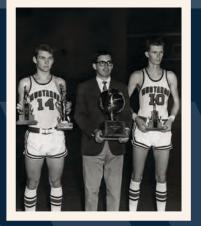
NORTHEAST ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT





BILL ELDER

NORTHEAST ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE BASKETBALL









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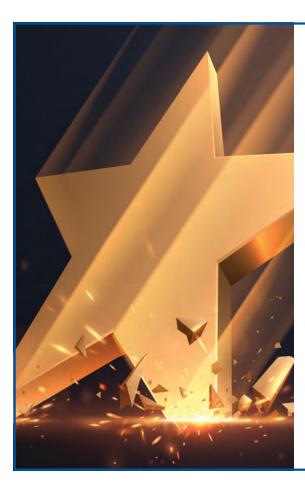
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The Road To Greatness Is Never Easy. *Congratulations To All New Inductees And Members.*

The Jackson County Sports Hall Of Fame is a place where old memories never fade away. Here, the achievements of area athletes on various fields and courts are recorded so that generations of visitors will be reminded of what once was.

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Pisgah High School

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Former Inductees - Carl Bain • Pam Hicks Campbell Billy Duncan • Carey Ellison • Glen Hicks • Sam Kenimer • Ray Maxwell Bill McGriff • Robin Gant Shirey • Bill Tinker • Wallace Tinker



Ricky Ragsdale built a middle school basketball dynasty at Rosalie School. Following graduation from Pisgah High School in 1968 and Jacksonville State University in 1972, Ragsdale began a 36-year coaching career, developing young athletes that went on to success on the high school level. Ragsdale served as a teacher, coach and principal at Rosalie School from 1972 through 2010. Over the span of 36 years, Ragsdale's teams won 740 games, 16 Jackson County championships

and produced 8 undefeated seasons. The Rosalie girls won five straight county championships from 1997 through 2001 with a record of 104-2. Combined, his boys and girl's teams produced county championships in the same season three different times. Ragsdale retired in 2010 which lasted six years. He came out of retirement in 2016 and coached the Rosalie girls to the Jackson County basketball championship. The gymnasium at Rosalie School is named "The Ricky Ragsdale Gym" in his honor.





congratulations

to current and past inductees!



City of Stevenson 104 Kentucky, Ave. Stevenson, AL 35772 256-437-3000



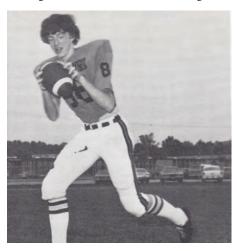


A fter being a three-sport athlete at Scottsboro High School and a college football player at Jacksonville State University, Dr. Morris Seymour continued to make his mark in athletics from a medical position.

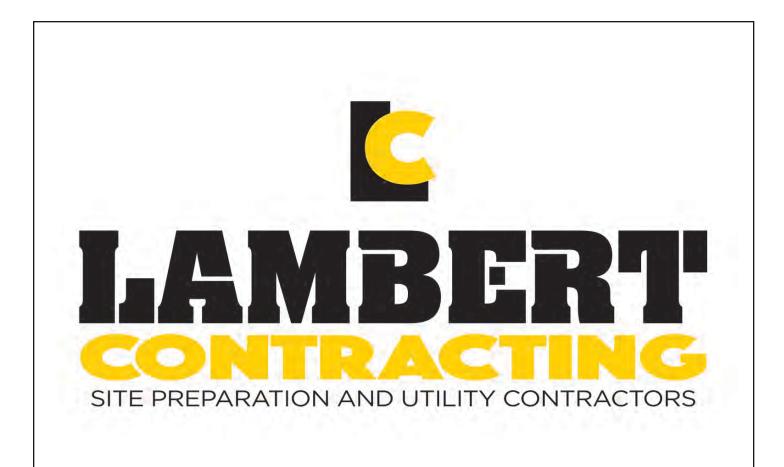
Seymour played football for Scottsboro under head coach Larry Keys for the seasons of 1974, 1975 and 1976. He led the Wildcats in receiving for both 1975 and 1976, hauling in ten touchdown passes over those two seasons; six in 1975 and four in 1976. His ten career touchdown catches ties him for third in the Scottsboro receiving record book. Seymour was selected All-Region for both seasons and received second team All-State honors for his senior season of 1976. Seymour played basketball for Hall of Fame coach Paul Cooley his junior and senior years. The 1976-77 Wildcats posted a record of 24-5, reaching the state tournament's Elite Eight. As a baseball player for coach Steve Tabor, Seymour finished third in batting for the 1977 Wildcats, hitting

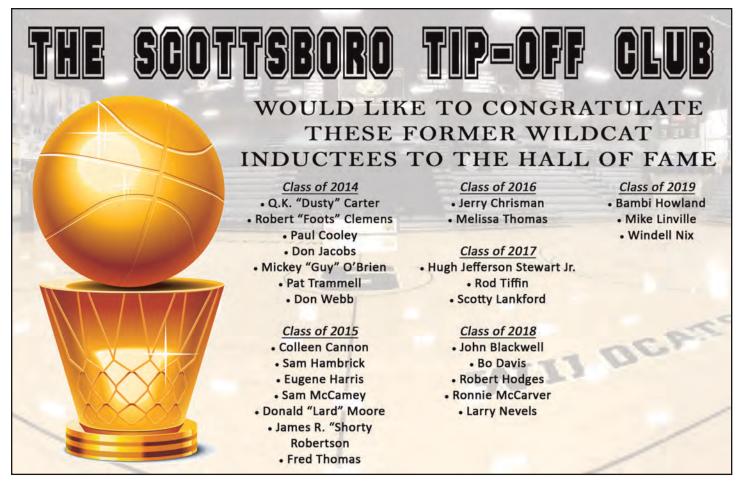
.367 for the season as the team finished 16-6 and earning a berth in the state baseball playoffs. Seymour is one of only a handful of Wildcats to be part of teams that reached the state playoffs in football, basketball and baseball. He received a football scholarship from Jacksonville State University and played for the Gamecocks for the seasons of 1977 and 1978. Following his playing days at JSU, Seymour continued his education at the University of Alabama eventually receiving his degree as an MD in 1986. Seymour is currently employed with TOC and has served as a team physician for the Scottsboro football program since 1998. While his contributions and accomplishments on the playing fields of Scottsboro athletics is impressive, many regard his medical contributions to Wildcat athletics as a labor of love that can never be repaid.

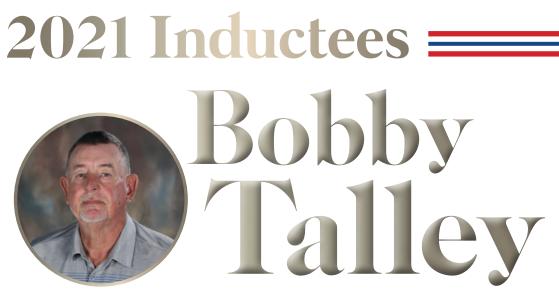












Bobby Talley made an impact on the sport of basketball in three different ways - as a player, a coach and an official. Talley played basketball at Scottsboro High School for Hall of Fame coach Q.K. Dusty Carter for the seasons of 1965-66 and 1966-67. Over the course of those two varsity seasons, the Wildcats posted 50 wins and 12 losses including the 1967 state championship. During the 1967 title season, Talley scored 382 points, an average of 11.6 points per game and had 21 games in which he scored in double-digits. Honors included All-State, All-Tri-State for Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia, All-District, All-Jackson County and the Most Valuable Player of the Scottsboro Christmas Invitational Tournament. At the end of his senior year, Talley received a basketball scholarship to Athens State where he played four years for the Bears, three as a starter. After spending the 1968 season on the Athens State freshman team, Talley made the jump to varsity, earning a starting role and playing in 21 games, averaging 3.3 points per game and 2 rebounds per game. During that sophomore season, he helped lead the Bears to the Alabama College Conference



Tournament Championship. His starting roles continued for his junior and senior campaigns at Athens. Talley was voted team captain for the 1971 season and led the conference in field goal percentage. He was named to the 1971 Who's who of Outstanding College Athletes of America's. In November of 1970, Talley received a letter from the Cleveland Cavaliers of the NBA expressing interest in his talents as a future professional. Talley graduated from Athens State in 1971 with a B.S. in Education and began a career as a teacher and coach. He stayed in coaching for ten years with Junior High boys' basketball, varsity girls' basketball, tennis, baseball, cross country, track and junior high football. After 26 years as an educator, most of which were at DAR in Grant, Talley retired but stayed in the game as a basketball official for 25 years.



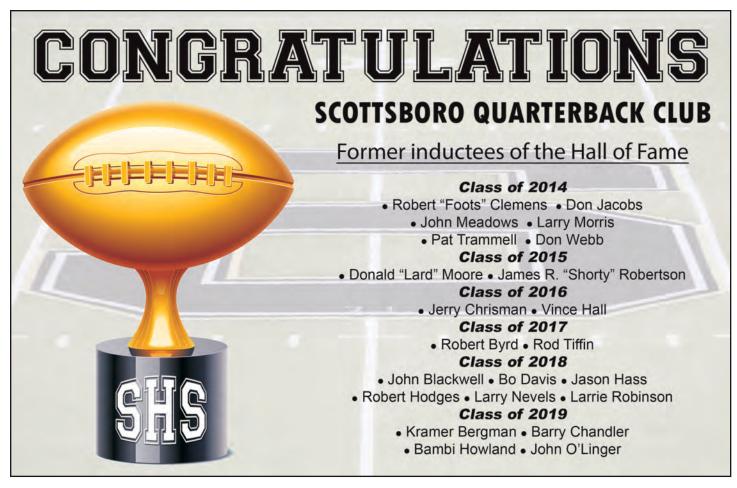


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Ronnie Thompson made his mark fin football and with his faith at Scottsboro High School and Livingston University. Thompson helped anchor both the offensive and defensive lines during Scottsboro's varsity seasons of 1968, 1969 and 1970. Serving as a team captain, Thompson and his Wildcat teammates posted winning campaigns in all three years, with three different head coaches. Scottsboro finished 6-4 in 1968, improving to 7-2 in 1969 and then a 10-2 season in 1970 in which the Wildcats advanced to the semi-finals of the Class 4A state playoffs, losing to eventual state champion Lee Montgomery. Thompson's hard work at Scottsboro earned him a scholarship to Livingston University, now University of West Alabama. Livingston's 1971 Tigers won the NAIA Championship and Thompson played in all but four games of that title season. In 1972, he was named an offensive starter as Livingston again qualified for the NAIA playoffs, losing to the eventual champion, Carson-Newman. Thompson again earned starting positions in 1973 and 1974. As former Livingston teammate Tony Holmes said of Thompson, "he wasn't a big offensive lineman, but he was big enough to get the job done as a starter for three seasons". He was voted permanent team captain for 1974 and named to the All-Alabama Small College Football Team. For his fouryear Livingston career, Thompson was a three-time letterman and voted a member of their 1970's Team of the Decade, never playing on a team with a losing record. He served as a student assistant coach in 1975 as the team won 10 games and

reached the second round of the NCAA Division II playoffs. Thompson served as president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Livingston from 1973 to 1974 and was instrumental in growing the membership of the organization on campus. He also served as president of the Athlete's Letterman Club in 1974. Quoting former teammate and Chicago Bears Executive Scout Jeff Shiver, "Ronnie was a very special teammate and mentor during our days at Livingston. He was the hardest worker with the greatest character, helping young players like me find their way in football and in life".









The late William "Bill" Commodore Wood Jr. starred on the football field for Scottsboro High School and Auburn University before joining the military and making the ultimate sacrifice for his country. Wood played for the Wildcats for the seasons of 1956 through 1959. He played center and defensive lineman, positions that seldom produced newspaper headlines. Wood was a twoyear starter on both offense and defense during his junior and senior seasons and rarely came off the field. He was named team captain and outstanding lineman for his senior season of 1959. Wood provided great leadership on and off the field. In one game, the referee sent him to the sideline with bleeding from a cleat post to his leg.

Someone rushed him to the hospital where Dr. Trammell put fourteen

stitches in his leg. Wood had only missed one defensive series when he returned to the field. Following his senior year, he signed a football scholarship with Auburn University. Wood played center at Auburn as a freshman, was red-shirted his sophomore year and was competing for a starting position when a knee injury ended his football career. No longer able to play football, Wood entered the advanced AFROTC Program at Auburn. He graduated from Auburn in 1965 with a degree in Aeronautical Administration and entered the United States Air Force and Pilot Training. Wood spent the next seven years in the Air Force, and for several of those years he trained South Vietnamese pilots. He was deployed to Vietnam as a member of the 421st Tactical Fighter Squadron and became

a decorated fighter-pilot. His plane was shot down on September 2, 1972 and he was declared Missing in Action until 1979 when all unaccounted-for soldiers from the Vietnam War were declared Killed in Action. Wood's name is on the National Vietnam War Memorial, Panel 1W, Row 70, and also inscribed on the Courts of the Missing at the Honolulu Memorial.

In the long history of athletics, many have received more honors and awards, but few have demonstrated the heart of a "Wildcat" as well as Major William Commodore Wood Jr. In this class of 2021, a true hero joins the Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame.







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> Class of 2014 John Esslinger Class of 2015 Colleen Cannon Class of 2016 Melissa Thomas Class of 2017 Rod Tiffin

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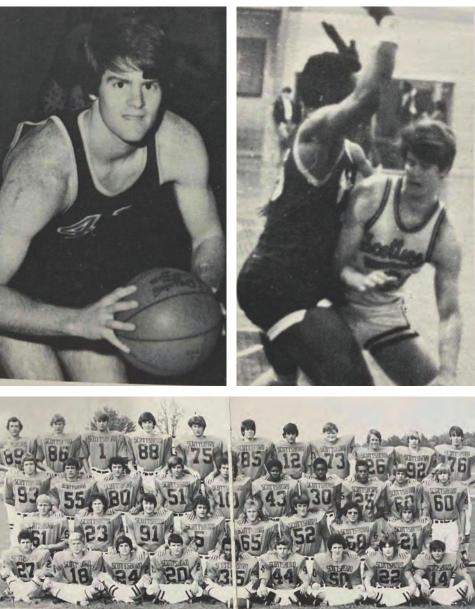




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Rupert Wright was a two-sport Standout at Scottsboro who went on to become an All-American for Liberty University. Wright was a key member of Larry Keys' Wildcats for the seasons of 1973, 1974 and 1975, playing tight end, defensive end and offensive guard. While at Scottsboro, Wright also played basketball and baseball. As a sophomore, Wright was a member of Scottsboro's first baseball team in 1974 and during his time with baseball played multiple positions, including outfield, catcher and pitcher. Under Hall of Fame head coach Paul Cooley, Wright played forward and center for the Wildcat basketball program and received the "Wildcat Award" for his play. As a baseball player, Wright played in the East-West All-Star game and the North-South All-star game for 1976. While enjoying playing time in all three sports, his time on the gridiron caught the attention of coaches at Liberty Baptist College, now known as Liberty University. Wright became a four-year starter with the Flames at Offensive guard and tackle. He was voted Best Offensive Lineman all four years and Most Valuable Offensive Player for the 1978 and 1979 seasons. In 1978, Wright was selected First Team Churchman All-American. A recent publication documenting the history of the Liberty football program titled "When Vision Becomes Reality" named Wright to the All-Liberty Team. For a period of time, Wright served as a teacher and coach in the Scottsboro School System. He was the head varsity girls basketball coach for the 1982-83 season in which the Lady Wildcats finished with a record of 15-6.



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Heath Zapf enjoyed a record-setting baseball career at Scottsboro High School and later at Auburn University-Montgomery. Playing baseball for Head Coach Lee Vinson in 1994 and Stan Gibby in 1995, Zapf became one of the great hitters in Wildcat baseball history. In 37 games as a junior, he finished the 1994 season with a .417 batting average. His senior season would be one to remember as his .473 batting average helped the Wildcats to the Class 5A, Area 13 championship. In 28 games, Zapf hit six homeruns with 44 RBI's. He would finish the season as the team leader in at-bats, doubles, homeruns, RBI and batting average. His .473 average is the third-best single-season performance in Scottsboro baseball history. Other categories in which Zapf's numbers are within the top-ten are single-season doubles, his 15-game hitting streak in 1995 is fourth-best in Scottsboro history. Career offensive categories - 8th in hits with 98, tops in career batting average at .441. Zapf attended Northwest Shoals Community College for the 1996 and 1997 seasons and received first-team All-American honors for the 1997 campaign. He transferred to Auburn-Montgomery for the 1998 and 1999 seasons and played mainly as a designated hitter. For the 1998 season, Zapf appeared in 59 games with 212 at-bats, 68 runs, 90 hits, 13 doubles, 21 homeruns, 94 RBI and a batting average of .425. For those numbers, he received first team All-Conference honors. During the 1999 season, Zapf appeared in 59 games with 192 at-bats, 58 runs, 77 hits, 9 doubles, 14 homeruns, 72 RBI and an average of .401. For his two-year career at AUM, Zapf played in 118 games, had 404 at-bats, 126 runs, 167 hits, 22 doubles,

3 triples, 35 homeruns, 166 RBI and an average of .413. He received second-team All-Conference honors. Zapf's name can be found in the AUM baseball record book – a .413 career batting average, the leader in RBI and homeruns. In single-season numbers, Zapf is second and seventh in homeruns with 21 in 1998 and 14 in 1999; fifth in batting average with .425 in 1998 and second and fifth in RBI with 94 and 72 respectively. Heath Zapf, one of Scottsboro High School's all-time baseball greats.









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2021 Inductees ≡

Contributor

Patterson

A longtime supporter of high school and youth sports in the Section community, Delmus "Pat" Patterson was the driving force in the creation of the Section High School football program in the late 1960's.

Section High School was established in 1955, but there was only basketball, no football. In the early 1960's interest for a football program at Section began to evolve, and this interest was primarily promoted by Patterson. He had a vision for a football program and was determined to see his vision become a reality and took it upon himself to see it happen. One person states that Patterson encountered everything from opposition to even hostility. Patterson's obstacles - no money, no land to build a football stadium, no equipment, no coach and getting the community involved and believing it could be done. None of this deterred Patterson. A trip was made to Cullman High School to look at their facilities and get some ideas, and yes that trip was organized by Patterson. In March of 1968, a community meeting was called to organize a Section quarterback club. Officers were elected and Patterson was elected president. He was personally involved in helping secure land for the stadium, securing the use of state-owned equipment and also assisted in finding a coach and raising money for the coaches supplement. Patterson's association with Section businessman Marvin Campbell landed him the land to build the stadium. According to one report, Campbell told Patterson to select the land where he wanted the stadium built and it would be his. Patterson's vision for football at Section was called "Project '68" and it was realized in the

fall of 1968. Under head coach Bill Haas, the Lions played their first game against Wilson, defeating their opponent 33-0. Section finished that first season with a record of 2-4-1 and realized a dream that Delmus "Pat" Patterson would not give up on. Members of that first team were Barry Rush, Larry Hancock, Danny Hancock, Tommy Traylor, Terry Moore, Z.C. Sparks, Bobby Jones, Steven Durham, Billy Jackson, Jim Strickland, Ronald Jones, Rickey Rush, Larry Moore, Dewade Kennamer, DeWayne Hairston, Billy Anderson, James Moss and Ricky Wynn.

In 2018, the Section football program celebrated it's 50th anniversary and just recently the program notched its 200th all-time win. As the saying goes, if one is interested, they do what is convenient. If one is committed, they do whatever it takes. That was Delmus "Pat" Patterson.





Past Inductees =

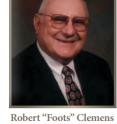
CLASS OF **2014**



Q.K. "Dusty" Carter



Ray Maxwell







John Meadows



Paul Cooley



Larry Morris





Mickey "Guy" O'Brien



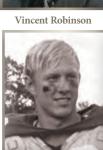
Dr. Pat Trammell



Don Jacobs







Don Webb



CLASS OF 2015



Colleen Cannon



Donald "Lard" Moore



C.B. "Red" Strickland

Sam Hambrick



James R. "Shorty" Robertson



Eugene Harris



Tyrone Robinson



Phillip Lolley



Ken Storey



Sam McCamey



Fred Thomas





Wallace Tinker



Past Inductees =

CLASS OF 2016





Jerry Chrisman



Glen Hick



Pam Hicks Campbell



Billy Duncan



Kerry Lacy



Carey Ellison



Gretchen Prince Wilbanks



Vince Hall



Robin Gant Shirey



A.W. "Woody" Hamilton



Melissa Thomas

CLASS OF **2017**



Carl Bain

Donald Ray Lawson



Tony Baker



Dale McCloud





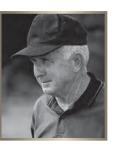
Bill McGriff



Vincent Cobb



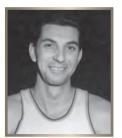
Hugh Jefferson Stewart Jr.



Sam Kenimer



Rod Tiffin



Scotty Lankford









Past Inductees =

CLASS OF **2018**



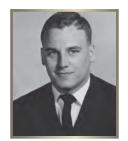


John Blackwell



Robert "Bo" Davis

Jason Hass



Robert "Bob" Hodges



Keesha Sanders King



Ronnie McCarver



Larry Nevels





Bill Tinker



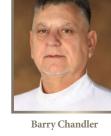
Greg Bell





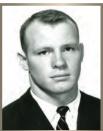
Kramer Bergman

Mike Linville

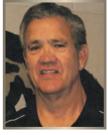








John O'Linger



Bambi Howland



Ronnie Perkins



Marshan Jolly



Merle Pruett



Darrell Kirk

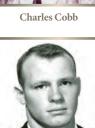


James Drain





Windell Nix





Larrie Robinson

Scholarships =

2021 RECIPIENTS



JaVaris Branford

SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL



Kami Willis SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL

2020 RECIPIENTS



Collin Lockard SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL



Carley Bell SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL

2019 RECIPIENTS





Stone Yates NORTH SAND MOUNTAIN HS

Josie Thompson NORTH JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL

2018 RECIPIENTS





Ben Hembree PISGAH HIGH SCHOOL

Kaitlyn Brewer SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

2017 RECIPIENTS



Tanner Atchley NORTH SAND MOUNTAIN HS



Macy Kate Petriske SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL

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CLASS OF 2014



Q.K. "Dusty" Carter* (2007)



PAUL COOLEY* (2000)



John Meadows (2018)





Mickey "Guy" O'Brien* (1944)



Sanders Russell* (1982) The JCSHOF would like to acknowledge and ensure the memory of our deceased inductees who have contributed so much to the sports history of Jackson County.



C.B. "Red" Strickland (2017)



Dr. Pat Trammell* (1968)



Sam Hambrick* (2011)



Donald "Lard" Moore* (2005)



James R. "Shorty" Robertson* (1984)



Robert Thrower (2015)



Fred Thomas (2021)



Jerry Chrisman* (1990)



A.W. "Woody" Hamilton (2018)





DALE McCloud* Contributor (2017)



*Hugh Jefferson Stewart, Jr. (2009)

CLASS OF 2018



LARRY NEVELS* (2016)



Bill Tinker (2020)

CLASS OF **2019**



BAMBI HOWLAND* (2015)



SCOTTY LANKFORD

(2019)

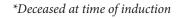
WINDELL NIX* (2005)



John O'Linger* (2012)



Merle Pruett* (2010)







NOMINATION PROCESS

- A nominee must be a native or have been a resident or have attended school or have coached or have worked in Jackson County, Alabama. Nominees may be or have been athletes, coaches, administrators, officials, team doctors, media, or any similar position who have made significant contributions to athletics and their respective communities.
- Exceptions may be allowed for residency to be ten (10) years continuously, even if the nominee's achievements were made prior to moving to Jackson County.
- A nominee must be at least 40 years old at the time of induction or inactive in the athletic category for at least five (5) years.
- Any person may nominate someone

to be considered for the Hall of Fame. The nominator is required to provide all necessary paperwork. An official nomination form may be requested at the following address: Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame, 815 West Willow Street, Scottsboro, Alabama 35768.

- All nominees will be screened intensively. Statistics, old record books, scrapbooks, newspaper and magazine stories or clippings, etc. will be considered when possible. Interviews about nominees may be sought by members of the Board of Directors when considered necessary.
- While each nominee's athletic achievements will be of prime importance and consideration, his or her post-athletic record, as a citizen, will be weighed. A

person must have also proven worthy as a citizen by carrying the ideals of athletics forward into his/her occupational endeavors and community service.

- Induction shall be held annually at a time and place to be selected by the Board of Directors.
- Once a person is nominated, he/she will be considered each year for induction for a period of three years, without further nominations. Following the three-year period, re-nomination will be required.
- Completed nomination forms can be mailed to Jackson County Sports Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 759, Scottsboro, Alabama 35768 or dropped off at 815 West Willow Street, Scottsboro Alabama 35768.





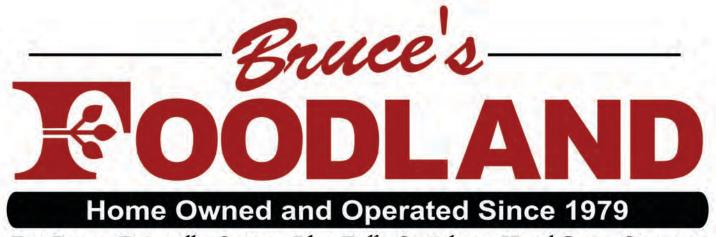
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