

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **2016 Virginia High School Hall of Fame Honorees Chosen**

*27<sup>th</sup> HOF Class features Eight inductees*

**CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA** — Sponsored by the Virginia High School League (VHSL), eight individuals who have made outstanding contributions to high school athletic and activity programs have been selected to the 2016 Virginia High School Hall of Fame. Members of the Class of 2016, the 27<sup>th</sup> inducted, will bring total membership to 264.

The Class of 2016 includes three athletes (Cornelious Cousins, Jr. – Hermitage HS; Heath Miller – Honaker HS; and Meg Turner – George Wythe-Wytheville HS); four coaches (Robin Dotson – Central-Wise HS; Tom Harding – Honaker HS; Joel Hicks – Pulaski County HS; Munro Rateau – Fluvanna County HS) and one contributor (B.J. Carroll – Galax HS).

The Hall is dedicated to preserving the rich heritage of outstanding achievements by students and adults in sports and activities within Virginia's public high schools.

Athletes are eligible for consideration 10 years after completion of their high school careers and are judged primarily for their achievements in interscholastic sports. Coaches are eligible after 15 years of experience or upon retirement and are judged on the merits of their achievements at the high school level. Contributors are professionals who have rendered significant services in some other capacity such as administration, academic activities, officiating, media or sports medicine.

The 27<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame induction dinner will be held on Wednesday, October 12, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Charlottesville. The honorees are as follows:

### **Athletes**

#### **Cornelious Cousins, Jr.**

**Hermitage HS**

**Outdoor Track**

Considered the top track athlete in the Richmond metro area during the 1970's, Cornelious "Bang" Cousins completed his running career at Hermitage High School in 1979 nationally ranked in four events – triple jump (50-5); long jump (24-06); intermediate hurdles (37.07) and high hurdles (13.7). He was a three-time state champion in the triple jump, two-time state champion in long jump and a state champion in the intermediate hurdles. At the 1979 Group AAA outdoor meet, Cousins claimed state titles in those three events and a third place finish in the high hurdles, scoring 36 individual points, while leading the Panthers to a runner-up state finish. He earned all-district, all-region, all-state and All-American honors in all four events as a senior.

His 50-5 mark in the triple jump was the longest prep jump in the nation in 1979. He was invited to compete in the prestigious International Prep Track and Field Invitational in Chicago and the Golden West Track and Field Meet in Sacramento; both meets merit an invitation to only the top eight seniors in each event.

A standout triple jumper at the University of Maryland, Cousins was an All-American and an ACC triple jump champion while competing for the Terrapins.

#### **Heath Miller**

**Honaker HS**

## **Football, Baseball, basketball**

A three-sport standout at Honaker High School (1997-2001), Heath Miller earned 11 varsity letters and left as one of the most accomplished high school athletes in the state of Virginia. His honors included first-team all-state, all-region and all-district selection at quarterback as a junior and senior; state offensive player of the year as senior; region offensive player of the year as junior and senior; and all-district player of the year as a junior and senior. In basketball, he was a first-team all-district selection three times, and twice earned first-team all-region honors. Miller earned first-team all-state honors in baseball three times and was the Group A Co-Player of the Year as a senior.

A three-year starter at quarterback, Miller finished his career with 1,701 yards rushing and 22 touchdowns; passed for 4,410 yards and 54 TDs, and tallied 166 tackles and 11 interceptions as a defensive back. As a three-year starter on the basketball teams, Miller scored 912 points and 742 rebounds. A four-year starter on the baseball team as a first-baseman and shortstop, he had a career batting average of over .500.

An All-American tight end at the University of Virginia, Miller ended his career as the ACC's all-time leader among tight ends in receptions, touchdowns and receiving yards. He was a two-time first-team All-ACC choice and won the John Mackey Award as the nation's top college tight end.

A first-round draft choice by the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2005, Miller played 11 seasons with the Steelers earning two Pro Bowl selections and helped the Steelers to two Super Bowl titles.

## **Meg Turner**

**George Wythe-Wytheville HS**  
**Basketball**

A state and national record holder during her high school basketball career, Meg Tuner finished her outstanding career at George Wythe-Wytheville High School with five state records for most points in a season (787); most points in a career (2,202); most rebounds in a career (1,134); best scoring average in a season (32.7); and most free throws in a career (542), which is still a record. She also established five national records including most free attempted in a career (742); most free attempted per game in a season (9.67); most free throws made in a career (542); most free throws made in a season (191) and most free throws made per game, per season (7.96).

Turner became the first girl in Virginia history to surpass the 2,000 point mark as she became the state's most prolific scorer. During her four-year career, she scored more than 40 points seven times, more than 30 points 33 times, and more than 20 points 59 times, while also scoring in double figures in 49 straight games. She scored double figures in 79 of her 90 career games for the Maroons. As a senior she averaged 32.7 points per game and 14.4 rebounds per game. She also was a four-year letter winner on the track team setting a school record in the 100-meter hurdles and was a member of the school's record setting 800 and 1600-meter relay teams.

Her honors included selection to the National High School Athletic Coaches Association All-America team; VHSL Region IV and New River District MVP; *Roanoke Times and World News*, *Southwest Virginia*, and *Daily Telegraph* Player of the Year. She attended. She was two-year starter at Vanderbilt University.

## **Coaches**

### **Robin Dotson**

**Central-Wise HS/J.J.Kelly HS**  
**Girls Basketball**

As the girls basketball coach at J.J. Kelly High School for 24 years (1987-2011) and for the past five years at Central-Wise High School (2011-16), Robin Dotson guided his teams to a 566-193 overall record; three state championships; three state runner-up finishes; 6 regional titles; and 13 district/conference championships.

Dotson has received numerous honors including during his career: VHSL girls basketball Coach of the Year; National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Mideast Sectional Coach of the Year; Associated

Press Group A/2A state coach; Virginia High School Coaches Association (VHSCA) Coach of the Year; and District/Conference Coach of the Year 15 times.

In addition to coaching girls basketball, Dotson continues to serve as a head girls track coach, assistant varsity football coach, and assistant softball coach at Central. He also previously served as boys basketball head coach at J.J. Kelly, as well as, assistant boys basketball coach, assistant baseball coach, and head golf coach,

## **Tom Harding**

**Honaker HS**

**Baseball**

Owner of the most wins in VHSL baseball history with 623 wins at Honaker High School, with over 25 district titles, four region championships and one state title, Tom Harding is recognized as one of the most respected and successful baseball coaches in Virginia High School League history. In addition, Harding has been selected District coach of the year over 25 times, Region Coach of the Year twice, Southwest Virginia coach of the year and Group A state coach of the year.

In addition, Harding's passion and dedication to his athletes was never more evident than at the 2011 state championships. He had heart surgery and checked himself out of the hospital on the Saturday of the state title game; changed into his uniform at a local Burger King; and arrived in Radford to coach his team to its first-ever state championship. In 46 seasons at Honaker, his teams have only had two losing seasons.

## **Joel Hicks**

**Pulaski County HS**

**Football**

During his 24 years at Pulaski County, Joel Hicks won 210 games, six region titles, 13 region finals, 15 district championships, three state runner-up finishes and the 1992 Division 6 state title. His Pulaski County teams posted a .750 winning percentage (214-69); won 10-or-more games 10 times and reached the playoffs in 18 of 24 seasons. In addition, he had three perfect regular seasons.

Prior to coming to Pulaski County; Hicks won an additional 91 games at two different schools in West Virginia (1964-75). During his 37 years as head coach, he had only one losing season, which he had in his first year of coaching in 1964. He also spent three seasons (1976-78) as the offensive coordinator at West Virginia University.

His coaching honors included: three times selected state coach of the year; four times named Northwest Region coach of the year; and seven times Roanoke Valley District coach of the year.

## **Munro Rateau, Jr.**

**Fluvanna County HS**

**Boys Basketball**

Munro Rateau finished his 35-year career at Fluvanna County High School in 2016 with 525 career wins; two state championships; eight appearances in the state tournament; six Final Four appearances; and two state runner-up finishes. From 1988 to 1992, his teams played in four state title games, including back-to-back championships in 1989 and 1990. In addition, his teams won 11 district championships and six regional titles.

His coaching honors also included state coach of the year and numerous district and region coach of the year awards. He also served as president of the VHSCA and continues to serve on the VHSCA executive committee and its legislative committee.

In his 40 years at Fluvanna County, Rateau was the boys assistant basketball coach; assistant football coach, assistant baseball coach; assistant girls basketball coach; head golf coach; head track coach; and assistant softball coach.

## Contributors

### **Bettie Jo (B.J.) Carroll**

**Galax HS**

**Theatre and Forensics**

Bettie Joe “B.J.” Carroll is a giant among her peers throughout the forensics and theatre communities in Virginia. In 33 years of coaching, she has led the Galax High School theatre team to six state championships; three state runner-up finishes; five third-place finishes; 21 district and conference championships; and 13 regional titles. In forensics competitions, Galax has earned two VHSL third-place finishes; produced nine individual state champions; and the VHSL record holder, Brandon Farmer, with four individual state championships in four different categories.

Carroll has been awarded Forensics and Theatre Coach of the Year honors by the Virginia Association of Speech, Debate and Drama Coaches (VASDDC). In 2010, she was honored as the NFHS Outstanding Speech, Debate and Theatre Educator Award for Section 2. Her other contributions include hosting VHSL district/conference and regional theatre festivals and forensics tournaments; as well as serving a VHSL state theatre festival judge.

### **Inductees in the Virginia High School Hall of Fame include:**

**1990:** Athletes - Keith Atherton, Edd Clark Jr., Carroll Dale, Doug Dickinson, Benton Dodd and Ralph Sampson. Coaches - Jimmie Bryan, Fred Cooper, Bobby Crantz, Howard Deel, Bill Littlepage, Billy Martin, Alger Pugh, George Quarles Jr., Mike Smith and Gracie VanDyke. Contributors - John Caywood, Greever Crouse, Bob Frank, Art Greene, Marshall Johnson, Bill Pace and John Youngblood.

**1991:** Athletes - Ollan Cassell, Moses Malone, Sidney Snell and Bobby Stokes. Coaches - Vince Bradford, Julius Conn, Ralph Cummins, Pat Dean, Chester Fritz, Harry Fry, Husky Hall, Bill Long and Lefty Wilson. Contributors - Richard Fletcher, Hubert Grim Jr., Ben Hurt, Norm Lord, Frank McCue and Chuck Savedge.

**1992:** Athletes - Johnny Oates, Tommy Theodose and Ben Valley. Coaches - Gordon Bragg, James (Suey) Eason, John Epperly, Del Norwood, Charlie Nuttycombe, Al Rinaldi and Paul Sizemore. Contributors - Harry Blevins, Eddie Crane, George Gasser, Clarence Jones, Robert McLelland, Barbara Reinwald and Gene Thompson.

**1993:** Athlete - Paul Gentry. Coaches - Ken Brown, Bob Hardage, Charlie Harkins, Jim Holdren and Thad Madden. Contributors - Vic Blue, Joel Grimm, Bob McCoy and Wendell Seldon.

**1994:** Athletes - Raymond Crouch and Frank Eastman. Coaches - Francis (Boodie) Albert, Welton Bloxson, Pete Brewbaker, Louise Martin and Joe Robinson. Contributors - Carl Deane, Earl Gillespie, Jimmy Jones, Charles Karmosky and Bert Smith.

**1995:** Athlete - Jeff Baker. Coaches - Eddie Dean, Paul Hatcher and Claude Warren. Contributors - Hud Clark, Don Riviere and James (Smokey) Stover.

**1996:** Athlete - Jacob Adams. Coaches - Donald Glick, Joan Hudson, Norman Lineburg, Ronald Skeen and Robert Williams. Contributors: Nancy Haga and James Omps.

**1997:** Athletes - Eric Sievers and Tom Trice. Coaches - Ed Henry, Phil Robbins and Frank Webster. Contributors - Robert Carson, Bill Knowles, Bill Lee and Betty Morton.

**1998:** Athletes – Paula Girven and Barty Smith. Coaches – Glynn Carlock, Nancy Fowlkes, Ann Lockett and Mack Shupe. Contributors – Richard Fitz, Charles Kurtz and Bob Sandell.

**1999:** Coaches – A.K. Johnson, Bill Lawson and Sam Woods. Contributors – Jennifer Bradley, Jim Carroll and Larry Pence.

**2000:** Athletes – Jackie Gordon, Benita Fitzgerald Mosley, Buster O’Brien and Ken Willard. Coaches – Kate Carter and Chip Chappell. Contributors – Delmer Botkin, Bill Leffler and Bob Patterson.

**2001:** Athlete – Robert Banks. Coaches – Bill Brown, Jim Cutler and Willis White. Contributors – Buddy Comer, Ralph Harrison, Nancy Ruth Patterson and Jim Sangston.

**2002:** Athlete – Tamela Penny. Coaches – Pat Austin, Gerald Burke, Eddie Icenhour and Glenn Proctor. Contributors – Claudia Dodson, Carol Lange and Hugh Pendleton.

**2003:** Athletes – Barry Hamler and Grant Hill. Coaches – Stephen Hubbard, Joe May and Lillie Moore. Contributors – Karen Finch, Cecil Layman Jr. and Judy Wallace.

**2004:** Athletes – Doug Bates and Bryant Stith. Coaches – Leo Anthony and Leroy Dail. Contributors – Edward Allen, Evelyn Dawkins, Donald Hitt and David Morgan.

**2005:** Athlete – Evan Tracy Stallard. Coaches – Dominick Joe Colobro, Frances Ann Simpson, Jerry Lee Slaughter, Thomas L. Turner and Lucy Elizabeth Walker. Contributors – Larry Johnson and Vito A. Perriello, Jr., M.D.

**2006:** Athletes – Ronde Barber and Tiki Barber. Coaches – Bo Bowers and J.J. Updike. Contributors – Joe Gieck, Donna King, Nancy Phaup and Wilma Wirt.

**2007:** Athletes – Dell Curry, Terry Kirby and Chris Slade. Coaches – Wayne Cosby and Dennis “Koz” Kozlowski. Contributors – Bruce Bowen, Dr. Carol Chory, Jerry Deviney, Sandy Hadaway and Harry Ward.

**2008:** Athletes - Thomas Jones, Megan McCarthy and Calvin Talford. Coaches - Roger Bergey, Shelly Blumenthal, Patricia Mitchell and Jim Rike. Contributors - Martha Akers, Jeff Dietze, Ralph Law and Charlene Tiller.

**2009:** Athletes – Ronald Curry and Steve Jolley. Coaches – Kevin Denson and Cecil Maddux. Contributors - Alma Blythe, Doug Hunt, Dave Nelson and Bruce Phelps.

**2010:** Athletes – Walter Bowser and D.J. Dozier. Coaches – Michael Cooper, Nancy Specht, John Wymer. Contributors: Drew Bright, Bob Button, Jane Layman, Debbie, Turlip.

**2011:** Athletes – Charlie Beverly and Steve Marsee. Coaches – Alan Cantrell, Dave Crist, Jr., Dave Davis, Spencer Mayfield, Jr., and Tim Sarver. Contributors: Lora Bickley, Ron Richards and Emilie Tilley.

**2012:** Athletes – Stacy Ervin. Coaches – Pat Deegan, John Shotwell, Robert Smith and Troy Wells. Contributors: John Altizer, Mary Sue Crommelin, Steve Geiman and Bruce Patrick.

**2013:** Athletes – Mike Milchin and Anthony Poindexter. Coaches – Chip Berry, George Lancaster, Jr. and Jim Woodson. Contributors: Cindy Bomboske and John Williams.

**2014:** Coaches – Marie Crump, Stan Morgan, Steve Ragsdale and Rich Serbay. Contributors: Mark Kay Downs, Wylie French, Cecil Hurst and Linda Mercer.

**2015:** Coaches – Ray Heatwole and Don McCool. Contributors: Donald Darnton and Ted Salmon. Athletics: Bobby Lockhart, Alonzo Mourning and Keena Schuler Wood

Nominations for the Hall of Fame are due October 31 of each year, for induction the following fall. Nomination can be submitted by anyone; those interested in nominating deserving individuals may secure a nomination packet from Mike McCall and/or Sharon Condoulis at the VHSL office (434-977-8475), [mmccall@vhsl.org](mailto:mmccall@vhsl.org) or [scondoulis@vhsl.org](mailto:scondoulis@vhsl.org).

#### **About the VHSL**

The Virginia High School League is an alliance of Virginia's public and approved non-boarding, non-public high schools that promotes education, leadership, sportsmanship, character and citizenship for students by establishing and maintaining high standards for school activities and competitions. The 316 member schools and nearly 200,000 students participate in 27 different sports and 12 academic activities, culminating in 165 state championships each year.