



PVILCA News

Prairie View Interscholastic League
Coaches Association



Remembering The Past
With Pride

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER # 8-SEPTEMBER 2011 OF THE PRAIRIE VIEW INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE COACHES ASSOCIATION

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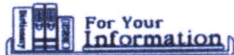
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2011 PVILCA BANQUET

"A Rousing Success!"

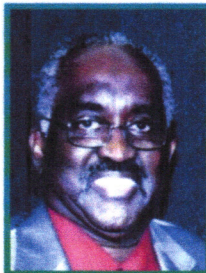
On a beautiful afternoon in Ft. Worth, Texas, the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association held its annual luncheon at the North-Fossil Radisson Hotel. With an audience of more than 600 inductees and their guests, the room was buzzing with anticipation of an exciting event long before the start of the festivities. Kudos again to Robert Brown and his committee for the organization and implementation of such a huge endeavor.

We were reminded several times that the first banquet luncheon was held February 29, 1980 in Waco, Texas at Lichelle's Dinner Club. There were 25 guests in attendance. The club owner was Coach Billy G. Howard.. This was a 'Roast and Toast' honoring Ben Young. The next day the PVILCA was formed with the main purpose of getting black coaches nominated and elected to the Texas High School Coaches Association. Now, the challenge has grown to the search for a venue that can accommodate a crowd that's approaching 1,000 guests. One of the inductees announced that he came with a busload of 50 friends and relatives. Regardless of the size of the entourage, the enthusiasm as each honoree was introduced was equally as loud.. King Arthur Prayther was, as usual the exceptional Master of Ceremony The program began with a moving prayer by Arthur Gillum followed by the Welcome. James "Clint" Williams introduced the guest speaker, John

Continued on page 2 (See Rousing Success)



John Wooten
Keynote Speaker



King Arthur Prayther
Master of Ceremony

John Wooten's Speech

(For those of you unable to attend the banquet, this is the speech in it's entirety.)

"As I look out in the audience, I recognize that I might not be the oldest guy in the house. The theme of Remembering the Past with Pride" is the kind of remembrance that will cause us to push forward and do things that are necessary to make sure we are forever moving

Continued on page 2 (See Wooten)



Leon Hamilton
Time Keeper

IT'S HERE!

Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association

"Remembering the Past With Pride"



Home	About	History	Hall of Fame	Athletes	Schools
Coaches	Milestones	News	Records	Support	Contact

Many thanks to Michael Hurd for his hard work in developing our PVILCA website. The address is www.pvilca.org. It is comprehensive, covering all the history and memories we cherish. At the 2011 banquet, John Wooten reminded today's athletes, that someone had to dig the well for the water they are drinking.

PVILCA 2011 INDUCTEES



Rousing Success from page 1

Wooten, chairman of the Fritz Pollard Alliance Foundation, enlightened and reminded everyone of the rich heritage left by coaches and athletes, and their proud history during the years before integration in the late 1960's into the early 1970s. After the keynote speech, a historical overview was given by Roland Hayes.

Dr. Thurman Robins gave an explanation and recognition of the Life members. This was followed by Mr. Leon Hamilton, who in his [See Hamp on Page 4](#)

PVILCA LIFE MEMBERS



Wooten from page 1

read. One of the outstanding things that we feel very strongly about is when you hear us talk about the Fritz Pollard Alliance, the Rooney Rule. Those of you who follow football in the National Football League have seen a great change in the last eight to ten years. You are looking at more minorities. As we stand here today, we have 8 head coaches, 5 general managers and 3 game day officials in the National Football League. All of this is a result of the Rooney Rule. It does not tell anyone who to hire, it simply takes the position that we are living in a country that speaks and says directly that everybody should have the opportunity to achieve his or her dream.

As we look at the young children here today, young men and young women, we want to make sure that we emphasize to them, the slogan that we stand on that: We drink from wells that we did not dig. This is a testimony and slogan that says you didn't do it all of this by yourself. Someone, somewhere helped you to get to where you are. That's why it is so important that we continue to push across to our young people the importance of education of being prepared. Whatever you want to do, however you want to do it, you must be prepared to do it, and you can only get there through education. Not necessarily going to college but preparing yourself for whatever field you want to be in.

One of the things we learned in being around Dr. King (and I was old enough to be with him in one on one meetings and so forth), is the fact that, in 1961, speaking to the graduating class at Lincoln University, in Pennsylvania, he spoke about a oneness, a spiritual oneness of caring about someone else. We are living in an age today where self gratification is the big thing. The beating on your chest and all these things, self gratification. We must care about what happens in Japan. We must care about what happens in Somalia and Kenya. We must care about what happens in Libya and Afghanistan and Iraq. We must care about the people in this city, in Dallas and all over the country. We must give back. We must always, always have faith.

We opened today with a prayer. We must always continually have faith in the God that teaches us that all of us are one. That was what Dr. King was talking about in 1961. We must give. The PVILCA, the Coaches Association, has been giving over the years. If you read the history, you'll find that is so important to us.

The other thing that makes me so proud to be part of the Fritz Pollard Alliance is that no one administrator, lawyer, marketing, not one single person in the organization, is on payroll. Everything we do is strictly pro bono, giving back because our belief is very simple. Somewhere, somewhere, somewhere, someone gave to us to help us get where we are.

[See Wooten continued on page 5](#)

Meritorious Awardees



Left to right: Dr. Charles Breithaupt, J. Warren Singleton, Eddie Lagway, Carolyn S. Brown and Jerry Blair.

Continued from page 2

opening remarks advised the audience that his name was **Leon "Big Hamp" Hamilton**. He continued, "I don't know where I got the "Big Hamp" from, but any how, I'm here in the flesh. They told me last year that they were going to make some improvements in this banquet. Last year they had me talking while folks were smacking, so excuse me, maybe between smacks you can hear what I have to say. We are here to honor our top athletes". He then presented the Barry W. Franklin Academic Award (male and female) to **Julius James** of Houston Yates and **Opreal Johnson** of Dallas Madison. And the Bill and Alice Rosemon Sport Award (male and female) to **Rodney Jones** of Lancaster High and **Khayla Davison**, also of Lancaster.

Beverly Day Humphries introduced the Coaches of the Year. **Toby Freeman** of West Orange-Stark, **Royce "Snoop" Johnson**, Kimball High of Dallas, **Sandra Jones**, Beaumont, Ozen and **Greg Williams**, of Lancaster. **Walter Yates** substituting for Charles Herbert, introduced the Lifetime Achievers: **Dr. Gregory Vincent**, **Cleve L. Freeman, Jr.**, **Brannen Temple**, **Dr. Thurman Robins** and **Leon Hamilton**. Cleve Freeman presented the Meritorious Awardees, **Dr. Charles Breithaupt**, **J. Warren Singleton**, **Eddie Lagway**, **Carolyn S. Brown**, **Jerry Blair** and **Edwin Bigsby** (Posthumously). Ed Robey presented The Sponsorship Awards

The Induction Ceremony

The rules for the acceptance speeches were established by the time keeper, Leon Hamilton. He elaborated "Ok, may I have your attention? We are about to start our Induction Ceremony. Now listen to me very carefully. We have 40 inductees. Now 40 times 2 is 80 minutes. That's 1 hour and 20 minutes. Some of you will take a minute and a half to walk up here and if you get excited it's going to take 3 minutes to get back to your seat. What I'm going to do is, when you say hello, I am going to start the count. My son gave me one of those new watches that has everything on it. I'm going to stand up at the one minute mark. That's how we do it in church. The deacon stands up and starts to clear his throat. At 1 minute 45 seconds, you will hear a chime. That's the time you are to say, "Thank You Very Much" and sit down.

Lifetime Achievement Awardees

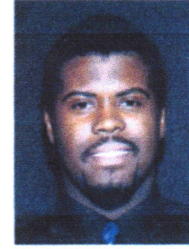


Left to right: Dr. Gregory Vincent, Cleve L. Freeman, Jr., Brannen Temple, Dr. Thurman Robins and Leon Hamilton

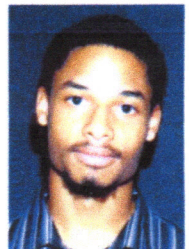
Athletes and Coaches of the Year



Edwin Bigsby
(Posthumously)



Julius Harvey James



Rodney Jones



Toby Foreman



Opreal Johnson



Khayla Davison



Royce Johnson



Greg Williams



Sandra Jones

King Arthur Prayther stated "Now the party is beginning because now is the time we meet the true legends." The first was **Michael Ashley**. "I want to thank Mr. Brown. We put a little strain on him. We started out having a bus load of people, but we had a little problem. We didn't tell him we had a bus load, so when we told him we had 54 people, he replied I have enough room for 20 people. I had to unload a bus full of family, classmates and old friends. I had to make a decision. I decided that by nature family came first. Everybody understood replying, Michael, we will support you anyway. Thank you my friends and thank you my selfish family, who took all the tickets and replied, "Let them get their own heroes."

King Arthur gave William Dennan a number of "Amens", stating that he might want to go to church with him, the way he was preaching. He reminded all of the fellows (especially those who have been married a long time) not to forget to mention their wives.

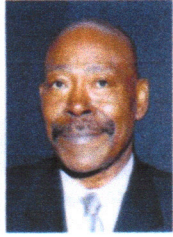
Paul Gipson's daughter was on the phone and heard the induction. Paul was referred to as PT, the same as the movie, PT109. "If Paul went down our whole team went down." Earl Thompson said as he accepted the award on behalf of Paul's daughter Tamika Hall Gipson and his uncle Ted Gipson. He concluded, I had a teacher who said, "When you do public speaking, you stand tall so people can see you, you talk loud so they can hear you, and you sit down so people will like you."

Editor's Note: The comments and responses from this year's banquet will be continued in the next edition.

PVILCA 2011 INDUCTEES



Michael Ashley



Charles Beatty



Ben Cavil



William Denman



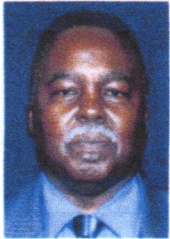
Robert Dickson II



Earnest Feggins



Paul Gibson
(Posthumously)



Oscar
Greenwood Sr.



Spencer Harris, II



Claude Harvey



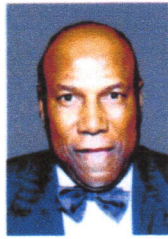
Roy Lee Hopkins
(Posthumously)



Leon King



Frank Moaning



Rather Norwood



George Richardson



Robert Smith



Johnny Tardy



Johnny Truitt, Jr.



Michael Williams



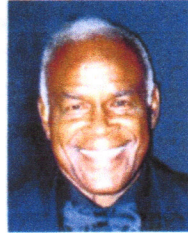
Billy Earl Beasley



James Gales



John Hightower



Jesse H. Hurst II



Berrilyn Branch



Junell Sims
Drisdale



Oliver Jenkins, Sr.



Alvin
Richardson.



Ernest Coy
St. Julian



Albert Wheatfall



Willie Frank Dearion
(Posthumously)



Earl Johnson



Morris Johnson



Timothy C. Moon, Jr.



Gene Sampson, Sr.



Julius Shanklin



Edgar Stafford



Robert L. Strayhan



Clifton Williams



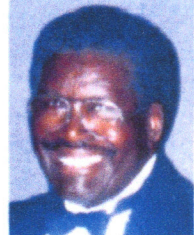
Willie Blackmon



Charles Roberts



Delvin Williams



Lawrence Collins

Current Life Members

"You are the grease in the wheel."



2007 (continued)

Ray Seals
William L. Sims
James Wanza
Gene Washington
Franklin D. Wesley, Jr.
Walter Yates, Sr.

2008

Weldon O. Baker
Oliver "Show" Brown
Coger H. Coverson
Jefferson Davis, Jr.
Joseph Melvin Dixon, Sr.
Willie Floyd
Charles Frazier
George Gray
Charles Green
Roland Hayes
L.L. Jackson
Don A. James
Freddie James
R. "Ralph" Johnson
Ed Jones
James Jones, II
Kirby Jones
Joe Leonard, Sr.
Vickie Minor
Michael Mitchell

2008 (continued)

Homer Norville
Marvin Pettway
Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, Jr.
Lewis Ritcherson
Lewis H. Ritcherson, II
Edward G. Robinson
Hensley Sapenter, Jr.
Dr. T. A. Sims
Brannen G. Temple
James A. (Froggie) White
James "Clint" Williams
2009
James Alexander
Roosevelt Alexander
Leon Carr
Kenneth Curl, Jr.
Donald "Mantan" Dickson
Thomas "Bill" Edwards
Albert Fair, Jr.
Leon "Big Hamp" Hamilton
Charles "Tex" Harrison
Dan Haskins
Eddie Hughes
Arnell Stripling Johnson
Ralph Jones
Chauncey King, Sr.
Freddie Maura
Ross E. Lewis

2009 (continued)

Ocell Miller, Jr.
Nicholas "Nick" Overton
Luther C. Robinson
Dave Smith
Robert J. Tapscott
Albert "Big Al" Walker
Horace Young
2010
Joe Curtis Baker
Leroy Bookman, Jr.
Leroy Bookman, Sr.
Lorenzo Cole
C. H. Collins
Enoch Noble Dixon, Jr.
Cleve L. Freeman Jr.
Charles L. Fisher
Charles L. Garcia
Gentris Hornsby
Edwin Johnson
Johnnie Means
Charles O'Saw
Rodney D. Saveat
John Smith, Jr.
Waylan D. Wallace, Jr.

2011

Dr. William C. Akins
Billy Earl Beasley
Jerry Lewis Blair
Tommy Bookman
Billy "Bill" Brown
Timothy Carr, II
Lawrence A. Collins
Willie Frank Dearion
Robert L. Dickson, II
Nathaniel A. Gillespie
Spencer Harris, III
John Hightower
Beverly Day Humphery
Dr. Jesse Henry Hurst, II
Oliver E. Jenkins
Henry Johnson
Timothy C. Moon, Jr.
Rathers Alvin Norwood
William F. Rosemon
Joseph Warren Singleton
John A. Truitt, Jr.
Dr. Gregory J. Vincent
Joe D. Washington, Sr.
Delvin Williams
James R. Wilson

2006

Jack Bellinger
Robert Brown
Ellis Davis, Jr.
Herman Gabriel
Arthur Gillum
Clyde Glosson
Charles Herbert

2007

Charles Brown
Jackie Carr
John Codwell, Jr.
Glennor Davis
Walter E. Day
Ronald Goodbeer
James "Bo" Humphery
Alvin N. Jackson
James C. Mayes, Sr.
Stanley R. Mays
King Arthur Prayther
Dr. Thurman Robins
Edward Roby

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our condolences and prayers to the families of the following members of the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association.

Elijah Childers, the former teacher and head football coach at George Washington Carver High School in Sweeny Texas in the 1960s passed this life on July 5, 2011. Childress was a graduate of Prairie Veiv A&M University and drafted as an Offensive Tackle in 1955 by the NFL Detroit Lions in round 6 (#72 overall)



Elijah Childers

Gerald K. Beal

Gerald Kenneth Beal, known simply as "Coach" to many, made his final play of the game of life Friday, April 15, 2011, at the age of 77 Coach Beal was a legendary figure within the Fort Worth community for his incredible accomplishments, both on the field as a coach for the historic Kirkpatrick Wildcats and the I.M. Terrell Panthers. He coached Kirkpatrick to state championship victories in 1962 and 1963, the last state championship won by a Fort Worth ISD team. He was the first black athletic director for Fort Worth ISD, from 1972 until his retirement in 1996. Off the field, Mr. Beal excelled as a civic and community leader, He leaves to mourn his family and a host of friends



Eno Herbert

We offer our condolences to the families of Charles Herbert (brother) and Herman Gabriel (brother-in-law) for the loss of their love one, **Eno Herbert**.

Charles "Bubba" Smith

The entire PVILCA family is mourning the passing of former Beaumont Charlton-Pollard standout Charles "Bubba" Smith. Bubba played for his father, legendary C-P Head Coach Willie Ray Smith (a PVILCA Hall of Famer), then starred at Michigan State and in the National Football League. Bubba Smith was 66.



John Douglas

John H. Douglas Jr. born in Ft. Worth, Texas passed away Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011, John was born Jan. 12, 1945. He was a 6'1" 195 lb defensive back drafted in 1955 out of Texas Southern University by the New Orleans Saints in the 5th (#133 overall) Survivors: His wife of 39 years, Joyce LaMothe; mother, Bertha Douglas; son, Adolfo Douglas (Ledy); daughter, Nikita Davis; brother, John L. Clay; sisters, Essie Fletcher and Earnestine Jones (Wesley); granddaughters, Shai', Taylor and Ludson; and loving nieces, nephews and cousins.



John Douglas

Hoppin' But Not Stoppin'

Many of us have fond memories and great stories about a favorite coach who taught us not only X's and O's from a playbook, but also life's lessons that impacted our lives and helped to mold us into the men and women we would become. Perhaps a card or phone call from a favorite student/athlete or student/headache would brighten the day of the following coaches and athletes on the recovery list: **Joe Leonard Sr.** of Austin, **Carl Douglas** of Fort Worth, and **Franklin Wesley Jr.** of Beaumont.

A Note From Gene Washington

Dear Robert,

Unfortunately, I will not be able to join you for the annual PVILCA Banquet. I will be spending Saturday, July 23rd in Michigan with my Michigan State University Track Coach who is very ill from Cancer. I will be joining my (1964,1965, and 1967) Track Teammates for a special re-union in his honor to renew his spirits.

In closing, I'd like to share some exciting news. Last month I was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame and have attached the Michigan State University Announcement.

Take Care. **Gene Washington**



SPOTLIGHT PERSONALITY MICHAEL J. MITCHELL

On August 19, 1941, Ms. Anna Mae Mitchell was blessed with her first-born son, Michael J. Mitchell known as "M.J.". He became a well-rounded athlete excelling in baseball and football in high school and remains president of the Charlton Pollard High School Class of 1959. He continues to consider himself a "C.P. Bulldog" as well as a "PV Panther". His career includes serving as a teacher and coach at



C. H. Daniels School, Center, Texas; Dunbar Middle School, Charlton Pollard High School, French High School, and Central High School all in Beaumont, Texas, and as Athletic Director for the Beaumont ISD. He has taken many teams to UIL competition including Basketball Class 1A State championship team of 1966 and several regional and state playoffs teams in Class 1A, 3A & 4A high school basketball and football. Two of his most treasured awards were the selection to the PVILCA Hall of Honor and selection into the Texas State Athletic Directors Hall of Fame. He is a Lifetime Member of the NAACP. He retired from Beaumont ISD, but continued to supervise a program designed to help increase the awareness of students and parents of the importance of a healthier lifestyle of activity and nutrition. Currently, he serves as a deacon in his church and is involved in several community programs. He was married to Norm J. Payne Mitchell for 37 years before her death. He is currently married to Dr. Edwinna L. Collins Palmer-Mitchell. He has two biological sons; and two stepdaughters; He also has two god-daughters and ten grandchildren. He continues to thank God for blessing him and giving him the opportunity to reach out to others.

Wooten Continued from page 2

astly, I close. Those of you, who are as old as I am, are very familiar with our Negro National Anthem, which says "Lift Every Voice and Sing" and in tribute to James Weldon Johnson, I close with the last stanza. It says:

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee,
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Every single thing we do throughout our lives should be a help to someone else. By reaching back, you are pulling someone else up. And therefore, we say very simply, that is what makes remembering our past, that gives us the **pride** in remembering the past.

And finally we say "God bless us and God bless the United States of America. Thank You

**You May Become A Life Member Today!
See Membership Application.**

Former Willis A.R. Turner coach, players remember state football championship



WILLIS — There were no rings passed out. No celebratory parade through downtown. If you're looking for a gaudy sign — or any sign for that matter — you won't find it.

Besides the tales of how things used to be from players and fans alike, the only thing left to commemorate the last state championship football team from Montgomery County is a scrapbook kept in good condition by former Willis and A.R. Turner High School football coach Julius Shanklin.

The scrapbook tells the story of an A.R. Turner football program that reached the Prairie View Interscholastic League Class 1A state quarter and semifinals before breaking through for a state title in 1967. "They are all we have," said Shanklin of the countless number of Conroe Courier articles from the '60s and '70s. "Without these, we wouldn't have anything to show for what we accomplished."

What the A.R. Turner football team did accomplish that 1967-68 school year was a 9-3 run to the state championship, where the team defeated Trinity 30-10. It was the last time any team from the county has won a state title in football. While they may not have the rings that high school state championship teams get today, and the team is still waiting for its parade, Shanklin and players Earnest Feggins Jr., Michael Williams, Claude E. Harvey and George Richardson were inducted into the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association Hall of Fame on July 23 in Fort Worth. "It's a tremendous honor," said Shanklin, who worked in the Willis Independent School District from 1961 until retiring in 1999. "What we did during that time and everything we accomplished was because of how hard everybody worked." Led by quarterback Charles "White Shoes" Young, who got his moniker from the bright white Converse tennis shoes he wore on game night, the 1967 championship culminated a run in which A.R. Turner won five out of six District 4-A championships beginning in 1961, before the PVIL was disbanded a year later following desegregation. "We were somewhat of a dynasty," Feggins Jr. said. Never the biggest team on the field, A.R. Turner football was known for its speed. Offensive linemen Nathaniel Lawrence and Williams — mainly Lawrence — often clocked times on the track competitive with the team's backs. "We were fast," Williams said. "We would go up against teams that were bigger than us, but they couldn't outrun us." Shanklin, Feggins Jr., Williams, Richardson, Young, Lawrence and Ruben Phillips got together in Willis one Saturday along with Jerry Blair, who was a 10-year-old fan at the time of the championship, at somewhat of a reunion for the 1967 title run. While there is no sign commemorating the team's title — although the UIL will recognize PVIL state championships — the players won't hesitate to tell the story of their brush with glory if you happen to ask. The proof is in the scrapbook.

2012 Banquet
will be in San Antonio
July 28, 2012