

PVILCA *News*

Prairie View Interscholastic League
Coaches Association



*Remembering The Past
With Pride*

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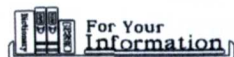
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This newsletter will be published Quarterly
(four times a year), you may send articles
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Happy Holidays

*Christmas is for joy, for giving and
sharing, for laughter, for coming
together with family and friends, for
tinsel and brightly decorated packages...
But mostly, Christmas is for love. It was
this love for which Jesus came to this
world and sacrificed his life.*

From

**THE PRAIRIE VIEW INTERSCHOLASTIC
LEAGUE COACHES ASSOCIATION**

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

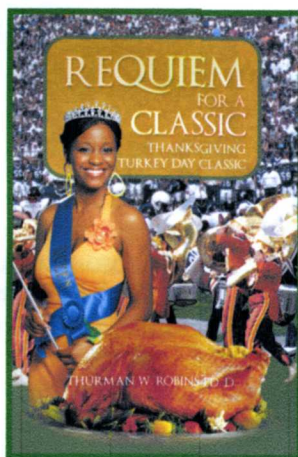
Dr. Thurman W. Robins

He can do more things
then keep track of
money. Our treasurer of
the PVILCA, Dr.
Thurman Robins can
also write a book:
Requiem For A Classic

Thanksgiving

Turkey Day Classic.

"In the era when
segregation and Jim Crow laws ruled the land, "The
Turkey Day Classic" was created. The event

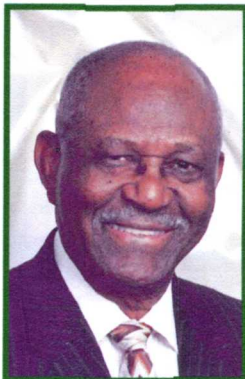


**Thurman Robins's
Book Signing**

prospered from 1927 thru 1966. Newspaper accounts describe the
Thanksgiving Day football game between Houston's Jack Yates and Phillis
Wheatley High Schools as the annual schoolboy game in America with the
largest attendance. Thousands of football fans came, "dressed to kill" with
eager anticipation and jubilant spirits to enjoy pep rallies, parades,
Thanksgiving Day breakfasts, and dances. The half-time activities were

Continued on page 3 See Robins

PVILCA LOSES A LEGEND



Walter Edgar Day

Walter Day, 85, an educator, coach and living legend, passed away Monday, Nov. 14, 2011. Day began his career as a high school teacher and football coach in his home town of Corsicana after graduating in 1950 from Samuel Houston College, now Houston-Tillotson University of Austin. He later enrolled in Texas Southern University and received a master's degree in 1954. After nine years in Corsicana, his

highly successful coaching record became known throughout the state of Texas. He relocated to Houston public school, E.E. Worthing, for a short while before moving to Fort Worth in 1961 and serving as head coach at historic I.M. Terrell until 1968. Seeking change and a different challenge, but remaining with the Fort Worth ISD, he chose administration. Day served as vice principal and later principal of I.M. Terrell High School. At the administration building, he served as assistant director of secondary education and then director of pupil personnel. His final service to Fort Worth ISD was as principal of O.D. Wyatt High School until his retirement in 1986. After his retirement, writing and research became his new interest. Day researched and wrote the untold story of successful black coaches and the achievements of their teams prior to integration using the theme, "Remembering the Past with Pride." Remembering his love: wife of 60 years, Jewel Day and many relatives and friends.

A Letter To PVILCA Board Chairman Robert Brown

Chairman Brown,

I have a commitment for a scholarship from Republic Waste Management. They have not given me the final amount yet but they will give the funds to the City of Prairie View designated as a contribution to the PVIL Scholarship fund (for a PVAMU Student).

Yours in service,
Frank D. Jackson
Governmental Relations Officer
Prairie View A&M University

WE NEED NEWS.

Let us know what is happening in your neck of the woods. Share with us some of your high school and college coaching and playing experiences. We need to hear from all areas of Texas. I'm sure there are eye opening stories out there.

Honors Bestowed Upon Former Silsbee Athletes



Walter Land



Elester Whitmore

Longtime Silsbee residents Walter R. Land, Sr. and Elester Whitmore Sr. got the invitations of a lifetime that they never dreamed of in a million years. After many years as athletes for Waldo

Matthews high School in Silsbee, Land and Whitmore received letters from the Prairie View Interscholastic League (PVIL) that they will be inducted into the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Assoc.

"This is a blessing from up above", said Land. "I couldn't have done this all alone. He helped me garner this honor." Land was the Salutatorian of Waldo High School in 1960 and went on to Prairie View where he graduated in 1965 with a BA in Sociology. He was a gifted athlete that excelled in football and played baseball for Prairie View A&M College.

Whitmore graduated from Waldo High School in 1962, where he excelled in basketball. He attended Jarvis Christian College and Lamar LIT.

The induction ceremony will be on July 28, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in San Antonio, Texas

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

Goree Johnson Inducted Into The Black Sports Hall Of Fame



PVIL Hall Of Famer, **Goree Johnson** along with nine others, was inducted into the Black Sports Hall of Fame. Other inductees were ■ Track and Field: **Norma Huger** who won a gold medal in 4x100 relay at the 1963

Pam American Games ■ Basketball: **Pam Green**, nine-time letterman at South Oak Cliff; **Jason Sasser**, Sacramento Kings, small forward. ■ Football: **Sid Blanks**, 1964-68 Houston Oilers halfback; **Gary "Peanut" Nicholas**, 1976 member of the All-Southwest Athletic Conference-football team; **John Thomas Smith**, 12 year NFL veteran who led in receptions in 1987; **Mike Thomas**, 1975 NFL offensive Rookie of the Year. ■ Coaching: **Goree Johnson** coached the Kimball Knights to the UIL State championships in 1996 and 1997. **Charles Walton**, Atwell Middle School's 32 year veteran football, basketball and track coach; and **James White**, who won two Texas Association Coaches' Milestone Coach Awards for 500 and 600 wins. Congratulations to all inductees.

Turner's 1967 Football Champs Receive Rings and Plaque



WILLIS – The 1967 Prairie View Interscholastic League state champion A.R. Turner High School football team finally received the recognition it deserves. As PVIL Class A champs, the players and coach was recognized during halftime of the Willis High School football game at Berton A. Yates Stadium. Kickoff was 7:30 p.m Friday against Humble. Players and the head coach received championship rings and a plaque will be placed at the stadium in their honor “It means a lot,” said Julius Shanklin, Turner’s head coach. “I think it’s mostly for the guys who played. I’m not looking for any reward because I was just doing a job and we just happened to win.” The team defeated Trinity 30-10 to win the 1967 state championship. On July 23, 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 in Fort Worth. “They are the only state football champion team in the history of the Willis Independent School District” WISD Superintendent Bret Jimerson said. “We’re excited to have the opportunity to honor their accomplishment.” In 1967, schools in Texas were segregated and A.R. Turner High School was the all-black high school in Willis. The football team played every Saturday night, while the white Willis High School played on Friday nights so the community could support both teams, Shanklin said. “We were at a segregated school, a separate school, but we were part of the Willis school district,” he said. The following school year, the schools became integrated. While it’s common now for state champions to receive rings honoring their accomplishment, it wasn’t common in 1967, WISD Athletic Director Kelly Savoy said. However, players did receive a jacket for their accomplishment, Shanklin said. It was while working with two recent Willis High School state track and field champions and a ring company that things got started to ensure the Turner team received its recognition, Savoy said. “It would be great to recognize them at halftime,” Savoy said. “It’s part of our community’s history. There are kids in our school now that don’t know a Willis school won a state championship.” However, the roadblock was the funding, since schools are prohibited from purchasing gifts for athletes. Donations must come from the community. That’s where the Willis Alumni Association stepped in with fundraising through game concession sales and donation collections that brought in

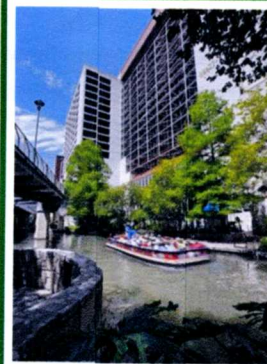
roughly \$6,000 to purchase the rings for the players and coach, said Willis Alumni Association President Jerry Blair, who was 10 when the team brought home the state championship.

“It’s long overdue,” he said. “No one in the school system back then stood up for something that was wrong to make it right.” The alumni association started the process in 1987 to get the team recognized during a football game, but was only given three minutes before the game, which Blair said was not enough. He credits Savoy, backed by the school administration’s support, with getting the team the recognition it deserves. “If it wasn’t for that, this probably wouldn’t be happening,” Blair said. The Prairie View Interscholastic League played a leading role in developing African-American students in the arts, literature, athletics and music from the 1920’s through 1967, according to www.uiltexas.org. Originally called the Texas Interscholastic League of Colored Schools, the PVIL served as the governing body for extra-curricular activities for Texas’ African-American high schools. The league was organized in 1920 by the Colored Teachers State Association of Texas and the Negro School Division of the State Department of Education, according to www.uiltexas.org. In 1923 the TILCS came under the authority of Prairie View A&M College, thereby becoming the Prairie View Interscholastic League. The structure and format was similar to the University Interscholastic League, according to www.uiltexas.org. PVIL competition included athletics, typing, declamation, music and extemporaneous speaking. The PVIL staged state championship games in football, basketball, baseball and track and field. At its peak, it enrolled 500 schools. The PVIL began to merge with the UIL at the start of the 1967-68 school year and was disbanded at the end of the 1969-70 school year, according to www.uiltexas.org

Robins Continued from page 1

eloquent with its pageantry, beautiful automobiles, floats, marching bands and drill units, and the crowning of the Miss Wheatley and Miss Yates. "Let the Games Begin", is a chapter which provides highlights of each game played. The Classic was an annual rivalry like none other. The competition between the two schools was of epic proportions during their 39 years of play. To purchase a book visit www.authorhouse.com

Requiem For A Classic, Thurman Robins or email thurmanrobins@aol.com.



2012 Banquet

July 28, 2012

**will be at the
Hyatt Regency
123 Losoya St,
San Antonio, Texas
78205**

Tel: 1 210 222 1234

Current Life Members

"You are the grease in the wheel."



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" Humphrey
Alvin N. Jackson
James C. Mayes, Sr.
Stanley R. Mays
King Arthur Prayther
Dr. Thurman Robins
Edward Roby
Ray Seals
William L. Sims

2007 (continued)

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
Homer Norville
Marvin Pettway

2008 (continued)

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
Ocell Miller, Jr.

Nicholas Overton

2009 (continued)

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
Howard O'Neal Aldridge
Billy Earl Beasley

2011(continued)

Jerry Lewis Blair
Tommy Bookman
Billy "Bill" Brown
James "Bo" Bundage
Timothy Cart, III
Lawrence A. Collins
Willie Frank Dearion
Robert L. Dickson, II
Charles "Doc" Dockery
Nathaniel A. Gillespie
Spencer Harris, III
John Hightower
Beverly Day Humphery
Dr. Jesse Henry Hurst, II
Oliver E. Jenkins
Henry Johnson
Coy K. Limbrick
Timothy C. Moon, Jr.
Rathers Alvin Norwood
J. M. Richard
William F. Rosemon
Joseph Warren Singleton
John A. Truitt, Jr.
Dr. Gregory J. Vincent
Joe D. Washington, Sr.
Delvin Williams
Nicholas "Njc" Williams
James R. Wilson

IN SYMPATHY

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



Tommye Harrison



Charles Carr



Roland Rogers

Tommye Cary Harrison departed this life Oct. 27, 2011. She leaves to cherish her memories: a devoted husband **Charles "Tex" Harrison, of the Harlem Globetrotters**, three loving daughters, her mother, four grandchildren, one sister, extended family and friends.

Charles Carr, the brother of coaching legend, **Jackie Carr** passed away on October 29, 2011. Charles coached basketball many years in HISD. He graduated from Wheatley in Houston 1952 and from Prairie View in 1956. He was a member of two PVIL state basketball teams. The 1952 team was runner-up national champions losing in the finals (41-38) to Central High of Louisville, Kentucky. Sixteen state champions participated in the tournament.

Roland Rogers departed this life December 28, 2011. He graduated from Worthing High School and Texas Southern University and coached for 31 years at Jesse Jones High School in Houston ISD. Rogers was one of the football legends of Texas Southern University. He played in the Centennial League in 1967, 68, 69 with the Charleston Rockets and the New Jersey Jays. He leaves many relatives and friends to cherish his memories.

Mr. Robert L. Strayhan, of Lewisville, AR. passed away Sunday, November 27, 2011. A 1942 graduate of Jack Yates High School in Houston, Texas. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education from Wiley College in 1947. He was a member of the 1945 Negro National Championship Football Team along with coach Johnny Peoples. He received his Master of Science Degree from Prairie View A & M University in 1956. Coach Strayhan joined the faculty of George Washington Carver High School of Baytown, Texas where he served as assistant football coach and head basketball coach. His Carver teams won many championships. In 1967, he joined the coaching staff at Foster High School. He retired from teaching in 1989, having given thirty-eight (38) years of service. On July 23, 2011, the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association inducted Coach Strayhan into the Hall of Fame.



Robert Strayhan

Clarence L. Nix, Jr. died Nov. 18, 2011 in Paris, Texas. He was 91 years old. Often recognized as a voice in the community, he had impact on the lives of many in serving as a coach, teacher and principal for 58 years in Clarksville's school history. He attended Texas College where he earned All-American honors in 1941. He coached at Cheatham High School (the once all-Black school in Clarksville) where he produced outstanding teams in all sports. Funeral services were held in the Clarence Nix, Jr., Gym, at Clarksville High School which was named in his honor.



Charles Nix, Jr.