



2011 Hall of Honor and Hall of Fame Banquet a Huge Success

If you attended an all-black high school in Texas before integration, the Radisson North-Fossil Creek Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas was the place to be on Saturday July 23, 2011 when the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association held its 32nd Annual Hall of Honor and Hall of Fame Banquet.

The banquet room was elegantly decorated with colorful PVILCA and other high school banners mounted on the walls. The hotel lobby was housed with memorabilia from former all-black PVIL-governed Texas high schools.

Banquet tickets were completely sold out and the dining room was filled to capacity as over 600 people showed up for this prestigious event.

Former Baytown Carver Coach Robert Strayhan was unable to attend the ceremony because of health reasons, however, a group of family and friends traveled from Lewisville, Arkansas to witness his induction. Coach Strayhan was at home recovering from a stroke he suffered earlier this year. James Smith accepted coach Strayhan's plaque which his niece, Evelyn Turner, delivered to him.

"When I gave the plaque and program to uncle, he was smiling from ear to ear," Ms. Turner said. "He was so excited, that he kept repeating how grateful he was to have been inducted and he started telling us stories about the good old days at Baytown Carver high school."

The master of ceremonies for the banquet was King Arthur Prayther (former sports writer for the Houston Forward Times newspaper). The guest speaker was, John Wooten, chairman of the Fritz Pollard Alliance, and former NFL Player – 1959-1967, Cleveland Browns, and 1967-1968, Washington Redskins.

Other former NFL athletes in attendance who played at PVIL high schools included: "Mean Joe" Greene (Pittsburg Steelers), Charles Frazier (Houston Oilers), Delvin Williams (San Francisco 49ers/Miami Dolphins), Paul Gibson (Atlanta Falcons), Claude E. Harvey (Houston Oilers/Philadelphia Eagles), Roy Lee "Cookie" Hopkins

(Houston Oilers), Johnny Tardy (Houston Oilers/Detroit Lions), and Willie Frank Dearion (Chicago Bears).

Robert Brown, PVILCA chairman, did an outstanding job with the help of the board of directors and management staff in organizing this prestigious event. Those individuals included Brown, Ed Roby, Cleve Freeman, Jr., Jack Bellinger, James Clint Williams, Charles Hebert, Leon "Big Hamp" Hamilton, Don James, Dr. Thurman Robins, Brannen Temple, Arthur Gillum, Lewis Richardson, II, and Roland Hayes.

The PVILCA recognized 13 new Lifetime Members: Dr. William C. Akins, Billy Earl Beasley, Jerry Lewis Blair, Billy "Bill" Brown, Timothy Carr, II, Nathaniel A. Gillespie, Spencer Harris, III, William F. Roseman, Charles O. Saw, Joseph Warren Singleton, John A. Truitt, Jr., Dr. Gregory J. Vincent and James R. Wilson.

The Baytown Carver High School Recognition & Preservation Society headed by its founder/president J. Warren Singleton, will be working with the chairman of the PVILCA and its officers to give the PVILCA a list of potential candidates from Baytown Carver for the upcoming 2012 Hall of Fame Induction.

"We need candidates who will be willing to meet all of the PVILCA requirements," said Singleton.

The PVILCA is considering branching out more and is considering in the future recognizing others beside coaches, athletes, trainers, equipment managers, and others. They are considering the induction of former outstanding PVIL band directors and industrial arts state competition winners.

Singleton has agreed to work with the PVILCA to get this started.

"We need at least three band directors and three industrial arts candidates for 2012 to get started," he said.

If anyone knows of any former outstanding PVIL bands or individuals who won PVIL state competitions in band and industrial arts, please contact J. Warren Singleton at 281-839-3004 or email him at jwarrensingleton@yahoo.com.

Here are the PVILCA 2011 inductees and recipients:

FOOTBALL – Michael W. Ashley, Charles "Chuck" Beatty, Ben L. Cavil, William E. Denman, Robert L. Dickson, II, Earnest Feggins, Paul Gipson, Oscar G. Greenwood, Sr., Spencer Harris, III, Claude E. Harvey, Roy L. Hopkins, Leon King, Frank Moaning, Rather Alvin Norwood, George A. Richardson, Robert L. Smith, Johnny Tardy, John Anthony Truitt, Jr. and Michael Williams.

BASEBALL – Jessie H. Hurst, II.

BASKETBALL – Billy Frank Beasley, James C. "Jimmy" Gales and John Hightower.

TENNIS – Berrilyn J. Branch.

TRACK – Junell Sims Drisdale, Oliver Eugene Jenkins, Sr., Alvin "Doby" Richardson, Ernest Coy St. Julian and Albert Wheatfall.

COACH – Willie Frank Dearion, Morris Johnson, Gene Leslie Sampson, Sr., Edgar Stafford, Clifton Williams, Earl "Zip" Johnson, Timothy C. Moon, Jr., Julius Shanklin and Robert L. Strayhan.

MERITORIOUS AWARD – Edwin "Pop" Bigsby, Jerry Blair, Carolyn Joyce Sadberry Brown, Eddie Lagway and J. Warren Singleton.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT – Cleve L. Freeman, Jr., Leon “Big Hamp” Hamilton, Dr. Thurman Robins, Brannen “Big Temp” Temple and Gregory J. Vincent.

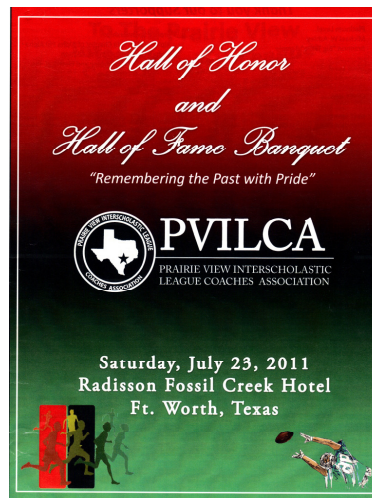
BARRY W. FRANKLIN AWARD – High School Scholar (Male), Julius Harvey Janes (Houston Yates) and Female, Opreal Johnson (Dallas Madison).

BILL AND ALICE ROSEMON AWARD – High School Athlete of the Year. Male, Rodney Jones and Female, Khayla Davison.

COACH OF THE YEAR – Toby Foreman, 3A Boys Track State Championships (West Orange Stark), Royce “Snoop” Johnson, 4A Basketball State Championship (Dallas-Justin F. Kimball High School), Sandra Jones – 3A Girls Track State Champions (Beaumont Ozen Magnet High School) and Greg Williams – 4A Boys Track State Champions (Lancaster High School).

PVIL OFFICIALS – Lawrence Collins.

PVIL-UIL BRIDGING THE GAP, 1967-1977 – Honorable Willie E. B. Blackman (Track), Charles L. Roberts (Football), and Delvin Williams (Track & Football).





University Interscholastic League

Congratulates the

PVILCA

On its Annual

Hall of Honor & Hall of Fame