

Piggott

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classroom after recently voting him as the Teacher of the Year at Carver.

"I wasn't surprised at all when Danny won that," said Poe, who coached Piggott when he attended Carver. "I felt he should've been named teacher of the year a few years back. He's very dedicated. He also makes learning fun. The kids enjoy him. And, he brings the best out of them. Danny is all about preparing kids for the big picture. That's what's it's all about. I've never seen a coach like him. He's a teacher first and a coach second."



Poe

Piggott, 36, was also recently named as a top four finalist for Steve Harvey's Hoodie Awards. The Hoodie Awards are given to the best of the best businesses from Dallas to Detroit, where people can win categories such as best beauty shops, hair salons, church choirs, teachers, BBQ spots, detail shops, barbershops and more. Voting took place online and the final results were awarded on the night of the event. Piggott and his wife were flown to Las Vegas to take part in the special weekend this past September.

"Both of those were tremendous honors," Piggott said of the Teacher of the Year and being a finalist for a Hoodie. "I didn't have any idea that I'd have such an impact on kids when I was coming up. You know, I came up with two parents that were math teachers. And, my dad also coached. I looked up to my parents. I wanted to be like them. I love teaching kids. I don't like it when we have teacher work days and the kids aren't here. I'm like, 'What are we here for?' You go to work everyday and work hard. To feel like the work you put in was appreciated by an entire community is incredible. People had to take the time to call in or get on the computer to vote."

"People called me and told me they were talking about me on the radio," Piggott said. "To finish in the top four of a nationwide event is kind of warming. That makes me want to go back in the classroom and work even harder."

Despite the huge honor, Piggott said he didn't feel the magnitude of being a finalist for a Hoodie until he saw someone holding a sign with his name on it as he and his wife got off the plane in Nevada.

"I really didn't realize how big this was until we got to Las Vegas," Piggott said. "I was getting interviewed by the radio. I'm walking down the same red carpet as Patti Labelle, Anthony Hamilton, Kirk Franklin and other celebrities. It was really incredible."

Special gesture to mothers

Piggott doesn't simply help students he teaches. He also helps young mothers each Mother's Day. He's been known to give every young mother a rose on Mother's Day, simply to show he cares. Piggott started that when he was at Mt. Tabor over 10 years ago.

"I don't remember what made me start that," Piggott said with a smile. "I just thought I would give a basic acknowledgment to the young ladies who work hard to do well. I'm a young parent myself. I know the work that goes into it. I know about the sacrifice."

"I just wanted to acknowledge what they were doing is something special," Piggott continued. "It's not just special for them. But it's special for their child as well."

A GATHERING OF LEGENDS



The new members of the North Carolina A&T State University's Sports Hall of Fame pose for a group picture after the Nov. 21 induction ceremony at the Alumni-Foundation Event Center. The members were also recognized during halftime at the Aggie football contest against South Carolina State on Nov. 22. Pictured are new members (from left to right) Dr. Velma Speight-Buford, Edward Gladden Favors, Dr. Isaac Barnett, William "Bill" Hayes, J.D. Haynes, James Jackson and Melvin Swann (not pictured in photo is new member Gladys Shipman).

Kelly joins St. Aug's athletic department

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Kristene Kelly has been appointed to the position of Associate Athletic Director at Saint Augustine's College.

Kelly will also join the college's faculty in the Department of Human Performance and Wellness. Her responsibilities will include assisting the athletic director, George Williams, in providing oversight and supervision in the areas of staffing, team travel, planning and academics; developing the budgets, departmental policies; and serving as sports supervisor for men's basketball, softball, bowling and baseball; and sports information and compliance.

Kelly received a Bachelors of Science and a Bachelors of Arts Degree



Kelly

from Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte; and a Masters of Science from the University of Tennessee. She is currently finishing requirements for a Doctoral of Education Degree at the United States Sports Academy.

I OWE YOU!

That's right, Uncle Sam could owe you money. If you paid federal excise tax on long-distance phone service during the last three years, you may be eligible for a telephone tax refund. The standard refund is \$30 to \$60 and for some people, who had large phone bills, it could be even more. Go to IRS.gov for details. Or dial 1-800-829-4477 and select recorded tax topic #611.

Internal Revenue Service

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