

# Local Sports Hall of Fame adds stellar class of 14

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

More than 20 seasons have come and gone and still no one has yet to out pace Herman McKinnie Jr.

He was a senior at West Forsyth High School in 1987 when he broke the county's rushing record during that year's East-West All-Star Football Game. McKinnie, who says that he is surprised that his record has stood for so long, admits that he breathes a little sigh of relief when a football season ends and his record is still intact.

"It feels pretty good," McKinnie, now a city employee, said with a grin.

But even if a youngster tops the record next season, McKinnie will now be forever immortalized in the annals of local sports history. He and 13 other equally stellar sports-minded men make up the 2012 Class of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Sports Hall of Fame.

The Class of 2012 was announced on April 11 at the Winston-Salem Sportsmen Club's headquarters.

The Gathering Place building at the corner of Sixth and Cherry streets.

"This is a very outstanding field of inductees," said Robert Wynn, the president of the Sportsmen and a legendary former Carver High School coach.

For more than 30 years, the Sportsmen have selected accomplished athletes, coaches, athletic directors and other supporters of local



Inductee Jeff Jones looks over some of the items on display at the Hall.

Photos by Kevin Walker

athletics for membership in the Hall. There are currently 224 members, each of whom have their names inscribed on the hallowed walls of the Sportsmen's headquarters.

This year's class includes coaches like Howard West, the former Reynolds High and current Reagan High head boys basketball coach who led teams to three consecutive State 4 A Championships from 2000-2002, and Maurice Atwood, who as

Parkland's Wrestling coach has 13 state championships and several North Carolina Coach of the Year awards under his belt.

The former high school



Some of the inductees will opt to receive a membership ring like this one.

athletes inducted this year include Christopher J. McCoy, whom Sportsmen Club member Aaron Bailey, Carver's athletics director, praised as "pretty much the best running back to ever

come out of Reynolds." McCoy, now a coach at Reagan, said he is humbled by the honor. He too has many records that have stood since the mid-1990s. McCoy is proud that his records have

stood for nearly two decades, but he would be just as proud if the players he currently coaches claim those records for themselves.

"I give them all the tools that they need to break my records," he said.

When Mineral Springs was a high school, not the middle school it is today, L. Douglas Wall was the big man on campus. In the late 1950s and early 60s, he guided the school's basketball team to success.

Averaging 16 points a game during his senior year, Wall was an easy choice for the Forsyth County 2-A Player of the Year. Wall - who now runs his family's more than 100-year-old company (Wall Monument on Indiana Avenue) - said that he was touched by his induction into the Hall.

Hanes Hosiery Recreation Center Director Art Blevins is the only inductee this year who did not earn the honor for accomplishments on the field, court, sidelines or in the AD's office. Blevins, who has dedicated his career to coaching youth sports at city recreation centers, is being honored for his long-time support of sports and young athletes.

This year's other inductees are: Jeff Bradley, who excelled in both football and track at West Forsyth; Daren Lee Hart, a current Winston-Salem State Football coach who as a Carver High student excelled in football, baseball and basketball; Brian Howard, a former star basketball player at North Forsyth; Jeff Jones, who in the early 1980s was one of East Forsyth's best basketball players; Colon Nifong, a former coach and AD at North; Druwood Pack, whose accomplishments as West's AD are many and stellar; Terry Pope, a star football, baseball and basketball player at Griffith High School in the 1960s; and Marty Stanley, Glenn's successful AD.

The group will be formally recognized and inducted during a Friday, May 4 banquet at the Benton Convention Center. Tickets to the event, which starts promptly at 7 p.m., are \$30. Members of the Sportsmen Club will have tickets available for purchase on April 24 from 7:30 - 9 p.m. and from 6 - 8 p.m. on April 27 at the Winston Lake Family YMCA, 901 Waterworks Road. Call 336-682-3493 for tickets and/or other information.

Forsyth MEDICAL CENTER



## fitfamilyfivek

Proceeds from the race benefit childhood obesity programs, Girls on the Run™ and the Forsyth Medical Center Foundation

Saturday, April 28, 2012

Register online at [www.gotr-forsythnc.org](http://www.gotr-forsythnc.org).

### RACE SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 28, 2012  
8:00 a.m. One-Mile Fun Run Starts  
8:30 a.m. 5K Starts

### PRICING

5K  
Register before March 30: \$20.00  
Register between March 30 and April 27: \$25.00  
Day-of Race Registration: \$30.00

T-shirts are guaranteed to participants that register before April 13.

ONE-MILE FUN RUN  
\$10 per child. Parents run for free.

### WHERE

William G. White, Jr. Family YMCA  
775 West End Boulevard  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

### PACKET PICK-UP

Participants can pick up their packets at the William G. White, Jr. Family YMCA during the following times:

- Thursday, April 26, 5 to 7 p.m.
- Friday, April 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Saturday, April 28, 6:30 to 8 a.m.