

KMHS HOF: Childers, Leigh, Rickenbacker and Hollifield to be inducted at 28th annual ceremony, May 9

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on the 1967 KMHS baseball team that won the Southwestern Conference championship. He went on to play four years at Gardner-Webb University and played semi-pro fast pitch softball for several years in the area.

Leigh served over 30 years in the public schools as a teacher/coach, including stops at Allendale-Fairfax, SC, Southwest Junior High in Gastonia and Bessemer City, Canton Pisgah, Kings Mountain, East Gaston and

West Lincoln high schools.

One of his softball teams at Pisgah played for the state championship, and two of his KMHS teams won conference titles. He coached the KMHS baseball team from 1996-2003. His '99 team won 19 games and finished fifth in the state. He also served as head girls basketball coach at KMHS. He was an assistant coach on the 1998 KMHS football team that played for the state championship and later served as defensive coordinator at KMHS, East Gaston

and West Lincoln.

Priscilla Rickenbacker was a basketball and softball standout at KMHS from 1976-79. She also played both sports at N.C. Wesleyan College, where she was the school's first All-American basketball player. She was All-Conference and All-Region from 1980-82, averaging 20 points per game. She led the softball team to the 1981 state championship with a .456 batting average. She was inducted into the N.C. Wesleyan Hall of Fame in

2008.

In 1998, she coached the North Gaston women's basketball team to the Southwestern Conference championship and was conference coach of the year. From 1999-2009 she served as assistant coach and recruiting director at the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay, Loyola of Chicago, University of Cincinnati and Appalachian State. She is currently the athletic director at Greater Providence Baptist Church in Charlotte.

Dale Hollifield was an All-Conference lineman at KMHS where he helped the 1960 team to a 9-1 season. He was All-Conference and played in the Lions Bowl all-star game.

From 1962-64 he was an offensive and defensive lineman at Western Carolina University.

After graduation he returned home to Kings Mountain, and since that time has remained active in sports as a supporter and volunteer. He has been a member of the KMHS Booster Club for

well over 30 years, serving as president and treasurer on numerous occasions. He has been a member of the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame committee for several years and has been its president for the past seven. He is a charter member of the Kings Mountain Touch-down Club and is a member of its Board of Directors. He has been a clock operator for KMHS football games for many years and is Kings Mountain's representative on the Cleveland County Athletic Board.



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