

# Art Blevins inducted into the Parkland Athletic Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Art Blevins, director of the Hanes Hosiery Community Center, was inducted into the Parkland High School Athletic Hall of Fame Thursday, Sept. 1.

Blevins has been a mainstay in the Parks and Recreation department of Winston-Salem for over 30 years.

This was the inaugural class of the Parkland HOF. The committee chose Blevins unanimously.

Blevins said he was very honored to have been selected part of the Parkland HOF.

"With God, all things are possible, and I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. God has truly blessed me. I am a lucky man. I am blessed to have a great wife, wonderful daughter, great mother and great family and real friends I can count on and thousands of kids I call my own."

Blevins was one of eight inductees that also included; Tom Cash, Paul Cloud, Louis "Josh" Henighan II, Tome Muse, Bruce Shelton, Homer Thompson and James Webster Jr.

Art Blevins in 1976 graduated from Parkland High School, where he played varsity football for the late, great coach Homer Thompson.

In 1978, Blevins started his own youth sports program out of his own pocket in his old Southside neighborhood for underprivileged kids. Blevins grew up in Southside and watched some of his childhood friends get in trouble or to jail, so the program was started to keep children off the streets and to be into something positive.

Blevins soon had over 100 kids playing ball, and the Winston-Salem recreation department took notice and offered him a job.

He was hired and ran

the Forest Park summer recreation playground in the summer and the Skyland recreation center in East Winston in the fall and winter.

Successful athletic programs and city championships in basketball and baseball followed and so did the kids and parents over the years.

Blevins has touched thousands of children's lives who have been in his recreation programs whether at Forest Park, Skyland, South Fork, or Hanes Hosiery over the years.

Blevins has won 16 awards for his work with kids and the community.

He says, "One hundred years from now, it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, or how much money I had. But what matters the most is that I was important in the life of a child."



Photo by Kenny Ferris

Members and representatives of the first Parkland High School Athletic Hall of Fame class are shown. Front row, left to right, are Art Blevins; Louis "Josh" Henighan II; Anne Thompson, who is standing in for her late father, Coach Homer Thompson; and Larry Shelton, standing in for his late brother Bruce Shelton. Back row, left to right, are James Webster Jr., Coach Tome Muse and Paul Cloud.



## Winston Lake Golf Association awards several scholarships

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The Winston Lake Senior Golf Association scholarship awards banquet was held Friday, July 28 at the Winston Lake Golf Course.

The Blalock scholarships are presented each year to students who have excellent achievements in academics and community service. The scholarship is named in honor of the Blalock family, which is one of the charter members and a gold sponsor of the association.

Reginald Blalock and his family were on hand to give words of encouragement to

the scholarship recipient. They also recognized Charles Butler, scholarship chairman, and the selection committee for their due diligence in the selection process.

Mr. Butler and Laverne Blalock presented eight \$1,000 scholarship checks to these recipients: Mychala Rene Wolfe, Christina Renee Boyd, Samantha Kristina Leath, Lauren Elizabeth Smith, Genesis Brunae Graham, Levern Blaylock, Jacora Makay Lane, Lorenzo Grey Graise, Jr., Reginald Blaylock and Antonia Alyssa Hicks.

(Submitted photo)

(Left) Front row left to right - Mychala Rene Wolfe, Christina Renee Boyd; second row - Samantha Kristina Leath, Lauren Elizabeth Smith, Genesis Brunae Graham; back row - Levern Blaylock, Jacora Makay Lane, Lorenzo Grey Graise, Jr., and Reginald Blaylock. Not pictured Antonia Alyssa Hicks.

## Athletic supplier comes to the aid of Grayhounds

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Anthony Warren was in a state of near-panic when he came across some information recently. Warren, vice-president of the Winston-Salem Grayhounds AYFL football program was searching for a company that could supply his teams with uniforms for their scrimmage in Durham. Warren had been told that the uniforms that he had ordered wouldn't be in on time and he was scrambling to find a supplier to produce them in four days.

It was through a chance encounter with another program that Warren arrived at the solution to his dilemma. While talking to James Williams, president of the Pfafftown Packers, Warren heard about a

local company that specializes in the sale of wholesale uniforms, Team Athletic Gear. After talking with a representative of the company, he found out they could produce a uniform quickly and inexpensively. In fact, Team Athletic Gear (TAG) decided to donate a total of 28 jerseys (complete with numbers) to the Grayhounds.

"I am very appreciative of Team Athletic Gear," Warren said. "We didn't know what we were going to do because we couldn't find anyone who could get jerseys to us in that quick turnaround time. So we feel very fortunate to know that we have that resource. (Team Athletic Gear) available to us if there is something that we need on short notice."

Warren said the Grayhounds were

overjoyed when they found out the jerseys were coming to them at no expense.

"It was wonderful that they decided to donate the jerseys," he said. "We are trying to build this program back up and that helped give us a boost."

Warren said he appreciates the owners of Team Athletic Gear for being so community-conscious. "I've known Mr. Davis (Sam) and his daughter (Theresa) for a long time and they have been involved in sports on a lot of levels here in Winston-Salem for years," he said. "I hope they will have a lot of success and I know they will treat their customers fairly."

Theresa Davis, president of Team Athletic Gear, said she and her company are very civic-minded.

"I have been in sports all my life, following my daddy and my late brother (Napoleon Davis) through little league, AAU and high school sports," she said. "So it's kind of natural for me to be involved in a business involving sports. It is a pleasure for us to serve the public in this manner."

Team Athletic Gear is an outgrowth of two former enterprises operated by Ms. Davis, T-Shirts by Lady Tee and Fraternity Sorority Row - T-Shirts and More.

"We've been doing this on and off for the last six years and we think we have found the perfect niche," she said. "We hope to reach out to our former customers and continue to deliver a quality product at an affordable price."

## WSSU Athletics releases game day information

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Winston-Salem State University and the WSSU Department of Athletics has announced new security procedures for Bowman Gray Stadium for the 2016 season.

WSSU's game day policies have been developed over the last year by a committee representing a cross-section of units working on Bowman Gray Stadium operations with a focus on providing a safe environment and enjoyable fan experience.

Traffic - Parking Lots: Winston-Salem State University police and City of Winston-Salem police departments, along with the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation, have developed traffic patterns that will help you enter and exit the stadium's parking lots as quickly as possible. Please follow the direction of the police and traffic control.

In order to assist with Winston-Salem and University law enforcement with the orderly flow of traffic and parking for the game, vehicles parking in "No Parking Zones" or illegally parked are subject to ticketing and/or towing.

Please keep in mind that Bowman Gray Stadium is in the construction zone for the Salem Creek Connector, and some historical parking/taillgating areas, along with traffic patterns may be affected.

2016 Parking Fees: \*All general public parking is \$8.00 per space used, except in the South Parking Lot where it is \$15.00 per space on game days.

\*Homecoming Game (October 15) rates shall be \$10.00 general public parking used, except in the South Parking Lot where it is \$20.00 per space on game days.

\*South Parking Lot is reserved and pre-sold. Remaining unsold spaces

will be sold on day of game at \$15.00 for non-homecoming games and \$20.00 for Homecoming games.

\*Reserved parking is available in the South Parking Lot for \$75.00. Vehicles must park in the assigned parking space. Towing will be enforced in the South Parking Lot for all games.

\*A vehicle may purchase up to six (6) tickets for six spaces.

\*Parking tickets (all tickets) must be displayed on the dashboard. Traffic Management will monitor parking lots to make sure the number of tickets corresponds to the number of spaces used.

Parking Lots Open / Close:

Open: \*8:00 a.m. East Parking Lot Only (games on September 17 & 24). All other parking lots open at 12 noon

\*Homecoming (October 15). All parking lots open at 6:00 a.m.

\*1:30 p.m. Kickoff (October 22). All parking lots open at 8:00 a.m.

\*North Gate opens at 4:00 p.m. for games with a 6:00 p.m. kickoff (September 17 & 24)

\*North Gate opens at 11:00 a.m. for the Homecoming game (October 15)

\*North Gate Opens at 11:30 a.m. for games with a 1:30 p.m. kickoff (October 22)

\*No re-entry policy in the parking lots will be strictly enforced

Close: \*All parking lots will close at 11:00 p.m. for games starting at 6:00 p.m. and two hours after the completion for games starting at 1:30 p.m.

Horn\$ Parking Lot (North Gate): \*Lot opens two hours before game time and is available to HORN\$ members only.

\*This season there will not be signs with your name on them in the HORN\$ Lot. All parking

will correspond with a number, and there will be ushers on hand to help guide patrons to their appropriate space.

IMPORTANT GAME-DAY PRICING INFORMATION:

\*Season Ticket Packages: \$75

\*Season Parking (South Lot): \$75.

\*Day of Game Parking: South Lot, \$15 plus game ticket.

Homecoming parking in South Lot is \$25.

\*West Lot parking is \$8 per space.

\*The RESERVED SOUTH parking lot will open at 12 noon.

\*Tickets will be sold at the East Gate starting at 2:00 p.m. No tickets will be sold at the Anderson Center on game day.

\*Students should also be aware that there is a fee to park, and with the stadium being within a short walking distance from campus, students are urged to walk in groups to Bowman Gray Stadium.

\*Concession, game staff and vendors will park in the NW corner of the West Lot.

\*Student-athletes should park at Civitan Park.

\*Visitors to the Chancellor's tent on day it's being used must have a game ticket to enter the game, and must have your invitation in order to gain admittance.

We also ask that you help keep our stadium clean by placing your garbage in the trash receptacles.

WSSU Administration and Emergency Operations Personnel are continuously monitoring the weather and if any change is deemed necessary, we will inform the public as soon as possible.

The Winston-Salem State University Department of Athletics thier your visit to Bowman Gray Stadium. And remember.