



Summer 2014 Newsletter

Thank You to Our Sponsors for making the Induction Weekend possible.

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Secretary of State Tre Hargett

THE INDUCTION WEEKEND WAS ONE FOR THE AGES

The Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Induction Weekend was one of the best weekends in recent history for the Hall. It started with the Reunion of Champions on Friday night hosted by Adams and Reese, with great food provided by Taziki's and Jim and Nicks. This gave the past inductees a chance to welcome the 2014 induction class.



2014 Champion Within

The Champion Within Luncheon was emceed by 104.5 FM The Zone radio personality Mark Howard. The Luncheon honored Coach Doug Dickey for his Outstanding Contributions to The Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame, Bill Neely for his Outstanding Contributions to Sports and Coach John Farr for his Lifetime Dedication to Wrestling. The event also had 4 unique individuals as Champion Within recipients, which included Rashard Witherspoon, Joshua Putman and Bethel's Women's Basketball Players, Katie Van Dyke and Tayla Foster. Joshua gave one of the most memorable speeches that didn't leave a dry eye in the house and was truly a special moment for the Champion Within Luncheon.



From left to right: Justin Jones (son of Popeye Jones), Bridgette Gordon, Paul Naumoff, Brayden Lenius (grandson of Eldridge Dickey), Coach Carlton Flatt, Hope Hines, Claude Osteen, Eddie George, Allie Prescott, Todd Helton and Dorsey Sims III (son of Dorsey Sims Jr.).

The day concluded with the annual Induction Banquet, which was emceed by the Voice of the Tennessee Titans, Mike Keith and celebrated the induction of a great class, including Eddie George, Popeye Jones, Hope Hines, Claude Osteen, Coach Carlton Flatt, Bridgette Gordon, Eldridge Dickey, Paul Naumoff, Carolyn Peck, Allie Prescott and Coach Dorsey Sims. That same evening the Hall honored Heather Butler, Jasmine Newsome, Ivy Renfroe and Ebony Rome as Female Amateur Athletes of the Year. Rich Froning was named Male Professional Athlete of the Year and Todd Helton was named Tennessean of the Year. The Banquet also honored its first Significant Historical Achievement Award recipient, the Tennessee State University Basketball team from 1957-59. Dr. Dick Barnett, a 2005 inductee, accepted the award on the team's behalf.

The Great Pat Summitt

The new Pat Summitt Gallery has received raving reviews and tons of publicity from both local and national media outlets during the week of the Women's Final Four. The Hall had almost 5,000 people come to view the new exhibit over that weekend, and many of them purchased merchandise from the Pat Summitt Foundation, which was selling *We Back Pat* shirts. It was quite moving to see Connecticut, Maryland, Notre Dame and Stanford fans all supporting the gallery and the Pat Summitt Foundation.



Pat Summitt and Tyler Summitt also stopped by over the Final Four weekend to see the Gallery. If you haven't visited the new Gallery, make it a point to stop by in the near future.

10 PLAYERS FROM TENNESSEE DRAFTED INTO NFL

Memphis Safety, Lonnie Ballentine, 7th round to Houston Texans

MTSU Defensive Tackle, Jimmy Staten, 5th round to Seattle Seahawks

Tennessee Offensive Guard, Zach Fulton, 6th round to Kansas City Chiefs

Tennessee Offensive Tackle, Ja'Wuan James, 1st round to Miami Dolphins

Tennessee Defensive Tackle, Dan McCullers, 6th round to Pittsburgh Steelers

TSU Offensive Guard, Kadeem Edwards, 5th Round to Tampa Bay Buccaneers

TSU Offensive Center, Demetrius Rhaney, 7th round to St. Louis Rams

Vanderbilt Corner Back, Dre Hal, 7th round to Houston Texans

Vanderbilt Offensive Center, Wesley Johnson, 5th round to Pittsburgh Steelers

Vanderbilt Wide Receiver, Jordan Matthews, 2nd round to Philadelphia Eagles

LEGENDARY COACH DON MEYER DIES AT AGE 69

"Always be a 'quarter' friend: if a guy was down to his last quarter, would he call you? Always have time for people." -Coach Don Meyer

Don Meyer, a native of Wayne, Nebraska, his teams often played before small crowds with very little media coverage, Coach Meyer still became a national figure even though he never coached on college basketball's biggest stage. He was the sixth all-time winningest coach in men's college basketball history with 923 victories. Coach Meyer also reached the mark of 700 wins faster than any coach in NAIA history.

He was the men's college basketball coach at Lipscomb from 1975-1999. His 1985-86 Lipscomb team won the NAIA national championship, and he led the Bisons to the national tournament in 13 different seasons.

After Battling cancer for the last six years, Coach Meyer passed away at age 69.

[Click Here to see Coach Don Meyer receive the 2009 Jimmy V Award](#)



THE MASON RUDOLPH CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The annual Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame's Mason Rudolph Celebrity Golf Tournament is on Tuesday, October 7th at Vanderbilt's Legends Golf Club in Franklin.

The Tournament is a 5-person best ball format, the fifth player is a Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame celebrity. The cost is \$375 per individual and \$1,500 per team. To make your reservations for this year's tournament, please contact Corey Blaske at 615-242-4750.

In the past, the Celebrities that have participated include... Hope Hines, Chad Pennington, John Majors, Vince Gill, Phillip Fulmer, Kelly Holcomb, Lou Graham Joan Cronan, Marty Roe and Rick Byrd.



This year the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame is offering an early bird special for sponsorships. For information please contact Lynn Toy at 615-202-3996.

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Induction weekend was a great success due to our friends, supporters, members and staff. I enjoyed catching up with so many of you and sharing in what makes this weekend very special to the Hall and for everyone that calls the state of Tennessee home. Our next event is the Mason Rudolph Celebrity Golf Tournament on October 7. The tournament will be held at the Vanderbilt Legends Golf Club, one of Tennessee's premier facilities. I hope you can join us this fall, and if you haven't visited the Hall of Fame lately, I highly recommend that you make it a point to come and see all that is new, including the Pat Summit Gallery. It is great to see the progress at the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame and it is all because of your support.

Dr. Bill Emendorfer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Executive Director