

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**



NEWS RELEASE

89th Annual NFHS Summer Meeting Set for Washington, D.C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN (July 1, 2008) — The 26th annual induction ceremony of the National High School Hall of Fame and discussion of several key issues affecting high school sports and activities highlight the agenda at the 89th annual National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Summer Meeting July 3–7 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Approximately 800 individuals are expected to attend the Summer Meeting, mostly staff members and board members from the 50 NFHS member state associations and the District of Columbia.

Twelve individuals will be inducted into the 2008 class of the National High School Hall of Fame, including track and field Olympic silver medalist Natasha Kaiser–

Brown of Iowa and former NCAA All-Around champion gymnast Jackie Brummer of New York.

Among the 37 workshops are “Legal Issues – A Panel Discussion,” “Competitive Cheer vs. Sideline Cheer – Can a State do Both and Make it Work?” “Maintaining Control of Tournament Photographs,” “Going Green: Establishing Environmentally Friendly Practices for State Associations,” “Paperless Meetings” and “Using Video to Enhance Officials’ Education.” Other workshops will focus on information technology, media relations, negotiations and athlete wellbeing.

Brian Holloway will be the keynote speaker at the Opening General Session July 4. Holloway – a former football All-American at Stanford University and five-time All-Pro NFL player with the New England Patriots – became the youngest vice-president of the NFL Players Association when he was elected by his peers in 1986 at age 23. Holloway is an accomplished speaker whose recent topics have included “The Immediate Results of Excellence” and “Building Unstoppable Teams.”

At the Second General Session from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 5, NFHS President Ron Laird and NFHS Executive Director Bob Kanaby, along with other NFHS staff members, will provide reports on several national initiatives.

The Closing General Session will be held from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Monday, July 7 with former Auburn University Football Coach Terry Bowden being the speaker.

Currently a college football television and radio analyst, Bowden gives numerous motivational speeches every year. Some of his recent topics have been “Win With Teamwork” and “You Can Make a Difference.”

The Summer Meeting Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, July 6, and will feature the presentation of NFHS Citations to 12 individuals. State association honorees include Virginia Anderson of Massachusetts, Patricia Briscoe of the District of Columbia, B.J. Guzzardo of Louisiana, Alan Beste of Iowa, Bob Hetler of North Dakota, Mario Martinez of New Mexico, Evan Excell of Utah and Joanne Austin of Montana.

Other Citation recipients are Pam Cady Wycoff of Minnesota (NFHS Speech, Debate and Theatre Association), Vicki White Miltun of Washington (NFHS Music Association), Timothy Carr of Utah (NFHS Officials Association) and Marv Heater of Oregon (NFHS Coaches Association). Tammy Dufford, cheerleading coach at Evergreen (Colorado) High School, and Megan Bomgaars, sophomore cheerleader at Evergreen (Colorado) High School, will receive the 2008 Spirit of Sport Award. The award was created by the NFHS to recognize those individuals who exemplify the ideals of the spirit of sport that represents the core mission of education-based athletics.

The NFHS Summer Meeting will conclude at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 7 with the induction of the 12-member 2008 class into the National High School Hall of Fame.

Joining Kaiser–Brown and Brummer as athlete inductees this year will be Karen Smith and Tom Kropp. Smith, currently assistant commissioner of the CIF–North Coast Section, was a two–time California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division I Basketball Player of the Year and two–time basketball All–American. Kropp, currently the head men’s basketball coach at the University of Nebraska–Kearney, was chosen by the Lincoln Journal Star as the Nebraska Prep Athlete of the Decade for the 1970s.

Four coaches will also be inducted into the Hall of Fame: Louise Crocco, James Drewry, Warren Mitchell and Dewey Sullivan. Crocco, who retired last year, won 1,132 career volleyball matches and led her Fort Lauderdale (Florida) Cardinal Gibbons High School teams to 18 state championships. Drewry is the most successful public–school football coach in Mississippi history with a 320–146–5 record. His teams have won three state titles and finished as runner–up four other times. Mitchell has been the track and field coach at Limon (Colorado) High School for 55 years where his teams have won 12 state titles and finished second four other times. Sullivan compiled a 352–84–2 record before his death near the end of the 2006 season. He coached for 42 years and led his teams to five state championships.

Two contest officials, an administrator and a fine arts teacher were also chosen for the year’s class. Tim Carr has been a registered official in Utah for the past 35 years and was a state director of the NFHS Officials Association for six years. Dick Deitz, a

1998 Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame inductee, has been working as a football, basketball and baseball official since 1958 and has been the state's rules interpreter in basketball and baseball since 1976. Jerry McGee, executive director of the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association since 1991, founded the National Executive Directors Council in 2002 to unify the various state athletic directors associations. Barbara Seng – who retired after 43 years of teaching and coaching speech, drama and one-act plays at Henry Sibley High School and White Bear Lake High School in St. Paul, Minnesota – has been the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) speech, debate and one-act play consultant since 1976 and has served as a judge in these programs since 1954.

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This press release was written by Steve Appelhans, a summer intern in the NFHS publications/communications department and a senior at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, majoring in sport management.

About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based

interscholastic sports and fine arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 18,500 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; produces publications for high school coaches, officials and athletic directors; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, spirit coaches, speech and debate coaches and music adjudicators; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

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