

1994 INDUCTEE



NIGEL D. ALSTON

Category: Player

School(s): RJ. Reynolds High School

Nigel Alston was known as a thoroughbred at RJ. Reynolds High School as he trampled opponents on the hardwood and the grid iron. Alston was famous for being the team's "garbage man" on the court. He was an offensive leader for the "four" position as he scored from the paint and tapped in offensive rebounds. Coach Howard Hurt had awesome fire power in Danny Traylor, Ricardo Sockwell, Curtis Little, Benny Gentry, Chris Turner and others, but it was Alston who "stirred the drink," used his wide body as a roadblock down the lane and became an enforcer before Charles Oakley got out of kindergarten. "Big" Nigel made the All-City/County and All-Central 4A Group II basketball team in 1969 and 1970.

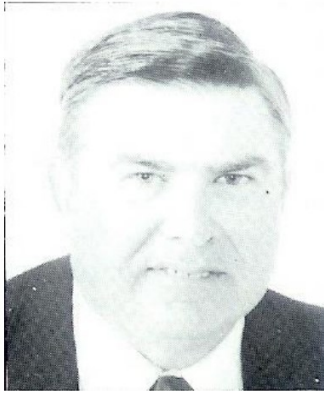
Alston's exploits with the Black and Gold earned him All-City/County in 1969 and 1970; Runner up, Defensive Player of the Year, 1969; Honorable Mention, All-Northwest, 1969; and Most Athletic, RJ. Reynolds High School, 1970.

Alston matriculated at Livingstone College after graduation on an athletic grant. In 1974, he displayed both his academic and athletic excellence by being named Most Valuable Football Player and senior with the highest academic average.

Alston currently serves as Director, Employee/Community Relations at Integon Insurance. He is an active member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Nigel enjoys travel, cultural events, sports outings and reading. He is married to Sarah, who teaches Social Studies at Paisley Middle School.



1994 INDUCTEE



SANDY RAY GANN

Category: Player

School(s): Glenn High School

Sandy Ray Gann attended Glenn High School from 1958-1962. Gann enjoyed a very successful high school career. The highlight of Gann's career came in 1962, his senior year. His batting average was .550, which was the highest in the State of North Carolina. At Glenn, he was All-Conference for three years and was voted to play in the East-West All-Star Game in 1962.

At one point in his career, Gann led Glenn to 27 straight conference games. Jack Musten, Gann's coach, said Gann was always willing to work on his game. Musten stated that he was "a good hitter, a good fielder and exceptionally fast".

After graduation, Gann continued his baseball prowess at Guilford College. His second year, he played second base for the Quakers and led the team in hitting a .385 mark, hitting the longball as well as singles. He also led the team in runs batted in.

Gann earned all-conference honors in baseball his senior year and helped lead his team to a fourth-place finish in the NAJA National Baseball Tournament. He was named to the All-Tournament team and set a tournament record with seven straight hits, a record he still holds.

He has a M. Ed. from North Carolina A& T State University. He is presently Head Baseball Coach and Athletic Director at Northwest Guilford High School. He is married to Jeanette and they have two sons, Sandy, Jr. and John.



1994 INDUCTEE



WADE DENNY KEY

Category: Player

School(s): North Forsyth High School, Mineral Springs High School

At an early age, Key left Surry County where his father, June and eight uncles and aunts had starred in basketball. Little Denny came to Oak Summit School in the second grade, programmed and ready to carry on a family tradition when he got to Mineral Springs High School and eventually after consolidation, North Forsyth High

Key started his sparkling career at Mineral Springs where he made All-Conference his sophomore year while scoring at 15.3 points per game.

During Key's junior year (1964), he boosted North Forsyth to the Forsyth County 3-A Conference Championship. He put the ball in the hole at a 17.3 clip. His tourney performance earned him a berth on the All-Tournament squad, a position he occupied a total of three times during his high school years. Denny was rolling by his senior year. His forte as a 6'3" center was posting up and leaning in on his defender.

In the State 3-A Tournament, North Forsyth lost in the finals to a great Kinston squad. But after Key had done a defensive job on New Bern's ace, Bill Bunting and showed the viewers his new found outside shot, he was unanimously named to the All-Tournament team and selected as the Most Valuable Player (MVP).

Key could hardly be regarded as a one sport athlete. He played football and baseball as well as basketball during his freshman year. A credit to his determination is the fact that he won the MVP award at the State Tournament while playing on a badly sprained ankle.

When the smoke cleared on Key's illustrious senior season (1965), he had averaged 23.2 points and 17 rebounds per contest. He was named to the Journal and Sentinel All-Northwest Team and generally recognized among the nation's "500." He was named the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Player of the Year and selected to play in the Annual East-West All-Star Game.

Presently, Denny Key is known as "Coach" Key in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System. At North Forsyth High School, he has earned Coach of the Year in Basketball, Softball and Volleyball. His teams in each sport have won conference championships.

Wade Denny Key is enshrined in North Forsyth High School's Hall of Fame as a charter member.



1994 INDUCTEE



ALLYNE KIMBERLY LASH

Category: Player

School(s): R.J. Reynolds High School

It is said that tennis guru David Lash used to pack his balls, rackets and towels for a trip to the courts and include milk bottles, pacifiers and diapers for his young daughter, Kim. It is also rumored that Kim used to hit a few with her bottle in her left hand standing around the baseline - "out of the way." Years later Kim, the Champion, would be a killer with her forehand - from the baseline!

R.J. Reynolds High School welcomed Kim to their ranks during the 1981 season and she acknowledged the invitation by becoming their number one player for the remainder of her career. Kim kicked off her scholastic career that year by being named Most Valuable Player for the Demon girls' tennis team, won the girls' 18 and under North Carolina State Tennis Tournament, named a member of the All-District Team for 4-A Conference singles and doubles, and finally, captured the Player of the Year Award for the Central4-A Conference.

By 1982, Kim was again named All-District MVP at R.J. Reynolds and represented the State of North Carolina at the Seventeen magazine National Tennis Tournament for girls 18 at Mission Viejo, California. Pepsi-Cola also awarded her the Pepsi Prep Athlete of the Year to add to the prestigious local Zanne Meade Memorial Award given to the athlete who exemplifies concern and compassion for other athletes.

Kim had beat up on just about every challenger in addition to being a debutante and an active member of the Latin Honor Society, The Ebony Society, The Top Teens of America, and the Black Caucus.

Georgia Tech beckoned in the fall of 1984 and convinced Kim that they had the math and engineering she wanted plus she could be the star as they began their attempt to be a force in the ACC. At Tech, Kim won 65 singles matches, more than any other woman player. She won 50 doubles matches, which ties her with the great Leigh Roberts.

Presently, Kim is working as a transportation engineer with the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Miss Lash doesn't hit from the baseline much these days. She is enrolled at North Carolina A&T University to earn a Master's degree in Transportation and Environmental Engineering.



1994 INDUCTEE



WINFRED MACK

Category: Player

School(s): West Forsyth High School

Winfred has shown a versatility and toughness toward sports since grade school. He was All-City/ County football player, basketball player and track star at West Forsyth High School. While at West Forsyth, he lettered in football, basketball and track. However, football was the sport in which he excelled.

In 1974 and 1975, Mack was "Defensive Back of the Year" for Winston-Salem/Forsyth County. In 1975, he achieved the "Best Headhunter Award", Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Sportsmanship Award, and the Annual Jewelbox Leadership Award.

He passed up numerous offers to play for colleges and universities and hooked up with Coach Bill Hayes at Winston-Salem State University. There he achieved numerous awards - Coaches All-Star Team, America's Outstanding Names and Faces, All-CIAA Defensive lineman of the Year. He was Honorable Mention All-American Football in 1979.

Mack served as captain of the football team and treasurer of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He is a member of the Greater Fayetteville Alumnus Chapter of Winston-Salem State University. He holds the rank of Major in the U.S. Army. Married to Brenda, they have one daughter, Brianna. They reside in Fayetteville, NC.



1994 INDUCTEE



BARBARA HOWELL - WHITE

Category: Player

School(s): West Forsyth High School

Barbara Howell arrived at West Forsyth Senior High School in 1972 as the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools were reviving their female sports programs after years of athletic hibernation. "Barb" became a member of the G.A.A. (Girls Athletic Association) and participated in team sports which included basketball, volleyball, softball and speedball.

Barbara anchored and co-captained an undefeated speedball team during the 1973-74 season. She was named All-City/County and received the Annual Sportsmanship Award for her enthusiasm.

Volleyball became a sport that was also mastered by this recognized dynamo. As co-captain of Titans' highly skilled group, she was named All-City/County at seasons end.

In the spring of 1973, "Barb" found herself planted at third base on the softball team. She manned the "hot corner" while displaying awesome

power. In addition to collecting many game-busting "dingers," Barb accumulated an astounding batting average of .645. She was named to the All-City/County team in 1973 and 1974.

She matriculated at Winston-Salem State University immediately after high school and studied Health and Physical Education. During her three-year stay at the university, she had dreams to become a registered nurse. But she could not resist an opportunity to become the City's first Black female firefighter - after serving as a lifeguard and nurse's assistant.

Today, Ms. White is an Engineer with the Winston-Salem Fire Department with supervisory responsibilities to provide in-service training, teach community education programs to schools, churches and civic groups. She also is the acting supervisor in the Captain's absence. In 1986, Ms. White was recognized by the City as Employee of the Year in the Public Service Category. Barbara is a certified Fire Prevention Inspector and a recent graduate from Winston-Salem State University.



1994 INDUCTEE



SHIRLEY "Red" WILSON

Category: Coach

School(s): RJ. Reynolds High School

Shirley Wilson has come a long way from Madison, NC via a route from Madison High School through RJ_ Reynolds High School to Elon College and Duke University.

"Red" led the Black and Gold Demons from 1957 to 1964. His 66-13-7 won-lost record takes on the proper perspective when it is noted that his teams were two-time co-state champions (1958 and 1964) and were undefeated three years (1954, 1962 and 1963). Computerized data shows that "Red" Wilson's overall prep coaching record made him a giant among men - Won 138, Lost 38, Tied 11; Co-State Champions (2); State Runners-up (4); Conference Champions (8); Undefeated Regular Seasons (3); "Coach of the Year" (5); Consecutive Wins (23) plus his stints as the All-Star and Shrine Bowl General.

Wilson left the Reynolds' Demons on a high note in the mid-sixties and answered a call from Elon College to restructure a crumbling program. "Red" proceeded to win six (6) conference championships, played for the NAIA National Championship, and eventually became the Winningest Football Coach in Elon College history, surpassing the immortal Clyde "Peahead" Walker's 10-year record in only 7 years.

Duke University couldn't resist the genius of the redhead who had put Elon on the map. At Elon, "Red" had had two undefeated seasons, been named Conference "Coach of the Year," four times, North Carolina "Coach of the Year/ three-time NAIA "Area Coach of the Year", and a three-time Kodak "Coach of the Year." Wilson accepted a challenge for Duke and in 1977, led the Blue Devil Jayvees to their first undefeated season since 1959. By 1978, Coach Wilson had become Head Coach of the Varsity and suddenly the Blue Devils were being noticed for their strengths as opposed to weaknesses. In 1981 and 1982, Duke has its first back-to-back winning seasons in 20 years.

The University needed "Red" in Marketing and Public Relations the next season. He answered the call and presently is the Director of Human Relations, Department of Medicine, Duke University Medical Center.

Looking back, we see that "Red's" collegiate record was 88-61-3. His overall scoreboard after 32 years reads: Won 226 Lost 99, Tied 14. Elon College (1984), The State of North Carolina (1985) and Davidson College (1991) have enshrined this coaching legend into their Halls of Fame.

Wilson is presently a renowned motivational speaker. His presentations include alumni groups, civic clubs, church groups, high school clinics, sports banquets and sports clubs. "Red" gets much of his inspiration and support from his lovely wife, Katie and children, John, Steve and Cathy.



1994 INDUCTEE



GRAY CARTWRIGHT

Category: Coach

School(s): North Forsyth High School, Mineral Springs High School, Old Town High School

After 44 years of active involvement in athletics in Forsyth County, Gray Cartwright probably dreams of free throws, sacrifice bunts, spikes and the proverbial "One that got away."

During World War II, Cartwright played football, basketball and baseball at Old Town High School while serving as student basketball coach - due to a shortage of male faculty members.

Cartwright served in the Navy after graduation and was allowed to play on the base basketball team. After his military service, Cartwright was awarded a basketball scholarship to High Point College where he mastered the hardwood for four years. He was elected captain his junior and senior years while earning All-Conference for himself during the span. Cartwright also found time to play soccer and baseball each year while serving as Captain and making All-Conference his senior year.

Upon graduation, Cartwright headed for Mineral Springs High School as a Teacher/Coach (1951-1963). While at Mineral Springs, Cartwright was Head Basketball Coach 12 years, Head Baseball Coach two (2) years and assisted the football coach 12 years. His basketball teams "Won five county championships and participated in five state play-offs. In 1961, Cartwright coached the West team in the East-West Basketball game in Greensboro.

"Coach" moved to North Forsyth in 1963 and became a fixture until 1963. He served as Assistant Football Coach 10 years, Assistant Track Coach three (3) years; Head Baseball Coach 12 years (8 state play-offs; Forsyth Invitational Champions 3 years); Head Basketball Coach II years (3 conference titles, 5 state play-offs); Head Girls' Volleyball Coach 10 years (Forsyth Invitational Champs two years); two (2) Conference Championships; four (4) State play-offs; overall record, 130-41.

Cartwright's overall coaching record at Old Town, Mineral Springs and North Forsyth is indeed impressive - Basketball (424-158) and Baseball (217-88).

Gray has been duly recognized for the leadership and guidance he has afforded his student-athletes during his illustrious career. Among the awards include: Six times Conference Basketball Coach of the Year; Baseball Coach of the Year (five times); Girls' Volleyball Coach of the Year, 1971; induction into the Forsyth Hall of Fame, 1979.

Coach Cartwright ably served North Forsyth High School as its Athletic Director from 1986- 1991.

