



Well Crafted. Well Played.

PRESENTS
the
21st INDUCTION CEREMONY



Monday, May 15th, 2023 6pm

Highland Recreation Center - 1451 8th St. Dr. NE

Hickory, NC 28601

Tonight's Program

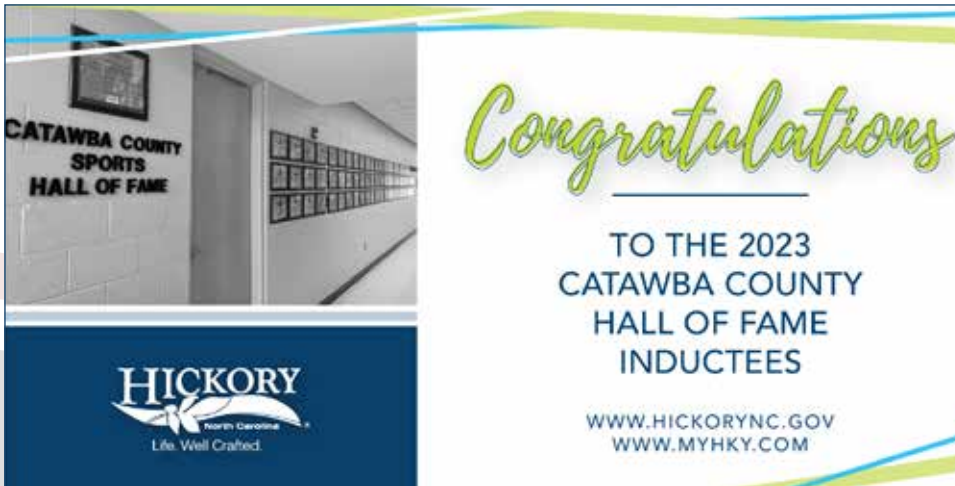


- Welcome** **Mark Seaman**
Hickory Metro Sports Commission
- Invocation** **Mike Mackie**
Hickory FCA Area Representative
- Dinner** **Box Car Grille of Claremont**
- Opening Remarks** **JuJu Phillips**
Master of Ceremonies
- Recognition of Scholar Athletes of Excellence**
- Scholarship Presentation** **Helton, Cody & Associates**
- Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony**
- Closing**..... **Frank Snider**
Hall of Fame Chair

2023 Scholar Athletes of Excellence

- Bandy High School** Emily Hedrick, Will Nix
- Bunker Hill High School** Allie Sigmon, Elijah Boston
- Fred T. Foard High School** Samaria Tipps, Stewart Simmons
- Hickory Christian Academy** Caleigh McMurray, Andrew Maxy
- Hickory High School** Eleanor (Ellie) Eichman, Henry Stewart
- Maiden High School** Miranda Valerio, DJ Spring
- Newton-Conover High School** Cassidy Geddes, Owen Clark
- St. Stephens High School** Katie Parmenter, Peyton Young
- University Christian** Virginia Young, Jackson Behmer

Thank you
Athletes Lab Performance
for sponsoring the pre-event reception.



2023 Inductee - Floyd E. "Eddie" Yount



Floyd E. "Eddie" Yount was a baseball legend of yesteryear, who was one of the first Catawba County natives to play in the Major Leagues.

Born in Newton, Mr. Yount graduated from Newton-Conover High School, and Wake Forest College before signing a pro contract with the Philadelphia Athletics in 1937.

A year later, he appeared in the Major Leagues with Philadelphia at age 21. He later played a season with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

A World War II army veteran, Mr. Yount appeared at all levels of professional baseball including stints in AAA in Toronto and Buffalo.

He is best remembered though as a player/manager for the Newton-Conover Twins from 1948-52, guiding the Twins to a pair of Titles in the Western Carolina League.

At age, 31, Mr. Yount batted an amazing .420, clubbing 43 homers with a .302 average leading the Twins to the title, along with fellow Catawba County Sports Hall of Fame teammates, Don Stafford, Charles Bost, and Ray Lindsey.

Mr. Yount is one of a few professional baseball players to club four homers in a game versus Lincolnton and later served as manager for Catawba County's other pro team, the Hickory Rebels.

Mr. Yount passed away in 1973 and goes down as one of the greatest hitters this county has ever produced.



2023 Inductee - Drew Forshey



One of the best wrestlers to come out of Catawba County Drew Forshey was a four-time NCHSAA State Champion for Coach Billy Baker at St. Stephens High School.

At the time, Forshey was one of only three wrestlers in North Carolina to accomplish this feat. Forshey had a record of 202 wins against only 2 losses.

In 2003 he was named the NC High School Wrestler of the Year. USA Wrestling named Forshey Honorable Mention H.S. All- American. Forshey also played four years of soccer at St. Stephens.

After receiving a scholarship to wrestle at the University of North Carolina, Forshey went on to be named to the All-Conference team in the Atlantic Coast Conference three consecutive seasons. He was an ACC Champion and qualified for the NCAA national tournament in 2005.

Forshey had tremendous natural ability, however; according to his coach Billy Baker "his competitive attitude and toughness exceeded his athletic ability on the mat. His hard work in the practice room at both the high school and university raised the level of all around him".



2023 Inductee - Audra Harrison



Audra Harrison is a Hickory native with roots that go deep into volleyball and basketball.

She was a star athlete at Fred T. Foard High School from 2000-2004. Harrison led Foard's Lady Tigers to consecutive NCHSAA 3-A volleyball titles in 2002 and 2003.

A four-year varsity player she was named as the MVP of the State Championship game and 3-A State Player of the Year in 2002 and 2003. She was a three-time All-State selection.

Harrison was named Charlotte Observer Player of the Year in 2003. Harrison was a four-year starter in basketball scoring over 1000 points in her career.

Harrison played volleyball at Gardner-Webb University where she finished her career as the leader in career digs (1,576) and second in career kills (1,067). She was named to the Atlantic Sun All-Academic team her sophomore and senior season.

Harrison served as an assistant volleyball coach at Midwestern State and William and Mary. She is a certified official in volleyball and basketball winning the Jack Huss Award for Excellence in Officiating in 2022.

2023 Inductee - Bruce Ikard



Bruce Ikard displayed tremendous power and agility while running the football for the Maiden Blue Devils on their march to the State championship in 1978.

A great athlete as far back as middle school, Ikard rushed for 183 yards in his first varsity game and never let up. Ikard, from a football family in Maiden was named All-Southern District 7 three times and was selected to play in the North Carolina Coaches' Association East/West All Star game in 1981.

Ikard was named All-Conference in baseball, basketball and football his junior season. Earning a football scholarship to Lenoir-Rhyne, Ikard became a starter in his freshman season. Ikard gained 229 yards against Newberry; the most ever by a freshman and ninth in LR single game rushing.

In 1984 Ikard was Most Outstanding player for the off-season, Lenoir Rhyne's leading rusher and Offensive Player of the Year. He was chosen to the All-District 26 team that season.

But Ikard's legacy is one of giving and sharing. He has given greatly to his community, his church and the town of Maiden. Former teammate Marty Beal says of Ikard "Bruce is part of a large family where his parents taught love and respect. He shares these traits with others along life's way. He is a fighter and never quits. He helps everyone, especially children and encourages them to seek their goals and never give up"



2023 Inductee - Matt Isenhour



One of the best offensive linemen to come out of Catawba County Matt Isenhour started for Tom Brown's Maiden Blue Devils for four seasons from 1999-2002. Isenhour paved the way for a prolific offensive attack and three conference championships.

Isenhour was named to the All-Conference team three seasons and was Uni-Four Defensive Player of the Year in 2002 as chosen by the Hickory Daily Record. Also, in his senior season Isenhour was named first team All-State and picked for the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas where he started at center.

Isenhour took his talents to Appalachian State University where he was a two-time All-American and helped App State to two NCAA FCS national titles in 2005 and 2006. His position coach Shawn Elliott at Appalachian said of Isenhour "As coaches we all strive to coach that one player who makes you a better coach, and I can fairly say that Matt was that player for me."

Isenhour was a three-time All-Southern Conference selection and earned the Jacobs Blocking trophy as the league's top offensive lineman in 2005. He was inducted into the Appalachian State Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014.

2023 Inductee - Jim Woodruff



Coaches like Jim Woodruff are a rare find in today's world of athletics. A man of integrity who possesses a great competitive spirit and still maintains stellar character traits.

Woodruff made his first mark in Catawba County sports as the Head Men's basketball coach at Bunker Hill High School where he directed the Bears to the State championship game in 1989. SD-7 Coach of the year in 1988,

Woodruff's teams were well prepared and well coached. After twenty seasons in basketball, Woodruff was hired to become the Athletic Director at first Bunker Hill and then St. Stephens High.

It was in this position where he had his greatest impact on Catawba County sports. His influence on young coaches and student athletes was strongly felt throughout both communities and the county.

He was a tireless worker serving on The Catawba Valley Classic, NCHSAA Sectional tournament and Catawba County Sports Hall of Fame committees. In 2005 the NCHSAA bestowed the Charlie Adams Distinguished Service Award to Woodruff for his influence on fellow coaches and the athletes of North Carolina.



2023 Team of Distinction

1990 CVCC National Championship Golf Team

The five-person team consisting of Bryan Norris, Jim Murray, Eddie Martin, Mark Clodfelter, Brad Turner and head coach Charlie Bock helped lead Catawba Valley Community College to its first and only national championship in school history at McCormick Ranch in Scottsdale, Arizona...all five golfers received All-American status by virtue of their national title win.



CONGRATULATIONS!



CLASS OF 2023

INDUCTION CEREMONY: MONDAY, MAY 15
HIGHLAND RECREATION CENTER



**DREW
FORSHEY**



**BRUCE
ICARD**



**AUDRA
HARRISON**



**MATT
ISENHOOR**



**JIM
WOODRUFF**



**EDDIE
YOUNT**



2023 TEAM OF DISTINCTION

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**1990 CATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF TEAM**