

If this person is being nominated as an Athlete, please complete the following additional information-

High School Attended	N/A
Graduation Year	N/A
Primary KHSAA basketball region as defined in 2(b)	N/A

If this person is being nominated as an Official, please complete the following additional information-


Primary Officiating Accomplishments at the High School Level	N/A
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For persons being nominated in all categories, please complete the following additional information

Please summarize this person's accomplishments as a coach, player, official or contributor at the high school level in Kentucky.
(See Attached Appendix A & Appendix B)

Please list any other factors about this individual that you would like for the Hall of Fame Committee to consider.
(See Attached Appendix A & Appendix B)

I certify that I have truthfully completed this information about the nominee with the permission of the nominee, that he/she will accept induction if selected, and I will cooperate with the KHSAA should additional information be needed for his/her consideration.

Signature  Name (print) Quinten Marquette Date OCTOBER 16, 2007

Attach any relevant press clippings and materials which would verify coaching win-loss records, or other statistical information. Also attach any other letters of recommendation of other information which may be helpful to the committee in making a final selection.

Letters of Recommendation (See Attached Appendix C)

Appendix A

Dear Hall of Fame Screening Committee and Hall of Fame Selection Committee:

What Kentucky Boys' High School Basketball Coach:

- Was a Head Coach for 29 Years
- Had 562 Career Wins
- Took three (3) Different Teams to the Kentucky High School State Tournament
- Was the Courier Journal Boys' High School Basketball Coach of the Year for the 1998-1999 Season
- In 2005 was Selected to the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches Court of Honor
- Is the 17th All Time Winningest High School Basketball Coach in Kentucky
- At the Time of His Retirement in 2001 was the Winningest Active High School Basketball Coach in Kentucky
- Coached Over 25 Players who were Awarded College Athletic Scholarships

The answer, Ermon "Ernie" Simpson, and it is with great pride and honor that I nominate Ernie for selection to the Dawahares KHSAA Hall of Fame. "Bred and born in Kentucky" Ernie is the epitome of "Kentucky Basketball," having played high school and college basketball in Kentucky, served as an assistance college basketball coach in Kentucky and coached high school basketball coach in Kentucky over a span of 47 years.

But talking about Ernie's record and accomplishments as a high school basketball coach tells only part of the story. There is also Ernie Simpson the teacher, mentor, husband, father and humanitarian. Along with his coaching duties, Ernie taught in the public schools of Kentucky for 31 years. While basketball has always been Ernie's passion, his wife Susan of 39 years and his sons, Cannon, Matthew and Casey always came first. All 3 of Ernie's sons were awarded college athletic scholarships and earned college degrees and Casey, who is following in his father's footsteps, starts his first season as a head basketball coach this year. As for Ernie the mentor, he was tough but fair, and taught his players hard work, discipline, respect, and the value of an education. And as for Ernie the humanitarian, he always cared about the kids. Ernie's job as a coach often took on the additional roles of parent, caretaker, counselor and sounding board for his kids. If a player did not have a ride home after a game, Ernie was there to take them, and more often than not the trip home included a stop on the way for a hamburger on Ernie. To this day, Ernie regularly checks on a former team manager who is disabled and takes care of this person's finances.

In addition to the notable accomplishments set forth above, Ernie's career as a boys' high school basketball coach and player yielded several other significant achievements. During his career as a head basketball coach Ernie's teams won over 70% of their games, compiling a record of 562-234. Ernie's 1990-1991 Bowling Green High School team reached the final four in the Kentucky High School State Basketball Tournament and his 1998-1999 Bowling Green High School team had a perfect regular season record of 27-0. Ernie had four players, Larry Johnson, Dewane Casey and Fred Cowan of Union County High School and 2001 Kentucky Mr. Basketball Josh Carrier of Bowling Green High School, that were awarded athletic scholarships to the University of Kentucky, making Ernie what I believe to be the only Kentucky high school basketball coach to have coached four players who played at the

University of Kentucky. In all, Ernie coached more than 25 players who were awarded athletic scholarships at colleges and universities. Ernie's love for the game of basketball is embedded in many of his former players who have not only coached at the high school level, but also in the college ranks as assistant coaches at schools including the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville and Western Kentucky University and as the head coach at Iona College. Two former players coached in the professional ranks, as assistant coaches with the Boston Celtics and Seattle Supersonics and as a head coach with the Minnesota Timberwolves.

In 1972 and 2001 Ernie's teams were runner-up in Kentucky's prestigious Louisville Invitational Tournament, and in his last four seasons of coaching, Ernie's teams compiled a record of 101-16, a stretch that included a 49 game home winning streak. After playing basketball under legendary coach Bill Harrell at Shelby County High School where he graduated in 1964, Ernie played 4 years of college basketball at Kentucky Wesleyan College in Owensboro, Kentucky where he was coached by Guy Strong and later, Bob Daniels, graduating from Kentucky Wesleyan College in 1968. During his coaching career Ernie also served as an assistant college basketball coach at his alma mater Kentucky Wesleyan College and at the University of Evansville in Evansville, Indiana.

Quite a record, both as a coach and as a human being. I sincerely hope that you, as members of the Screening and Selection Committees, will see in Ernie what I and many others see, that there is no more deserving individual for selection to the Dawahares KHSAA Hall of Fame

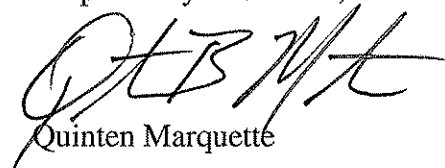
A listing of Ernie's record and accomplishments and letters of recommendation are submitted with the nomination form. Should you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact me at:

Quinten Marquette
1404 Scottsville Road
Bowling Green, KY 42104
Daytime # (270)780-2884
Evening # (270) 842-1560
Cell # (270) 535-2959
Email: qmarquette@houchensindustries.com

or contact Ernie at:

Ernie Simpson
421 Moat Lane
Bowling Green, KY 42103
Home # (270) 782-2476
Cell # (270) 535-5600

Respectively Submitted,



Quinten Marquette

Appendix B

Ernie Simpson's Record as a Kentucky High School Boys' Basketball Head Coach

<u>School</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Record</u>
The Lincoln School	2	1969-1970	Head Coach	7-20
Union County High School	1	1970-1977	Head Coach	166-36
Ashland Blazer High School	4	1980-1984	Head Coach	75-42
Lyon County High School	1	1984-1985	Head Coach	19-10
Bowling Green High School	1	1985-2001	Head Coach	295-126

Overall Record as High School Head Basketball Coach in Kentucky 562-234

Kentucky High School State Basketball Tournament Appearances

<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Record</u>
Union County High School	1977	1-1
Ashland Blazer High School	1980	1-1
Bowling Green High School	1990	0-1
Bowling Green High School	1991	2-1 (Final Four)

Other Achievements of Ernie Simpson as a Kentucky High School Boys' Basketball Head Coach

- * Courier Journal High School Basketball Coach of the Year for 1998-1999 Season
- * Selected to Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches Court of Honor in 2005
- * Ranks 17th as on List of All Time Winningest High School Basketball Coaches in Kentucky
- * Winningest Active Head Basketball Coach in Kentucky at Time of Retirement in 2001
- * Bowling Green High School Undefeated Regular Season in 1998-1999 (27-0)
- * Runner-Up in Louisville Invitational Tournament 1972 – Union County High School
- * Runner Up in Louisville Invitational Tournament 2001 – Bowling Green High School
- * Coached 3 Different High Schools in Kentucky High School Basketball State Tournament
- * Coached Over 25 Players Awarded College Athletic Scholarships
- * Coached 4 Players who were Awarded Basketball Scholarships to the University of Kentucky
Larry Johnson – Dewane Casey – Fred Cowan – Union County High School
Josh Carrier – Bowling Green High School
- * Sons Cannon, Matthew and Casey were all Awarded College Athletic Scholarships
- * Kentucky High School Head Basketball for 29 Seasons
- * Coached 2001 Kentucky Mr. Basketball – Josh Carrier – Bowling Green High School
- * Assistant College Basketball Coach at Kentucky Wesleyan College in Owensboro, Kentucky and University of Evansville in Evansville, Indiana

Ernie Simpson as a Player in High School and College in Kentucky

<u>School</u>	<u>Years Attended</u>	<u>Sports</u>
Shelby County High School	1960-1964	Basketball – Baseball – Track
Kentucky Wesleyan College	1964-1968	Basketball

Appendix C

Letters of Recommendation

Kevin Willard (Attached)

Clem Haskins (Attached)

Wayne Martin (Sent by Mr. Martin directly to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association)



Direct Dial Number: (270) 780-2884
Direct Fax Number: (270) 780-2878
E-Mail: qmarquette@houchensindustries.com

October 16, 2007

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame
ATTN: Nominations
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

IN RE: Nomination of Coach Ernon "Ernie" Simpson to Dawahares Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame

Dear Screening Committee and Selection Committee Members:

It is with great pride and honor that I submit the enclosed Nomination Form and Information in nomination of Coach Ernon "Ernie" Simpson to the Dawahares KHSAA Hall of Fame.

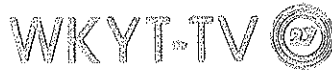
In addition to the enclosed letters of recommendation, Mr. Wayne Martin advised me that he had sent a letter of recommendation for Ernie directly to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. Should you be unable to locate Mr. Martin's letter please let me know and I will have him resend it.

Please contact either Coach Simpson or myself should you have any questions or desire additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Quinten B. Marquette
General Counsel and Vice President
Houchens Industries, Inc.
Enclosure(s)



A CBS AFFILIATE

WAYNE M. MARTIN
President/General Manager

TO: KHSAA Hall of Fame Committee

FROM:

Wayne M. Martin

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne M. Martin".

RE:

Ernie Simpson Recommendation

DATE:

August 27, 2007

Please accept this memo as my recommendation for Coach Ernie Simpson to be inducted into the KHSAA-Dawahare's Hall of Fame. I have known Ernie since 1960 when we competed against each other while at Shelby County and Clark County respectively. We competed on the recruiting trail when we both were college coaches. I have followed his high school coaching career (all in Kentucky) as both a friend and as a college coach recruiting some of his players.

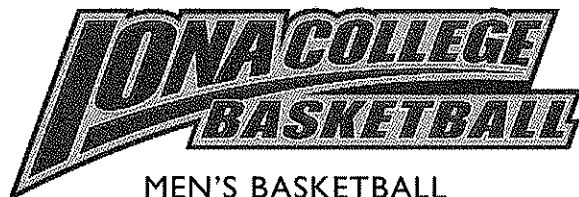
Ernie Simpson possessed all the credentials I admire in great coaches. He had a tremendous knowledge of the game and the ability to communicate such to his players. He was a great teacher and motivator in practice and an outstanding game tactician. Ernie worked very hard to help his players grow as persons and taught life skills thru his basketball platform. He was persistent with college coaches in trying to get scholarship opportunities for his players. His relationship with players extends well beyond their graduation from high school.

Others I am sure will submit specific statistics that will indicate those things I admired about Ernie also produced successful results. Taking 3 different teams to the KHSAA Sweet 16 and winning over 550 games are among them.

Ernie Simpson is one of the "really good guys" in the coaching profession who has "done really good." He deserves to be in the KHSAA-Dawahare's Hall of Fame.

Street Address: 2851 Winchester Road, Lexington, Kentucky 40509

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 55037, Lexington, Kentucky 40555 (859) 299-0411 Fax (859) 299-5531



To Whom It May Concern,

Through out my years in basketball I have had the opportunity to be around some of the games best coaches. My father, Ralph Willard, has coached at the high school, college and pro levels for nearly 35 years. Rick Pitino has been at the top of college basketball for almost 15 years and continues to be one of the games premier coaches. Billy Donovan has one back to back National Championships and has built the University of Florida into one of the premier college basketball programs. Through all of these coaches I have had the great opportunity to learn the game of basketball.

Ernie Simpson was my first coach. Coach Simpson was my high school basketball coach and is one of the main reasons why I am the head basketball coach at Iona College. Coach taught me more about hard work and discipline than any other coach I have been around. His intensity and unbelievable passion he had for us has followed me wherever I have been. Coach Simpson was not only a great coach, more importantly, he was a great father figure for hundreds of kids that played for him. Coach would be a great addition into the Dawhares Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Willard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Kevin Willard
Head Basketball Coach
Iona College

MAAC
Regular Season Champions
1982, 1984, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001

MAAC
Tournament Champions
1982, 1984, 1985, 1998,
2000, 2001, 2006

IONA COLLEGE BASKETBALL
HYNES ATHLETICS CENTER
715 NORTH AVENUE
NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10801-1890
PHONE: (914) 633-2304
FAX: (914) 633-2072

NCAA
Tournament Appearances
1979, 1980, 1984, 1985,
1998, 2000, 2001, 2006

NIT
Appearances
1982, 1983, 1996, 1997

**CLEM HASKINS
3060 ROBERTS ROAD
CAMPBELLSVILLE, KY 42718**

September 5, 2007

Dawahares
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
Hall of Fame Selection Committee

Dear Members,

I am writing this letter to recommend Ernie Simpson for selection into the Dawahares Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Over the years I have gotten to know Ernie and admire him for the outstanding basketball coach that he is. He has been a very knowledgeable and dedicated coach for many years and his record speaks for itself.

He has made a difference in the lives of many young men throughout the state of Kentucky. After recruiting a number of Coach Simpson's players and hiring Duane Casey on my coaching staff I know the admiration that his former players have for him, and the guidance he has given them.

There are numerous coaching reasons that Ernie should be considered for acceptance into the Hall of Fame, however the main reason is that he is a fine man and I am proud to call him my friend.

Sincerely,



Clem Haskins, Member
Dawahares
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
Hall of Fame