

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**



NEWS RELEASE

12 Individuals to Receive NFHS Citations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bruce Howard

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (May 30, 2012) — Twelve leaders in high school activity programs across the country have been selected to receive National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Citations.

An award designed to honor individuals who have made contributions to the NFHS, state high school associations, athletic director and coaching professions, the officiating avocation and fine arts/performing arts programs, the NFHS Citation is one of the most highly regarded achievements in high school activities.

The 2012 NFHS Citation recipients will receive their awards July 9 at the 93rd NFHS Summer Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

Eight of the 12 award winners represent the NFHS–member state high school associations. The other four Citation recipients represent NFHS

professional organizations for officials, coaches, music directors and speech/debate/theatre directors.

The eight state association recipients are **William N. Gaine Jr.**, deputy executive director, Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association; **Deborah B. Moore, Ph.D.**, associate commissioner for eligibility, Ohio High School Athletic Association; **Bruce Hulion**, commissioner of officials, South Carolina High School League; **Todd Clark**, director of communications, Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association; **Ken Pickering**, retired assistant executive director, South Dakota High School Activities Association; **Bill Farney**, retired executive director, Texas University Interscholastic League; **Ray Mathis**, executive director for instructional support and student activities, Clark County School District, Las Vegas, Nevada; and **Jim Meyerhoff**, former assistant executive director and current special projects consultant, Washington Interscholastic Activities Association.

Other Citation recipients are **Paul McInnis**, ice hockey official, Livingston, New Jersey; **David Johnson**, director, Oregon Athletic Coaches Association, Salem, Oregon; **Leon Kuehner**, retired director of instrumental music and bands, Hampton–Dumont Community Schools, Hampton, Iowa; and **Eloise Weisinger Blair**, speech and debate coach, Lamar High School, Houston, Texas.

Following is biographical information on the 12 NFHS Citation recipients.

William N. Gaine Jr.

Section 1

Bill Gaine will retire June 30 after 33 years with the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA), including the past 18 years as deputy executive director. He will continue to serve the MIAA in a part-time position.

Gaine joined the MIAA as assistant executive director in 1979 and has been responsible for student eligibility and student-athlete health and safety initiatives as well as administration of various sports. Gaine, who had executive responsibility for management of most MIAA-sponsored sports, most recently worked with ice hockey, football and baseball.

In addition to those duties, Gaine has been the leader of the MIAA's Student Services Program, which includes sportsmanship, wellness, leadership, community service and coaches education. Through his efforts, the MIAA has been recognized at the state and national levels for these programs designed to enrich the interscholastic experience through a curriculum of educational athletics.

Gaine founded the MIAA's Partners in Prevention, a network of more than 65 prevention agencies in Massachusetts to assist schools with prevention and healthy lifestyles resources for students. He established partnerships with the Anti-Defamation League, Massachusetts Medical Society, Governor's Alliance Against Drugs, Drug Enforcement Administration, Partnership for Drug-free America and the Center for Sport at Northeastern University.

In addition to his immense contributions to the MIAA, Gaine has served as deputy executive director of the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association during the same period.

Nationally, Gaine has been extremely involved with the NFHS. He was chair of the TARGET Committee and Citizenship Committee, and he also served on the Sportsmanship/Ethics/Integrity Committee, Coaches Education Committee, Ice Hockey Committee and Student Leadership Conference Committee. During a 20-year span, Gaine made about 20 presentations at the NFHS Summer Meeting, National Athletic Directors Conference and other leadership-related conferences.

Deborah B. Moore, Ph.D.

Section 2

Debbie Moore has served on the administrative staff of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) for 23 years, first serving as assistant commissioner from 1989 to 2008 and as associate commissioner for eligibility for the past four years.

After receiving her bachelor's degree from Kent (Ohio) State University, Moore taught and coached gymnastics, swimming and diving, track and field, and volleyball at Buckeye Valley High School in Delaware, Ohio. She later earned her master's and doctorate degrees from Ohio State University and has done post-doctoral work in exercise science.

In addition, Moore has held faculty appointments at Furman University (South Carolina), Kent State and Wilmington (Ohio) College, where she also served as head volleyball coach. She has experience in the teaching of sport and exercise physiology and has had numerous articles published in professional journals.

Moore's responsibilities with the OHSAA include overseeing compliance and eligibility functions of the association and administration of the sports of volleyball, field hockey, gymnastics, and swimming and diving. She is also responsible for coordinating the OHSAA healthy lifestyles and coaching education programs.

At the national level, Moore has been heavily involved with NFHS programs and committees. She is the former chair of the NFHS Citizenship Committee and Volleyball Rules Committee, and former member of the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and Coaches Education Committee. She has been a presenter at numerous NFHS Summer Meetings.

Bruce Hulion

Section 3

Bruce Hulion, who has served as commissioner of officials for the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) since 1999, is responsible for the sports of football, wrestling, boys lacrosse and baseball. Hulion conducts rules clinics

in these four sports and has oversight of the officials for SCHSL playoffs and state championships.

In addition to those duties, Hulion handles sports rules interpretations, athlete eligibility and interpretations of the SCHSL Constitution and Bylaws. He also is in charge of operations for the SCHSL building in Columbia.

Hulion has maintained his active status as a football official throughout his tenure with the SCHSL. He has been a football official since 1974 and served the South Carolina Football Officials Association (SCFOA) as district director, vice president and president. A charter member of the SCFOA Hall of Fame, Hulion also serves as a softball umpire.

Hulion has extended his expertise in football and officiating to the national level as well. He is a member of the NFHS Football Rules Committee and has also served on the NFHS Officials Publications Committee and the Officials Advisory Committee.

A graduate of Clinton (South Carolina) High School, Hulion earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of South Carolina. Before joining the SCHSL 13 years ago, Hulion was an auditor and later comptroller for the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Todd Clark

Section 4

Todd Clark joined the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) as director of communications in July 2000. He has been instrumental in shaping and enforcing the WIAA's communications policies.

Clark's responsibilities include production of printed materials, internal and external communications, media relations, marketing/sponsorships, advertising, tournament records and sportsmanship, as well as assisting with Web site maintenance and the football playoffs.

Clark played a significant role in the WIAA's legal case vs. Gannett over the live streaming of a game by a local newspaper. The Seventh Circuit Court ruled that the WIAA is allowed to maintain exclusive contracts for live streaming of sporting events. Clark was a driving force behind development of WIAA media policies and was instrumental in framing legal arguments in the Gannett case.

At the national level, Clark has been involved in annual meetings of state association information directors for several years. He was a member of the NFHS Records Committee from 2007 to 2010 and the NFHS Annual Meeting Advisory Committee from 2009 to 2010.

Prior to joining the WIAA staff, Clark was sports information director at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse from 1991 to 2000 after serving one year as a sports information assistant at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. His other experience in sports information includes time as a graduate assistant at St. Cloud (Minnesota) State University and as a student assistant at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Clark, who was venue media chief at the 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival, earned his bachelor's degree in journalism and communication arts from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1985 and his master's in sports administration from St. Cloud State in 1993.

Ken Pickering

Section 5

Ken Pickering retired from the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) last year after an outstanding 48-year career in secondary education.

Almost half of Pickering's career as an educator was spent with the SDHSAA. During his 22 years as assistant executive director of the state association, Pickering was responsible for administering the organization's speech, drama, music, journalism and student council activities.

In addition to his day-to-day duties at the SDHSAA, Pickering was involved with many speech and debate organizations at the state and national levels. He was president (1968–71) and secretary-treasurer (1975–79) of the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota and was South Dakota's voting delegate at the annual Debate Topic Selection Meeting.

Pickering also served as secretary-treasurer of the South Dakota Forensics Coaches Association (SDFCA) and was a member of the SDHSAA Speech Advisory Committee for 12 years. Nationally, Pickering served a term on

the NFHS Speech Committee and was a frequent speaker at the NFHS Summer Meeting, NFHS Music Conference and NFHS Speech Directors Meeting.

Before joining the SDHSAA in 1989, Pickering taught social studies and English, coached speech and debate, and directed theatre activities for 26 years at Clear Lake (South Dakota) High School. His teams won the SDHSAA State Policy Debate Championship six times and finished second six other times. Thirteen of his students won individual events championships at the state tournament, while an additional 20 students placed second. Pickering's Oral Interpretation teams won 26 consecutive district championships.

Pickering was the recipient of the SDHSAA Distinguished Service Award for 2011–12, and he was recognized by the South Dakota Music Educators Association in 2011 for his years of dedicated service to music. He has been honored by the SDFCA three times, including Coach of the Year in 1979–80, Distinguished Service Award in 1984 and induction into the SDFCA Hall of Fame in 1989.

Bill Farney

Section 6

Bill Farney retired as executive director of the Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) in 2009 after leading the nation's largest state association staff for 14 years. With more than 50 staff members, the UIL also offers more non-athletic activities than any other state association.

Farney joined the UIL in 1977 and served as an assistant director and athletic director for 18 years before assuming the executive director's position in 1995. Farney was the sixth executive director in UIL history and succeeded Bailey Marshall.

During his time as assistant director and athletic director, he assisted the executive director in administration and policy areas; helped develop athletic, academic and fine arts programs; and represented the UIL in litigation. He served on the NFHS Basketball Rules Committee, NFHS Swimming and Diving Rules Committee and the NCAA Football Rules Committee.

Farney began his teaching career in 1962 at Tulsa (Oklahoma) Junior High School and a year later taught and served as assistant basketball and wrestling coach at Tulsa (Oklahoma) Will Rogers High School. Farney also served as principal at Lorena (Texas) High School from 1967 to 1970 and Waco (Texas) Robinson High School while coaching football, basketball, track and field, junior high school basketball and golf. In 1970, he became the superintendent of schools in Crawford, Texas, and served in that position until joining the UIL in 1977.

Along with his extensive background, Farney has participated in state and national studies on athletic injuries and is a leader in assisting projects involving dental and medical information.

Farney received a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Tulsa (Oklahoma) in 1963, and a master's degree in English and a doctorate in

education administration from Baylor (Texas) University in 1968 and 1979, respectively.

Ray Mathis

Section 7

Ray Mathis has served as a teacher, coach and administrator in the Clark County School District (CCSD) in Las Vegas, Nevada, for the past 33 years. Since 2008, Mathis has been the school district's executive director for instructional support and student activities.

In his current role, Mathis is responsible for supervising 22 athletic programs, numerous student activities and fine arts programs for 37 high schools.

After starting as an elementary teacher in 1979, Mathis coached baseball and basketball for 12 years, was a vice principal for 10 years, athletic administrator for seven years and principal for three years. Prior to his current duties, Mathis was director of athletics for the Clark County School District – the nation's fifth-largest school district.

Mathis has been a member of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) Board of Control for the past 12 years, including eight years as president. He has served on numerous other NIAA committees, including the NIAA Hall of Fame Committee, NIAA State Drug and Alcohol Committee, NIAA Citizenship Through Sports Committee and NIAA Realignment Committee.

At the national level, Mathis was a member of the NFHS Citizenship Committee from 2005 to 2009, and he has served as a workshop moderator at several NFHS Summer Meetings.

A native of Tennessee, Mathis received a bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee, Martin, and a master's from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He has earned his Certified Athletic Administrator (CAA) title through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) and has been involved in athletic administration on the state level with the Nevada Athletic Directors Association.

Mathis, who received the NIAAA State Award of Merit this year, is a CAA test administrator with the NIAAA and is a certified coach education instructor.

Jim Meyerhoff

Section 8

Jim Meyerhoff is concluding his 42nd year in secondary education as a teacher, coach, athletic director and state association administrator. After serving as assistant executive director of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) for 11 years, he is assisting the WIAA with several projects on a part-time basis.

Currently, Meyerhoff is director of the WIAA State Wrestling Championships, director of the WIAA Coaches Schools and WIAA District 3 Regional Facilitator for the WIAA Coaching Standards.

Among his accomplishments as assistant executive director, Meyerhoff helped the WIAA develop the nation's first gender equity policy, which has been used by many state associations. He also was at the forefront of promoting girls wrestling in Washington. After starting the first girls invitational tournament in 2004, the WIAA has sponsored the Girls State Wrestling Championships for six years, and more than 1,100 girls are now competing in the sport statewide.

Meyerhoff has also been active in coaches education and leadership training for athletic directors. He has completed 17 NIAAA Leadership Training Institute courses and is an NFHS Coach Education Program instructor.

Prior to joining the WIAA staff in 2000, Meyerhoff was director of athletics for the White River School District, where he served for several years after a 21-year career at Franklin Pierce High School. He coached wrestling and softball at Pierce, and was athletic director for four years. He also coached wrestling for three years at Pacific Lutheran (Washington) University between his high school stints.

Meyerhoff graduated from the University of Puget Sound (Washington) in 1970, where he was a standout college wrestler. He has been inducted into the Washington State Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame, the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and the National AAU Wrestling Hall of Fame, as well as the Washington State Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

Paul McInnis

NFHS Officials Association

Paul McInnis is a pioneer in the sport of ice hockey in New Jersey after serving as an official in the state for the past 45 years and as director of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) State Ice Hockey Tournament for 20 years.

McInnis was responsible for forming the Metropolitan Chapter of the National Ice Hockey Officials Association (NIHOA) and has served the organization as secretary-treasurer for more than 30 years. He was NIHOA national president for a two-year term.

McInnis, who is highly respected throughout the country in ice hockey circles, has served three separate four-year terms on the NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Committee. He is the NJSIAA state ice hockey rules interpreter and is a source for rules interpretations throughout the country.

In addition to his many years as an on-ice official at the high school and college levels in New Jersey, McInnis has officiated in the National Hockey League (NHL) for 29 years. He was a referee for one NHL Stanley Cup semifinal game.

Among his numerous awards, McInnis received the NJSIAA Award of Honor in 2001 and the John J. McMullen-New Jersey Devils Award for service to ice hockey. In 2010, he was an inaugural inductee into the New Jersey High School Ice Hockey Hall of Fame. McInnis also is a past member of the NJSIAA Executive Committee.

David Johnson

NFHS Coaches Association

David Johnson has led the efforts of the Oregon Athletic Coaches Association (OACA) since 1998 after a 31-year career as a teacher, coach and athletic administrator at two Oregon schools. Johnson served as OACA associate director for the first seven years and has been director since 2005.

During his 14 years with the OACA, Johnson has improved the visibility and goodwill for the 3,200 members of the coaches association. He has been a key participant in the development and implementation of Oregon's Coaches Education Program. The OACA/Nike Football Clinic is one of the top clinics in the country with more than 1,000 coaches attending.

Before starting his second career with the OACA, Johnson was a teacher, football coach and athletic administrator at South Salem (Oregon) High School for 23 years, and a teacher and football coach at Lebanon (Oregon) High School for eight years. He also was chair of the Physical Education Department at both schools.

Johnson received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Oregon State University, where he played football and was a member of the 1965 Rose Bowl team. He was inducted into the Oregon State University Hall of Fame in 2005.

Prior to joining the OACA executive staff, Johnson served a term as president of the Oregon Athletic Directors Association (OADA). He also was elected to serve on the executive boards of the Oregon High School Coaches Association and the OADA. In 2010, Johnson was selected for induction into the OADA Hall of Fame.

Johnson's involvement at the national level has been extensive. He was a member of the NIAAA Coaching Certification Committee and is currently president of the National Organization of Coaches Association Directors (NOCAD). He was chosen for the NOCAD Board of Directors in 2006.

Among his awards, Johnson was named Oregon Athletic Director of the Year in 1998 and received the NIAAA Distinguished Service Award and NIAAA State Award of Merit the same year. Last year, he received the Lifetime Service Award from the OADA.

Leon Kuehner **NFHS Music Association**

Leon Kuehner concluded a remarkable 31-year career as director of instrumental music and bands at Hampton-Dumont Community Schools in Iowa in 2009. Including three years in the Britt Community Schools to begin his career, Kuehner devoted 34 years to secondary education.

Kuehner's bands earned state and national recognition on numerous occasions. Hampton-Dumont was the honor band for the Iowa Bandmasters Association six times, and his bands received Division I ratings at the Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA) State Large Group Festival for 30 years.

More than 100 of Kuehner's students were selected for the Iowa All-State Band or Orchestra during his tenure, and his jazz band qualified for the Iowa Jazz Championships 30 times - making it into the top six places on five

occasions. More than 50 percent of his students earned Division I ratings at the state festival.

Kuehner's involvement in leadership positions has been extensive. He was president of the Iowa Bandmasters Association (IBA) in 1996–97, chair of the American School Band Directors Association from 1983 to 1985, chair of the Iowa Alliance for Arts Education (2000–02, 2006–08), president of the North Central Iowa Bandmasters Association in 1980–81 and past president of the IHSMA Executive Committee.

Hampton–Dumont was named the “Exemplary Music Program” for the state of Iowa in 2001. Kuehner was the 2003 recipient of the Karl King Distinguished Service Award for active IBA members, and he was co-chair of the Iowa Core Curriculum Fine Arts Team with the Iowa Department of Education. In 2010, Kuehner received the IHSMA Distinguished Service Award and the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Northern Iowa School of Music.

Kuehner received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Northern Iowa.

Eloise Weisinger Blair NFHS Speech, Debate and Theatre Association

Eloise Weisinger Blair has been involved in teaching English and coaching speech and debate at four schools in the Houston, Texas, area for almost 50

years. Amazingly, Blair has built nationally ranked programs at schools where no program existed before her arrival – at inner-city schools in the largest urban area of the state.

After teaching English for almost 30 years, Blair entered competitive speech and debate in 1990. She has started programs at Houston (Texas) Aldine High School (1990–2004) and Houston (Texas) Lamar High School (2004–present), and has reached hundreds of kids through speech and debate.

One of Blair’s success stories was a girl who was the 15th of 16 children from a father who was on disability retirement and a mother who worked as a domestic. Through Blair’s efforts, this girl became a state champion in prose interpretation, received a speech scholarship to college and is now a successful professional.

Blair was a successful speech coach in four different leagues – the Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL), Texas Forensic League, National Catholic Forensic League (NCFL) and the National Forensic League (NFL). She continues to receive annual appointment to the UIL Regional Speech Advisory Committee and has served numerous times on the State Advisory Committee.

At the national level, Blair has been a pioneer for the Barbara Jordan Debate competition, where her students have received national recognition. She has worked in the NFL national tournament tabulation room for more than 15 years. In addition, she hosted the 2007 NCFL national tournament.

Blair, a three-diamond NFL coach, has coached more than 30 national qualifiers in NFL competition. She served on the NCFL committee to establish

Public Forum as an event and to allow computers in the extemporaneous draw room.

###

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 performing arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and performing 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 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.6 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; offers online publications and services for high school coaches and officials; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, speech and debate coaches, and music adjudicators; serves as the national source for interscholastic coach training; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

MEDIA CONTACTS: Bruce Howard or John Gillis, 317-972-6900
National Federation of State High School Associations
PO Box 690, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206
bhoward@nfhs.org or jgillis@nfhs.org