

HAMPTON ROADS SPORTS HALL OF FAME

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HAMPTON ROADS SPORTS HALL OF FAME STARTS ONLINE VOTING FOR 2nd INAUGURAL CLASS

Feb. 6, 2009

The Hampton Roads Sports Hall of Fame has begun online voting for what will become its second inaugural class. The online voting, open to all fans, began this week and will eventually play a role in choosing the men and women who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame this summer.

Fans can vote at www.espnradio1310.com. There are 60 names on the ballot, and fans can vote for up to 10 nominees. The voting process will continue until late March, when the ballot will be trimmed to 40 names, and a second round of fan voting will ensue. That voting will help to inform the members of the Hall of Fame selection committee, who will convene this spring to select the next inaugural class.

The new class of inductees will be announced in late spring and will be inducted at a banquet this summer at the Scope Exhibition Hall in Norfolk.

Last year's inaugural class was comprised of NFL legends Bruce Smith and Clarence "Ace" Parker, basketball legends Nancy Lieberman and Lefty Driesell, baseball executive Dave Rosenfield, wrestling coach and innovator the late Billy Martin, and basketball coach Boo Williams.

The Hall of Fame was proposed and promoted by Tony Mercurio of ESPN Radio 1310 as a way to honor athletes, coaches, administrators and media members who came from Hampton Roads or who made great contributions to sports in the Hampton Roads area.

The Hampton Roads Sports Hall of Fame currently exists as a standing display in the lobby of Harbor Park in Norfolk. Inductees are chosen by a committee comprised of local media, coaches and sports administrators, along with input from fans in online surveys.

For more information on the Hampton Roads Sports Hall of Fame, contact Tony Mercurio by phone at 671-1000 (ext. 252) or by email at Blastman@espnradio1310.com.