



GEORGIA SPORTS HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCES INCOMING CLASS OF 2025

Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Chairman Earl Wright is pleased to announce the following individuals have been selected for induction into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame. The 69th Annual Induction Ceremony will be held the weekend of February 21st and 22nd, 2025 in Macon, Georgia. Activities will begin Friday, February 21st with the GSHF Golf Classic hosted at Brickyard Golf Club. Friday evening, the annual Jacket Ceremony will be held at the Hall. On Saturday at midday, the annual FanFest Autograph session will once again be held at the Hall. FanFest is open to the public and free of charge. Saturday evening, we close out the weekend with the 69th Annual Induction Ceremony held at historic Macon City Auditorium. Please meet the Class of 2025:

Courtney Kupets Carter – Texas-born and raised in Gaithersburg, Maryland, standout UGA gymnast Courtney Kupets Carter is a two-time 2004 Olympic medalist, 2002 World Champion on uneven bars, 2003 US National All-Around Champion, and 2004 US National All-Around Co-Champion, as well as a member of the gold medal-winning US team at the 2003 World Championships. During her time at UGA, Courtney and the Gymdogs won four straight NCAA national championships. In her first season, Courtney was named SEC Freshman of the Year, and went on to score the teams' first perfect 10 in five years during the 2007 season with a bar routine considered to be one of the most difficult ever attempted in NCAA competition. Courtney was the first NCAA gymnast to win the all-around, as well as every individual event, and at the 2009 NCAA Championships set an NCAA record of nine individual titles. She was awarded the Honda-Broderick Cup on June 22, 2009, as the top female college athlete.

Terry Holder – Terry Holder is a Cochran native who played multiple sports in high school and won the GHSA Class A Championship in basketball for the Royals. He played baseball collegiately at Brewton-Parker and Austin Peay. He became an assistant football coach and head baseball coach at Evans High School in Augusta where he built a dynasty on the baseball diamond for 22 years. In 1996, Terry became the head coach for Greenbriar, and in his three seasons at the school he coached the team to three consecutive state championships. He retired soon after and finished his career with a 588-183 record winning eight state championships in a 12-year span. Terry became the first baseball coach in Georgia to reach 500 wins and the field at Greenbriar is named in his honor. He is a member of the Georgia Coaches Association Hall of Fame and the Georgia Dugout Hall of Fame.

Tim Hudson – Columbus, Georgia-born baseball pitcher Tim "Huddy" Hudson was a four-time MLB All-Star and is credited as one of the few pitchers in MLB history to win at least 200 games, strike out at least 2,000 batters, and to have a winning percentage above .600. A collegiate All-American at Chattahoochee Valley Community College, Tim led his team to the AJCCC Championship in 1994. Transferring to Auburn before his junior year, Tim earned both SEC Player of the Year and consensus All-American honors, both pitching and playing outfield. He was the first player to be named First Team All-SEC in two positions in the same year. In his 17-year career, Tim pitched for the Oakland A's, the Atlanta Braves (2005-2013), and the San Francisco Giants, with whom he won the 2014 World Series. Tim is only the 15th MLB pitcher to win a game against every team in the league.

Marquis Grissom – Out of Lakeshore High in College Park, Georgia native Marquis Grissom was offered scholarships for baseball, football, and track & field, before electing to play baseball at Florida A&M, as both an outfielder and a pitcher. In two seasons, he earned a .408 batting average and was named Most Outstanding Player in the MEAC's conference tournament in 1988. Making his first major league appearance with the Expos, Marquis led the NL in stolen bases in '91 and '92 and was an NL All-Star in '93 and '94. Moving to the Atlanta Braves in 1995, Marquis made two World Series' appearances, securing the final out to win the 1995 Series during his first season with his hometown team. Joining Cleveland in 1997, Marquis saw his third World Series and was named ALCS MVP, completing a 15-game, three World Series hitting streak, the second-longest of all time. During his 17-year career, Marquis won four consecutive Gold Gloves (1993-1996.)

Terance Mathis – A star quarterback at Redan High School in Stone Mountain, Georgia, Terance Mathis then attended University of New Mexico, playing both basketball and football, and became New Mexico's first consensus All-American after setting a Division 1 record for most receiving yards, while also being the first player to have more than 250 receptions, 4,000 receiving yards, and 6,000 yards total. Drafted by the New York Jets in 1990, Mathis showcased his versatility as a punt and kick returner, amassing impressive statistics and establishing himself as a dynamic player. His notable career includes stints with the Jets and the Falcons, where he became the eighth player in NFL history to surpass the 100-catch mark in his first season. He played eight seasons with the Falcons, including the 1998 Super Bowl season when he caught 64 passes for 1,136 yards and an incredible 17.8 yards per catch average.

Leo Mazzone – Leo Mazzone is widely regarded as one of the greatest pitching coaches in Major League Baseball history. Serving as the Atlanta Braves' pitching coach from 1990 to 2005, Mazzone was the architect behind one of the most dominant pitching rotations in baseball, guiding future Hall of Famers like Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine, and John Smoltz to unprecedented success. Under his guidance, the Braves won 14 consecutive division titles and captured the 1995 World Series. Known for his innovative coaching techniques, particularly his emphasis on frequent throwing between starts, Mazzone revolutionized the way pitchers prepared for games. His meticulous attention to detail and ability to maximize his pitchers' potential earned him widespread respect throughout the baseball community. Leo Mazzone's legacy is etched in the annals of baseball history and in 2022 he was inducted into the Braves Hall of Fame.

Bob Rathbun – Entering his 28th season as play-by-play announcer for the Atlanta Hawks, Veteran sportscaster Bob Rathbun is the longest-tenured play-by-play television announcer in the franchise's history. Bob has covered collegiate sports for CBS, ABC, and ESPN, and the NBA for TNT and NBA TV. He also served as play-by-play announcer for the WNBA's Atlanta Dream for 10 seasons. In 2012, he was named the Georgia Sportscaster of the Year by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association. Bob received a Distinguished Service Award from the ACC in 1994, and in 2019 was inducted into the Hampton Roads Sports Media Hall of Fame. Bob has earned 12 Regional Emmy Awards and eight Sportscaster of the Year honors. Rathbun is an alumnus of Catawba College and was inducted into their Sports Hall of Fame in 2016 and honored with their Distinguished Alumni Award in 1988.

Theron Sapp – Theron Sapp was born in Dublin, Georgia, and grew up in Macon where he played football at Lanier High School. He led the Poets to an appearance in the 1953 state championship game. Theron went on to play for the University of Georgia, and in 1957 he became an iconic figure in Bulldog history for his exceptional performance against Georgia Tech, ending an eight-year losing streak and garnering him the nickname "The Drought Breaker." His jersey, number 40, is one of only four that the Bulldogs have retired (the others being Frank Sinkwich, Charley Trippi, and Herschel Walker). He was named UGA's Back of the Decade (1950-1959). Theron was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles in 1959. In 1960, he won an NFL Championship with the Eagles, defeating the Green Bay Packers 17-13, the only playoff loss for a Vince Lombardi team. He would be traded to the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1963. In retirement, Theron became a business owner in the Augusta area.

Dennis Scott – After playing nearly every position on his first-ranked high school basketball team at Flint Hill in Oakton, Virginia, Dennis Scott played collegiately at Georgia Tech from 1987 to 1990, leading the Yellow Jackets to the NCAA tournament each year he played, and winning the tournament his junior season. Dennis was named ACC Player of the Year and the team went on to the Final Four. In 2002, he was named to the ACC 50th Anniversary men's basketball team as one of the 50 greatest players in ACC history. Entering the NBA Draft after his junior year in 1990, Dennis was picked 1st round, 4th overall by the Orlando Magic, with whom he earned the nickname "3-D" as a nod to his consistent three-pointers. In '95/96, Dennis set an NBA single-season three-point field goal tally with 267. He also set the then NBA record for the most three-pointers made in a single game with 11. In 2006, Dennis was honored by the Orlando Magic as part of their "Remember the Past Nights" event, in which past players are recognized for their achievements.

Jeff Wallace – Jeff Wallace, a legendary figure in women's collegiate tennis, led the University of Georgia women's tennis team for 38 years before retiring in 2023. Under his guidance, the Bulldogs became a powerhouse, winning six national championships and 20 Southeastern Conference titles. Wallace's teams made 36 consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances, reaching the Final Four 12 times. His team only missed one NCAA Tournament which happened during his first season. With an overall record of 818-199, Wallace's winning percentage of .804 ranks among the best in NCAA history. Wallace was also dedicated to his players' academic success, with many earning All-America honors. He coached two Honda Award winners, two National Players of the Year, and three National Seniors of the Year. Wallace is the only collegiate women's tennis coach to be named National Coach of the Year four times.