

BCA Hall Of Fame



Harry Breland



Oak Grove High School, Hattiesburg, MS

Harry Breland graduated from Earl Travillion High School in Hattiesburg, Mississippi in 1962 and later from Mississippi Valley State University in 1986. Ten years later, he earned his Masters Degree in Education from William Carey in Physical Education and Administration. Harry began his baseball coaching in 1971 at Oak Grove High School coaching there for 37 years with a record of 824 wins and 223 for a 79% winning percentage. His record includes 9 State, 11 South State, and 21 Apache Conference Championships. The Baseball Coaches Association ranked his 1993 team #6 in the Nation. The 1993 and 1994 teams were ranked #1 in the State of Mississippi.

Harry Breland's tenure includes many individual awards – BCA's District 6 Coach of the Year, Mississippi Coach of the Year, and National Federation High School Coaches Award. The gymnasiums at Oak Grove High School and the Baseball Field have been named in Harry's honor. Harry's contributions go far beyond his work on the field; he is a motivator, educator, teacher, and mentor to young coaches. He sees the best in everyone and helps young people by imparting wisdom, showing love and forgiveness while helping them direct their lives in a positive and contributing ways. Harry is an individual who made a positive difference in race relations in Mississippi and people think of him in terms of his integrity, commitment to young people, and dedication to making life better for everyone in his community and State.

Harry has served on numerous executive boards and committees in Mississippi – the Legislative Board of the High School Activities Association, the State's Executive Board, Baseball Affairs Committee, the State's Baseball Coaches Association, and the National Federation of High School Coaches and Umpires Rules Committee. In 1997, Harry was inducted into the Mississippi Coaches Association Hall of Fame.