

Coaches Earn Thompson Sportsmanship Awards

Written by Mike Kelly
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Eight "coaches who make a difference" by virtue of their exemplary sportsmanship will be honored by the North Carolina High School Athletic

Association at the NCHSAA Annual Meeting.

The coaches have been selected for the Homer Thompson Memorial Eight Who Make a Difference award. The award is named in honor of the late Homer Thompson, the long-time Winston-Salem Parkland coach and member of the NCHSAA Hall of Fame. Each honoree will receive the award at the Smith Center on May 2.

"Homer Thompson's name is affixed to this award because he certainly did make a difference in the lives of many and truly was an outstanding role model," said NCHSAA commissioner Davis Whitfield.

The winners were chosen by a special committee based on nominations from the member schools. They will receive a plaque as part of the Association's student services program.

Coaches receiving this honor for 2012-13 include the following:

Region 1: Mickey Drew, head baseball coach, Camden High School Region 2: Michael McKeel, head baseball and assistant football coach, West Craven High School

Region 3: Jason Tudryn, head football coach, Carrboro High School

Region 4: John Sylvester, junior varsity basketball coach, Cape Fear High School, Fayetteville

Region 5: Darlene Joyner, head women's basketball coach, Northwest Guilford High School

Region 6: Al Andrew, head men's basketball and golf coach, Albemarle High School

Region 7: David Craft, head baseball coach, Hickory High School

Region 8: Heather Claussen, head volleyball and women's golf coach, Polk County High School