

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE  
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**



**NEWS RELEASE**

**Twelve Individuals to Receive NFHS Citations**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN (May 16, 2008) — Twelve leaders in high school activity programs across the country will receive National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Citations at the 89<sup>th</sup> NFHS Summer Meeting July 6 in Washington, D.C.

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

Citations have been awarded to high school athletic directors since 1971. In 1988, awards were added for speech and debate and music directors. Coaches and officials were added the following year, and in 1997 Citations were first awarded to state associations and NFHS personnel.

Citation recipients are individuals whose contributions have had an impact on high school activity programs. A long-standing and distinguished record of involvement with high school activity programs at the local and state levels is considered in

determining recipients. Other important criteria include the administration and respect of colleagues.

The following individuals are this year's Citation winners in the areas of state associations, officials, coaches, music and speech.

## STATE ASSOCIATIONS

### **Virginia Anderson Section 1**

When Virginia Anderson assumed the position of associate director of the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators' Association (MSSAA) and the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) in 1994, she became the first woman to serve as a full-time executive in the 100-year history of both associations.

Anderson earned her bachelor's of science degree at State University of New York, Cortland; a master's of education degree at Springfield (Massachusetts) College; and is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She was a teacher at the high school and middle school levels before assuming a position as a district supervisor serving 10 secondary schools. She led reform and restructuring efforts as a middle school principal in both Springfield and Wilbraham, Massachusetts, before joining the MSSAA and MIAA staffs.

In her current role with the MSSAA, Anderson designs and administers the professional development training and conference programs for an organization of more than 1,300 secondary school principals. She instituted a Massachusetts Department of Education–approved graduate–level licensure program for K–12 principals, supervisors/directors and superintendents in partnership with the Massachusetts Association for Supervision and Development and Teachers. Her MIAA responsibilities include administering the state high school volleyball, swimming, softball and basketball tournaments, as well as girls’ leadership training and recognition programs.

Anderson was inducted into the Northeast Women’s Hall of Fame in 1998 and awarded the NIAAA Distinguished Service Award in 1992.

**Patricia B. Briscoe**  
**Section 2**

A native of Washington, D.C., Pat Briscoe joined the District of Columbia Interscholastic Athletic Association (DCIAA) in 1989 as coordinator of athletics. In 1992, she was promoted to assistant director of athletics and serves in that capacity today. During her time at the DCIAA, Briscoe has helped oversee two major initiatives:

classifying cheerleading as a sport and the founding of junior high and middle school tackle football programs.

Briscoe began her professional career in 1975 as a mathematics teacher at Anacostia (Washington, D.C.) Senior High School. Throughout her teaching career, Briscoe sponsored and coached many activities, including senior class advisor, yearbook, softball, girls basketball, cross country, indoor track and outdoor track. Administratively, she served as dean of female students and athletic director.

Briscoe earned her bachelor's of science in mathematics from Hampton (Virginia) Institute (now Hampton University) in 1975, her master's of science in curriculum development from Virginia Tech in 1982 and her doctorate of education in educational administration from Nova Southeastern University (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) in 1998.

Nationally, Briscoe is a current member of the NFHS National Records Committee and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) Board of Directors. She has also served on the NFHS Spirit Rules Committee, the NFHS Strategic Planning Committee and the NFHS Coaching Education Committee. In addition, Briscoe was the first female second vice president of the D.C. Coaches Association.

Among her many honors, she was awarded the NIAAA State Award of Merit in 1997 and the Distinguished Service Award from the D.C. Coaches Association in 2002.

## **BJ. Guzzardo**

### **Section 3**

Growing up in Independence, Louisiana, B.J. Guzzardo earned his bachelor's of science and master's of education from Southeastern Louisiana University.

After graduation, he returned to his high school alma mater, Independence (Louisiana) High School, as the assistant football coach, and helped lead the team to its first district championship in school history and its first state playoff appearance.

From 1980 to 1988, Guzzardo served as the head football coach for White Castle (Louisiana) High School, Kentwood (Louisiana) High School and Hammond (Louisiana) High School. As assistant track coach at Kentwood, he helped the team win two state championships and finish second two other years.

In 1989, Guzzardo joined the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) as assistant commissioner, and still serves in that position today. Among his responsibilities, he oversees several sports including volleyball, football, wrestling, soccer, baseball and softball. He also works with officials in several sports, handles investigations and works with the state's sports injury committee.

Professionally, he was a member of the Louisiana High School Coaches Association (LHSCA) Executive Council for four years, and served as LHSCA president for one year. He was the first coach to serve on the LHSAA Executive Committee and is also a

member of the LHSAA Sports Season Study Committee. On the national level, Guzzardo has served on the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee and on the National Records Committee.

Among his honors, Guzzardo was named the baseball district coach of the year three times, and the football district coach of the year six times. He also was the Class 1A and Class 2A Coach of the Year and was named an All-Star Football Coach by the LHSCA.

#### **Alan Beste** **Section 4**

Alan Beste joined the Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) in 1989 as the wellness/sports medicine coordinator. He became an administrative assistant in 1998, and was promoted to IHSAA assistant executive director in 2005. Prior to joining the IHSAA, Beste was a health teacher and athletic trainer at Pleasant Valley (Iowa) High School for seven years.

Among his responsibilities at the IHSAA, Beste administers wrestling and tennis, the sports medicine and wellness programs, the Governor's Scholar Academic Recognition Program, and character development efforts, and is liaison to the Iowa Cheerleading Coaches Association.

Nationally, Beste currently serves on the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee and the NFHS Swimming and Diving Rules Committee, and formerly served on the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. He was moderator for a 1992 NFHS Summit on Steroids, and he was a panelist on a 1994 NFHS teleconference on HIV.

Beste publishes wellness updates six to eight times a year for Iowa schools and educational posters and pamphlets related to student-athlete health and safety. He coordinates sports medicine coverage for all state championship events, and he has appeared on “CBS This Morning” to discuss the IHSAA’s wellness and sports efforts.

Beste, who earned his bachelor’s degree from St. Cloud (Minnesota) State University and his master’s from Northwest Missouri State University, has published several statements regarding steroid use for Iowa schools, and in 1990, he wrote the book Freedom of Choice–Anabolic Steroids, You Make the Choice.

**Bob Hetler**  
**Section 5**

Bob Hetler will be retiring June 30 after 30 years as assistant to the executive secretary of the North Dakota High School Activities Association (NDHSAA). He has served as coordinator of forensics, drama and music activities, as well as publications and media relations, since joining the NDHSAA in 1978.

Prior to joining the North Dakota association, Hetler taught high school English in Northwood, North Dakota, for 13 years. In addition to teaching, Hetler was director of speech and drama activities, assistant football coach and elementary basketball coach. Hetler earned his bachelor's degree from Mayville (North Dakota) State University.

Hetler began his involvement with the NDHSAA during his tenure at Northwood, serving on the NDHSAA Speech Advisory Committee. He has served as treasurer of the North Dakota Speech and Theatre Association for 20 years and was inducted into its hall of fame in 1992. He is also an associate board member of the North Dakota Music Educators Association.

At the national level, Hetler served two terms on the NFHS Speech Committee, including a term as chairman from 2002 to 2005. He also was a member of the NFHS Records Committee and NFHS Music Committee, and he was associate editor of the NFHS Music Journal from 1995 to 2001. He has received three awards from the NFHS for his service to speech, debate and music activities.

Hetler has shown his dedication to high school activities through his multiple commitments as a leader in fine arts activities, not only in North Dakota but also for the entire NFHS membership.



Mario Martinez is an associate director for the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA). He has held that position for four years, but has dedicated more than 27 years to high school education and sports. Currently, Martinez is responsible for football, golf, eligibility, and alignment and classification at the NMAA. In a short time at the NMAA, he has made significant contributions to high school athletics and activities in the state.

Martinez draws from his past coaching career to guide him in the administration of high school sports and activities in New Mexico. In the 12 years prior to accepting his position at the NMAA, he was athletic director, head football coach and head boys track and field coach at Fort Sumner (New Mexico) High School. During that time, he also served as a member of the NMAA Commission and Board of Directors. Martinez's coaching career includes six state track and field championships, five state football titles and one state basketball trophy. These achievements make him one of only two coaches in NMAA history who have won state championships in three different sports.

## **Evan Excell**

### **Section 7**

Evan Excell has served as executive director of the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) for 14 years and will be retiring this summer. Prior to joining the

UHSAA, he was a teacher, coach and athletic director at five high schools in Utah for 28 years.

During his coaching days, he won state championships in boys basketball and girls track. While serving as athletic director at Ogden (Utah) Ben Lomond High School, his teams won nine state titles and had 12 second-place finishes.

Beyond his duties with the UHSAA, Excell served as president of both the Utah High School Basketball Coaches Association and the Utah Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (UIAAA). He received the Meritorious Service Award from the UIAAA in 2001, was named UHSAA Athletic Director of the Year for 1993-94 and was inducted into the UHSAA Hall of Fame in 2000 as a distinguished coach.

Nationally, Excell has served on the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) Board of Directors, as well as the NFHS Football Rules Committee, NFHS Appeals Board and NFHS Board of Directors. He was one of the first 500 individuals to earn the Certified Athletic Administrator (CAA) distinction from the NIAAA.

As executive director of the UHSAA, Excell has led his association through a time of financial uncertainty into stability. With aggressive pursuit of corporate sponsorships and a small increase in ticket prices, the UHSAA now boasts more than \$1 million in its endowment fund and is located in a new \$1.2 million building. Excell has also been a

leader in strengthening the lines of communication between the association and its member schools.

**Joanne Austin**  
**Section 8**

Jo Austin has served on the Montana High School Association (MHSA) staff since 1986 and was promoted to associate director three years ago. Currently, Austin's responsibilities include gender equity, soccer, forensics, band, chorus, orchestra and the MHSA Coaches Education program. She also is the coordinator for all MHSA printing and publications and the MHSA Annual Meeting, and she handles event administration and seeding for the state track and field meets.

As the resident gender-equity officer and trainer for hazing and cyberbullying awareness, Austin is often requested as a speaker and presenter on the topics of gender equity, sexual harassment, hazing and bullying. She has spoken at numerous NFHS Summer Meetings, section meetings and in other states on these topics.

Austin, a graduate of Butte (Montana) Central High School and the University of Montana, has been involved on several NFHS committees in the past several years. She was chair of the NFHS Equity Committee from 2002 to 2006 and was a member of the NFHS Annual Meeting Advisory Committee from 2004 to 2006. Austin also contributed

to this year's NFHS Strategic Planning Committee, serving on the Fiscal/Funding Subcommittee.

In 2005, Austin was awarded the James C. Haugen Meritorious Service Award for her contributions to interscholastic activities.

## OFFICIATING

### **Timothy Carr NFHS Officials Association**

Tim Carr has been an active official in Utah for 35 years. He officiated basketball for 14 years until he switched to football in 1986. He has officiated more than 70 football playoff games during his career, including nine state championships. He also worked more than 25 basketball playoff games and was evaluator of basketball officials in Utah from 1986 to 1993.

A school administrator for 24 years, Carr currently is a professor of Westminster College in Salt Lake City, and is a nationally recognized speaker on the topic of character and values development. He has conducted rules clinics for the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) since 1998 and has made presentations in three states. He also is active in the community, volunteering and serving on the board of

directors for the United Way, the Boys and Girls Club and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Utah, among others.

Carr was recognized as the UHSAA Male Official of the Year in 1997 and won an award for Outstanding Service to High School Football in 2005, given by the Utah chapter of the National Football Foundation. He served as the state director for the NFHS Officials Association from 1997 until the board of directors disbanded.

Carr was a representative to the NFHS Citizenship Committee from 1999 to 2003, and is vice chair of the NFHS Officials' Quarterly Publications Committee, during which time he has contributed many articles on topics such as sportsmanship and citizenship.

## **COACHING**

**Marv Heater**  
**Salem, Oregon**

In a career of more than 50 years, Marv Heater has done just about everything in interscholastic athletics. He coached football, track and wrestling for 21 years, earning state championships in football and track. He also was an athletic director for three years, establishing an athletic program at a new school. In addition, Heater served as an assistant principal and principal.

In 1986, he was named executive director of the Oregon Athletic Coaches Association (OACA), and currently is co-executive director.

As OACA executive director, Heater has helped develop numerous programs that have had a positive impact on Oregon interscholastic sports, including the Oregon Coach of the Year award and banquet, a scholarship program for eight graduating students and liability insurance for all members of OACA. He also was responsible for helping initiate a required coach education program for all Oregon coaches. During his tenure, the association has grown from 1,400 to 3,500 and had 27 Oregon coaches recognized as National Coaches of the Year by the NFHS Coaches Association or other organizations.

During his career, Heater has been recognized as State Football Coach of the Year twice and Shrine All-Star Football Coach five times. In 1990, he was the Oregon nominee for the NIAAA Distinguished Service Award. In 2001, he received the OACA Distinguished Service Award and the NFHS National Distinguished Service Award. Heater also was a member of the inaugural class inducted into the South Salem High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003.

## **FINE ARTS PROGRAMS**

**Vicki White Miltun**

## **NFHS Music Association**

Vicki White Miltun has been an adjudicator and clinician for music events throughout the Pacific Northwest since 1972. As department chair at Mercer Island (Washington) High School since 1989, she has built the orchestra program into one that is nationally recognized, and her students consistently earn Superior ratings at contests and festivals.

Miltun served as president of the Washington Music Educators Association (WMEA) from 1996 to 1998, and as chair of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) Music Committee from 1996 to 1997. During this time, she worked with both groups to implement the ensemble portion of the Washington state solo and ensemble contest, which continues to expand.

Miltun served as a Northwest division representative to the board of the MENC (the National Association for Music Education) and was also president of the Washington unit of the American String Teachers Association in the 1980s. Miltun co-founded the Mercer Island Orchestra Festival in 1986 and continues to serve as its director.

Miltun earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas, her master's degree from the University of Washington and an educational specialist degree from Seattle (Washington) University.

For her contributions to music education, she has earned several awards and honors. She was named the WMEA/WIAA High School Music Educator of the Year in 2001, as well as the American String Teachers Association Washington Teacher of the Year in 1992.

**Pam Cady Wycoff**  
**NFHS Speech, Debate and Theatre Association**

With nearly 30 years' experience, Pam Wycoff has become one of the most respected speech and debate coaches in Minnesota.

Wycoff received her bachelor's of science degree in English, speech and theatre from Southwest State (Minnesota) University and her master's of arts degree in speech communication from Mankato (Minnesota) State University. She then began her teaching career at Good Counsel Academy in Mankato as an English and speech teacher and head speech coach. From 1980 to 1989, she taught and coached at Mankato (Minnesota) Loyola High School. In 1989, she joined the St. Paul (Minnesota) Apple Valley High School faculty as the speech communications teacher, director of forensics and head speech/debate coach.

Throughout her coaching career, she has coached 18 national champions and 32 national runners-up in the National Forensic League (NFL) and National Catholic



Forensic League. Her team was awarded the Bruno E. Jacob Award in 1988 and received the National Speech Team of Excellence award six times. She has coached nine NFL All-Americans and 23 NFL Academic All-Americans.

Wycoff is a director, writer and presenter for a 15-part instructional videotape series for several textbooks. She has been a workshop presenter for the Communication and Theater Association of Minnesota Convention for 22 years.

Wycoff is a member and past president of the Minnesota Speech Coaches Association, a member and past president of the Communication and Theatre Association of Minnesota, and a committee member of the Minnesota Debate Teachers Association.

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