LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL COACHES

49th Annual Awards Banquet

May 6, 2023 Baton Rouge Marriott Baton Rouge, LA









Mike McConathy

Celebrating 49 Years of Service to Louisiana Basketball

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PROGRAM

Welcome
Invocation
Dinner
Introduction of Master of Ceremonies
Introduction of Head Table
Introduction of Previous Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame Inductees
Introduction of Previous Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award Winners
Presentation of High School AwardsCollege Coaches
Presentation of College Awards
Presentation of Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award Master of Ceremonies
Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame Induction Master of Ceremonies
Presentation to the LABC President
Closing Remarks Master of Ceremonies

2023 HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Class C	Player of the Year	Terrance James Gibsland-Coleman
	Coach of the Year	Charlie Alexander Hornbeck
Class B	Player of the Year	Jalen Brown Avoyelles Public Charter
	Coach of the Year	Antonio Benjamin Avoyelles Public Charter
Class A	Player of the Year	De'Vion Lavergne North Central
	Coach of the Year	Antonio Hudson Lincoln Prep
Class AA	Player of the Year	Chris Lockett Newman
	Coach of the Year	Randy Livingston Newman
Class AAA	Player of the Year	Elliot McQuillan Port Allen
	Coach of the Year	Rob Melanson Iowa
Class AAAA	Player of the Year	Tahj Roots Bossier
	Coach of the Year	Nathaniel Roche Carver
Class AAAAA	Player of the Year	Dorian Booker Scotlandville
	Coach of the Year	Derrick Jones Catholic

2023 COLLEGE AWARDS

LOUISIANA JUNIOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Bryce Roberts Louisiana State University at Eunice

LOUISIANA JUNIOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Byron Starks Louisiana State University at Eunice

LOUISIANA SMALL COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jalen Brooks Louisiana State University at Shreveport

LOUISIANA SMALL COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Kyle Blankenship Louisiana State University at Shreveport

PETE MARAVICH MEMORIAL AWARD LOUISIANA MAJOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jordan Brown University of Louisiana at Lafayette

TOMMY JOE EAGLES MEMORIAL AWARD LOUISIANA MAJOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Bob Marlin University of Louisiana at Lafayette

BOB PETTIT AWARD LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Naz Reid Minnesota Timberwolves

2023 MR. LOUISIANA BASKETBALL AWARD

Mike McConathy Northwestern State University

2023 LOUISIANA BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Kevin Brooks University of Louisiana at Lafayette

2023 HIGH SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CLASS C

Terrance James – Gibsland-Coleman (Gibsland) – The 6-4 senior averaged 24 points, 15 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 steals and 3 blocked shots in leading fourth-seeded Gibsland-Coleman to the Division V non-select state semifinals with a 23-8 record. He was also a first team Shreveport *Times* All-Area selection. He participated in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a two-time first team Class C All-State selection.

CLASS B

<u>Jalen Brown</u> – Avoyelles Public Charter (Mansura) – The 5-8 sophomore averaged 18 points, 6 assists, 4 rebounds and 3 steals in leading top-seeded Avoyelles Public Charter to its first state championship with a 36-1 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the Division V select title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. He was also the winner of the LHSBCA state three-point contest.

CLASS A

De'Vion Lavergne – North Central (Lebeau) – The 6-3 senior averaged 26.9 points and 9.2 rebounds in leading fourth-seeded North Central to its fourth state championship in five seasons with a 24-12 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the Division IV non-select title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. He also a first team Lafayette *Daily Advertiser* All-Acadiana selection. He participated in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a two-time Class A All-State selection.

CLASS AA

Chris Lockett – Newman (New Orleans) – The 6-5 senior averaged 16 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists and 1.5 steals in leading top-seeded Newman to its second straight state championship with a 32-6 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the Division III select title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. The Louisiana Sports Writers Association named him "Mr. Basketball" in Louisiana, and he was also named the Gatorade and MaxPreps Louisiana Player of the Year. He was selected to participate in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a two–time Class AA Player of the Year and three-time first team Class AA All-State selection. He has accepted a scholarship to play college basketball at Boise State University.

CLASS AAA

Elliot McQuillan – Port Allen – The 6-3 senior averaged 22 points, 8 rebounds and 4 assists in leading top-seeded Port Allen to its fourth straight state championship with a 29-4 record. He was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team and participated in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a two-time first team All-State selection. He has accepted a scholarship to play college basketball at Louisiana State University at Alexandria

CLASS AAAA

Tahj Roots – Bossier (Bossier City) – The 5-10 senior averaged 19.7 points, 4.2 rebounds and 2.8 assists in leading fourth-seeded Bossier to the Division II non-select state championship with a 24-10 record. He was also the Shreveport *Times* All-City Player of the Year. He has accepted a scholarship to play college basketball at Louisiana State University at Shreveport

CLASS AAAAA

Dorian Booker – Scotlandville (Baton Rouge) – The 6-11 senior averaged 22.1 points, 7.8 rebounds and 4.3 blocked shots and shot 74% from the field in leading top-seeded Scotlandville to the Division I select state finals with a 32-4 record. He was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team and was selected to participate in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a two–time Class AAAAA All-State selection. He has accepted a scholarship to play college basketball at the University of New Orleans.

HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

CLASS C

<u>Charlie Alexander</u> – Hornbeck – This year he led seventh-seeded Hornbeck to the Division V non-select state quarterfinals with a 30-7 record. This is the second time that he has been named state coach of the year.

CLASS B

<u>Antonio Benjamin</u> – Avoyelles Public Charter (Mansura) – This year he led top-seeded Avoyelles Public Charter to its first state championship with a 36-1 record, which included wins over teams in every state classification.

CLASS A

Antonio Hudson – Lincoln Prep (Grambling) – This year he led second-seeded Lincoln Prep to the Division IV select state finals with a 24-5 record.

CLASS AA

Randy Livingston – Newman (New Orleans) – This year he led top-seeded Newman to its second straight state championship with a 32-6 record.

CLASS AAA

Rob Melanson – Iowa – In his 30th season of coaching, he led second-seeded Iowa to its first state semifinal berth with a 29-6 record. He was also named the Lake Charles *American Press* All-Southwest Louisiana Large Schools Coach of the Year.

CLASS AAAA

<u>Nathaniel Roche</u> – Carver (New Orleans) – This year he led sixth-seeded Carver to its second straight state championship with a 24-10 record, which included wins over the top three seeds.

CLASS AAAAA

<u>Derrick Jones</u> – Catholic (Baton Rouge) – In his second season at Catholic, he led the third-seeded Bears to their first state championship with a 28-6 record. This is the second time that Jones has been named state coach of the year.

2023 COLLEGE AWARD WINNERS

JUNIOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Bryce Roberts – LSU-Eunice – The 6-1 sophomore guard was the Louisiana Community Colleges Athletic Conference Player of the Year and a NJCAA All-Region 23 selection. He averaged 14.9 points, 3.9 rebounds, 2.9 three-point field goals made and 1.7 steals and had a 1.3 assist-turnover ratio, a 40.5% three-point field goal percentage and a 77.6% free throw percentage. He scored in double figures in 18 of 22 games, including five 20+ point games. His single game highs were 35 points, 10 rebounds, 7 steals, 6 three-point field goals made and 5 assists. He led LSU-Eunice to the LCCAC championship and the No. 2 seed and second round of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament with a 19-4 record.

JUNIOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Byron Starks – LSU-Eunice – He directed LSU-Eunice to the Louisiana Community Colleges Athletic Conference championship and the No. 2 seed and second round of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament with a 19-4 record. LSU-Eunice ranked 7th in the nation in steals and 9th in the nation in three-point field goal percentage defense. This is the fourth straight year that Starks has received the Louisiana Junior College Coach of the Year award.

SMALL COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jalen Brooks – LSU-Shreveport – The 6-5 senior guard was a first team NAIA All-American, as well as the Red River Athletic Conference Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year. He was also a RRAC All-Tournament selection and a seven-time RRAC Player of the Week. He averaged 22.5 points (8th in nation and 1st in RRAC), 11.2 rebounds (2nd in nation and 1st in RRAC), 2.1 assists, 1.7 steals and 1.2 blocked shots and had a 35.5% three-point field goal percentage. He scored in double figures in all 32 games, including seven 30+ point games and nineteen 20+ point games. He had double figures in rebounds in 21 of 23 games and had 21 double-double games. His single game highs were 43 points, 20 rebounds, 6 three-point field goals made, 5 steals, 5 blocked shots and 4 assists. He led LSU-Shreveport to a No. 17 ranking in the final regular season national poll, to the RRAC regular season championship, to the finals of the RRAC Tournament and to the third round of the NAIA National Tournament with a 26-8 record.

SMALL COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Kyle Blankenship – LSU-Shreveport – He guided LSU-Shreveport to a No. 17 ranking in the final regular season national poll, to the Red River Athletic Conference regular season championship, to the finals of the RRAC Tournament and to the third round of the NAIA National Tournament with a 26-8 record. He was named the RRAC Coach of the Year. LSU-Shreveport led the RRAC in scoring and rebounding. This is the fourth time that Blankenship has received the Louisiana Small College Coach of the Year award.

MAJOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jordan Brown – UL-Lafayette – The 6-11 junior forward was the CollegeInsider National Mid-Major Player of the Year, as well as a first team All-Sun Belt Conference and NABC All-District selection. He was also the Most Outstanding Player of the SBC Tournament and a four-time SBC Player of the Week. He averaged 19.3 points, 8.6 rebounds and 1.18 blocked shots and had a 57.1% field goal percentage. He scored in double figures in 30 of 33 games, including two 30+ point games and fifteen 20+ point games. He had double figures in rebounds in 10 of 33 games, along with 10 double-double games. His single game highs were 37 points, 20 rebounds, 6 assists, 4 blocked shots and 3 steals. He led UL-Lafayette to a second place finish in the SBC, to the SBC Tournament championship and to a 13th seed in the NCAA Tournament with a 26-8 record.

MAJOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Bob Marlin – UL-Lafayette – He led UL-Lafayette to a second place finish in the Sun Belt Conference, to the SBC Tournament championship and to a 13th seed in the NCAA Tournament with a 26-8 record. This represented the second most wins in school history and an improvement of ten wins over 2022. UL-Lafayette led the SBC in field goal percentage, three-point field goal percentage and rebounding margin. This is the second time that Marlin has received the Louisiana Major College Coach of the Year award.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

 ${\it Naz~Reid}$ – Minnesota Timberwolves (LSU) – He averaged 11.5 points and 4.9 rebounds and had a 53.7% field goal percentage and a 34.6% three-point field goal percentage as a center-forward for the Minnesota Timberwolves, who finished in second place in the NBA's Northwest Division with a 42-40 record. He started 11 games and averaged 18.4 minutes per game. He had 4 double-double games, eight 20+ point games and four 10+ rebound games. His single game highs were 30 points, 18 rebounds, 5 steals, 5 blocked shots, 4 three-point field goals made and 4 assists. He is in his fourth year in the NBA.

2023 MR. LOUISIANA BASKETBALL AWARD WINNER

Mike McConathy – Northwestern State University – At the end of the 2021-22 season, McConathy retired after a distinguished 39-year collegiate head coaching career in Louisiana, amassing a total of 682 career wins. The first 352 victories of his career came at Bossier Parish Community College, a program he started in 1983-84 and turned into a nationally-ranked team that was a two-time junior college national tournament participant, before taking over the Northwestern State University program in 1999-2000. At Northwestern St., he amassed another 330 victories, won two Southland Conference regular season and three conference tournament championships, and led the Demons to three NCAA Tournament appearances (winning games in both the 2001 and 2006 tournaments). The Demons' 64-63 opening round win against No. 3 seed Iowa on a buzzer-beating 3-pointer remains one of March Madness' defining upsets.

As a home grown product himself, McConathy built his teams primarily with Louisiana players, as about three-quarters of them were from the Bayou State. He constantly promoted educational values with his players, graduating almost 90% of them in his Northwestern St. program. In 2006 and 2014 the Demons ranked among the nation's top 10% in the NCAA's Academic Progress Rate scores.

At Northwestern St., McConathy was a three-time Southland Conference Coach of the Year and two-time Louisiana Major College Coach of the Year. As a player at Louisiana Tech from 1973 to 1977, McConathy was a two-time honorable mention All-American and was the Southland Conference Player of the Year in 1976, finishing his career as Louisiana Tech's second leading scorer with 2,033 points for a 20.7 average. For his accomplishments as a player, McConathy was inducted into the Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1989.

2023 LOUISIANA BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Kevin Brooks – University of Louisiana at Lafayette – Player – 1987-91

Brooks was a two-time honorable mention All-American and a four-time All-American South Conference and All-Louisiana selection. He was also a two-time ASC All-Tournament and second team NABC All-District selection, as well as the ASC Newcomer of the Year and Louisiana Freshman of the Year in 1988. He finished his career as the third leading scorer in UL-Lafayette history, with 2,294 points for a 19.8 average. He also had 719 career rebounds for a 6.2 average, along with a 52.2% career field goal percentage, a 40.9% career three-point field goal percentage and a 77.4% career free throw percentage. He averaged 21.2 points (1st in ASC) and 6.0 rebounds and had a 51.5% field goal percentage and a 44.7% three-point field goal percentage in 1991. He averaged 20.1 points and 7.0 rebounds and had a 40.4% three-point field goal percentage and an 81.6% free throw percentage in 1990. He averaged 20.7 points and 5.4 rebounds and had a 52.2% field goal percentage in 1989. He averaged 16.8 points and 6.3 rebounds and had a 56.5% field goal percentage in 1988. He had single game highs of 37 points and 14 rebounds. He was the 18th player selected in the first round of the 1991 NBA Draft.

BANQUET SPONSORS

The 49th Annual LABC Awards Banquet is sponsored by the Baton Rouge Orthopaedic Clinic, a comprehensive orthopaedic clinic with offices in Baton Rouge, Gonzales, Zachary, Walker, Brusly and Hammond; and by Universal Coin & Bullion, Ltd., a rare coin and gold dealer headquarted in Beaumont, Texas.



