



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **JOHNNY GRIER, VINNA FREEMAN SELECTED AS DCSAA HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The District of Columbia State Athletic Association has announced that former NFL referee Johnny Grier and former DC Public Schools administrator Vinna L. Freeman will be honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards at the inaugural DCSAA High School Hall of Fame induction ceremony on June 8.

Grier, a Washington native, graduated from Dunbar High and the University of the District of Columbia. He was the first African-American referee in NFL history and the first African-American to referee a pro football championship game, Super Bowl XXII. Grier began his officiating career at age 18 and started working high school games with the Eastern Board of Officials in 1965. He moved on to college football in 1972 and was an NFL game official from 1981 until 2004, when he became an officiating supervisor.

Freeman also is a Washington native, graduating from Armstrong High. She was a physical education instructor at Howard University from 1954 to 1960, then began her career working for DCPS. She worked at Dunbar and Eastern high schools for 21 as a counselor and assistant principal, then was hired as the DCPS supervising director of health, physical education, athletics, safety and driver's education. She was the first African American female to oversee DCPS athletics and held the position from 1981 to 1988.

"We are humbled to be able to honor two people who have contributed so much to athletics during their careers," DCSAA Executive Director Clark Ray said. "So many NFL viewers were familiar with Johnny from watching him on television, while Vinna helped shape so many of our city's student-athletes and was a positive role model during their formative years. We thank them for all they have done and want to remind the next generation of their achievements."

The members of the inaugural class of inductees to the DCSAA High School Fame of Fame are:

- **Elgin Baylor:** Legendary player named one of the 50 greatest players in NBA history
- **Allen Chin:** Longtime high school sports administrator, first at his alma mater, Anacostia High, and subsequently as DCPS/DCIAA director of athletics





- **Mason Clark:** More than half century of service to youth sports; co-founder of Pioneer Athletic Club, today known as Woodridge Warriors
- **Maurice “Maus” Collins:** Retired as the ninth-winningest high school football coach, with record of 322-74-9 and 16 league titles over 39 seasons at Carroll and Gonzaga
- **Adrian Dixon:** Longtime Coolidge track and field coach molded several top athletes
- **Al Forman:** Made his mark as an official, serving as Eastern Board of Officials commissioner for more than 20 years
- **Bob Headen:** One of Washington’s most successful coaches in football (eight DCPS titles) and girls basketball (17 DCPS titles)
- **Lucille Hester:** One of the biggest advocates for Washington youth and amateur sports; longtime DCPS athletic director
- **Butch McAdams:** Coached the Maret boys basketball team to 449 wins over 29 seasons and is known today as host of the In and Out of Sports on WOL radio
- **Wanda Oates:** Best known for coaching the Ballou boys basketball team to 1991 DCIAA championships; guided the Ballou girls basketball team to 10 DCIAA titles in 13 seasons

Grier, Freeman and the Hall of Fame inductees will be honored at an induction ceremony on Thursday, June 8 at the DC Office of Cable, Television, Film, Music and Entertainment.

To learn more about the District of Columbia State Athletic Association visit [www.dcsaasports.org](http://www.dcsaasports.org).

### **About the District of Columbia State Athletic Association**

The mission of the District of Columbia State Athletics Association (DCSAA) is to serve member schools and the maximum number of their student-athletes by providing leadership and support for interscholastic athletic programming that will enrich the education experiences of all participants.

The DCSAA will preserve and promote the educational significance of interscholastic athletics by:

- Providing for fair competition between member schools;
- Promoting sportsmanship and ethical behavior;
- Establishing and enforcing standards of conduct for student-athletes, coaches, administrators, officials and spectators;
- Protecting the physical well-being of student-athletes and promoting healthy adolescent lifestyles; and
- Promoting participation of female and disabled students on member teams.

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