

# NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 3216, FINLEY GOLF COURSE ROAD • CHAPEL HILL, NC 27515-3216

PHONE: (919) 962-2345 • FAX: (919) 962-4438

## NCHSAA HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION)

### I. NOMINEE INFORMATION

NAME Vail III Luther Herbert Luke  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE NICKNAME  
ADDRESS PO Box 539 Pikeville NC 27863  
STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE  
AGE 71 DATE OF BIRTH 16-29-1953 PLACE OF BIRTH Wynne Memorial Hospital (Goldsboro)  
TELEPHONE: WORK (919) 227-1125 (252) 355-1437 HOME (919) 222-1125 DECEASED\* No  
YES/NO  
NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL Charles B. Aycock High School YEAR GRADUATED 1971  
NAME OF COLLEGE Ferris State University YEAR GRADUATED 1975  
ADDITIONAL DEGREES (MASTERS, DOCTORATE, ETC.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*IF NOMINEE IS DECEASED, GIVE DATE OF DEATH AND FILL IN SECTION II\*\*\*

### II. NEAREST RELATIVE

NAME Vail Lisa Jones Wife  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE RELATIONSHIP  
ADDRESS PO Box 539 Pikeville NC 27863  
STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE  
TELEPHONE: WORK (919) 222-1126 HOME ( )

### III. SPONSOR INFORMATION (PERSON MAKING NOMINATION)

NAME Clark Donald Lee  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE  
ADDRESS 86 Mt. Hermon Church Road Snow Hill NC 28580  
STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE  
TELEPHONE: WORK (252) 215-1224 HOME (1) 252-702-7880  
TITLE/POSITION AP Teacher / Women's Tennis Coach  
SCHOOL SYSTEM Wynne County  
SIGNATURE Donald L. Clark DATE 7/15/2024

#### IV. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

IN CHART BELOW, PLEASE LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY THE NOMINEE'S POSITION (COACH, PRINCIPAL, ETC.) AND OTHER APPROPRIATE DATA

Went on  
Coach of the  
Year awards  
of the Year 2002

POSITION	DATES	SCHOOL OR SYSTEM	HONORS	COACHING RECORDS
Woments Tennis Coach	1979-2008 20103	Charles B. Aycock High School	Ran Lee USA North Carolina High School Coach	483-69
Men's Tennis Coach	1980-1990 2000-2006 2013-2014	Charles B. Aycock High School	5 Coach of Year 13 Conference Championships	216-81
Woments Basketball Coach	1984-1989 1993-1999 2005-2006	Charles B. Aycock High School		208-103
Teacher	1979-2010	Charles B. Aycock High School	Teacher of the Month	

#### CIVIC/CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (INCLUDE CHURCH, CIVIC OR CHARITABLE INVOLVEMENT)

1. St. Joseph Methodist Church in Pikeville (Sunday School teacher, member of Bible and Christian Center)
2. St. Paul Methodist Church in Goldsboro
3. Pikeville Planning Board (ten year) (last six year as chairman)
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

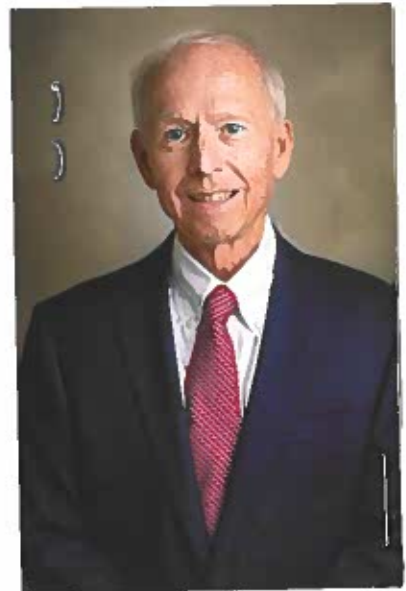
### HONORS

(PLEASE LIST HONORS EARNED IN COLLEGE, POST GRADUATE WORK, AWARDS FROM CIVIC CLUBS, ETC. )  
(EXAMPLE: PHI BETA KAPPA, MAGNA CUM LAUDE, JAYCEE PERSON OF THE YEAR, ETC.)

1. Caroline Beach Music Awards Hall of Fame (Class of 2024)
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

### V. PHOTOGRAPH

ATTACH A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE NOMINEE  
(preferably head and shoulder shot, wallet size)



### VI. SUPPORT OF CANDIDACY

Using whatever supportive data you may wish, please describe the activities and accomplishments of this candidate which make him/her a viable candidate for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Please remember that only thorough and complete documentation will be considered. Two letters of recommendation (minimum) will be necessary, and newspaper articles, etc., in support may also be submitted.

The committee shall seek to honor those who have directly influenced the history and evolution of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. Attachments are considered appropriate.

FOR OFFICE USE: DATE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

**COACH LUKE VAIL**  
**CHARLES B. AYCOCK HIGH SCHOOL**

**WOMEN'S TENNIS – HEAD COACH**

1979-2008 / 2013

RECORD 483-69                      *91% winning record*

28 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN A ROW WITHOUT A LOSS IN CONFERENCE PLAY.

1995: LOST IN THE STATE 2A DUAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

1996: LOST IN THE STATE 2A DUAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

1997: WON THE STATE 3A DUAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 23-0 RECORD

2005: LOST IN THE STATE 3A CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

TEN CONFERENCE COACH OF THE YEAR AWARDS

**MEN'S TENNIS – HEAD COACH**

1980-1990, 2000-2006, 2013-2014

RECORD 216-81                      *73% winning record*

13 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

FIVE CONFERENCE COACH OF THE YEAR AWARDS

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL – HEAD COACH**

1984-1989, 1993-1999, 2005-2006

RECORD: 208-103                      *67% winning record*

ONE CO-CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

1997-98 TEAM ADVANCED TO THE STATE 3A SEMIFINALS

COACHED TWO PLAYERS WHO WERE SELECTED TO PLAY FOR THE EAST TEAM IN THE ANNUAL EAST-WEST ALL STAR GAME AT THE COACHES CLINIC IN GREENSBORO.



*Cultivation, Personalization, Innovation -  
Every Student Every Day!*

**Wayne School of Engineering  
at Goldsboro High School**

Dr. Gary Hales, Principal

Date: 9/10/2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Luke Vail and his nomination to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Coach Vail had an illustrious 31 year career in education and coaching, and I was fortunate to witness his good works both as a student and as a colleague. He gave his heart and soul to the students at Charles B. Aycock High School and would always do what was in the best interest of the students.

While Coach Vail coached many sports during the span of his 900 plus wins career, my memories revolve around his time coaching both tennis and girls' basketball. As a matter of fact, we considered him a coaching legend at Charles B. Aycock in both of these areas. His girls' tennis program was unstoppable racking up 28 conference championships and a 3A state title in 1997, and he won 13 conference championships with the boys' tennis program. His girls' basketball program was also strong as he took them to the 1997 Eastern Regional Championship game. When he gave up coaching girls' basketball, I was fortunate to take over a well-established program with a tradition of excellence.

As a young coach fresh out of college, Coach Vail was always there for coaching advice or a good conversation. Evolving from his student, to his colleague, and to his friend, I can honestly say that he is worthy of this great recognition. While his high school career wins speak volumes, his character, his positive influence, and his dedication to the students of Charles B. Aycock will always outweigh the athletic accomplishments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 919-922-3889.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Gary Hales', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Gary Hales  
Principal

**-M-**

Dr. Earl W. Moore, Jr.  
104 North Harding Drive  
Goldsboro, North Carolina 27534

Mr. Donald Clark  
Vice-President  
North Carolina High School Tennis Coaches Association

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Mr. Luke Vail. I have known Mr. Vail for over 30 years as his teaching colleague and later as his principal. Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to forward this letter of recommendation on his behalf.

I have known Luke Vail professionally as a teacher, department chair and coach. In each position he maintained and possessed the knowledge and skills that reflects his extreme competence in the area of school education. In addition to his high skill level, he reflected passion in each role that he served. There are many unique qualities about Mr. Vail; however, the most memorable one is that he always did what was in the best interest of children. It is extremely important that a teacher possess this characteristic as they mold the lives of children. Additionally, he was responsible for leading the school's social studies department in achieving high academic growth during the states end of year testing. He was instrumental in the planning, executing, and implementing successful strategies that lead to high school ninth to twelfth grade student's academic success.

He had the remarkable ability to stimulate students with his dynamic teaching style. He had the innate ability to energize and communicate effectively with all students. He made major impacts on their lives through his ability to make them feel self-worth and valued as individuals. There was not a more caring and dedicated educator than Luke Vail. In addition to him teaching AP United States History, he was an excellent and revered tennis coach at Charles B. Aycock High School. He garnered many local and state championships. His major contributions to the athletic program, specifically the girls and boys tennis program earned him the honor of having the tennis court named in his honor.

Personally, I know that he maintains high morals and values which are reflected in his daily life. As his, colleague, employer, and friend, I cannot think of any individual more deserving of the honor of being inducted in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame!

Sincerely,

**Earl W Moore, Jr.**

Earl W. Moore, Jr., Ed.D  
Retired High School Administrator

To Whom It May Concern,

When asked to write a letter of recommendation for "Coach Vail", I felt honored to be asked to complete a task of this magnitude because of the great amount of respect and admiration I have for my once coach, teacher and now my friend!

I met Coach Vail in the summer of 1993 before my freshman year in high school on the tennis courts of Charles B. Aycock High School. I found out immediately that his standards and goals for his players were well above average; he aimed for excellence! These standards are why he earned numerous consecutive conference championships, State Runner-Up Titles and a State Title during his coaching career. Not only did his girls become awesome tennis players but we also left the courts as disciplined, resilient, motivated, persistent, and optimistic young women. These traits that Coach Vail instilled in us everyday at practices, matches and in the classroom so long ago are thankfully still a part of us today as adults.

For example, sportsmanship was an attribute that was always at the forefront. Sportsmanship carved discipline into our core, molded us to be resilient and left us motivated to treat others the way we wanted to be treated. Winning was important, but how you acted on and off the courts was more important. How you treated your teammates and opponents were standards built on a foundation that was not going to waver. This came easy for Coach Vail because he led by example, he treated us all equally and with integrity. Those are some of the same values that I teach to my own children and students now. Our society and student/athletes would be better off if there were more Coach Vails in such important roles.

Coach Vail did not look at his position as a J-O-B, rather a career. To show his dedication, he and his wife voluntarily took his team each summer to Van Der Meer Tennis in Hilton Head, SC where he required two practices daily and always allowed time for the beach and bike riding! These treasured and memorable experiences are what developed our team into a family. He was passionate about the lives he was changing. He had a vision and knew what was in the best interest of the student/athletes he was leading. The hard work was not always fun but he knew it would yield excellent results in the coming future of each one of those lives. He looked at each one of them as an investment, was patient while teaching, stayed true to himself and put others first.

These qualities are why Coach Vail is in a league of his own! I cannot think of any other teacher/coach that left a lasting impression on me greater than he did. I think the addition of having Coach Vail in the North Carolina Athletic Association Hall of Fame would only be fitting and would raise the bar for future nominees. Thank you for this opportunity and your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Stacie Sasser Fail  
Charles B. Aycock Women's Tennis Team  
1993-1997

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide the NCHSAA Selection Committee with a letter of recommendation supporting the nomination of Luke Vail to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. I have had the distinct privilege of knowing Coach Vail for over thirty years, and during this time, I have witnessed firsthand the profound impact he has had on countless lives, both on and off the tennis court. He has greatly impacted the lives of his players, coaches, educators, and mentees. I enthusiastically endorse Luke Vail for induction into the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

Coach Vail's dedication to the sport of tennis is unmatched. He served as the coach for both the Men's and Women's tennis programs at Charles B. Aycock High School with unwavering commitment and competitiveness. His coaching tenure, spanning from 1978 to 2007, is marked by remarkable achievements: a career record of 510-84, 28 conference championships, and an impressive streak of 305 consecutive conference wins. His teams consistently excelled, with numerous regional championships and state-level accolades, including the 1997 3A Dual Teams State Championship.

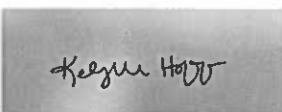
More than just wins and championships, Coach Vail's impact extends far beyond the court. His dedication to growing the sport in rural eastern North Carolina is evident in his efforts to establish our school's first junior varsity team, allowing more players to experience competitive tennis. He not only coached his teams with diligence but also mentored players to pursue excellence both athletically and academically. Many of his former players, including myself, have continued to play tennis competitively and have pursued successful careers in various fields, a testament to Coach Vail's enduring influence.

Personally, Coach Vail has been a mentor and a friend throughout my life. From coaching me during my high school years to supporting my coaching endeavors later on, he has always been a source of encouragement and guidance through many of life's ups and downs. His influence goes beyond tennis strategy; he instilled in me and many others values of perseverance, teamwork, and leadership that have shaped our lives long after our time on the court. Because I know many of his former players and the success they have in their life after high school and I see the traits he instilled in them. They are now successful as doctors, lawyers, teachers, nurses, business leaders, and mothers. They can look back and thank him for all of his help and encouragement; their desire to succeed, competitive spirit, and passion can be traced back to their days on the court with him.

In conclusion, Coach Luke Vail is not only deserving of recognition for his exceptional coaching career but also for the profound positive influence he has had on the lives of his players, colleagues, and community members. His induction into the NCHSAA Hall of Fame would be a fitting tribute to his dedication, integrity, and lasting impact on North Carolina high school athletics.

Thank you for considering my endorsement of Coach Luke Vail for this prestigious honor.

Sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Keyne Hott".

NCHSAA Hall of Fame Committee,

I am writing to recommend Luke Vail for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Coach Vail had an outstanding teaching and coaching career in his thirty plus years at Charles B. Aycock High School in Pikeville. I have known Coach Vail since I started coaching women's tennis at Greene Central High School in the fall of 1988. Our relationship has evolved from arch nemesis to mentor to good friend. I am currently the women's tennis coach at Charles B. Aycock High School and speak with Coach Vail frequently.

Coach Vail was the first coach, and one of very few even today, to establish a dominant women's tennis program in eastern North Carolina. Coach Vail took over the women's tennis program in 1979 and won 28 consecutive conference championships (a state record for all sports that stood until 2022) and 305 consecutive conference matches. When he retired in 2013, only four state championships in women's tennis had been won by a school east of Raleigh, and Coach Vail's 1997 team won one of those four.

I gave a speech in January of 2003 at the annual USTA North Carolina Tennis Weekend Awards Banquet where Coach Vail was honored as the 2002 recipient of the Ron Lee High School Tennis Coach of the Year award. I started off the speech by talking about some of my accomplishments at the time. I mentioned that (at the time) my team had won nine consecutive conference championships and had not lost a conference match since 1993. My team had advanced to the state 2-A championship match five years in a row. I told the assembled crowd, though, that my proudest accomplishment up to that point was my 5-19 record against Luke Vail and Charles B. Aycock. Yes, you read that correctly. You see, as I told the crowd, that made me the winningest coach in eastern North Carolina against Luke Vail. No other public school team east of Raleigh had won more than one match against Coach Vail since 1979 when he started his career.

Coach Vail was certainly one of the top tennis coaches in North Carolina during his tenure at Charles B. Aycock High School, but I want to talk for a moment about Coach Vail as a mentor. I remember meeting Coach Vail for the first time in the fall of 1988. I was a new coach at Greene Central High School in nearby Snow Hill. Little did I know that one day our two schools would be the biggest women's tennis rivals in eastern North Carolina. At the time, I had just been hired to coach the tennis teams at Greene Central despite never having coached high school sports, a women's team, or a tennis team. My background was in Little League, Babe Ruth, and American Legion baseball. To say we had the worst team in America is probably an understatement. When I took over the program, the school had never had a winning season or won a conference championship or even won very many matches in a year. I continued the tradition, at least for a while, losing my first 32 matches as the head women's tennis coach at Greene Central. We won a doubleheader to close out the 1989 season and then we began to win a few matches a year from 1990 to 1993 and finally won a conference championship and had a winning season in 1994 (first in the school's history). Greene Central has since won 30 consecutive conference titles in women's tennis, a state record for all sports. Of course, we got slaughtered in 1988 and 1989, but in 1990 we started winning some games. I began to measure the quality of my program against Charles B. Aycock. Coach Vail was always willing to answer my questions about how to improve

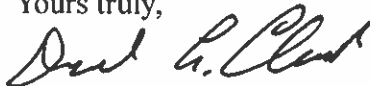
my program over the years and we began to talk over the phone in the offseason. I remember him frequently telling me that it took a long time to build a program from scratch. I started implementing a lot of his suggestions in my practice sessions, and slowly (but surely) we began to show some improvement. We had the school's first winning season and won the school's first conference championship in 1994. Of course, we still lost 9-0 to Coach Vail's team, though. That first win finally came against C.B. Aycock late in the 1995 season. That 5-4 win late in the season in 1995 at C.B. Aycock remains today one of the most magical moments of my 46-year coaching career. My program at Greene Central continued to prosper. In 1998, we made our first of eight consecutive trips to the 2-A state championship match, and in 2005 we won a 2-A state championship. I don't think we ever lost a match to C.B. Aycock after I gave that speech in 2002, but Coach Vail remained my mentor until his retirement in 2013. Even today, we talk on the phone at least once a month.

In one of the great ironies of life, I became the women's tennis coach at Charles B. Aycock High School in the fall of 2022 (I retired from Greene Central in the spring of 2014). Coach Vail was one of the first people to contact me with congratulations. He frequently offers to come out and help with practice and has helped several times with infrastructure problems around the facility when no one else could seem to get anything done. He calls about once a month to find out how the program is progressing and still offers advice.

Coach Vail is a legend in eastern North Carolina coaching circles. He won 907 games and matches in men's tennis, women's tennis, and women's basketball during his storied career and lost only 253. He had a deep and abiding love for Charles B. Aycock High School. He taught AP United States History and AP United States History for thirty years at the school and coached three sports for much of his career. Guess where he was on most Friday nights? He was in the press box for home football games announcing for the Golden Falcons.

In closing, I give Luke Vail my absolute highest recommendation for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. He built a legendary program at Charles B. Aycock High School in a rural eastern North Carolina county without the help of expensive country clubs and high-priced teaching professionals providing him with a steady stream of great players year in and year out. His teams were determined, gritty, and never quit (emulating the personality of their coach).

Yours truly,



Donald L. Clark

Vice-President

North Carolina High School Tennis Coaches Association

Women's Tennis Coach

Charles B. Aycock High School

AP English and History Teacher

John Paul II Catholic High School

NCHSAA Hall of Fame, Class of 2020

August 9, 2024

Dear whomever it may concern,

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Coach Vail because he is an outstanding tennis coach. Coach Vail went above and beyond what a coach's responsibilities are. He devoted his time and energy everyday in helping us learn the game of tennis. He would even recruit players during the off season from our local middle school or maybe even girls that had never tried tennis before. I remember some of the best memories were when Coach Vail and his wife, Mrs. Lisa would take us to Hilton Head during the summer for a week to play tennis and just get together as a team and have fun and get to know each other. He didn't have to do extra things like this, but he did because he truly cared about the girls on his team. Whenever we were playing in matches during the season and he would talk to us during the match, he would never yell or put us down, even though we might have deserved it at times. He was always encouraging and built us up. I can't count the number of long nights and weekend matches we had. Coach Vail was always there. I honestly don't ever remember him missing a match. It's no surprise that Aycock has had the record we have had for so long. When you have a dedicated coach like Coach Luke Vail, players want to play on his team and make him proud. He is so deserving of this award and I feel honored to have had the privilege of playing for him.

Leslie Cunningham (Sasser)

September 16, 2024

Dear NCHSAA Hall of Fame Committee,

This is a letter of recommendation for consideration of Mr. Luke Vail for the NCHSAA Hall of Fame. My name is Charles Davis, a retired teacher, former Athletic Director and head baseball coach of Charles B. Aycock High School. I have known Mr. Vail since 1988 and had the pleasure of working with him from 1990 until his retirement from CBA.

While I was the athletic director at CBA, Mr. Vail coached men's and women's tennis, women's basketball, and was an assistant softball coach. As the athletic director I observed Mr. Vail being very professional and organized in the preparation of his teams. I never worried about eligibility lists or any paperwork that was required by the NCHSAA. His organizational skills were an example for the other coaches to follow.

Mr. Vail's teams were always well prepared for the competition that they faced and were always competitive while displaying sportsmanship for their opponents. During the summer months, Mr. Vail would practice early in the morning and then again in the afternoon so that his teams would be prepared for the upcoming season. Also, he was always available to help other coaches and teams when help was needed. Besides coaching, he has helped the varsity football team for many years on Friday night as the announcer for the games.

Not only was he an exceptional coach, but Mr. Vail was also an outstanding History teacher at CBA. His excitement and enthusiasm for History made learning enjoyable for his students. He also had the students well prepared for their exams. In addition to coaching and teaching, Mr. Vail would also tutor students after school if they needed extra help.

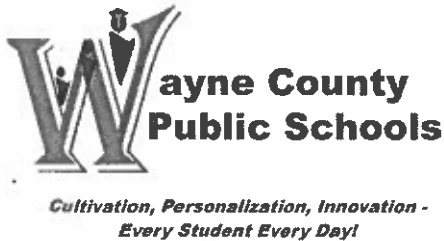
Because Mr. Vail put everything into coaching and was very dedicated, his teams were very successful, always at the top of the conference and continuously making the playoffs. His women's tennis team won the 3A Dual Team Tennis State Championship in 1997. His teams were a mainstay every year in the state playoffs. Mr. Vail also won numerous Coach of the Year awards.

In closing, Mr. Vail would be very deserving of being considered for induction into the NCHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Davis", written in a cursive style.

Charles Davis



## Charles B. Aycock High School

Nelson Cunningham, Principal

October 22, 2024

North Carolina High School Athletic Association  
Post Office Box 3216  
Finley Golf Course Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27515-3216

Attention: NCHSAA Hall of Fame Committee

Dear Committee Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to commend this selection committee for preserving the numerous contributions and memories of remarkable hall of fame members so that their indelible impact in athletics and their communities are ensconced within the reverence of the NCHSAA Hall of Fame.

As a school that is represented in this prestigious membership, we are elated to participate in the submission of another deserving candidate, Luke Vail. While there are many individuals that are presented for consideration, only those that have distinguished themselves in a manner that under thorough contemplation can be deemed worthy of the mantle, NCHSAA Hall of Famer.

Contained in our package which is sponsored by Coach Donald Clark, you will discover an abundance of diverse testimonial validations that substantiate the merit of Coach Vail's accomplishments as a coach, teacher, mentor, and leader in our community. Likewise, Coach Clark's sponsorship as a longtime rival and friend declares the legitimacy of the career of Luke Vail.

Therefore, it is with immense humility and pride that I fervently endorse the submission of this nomination as well as express our continued appreciation for the many contributions from a life well lived by Luther Herbert Vail III "Luke".

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your review with great anticipation.

Sincerely yours,

Nelson Cunningham, Principal  
Charles B. Aycock High School

**Subject:** Steve Spivey for NCHSAA Hall of Fame  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 at 1:18:16 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** Will Plyler  
**To:** Brandon Moree

Hi Brandon,

My name is Will Plyler and I played tennis for Coach Steve Spivey at Broughton High School from 2001-2004. We won three team state championships those years. I went on to play tennis at UNC-Chapel Hill and graduated in 2008.

Coach Spivey was an instrumental mentor for me during my time at Broughton and taught me many life lessons beyond the tennis court. His record as a tennis coach was 1107-157 and he won 22 State Championships. He was also 2018 National Tennis Coach of the Year while he was a high school coach in Myrtle Beach, SC.

I think based on his successful coaching career and the positive impact he made on the players he coached, he should be considered in the elite class of coaches in the NC Highschool Hall of Fame.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information on Coach Spivey.

Best regards,  
Will

**Subject:** Coach Spivey

**Date:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 2:18:14 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Rankin McGugin

**To:** Brandon Moree

Dear Brandon,

I am writing with regards to my dear friend and tennis coach at Broughton Highschool, Coach Steve Spivey. Coach Spivey coached me at Broughton from 1998 – 2002. Coach Spivey also coached my older brother, Judson, my older sister, Henriette, and my younger sister, Hampton. We all four fostered very unique and very special relationships with Coach Spivey. He was a leader to me and my siblings both on and off the court.

Coach Spivey's record speaks for itself... with career numbers showing 1086-131 wins, and State Titles at 22! He coached high school tennis for 41 years, and 27 of those were at my alma mater. However, to me and to my family, Coach Spivey is so much more than numbers. He is a kind and generous human. Coach Spivey puts integrity and team above all else. The successes of his career are a direct result of his leadership, his ability to motivate and inspire high school athletes.

Coach Spivey understands that each individual is unique. He never tried to group all players of his team into a single mold, rather recognized individual needs, and fostered those. He was always fair and miraculously diffused high school social drama like it was nothing, not a small feat!

I will always consider Coach Spivey a great inspiration to me in tennis and in life. Coach Spivey will always be a dear friend.

In my mind, there is no one more worthy of being a member of the prestigious Hall of Fame, the Coach Steve Spivey.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Rankin Williams McGugin

**Rankin W. McGugin, PhD**  
Research Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology  
Vanderbilt University  
email: [rankin.mcgugin@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:rankin.mcgugin@vanderbilt.edu)  
work phone: (615) 322-4644

**Subject:** 3rd time's a charm

**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 1:27:21 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** MARSHALL BURROUGHS

**To:** Brandon Moree

Brandon I'm having some computer issues - let me just include this in the body of the email:

Dear Brandon,

I am pleased to nominate Coach Steve Spivey for the North Carolina High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

I played for Coach Spivey during my four years at Broughton High School, from 1986 to 1990. Under his leadership, our team won three state titles, and I secured two individual singles titles. These achievements were driven by Coach Spivey's dedication to excellence and his ability to adapt his approach to each player's strengths and areas for improvement. He knew when to "tweak" the formula to maximize his team's potential.

Coach Spivey started coaching the women's team around my junior year and soon achieved similar success. Over the years, he accumulated many titles at Broughton and beyond, establishing a remarkable winning record. When he left Broughton, his record stood at 921-73, the highest in any sport. He later coached in South Carolina, winning another state title, before returning to Raleigh to coach at Enloe High School, where he led both the men's and women's teams to state titles. Today, his record is 1,107-151—the most wins for any high school coach in any sport in North Carolina, and he also has 22 state titles.

Beyond his impressive record and championships, Coach Spivey is a true mentor and friend. The lessons he taught outside tennis were invaluable to me in college and beyond. After Broughton, I played four years at Harvard, serving as team captain my senior year, and the foundation for that success was built under Coach Spivey's guidance. I have remained in touch with him through the years, and his value as a coach is surpassed only by his loyalty as a friend and mentor.

Coach Spivey's record speaks for itself. As one of his former players, I can attest that his impact goes far beyond wins and losses. Inducting Coach Spivey into the Hall of Fame would be a fitting tribute to his contributions on and off the court.

Sincerely, Marshall Burroughs

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Marshall Burroughs

Cell: 646-236-0508

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/marshall-burroughs](https://www.linkedin.com/in/marshall-burroughs)