



Gene Haas Foundation Grant to Support SPCC Scholarships

The Gene Haas Foundation recently presented South Piedmont Community College with a check for \$15,000 to support student scholarships. Gene Haas Scholarships will be awarded to SPCC students currently enrolled, or soon to be enrolled, in the college's machining-based programs - CNC Machining and Engineering.

The Gene Haas Foundation, named for the founder and owner of Haas Automation Inc., has awarded funds for scholarships and to help meet the needs of local communities and deserving charities since 1999. To date, more than 1,200 charitable organizations and schools have received funds totaling more than \$27 million from the foundation. Pictured here from left are Tripp Robinson, Haas Sales Engineer; Dr. Laura Byrd, Executive Director of the SPCC Foundation; Mike Willard, Program Coordinator/Instructor for SPCC's Advanced Manufacturing & Machining Program, and Dennis Baucom, Director of SPCC's Center for Technology & Health Education.

NC Sports Hall of Fame Announces 2016 Inductees

The North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame is honored to announce its 2016 induction class. The nine new members, listed alphabetically, are Rod Brind'Amour, Eric "Sleepy" Floyd, David Fox, James "Rabbit" Fulghum, Antawn Jamison, Haywood Jeffries, Freddy Johnson, Ray Price, and Susan Yow.

They will be enshrined during the 53rd annual induction banquet on the evening of Friday, May 6, at the Raleigh Convention Center. An afternoon news conference will be held Thursday, May 5, at 4 p.m. at the N.C. Museum of History, located at 5 East Edenton Street. Ticket information for the banquet is available at ncsportshalloffame.org or by calling 919-845-3455.

"The achievements of this year's class of inductees enrich North Carolina's remarkable sports heritage, and they certainly earned the honor of joining the 319 men and women who have been previously enshrined," said Fredrick Reese, president of the Hall. "This is our 53rd class, and we look forward to celebrating this special time in our state's sports history."

The N.C. Sports Hall of Fame was established in 1963. The permanent exhibit, North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame, is located on the third floor of the N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh and features significant artifacts and memorabilia donated by inductees. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

A brief biography of each 2016 inductee follows:

- Rod Brind'Amour came to the Carolina Hurricanes from the Philadelphia Flyers in 2000 and has been one of the most important figures in the team's history. He was named team captain prior to the 2005-06 season and was the key figure in the team's 2006 Stanley Cup victory. He retired after a 21-year playing career and has remained a member of the Hurricanes' organization.
- Eric "Sleepy" Floyd was a high school star at Gastonia's Hunter Huss High School and then went on to win All-America honors at Georgetown University. His NBA career featured one of the greatest playoff performances in league history.
- David Fox is a native of Raleigh who became a swimming star at N.C. State. He was more than just a standout for the Wolfpack. He developed into one of the premier swimmers in the world - breaking records, winning national titles and capturing an Olympic gold medal.

• James "Rabbit" Fulghum is best known for winning state baseball championships in four decades at Greene Central High School. The Rock Ridge native was a four-year starter at Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) and then became one of the most successful high school coaches in the state.

• Antawn Jamison was the unanimous College Player of the Year as a junior at UNC-Chapel Hill. Jamison, who starred at Providence High School in Charlotte, was only the third player in ACC history to be named ACC Player of the Year, ACC Tournament MVP, an NCAA regional MVP and National Player of the Year in the same season.

• Haywood Jeffries was a two-sport star at Page High School in Greensboro. In fact, he had opportunities to play either football or basketball on the collegiate level. He accepted a football scholarship at N.C. State and went on to a 10-year pro football career. He was first round draft choice of the Houston Oilers in 1987. Chosen to play in the Pro Bowl three consecutive years (1991-1993).

• Freddy Johnson has turned Greensboro Day School into a state and national basketball powerhouse. He also started an AAU basketball program for kids in Greensboro. The program gives youngsters an organized setting so they can improve their skills and have travel opportunities during the summer.

• Ray Price (deceased) was a prominent figure in motorcycle drag racing for over 50 years. The Johnston County native was successful as a racer, business owner, and designer. In addition, his promotion of the sport has been credited with its continued growth.

• Susan Yow is one of three sisters, all of whom made their careers in college athletics. She was an All-America at NC State and also played at Elon College (now Elon University). The Gibsonville native was a standout basketball player and has been just as successful as a coach. She currently is head women's basketball coach at Queens University of Charlotte.

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