

# ***National High School Coaches Assn. Press Release***

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*For immediate release*

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## **SEN. ROBERT "BOB" ROBBINS INDUCTED INTO NHSCA HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT**

PITTSBURGH, Pa. – Pennsylvania State Senator Robert D. "Bob" Robbins was inducted into the National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA) Hall of Achievement March 23, prior to the start of the 17th annual NHSCA National High School Juniors Wrestling Championships.

Sen. Robbins was presented with the honor at the pre-Championships banquet held at the Marriott City Center Hotel.

"I'm very honored to receive this award," Sen. Robbins said. "Being honored by a nationwide coaches association is a distinct honor. Without my high school coach, I wouldn't be where I am today, and I know how much the dedicated coaches that belong to the NHSCA today mean to young people across the country. They have a great impact on our future leaders."

"It is our pleasure to have this opportunity to recognize Sen. Robbins for all his contributions as a competitor, coach and public servant," NHSCA executive director Bob Ferraro said. "Coaches are on the front lines in molding and developing today's youth into tomorrow's leaders, and Sen. Robbins graced the coaching profession with class and distinction. And with his distinguished career in public service, he is one of the finest role models Pennsylvania has to offer."

Sen. Robbins, who has represented the state's 50th Senatorial District since 1990 and has been a state legislator for more than 20 years, has been at the forefront of many important legislative victories, including the reform of the Pennsylvania Athletic Commission in the 1980s.

However, he grew up like many small-town boys. Raised in a working-class family in Greenville, Pa., Sen. Robbins wrestled and played football at Greenville High. Influenced by his coach at Greenville, Dave Clelland, he earned an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, graduating in 1966. He became a two-time NCAA All-American, finishing sixth at 137 pounds in 1965 and fifth at 145 in 1966. Also a two-time EIWA placewinner, he capped his career with the Eastern championship as a senior. He went on to produce four state champions of his own as Greenville's head coach.

A decorated Vietnam veteran, Sen. Robbins completed two tours of duty in Vietnam and received over a dozen medals, including the Soldier's Medal for Heroism, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Army Commendation Medals for Valor and the Combat Infantry Badge. He served as Captain with D Company, 501st Air Infantry Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Sen. Robbins is involved in many

community and civic organizations and has received dozens of honors in his career, including induction into the Pennsylvania Wrestling Hall of Fame and being named a National Wrestling Hall of Fame "Distinguished Pennsylvanian."

For more information about the Hall of Achievement and the programs offered by the NHSCA, visit the NHSCA's web site at [www.nhsca.com](http://www.nhsca.com).

The NHSCA selects Coaches and Senior Athletes of the Year in 20 boys and girls sports, and sponsors more than two dozen national championship events in 11 sports. This year National High School Seniors, Juniors and Sophomores Wrestling Championships attracted more than 1,500 competitors to Pittsburgh, and the NHSCA will conduct more than one dozen championship events in Virginia Beach, Va. this summer. The NHSCA, in partnership with the NFL Coaches Association, conducts the National High School Football Coaches Convention each January in conjunction with U.S. Army All-American Bowl All-Star Game and also is in the midst of a fabulously successful inaugural High School Talent Search competition. For a complete list of this year's programs and events, visit the NHSCA's web site at [www.nhsca.com](http://www.nhsca.com).

Founded in 1989, the National High School Coaches Association is a not-for-profit 501c3 service organization providing support and leadership programs for the nation's 500,000 high school coaches and 10 million high school athletes.

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