



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY®

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME LUNCHEON

THE FORMAL INDUCTION CEREMONY

Saturday, February 12, 2000

11:30

**MAGNOLIA ROOM
UNIVERSITY CENTER**



TODAY'S PROGRAM

WELCOME Herb Reinhard, Athletic Director

INVOCATION Steve Roberts, Sports Information Director

LUNCH

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS Dr. Hugh C. Bailey

SPECIAL RECOGNITION Susan Grant Jackson

PRESENTATION OF THE FOURTH CLASS..... Herb Reinhard

FORMAL INDUCTION Dr. Hugh C. Bailey

INDUCTEES' REMARKS 2000 Class

CLOSING REMARKS Herb Reinhard

HALL OF FAME SELECTION COMMITTEE

Dr. Hugh C. Bailey, Herb Reinhard, Shelly Lis, Dick Rockey,
Bill England, John Hansen, Tommy Thomas, Steve Roberts

THE 2000 HALL OF FAME CLASS

ANTONIO EDWARDS, FOOTBALL

ANTONIO EDWARDS became one of the premier linemen in the nation during his career at Valdosta State as a four-year starter at defensive end from 1989-92. A tremendous pass rusher, he still holds the record for quarterback sacks in a season with 14 in 1990 and is second all time with 34 in his career. Edwards is one of only 33 players in Gulf South Conference history to earn first team all-conference honors three times. A two-time all-America, he was named the nation's defensive player of the year in 1991 and was the GSC's defensive player of the year in 1992. He was the first VSU football player to be drafted by the National Football League, selected in the eighth round by the Seattle Seahawks. His professional career has taken him from Seattle, to the New York Giants, Atlanta and currently Carolina.

WILLIE OXFORD, BASKETBALL

WILLIE OXFORD is without question the most consistent men's basketball player to ever wear the red and black. The first of a trio of brilliant players recruited from Terrell County High School in Dawson, Oxford was a four-year starter and three-time all-America selection for Valdosta State teams which advanced to post-season play each year from 1969-73. He is the third all-time scorer in VSU history with 1914 points in 104 games, an average of 18.4 points a game. He is the only player in VSU's rich basketball history to lead the team in scoring four consecutive years. Oxford remains in the Valdosta State record book for most made free throws in a game (14) and most free throw attempts in a season (190) and a career (627).

KELLY SCOTT, BASEBALL

KELLY SCOTT compiled a two-year record of 19-1 and was the heart of the great 1979 pitching staff which propelled Valdosta State to its only national championship. His numbers are phenomenal, especially by today's standards. He allowed only 149 hits in 192 innings, striking out 189 and pitching complete games 14 times in 24 career starts. Scott continues to hold Valdosta State records for most strikeouts in a game (18) and highest winning percentage in a season (1.000) and in a career (.950). After compiling an 11-1 record in his 1980 senior season, Scott was named a first team all-America and was drafted by the New York Yankees, eventually reaching their AAA farm team in Columbus, Ohio before retiring.

LYNDAL WORTH, BASKETBALL

LYNDAL WORTH laid the winning foundation for Lady Blazer basketball, implementing the sport at the Division I level in 1974 and immediately putting Valdosta State's name among the women's basketball powers at the national level. Her first five teams compiled an amazing 118-27 record (a winning percentage of .814), advanced to post-season play four times and produced two Division I all-Americans. She recruited home-grown talent from local and area high schools, and her teams were exciting and tremendously entertaining. Playing before the advent of the three-point goal, Worth coached back-to-back teams which scored more than 100 points a game 11 times, beating many of the nation's basketball elite along the way.



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY®



ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The Valdosta State University Athletic Hall of Fame is an honorary society initiated three years ago to further enhance the sparkling reputation of VSU athletics. Seven former student-athletes and one former coach/administrator comprised the inaugural class in 1997, four more standouts were added in 1998 and six more (including two alumni from Georgia State Womans College) entered the prestigious hall last year. The 1997 inductees, in alphabetical order, were: **Eric Anderson** (tennis), **Sam Bowen** (baseball), **Eddie Brown** (basketball), **Chan Dixon** (tennis), **Joe Germano** (cross country), **Billy Grant** (coach/administrator), **Susan Taylor** (basketball), and **Jessie Tuggle** (football). The 1998 class members were: **Gary Colson** (coach), **Gene Felts** (baseball), **Bobby Ritch** (basketball), and **Shannon Williams** (basketball). The 1999 class: **Candace Fincher** (basketball), **Jackie Studstill Harris** (basketball), **Louise Odom Howell** (American ball), **Mike Perry** (basketball, baseball), **Nancy Irby Wentworth** (tennis), and **Cecil Whitehead** (baseball).

HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS WELCOME

All Valdosta State supporters are urged to spread the word about this annual event to alumni, family and friends. Receiving the university's highest athletic award is an honor these former athletes and coaches will remember and cherish forever. Many other athletes and coaches deserve consideration for possible induction into the Hall. Nominations are always being sought for future induction ceremonies and may come from any source. All former athletes, coaches, administrators or support personnel who made significant contributions to the university's athletic programs, either through their participation in athletics as undergraduates or their subsequent association with athletics, are eligible for nomination. Athletes and staff members are eligible for nomination five years after their separation from the university. Nominees shall have demonstrated extremely high achievement, including school, conference or national records, multiple all-conference honors, all-region and all-America mention and leadership roles on their teams. Coaches under consideration should have high honors such as multiple conference championships and bids to post-season play. All nominees must have displayed positive morals and high character. All nominations will remain active for three selection cycles. Nominations should be made to the Hall of Fame Selection Committee in care of the university's athletic department. Congratulations to this year's inductees.