

Ray Allen, Casey Manning Lead the SC Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2018

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COLUMBIA, SC – Two former basketball greats in Ray Allen of Hillcrest High in Dalzell and Casey Manning of the University of South Carolina and Dillon, highlight the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame's Class of 2018.

The Class of 2018 also consists of Clemson wrestler Sammie Henson, USC baseball player Drew Meyer, SC State athlete Sam Goodwin, UCLA basketball star Kenny Washington of Beaufort and marathon swimmer Kathleen Wilson of Charleston.

The seven individuals will be forever enshrined with the state's highest athletic honor on May 14 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Tickets (table of eight for \$600) and program sponsorships are available by calling the SCAHOF office at 803/779-0905. The event, which includes a reception and dinner, begins at 5:30 p.m.

The occasion, which includes a host of returning past inductees, is the largest annual celebration of Palmetto State sports stars under one roof.

RAY ALLEN: Ray Allen played 18 seasons in the NBA. After playing three seasons of college



basketball for the University of Connecticut, Allen entered the NBA in 1996 and went on to play for the Milwaukee Bucks, Seattle SuperSonics, Boston Celtics and Miami Heat. One of the most accurate three-point and free throw shooters in NBA history, he was a 10-time NBA All-Star, and won two NBA championships (2008, 2013) with the Celtics and Heat, respectively. He also won an Olympic gold medal as a member of the 2000 US men's basketball team. Allen is the NBA's all-time leader in career three-point field goals made in both the regular and postseason. While at UConn, Allen was a two-time All-American and the Big East Conference Player of the Year in 1995-96. A two-time First-Team All-Conference selection, Allen was USA Basketball's Athlete of the Year in 1995. He was a charter member of the Huskies of Honor, with his number #34 on the wall

at Gampel Pavilion. In three years at UConn, he scored 1,922 points, still No. 5 on the all-time list. During Allen's three years at UConn, the Huskies had an overall record of 89-13, a Big East Conference record of 49-5, with three Big East regular-season championships and a Big East Tournament Championship, three NCAA appearances that resulted in two appearances in the

Sweet 16, and one to the Elite Eight. He has acted in two films, one of which was a lead role in the 1998 Spike Lee film, *He Got Game*.



CASEY MANNING: A native of Dillon, Manning graduated from Dillon High, the

University of South Carolina in 1973 and earned his law degree from USC in 1977. Coming to USC in 1969 as the first African-American to play basketball at USC, Manning was the South Carolina High School player of the year in his senior season. He led his Dillon team to the state AAA championship with a victory over Byrnes. Manning played for legendary coach Frank McGuire on three NCAA tournament teams and played alongside of USC legends John Roche and Tom Owens. As a freshman, Manning averaged 16.3 ppg and shot 46% from the field. He was a member of the 1971 ACC Tournament championship team and received the Freshman Academic Award and the outstanding senior award. He is a former president of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame and is currently a circuit court judge and a long-time member of the USC Basketball radio broadcast team.

SAMMIE HENSON: Sammie Henson is a former Clemson wrestler and two-time NCAA



National Champion who was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame on June 5-6, 2015, in Stillwater, Okla. He is one of America's most celebrated wrestlers, as he is one of just a few wrestlers in USA history to earn three world medals. Henson competed for Clemson after transferring from the University of Missouri and as a Tiger, he was undefeated and was a two-time NCAA champion in 1993 and '94. In 1992-93, Henson led Clemson to a 13thplace finish at the NCAA Tournament as he won the 118pound national championship. Henson became the first Tiger to go undefeated during a season, with a unspoiled 34-0 record and during the 1993-94 season, Clemson enjoyed its highest finish ever at the 1994 NCAA Tournament with a seventh-place showing. Henson led the way again, as he won the 118-pound National Championship. For the second consecutive year, Henson went undefeated and finished with an impressive 37-0 record in 1994 making his two-year Clemson career a perfect 71-0 that included the ACC Championship at the 118-pound class both seasons. After Clemson, he won the World Title in Iran and was a Silver Medalist in the 2000 Olympics and at the age of 36, he competed at the 2006 World Championships in China and won the bronze medal. Internationally, Henson was a Junior World Greco-Roman champion, Senior World Freestyle champion, Senior World Freestyle bronze medalist and Olympic Freestyle silver medalist. He also won three USA Senior Freestyle titles and one in Greco-Roman, and as a coach, Henson has assisted numerous top college programs. He is currently the head coach at West Virginia University.

DREW MEYER: A graduate of Charleston's Bishop England High, Meyer was a 2002 All-



American at South Carolina and was the first-round pick in the 2002 Draft by the Texas Rangers. He played three seasons at South Carolina (from 2000-02) before beginning a nine-year career in professional baseball highlighted by a stint in 2006 with the Texas Rangers. The 2000 and 2002 teams at South Carolina that Meyer played on won the SEC Championship with the `02 squad reaching the College World Series and earning national runner-up honors. The shortstop was a 2002 second-team All-American by the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) and Collegiate Baseball as well as third-team All-American by Baseball America. He twice was named All-SEC, including a first-team selection in 2002. Meyer played in 209 games in a three-year career and missed only one game. He holds single-season records at Carolina from 2002 for at bats (334), hits (120) and singles (86) as well as tied for the record in games played (75) with three others from the 2002 squad. He was the first player in Carolina history to start 75

games in a season. In 2013, he was enshrined in the Charleston Baseball Hall of Fame and the USC Athletic Hall of Fame.

SAM GOODWIN: Samuel "Herc" Goodwin was among the top athletes at South Carolina State University during his playing days from 1961-64. Goodwin, a Columbia native who played both football and basketball, was a defensive lineman and offensive guard who earned a number of awards and accolades for outstanding play. He was an All-SIAC performer for three seasons (1961, '62 and '64), was named the SC State's most valuable lineman three seasons (1961, '63 and '64.), was team MVP for seasons (1961, '62, '63 and '64), and in '64, was also named the school's Best All-Round Athlete earning *The Pittsburgh Courier*'s All-America honors. SC State was 22-14 during his playing days, including an 8-2 mark in 1963 and 7-2 in 1964. As a forward on the basketball team, he earned most improved player accolades in 1964. Goodwin was

inducted into the SC State University Hall of Fame in 1998 and named to the school's Centennial (1907-2007) Football Team in 2007. He was inducted into the SIAC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014. After his playing days at SC State, Goodwin began a coaching career that began in the high school ranks and included stops at three colleges, including SC State and Wichita State, both under Willie Jeffries, and at the University of South Carolina under Richard Bell. In 1983, Goodwin founded Stedfast Christian Center in Columbia, where he still serves as pastor.

KENNY WASHINGTON: Kenny Washington is a retired American basketball player and



coach. As a player, he was a two-time NCAA champion at UCLA and represented the United States in the 1970 FIBA World Championship. He was also the first head coach in UCLA women's basketball history. Washington, a 6-3 guard out of Robert Smalls High School in Beaufort, played for coach John Wooden at UCLA from 1963-66, where he was a key member of Wooden's first two NCAA championship teams in 1964 and 1965. As the sixth man of those teams, Washington helped the Bruins establish what is known now as a storied tradition. Washington was particularly effective in his two championship appearances, netting 26 points and grabbing 12 rebounds in the final of the 1964 NCAA tournament and scoring 17 in the 1965 championship and earning a spot on the All-Final Four team. After graduation, Washington was drafted by the San Francisco Warriors in the eighth round (71st pick overall) of the 1966 NBA Draft, but he never played in the league. In 1970, Kenny Washington was a member of the United States team that played in the 1970 FIBA

Championship in Yugoslavia, finishing fifth. Washington was the second-leading scorer on the team, averaging 12.4 points per game and playing in all nine contests. In 1974, Washington was named the first intercollegiate head coach in UCLA women's basketball history. He coached one season, leading the Bruins to an 18-4 record behind star



Ann Meyers.

KATHLEEN WILSON: James Island resident and former Charleston City Council member Kathleen Wilson brought marathon swimming to South Carolina in 1997 with her first long swim around Key West, Fla., as there had never been a marathon swimmer in the Carolinas before. Wilson successfully completed the Manhattan Island Marathon Swim, the English Channel, the Tampa Bay Marathon Swim, the Catalina Channel and completion of Lake Zurich, Switzerland. Wilson also became the 12th swimmer in history to complete the Triple Crown of marathon swimming: Manhattan, English Channel and Catalina Channel. She has

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completed the Swim Across Long Island Sound, the Santa Barbara Channel, the Strait of Gibraltar, Vermont's Lake Memphremagog, the difficult Molokai Channel (Hawaii), taking almost 21 hours due to weather, North Dakota's 36 mile Red River swim, the SCAR Arizona event of four lakes in four days for a 41 mile total. In addition, she completed two local firsts: the 15-mile circumnavigation of the Charleston peninsula and the longer 25-mile swim from Highway 41 in the Wando River to the Cooper River to the Ashley River with completion at the I-526 bridge. Wilson is the race director and founder of the annual 12- mile, Swim Around Charleston, begun in 2011 and the 2018 Global Swim Series American Championship event. Considered a pioneer of marathon swimming, she has performed and finished through jellyfish stings, cold water and deteriorating weather conditions on numerous occasions. She is also a musician (harp) with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

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