

➔ Sports Hall of Fame Inducts First Female **Brenda Gatlin, Southeastern High School Principal**

Principal Brenda C. Gatlin was inducted into the sports hall of fame this year during the Duncan Basketball Classic. She is the only woman to receive such an honor.

“I was immeasurably grateful to receive this honor,” said Gatlin.

She has been working for Detroit Public Schools since 1966. She was an assistant principal at Cass Technical High School before coming to Southeastern High School as the principal.

Gatlin was the *first* of many: *first* female chairperson of the department head/athletic director council for Detroit Public Schools, *first* female to coach a boys varsity basketball team and qualify for the P.S.L. play-offs, *first* female department head/athletic director at Southwestern High School, *first* female coach from the Detroit Public Schools to coach a Michigan All Star Team –BCAM, *first* female to coach the women’s basketball team at University of Michigan - Dearborn.

As a coach, Gatlin led Cass Tech girls and boys basketball to win three consecutive P.S.L. championships. From 1969-1986 she had 230 wins and only 15 losses in basketball.

Throughout her career, she has been active in many organizations and activities and received numerous awards and honors. She has also been published in the National Association for Sports & Physical Education.

She is a dedicated principal and the first principal to have two schools, a ninth grade academy and a senior high school.

“I believe Ms. Gatlin is so deserving of this award. It is amazing to know that a woman could accomplish so much in the field of sports,” said Southeastern senior Corey Blue.