Louisiana Association of Basketball Coaches

51st Annual Awards Banquet

May 3, 2025 Baton Rouge Marriott Baton Rouge, LA









Elfrid Payton



Charles Smith

Celebrating 51 Years of Service to Louisiana Basketball

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PROGRAM

WelcomeCoach J.A. Anglin Bossier Parish Community College LABC President
Invocation
Dinner
Introduction of Master of Ceremonies
Introduction of Head Table
Introduction of Previous Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame Inductees, Previous Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award Winners and Past Presidents of LABC
Presentation of High School AwardsCollege Coaches
Presentation of College AwardsCollege Coaches
Presentation of Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award Master of Ceremonies
Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame Inductions Master of Ceremonies
Presentation to the LABC President
Closing Remarks Master of Ceremonies

2025 HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Class C	Player of the Year	Zequan Lewis Plainview
	Coach of the Year	Dustin Howard Plainview
Class B	Player of the Year	Kane Broussard Lacassine
	Coach of the Year	Micah Rasberry Lacassine
Class A	Player of the Year	Javon Vital Hamilton Christian
	Coach of the Year	Dexter Washington Hamilton Christian
Class AA	Player of the Year	Tyrone Jamison Calvary Baptist
	Coach of the Year	Mike McGuire Metairie Park Country Day
Class AAA	Player of the Year	LaVell Lane Richwood
	Coach of the Year	Terry Martin Richwood
Class AAAA	Player of the Year	Drew Timmons Hannan
	Coach of the Year	Casey Jones Wossman
Class AAAAA	Player of the Year	Ahmad Hudson Ruston
	Coach of the Year	Wade Mason St. Augustine

BANQUET SPONSORS

The 51st Annual LABC Awards Banquet is sponsored by the Baton Rouge Orthopaedic Clinic, a comprehensive orthopaedic clinic with offices in Baton Rouge, Gonzales, Zachary, Walker, Brusly and Hammond; and by Universal Coin & Buillion, Ltd., a rare coin and gold dealer headquartered in Beaumont, Texas.



2025 COLLEGE AWARDS

LOUISIANA JUNIOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Kialen Phillips Baton Rouge Community College

LOUISIANA JUNIOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Byron Starks Baton Rouge Community College

LOUISIANA SMALL COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Kashie Natt Louisiana State University at Alexandria

LOUISIANA SMALL COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Dimario Jackson Louisiana State University at Alexandria

PETE MARAVICH MEMORIAL AWARD LOUISIANA MAJOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Javohn Garcia McNeese State University

TOMMY JOE EAGLES MEMORIAL AWARD LOUISIANA MAJOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Will Wade McNeese State University

BOB PETTIT AWARD LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Naz Reid Minnesota Timberwolves

2025 MR. LOUISIANA BASKETBALL AWARD

Charles Smith Peabody Magnet High School

2025 LOUISIANA BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Ledell Eackles University of New Orleans

Bo McCalebb University of New Orleans

Elfrid Payton University of Louisiana at Lafayette

2025 LABC HIGH SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CLASS C

Zequan Lewis — Plainview (Glenmora) — The 6-2 senior guard averaged 27 points, 14 rebounds and 4.5 assists in leading second-seeded Plainview to the Class C state championship with a 29-3 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. He was also selected to participate in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has accepted a scholarship to play college basketball at Bossier Parish Community College.

CLASS B

Kane Broussard – Lacassine – The 6-5 senior averaged 21 points, 9 rebounds and 3 assists in leading top-seeded Lacassine to the Class B state championship with a 32-1 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. He was also the Lake Charles American Press All-Southwest Louisiana Small Schools Player of the Year and was selected to participate in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a three–time Class B All-State selection.

CLASS A

<u>Javon Vital</u> – Hamilton Christian (Lake Charles) – The 5-9 sophomore averaged 16 points, 9 rebounds, 7 assists and 4 steals and had 6 triple-doubles in leading fourth-seeded Hamilton Christian to the Division IV select state championship with a 20-7 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. He was also a first team Lake Charles American Press All-Southwest Louisiana Small Schools selection. Additionally, this year he was a first team Class A All-State selection in football as a kick returner.

CLASS AA

Tyrone Jamison – Calvary Baptist (Shreveport) – The 6-2 sophomore averaged 15.3 points, 6.7 assists and 3.9 rebounds in leading top-seeded Calvary Baptist to the Division III select state finals with a 30-6 record. He was also named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team and was a first team Shreveport Times All-City selection. Additionally, he was an honorable mention MaxPreps Sophomore All-American and is rated as one of the top 15 sophomores in the nation by all of the major recruiting services.

CLASS AAA

LaVell Lane – Richwood (Monroe) – The 6-6 junior averaged 20 points, 10 rebounds, 5 assists. 3 steals and 2 blocked shots in leading fourth-seeded Richwood to the Division III non-select state championship with a 23-9 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and was named to the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team.

CLASS AAAA

<u>Drew Timmons</u> – Hannan (Covington) – The 6-6 senior forward averaged 21.4 points, 9.5 rebounds, 2.4 assists and 1.6 steals in leading second-seeded Hannan to the Division II select state championship with a 26-7 record. He was the Most Outstanding Player in the title game and the Most Valuable Player on the LHSAA Marsh Madness All-Tournament team. The Louisiana Sports Writers Association named him "Mr. Basketball" in Louisiana, and he was also named the Gatorade and MaxPreps Louisiana Player of the Year, as well as the New Orleans Times-Picayune All-Metro Player of the Year. Additionally, he participated in the Louisiana High School All-Star Game. He has been a four-time first team All-State selection. He will be attending and playing college basketball at the United States Naval Academy.

CLASS AAAAA

Ahmad Hudson – Ruston – The 6-8 sophomore averaged 21 points, 14 rebounds and 3 blocked shots in leading sixth-seeded Ruston to the Division I non-select state quarterfinals with an 18-5 record. He was also the Ruston Daily Leader Most Valuable Player and a first team Shreveport Times All-Area selection. He has been a two–time first team Class 5A All-State selection.

HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

CLASS C

Dustin Howard – Plainview (Glenmora) – This year he led second-seeded Plainview to the Class C state championship with a 29-3 record, finishing the season on a 24-game winning streak. This was the school's first state title in 60 years. Howard was twice previously named Class C state coach of the year as the coach of the Plainview girls' team.

CLASS B

Micah Rasberry – Lacassine – This year he led top-seeded Lacassine to the Class B state championship with a 32-1 record, which was the school's first state title in 61 years. This is the second time that Rasberry has been named Class B state coach of the year.

CLASS A

<u>Dexter Washington</u> – Hamilton Christian (Lake Charles) – This year he led fourth-seeded Hamilton Christian to the Division IV select state championship with a 20-7 record. This was the school's first ever state title and its second appearance in the state finals. Washington was also named the Lake Charles American Press All-Southwest Louisiana Small Schools Coach of the Year.

CLASS AA

Mike McGuire – Metairie Park Country Day – This year he led third-seeded Metairie Park Country Day to the Division III select state championship with a 28-8 record, which was the school's first state title since 2019 and its eighth overall. This is the fifth time that he has been named state coach of the year.

CLASS AAA

Terry Martin – Richwood (Monroe) – This year he led fourth-seeded Richwood to the Division III non-select state championship with a 23-9 record, which was the school's first state title since 2012 and its sixth overall.

CLASS AAAA

<u>Casey Jones</u> – Wossman (Monroe) – This year he led top-seeded Wossman to the Division II non-select state championship with a 28-6 record, which was the school's second straight state title and its fifth overall. Wossman became the first boys' basketball program from Ouachita Parish to win back-to-back state titles. This is the third time that he has been named state coach of the year.

CLASS AAAAA

Wade Mason – St. Augustine (New Orleans) – In his first season at St. Augustine, he led the fourth-seeded Purple Knights to the Division I select state championship with a 31-4 record, despite having only one player with a full season of prior varsity playing experience. This was the school's first state title since 2021. Mason was also named the New Orleans Times-Picayune All-Metro Coach of the Year.

2025 LABC COLLEGE AWARD WINNERS

JUNIOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Kialen Phillips – Baton Rouge – The 6-4 sophomore guard was the Louisiana Community College Athletic Conference Player of the Year and a NJCAA Region 23 All-Region selection. He averaged 16.7 points and 6.3 rebounds and had a 53.9% field goal percentage and an 85.2% free throw percentage. He scored in double figures in 15 of 19 games, including nine 20+ point games. His single game highs were 36 points, 16 rebounds, 5 assists, 2 steals and 2 blocked shots. He led Baton Rouge to the LCCAC championship and to the quarterfinals of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament with a 20-9 record.

JUNIOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

Byron Starks – Baton Rouge – He guided Baton Rouge to the Louisiana Community College Athletic Conference championship and the quarterfinals of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament with a 20-9 record, which included an improvement of six wins over 2024. Starks was also named the LCCAC Coach of the Year. Baton Rouge ranked 6th in the nation in rebounding and 9th in rebounding margin. This is the sixth straight year that Starks has received the Louisiana Junior College Coach of the Year award.

SMALL COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Kashie Natt – LSU-Alexandria – The 6-3 senior guard was the NAIA National Player of the Year and was a finalist for the Bevo Francis Award as the national small college player of the year. He was also the Red River Athletic Conference Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year, as well as the MVP of the RRAC Tournament, a three-time RRAC Offensive Player of the Week and once a RRAC Defensive Player of the Week. He averaged 20.0 points, 10.3 rebounds (1st in RRAC), 3.1 assists and 2.0 steals. He scored in double figures in 33 of 34 games, including three 30+ point games and fifteen 20+ point games. He also had double figures in rebounds in 20 of 34 games, including 19 double-double games. He had single game highs of 36 points, 18 rebounds, 9 assists, 5 steals, 5 blocked shots and 4 three-point field goals made. He led LSU-Alexandria to a No. 2 ranking in the final regular season national poll, to the RRAC regular season and tournament championships and to the quarterfinals of the NAIA National Tournament with a 31-3 record. Natt is the first LSU-Alexandria player in eight years to receive the Louisiana Small College Player of the Year award.

SMALL COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

<u>Dimario Jackson</u> – LSU-Alexandria – He directed LSU-Alexandria to a No. 2 ranking in the final regular season national poll, to the Red River Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships and to the quarterfinals of the NAIA National Tournament with a 31-3 record, which included an improvement of seven wins over 2024. He was also named the RRAC Coach of the Year. LSU-Alexandria led the RRAC in rebounding (9th in nation), rebounding margin and assists and ranked 4th in the nation in steals. This is the second straight year that Jackson has received the Louisiana Small College Coach of the Year award.

MAJOR COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

<u>Javohn Garcia</u> – McNeese St. – The 6-3 senior guard was the Southland Conference Player of the Year and a second team NABC All-District selection, as well as a finalist for the Lou Henson Award as the mid-major national player of the year. He was also the Most Valuable Player of the SLC Tournament. He averaged 12.6 points, 3.4 rebounds and 1.54 steals and had a 35.4% three-point field goal percentage and an 80.9% free throw percentage (1st in SLC). He scored in double figures in 24 of 35 games, including six 20+ point games. His single game highs were 26 points, 8 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals, 4 three-point field goals made and 3 blocked shots. He led McNeese St. to the SLC regular season and tournament championships and to the second round of the NCAA Tournament with a 28-7 record.

MAJOR COLLEGE COACH OF THE YEAR

<u>Will Wade</u> – McNeese St. – He led McNeese St. to the Southland Conference regular season and tournament championships and to the second round of the NCAA Tournament with a 28-7 record, which included the school's first-ever NCAA Tournament win. Wade was also named the SLC Coach of the Year and was a finalist for the Hugh Durham Award as the mid-major national coach of the year. McNeese St. led the SLC in scoring defense, scoring margin, field goal percentage defense, turnover margin, assist-turnover ratio and steals. Wade is the first McNeese St. coach in 13 years to receive the Louisiana Major College Coach of the Year award.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Naz Reid – Minnesota Timberwolves (LSU) – He averaged 14.2 points, 6.0 rebounds and 2.2 three-point field goals made and had a 37.9% three-point field goal percentage as a center-forward for the Minnesota Timberwolves, who finished in third place in the NBA's Northwest Division with a 49-33 record. He started 17 games and averaged 27.5 minutes per game. He had 10 double-double games, nineteen 20+ point games and thirteen 10+ rebound games. His single game highs were 30 points, 14 rebounds, 7 assists, 6 three-point field goals made, 4 blocked shots and 3 steals. He is in his sixth year in the NBA. This is the second time that Reid has received the Louisiana Professional Player of the Year award.

2025 MR. LOUISIANA BASKETBALL AWARD WINNER

<u>Charles Smith</u> – Peabody Magnet High School – Smith has been the head coach at Peabody for 40 years, where he has accumulated over 1,200 career wins and nine state championships. He is Louisiana's all-time winningest high school head coach and ranks fourth nationally. His 1,236-219 career record (84.9% winning percentage) includes a pair of perfect seasons, going 41-0 in 2004 and 2010 and earning a national top-five ranking in 2004. He is a six-time Louisiana state coach of the year and was the ESPN National Coach of the Year in 2010. In addition, he was selected to serve as a head coach at the 2020 McDonald's All-American Game.

In October, Smith was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts, becoming only the sixth high school coach to be so honored and the first one from Louisiana. He was previously inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 2019 and the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2021.

2025 LOUISIANA BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Ledell Eackles – University of New Orleans – Player – 1986-88

Eackles was a two-time honorable mention All-American and first team NABC All-District and USBWA All-District selection, as well as a USBWA District Player of the Year in 1987. He was also a two-time first team All-Louisiana selection, in addition to being the Louisiana Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year in 1987 and the American South Conference Player of the Year in 1988. He finished his two-year career as the third leading scorer in school history with 1,358 points for a 23.0 average, along with 267 rebounds for a 4.5 average. He also had a 35.2% career three-point field goal percentage and a 77.6% career free throw percentage. He averaged 23.4 points (1st in ASC) and 4.9 rebounds and had a 50.8% field goal percentage and an 80.2% free throw percentage in 1988. He averaged 22.6 points, 4.1 rebounds and 2.50 three-point field goals made and had a 40.7% three-point field goal percentage in 1987. His single game scoring high was 45 points. He led New Orleans to the second round of the NCAA Tournament in 1987 and to the ASC championship and the NIT in 1988.

Bo McCalebb – University of New Orleans – Player – 2003-08

McCalebb was an honorable mention AP All-American in 2007 and CollegeInsider Mid-Major All-American in 2008, as well as a three-time first team NABC All-District and two-time USBWA All-District selection. He was also a two-time Louisiana Player of the Year, and a three-time first team and once third team All-Louisiana selection. Additionally, he was a three-time first team All-Sun Belt Conference and two-time SBC All-Tournament selection, as well as the SBC Player of the Year in 2007, Defensive Player of the Year in 2008, and Freshman of the Year and Tournament Most Outstanding Player in 2004. He finished his career as the leading scorer in New Orleans and SBC history (and ranked 21st in NCAA DI history), with 2,679 points for a 20.9 average, 601 rebounds for a 4.7 average and a school record 250 steals for a 1.95 average. He averaged 23.2 points (9th in nation and 1st in SBC), 4.5 rebounds and 2.38 steals (1st in SBC) and had a 50.6% field goal percentage in 2008. He averaged 25.0 points (6th in nation and 1st in SBC), 6.8 rebounds and 2.00 steals (1st in SBC) in 2007. He averaged 22.6 points (5th in nation and 1st in SBC) and 4.3 rebounds in 2005. He averaged 13.1 points and 3.5 rebounds in 2004. His single game scoring high was 39 points.

Elfrid Payton - University of Louisiana at Lafayette - Player - 2011-14

Payton was the Louisiana Player of the Year, the CollegeInsider National Defensive Player of the Year and a CollegeInsider Mid-Major All-American in 2014. He was also a two-time first team All-Sun Belt Conference and NABC All-District selection, as well as a two-time All-Louisiana selection and the SBC Defensive Player of the Year in 2014. He finished his three-year career as UL-Lafayette's all-time steals leader and fifth in career assists, with 197 steals for a 1.97 average and 486 assists for a 4.86 average. He also scored 1,425 career points for a 14.3 average and had 508 career rebounds for a 5.1 average. He averaged 19.2 points, 6.0 rebounds, 5.94 assists (1st in SBC) and 2.29 steals (1st in SBC) and had a 50.9% field goal percentage in 2014. He averaged 15.9 points, 5.6 rebounds, 5.48 assists (1st in SBC) and 2.42 steals (1st in SBC) in 2013. His single game highs were 34 points, 13 rebounds, 11 assists, 7 steals and 4 blocked shots. He helped lead UL-Lafayette to an SBC Tournament title in 2014, as well as one NCAA Tournament and one CollegeInsider Tournament appearance. He was the 10th player selected in the first round of the 2014 NBA Draft.