

# GACA recognizing record-setting Bradley

## Newton coach to be honored at luncheon

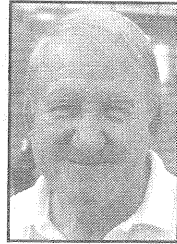
**Brian Knapp**

bknapp@covnews.com

The Georgia Athletic Coaches Association will recognize Ron Bradley, head coach of the Newton High School boys' basketball team, at its annual Hall of Fame Luncheon Friday and Saturday at the Northwest Georgia Trade Center in Dalton.

The GACA is set to present Bradley, the state's all-time winningest prep basketball coach with the National Federation of State High School Associations National Boys' Basketball Coach of the Year award.

Bradley, who has led the Newton High School boys' basketball team to back-to-back 20-win seasons and consecutive state playoff appearances, was one of four finalists for the award. The NFHS used career coaching record, community service, involvement in other school activities



**Ron Bradley** will be receive his national coach of the year award this weekend in Dalton.

and the coach's basic philosophy on athletics as criteria in the selection process.

The NFHS had earlier selected Bradley as its 2003 South Sectional

Boys' Basketball Coach of the Year, automatically making him a national finalist. The South section blankets the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Bradley became the state's all-time winningest boys' basketball coach in February, supplanting the late Eric Staples with his 925th victory in a 54-40 win at Salem. Staples' record of 924 victories as a boys' coach stood for more than 40 years.

Bradley's 927 wins as a boys' coach rank him seventh nationally and also establish him as the winningest coach in any varsity sport in state history.

Bradley passed two significant milestones in little more than a year. He moved past D.B. Carroll as the state's all-time winningest high school basketball coach (boys and girls) with his 1,255th career victory in January 2003.

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## Bradley: Owns 24 region titles

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Inducted into the State of Georgia Sports Hall of Fame in 1997, Bradley has also been honored by the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association as the first basketball coach ever to receive its Circle of Achievement Award. In 2000,

the Atlanta Tipoff Club named him as its Steve Schmidt Award winner for his outstanding contributions to the game.

Bradley is currently in his second tour of duty with Newton. He led the school to its only state championship back in 1964 and directed his teams

to a national-record 129 consecutive home wins during one nine-year span. He announced he would be returning for his 46th season earlier this spring.

Bradley has won 24 region championships and three state crowns over his unparalleled career.