

September 17, 2010

Vicki King, Jackson Prep Public Relations, 601-939-8611, vking@jacksonprep.net

PREP BASEBALL COACH HALL OF FAME



Chuck Box, Jackson Preparatory School's head baseball coach, was inducted into the Freed-Hardemen University Hall of Fame on September 10. Box joined 65 others in the FHU Hall of Fame and was the only coach from the baseball program to be inducted since 2002. Box worked as an assistant baseball coach under Roy Sharp from 1989-1990 and again from 1992-1993 before succeeding Sharp as the head coach for the 1994 season. By his third year at the helm, the Lions had become a contender in the TranSouth Conference. In 1996, FHU won a school-record 36 games and qualified for the conference tournament for the first time in school history. The following season would prove to be even more successful as the Lions went 44-10, winning the TranSouth Conference regular season championship and reaching as high as No. 7 in the NAIA national coaches' poll. Box followed with a 37-win season in 1998, finishing off a three-year combined record of 117-48. Following the 1998 season, Box left Freed-Hardeman to take the head coaching job at Itawamba Community College. In his four seasons there, he compiled a record of 148-57 and was ranked No. 1 nationally in 2000. Box returned to Freed-Hardeman in 2003 and led the Lions for two more seasons, winning 29 games both years. He took a brief spell from the coaching ranks when he became the department's Director of Athletic Advancement in 2005 and remained in that role until returning to coaching in 2007 at Jackson Prep, where he led the Patriots to three consecutive state championships from 2007-2009. In his 15 years of coaching, Box has accumulated an overall record of 473-244 and has garnered nine *Coach of the Year* awards. He has coached 67 all-conference selections, nine All-Americans and has had 11 players who went on to play professional baseball.