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Folder Title:
Alabama [Sports] Hall of Fame Video 2/21/92 [OA 7568]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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Smith/Grossman
February 11, 1992
Draft One
ALABAMA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VIDEO
ALABAMA HALL OF FAME
FRIDAY, FEB. 21, 1992

either the Gov or Lt. Gov may show up. Will know not back.

Tom [York], thank you for that introduction. Governor Hunt. Larry Striplin. Members of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, ladies and gentlemen. It is an honor to be with you by video on this special weekend. //

In letter

As you know, I planned to be with you tonight -- but events have kept me in Washington. Yet I want to congratulate you on the official opening of your new museum. And I want to thank the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame for naming me the Distinguished American Sportsman of 1992. //

In letter

I was thrilled when Larry Striplin told me that only Bob Hope and Hugh Culverhouse had received this award -- and when I learned of the other great names in your Hall of Fame. /

Mr. Legg

Among them is our good friend Ray Scott. Ray and I fish every year at his home in Pint Lala. // One time he and I were talking about Bill Bright, who will lead tomorrow's prayer breakfast. I said I liked Bill's emphasis on miracles. Ray said: "Speaking of miracles, when was the last time you caught a fish?" //

Well, whether it's fishing or hunting or baseball or football, the sports I love are Alabama-bred. // I'm glad of that -- and the chance to close with words from the most beloved

Alabamian of them all. / Once, Bear Bryant was asked whether he
could walk on water. He said, "I don't say I can't or I can.
But if I do, I do it before most people get up in the morning."

Bear Bryant may not have walked on water. He did walk in
the spirit which makes America great. I speak of love of family
/ belief in work / love of country / above all, belief in God. //
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Alabama Sports Hall of Fame and Museum



BIRMINGHAM JEFFERSON CIVIC CENTER
P.O. Box 10163, Birmingham, AL 35202-0163, (205) 323-6665

William L. Legg
Executive Director
(205) 323-6665

August 14, 1991

CONTACT:
LARRY STRIPLIN

263623

11
Scheduling
2/24/92

The Honorable George Bush
President, The United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

SCRIPT
SENT BY
noon 2/11/92
Gave me.

(6)

Dear Mr. President:

The Board of Directors of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame takes pleasure in informing you that you have been elected our Distinguished American Sportsman for 1992. This prestigious award, commissioned by the State of Alabama, is awarded to one who has had a profound influence on sports in America. Past recipients of the award include Bob Hope, Hall Thompson, founder of Shoal Creek Golf Club, Jack Warner, renowned equestrian, Hugh Culverhouse of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Ray Scott, your very good friend. You may well remember Ray's induction in 1990 when you so graciously cut a tape congratulating Ray and our other inductees into the ASHOF.

Mr. President, our induction weekend in February 1992 will be a very special occasion because we will be dedicating our new \$8,000,000 ASHOF Museum located in the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center complex. Several events are scheduled for the weekend including a press conference at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center, site of most of our activities, on Friday, February 21, a dinner that evening by invitation only. The Distinguished American Sportsman Award can be presented at that dinner on Friday evening or at our regular induction banquet the following evening. On Saturday morning we will have a prayer breakfast; Dr. Billy Graham has been invited to lead that event. At noon on Saturday the ladies will be guests at a luncheon at The Club where Millie Cooper, Dr. Kenneth Cooper's wife, will be the speaker. Our regular induction banquet takes place on Saturday evening.

We know you have a very busy schedule, and we appreciate that, but you have been so close to athletics and the people of

BOARD MEMBERS

Larry D. Striplin, Jr.
Chairman
Selma

Elbert S. Jemison, Jr.
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Reggie Copeland, Sr.
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Gaylon McCollough
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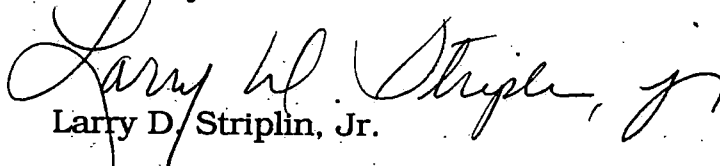
Ben Reeves
Eufaula

Ellis Taylor
Jasper

Alabama. You would honor us by allowing us to honor you as the Distinguished American Sportsman. The requisites for this award stipulate that the recipient must be present to receive the award, and we are hoping that you can be here. The past recipients of this award have agreed to be here to help us celebrate this gala event. It would be great if you could be here to play golf with Bob Hope and Charles Barkley at Shoal Creek during your visit. I would hope that you would allow us to honor you and be a part of the week which Governor Guy Hunt has designated "Alabama's Sports Reunion." We anticipate that most of the living inductees of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame will be on hand for this celebration.

We look forward to hearing from you, and we are tremendously excited about your being our 1992 Distinguished American Sportsman.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry D. Striplin, Jr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Larry D. Striplin, Jr.

LDS/dt

Smith/Grossman
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Alabamian of them all. / Once, Bear Bryant was asked whether he could walk on water. He said, "I don't say I can't or I can. But if I do, I do it before most people get up in the morning."

Bear Bryant may not have walked on water. He did walk in the spirit which makes America great. I speak of love of family / belief in work / love of country / above all, belief in God. // I am proud to follow his example -- and to receive this award. Thank you, and God bless this wondrous land -- the United States of America.

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There's no doubt ²
Bear Bryant ~~didn't walk on water.~~ He did walk in the spirit
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Dear Mr. President

Only a hand written, personally delivered note is appropriate for this invitation/request.

As conveyed to your office earlier you have been selected by the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame to receive its Distinguished American Sportsman Award for 1991.

The banquet will be held on February 22 at 7 PM. Your personal acceptance of this prestigious award would be the ultimate climax to a

weekend dedicated to honoring 13
the latest group of exshrinees and
officially opening the magnificently
beautiful new Alabama Sports
Hall of Fame in Birmingham.

Please attempt to be present. You
will enjoy the evening, thrill the
people of Alabama who love you,
and "lock" the state for you
'92 men.

Thank you for considering this
request. Cheryl joins me in
sending our best wishes to
Barbara.

Sincerely,
Bart

THE WHITE HOUSE

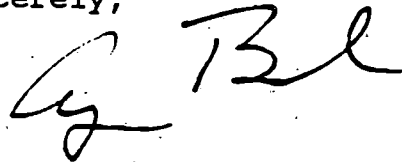
WASHINGTON

Dear Bart:

Many thanks for the honor and the invitation on behalf of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. My scheduling office has been notified of this event, but I wanted to thank you personally for writing and including me.

Barbara joins in sending best wishes to you and Cherry for a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,



I'm honored you want me to come!

Mr. Bart Starr
Starr Sanders Properties
Suite 450
One Chase Corporate Drive
Birmingham, Alabama 35244

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

91 DEC 16 A8:29

DATE: 12/13/91

NOTE FOR: SAM SKINNER

The President has reviewed the attached, and it is
forwarded to you for your:


Information

Action

Thank you.

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
(x2702)

cc: Sig Rogich
Kathy Super
Rose Zamaria



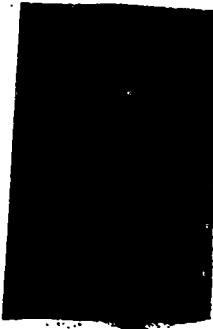
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 12/13/91


FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO: SAM SKINNER


This might be a great event and
coming at a good time.



GB



cc: Sig Rogich
Kathy Super
Rose Zamaria

Tu Yuka *Tu Y* 

SCRIPT FOR PRESIDENT BUSH

ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET

FEBRUARY 22, 1992

W U Brigh

I WANT TO SEND SPECIAL GREETINGS TO MY FRIENDS IN ALABAMA....I HAD PLANNED TO BE WITH YOU THIS EVENING, BUT AS YOU MIGHT KNOW, EVENTS BOTH DOMESTIC AND ABROAD, DEMAND AN EVER-INCREASING PRESENCE AT MY WASHINGTON OFFICE.

Sen Sam Dan Sp...

IT IS ONLY THIS THAT KEEPS ME FROM BEING IN BIRMINGHAM TONIGHT TO ACCEPT THIS SINGULAR AWARD IN PERSON. I WAS THRILLED WHEN CHAIRMAN LARRY STRIPLIN NOTIFIED ME THAT THE BOARD HAD VOTED ME TO RECEIVE THE DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN SPORTSMAN AWARD. AND WHEN I LEARNED THAT ONLY TWO OTHER AMERICANS HAD RECEIVED SUCH A DISTINCTION, I WAS SINGULARLY IMPRESSED. BECAUSE THOSE PEOPLE, BOB HOPE AND HUGH CULVERHOUSE, HAVE BECOME AMERICAN, INDEED GLOBAL SYMBOLS OF THE MANY THINGS THAT ARE GOOD AND RIGHT WITH THIS COUNTRY. I AM HONORED TO BE PLACED ALONGSIDE THEM.

LIKE MANY OF YOU I WAS NOT A GIFTED ATHLETE, BUT THE FIRES OF COMPETITION BURNED BRIGHTLY ENOUGH TO PUSH ME TO MODEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN MANY GAMES. BUT THE VALUES LEARNED IN COMPETING HAVE BEEN OF INCALCULABLE VALUE THROUGHOUT MY LIFE...AS A YOUNGSTER...AS NAVY PILOT IN WWII, AND CERTAINLY FOR THE TOUGHEST JOB ON THE PLANET, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. THAT IS WHY I STILL KEEP ACTIVE IN MANY GAMES...TENNIS, GOLF, JOGGING, HORSESHOES AND FISHING...AND THAT IS ALSO WHY I CONSTANTLY URGE OTHER AMERICANS, YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE, TO KEEP ACTIVE...TO GET OUT THERE AND DO SOMETHING. IN PAST YEARS I HAVE HEARD AND READ MANY FINE THINGS ABOUT THE ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME, AND I CONTINUE TO BE AMAZED THAT A STATE WITH SUCH A RELATIVELY SMALL POPULATION HAS PRODUCED SO MANY ATHLETES WHO HAVE ACHIEVED SO MUCH AGAINST THE BEST COMPETITION IN THE WORLD.

PRESIDENT'S SCRIPT
PAGE 2

THAT WORLD WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE LEGENDARY NAMES LIKE JOE LOUIS AND BEAR BRYANT...
JESSE OWENS AND SHUG JORDAN...HANK AARON AND JOHN HEISMAN...MEL ALLEN AND BART STARR...
AND MORE THAN 150 OTHER INDUCTEES WHO CHALLENGED THEMSELVES TO BE THE BEST THAT THEY
COULD BE.

AND SINCE I PROMISED TO BE YOUR EDUCATION PRESIDENT, I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO HEAR
OF THE SUCCESS OF YOUR BRYANT-JORDAN SCHOLAR ATHLETE PROGRAM. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT MO
THAN 90% OF TODAY'S CEO'S OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE HAD STRONG BACKGROUNDS IN
ATHLETIC COMPETITION...AND WHO ACCEPTED THE SAME CHALLENGES IN ACADEMICS. THOSE YOUNG
PEOPLE YOU HONOR EACH YEAR HAVE LEARNED VALUES THAT WILL LAST THEM A LIFETIME.

I ALSO WANT TO CONGRATULATE THIS YEAR'S INDUCTEES...THE OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL FOOT-
BALL PLAYERS, DIETER BROCK, MIKE FULLER AND THE WIZARD OF OZ, OZZIE NEWSOME;
BASEBALL STANDOUT CLAY CARROLL; COACHING GREAT DON SALLS;...AND THE INCREDIBLE
TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY EXPLOITS OF "DIDDY" SEIBELS OF SEWANEE. AND TO DR. JIM ANDREWS,
A PIONEER IN THE TREATMENT OF SPORTS INJURIES, WHO HAS BEEN SELECTED DISTINGUISHED
ALABAMA SPORTSMAN...I COMMEND ALL OF YOU.

LET ME SAY HELLO TO MY FISHING BUDDY, RAY SCOTT... AND I HOPE I CAN ARRANGE MY
SCHEDULE SO THAT BARBARA AND I CAN VISIT PINILALA SOON AND CATCH SOME MORE OF THOSE
FIGHTING ALABAMA BASS.

I HAVE HEARD GLOWING TRIBUTES TO YOUR NEW SPORTS HALL OF FAME...THAT IT IS WITHOUT
DOUBT THE FINEST SUCH FACILITY ON THE PLANET...AND I LOOK FORWARD TO VISITING IT SOON.

ONCE AGAIN, IN CLOSING, LET ME SAY THAT I AM PROPERLY IMPRESSED AND EXTREMELY PLEASED

PRESIDENT'S SCRIPT

PAGE 3

TO BE NAMED DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN SPORTSMAN OF THE ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME.

AND BY THE WAY, PLEASE LET MR. HOPE KNOW THAT...I LET DAN OFF FROM WORK THIS YEAR
TO COME AND PLAY IN HIS GOLF TOURNAMENT...BUT NEXT YEAR, I'LL BE IN PALM SPRINGS
AND HE'LL HAVE TO STAY HOME AND BABYSIT CONGRESS.