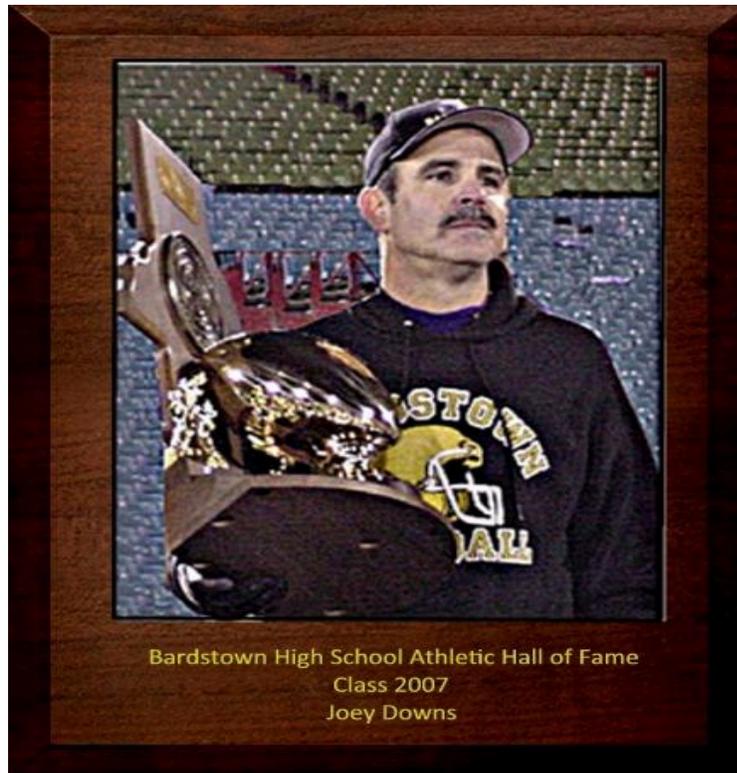


## COACH JOEY DOWNS



As an athlete, Joey Downs was known for his tough aggressive play and hard work. A relentless competitor, he demonstrated early in his athletic endeavors that he had the passion, as well as the ability, to succeed in sports. He lettered in football, basketball, and track his sophomore, junior, and senior years at Bardstown. He received All Mid-Kentucky Conference honors in both basketball and football his junior and senior years. As a sophomore, he was named as an Honorable Mention All-State running back in football by the Louisville Courier Journal. He went on to be named United Press International First Team All-State Class A defensive back in his senior year. In addition, he was named Third Team All-State defensive back for the state of Kentucky by the Lexington Herald as well as Class A Second Team All-State running back by the Louisville Courier Journal. In addition, his BHS classmates recognized his leadership abilities that would serve him the rest of his life, naming him in class honors as "Mr. Senior."

Joey went on to play football for the University of Louisville in 1975. He received his BA in PE from UK and MA and Rank I in education and administration from WKU. In 1990, he was named Asst. Principal of the Bardstown Elementary School where he served for thirteen years. In 2003, he was named Principal of the Bardstown Primary School, a position he held until his retirement in 2007.

Joey was named as the third eleven-man head football coach in 1990, succeeding the legendary Garnis Martin. Coach Downs quickly became an icon in the history of BHS athletics. In 17 seasons as the Tiger Head Football Coach, his teams amassed the following numbers: winning record of 154 wins and 59 losses (.723 winning percentage), eight 10-win seasons, four undefeated regular seasons, nine district championships, six district runner-ups, four regional championships, two regional runner-ups, three

semi-state championships, 2 state champion runner-ups (1992 and 1993), one K.H.S.A.A. Class AA State Championship-2001 (15 and 0 Single Season Record), seven district coach of the year awards, two Kentucky Coach of the Year awards (2001 Class AA and 2005 Class A), three KY-TN All Star Game Assistant Coach, one Kentucky-Tennessee All Star Game Head Coach (Kentucky 38 - Tennessee 24), and two-time President of the Kentucky High School Coaches Association.

### **Inducted into the BHS Athletic Hall of Fame September 21, 2007**

#### **Record and Post Season**

2006	11-1	Joey Downs	1-A	lost 2nd round to Bardstown Bethlehem 14-23	Undefeated Regular Season; District Champs;
2005	13-1	Joey Downs	1-A	lost State Class A semi-final at Mayfield 21-35	Undefeated Regular Season; Region Champs; District Champs;
2004	8-4	Joey Downs	1-A	lost 2nd round at Danville 6-20	
2003	4-6	Joey Downs	1-A	—	
2002	7-5	Joey Downs	2-A	lost 2nd round at Corbin 21-36	
2001	15-0	Joey Downs	2-A	<b>won State Class AA championship 47-16 over Prestonsburg;</b>	Region Champs; District Champs; Undefeated Regular Season;
2000	10-3	Joey Downs	1-A	lost quarter-final at Danville 29-33;	Region Champs; District Champs
1999	9-2	Joey Downs	1-A	lost to Somerset 25-28;	District Champs
1998	5-6	Joey Downs	1-A	lost to Paris 22-36	
1997	7-5	Joey Downs	1-A	lost 2nd round at Harrodsburg 7-49	
1996	11-2	Joey Downs	1-A	lost quarter-final at Harrodsburg 7-27;	District Champs
1995	9-3	Joey Downs	1-A	lost 2nd round to Garrard County 6-18;	District Champs
1994	11-2	Joey Downs	1-A	lost quarter-final at Harrodsburg 35-36;	District Champs
1993	14-1	Joey Downs	1-A	<i>lost State Class A Championship to Beechwood 12-13</i>	Undefeated Regular Season; Region Champs; District Champs;
1992	12-3	Joey Downs	1-A	<i>lost State Class A Championship to Beechwood 14-21;</i>	Region Champs; District Champs
1991	7-5	Joey Downs	1-A	lost 2nd round at Harrodsburg 22-27	

**(the number of teams that qualified from each district for the playoffs was doubled from 2 to 4 this year)**

1990 1-10 Joey Downs 2-A

### **Coaching Record**

Wins	Losses	Ties
154	59	0

### **Championships**

2001 Class AA State Champions

### **Notables**

- Winning record of 154 wins and 59 losses
- .723 winning percentage
- 2 state champion runner-ups (1992 and 1993)
- Three semi-state championships
- Four regional championships
- Two regional runner-ups
- Nine district championships
- Six district runner-ups
- Eight 10-win seasons
- Four undefeated regular seasons

#### **Assistant Coaches**

- 
- Coach Bob Blackman
- Coach Paul Bowling
- Coach Douglas Calhoun
- Coach David Clark
- Coach Jeremy Dale
- Coach Scott Dennison
- Coach Johnny Downs
- Coach Bobby Geohegan
- Coach Brent Holsclaw
- Coach Ron Koontz
- Coach Linc Oxley
- Coach Andy Pohlman
- Coach Bev Smith
- Coach David "Rock" Smith
- Coach Jim Waldorf
- Coach Howie Wickliff

## **Personal Awards**

- Two-Time Kentucky Coach of the Year (2001 Class AA and 2005 Class A)
- Seven-Time District Coach of the Year
- One-Time Kentucky-Tennessee All Star Game Head Coach (Kentucky 38 – Tennessee 24)
- Three-Time KY-TN All Star Game Assistant Coach
- Two-Time President of the Kentucky High School Coaches Association.