

RODNEY SAVEAT

Rodney Saveat was born and raised in Beaumont, TX, nicknamed the ‘football capitol of the world’ for the vast number of NFL football players that hail from the area. In fact, Saveat’s passion for sports and athletics was greatly influenced by watching some of the greatest neighborhood football ever played between his older brothers and the late NFL greats, Bubba Smith, Tody Smith and Jess Phillips. Rodney went on to play and excel in many sports at Charlton-Pollard High School graduating as a scholarship athlete in 1975. Saveat earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Health and Physical Education from Lamar University in 1979 and embarked upon his career in public school education shortly thereafter.

Rodney’s teaching and coaching journey began in the middle schools of Beaumont ISD. Within a few years, he moved up to coach high school sports and would go on to serve as varsity football offensive coordinator and varsity head boys basketball coach at Beaumont’s Central High School. Though successful in his coaching positions, Saveat was nudged into the path of school administration. He earned his Master’s Degree in Mid-Management from Prairie View A& M and served as Assistant Principal and Principal for several years.

In 2004, Rodney was promoted to Athletic Director in Beaumont ISD, a position he considers the ‘best of both worlds.’ The move allowed him to stay closely connected to sports while at the same time providing the latitude to work directly with administrators to manage and guide resources essential to support the overall success of student-athletes. This promotion also allowed him to uniquely follow in the footsteps of his beloved mentor and older brother, Michael “MJ” Mitchell, 2010 THSADA Hall of Honor Recipient. With boys’ sports already thriving at the district, regional and state levels at the time he took the helm, Saveat focused his vision and mission on elevating opportunities for female student-athletes. Under his leadership, participation in girls’ sports grew exponentially, resulting in numerous district and regional honors, several state championship appearances and garnered a state championship title in varsity girls track.

Saveat is on professional career year number 43 in Beaumont ISD. He is active in THSADA, serving on various panels and committees, including as a past Chair of the Awards Committee. He is a lifetime member of the Prairie View Interscholastic League (PVILCA) and is also a PVLICA Hall of Honor Inductee, 2012. Saveat is a faithful member of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Beaumont where he is a Deacon and participates in various other ministries. He remains active in his community through various social & civic organizations and referees youth sports. Rodney’s family, including his wife Senecia, their two adult children, Jada and Derek, his siblings and scores of friends and colleagues are proud of his many accomplishments and celebrate his induction into the Texas Athletic Directors Hall of Honor 2022.