

Ron Bradley Top Georgia Coach

By Bob Greer
(News Sports Editor)

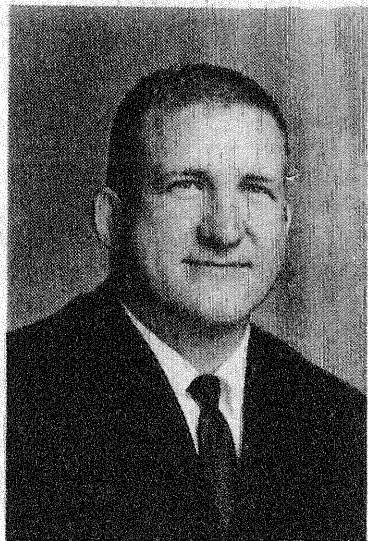
Newton County's boys basketball coach, Ronald Bradley, has been named Atlanta Journal-Constitution's prep all-state basketball team's Coach of the Year. Bradley was named to the honor as mentor of the all-classification team by Joe Litsch, prep editor of The Atlanta Journal.

Bradley has been the Newton Ram boys coach for the past 16 years and has compiled a career record of 416 victories and 59 defeats. His teams have 35 various championships including the 1964 State AA title. Twice his teams were runners-up in the state title game.

The Ram mentor has been named coach of the North Georgia high school all-star team on two occasions, winning one and losing one. He was assistant coach to Headland's T. P. Jones and Hart County's Bill Ensley in North-South tussles, and each time the North upset the favored South.

Naming of the NCHS coach for the honor this year climaxed perhaps his best accomplishment with a Ram team. Although the squad this year won 17 and lost 9, both extremes for Coach Bradley, his boys battled their way through the Region 6AAA tournament to take second place behind the Rockdale County five, losing by only two points 58-56.

His 1973-74 team was extremely small with only one player coming up to the 6-2 mark. Bradley stated, "This



Ronald Bradley

was not a typical Newton County team."

Former Forest Park coach Doug Cobb was most complimentary to Bradley for the job he did this past season. Cobb said, "Ron did his best coaching job ever." Cobb and Bradley had many a spine-tingling game a few years ago when Newton County first entered AAA basketball and Forest Park was the top team in the metro Atlanta area.

The Journal-Constitution's top five for the State of Georgia includes: Michael Mitchell of Price, Archer's Jackie Dorsey, Savannah's Lucius Foster, Southwest-Atlanta's Anthony Flanagan and Southwest-Macon's Myles Patrick. The second five is: Valdosta's Stan Rome, Social Circle's Charlie Dorsey, LaGrange's Ken Boatwright, West Rome's Larry Brewster and Decatur's Mike Maddox.