



Edwards, Ward Named To Prestigious Fellowship

Tupelo, Miss. – On Friday, Tupelo High School assistant coaches Pashonda Edwards and Trey Ward were named to the 2026 Tomorrow's 25 Coaching Fellowship cohort, in partnership with the Mississippi Association of Coaches (MAC) and the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA).

This 10-month program is designed to invest in 25 coaches from across the state who have been deemed emerging leaders in high school and middle school athletics.

Ward is an assistant football coach, while Edwards is an assistant coach for girls basketball and swimming.

"This program is one of my favorite things about coaches and teams," said Johnny Mims, Executive Director of the MAC. "If you're around this group for 30 minutes, you're inspired and want more kids to have coaches like them in their lives."

All 25 coaches were identified by a selection committee.

Over the course of 10 months, the 25 coaches will convene for seven in-person sessions and three virtual sessions. Each session is designed to support growth in three key areas: Impact on Student-Athletes, Peer Network Development and Access to State and National Leaders.

This year, Mississippi also celebrated a significant milestone by having 100 coaches go through its program – 75 from the previous three years in addition to this year's 25.

"We're already seeing a ripple effect," said Rickey Neaves, Executive Director of the MHSAA. "We believe in this program and can't wait until 500 coaches have gone through it."

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