



**WSSAAA Conference Speaker
"Always Giving Back"**

Excited to introduce all of you to our WSSAAA Conference Speaker this year, Danny Beard!



Born and raised in Sparta, IL. In 1970 Danny Beard was voted Southern Illinois Athlete of the Year and received a full scholarship to play basketball for Kansas State University. While there he was a 3 year starter on a top 10 nationally ranked team. They won 2 Big 8 Championships and made 2 NCAA Elite 8 appearances. Danny was selected to the 1st Team All-Midwest Regional in 1972 as well as honorable mention All Big Eight in 1974. He completed his career as the 17th ranked all-time scorer in school history. In 1976-1982 Danny was a Division 1 assistant basketball coach, three years at Samford University and three years at Eastern Illinois University. In 1978 Beard was selected as a clinician for the Uganda African Olympic Team in Kampala, Uganda.

Danny retired in 2017 as the Senior Vice President of NBC Camps where he worked for 40 years. • NBC Camps is the largest residential basketball camp in the world, having a camper count total of over 200,000. • From 2012 – present he has been a Hoopfest board member which is the largest 3 on 3 Weekend Tournament in the World • 2020 – present Board of Regents for Northwest Christian Schools • 2020 – present committee member for Hooptown Hall of Fame Inductees • 2021 – present Vice President of East Spokane Business Association • 2021 – present Mayors advisory committee • Danny currently works part-time for the Union Gospel Mission a homeless shelter in Spokane as the Director of Strategic Partnerships.

Danny brightens up the room when he when he walks in. As a former teammate of Danny's and a lifelong friend I have witnessed Danny's sphere of influence as he continues to make a positive difference in Eastern Washington with the many community organizations he is committed to. He will lift us up with his energy and challenge all of us to be better in our respective communities by our involvements. As a former player and coach Danny understands the many obstacles facing all of you every day. One of the finest men I know, Excited to have Danny Speak to us in April!