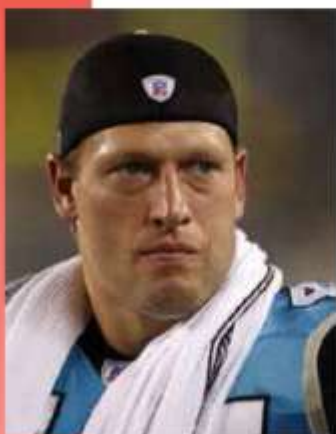




## 2015 Inductee

### BRAD HOOVER



"Hooooov. Hooooov."

That chant echoed joyously throughout the Carolinas whenever Brad Hoover touched the football as fullback for the Carolina Panthers. It was a chant that can trace its roots to Davidson County.

Be prepared: you'll need a calculator to keep up with his prep and collegiate statistics.

A 1994 graduate of Ledford High School, Hoover led the state in rushing with 2,662 yards in his senior season, scoring 34 touchdowns along the way. He ended up with 4,595 yards rushing in his prep career.

He also appeared in the Shrine Bowl that year.

He signed a full scholarship to play football with Western Carolina, where he gained 1,663 yards as a junior and remains a school record. He ended up with 3,616 career rushing yards for the Catamounts.

He was undrafted by the NFL in 2000, but signed a free agent contract with the hometown Carolina Panthers.

His best game came in his rookie season when, filling in for injured tailback Tshimanga Biakabutuka, he rushed for 117 yards in the Panthers' 31-14 victory over the Green Bay Packers during a Monday Night football game.

The chant "Hooooov" began with that moment and resonated throughout the Carolinas for eight more years before Hoover was released by the Panthers in 2010 after nine seasons. He spent most of his career with the team as a stellar blocking back for the likes of such backs as Stephen Davis, but he also ended up with a career rushing total of 909 yards with two touchdowns, as well as a total of 1,023 yards receiving with five touchdowns in 141 games.

He helped take the team to the Super Bowl XXXVIII in 2004, where the Panthers lost to the New England Patriots 32-29.

Hoover currently serves as the head football coach for Cannon School in Concord.

