

Virginia High School HALL OF FAME

2012 23RD HOF CLASS FEATURES 10 INDUCTEES



Nine individuals who have made outstanding contributions to high school athletic and activity programs have been selected to the 2012 Virginia High School Hall of Fame. Members of the Class of 2012, the 23rd to be inducted, will bring total membership to 234.

The Class of 2012 includes one athlete (Stacy Ervin, Twin Springs HS), four coaches (Pat Deegan, James Madison HS/Westfield HS, John Shotwell, James River HS-Buchanan, Robert Smith, Burley HS-Charlottesville and Troy Wells, Martinsville HS/Hidden Valley HS) and four contributors (John Altizer, Appalachian Officials Association, Mary Sue Crommelin, First Colonial HS, Steve Geiman, Wilson Memorial HS and Bruce Patrick, Fairfax County Public Schools).

Sponsored jointly by the Virginia High School League and the Virginia High School Coaches Association, the Hall is dedicated to preserving the rich heritage of outstanding achievements by students and adults in sports and activities within Virginia's public high schools.

Athletes are eligible for consideration 10 years after completion of their high school careers and are judged primarily for their achievements in interscholastic sports. Coaches are eligible after 15 years of experience or upon retirement and are judged on the merits of their achievements at the high school level. Contributors are professionals who have rendered significant services in some other capacity such as administration, academic activities, officiating, media or sports medicine.

COACHES



PAT DEEGAN

**James Madison High School/
Westfield High School**

The winningest girls basketball coach in VHSL history with 656 wins, Pat Deegan created powerhouse girls basketball programs at James Madison HS (1987-2001) and at Westfield HS (2002-2012). His Madison teams won two Group AAA state titles; finished runner-up four times; won six Northern Region Championships and 11 district titles; while also owning winning streaks of 56 games (1991-92) and 48 games (1993-94). At Westfield he won one Concorde District title; and while at Bishop O'Connell (1981-86) he claimed three Virginia State Catholic Championships and one Washington Metro Catholic Athletic Association championship. Deegan was named the Disney American Teacher/Coach of the Year in 1994 which was awarded live on national television. His other honors include: WBCA High School girls All-American All-Star game National Selection Committee; WBCA Chairperson for the High School All-American game; assistant coach for the 1996 Kodak High School All-American game and served as the WBCA state representative for high school All-American games. A graduate of Bishop O'Connell HS in Arlington, he earned a history degree from George Mason University. He retired this past June and currently resides in Centreville.



ROBERT SMITH

Burley High School-Charlottesville

Robert Smith led Charlottesville's Burley High School to four VIA state football championships. His Burley teams compiled a 41-12-5 record; won five district championships; and won 28 consecutive games from 1955-58. His 1956 team not only won the VIA state title, but did not allow a point the entire year. Smith came to Charlottesville in 1945 as head football, basketball and baseball coach at Jefferson High School before moving onto the newly constructed Burley High in 1951 as athletic director and coach of all sports. Burley was designed to serve the black students from both Charlottesville and Albemarle County. While at Jefferson, Smith persuaded a Jefferson band member, 6-3, 225 pound Roosevelt Brown, to join the football team. Brown went on to a Hall of Fame career with the New York Giants. Smith left Burley in 1960 to coach football and basketball and St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, VA after compiling an overall high school football record of 114-23-7. Charlottesville's Smith Aquatic and Fitness Center was named in memory of Coach Smith. A native of Patterson, NJ, Smith graduated from Morgan State University in Baltimore in 1941. He passed away on October 21, 1997.



JOHN SHOTWELL

James River High School-Buchanan

John Shotwell came to James River High School (Buchanan) in 1961 and retired in 2011 leaving behind a 50-year legacy that included 173 coaching years and 1,081 career victories in three sports. He was the head golf coach for 37 years; head boys basketball coach for 31 years and head softball coach for 21 years. His boys basketball team won 421 games; 12 district titles; four regional championships; made four final four appearances and finished runner-up twice. His softball teams won 371 games; claimed 12 district titles, six regional titles and four state championships. His golf team won 289 matches; nine district crowns; one regional title and one state runner-up finish. He was honored as state coach of the year in boys basketball in 1990 and twice in softball in 2003 and 2011. He also led James River's softball team to 79 consecutive Pioneer District wins during one stretch. He also served 25 years as an assistant football coach; 15 years as assistant track coach; four years as assistant cross country coach; three as head baseball coach and one year as head girls basketball coach. A native of Roxboro, NC, he earned his undergraduate degree from Atlantic Christian College in Wilson, NC in 1961. He resides in Buchanan. .



TROY WELLS

Martinsville High School/Hidden Valley High School

Troy Wells guided Martinsville High School to three VHSL Group AA basketball championships in 2001, 2002 and 2006 and since 2008, he has taken Hidden Valley High School to three state tournament appearances, including a state runner-up finish in 2011. He has compiled 250 wins, nine district championships and seven regional titles. He was voted AP coach of the year twice; VHSCA coach of the year twice, region coach of the year and district coach of the year nine times. He also served as assistant basketball coach to Martinsville's legendary Robert "Husky" Hall for 16 years (1979-95). During his tenure at Martinsville, the Bulldogs advanced to the state tournament 17 times and to the final four 13 times. Wells also served as an assistant varsity boys coach at William Fleming High School (1972-76), head boys varsity coach at Christiansburg High School (1976-79) and assistant varsity girls coach at Martinsville (1985-95). He is also the faculty sponsor for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Hidden Valley. From Greenland, AR, Wells attended Oral Roberts University graduating in with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1970. He resides in Roanoke.

CONTRIBUTORS



JOHN ALTIZER

Appalachian Officials Association

John Altizer is recognized as one of the premier officials in the state as a member of the Appalachian Officials Association. He has been involved in the lives of student-athletes for over 43 years. He taught middle school for 31 years; started the baseball program at Richlands High School serving as the head coach from 1976-82, 1985-88; officiated football for 33 years and basketball for 43 years. He was selected to officiate six state finals and semifinals football championship games and 17 state boys and girls basketball games. In addition, he also officiated regional finals or semifinals for 41 consecutive years. Altizer has served as the Appalachian Officials Association commissioner of football for eight years and commissioner of basketball for 11 years. He also served as commissioner for eight years before retiring in 2011. During his tenure with the Appalachian Officials Association, Altizer has been instrumental in implementing a basketball officiating camp to develop officials for Southwest Virginia; implemented a web based assigning program for the Association and led an initiative to re-write the by-laws of the Appalachian Officials Association to give all stakeholders a voice in the governance of the association. He also helped develop and fund a scholarship given by the Association to a college bound senior boy and senior girl each year. A native of Richlands, he graduated from Richlands High School in 1964 and received his bachelor's of science degree from East Tennessee State University in 1968.



STEVE GEIMAN

Wilson Memorial High School

For over 30 years, Steve Geiman has been instrumental in promoting Group A track and field in Virginia. He has directed and organized over 80 post-season cross country, indoor and outdoor track meets and has been the Group A state track meet director for 14 years, in addition to directing the Region B and Shenandoah District meets. He has also directed Group AA indoor district meets and Southern Valley and Region III outdoor meets. He has also directed Region B and Shenandoah District cross country meets for over seven years. Geiman has been a resource for high school coaches conducting numerous track clinics. Geiman has also taught and coached at Wilson Memorial High School for 43 years coaching cross country, outdoor and indoor track. He started the boys cross country program in 1970 and the girls cross country program in 1979. He has been the head boys track coach for 37 years and has served as the head wrestling coach since 2003. Geiman is a member of the Wilson Memorial High School Athletic Hall of Fame and received the VHSL Region B Award of Merit for athletic contributions. He has also been Group A Track Coach of the Year and was presented the Walt Cormack Track and Field Award from the VHSCA. He retired from teaching this past June but will continue coaching at Wilson Memorial. A graduate of Wilson Memorial High School in 1965, he received his undergraduate degree from Appalachian State University in physical education in 1969. He resides in Verona.



MARY SUE CROMMELIN

First Colonial High School

Mary Sue Crommelin holds a unique position in the development of high school forensics and debate in Virginia. She is the matriarch and founder of the VASDDC (Virginia Association of Speech, Debate and Drama Coaches) and is acknowledged statewide as the face and voice of Virginia Speech and Debate. She served as the first VASDDC president in 1992 and it was her vision to work with the VHSL to provide a unified voice

for Virginia's forensics coaches. She coached forensics and debate at First Colonial High School from 1983-2000 and Lincoln-Douglas Debate from 1971-73. Her teams won 13 district championships, 12 regional championship and three Group AAA championships. She produced 12 individual state champions from 1986-99 and coached over 160 individual winners placing first through third places at district, region and state tournaments in forensics and debate from 1984-2000. The Virginia Speech Communication Association named her Speech Teacher of the Year in 1989. In addition, she served on the ad hoc committee that ultimately revised and proposed the Forensics Rules Revision that are now currently in place and was the first to introduce Student Congress as an event at tournaments. She also developed, organized and led VHSL rating workshops for forensics coaches to become better tournament directors. Crommelin graduated from Bluefield High School in Bluefield, WV in 1963 and earned her bachelor's degree in English from Longwood College in 1968 and her master's from Regent University. She resides in Virginia Beach, VA.



BRUCE PATRICK

Fairfax County Public Schools

Bruce Patrick has served at every level of interscholastic athletics from assistant coach to state football championship head coach, director of school wide programs with numerous district, region and state championships at Mt. Vernon High School (1973-89); director of athletics for the 12th largest school system in the country for all of Fairfax County Public Schools (1989-2003); and serving as an assistant director of the VHSL (2003-06). He has planned, developed and implemented a number of programs to improve the interscholastic opportunities for athletes and the management of athletic activities for students, coaches and athletic directors throughout Fairfax, the Northern Region and the state of Virginia. As head football coach at Mt. Vernon, his teams won the 1983 state title, three region titles and five district championships. As the director of student activities and athletic programs for Fairfax County, he directed programs that served over 2,300 students, 24 high schools and more than 1,500 coaches, in addition to a comprehensive sports medicine program. With the VHSL, Patrick helped facilitate state tournament events; worked with the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and the Coaches Education Committee as well as serving as an advisor for various boards, committees and member schools. He was awarded the prestigious VHSL Torch of Honor in 2000 for exceptional service to the state of Virginia and the NFHS Citation, which is awarded annually to eight athletic administrators across the entire nation for outstanding service to their state. He has authored and presented more than 60 workshops and articles involving interscholastic activities. He currently works for the Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services. He graduated from Fairfax High School in 1969 and earned his bachelor's degree in history from North Carolina Wesleyan in 1973 and master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Northern Colorado in 1979. He resides in Clifton.

ATHLETE



STACY ERVIN

Twin Springs High School

A two-time Associated Press Group A basketball player of the year, Stacy Ervin is the VHSL's all-time leading scorer with 2,687 points. In addition, he earned first-team all-state honors as a sophomore, junior and senior as well as Region D and Cumberland District player of the year each of those three seasons. He was twice named Bristol Herald Courier and Kingsport Times News player of the year. Ervin also owns the state record for most three-point field goals in a career with 363. His career marks include: 26.3 career points per game; 4.7 rebounds per game and 4.1 assists per game; 442 career free throws made and 580 two-point field goals. He averaged a career-best 32.1 points a game as senior, including a career-high 54 points against Clintwood in the Cumberland District Tournament. He also scored 40 or more points six times during his career. He began his college career at Western Carolina and transferred to UVa-Wise where he graduated in 2002 with a degree in business administration. He lives in Mount Carmel, TN.