

Tecumseh Athletic Hall of Fame

February 4th, 2012



2011 Hall of Fame Inductees

Debbie Marshall Minton

Dennis Lowstetter

Virgil Studebaker

Debbie Marshall Minton



Debbie Marshall Minton was born in Dayton, Ohio to Ralph and MaryAnn Marshall. She was raised in New Carlisle and is a 1988 graduate of Tecumseh High School, a graduate of Wright State University where she received her undergraduate degree (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) and a graduate of Central Michigan University where she received her graduate degree (Master of Science in Healthcare Administration).

Debbie first picked up a “wooden” tennis racket at the age of 8 and was introduced to the sport during the Howard Dredge tennis clinics at Snyder Park in Springfield. That same summer Debbie entered her first tennis tournament and proceeded onto her first win. With her first trophy, she was hooked. She started hitting tennis balls against the garage and then began battling for garage time with her sister Dianna and soon her brother Jon (who eventually sold his tennis rackets at a garage sale). Her parents quickly invested in paneling for the garage before they needed to replace the drywall. Debbie and her sister spent countless times together on the court while their father threw tennis balls at them from the other side of the net. As Debbie and her sister started hitting the ball harder (hurting their dad’s hands) they were finally given the chance to attend group and private lessons. The end result was traveling countless miles to practice and endless summers of tennis tournaments. The les-

sons and tournament play quickly earned her both OVTA (Ohio Valley Tennis Association) and USTA (United States Tennis Association) rankings.

Tennis was not the only sport Debbie focused on throughout her childhood. She was very active in basketball and softball continuing to play all three sports as she entered high school. As she excelled in all three sports she soon realized the conflicting schedules. Debbie chose to focus on basketball and tennis after her freshman year. During her 4 years on the tennis team at Tecumseh High School, she was a 4 year varsity letter winner holding the 1st singles spot. She finished her freshman year placing 2nd in singles at the GMVC tournament and received Most Improved Player. Debbie’s sophomore year brought her a 13-5 singles record where she placed 3rd in the GMVC, 2nd in the district doubles and received MVP. Her junior year brought a 6-1 1st singles conference record with an 11-3 season recorded and awarded THS the Best Girls Tennis Season in THS history. Debbie placed 2nd in the GMVC singles and placed 1st in the districts doubles losing in the regional finals as she rounded out her junior year. She ended her senior year with an amazing 13-1 record, MVP, placing 2nd in the GMVC in singles and winning the sectionals at doubles. Debbie and her doubles partner placed 2nd at regionals which solidified a spot at the state tournament. Debbie and her partner placed 4th in the state and were the 1st Tecumseh team to place in the state tournament. Debbie was also a 3 year varsity letter winner of the THS basketball team, played 3 years of AAU basketball and was part of the THS 1988 GMVC winning basketball team, the first Lady Arrows Basketball Camp, and first TV 2’s White Allen Chevrolet/Team of the Week. Debbie’s high school career earned her: Cable Vision Student of the Month, McDonalds Student of the Month, Outstanding Student Award in Business, News-Sun First Team All-Area in Basketball, the first Rae Burick Women in Sports Award, Springfield News-Sun Player of the Week in Tennis, Springfield Girls Basketball Player of the Week, Division I District Nine Media Team, District All-Star Basketball Team, 1988 Associated Press Southwestern All-District Honorable Mention, Girls Top Ten News-Sun, All-Area Girls Basketball Team, 2nd Team GMVC and Arrow Award.

After high school Debbie continued her tennis career playing for East Tennessee State University. She finished her freshman year at 2nd singles with a 17-10 record and 1st doubles with a 14-9 record. She placed 3rd in the Southern Conference in singles and 2nd in the Southern Conference in doubles qualifying for the Rolex Regional Tournament. During her sophomore year she held a 13-5 1st singles record and a 12-3 first doubles record. Debbie finished her sophomore year placing 2nd in the Southern Conference in singles and doubles and participated in the Rolex Regional Tournament. Debbie ended her spring season as a junior with a 4-1 singles and doubles record. After knee surgery and changing majors, Debbie played her last year of collegiate eligibility along side her sister as a Wright State Raider. Debbie finished her final year with an impressive 19-3 1st singles record. Along with Dianna the “Marshall Sisters” as featured by the local news stations placed 1st in the Conference with a 17-2 1st doubles record. Debbie received WSU Athlete of the Week, Newcomer of the Year and MVP. She had the opportunity to go on and serve as the Assistant Coach of the 1993-1994 WSU women’s tennis team and coach her sister in her final year. Debbie also had the opportunity to assist her sister in the fall of 2008 with the WSU men and women’s tennis team.

Debbie started her nursing career at Miami Valley Hospital in 1995 and currently works as a Nurse Manager of Cardiology Services. She attributes her personal and professional success to her parents, sister and brother, high school and college teachers and coaches. Through the opportunities, experiences, challenges and life lessons learned as a student athlete, the above have helped mold and shape her life forever. Debbie currently lives in the Tecumseh local school district with her two beautiful girls Alexis (13) and Abigail. (11).

Dennis Lowstetter



Dennis Wayne Lowstetter was born in 1952 in Greensburg, PA to Jack and Jean Lowstetter. Upon graduation from Hempfield Area Senior High School in 1969 he spent a year working at a garden center doing landscape work. In 1970 he enrolled at Cedarville College and graduated in 1974 with a degree in Physical Education and Health Education. While attending Cedarville he played baseball for 3 years and was captain of the team his senior year in 1974. That team ended with an 18-8 record and was NCCAA District Champions.

Dennis began his teaching and coaching career in 1974 at Indian Valley Middle School teaching Phys. Ed. and coaching. In the fall of 1975 he began his career at Tecumseh teaching Phys. Ed. and Health, with 3 years at Olive Branch Middle School as OWA coordinator. He retired from teaching in 2004 after 1 year at Greenon Local Schools and 29 years at Tecumseh Local Schools.

His coaching career included 14 years coaching baseball, 13 as varsity head coach and 1 year as JV coach. During his tenure as varsity head coach, the Arrows were district semi-finalists one year, ranked in the top 10 in the Miami Valley Baseball Coaches Assoc.

poll for 8 years and ranked 5th in the state at midseason 1 year. He was blessed to have coached many great players too numerous to mention. Several went on to play baseball in college and one played professionally.

His career also included coaching football for 28 years. He started with 8th grade football in 1976 at Olive Branch Middle School. Then in 1979 he coached freshman football at Tecumseh High School and from 1980-1993 he a varsity assistant. He had the privilege to be a varsity assistant under Chuck Brockmeyer, Dwight Miller, Mike Lucas and Bob DeLong. Dennis spent the last 10 years (1994-2003) of his football coaching career at Cedarville High School as an assistant under Jim Villinger, while continuing to teach at THS. While at Cedarville the teams made it to the playoffs 7 times and were regional runner-up 1 time.

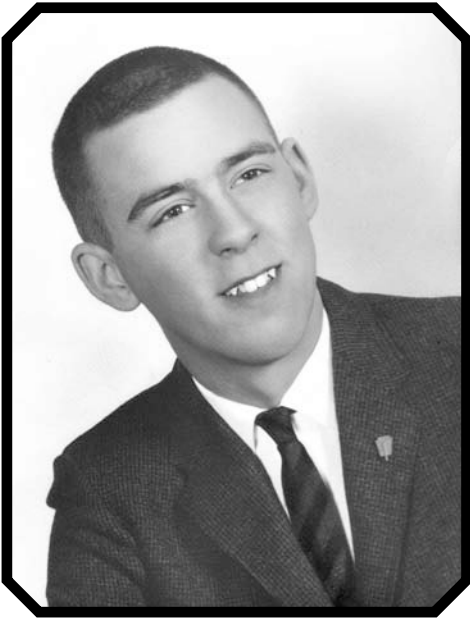
Coach Lowstetter was also blessed to be able to serve on the camp staff for 10 years at the Cedarville University summer basketball camps. In addition, he lead and coached 3 basketball team mission trips to the Philippine Islands through the Mission Dept. at Cedarville University.

Since retiring from teaching and coaching in 2004 Dennis has been the Manager of Grounds at Cedarville University. He is also the Cedarville Weather-Checker for WDTN TV 2 weather.

Dennis married his college sweetheart, Judy (Cline) Lowstetter in 1974. They have 2 adult sons, Mike & wife Anna live in Milwaukee, WI and Matt & wife Missy live in Indianapolis, IN. Dennis & Judy have 6 grandchildren. Dennis is thankful to God for his family who was very supportive during his coaching career.

Coach Lowstetter is humbled and thankful to become a member of the Tecumseh High School Athletic Hall of Fame. His philosophy was that the team, players and the integrity of the school were always most important. Wins and losses were definitely a part of it, but training young men to live an exemplary life was extremely important. Dennis counted it a privileged and an honor to coach the student athletes at Tecumseh High School.

Virgil Studebaker



Virgil Studebaker, son of Laurel and Frances Studebaker graduated from Tecumseh High School in 1962. While in high school Virgil participated in the Future Farmers of America where he served as vice president and president of the local chapter and sentinel of the county chapter. In his junior year he was awarded the degree of State Farmer and was nominated for state vice president at the state convention. Virgil was vice president of the National Honor Society and participated in choir in his senior year. He had the male lead in the junior class play and served as student director of the senior class play. During his time at Olive Branch Jr. High and Tecumseh High School, Virgil played basketball and earned All-League Honorable Mention his senior year.

After graduating from Tecumseh, Virgil attended Manchester College and The Ohio State University where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in 1966. He then came back to Tecumseh to teach Vocational Agriculture and Biology. After teaching for 4 years, Virgil worked at New Carlisle Tractor for 38 years. He was part owner for 22 years and served as it's secretary-treasurer and general manager.

While working there he was listed in "Who's Who in American Business." After one year of retirement, he is now working at The Dayton Tool Crib as shipping-receiving administrator.

Virgil married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Zeller, in 1966. They celebrated their 45th anniversary last year. Virgil and Joyce have 3 sons; Kevin, Jon, and Jason who also graduated from Tecumseh along with Jon's wife, Amy Ledford Studebaker. Virgil and Joyce also have 6 grand children; Kirstie, who graduated from Tecumseh and is now attending Wright State University, Alec MacKenzie, and Brooke, who attend schools within the district, and Lily and Rhett, who are not yet in school.

Virgil's love of sports has continued though out his life. As his sons were growing up, he coached youth soccer teams and TABB basketball for 10 years. Virgil has been a member of the Tecumseh Athletic Boosters since 1966 and served as it's president for 5 years and as a trustee for many years. He also chaired the committee that established the Tecumseh Athletic Hall of Fame. He is now in his 46th year of running the clock at Tecumseh basketball games. Virgil presently is the statistician for the Arrow's football team where he has been working for the last 22 years. Virgil is an avid Buckeye fan and has been working at The Ohio State University football games as a "Red-coat" for 15 years.

During the years since teaching, Virgil has served on the Tecumseh Strategic Planning Cabinet, now known as the Tecumseh Continuous Improvement Committee, since its inception in 1973. He is now serving as trustee for the Olive Branch School Preservation Board of Directors.

Virgil would like to thank his family for supporting him as he gave his time to the athletic programs here at Tecumseh. He would like to express his appreciation to the many coaches and athletic directors he has had the pleasure of working with during the years.