BAYSTATE INVITATIONAL BIOS - (THESE ARE SOME OF THE BEST OF THE WEST!)

Paul Whitlock

Paul spent 23 years coaching at Springfield Cathedral High School. During his tenure his teams secured 14 Western Mass titles, 3 State Championships and a New England Runner up. Coach Whitlock has also had two Eastern Team Champions. In addition his squads garnered 9 Outdoor and 17 Indoor titles. He was inducted into the MSTCA Hall of Fame in 1984. Paul is arguably considered the best ever to coach out in the West, and certainly his teams' 72 meet winning streak is one that would be difficult to rival. Paul also offered support on the MSTCA and WMTFOA Boards.

Dick Atkinson

Perhaps the most beloved of all coaches in the Western District: Coach Atkinson has been working at Southwick –Tolland High School within six decades. His XC teams won 3 State Sectional titles, but most importantly, he has coached some of the most outstanding individuals in State history: They include Matt Behl, Andrew Pitts and State Hall of Famer, Stetson Arnold. The Western Mass. Indoor league was established and funded entirely by Dick for over 30 years until the year 2000 when the PVIAC formed a conference and took over. Dick will be at the Baystate Invitational assisting the Starter and working the finish line. You will hear his voice from virtually everywhere on the course! Dick also served as an active E-Board member of the MSTCA.

Frank Dutille

One of the founders of the Western Mass Track and Field Officials Association, Frank has directed several Western Mass. and State Cross Country Championship Meets. Frank established all Track & Field and Cross Country programs at East Longmeadow dating back to 1960. He was inducted into the MSTCA Hall of Fame in 1997. Nationally Frank served at the 1996 Para Olympic Games in Atlanta and also was assigned to run the Special Olympics many years ago. He shall be starting the Baystate Invitational Meet again as well as the All-State Championships in November.

Carolyn Dewey

One of the most respected female coaches ever during her tenure at Westfield High School. Carolyn also coached at Westfield State prior to taking over at the high school. Westfield has had 3 State Sectional Champions including two of the first three ever back in 1976 and 1977 (Girls officially started their own title runs in 1976). Carolyn always had contending teams participating in either the Western Mass. or State tournaments. In fact they had one of the longest dual meet winning streaks in Western Mass history at 47 wins. Currently, Carolyn has dedicated her life to the Peace Corps and is in Africa. She is the reason why we Stanley Park is the host to the PVIAC Championships in Stanley Park and now will hold the Baystate Invitational and State Meets in 2015.

Maryann Goff

For over 25 years Maryann served Chicopee High school as the Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field coach. She was always one of the hardest working and most dedicated coaches in Western Mass. She was as competitive as all of the teams she worked with. Her teams won multiple championships throughout the 90's. Her daughter Julie had also taken over the "family business". In 1995 she helped Monique Burlingham capture the All-State Division one Championship (only the 3rd Girl out of 5 from the West to ever earn that distinction). Maryann was also the driving force that helped her husband Ernie (Class of 2005) earn his way into the MSTCA Hall of Fame. Those two were the most dominating ever husband and wife team. It is only a matter of time before she also is enshrined.

Larry Bell

From Mount Greylock Regional, Larry was named MSTCA coach of the year in 2007. His teams have captured a total of 16 Western Mass. Championships (13 with the Girls) and 3 Girls Division 2 State titles. Larry began his career back in 1978 and coached collegiately at Williams College amongst his many assignments. Larry is another Hall of Fame candidate for the future as he has also manufactured 2 New England champions. There has never been a more dominant nor respected program from the Berkshires. Each year, they are either a top 3 Sectional contender or a top 10 State contender. The tradition Larry established in the 90's continues to grow.