

Morrison R. Waite High School Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction



Wednesday, March 18, 2009

5:30 p.m.

**St. Michael Centre
4001 Navarre Avenue
Oregon, Ohio 43616**

2009

Morrison R. Waite High School Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Donald Kowalka

Football ~ Class of 1947

Guido Tambur

Football ~ Class of 1948

Jerry L. Berndt

Football/Basketball ~ Class of 1957

Wayne Marble

Football/Basketball/Baseball/Bowling ~ Class of 1957

Michael A. Jesion

Football ~ Class of 1964

Russell Ryan

Football/Basketball/Baseball ~ Class of 1967

Joseph J. Guerrero

Golf/Basketball/Baseball ~ Class of 1971

McKantz S. Archer

Football/Wrestling/Baseball/Track ~ Class of 1975

Kathlene J. Mesteller Bankowski

Volleyball/Basketball/Track ~ Class of 1975

Mark E. Beach

Football/Wrestling/Baseball ~ Class of 1979

Holly S. Vargo Brown

Synchronized Swimming/Cheerleading ~ Class of 1980

Charles E. Dotson

Football/Wrestling ~ Class of 1986

Anthony L. Gallaher

Basketball/Baseball ~ Class of 1989

Cristina Lorton

Volleyball/Basketball ~ Class of 1991

Kimberly J. Kern

Volleyball/Basketball/Softball/Track ~ Class of 1993

Romules L. Durant

Football ~ Class of 1994

Raymond Zbierajewski

Distinguished Friend of Athletics ~ Class of 1949



Jerry L. Berndt
Class of 1957

Jerry L. Berndt attended East Side Central and Raymer Elementary Schools before graduating from Waite High School in 1957. While attending Waite, Jerry participated in football, basketball and baseball, achieving All-City honors in football during the 1956 city championship year. Jerry was a member of the Student Council, Forum Literary Society, "W" Club, Hi Y, Sr. Publicity Committee, and worked on the SIZZLE.

After graduating from Waite High School, Jerry attended the University of Wisconsin-Superior earning varsity letters in football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, and tennis. In 1959, he earned All-Conference honors in football. Jerry transferred to Bowling Green State University in 1960 and graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. Jerry married the former Patricia Perry, also a 1957 Waite graduate. They have three children – daughters, Jodie and Jamie and son, Jeffrey. Their eight grandchildren – three grandsons and five granddaughters – range in age from 7-27. The eldest grandson recently returned from his second deployment to Iraq.

From 1962 to 1965, Jerry taught biology and coached football and wrestling at Toledo's Libbey High School. From 1965 to 1967, he taught biology at Bedford High School in Temperance, Michigan, and coached football, wrestling, and golf. During his tenure at Bedford, he attended the University of Toledo under a National Science Institute grant. In 1968, Jerry worked as a graduate assistant at the University of Toledo to complete his Master of Science in Education degree. Jerry then was appointed the head coach of football and golf at Streetsboro High School in Streetsboro, Ohio, where he taught health education. Following the 1969 season, he began his college-coaching career at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. During his eight years as an assistant coach, Dartmouth won or tied for the Ivy League Championship four times.

In 1979, Jerry was appointed the head coach of football at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. During the 1980 campaign, the Tigers had their most successful season in 10 years. Returning to the Ivy League in 1981, Jerry became the head coach of football at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. During his five-year tenure, Jerry's teams won four consecutive Ivy League championships. Jerry was selected as Ivy League Coach of the Year in 1982 and 1984. His 1982 team was recognized for having the best turnaround in the Nation in Division I-AA football. In 1985, Jerry was selected as the Marine Corps Sportsman of the Year.

In 1986, Jerry was appointed the athletic director and head football coach at Rice University in Houston, Texas. During his three-year tenure at Rice, Jerry served as the Chair of the Southwest Conference Drug Education Committee and was a member of the UPI Coaches Poll Committee and the NCAA Athletic Admissions Committee of the President's Commission.

Jerry returned to Philadelphia in 1989 as the head coach of football at Temple University. The 1990 Temple team was noted for the best turnaround in the

Nation for a Division I-A team. For his efforts, Jerry received the New York football writers' and the Mizzlou Sports Network's National Coach of the Year Award. The Maxwell Football Club also selected him as a special award recipient. Following the 1991 football season, Jerry coached in the East-West Shrine Game in Palo Alto, California.

From 1994 to 1999, Jerry was the offensive coordinator and quarterback coach at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. During this time, Missouri participated in the Holiday Bowl in San Diego, California, and in the Insight.com Bowl in Tucson, Arizona. Jerry coached the All-Big 12 Quarterback of 1997 – that team produced the most points in the history of Missouri football. Following the 1998 season, Jerry received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the All-America Football Foundation.

During his college coaching career, Jerry served on the Mayor's Commission on Literacy and was a member of the Board of Directors of Literacy Volunteers of America in Philadelphia. He served as a Trustee of Pop Warner Youth Football and was a member of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. Jerry served as the First Chair of the Big East Football Coaches Association and was a member of the NCAA Recruiting, Football Rules and Lombardi Award committees. As a member of the American Football Coaches Association, Jerry served on the Ethics, Nominating, Publicity, Banquet, and Registration committees.

Jerry and Patricia are extremely proud of their time spent at Morrison R. Waite High School and treasure the many lifelong friendships they developed there. They are now retired and reside on Hilton Head Island in South Carolina, play lots of golf, enjoy their family, and keep track of all of their favorite football teams.

We are pleased to induct Jerry L. Berndt into the Morrison R. Waite High School Athletic Hall of Fame, this day, Wednesday, March 18, 2009.

