

2019-20 Elida Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees



Terry L. Myers

Terry Myers is a 1964 graduate of Elida High School. Terry played basketball and baseball through his sophomore year. He played football all four years of high school. Terry was a varsity starter his junior and senior year at offensive and defensive tackle. In his junior year, Terry and his team were the Northwest Conference Champions. He was co-captain his senior year and earned Honorable Mention All-Area. Also, while in high school, Terry was the editor of the school newspaper his senior year and was a member of the Elida High School National Honor Society.

After graduation, Terry attended Andrew-Toledo Barber School in Toledo, Ohio. He then worked as a barber in Elida for over ten years. Terry served six years in the United States Marine Corps Reserve. Terry served two years on the Elida Village Council and then became the Elida Village Administrator. He retired from the Village of Elida as Streets Superintendent in 2012.

Over the years, Terry coached midget football, little league baseball, and girls fast pitch softball. He is a former Elida Lions Club member and a founding member of the Elida Sertoma Club. He was the previous trustee of Elida Immanuel United Methodist Church, as well as a long-term member of Elida Athletic Boosters.

Terry wanted to get involved with the Elida athletic program. In the 70s, he began announcing as a fill in for varsity football and basketball. Shortly

thereafter, he became the permanent announcer. Now, Terry is well known as “The voice of Elida varsity football and varsity basketball.” For over forty years, Terry has been the announcer. Terry has also announced at the boys’ and girls’ tournament basketball games. Terry received the Lima News Paul Smith volunteer award in 2015 for all of his years of service.

Terry has always had a love for Elida Athletics. He has shown his support for Elida and all of the athletes for numerous years. He states, “I have enjoyed watching all of the great athletes compete from Elida and our visitors.” His favorite memory from his years of announcing came from a basketball tournament game. Terry explained that it was a full house that evening and the cassette player would not play the National Anthem. The crowd realized what was happening and began to sing the National Anthem. Terry stated, “It was the BEST pre-game ever!”



Nichole Monroe Della Vella

Nichole Monroe Della Vella graduated from Elida in 1996. Nichole was a 4-year varsity athlete in cross country and track and field. She also participated on the freshman basketball team and the swim team her senior year. Nichole accomplished many achievements over her years of competing at Elida.

WBL results for Cross Country:

1992-9th Place

1993-3rd Place

1994-2nd Place

1995-2nd Place

Cross Country Tournaments:

Allen County Cross Country Champion in 1993, 1994 and 1995

1995 Division 1 State OHSAA Cross Country Qualifier-23rd Place finish, earning a spot on the 1995 OHSAA Division I All-Ohio Cross Country Team

WBL results for Track:

1993 WBL Champ 3200 Meter Run and 1600 Meter Run

1994 WBL Champ 3200 Meter Run, 1600 Meter Run and 3200 Meter Relay

1995 WBL Champ 1600 Meter Run

1996 WBL Champ 3200 Meter Run and 1600 Meter Run

1995 2nd Place 800 Meter Run

1995 3rd Place 3200 Meter Relay

1993 3rd Place 3200 Meter Relay

(4-year consecutive 1600 Meter Run Champion and 3-time 3200 Meter Run Champion)

Track and Field Tournaments:

1993 3200 Meter Run District Champion

1993 1600 Meter Run District Runner-up

1993 6th Place at Regionals 3200 Meter Run

1994 5th Place at Regionals 1600 Meter Run

1995 7th Place at Regionals 1600 Meter Run

1996 2nd Place at Regionals 1600 Meter Run

4-time Regional Qualifier in the 1600 Meter Run and 3200 Meter Run

1996 State Division I OHSAA Track Qualifier in the 1600 Meter Run

Current record holder at Elida in the 800 Meter run with a time of 2:22.8, 1600 Meter run with a time of 5:08.62, and 3200 Meter run with a time of 11:36.1

Nichole continued her education and athletic career at Bowling Green University. She earned a scholarship and ran track, indoor track, and cross country. She excelled at the collegiate level as well.

College Achievements:

1996 Women's Cross Country MAC Championship Team

1998 Women's Cross Country MAC Championship Team

1999 Women's Indoor Track MAC Championship Team

1999 Women's Track and Cross Country Co-Captain

Earned 12 varsity letters at BGSU

Nichole has continued to run and workout. She has been an avid CrossFit athlete for the past seven years. She has competed in local competitions and the CrossFit Games Open. She has run the Chicago Marathon four times, most recently on October 13, 2019. Nicole ran in support of Special Olympics Chicago and raised over \$2,000 in donations for the cause. She has also run the Columbus and Cleveland Half-Marathon. Nichole was able to pass on her running expertise by coaching for a few years. She was the cross country and track coach for two years at Hilliard Darby High School. She also coached the swim team for two years at Hilliard Davidson High School.

Nichole holds a bachelor's degree of Science in Education from BGSU and a master's degree in Education and Allied Professionals from the University of Dayton. Nichole is currently the Vice President and Account Executive at Aon in Cleveland, Ohio where she is responsible for assisting companies with innovative and strategic risk management solutions. She has over fifteen years of experience in the risk management and consulting business. Nichole has two children: Dominic, age 12, and Mia, age 10. Dominic is less enthusiastic about running than his mother, while Mia has entered and enjoyed a few fun runs around the community. They reside in Avon, Ohio with their two dogs, Swish and Ozzie.



Mark Thompson

Coach Mark Thompson came to Elida from Ohio Northern University and neighboring school district, Spencerville. He was a three-sport star in the high school ranks and a four-year starter in baseball at ONU. Mark graduated from Spencerville in 1977. He played football, basketball and baseball. He still holds the record for the most bases stolen in a season, which was thirty-six. Mark went on to ONU and played four years of varsity baseball from 1978 to 1981. He was a member of the 100 hit club.

Mark began a thirty-seven-year career as a health teacher in 1982 at Elida. He was hired as an assistant varsity football coach that fall as well. That was the only year Elida earned a Western Buckeye League title in football. Mark continued to be a varsity assistant football coach for twenty years under three different head coaches. He took one year off and then began helping the middle school football program for three years.

Mark also coached basketball at all levels. He started at the middle school from 1981 to 1984. The following three years he coached at the junior varsity level. He then took some time off and in 2006 came back to coach the 7th grade boys, which he is still coaching today.

Coach T's real forte is coaching baseball. Mark loves all sports and the development of character the offer all athletes, but baseball is his natural love. His WBL, Sectional, and District championships prove he could lead different athletes and styles to the goals that all teams set. Coach has a unique style of coaching with the utmost calmness and confidence. When things get out of hand,

he can bring the stern fist and end the nonsense quickly. His real attribute was adapting to his players' skills and adjusting as the circumstances changed due to injury or personnel changes. Mark is still making an impact in baseball as he volunteers with his son for the Spencerville Bearcats varsity team.

Many people say that kids have changed since the 80s. If that is the case, then Coach adjusted well with the changes. In twenty-five years of baseball, he has seen skills improve, pitching become faster, and the time devoted to each sport become more demanding. As football, basketball, and soccer's off season became more time-consuming for each athlete, coach T adjusted for them, all while maintaining a winning attitude.

Mark did not just coach, he gave of himself in other areas as well. He has donated funds to improve Ed Sandy field over the years. He helped with the 1998 infield sod, 2002 press box addition, paver project, and Diamond Dog booster contributor. He also donated to the Stocker building, football paver project, and the Athletic Boosters for many years. He has been a twenty-three-year member of the Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association, three-year member of the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association, an advisory board member for the Lima Locos, and a host for Lima Locos players.

37 years of teaching

Approximately 1800 athletes

68 total teams

5 WBL Baseball Titles 1988, 1992, 1994, 2003, 2006

9 Sectional Baseball Titles

2 District Baseball Titles

1 Regional Baseball Runner-up

5 Time WBL Coach of the Year

2 Time Division II Northwest Ohio Baseball Coach of the Year

Selected twice to coach in the All-Ohio Game-1993 and 2008

Mark states his coaching philosophy, "I believe athletics builds teamwork skills, communication skills, self-sacrifice, and friendships to help them be successful in life. Playing baseball is intended to be fun. I wanted them to strive to make practices and games enjoyable experiences that will both develop skills and provide positive life-long memories for every player."