

Orlando Turco

Orlando Turco coached wrestling at Ithaca High School for 31 years, (1956-87). This was after he competed at Ithaca High School and then Cornell University. Turco coached nine state champions and a total of 240 individual champions at various levels. There were 22 state tournament place winners, including the nine champions. Other prestigious champion totals were 57 Sectional, 37 Class "A", 37 Southern Tier Athletic Conference, 53 Windsor, 11 Canadiagua and 8 Elmira Free Academy. As for team championships there were 10 Section IV, 4 Class "A", 4 STAC tourney, 4 STAC League and 10 at Windsor. Turco's dual meet record was 291 wins, 110 losses and 9 ties. His overall win total was 321. He was Section IV wrestling chairman from 1958-80, Section IV Coach of the year in 1977 and Region I National High School Coaching Association Coach of the year in 1987.

Charles "Chick" Walshe

Charles "Chick" Walshe is still known as "coach" to a legion of boys and men who played for him over a long career at Charlotte Valley Central School, those who knew him as an official and those who worked with him as a league and Section IV administrator. His interest in sports and athletes has never wavered and he still will pass an hour or two with old acquaintances talking sports. Walshe was physical education teacher and coach at Charlotte Valley Central School for 35 years. He coached varsity and junior varsity basketball, varsity soccer, varsity baseball and varsity golf--often simultaneously--and did it well enough to win two Delaware soccer championships; two Eastern Delaware League basketball titles outright and sharing two others. His baseball teams won four Delaware League championships and shared a fifth. He had a hand in the development of Alan Schulte as a state championship golfer. "Chick" was active in Section IV throughout his career, which lasted from 1948-1983 and he served as Executive Secretary of the Delaware League for three years after his retirement. He was an official with the Schohanna Board of basketball officials for 19 years. No wonder everyone calls him "coach". He was athletic coordinator at CVCS for 22 years and the only mentor many athletes had for most of those years. His organizational skills benefitted the school, the students and the community.

Brad Decker

Brad Decker is well remembered by people who follow the Deposit Central School sports teams. Upon graduation he left behind a solid record of varsity performances in three sports. He went on to Cornell University where he lettered in football three years and in track four years. As a lumberjack football player he hung up some great records: 70 points in his senior year, 524 yards rushing, 297 yards passing with two touchdowns. In his track career at Deposit, Decker set school records in the long jump, discus and high jump. As a basketball player, Brad scored 379 points in his senior year, added 249 rebounds and 16 assists. He won all Susquehanna Association honors in football in 1974 and 1975 and in basketball in 1974-75 and 1975-76.

George Gilbert

George Gilbert starred in football and basketball as a junior (1975-76) and as a senior (1976-77) at Horseheads High School. A big, burly lineman, Gilbert was named to the All Twin Tiers team in 1976. Gilbert was also named MVP of the Raider basketball team in 1976 and 1977. Gilbert was a pillar on defense for one of the all time great Horseheads football teams, the 1975 club which went 8 and 1 and won the Sullivan Trail League title.

Gilbert received a football scholarship to Tulsa, where he played four years and was captain of the 1981 Tulsa team.

Gilbert received several individual honors at Tulsa and was named to the all-Missouri Valley team as a tackle in 1980 and 1981.

Gilbert's pro career included stops at Philadelphia Eagles (NFL), Philadelphia Stars and Baltimore Stars (USFL) and with Calgary (Canadian League). He was a member of 2 USFL champions at Baltimore and was voted best offensive lineman at Calgary in 1986.

Gilbert is a teacher and coach at Horseheads.

Mike Holmes

Mike Holmes, of Elmira Free Academy (1951-55) is one of those rare Southern Tier Conference athletes who was voted all-league in three sports in the same year.

During Holmes senior year (1954-55) the 145 pounder was all STC back in football, guard in basketball and shortstop in baseball.

Holmes, a starting halfback for E.F.A. as a sophomore, gained more than 1,500 yards rushing during his career, was among the area's top basketball scorers and compiled a career batting average of .350 plus. He earned 9 varsity letters.

Besides 5 all STC honors his junior and senior seasons, Holmes was also voted metro-Elmira athlete of the year in 1955.

Holmes played collegiate football one season at Hobart, then transferred to Alfred Tech and starred one season in basketball. Holmes also played semi-pro football in the area before joining the New York City police department.

Jerry Marsh

During Jerry Marsh's Newark Valley High career, his letter awards numbered a record 15, four each in football, baseball, and track and three in basketball. He played from 1955-59.

The speedy halfback was co-captain in his senior year when the Cardinals were co-champions of the Chenango division of the Susquenango League. He scored 48 points.

Jerry captained the Section IV championship basketball team in 1958-59 to a 16-4 record.

He set a Section IV Class "B" 180 yard hurdle record of 21.2. He also won the 220 yard dash title. He was the leading pitcher and hitter on the Cardinal baseball team and played second for the West in the All Star game at Cooperstown.

Joel Ramich

Joel Ramich played 3 sports at Elmira Notre Dame (1963-67). He was outstanding as a football halfback. Ramich was the first metro-Elmira back to top the 1,100 yard rushing mark for a season (1966) and the first to top the 2,000 career mark. In the 1966 Notre Dame-Sayre game, Ramich became the first metro-Elmira back to score 5 touchdowns in a game in almost 40 years.

Ramich was selected all metro-Elmira 2 times, was player of the year (1966), winner of the prestigious Ernie Davis award and received a full football scholarship to Penn State, where he lettered as a junior and senior.

Ramich is employed at Corning Glass.

Betty Johann Parker

"BJ." Parker contributed to Section IV for 34 years (1949-84) from Moravia Central School.

She received credit for the formation of the Cayuga County League that existed entirely in Section IV. She contributed much time, coaching, officiating and working on various committees in the league as well as the section.

One of her many duties was cheerleading advisor. She also coached field hockey for several years.

"B.J." did much in having girls' sports receive equity, moving from the intramural category to interscholastic status.

Tony Peckally

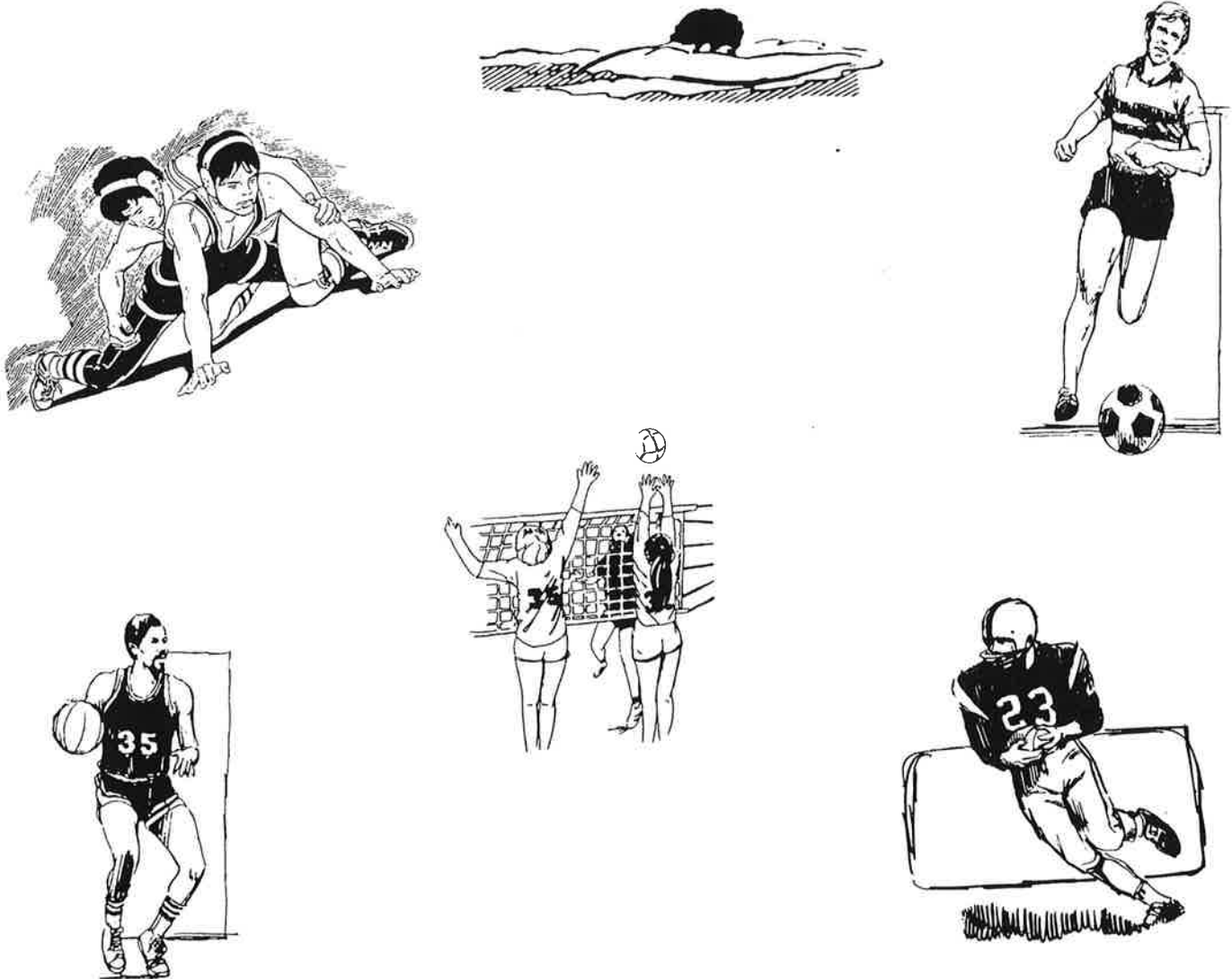
Anthony (Tony) Peckally enters the Section IV Hall of Fame in the contributor category.

Peckally began his 50 year career as an outstanding athlete at Waverly in the mid twenties. After college, he started his coaching career in the Utica area. He moved to Elmira as a football coach in 1945 and has been an Elmiran since.

Peckally coached football, basketball, track and became assistant athletic director in 1950. He moved to the athletic director post in 1960 and retired in 1970.

But Peckally has remained associated with Section IV and Sullivan Trail Conference athletics over the years since.

Besides his responsibilities as Elmira A.D., Peckally was instrumental in the organization of the Sullivan Trail and since retirement has been keeper of the records on a volunteer basis as well as charter member of the Section IV Hall of Fame. He served on the Section IV board until 1982.



Jim Flynn

Jim Flynn was in a class by himself as coach of E.F.A. basketball in 1955-58 where his teams won an all time Section IV record 52 straight games with back to back unbeaten seasons (27-0 in 1956-57 and 25-0 in 1957-58.) Flynn's E.F.A. teams also compiled a three season 67 wins, 1 loss record.

Flynn, a native Elmiran, began his coaching career in 1951 at Norwich, moved to E.F.A. in 1955 and on to Elmira Notre Dame in 1960. He retired after the 1965 season.

He was selected metro-Elmira coach of the year three times and in 1964 lead Notre Dame to the Rochester Diocesan final.

Flynn was named Elmira's coach of the decade in the 1950's and is an inductee into the Elmira Hall of Fame.

A retired school teacher, he is now in sales and broadcasting with Elmira radio WENY.

Harold Porter

Harold Porter coached track and cross country in Section IV for 28 years, (22 years at Ithaca and 6 years at Trumansburg. He started at his Ithaca alma mater in 1957, was at Trumansburg in 1958-63 and back to Ithaca from 1966-86.

He was New York State coach of the year in 1983.

He had three New York State championships, 13 in the Southern Tier Athletic Association and 13 in Section IV.

He totaled 1,490 wins in other than dual meets and 141 in duals.

In girls' cross country he had 424 wins in big meets and 35 in duals. Also, two STAC and Section IV titles.

He was Ithaca Journal coach of the year in 1970. He is a native Ithacan.

Richard Reed

For many years - too many for some South Kortright opponents the Rams were a tough out, no matter what the sport.

The man responsible for the great records, put up by the South Kortright teams over a span of four decades, is Richard Reed.

He coached at South Kortright from 1946 to 1955 and returned to "active duty" in 1969, coaching until 1980.

Kortright tasted victory in baseball under Dick Reed in 1946, almost 50 years ago. Then came undefeated soccer teams in 1948 and 1949 and a league championship in 1969. Meanwhile, there was another baseball league title in 1954.

Delaware League basketball in the seventies was dominated by South Kortright as Dick Reed's Rams rolled to championships in 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, and 1977. During his 20 years as head coach at South Kortright, his teams averaged 11 victories a season, putting his total win number well past 200. In addition to coaching three sports in the seventies, Dick Reed served as athletic director.

And, unlike many of his generation of coaches, Dick Reed saw the inevitable growth of girls' sports and ran the program as that took place.

Donald B. Smith

Donald B. Smith was both coach and athletic director at Dryden High School from 1970-89.

He coached football for 12 years. The record was 77 wins and 22 losses. There were undefeated teams and Interscholastic Conference champions. He was coach of boys' track for 15 years and girls' track for 12 years.

His boys' track record was 110 wins, 32 losses and 1 tie. He had six league, division and overall champions. His girls' track record was 73 wins, 32 losses and 2 ties. He had five league, division and overall champions.

He was Section IV football chairman from 1975-80 and was IAC executive committee member for several years.