

# AHSAAA's Honors Four Pioneers for First Hall of Fame

## AHSAAA HALL OF FAME – CLASS OF 2007



Dick Hendrickson



Bill Mayo



Ray Peters



Bill Stancil

### **Richard “Dick” Hendrickson**

Dick Hendrickson was born in Dodge City, Kansas, but moved to Cabot, Arkansas at the age of three. He attended Cabot Public Schools from which he graduated in 1953. His senior year, Hendrickson was voted the Outstanding Athlete at Cabot High School. After graduation he enrolled at Arkansas State Teachers College where he would earn a Bachelor of Science degree in 1957 and a Masters degree in Education in 1960. While attending ASTC he lettered in both football and track. He was selected captain of the 1956 football team and was a member of the ASTC track and field honor roll. He was also a member of three AIC championship relay teams contributing to two AIC track championships in 1956 and 1957.

Hendrickson began his coaching career immediately upon graduation in 1957. He spent two years at El Dorado Junior High as their head football and track coach before moving on to El Dorado High School as head track and assistant football coach, a position he held for three years. From there he moved to North Little Rock Ridgeroad Junior High where his football and track teams won numerous Little Rock and North Little Rock league and regional championships.

In 1966 Hendrickson would leave coaching to become the Supervisor of Health, Physical Education and Safety for the North Little Rock School District. It was in 1969 that he assumed the duties of Athletic Director and Secondary Physical Education Supervisor. Some of his achievements while serving as Athletic Director included construction of a tartan track in 1971, formation of girls' athletic programs in four junior high schools and two high schools, and starting the baseball program at Northeast and Old Main High Schools.

In 1976-77 Hendrickson was selected as the Arkansas High School Athletic Director of the Year. During 1979 he was a presenter at the National Federation of High School Athletic Directors Convention in Dallas and was one of six recipients of the National Federation Citation in recognition of his outstanding contributions to athletics. At the state level, he served on a committee with the Arkansas Activities Association and several of the state's most accomplished Athletic Directors to form the Arkansas High School Athletic Administrators Association. He would become its first president presiding from 1979 to 1981.

In 1986, Hendrickson was once again selected as the High School Athletic Director of the Year. That year he was also named the fifteen state Southern Regional Athletic Director of the Year.

In addition to his accomplishments in the field of Athletic Administration, Dick also served three years as editor of the AHPER Journal. He published several articles, which appeared in the *Athletic Journal*, *Coach & Athlete* and *Football Coaches Clinic Magazine*. He was a member of the North Little Rock YMCA Board, Governor's Advisory Commission of the Arkansas Drug Abuse Authority and the Arkansas Activities Association Track and Field Committee.

Hendrickson retired at the end of the 1989-90 school year and married Vernelle Crews in 2000. The couple currently resides in Conway. He has two daughters, Karen Loyd of Dallas, Texas and Stacy Stoltz of Orlando, Florida and three grandchildren.

Hendrickson was always a forward thinker who has a tremendous impact on the profession of athletic administration in our state and our nation

### **Bill Mayo**

With 40 years of coaching and administrative experience to his credit, Bill Mayo has left a tremendous impact on the shape of interscholastic athletics in the state of Arkansas.

Until his retirement in 1996, Mayo served as athletic director for the Blytheville Public Schools for 25 years. During that time, he consistently gained recognition, and, in 1981, he was named Arkansas Athletic Director of the Year by the National Council of Secondary School Athletic Directors. Mayo also was recognized by the National Federation of State High School Associations with a citation that is presented to athletic administrators who have made outstanding contributions to interscholastic athletics at the local, state and national levels. One of Mayo's greatest honors was when he was inducted in 1998 into the National High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Some of Mayo's achievements at Blytheville included developing one of the state's top athletic programs and refurbishing the school's athletics facilities, while maintaining the lowest school district athletic expenditures in the state. Mayo's goal as an administrator always was to provide for the needs of his coaches, so they could best use their athletic program as a means of educating young people.

Mayo gained national prominence when President Ronald Reagan appointed him to the White House Conference for a Drug Free America. From his work to reduce drug abuse in the schools, Mayo crafted "Target Blytheville," which was aimed at educating teachers, parents and students about drug abuse. This program continues to impact students in the Blytheville Public Schools.

A leader in the field, Mayo has occupied several prominent administrative positions. In 1987, Mayo was selected as president of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. Mayo also was a key figure in the formation of the Arkansas High School Athletic Administrators Association. Even though he has been retired for 11 years, Mayo continues to work tirelessly for athletic directors. Currently, Mayo continues to serve as liaison for the state of Arkansas to the NIAAA and is now serving as the chairman of the NIAAA Hall of Fame selection committee. He was also very instrumental in implementing leadership training in the state of Arkansas for athletic administrators.

Mayo graduated from Blytheville High School in 1952. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Education degree from Arkansas State University in 1956 and his Master of Science in Education degree from ASU in 1962. Mayo has served as a head track coach at Southwestern University in Memphis, head football coach at Emory and Henry College in Emory, Virginia and head football coach at Memphis Trezevant High School. He returned to his alma mater, Blytheville, in 1971.

In addition to his continued interest in athletics, Mayo has served two Lions Clubs as president, winning awards from each. He also served as "guiding" Lion for a new club and is active on the state as well as local level. He has been a member of the Schoolmasters and of the Eureka Springs Planning Committee, as well as serving his church as Sunday School director and church council chairman.

Mayo served with the United State Army from May 1957 to May 1959 and completed his military obligation on reserve standby duty with the rank of Captain.

He and his wife of almost 50 years, Marjorie, reside in Eureka Springs.

### **Raymond Peters**

Raymond Peters was born in Blackwell, Arkansas on October 21, 1920, to Gus and Mary Ida Peters. At an early age he decided he wanted to concentrate on football even though he liked all sports. He attended Blackwell Elementary School where he was an excellent student, but it wasn't until he attended junior and senior high school at Morrilton that he began to excel in athletics. At Morrilton he lettered three years in football and track and one year in baseball. It was there too that his leadership skills began to emerge as he became captain of his football and track teams as well as senior class president.

After high school, Peters attended Arkansas Polytechnic Junior College on a scholarship and joined the National Guard. He was called to serve in World War II, where he spent five years ascending to the rank of Captain. While in the Army, he played one year of football for the San Francisco 49ers. After returning to Tech, Peters played for two years (1946-1947) becoming the Outstanding Lineman in the nation for Junior Colleges. He then went on to earn second team All-SWC honors as a lineman for the Arkansas Razorbacks. He would graduate in 1950 from Arkansas receiving a Bachelor of Science in Education and Masters in Education Administration.

Peters immediately went to work for the North Little Rock School District as a history teacher and coach. He became the head football coach his second year there taking his team to two winning seasons before accepting an assistant football and track position at Little Rock High (Central) in 1954. In 1957 he was tabbed to be the first-ever head football coach for the newly opened Hall High School, and held that position through 1964. During that time, he took Hall to a Big 9 championship and was the recipient of the Lowell Manning Award as the Arkansas High School Football Coach of the Year in 1959 and again in 1961.

From 1964 to 1986, Peters served as athletic director for the Little Rock Public Schools. During that time he received the Certificate of Appreciation from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Outstanding Athletic Director of Arkansas in both 1974 and 1985, Outstanding Service Award for the American Cancer Society and the Appreciation Award from the Arkansas Athletic Association for his outstanding contributions. One of his far-reaching accomplishments was his contribution as a founding member of the Arkansas High School Athletic Administrators Association.

Peters was deeply involved in numerous civic, charitable and church activities. He was an ambassador at all levels for the city of Little Rock and was known as a man who was constantly seeking ways to "give back" to his community, especially to the children. He opened school doors for the citizens of Little Rock and the students of UALR so that they could seek a healthy lifestyle through physical activities.

After retirement, Peters was inducted into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame for football (1996), the Arkansas Tech University Hall of Fame for football (1997) and the Arkansas High School Coaches Association/Arkansas Officials Association Hall of Fame (2003).

Peter was indeed a pathfinder for athletic administration in Arkansas. He has left an indelible print on our state and our profession.

### **Bill Stancil**

Bill Stancil was born in Harrisburg, Arkansas on December 30, 1924. He and his family later moved to Parkin, Arkansas, where he graduated from high school in 1942. He served in World War II as a member of the Navy. He attended Arkansas Tech University from 1946 to 1947 and was a two-year letterman on the Wonder Boys football team. Stancil transferred to the University of Arkansas in 1948 and played football for the Razorbacks for two years. He earned his BSE degree from Arkansas in 1950 and in 1951 finished his Masters degree. He married the former Maxine Hill and together they had three children: Staci, Sandy and Bill, Jr., Bill and Maxine also have six grandchildren.

Stancil began his coaching career at Blytheville High School, serving as an assistant football coach from 1950 to 1956. He also served as the school's head basketball coach in 1954. In 1957 he accepted the position as head coach and athletic director at Northside High School in Fort Smith. He remained in that position until 1969. During his tenure there he garnered 111 wins and only 27 losses and 4 ties. His teams enjoyed three undefeated seasons and four state championships. In 1970, Coach Stancil vacated his position as head coach to become the district athletic director for the Fort Smith Public Schools. He remained in that capacity until his untimely death in 1991.

Coach Stancil's dedication to athletics and education inspired him to join many professional organizations. These included the Arkansas High School Coaches Association, the Arkansas High School Athletic Administrators Association and the National High School Athletic Administrators Association.

Stancil was the recipient of numerous city, state and national awards. Among these were: twice the Arkansas High School Coach of the Year, twice Outstanding Arkansas Athletic Director of the Year, and the Southern Regional Athletic Director of the Year. In 1997, the Arkansas Activities Association named Stancil to the Coaches/Officials Hall of Fame. He also was inducted into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame in 1998.

In addition to his athletic awards, Stancil received many community and service awards. Among there were the Sertoma Club Service to Mankind Award, the Boys Scouts of America Distinguished Service Award, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Special Recognition Award, and the Arkansas Tech University Service Award.

In the years following his active coaching career, Stancil served his community, his church and his state in many capacities. In addition to serving on numerous boards and councils, Stancil was elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives. During his tenure, he was instrumental in passing legislation favorable to education.

Stancil was truly a leader of men, both young and adult. He worked tirelessly as a role model, exemplifying that hard work, perseverance, and integrity are the measures of a great athlete, a great coach, and indeed, a great citizen.