

## Class of 2019 Hall of Fame Remarks

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the 2019 Park View High School Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony. My name is Jen Piccolomini, and I have the privilege of serving as an assistant principal and the Hall of Fame Chairman here at Park View.

In just a few moments, we will honor the accomplishments of 3 individuals who made their mark on Park View High School athletics.

But, first, I would like to introduce Mr. Kirk Dolson, Principal, to say a few words.

Thank you, Mr. Dolson. Two years ago, we began a new tradition in which we invite a Hall of Fame inductee back to the induction ceremony to say a few words regarding their time at Park View High School and what it means to be a Patriot. I would like to welcome to the podium, Ms. Julie Treanor, Hall of Fame class of 2012.

Before we get started, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Jason Testerman, Athletic Director and his staff, Mr. Matt Hrutkay, Assistant Athletic Director, and Mrs. Teresa Jones, Athletic Secretary. In addition, I want to thank Ginger Minshew and Beth Walker for their help in planning tonight's ceremony.

## **Now, we are ready....**

Our first inductee tonight is Veronica Skinner Pearson. A multi-sport athlete, Veronica was always the most competitive athlete on the team. During her career at Park View High School, she earned varsity letters each year in both softball and basketball.

As a member of the Patriots basketball team, Veronica lettered all 3 years. As a freshman, she was named to the Loudoun All Extra team. She was selected as team captain and a member of the 2001 and 2002 district championship teams.

As a member of the softball team, Veronica played shortstop, (a common theme this evening) where she dominated. Coach Beth Walker says, "Veronica was an extremely competitive athlete and worked hard to get the most out of herself and the players around her." Opposing coach Joe Spicer said of Veronica, "Veronica was the best athlete on the team. She had a rifle for an arm and getting a hit through the left side of Park View's defense was almost impossible."

Veronica batted .350 or higher all four years, including .455 her senior year. Furthermore, she led the defense with less than two errors each year. Veronica was named All-District all four years; All Region II for 3 years, All State her senior year; Loudoun All Extra all four years; All Met for all four years, and oh yeah, this is after a torn ACL.

Veronica helped command a softball dynasty, culminating in an AA State Championship in 2002 and State Runner Up in 2003.

After graduation, Veronica attended Virginia Tech where she received a Bachelors in English and a Masters in Education. Veronica returned to Loudoun, where she taught English and coached softball. During her time as softball coach, Veronica helped lead Woodgrove High School to 3 state championships.

Currently, Veronica is a stay at home mom to her three children and a part-time substitute for LCPS.

Veronica, in a Washington Post newspaper article, you stated, "Everyone knows me for getting hurt." Tonight, I hope you know that isn't true.

Park View High School is proud of Veronica and her contributions to Park View Athletics during her time as a Patriot.

Please join me in welcoming Veronica Skinner Pearson to the Park View Hall of Fame Class of 2019.

## **Kelly Fitzsimmons**

Our second inductee tonight, is Kelly Fitzsimmons.

During her time at Park View, Kelly participated in basketball and softball.

Kelly was a three-year letter winner for the Girls Basketball team. A guard, Kelly helped the Patriots to one of the most successful times in Girls Basketball at PVHS. She was instrumental in leading the team to three Northwestern District titles and two Region II championships.

On the softball field, Kelly played shortstop for the Varsity Softball team during her four years at Park View. “Kelly was extremely hardworking. She was a competitor respected by her teammates and opponents,” says Coach Beth Walker.

Kelly consistently hit .325, and maintained a fielding average of .873 during her time at Park View. Her senior year, Kelly was named co-captain and to the All District team. Furthermore, Kelly was a part of a softball dynasty that recorded titles of Northwestern District Champions, Region II Champions and State AA Runner-Ups. Kelly helped the Patriots softball team go 22-4 in her four years.

Kelly was not only earning honors on the playing field, but also in the classroom during her time at PVHS. Kelly was a member of the National Honor Society and invited to the Excellence in Education Banquet for Loudoun County Public Schools.

After graduation, Kelly attended Longwood University, where she was a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

Park View High School is proud of Kelly and her contributions to Park View Athletics during her time as a Patriot.

Please join me in welcoming Kelly Fitzsimmons to the Park View Hall of Fame Class of 2019.

## **Mark Bauer**

Our final inductee this evening is Mr. Mark Bauer.

During his time at Park View, Mark was a 3 sport athlete, participating in football, basketball and baseball.

An all-around athlete, Mark would go on to letter in all three sports during his career. However, football and baseball were his forte.

A member of the 1995 Regional Runner-Up team, Mark played offense and defense for the Patriots. As a senior, Mark was named team captain, garnered the offensive MVP award, and was named to the Honorable Mention All-District team as quarterback.

As a member of the Patriot baseball team, Mark made his impression. A three year letter winner, Mark was named First team All-District, First-team All-Region and Honorable Mention All-State as a Junior. His senior year, Mark led the Patriots to the District Championship, and was named First team All-District and Loudoun Times Mirror Athlete of the Year. Mark's former coach Mike Nunnally said of Mark, "He always played with enthusiasm. He was always more concerned with the team rather than individual stats."

In Mark's Loudoun Times Mirror article, Mark stated that he "Plans on getting an education in education while hoping to be given the opportunity to coach." Well, Mark did just that.

Mark left Park View to attend Greensboro College where he played football and baseball. Upon completion of his education, Mark returned to Loudoun to give back.

Currently, he works as a Health and Physical Education teacher at Evergreen Mill Elementary School in Leesburg.

Park View High School is proud of Mark and his contributions to Park View Athletics during his time as a Patriot.

Please join me in welcoming Mark Bauer to the Park View Hall of Fame Class of 2019.

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The Park View High School Athletic Hall of Fame saw it's inaugural class inducted in 2010. Since that time, 69 former athletes, coaches, administrators and contributors have been selected to join the ranks of Park View's best.

We would like to honor all Hall of Fame inductees that are in attendance with us tonight. As we announce each class, we ask that you please stand with your induction year.

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We have begun a new tradition of recognizing the milestone anniversaries of our previous state champions.

To date, Park View has won 15 State Team Championships and had 42 Individual State Champions since 1976. Most recently, we celebrate Carson Stevens, 2018 State Swim Champion in the 100m Breaststroke, Lauryn Helstrom, 2016 State Track and Field Champion in the Girls High Jump, and the 2016 State Champion Boys Soccer team.

To win a State Championship is an incredible accomplishment, and at this time we would like to recognize those teams and individuals that accomplished that here at Park View:

## **35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1984 Baseball State Champions**

With us tonight are \_\_\_\_\_ from the 1984 Baseball State Championship Team. The 1984 Baseball team only had 1 senior, but they were the first and only baseball team to win a State Championship. Led by Hall of Fame pitchers, Randy Boyer and Ron Griffith, this team had an overall record of 19 wins and 2 losses. They are the only baseball team in Park View History to win a Regional and State Championship. In addition to strong pitching, the team relied on the power hitting of Hall of Famer Jeff Lageman, Dennis Quinn and Brian Paugh. Coached by Mike Nunnally and Elmer Fox, this team defeated Abingdon High School by a score of 6-4 to seal the state title.

**Congratulations on your 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

## **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1989 Gymnastics State Champions**

With us tonight are \_\_\_\_\_ from the 1989 Gymnastics State Championship team. Coached by Kathleen Dugger and Judy Miller, this team swept through the regular season undefeated. The season was capped off by winning the District title for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year with a score of 105. It was on to the Regional meet where they took home the title again with a score of 105. Seniors offer much of the leadership on a team. The '89 seniors were no exception. However, the overall depth of talent on this team enabled them to establish an incredible benchmark at the State Gymnastic meet. Their total score was higher than any team in the competition, including the AAA schools. Thus, capturing the State crown and cementing Park View's legacy as a Gymnastic powerhouse in the State of Virginia. The team was led by Hall of Fame members Theresa Cummings as the Beam State Champion; Kristi McDonald in 3<sup>rd</sup> place as the All Around State Champion and Leah Terrell who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Vault. In addition to Theresa, Kristi and Leah, this team has a total of 6 members currently in the Hall of Fame; Whitney Mansfield Madine and Coaches Kathleen Dugger and Judy Miller.

**Congratulations on your 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

## **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1989 Softball State Champions**

With us tonight are \_\_\_\_\_ from the 1989 Gymnastics State Championship team and their coach Beth Walker. The 1989 Softball team became the first softball team to win a District, Regional and State Championship for the Patriots. Despite never having a home field advantage because they played their games on the baseball field, they managed to accumulate a record of 16 wins and only 3 losses. Led by captains and Hall of Fame members Julie Treanor and Janet Marshall Watkins, the team traveled to Poquoson for the state title game only to be rained out in the 1<sup>st</sup> inning. After an unexpected overnight stay due to the weather, the team went on to defeat Poquoson the following day in a thrilling come from behind 7-2 victory in extra innings. In addition to Julie and Janet, this special team has a total of 6 members that are also currently in the Hall of Fame; Susan Hessenauer Eaton, Nikki Tinsley Stewart, Pam Freedman Horton and Coach Beth Walker.

## **Congratulations on your 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

## **35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of State Wrestling Champion: Joe Lightfoot**

Joe led the Patriots to a District title in 1981 and 1984; a Regional Championship in 1984 and a State runner up in his Senior year. Individually, he was the District Champion for 3 years and was a Region Champion in 1984. Although he competed in the unlimited weight class for his freshman and sophomore year, he easily transitioned to the 185 lb weight class his Junior and Senior years. His hard work and dedication to wrestling earned him the title of the 1984 State Champion Wrestler for the 185 lb class. Joe was a tireless competitor who compiled a perfect 29 wins and 0 losses for his senior year and was name to the Hall of Fame in 2014.

## **Congratulations on your 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

## **35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of State Track Champion: Jeff Saylor**

Jeff Saylor worked hard to perfect his technique in the Shot Put and Discus for the 1984 PVHS Track team. As a result of his determination and hard work, he was the 1984 AA State Discus Champion with a throw of 162 feet and 8 inches and placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the Shot Put at the state meet. As reflected by his teammate, Brian George: "He worked hard to learn proper form. In his last meet, on his last throw he executed his throw like a Greek God. He walked out of the circle with a huge smile on his face." Former coach, Ed Scott recalls: "Jeff was an extremely hard worker on his technique, bounding drills and in the weight room. He was a very consistent thrower. The state meet win was not a surprise to me as he had thrown 160' + several times." Jeff was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2016.

**Congratulations on your 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

## **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of State Gymnastics Champion: Theresa Cummings**

A member of the Park View Gymnastics dynasty, Theresa Cummings holds numerous district, regional and state titles. Along with fellow Hall of Famers Leah Terrell Costello and Kristina McDonald Sullivan, the Patriots were able to capture another state crown in the 1988-89 season. A powerhouse on floor and beam, Theresa helped to build the foundation for a program that won three AA State Gymnastics titles during her time at PVHS. Although her first athletic love was gymnastics, this outstanding athlete also earned four varsity letters in track. Theresa is a member of the Class of 2011 Hall of Fame and in her nomination packet, Theresa was described as having the three C's....coachable, competitive and caring.

**Congratulations on your 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

### **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of State Tennis Champion: Kim Nelson**

Never before or after 1989 had Park View High School had a state champion for Girls Tennis. Kim Nelson won the AA Singles Tennis Championship as a Freshmen representing the Patriots. Kim brought home the title by defeating the top player from Radford High school in two sets by a score of 7-5 and 6-2. She was also the District and Regional champion for PVHS and was coached by Dave Thomas, a former Chemistry teacher at PVHS.

**Congratulations on your 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of State Wrestling Champion: Mark Hernandez**

Mark Hernandez is one of the premier wrestlers that has been a part of our history. He was a state runner up as a freshman and won the state title for his remaining 3 years as a Patriot wrestler. Mark went on to wrestle for the University of Virginia and is currently working for the State Department. He was also inducted in to the Hall of Fame with the Class of 2011.

**Congratulations on your 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

## **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of State Wrestling Champion: Mike Jacobus**

A three sport athlete, Mike played football, baseball and wrestled during his time at Park View High School. As a wrestler, he holds an individual state title and in football he was named to All District and Regional teams in 1993. Mike currently is the Varsity Wrestling Coach at Central Academy High School and in 2008, he was selected as the North Carolina Coach of the Year.

The ultimate compliment about Mike comes from former coach Mack Piercy who said "I wish a child of mine could have him as a teacher and coach because I know that his influence will make them a stronger, better person".

**Congratulations on your 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**