

ITCCCA Hall of Fame Nomination

Name of Nominee - Joe Maier (Joseph P. Maier)

Present School - Peoria Richwoods High School

Coaching Achievements: This should include listing all years of coaching, all championships and State trophies won, and a listing of State medal winners.

Contributions to the sport outside of personal record: This includes officiating, hosting meets, involvement in ITCCCA, involvement in other organizations, IHSA committees, etc.

Letter(s) of recommendation: Write a letter on why you think this person should be nominated. It is recommended that up to two more nominators write letters. With the number of nominees ITCCCA receives, a maximum of three letters will be included with nomination.

Please, condense into as few as pages as possible. ITCCCA currently has sixty coaches nominated. Each committee receives a copy of what is submitted, up to a point. Many times the Hall-of-Fame chairs must condense the information before copying for committee.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Name of nominator - | Mark Rose |
| Nominator's phone number - | (309) 645-2949 (cell) or (309) 676-1639 (office) |
| Nominator's e-mail | marose48@comcast.net |

Send to: Steve Currins
910 Carolyn Dr.
Palatine, Illinois 60067

or email:
scurrins@sbcglobal.net
or bwritter748@aol.com

Joseph P. Maier
Personal Records
As Richwoods Girls Track & Field Team
Head Coach
1975 - 2005

District Coach of the Year - the Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Association
1990 , 1991, 1992

Dual meet won-lost record of 202 - 50 (.802)

Win streak of 57 consecutive dual meets 1998 - 2005

Mid-State 6 (previously Mid-State 8, Mid-State 9 and Mid-State 10) Conference Championships
1986, 1990, 1995, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004

IHSA District (now Sectional) Championships
1975, 1978

IHSA Sectional Championships
1990, 1992, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2004

IHSA State Medalists

| | | | |
|------|-----------------|-----------|-----|
| 1978 | Laura Hutt | 200 y. LH | 5th |
| 1979 | Ann Henry | 880 y. | 7th |
| 1979 | 880 Relay | | 5th |
| 1980 | Ann Henry | 800 m. | 6th |
| 1980 | Ann Henry | 1600 m. | 8th |
| 1981 | Ann Henry | 800 m. | 5th |
| 1987 | Melodie Turner | 200 m. | 7th |
| 1987 | Medley Relay | | 4th |
| 1990 | Shannon Huffman | 300 m. LH | 5th |
| 1990 | Medley Relay | | 5th |
| 1990 | 4 x 400 Relay | | 5th |
| 1991 | Hallema Ivory | 800 m. | 5th |
| 1991 | Shannon Huffman | 300 m. LH | 6th |
| 1992 | Shannon Huffman | 300 m. LH | 4th |
| 1992 | Medley Relay | | 7th |
| 1993 | Tracy Smith | 200 m. | 5th |
| 1993 | Tracy Smith | 400 m. | 3rd |
| 2000 | Amy Guard | 3200 m. | 6th |
| 2002 | 4 x 200 Relay | | 5th |
| 2004 | Jewel Sanders | Discus | 8th |
| 2005 | Jewel Sanders | Discus | 3rd |
| 2005 | Jewel Sanders | Shot Put | 9th |

**Joseph P. Maier
Personal Records
As Richwoods Girls Track & Field Team
Assistant Coach
2006 - 2012**

Dual meet won-lost record of 35 - 6 (.853)

Mid-State 6 Conference Championships
2006, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012

IHSA State Medalists

| | | | |
|------|----------------|-------------|-----|
| 2006 | Jewel Sanders | Discus | 1st |
| 2007 | Alex Starks | High Jump | 2nd |
| 2008 | Donielle Ross | Triple Jump | 4th |
| 2008 | Donielle Ross | 400 M Dash | 7th |
| 2010 | Brenna Detra | 300 M LH | 2nd |
| 2010 | Brenna Detra | 100 M HH | 4th |
| 2010 | Brenna Detra | 200 M Dash | 5th |
| 2010 | Raven Robinson | Shot Put | 5th |
| 2010 | Raven Robinson | Discus | 6th |
| 2011 | Brenna Detra | 300 M LH | 1st |
| 2011 | Brenna Detra | 100 M HH | 2nd |
| 2011 | Brenna Detra | Long Jump | 5th |
| 2011 | Brenna Detra | 200 M Dash | 7th |
| 2012 | Brenna Detra | 400 M | 5th |

**Joseph P. Maier
Additional Contributions to the Sport**

Volunteer coach for various TAC, Prairie State Games, and USATF summer programs including USATF Junior Olympic National Qualifying Athletes

Volunteer official at IHSA Girls State Championship Meet including service as Head Shot Put and Discus Inspector

MARK A. ROSE

321-A MAIN STREET
PEORIA, ILLINOIS
61602

Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Association
Hall of Fame Committee
910 Carolyn Drive
Palatine, Illinois 60067
Attention: Steve Currins

September 10, 2012

Dear Mr. Currins and Committee Members:

It is with the greatest pleasure that I nominate Joseph P. Maier, former Head Coach and current Volunteer Assistant Coach for Peoria Richwoods Girls Track & Field Team, for induction into the Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

I have known Joe well since 1991 when I had the opportunity to join the coaching staff of the Girls Track & Field Team of Peoria Richwoods High School where he was Head Coach. He had become Head Coach in the program's second year of existence in the 1975-1976 season. Joe remained in the position as Head Coach until his retirement from teaching at the school in June, 2005 when he also resigned as Head Coach believing that it was important for the Head Coach to maintain a daily presence in the building. He did not give up his involvement in the track program however, opting to become a volunteer assistant coach. He currently remains in that status with the program.

He is a graduate of Richwoods having been involved in the football, baseball and basketball programs. He was received an athletic scholarship to the University of Illinois to compete in basketball. Unfortunately an automobile accident terminated his athletic involvement at Illinois prematurely. He graduated from the University and returned to Richwoods to teach English.

Upon being appointed Head Coach of the Richwoods Girls Team, his competitive attitude led him to immerse himself into learning the sport with which he had previously only a passing knowledge. He rapidly developed a feel for the sport and became intrigued with the methodology of properly placing participants in events to maximize team points. With the support and urging of his wife Carol, who had been an early intercollegiate women's athlete at the University of Illinois and who had coached girls athletics at Peoria Woodruff High School, he became an advocate for women in sport, conveying to his team that they were not just girls staying busy with games but that they were simply athletes. He

instilled in them a competitive spirit not only to be utilized in athletics but in life sending team members to prestigious and competitive environments such as the Ivy League, the Big Ten, and the United States military academies with a sense of self worth and self belief.

While his teams were seldom blessed with large talent pools, he was able to fashion very competitive teams deep with determination and work ethic. He and his teams continually sought to challenge themselves through competition. Not satisfied with competition in its conference, successively the Mid-State 8, 9, 10 and then 6 which included typically strong teams from Peoria Bergan and its successor Peoria Notre Dame, Springfield Southeast, Pekin, Peoria High and Peoria Manual, Richwoods sought out access to invitational meets such as Galesburg, Rock Island, and Champaign Centennial's North-Central Invitational in order to compete against larger programs with superior numbers and talent. He was ultimately able to convince the Richwoods administration to permit the team to travel to the Palatine Relays. He continually argued that his girls were entitled to measure themselves against the best teams and individuals available not the most convenient.

Despite being known for occasional bouts of irascibility, none ever doubted his devotion to his teams' members and their well-being both as athletes and as women, and to aid them in learning to rely upon themselves to be successful in both their personal and professional lives.

That ability to instill a dogged determination in his team members coupled with the concept that one can achieve personal success through a team orientation allowed him to complete his term as Head Coach of the Richwoods program with a career .802 dual meet success percentage (202-50) including a win streak lasting over eight seasons, losing the first dual meet of 1998 and next losing a dual meet in the last of 2005.

During his involvement with the program, Richwoods has claimed 39 state medals, including 2 state champions, 3 runners-up and 3 third place finishers.

While justifiably proud of their record in track and field competition, he remains most proud of his teams' successes in their lives and careers.

This nomination is being made with the support and joinder of his successors as Head Coach of the program at Peoria Richwoods, current Head Coach Shad Hickman and former Head Coach Rich Thole who now serves as Principal at Princeville High School.

In preparing a nomination such as this, one of course focuses upon the direct track accomplishments of the nominee. As I was discussing the nomination and its process with

Rich Thole, he encapsulated all that I have attempted to convey from a bit different perspective when he wrote to me that

The only addition to his accomplishments I think should be included would be his development and support of young coaches, both within his own program as well as opposing coaches. His no nonsense, tell it like it is approach pushed a great number of us to work harder. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance as this process advances. I owe a great deal to Joe and you for my success, not just in my short coaching career but in all aspects of life.

In addition to this letter of nomination, I have attached for your consideration additional letters of support for the inclusion of Joe into the Hall of Fame which were kindly provided by Don Merrick, former Pekin Head Coach, and John Cummings, Peoria Notre Dame Head Coach, who both have had many years experience observing and coaching against the teams of Joe Maier.

In the event that you may have any questions or require further information or clarification, please feel free to contact me at your convenience either through cellular telephone, (309)645-2949, office telephone. (309)676-1639), or e-mail, marose48@comcast.net.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I remain,

Respectfully yours,

Mark A. Rose

MAR/mr

Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Association
Hall of Fame Committee
910 Carolyn Dr.
Palatine, IL 60067
Attention: Steve Currins

September 5, 2012

Dear Mr. Currins and Committee Members,

My name is John Cummings and I have coached track for 34 years at the junior high and high school levels. I have been the head girl's track coach for Peoria Notre Dame High School for the last 21 years.

Over those last 21 years, I have had the pleasure and frustration of coaching against Joe Maier. I will admit that Joe is not an easy man to oppose in coaching. There is not a more competitive man in coaching. He is not an easy man to like on the track, and many times I did not like him, but I always respected him as a person and as a coach.

Joe consistently got the most out of his ladies. His teams were always well trained and well coached. His ladies always were gracious in victory and defeat. Around our area, Joe was always known for having excellent teams. I have heard him over the years preach to his ladies about teamwork and sportsmanship and life lessons. He showed a true caring nature towards his team and fostered a team approach at all times. It would be unusual if I did not see every Richwoods lady on the track cheering at all times. He was fanatical about every athlete cheering for those who were competing. And, he did not forget about the field events. He insisted that whenever and wherever a Richwoods athlete was competing, someone would be there to cheer.

When I first came to PND, Richwoods was the standard that we wanted our PND team to emulate. I watched Joe and learned much from him. To me a great coach does not just get the most out of his great athletes. That is many times the easiest part of coaching. When you can get the good and average athletes to perform at a maximum level separates the good coaches from the great coaches. Joe always got the most out of all of his athletes. Many a year a Richwoods lady that was performing far above what was her previous best surprised me.

I have also gotten to know Joe outside of track. He would sometimes attend the same Mass at my parish since he lived in the neighboring community. We would talk many times after Mass, and I would truly enjoy our conversations. At sectional or other track meetings, we would many times talk about the sport and work to make it better for the athletes competing. He always promoted, in my estimation, ideas that would enhance the sport. He did not volunteer at meets, like the state meet, for any other reason other than he thought it was the right thing to do for the sport. When you are not coaching against him, he is a hard man not to like.

As an ending to this letter, I mentioned earlier that Joe's program was what our team at PND wanted to emulate. Well, when we did beat Joe's teams in dual meets, conference titles, or any invite, my team always considered that as a part of a successful season. Nothing gave us more pleasure than to be the team that defeated Richwoods and broke their 57 dual meets win streak and hand Joe a loss at his last dual meet as head coach. It was not just the pride of defeating a big rival, but the defeat of a great program and a great coach. When you defeat one of the best, it always means more to you.

Sincerely,

John M. Cummings

September 8, 2012

Steve Currins
Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Association
Hall of Fame Committee
910 Carolyn Drive
Palatine, IL 60067

Dear Steve and Committee Members,

I am writing to place in nomination to the Hall of Fame for ITCCCA, the name of Joseph P. Maier for consideration to the Hall.

I have known Joseph (Joe) both in my capacity as a coach and IHSA official. He was at the helm of the Peoria Richwoods program almost since its inception. He made Peoria Richwoods Track and Field a career and always a power in Central Illinois. Joe was very competitive and motivated for his program. He established a competitive schedule and strived to have his Lady Knights to look past the local conference affiliation programs and earn their way to the IHSA Girls State Meet. Besides the Eight (8) Mid-State Conference Championships, his athletes captured eight (8) Sectionals and earned trips to numerous State Meets with 39 medalists, including 2 Individual State Champs in Jewel Sanders (Discus) and Brenna Detra (300 LH). Brenna also earned 8 State Medals since her sophomore year and has been one of the most distinguished athletes in Central Illinois over her career. Because of these successes, his program led to three (3) Coach of the Year nominations to ITCCCA South ('90-'92).

Joe retired from teaching in June of 2005 and turned the program over to coaches that would be in the building on a daily basis. He remains a volunteer coach to this day. He has also served as a volunteer official at the Girls State Meet as Head Implements Inspector.

Although Joe had gotten my goat on more than one occasion as both a coach and official, there is no denying his commitment to the Peoria Richwoods Girls Track program and the lives of the student-athletes who came through the program. They were always ready to compete at a high level. Please consider Joseph Maier (Peoria Richwoods) for selection to the Illinois Track & Cross Country Coaches Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Merrick (Pekin Community H.S., retired)

dmerrick@itv-3.com