

MCA HALL OF FAME-2008 (CONT.)

Mike Nelson - Highwood High School

As an assistant boys' track coach in his first year this hall of fame coach was part of a divisional and state championship. His next assistant position was in boys' basketball where the team won a district and divisional championship and finished second at state. For thirteen years he was a head boys and girls track coach and for seventeen years a head football coach where he had great success. He had 136 wins with only 23 losses for a winning percentage of 85%. His football teams won six Conference Championships and ten State Championships. Mike has been a six time coach of the year for the MCA, NHSACA Finalist for National coach of the year in Special Sports in 2000 and 2005 and the National Coach of the Year for six man football in 1997. He received the NFICA Section Eight Distinguished Service Award in 1999. He has coached in the Treasurer State eight man football all-star game twice and the Montana six man all-star game four times. Mike has spoken at the MCA All-Sports Clinic and Treasurer State Football Clinic twice and the NFHSA National Coaches Clinic in 2005. He was a member of the MHSA Football Rules Committee and President of the Montana Northern Division for six man football. He is on the Board of Directors for the Montana six man all-star football game and has been the game coordinator in 2006 and 2008. He has been an MCA member since 1990 and only missed two clinics in that time.

Jim Gregg - Cut Bank High School

Coach Gregg has been involved in the Cut Bank girls' basketball program for eighteen years, the boys' basketball program for twenty five years and the tennis program for twenty nine years. For the past twenty seven years he has been the head girls and boys tennis coach. As an assistant in boys' basketball, he has been part of five district championships, two divisional championships and three state championships. His tennis teams have produced 367 wins with 135 losses for a winning percentage of 73%. The boys' tennis team has won nineteen divisional championships with two 3rd place state finishes, seven 2nd place state finishes and seven State Championships. In 2008 both the boys and girls won State Championships. Jim has been the MCA Boys' Special Sports coach of the year five times and the Finalist for National Coach of the Year in 2004 and 2007. He is a member of the MHSA Tennis Sport Committee and was asked this year to serve on the MTA High School Committee. He is President of the Northern Middle School Athletic Association and serves as their webmaster. Five different years Jim served as the director of the North/West Divisional Tennis Tournament. He is a member of most tennis associations and has been a member of the MCA since 1980 and has attended all but a couple of clinics since 1980.

Dennis Gerke - Belt and Geysers High Schools

This teacher, administrator and coach began at Holy Rosary Junior High School and followed with one year at Columbus HS, five years at Park City HS, one year at Valier HS, nine years at Belt HS, five years at Geysers HS, off to Alaska and finally Centerville HS. He has been a junior high school coach, an assistant coach in a variety of sports, three years as a head football coach in six man, fourteen years as a head girls basketball coach, fourteen years as a head girls and boys track coach and eighteen years as a head boys basketball coach. In girls basketball he has won 233 games with 107 losses for a winning percentage of 68% and his boys basketball teams have 319 wins with 126 losses for a winning percentage of 72%. Dennis won district girls and boys basketball championships at

Park City, Belt and Geysers. While the co-head coach in girls track at Belt HS there was a 3rd place finish, a 2nd place finish and a State Championship in 1993. At Belt HS the girls basketball team had a 3rd place finish and a State Champions while the boys basketball team had two 2nd place finishes and a State Championship. His Geysers boys basketball team had a 3rd place state finish. Dennis has been the head coach of the Northern C at the senior classic for fourteen years and was an assistant in 1998 for the MT.-WY. Girls' All-Star Basketball Game. He was a speaker at the MCA All Sports Clinic in 1995. He was a member of the MHSA Regionalized Scheduling Committee and MHSA Rules Committee. He was the secretary/treasurer of the 8C District and the president of the Northern C. This hall of fame coach has been the MCA coach of the year in three different sports- girls basketball, girls track and boys basketball.

Jeff Carroll - Billings Senior High School

This Billings Senior High School volleyball coach spent numerous years coaching football, boys and girls basketball and boys and girls track at the middle and junior high school level. In 1983, he became a volleyball, football and track coach at Senior High School. During his 23 years as the head volleyball coach his team has 505 wins with 173 losses for a winning percentage of 74%. They have been Eastern AA Divisional Champions ten times including the last four years in a row. There have been two 3rd place finishes, two 2nd place finishes and nine State Championships including the last four years in a row. Jeff has been the MCA AA volleyball coach of the year nine times, the 2000 NFCA Northwest Section coach of the year and a NHSACA Finalist for coach of the year in 2007. He has coached at the East-West AA All-Star Classic for fifteen years. He has spoken at the MCA clinic twice, the NHSACA National Convention in 2007 and the AVCA National Convention in 2008. He published a featured article in the AVCA "Coaching Volleyball" magazine in 2007. Jeff is a member of the American Volleyball Coaches Association Publications Committee, the Associations Region X National High School All-American Committee and the AA Volleyball Representative on the MHSA Volleyball Committee. He is a commissioner for the Big Sky State Games Volleyball. He has organized and led eleven volleyball cultural exchange trips to numerous countries and was an assistant volleyball coach at Rocky Mountain College where they won a Frontier Conference in 2000.

Mike Anderson - Bozeman High School

This hall of fame coach has been at the same high school for forty years. After one year as a junior varsity tennis coach, he became the head girls and boys tennis coach a position that he has had for thirty five years. During those thirty five years his boys' tennis teams have 292 wins and 78 losses for a 79% winning percentage. The girls' tennis teams have won 307 matches and lost only 54 for an 85% winning percentage. The girls' team has won 12 state titles including three in a row from 2003 through 2005 and the boys' team has won 10 state titles including four in a row from 1990 through 1993. He has experience in coaching a variety of sports including football, basketball and track at the middle school level. Mike has been a football and basketball official for 40 years. He has served on the AA tennis competition committee and organized many divisional and state championships including the 2009 state AA tennis tournament. He has been the MCA AA tennis coach of the year many times and he has been a finalist for National Coach of the Year three times including 2008. Mike is a strong supporter of the MCA clinic and has assisted at the coaches tennis meetings the past ten years.

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MCA Spring Newsletter - April 2009

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Before we move into the spring sports season we should take time to congratulate those coaches who experienced success during this past winter. Many exciting post-season tournaments dotted the landscape throughout Montana providing long lasting memories for hundreds of student-athletes and their fans. Congratulations to the coaches who capped off the winter with state championships. Cherish these accomplishments as special opportunities in your coaching career.

During the last week-end of March the MCA board met in Great Falls for the annual spring meeting. Planning for the summer coaches' clinic is well under way with a number of impressive coaches committed to speaking at the clinic. Information regarding the speakers and the clinic will be made available throughout the spring. Remember, the dates for this years clinic at Great Falls High School are August 5, 6 & 7.

One pressing issue discussed at the spring meeting centered around current MCA membership numbers. At this time 1909 coaches are enrolled as members of the Montana Coaches Association. Last year at this time 1918 members were enrolled, down 9 coaches. This number alone is not as alarming as the number of High School head coaches who are not members. Please compare the following figures:

	Girls Head Coaches	Boys Head Coaches
2008 Members	543	530
2009 Members	414	416
	Down 129	Down 114

Please help the MCA by contacting head coaches in your school who may not belong to the association. Encourage them to join this great organization. This year several head coaches have/will not appear on the coach of the year ballots simply because they were not MCA members. Remember one point of emphasis in the MCA Mission Statement includes: *To recognize those professional men and women who have devoted their energies over many years to bring excellence to sports programs in Montana schools.* Additionally, athletic directors can assist in the recruitment of coaching membership in the MCA by returning coaching staff rosters to the MCA offices each fall.

Good luck to all spring coaches you progress throughout the season.

BALLOTS FOR MCA COY & CLASS A DIRECTOR

Active members should find enclosed, a ballot with basketball and wrestling nominees for MCA COY and also nominees for class A director (a four year term). In selecting nominees for AA director we tried to look for both schools and sports that have had little or no representation on the board. The four coaches who agreed to run are all highly qualified and any one of them would do and outstanding job.

Jerry Kuntz has been doing a terrific job in that capacity, since being appointed to replace Kas Ioane, but Jerry has just announced his retirement from teaching and coaching, so is ineligible for re-election. He will still volunteer in the position of Scholarship Chairman and assist with the clinic. He along with Gary Gebert are spearheading the push to revive the scramble golf tourney. We certainly thank he and Cathy for all their help.

COY nominees all coached teams to top four finishes in the recent state tournaments and are MCA members. Six coaches missed nomination because they are not MCA members, three in wrestling, two in girls basketball, and one state champion in boys basketball.

Special sports nominees will on in the end-of-the year ballot. Special sports nominees to date who will be on that ballot are Lini Reading of Whitefish, Pat Cates of Billings Central, Erica Cannon of Bozeman and Pat Straub of Helena in soccer and Georgia Forney of Hardin, Chris Inman of Havre and Ed Mcamee of CMR for swimming.

Please Vote and please return your ballot to MCA, 9500 Harritt Road #281 in Lakeside, CA 92040, within 48 hours. Thank you.

SPRING SPORTS COACHES

A recruiting letter and membership application has been sent to all spring sports non-member head coaches, reminding them of the May 1st mailing deadline for eligibility for COY nominations. The letter also details eligibility requirements for a sport to hold COY status. If a sport has at least 46 head coaches, the minimum requirements is 35 members. For sports that have less than 46, the requirements is 75% of the head coaches. Boys tennis falls in that category, so they need 13 more to qualify. Girls tennis and softball need 9. We urge our members in these sports to strongly promote membership to help qualify your sport.

2009 MCA CLINIC INFORMATION

We were very pleased last year with the addition of Strength & Conditioning sessions at the clinic and also the MOA "Train the Trainers" sessions put on by the MHSA. S&C will be back this year with an expanded program. Monty Haselhuhn does a fantastic job organizing their program. He already has Jake Wurth from the natural office, plus himself and Dr. David Shenten of Othro Montana Billings lined up for the S&C portion. The MHSA/MOA Sessions this year will be in basketball and volleyball. At the request of Scott McDonald, we are bringing in Joan Powell, one of the top volleyball clinicians in the country and also an outstanding rules officials, regularly working the NCAA Div I tourney. Joan will speak to our coaches and also conduct the officials volleyball training sessions.

Dede Bodner a huge hit in Volleyball here in 2007 will present again, by popular demand. Bill Williams, who wowed our football coaches last year will do two sessions in the cafeteria and two on the field (how to teach tackling) we haven't contacted all our Montana possibilities yet, but Pat Murphy with three state AA football titles has agreed to speak as have Bobby Hauck, Rob Ash and Rich Ferris. Bill Dreikosen, fresh off his National NAIA Men's basketball title and Robin Selvig, Grizzly women's long-time mentor who made his 18th NCAA Div. I appearance in March, will be first on our list of invitees. We still have Dave Odon coming as mentioned in the November newsletter.

We haven't finalized anything in Track & Field, but as always, will have a great program. The same goes for golf. We do have Dede (Weiman) Kingsbury of Cal State Fullerton one of Judy Garman's proteges, who will present in softball and Ken DeHart, San Jose Racquet Club, who ranks at the top of the tennis speakers we have had, is excited about returning. Jim Gregg of Cutbank a 2009 MCA Hall of Fame inductee, will also present. Dr. Vin Ferrara, former Harvard quarterback, who has done a great amount of research on concussions in football and has developed what he says is a safer helmet, will be one of our sports medicine speakers, as well. Andrea (Knoche) Cordeiro will conduct a session in taping.

Dr. Jim Peterson of Coaches Choice, who has lectured here on everything from sports medicine to motivation will speak on "10 dumb, health related, mistakes that even smart coaches sometimes make" at a general session and I can assure you he will be both highly entertaining and informative.

Mike Zadick, on of Montana's most outstanding wrestlers, who along with brother Bill, has put Great Falls and Montana on the map internationally, will speak to his peers, and Jon Wrzesinski he will talk on his experiences as an overseas educator.

We are pleased also to report the 2008 clinic was successful financially with a profit of \$1500-one of our best years.

ASSISTANT COY AWARD

Each year we select one long-time assistant coach to receive this award. To qualify, coaches must have been an assistant for at least 10 years, members of the MCA, and not have been a head coach in another sport at the same time. Nominees must have been an assistant during this school year or retired for not more than one year. Nomination forms can be obtained from Don Olsen, see letterhead. Nomination forms should be returned by May 15th.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our current membership stands at 1909 which includes active members (HS & Lower School) and associate members (collegiate, out-of-state and retired). We also now have 219 MCA/MOA associate members which brings our total membership to 2118. This is outstanding for the second year of adding MOA members to the fold. A big thank you to Theresa at the MHSA office for handling the paperwork on that. Later in newsletter, you will find a recap of high school head coaches by sport. Because all rosters we receive are not complete due to late hires, this obviously will not be completely accurate, but the best we can do under the circumstances.

The biggest problem we encounter in recruiting, is getting rosters from all schools in a timely manner. After 6 attempts, we are still short 15. That is the only way we can send information to assistants and lower school personnel. It makes a little tough to tout free admission to regular season athletic contests in high schools and colleges, when prospects don't get our information until spring.

COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP

There are large gaps in membership between the top membership schools and the lowest. We thank all the collegiate members and especially applaud those staffs that have a majority of the coaches enrolled as MCA members.

Recap of Montana College members by school

Carroll*	5/24	MSU Billings*	3/18	RMC*	8/20
Dawson CC*	8/8	MSU Bozeman	27/34	UGF	5/23
Flathead CC*	0/2	MSU Nothern	7/18	UM-Msla	23/34
Miles CC*	1/7	MT Tech*	11/15	UM Western	13/17

Totals 111/220 one more than 2008



*Did not receive rosters, so I used info in the Collegiate Directory I'm sure they did not list all of present assistants. Sorry for any errors.

Recap of Head Coach Members by Sport, Plus AD's, Trainers and other Administrators

Boy Sports		Girls Sports		Not Gender Specific				
08	09	08	09	08	09			
BKB	120	97	BKB	127	92	AD	125	109
T&F	118	84	T&F	123	89	CH	53	55
FB	105	85	VB	113	85	TR*	20	*
CC	59	40	CC	64	46	Other Adm	3	3
GO	48	39	GO	49	36	S&C	1	1
WR	40	36	SB	28	27		202	165
TE	22	20	TE	26	27		-20	
SOC	5	10	SOC	8	7		182	-17
SW	5	5	SW	5	5			
	530	416		543	414			
		-114			-129			

* Trainers not listed in MHSA Directory this year



MCA/SCHEDULE STAR SCHOLARSHIPS

We are pleased to remind you that we again have three \$500 scholarships for girls and three for boys this year due to the **SCHEDULE STAR** donation of \$3000 per year. As a non-profit corporation, we can't limit them to daughters or sons of members but we strongly encourage members with graduating offspring to apply. Call Jerry Kuntz for applications (the application is also on the MHSA website), which need to be returned by May 15th, see letterhead. Anything you can do to promote **SCHEDULE STAR** will be greatly appreciated. Winners should express their appreciation to **SCHEDULE STAR**.



THANK YOU SCHEDULE STAR

We are extremely grateful to **SCHEDULE STAR** for bailing us out in this situation. I am also grateful to my friend Steve Johnson, Nebraska Exec. and NOCAD Secretary who set up my meeting with the President of **SCHEDULE STAR**.

PLAQUE ORDERS FOR COY RING RECIPIENTS & ASSISTANTS TO COY

In addition to 15 and 20-year longevity award recipients, first-time Coaches of the Year and all assistants to Coaches of the Year are normally awarded certificates. Anyone who wishes to receive a plaque instead of a certificate may do so by sending Ralph a check for \$11, payable to Thompson's Rubber Stamps. This is a good way to reward assistant coaches for their contributions to the success of the program. First-time COY winners receive a ring and a certificate from the MCA. All other COY winners are awarded a plaque paid for by the MCA.

SUMMER CAMP/CLINIC INSURANCE

It is important you are aware the dates of our liability coverage are August 1st-July 31st, so anyone working a camp this summer who wants coverage, must join the MCA for 2008/09. As a member of the MCA, coaches also have the opportunity to purchase liability and medical coverage for student athletes. You may look at www.mhsa.org or we can e-mail you a copy of the insurance request form.

As a reminder, you as a member coach are covered under MCA's liability coverage, but if your school requests to be listed as additionally insured, there will be an extra charge. If you have any questions, please call our office or better yet, call Greg Joly or Loomis & LaPann @ (800) 566-6479.

REQUESTS FOR CERTIFICATES

Please contact your class representative about Academic All-State, All-Conference or All-State certificates. Please do not make requests to the MCA office. Class reps and their addresses and phone numbers are listed on the letterhead.

FINALISTS FOR NHSACA NATIONAL AWARDS

The MCA is again fortunate to have the majority of our nominees selected as finalists for National Recognition. The following coaches are finalists for National Coach of the Year:

Boys T&F Charlie Menfield, Bute, Girls T&F Shirley Chesterfield-Stranton Capital, SW Georgia Forney, Hardin, Boys Cross Country Bill Hess, Poplar, Girls Cross Country Mike Reynolds, Cut Bank, Volleyball Wayne Mooman, Bridger, Boys Soccer Rob Zimmerman, CMR, Girls Soccer Lini Reading, Whitefish, Golf, Jeff Strickland, Three Forks, Tennis Bob Hislop, Polson, SP/SP Diane Lehman (cheer), Fort Benton.

All will receive plaques at the NHSACA convention in Minneapolis. The awards Banquet will be held at the Doubletree Hotel on Wednesday evening, June 24th. The National winners will be announced at the time will be awarded rings. Congratulations to all of these worthy finalists.

We also nominated coaches in football, boys' and girls basketball, wrestling and softball. Hopefully, they will have better luck next time. 11 out of 16 is one our our best representations ever.

NHSACA HALL OF FAME

Don Schillinger has coached for 35 years - 27 at Baker and 8 at Ekalaka. As a football coach, he has compiled a 302-49 Varsity coaching record and his teams won 6 state championships while competing in 8 state championship games.

Don has been selected seven times as Coach of the Year by the Montana Coaches Association, and was inducted into the Coaches Hall of Fame in 2000. He coached in 12 All-Star football games including the East-West Shrine Game and the Montana-North Dakota Badlands Bowl. Don was also selected as Montana Athletic Director of the Year in 1995 and was a finalist for NHSACA Athletic Director in 2007.

MCA HALL OF FAME-2009

Submitted by Mike Gear, Chairman

Rodney Tweet - Geraldine High School

This hall of fame coach started his career at Brady High School where he was the head boys' basketball coach and the head boys' track coach for three years. In 1981 he moved to Geraldine where he was a boys' junior varsity basketball coach for seven years. During those seven years he was part of six district championships, three divisional championships and one 2nd place finish at state. Rodney was the head boys' basketball coach for thirteen years winning over 150 games during that time. For twenty eight years he was the head football and boys' track coach. His boys' track team won six district championships including four in a row from 2001 through 2004, a divisional championship and a 2nd place finish at state. In football his teams have accumulated 171 wins and 68 losses for a winning percentage of 71%. There have been five trips to the semi-finals, seven 2nd place finishes at state and four State Championships. Rodney has been an MCA coach of the year in football three times and a National Finalist in Special Sports in 2001. He has coached in the eight man football all-star game three times and the six man football all-star game nine times. In 1994 he was selected by Gatorade to their Coaches Care Honor Roll. Along with Mike Nelson and others they started the six man all-star football game. He has served on the Board of Directors as Treasurer and also served on the Board of Directors for the eight man all-star football game as the six man representative. He has been a member of MCS since 1981.