



TOM MONROE COACH 1972-2007

Known as the successful longtime softball coach at Portage Central, Coach Monroe led the Mustangs to a state championship in only his second season in 1977. Coach Monroe continued to guide the Mustangs to 784 wins during his 32 seasons while placing in the final four a total of 4 times. His teams were always known for being well coached and competitive on the field. In 1996, Coach Monroe was elected into Michigan High School Hall of Fame. Coach Monroe also served as the boys & girls basketball coach for the Mustangs and started the first bowling team for Portage Central in 2001. *Biggest thrill in athletics: "watching and coaching my children participate in various levels of sports"*

PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL and OTHER HONORS

Softball

- Head Softball coach from 1976 to 2007
- Win-loss record of 784 wins and 239 losses
- Upon retirement, Tom's 784 wins placed him in the top 3 in the State of Michigan and in the top 15 in the nation
- State Championship – 1977
- Four final 4's – 1977, 1978, 1984, 1985
- 5 Regional Titles
- 7 District Titles
- 12 Conference Titles
- Selected as Regional Coach of the Year several times
- Inducted into the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Hall of Fame in 1996

Other Coaching Tenures

- * Varsity Mens Basketball – 1980-1990
- Varsity Girls Basketball – 1985 and 2003-2007
- Varsity Mens Golf – 1977 (2nd in the league and won the G-K)
- First Bowling coach for PC men and women – 2000-2001
- JV Football Assistant – 1973 and 1974
- Varsity Football Assistant – 1975 and 1976
- JV Boys basketball – 1972-1980

Non-Coaching School Related Involvements

- Varsity Club Sponsor – 1972 -2005
- Ran the concession stand for football and basketball from 1979-2004
- Kept statistics for Varsity Football from 1979-2005
- Social Studies and Physical Education instructor at PC from 1972 until his retirement in 2005

Personal Accomplishments

- Graduated from Kalamazoo Central in 1967 where he earned 6 Varsity letters in baseball, football, and basketball
- Greater Kalamazoo All-Star in baseball, football, and basketball
- League All-Star in basketball and football
- B'nai B'rith Scholar Athlete recipient – 1967
- Still holds the record for career extra points kicked in football at Kalamazoo Central
- One of the few athletes to ever play all three sports of freshmen baseball, football, and basketball at Western Michigan University. This was when freshmen were not eligible to play varsity sports in Division 1.
- Lettered three years in baseball at WMU
- Served as President of the Bronco Club for WMU Baseball