

Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony 2011

2011 Mankato East Cougars



2011 Hall of Fame Inductees

Kristin (Petersen) Stordahl

Paula (Uttech) Prybylla

Warren Mickelson

Jeff Anderson

John Beeman

Steve Wolle



Congratulations to the
2011 Hall of Fame
Inductees



JEFF ANDERSON - ATHLETE

Jeff Anderson, a 1975 graduate, had a high school and college experience that many student-athletes would be proud to call their own. He was a two-year letter winner in football in 1974 and 1975. As a senior captain, he played quarterback and was a leader and top defensive player for the '75 squad when he earned all-city honors.

Jeff continued to show his well-rounded skills as a student athlete in the winter where he lettered on the basketball court, while also participating in debate and finishing as a State Finalist in Discussion in both 1974 and 1975. Jeff was also Student Council President and a commencement speaker his senior year.

The spring season is where Jeff's athletic talents truly shined. He was a five year varsity tennis player and a four-year letter winner for the Cougars. Jeff had an undefeated season his sophomore year while playing doubles. Furthermore during his junior and senior seasons as the captain, Jeff led Mankato East to back to back district championships in both 1974 and 1975 as the #1 singles player. The '75 season culminated in Jeff being named Outstanding Athlete of the Year.

Upon graduation Jeff enrolled at Gustavus Adolphus, where he continued to excel as a student/athlete. He was a three-year letter winner in tennis, played a year of football, and was the President of Alpha Kappa Psi in 1979. Jeff graduated Cum Laude with a degree in speech communications in the spring of 1980.

After graduation Jeff has been a small business owner and President of Anderson Incentives. He is active at church as a church council member and enjoys hunting, fishing, biking, and of course tennis. Jeff resides in Eagan with his lovely wife Susan. They have three children who all graduated from Eagan High School where they too played tennis. All three have also graduated from Luther College.



JOHN BEEMAN - ATHLETE

A well-rounded student athlete, John Beeman, class of 1986, was one of the best baseball and basketball players in the Big 9 Conference during his two years of varsity competition. John was a hard-nosed aggressive player who excelled in both sports as well as anyone during his era.

During John's sophomore year he was moved up at the end of the season to be a member of the 1983-84 team that was the first team in school history to go to the state basketball tournament. Two years later John led the Cougars back to the state tournament and was the leading scorer and captain. His 464 points and two year total of 689 points was the highest in school history at the time.

During John's junior year he was named Honorable Mention All-Big 9 and All-City as the second leading scorer for the Cougars. During his senior year, he was unanimous All-Big 9, team MVP, and All-City. During the spring John excelled in baseball where he typically played shortstop for the Cougars. John was Honorable Mention All-Big 9 his junior year and an All-Conference selection his senior year. John was a tremendous hitter with an exceptionally strong arm, making him one of the better players in this corner of the state.

John was recruited heavily and offered partial scholarships in both basketball and baseball from Mankato State University. He later graduated from MSU with a degree in finance and marketing. John has been married for 16 years to his lovely wife Michelle and has been residing in Sartell, MN, where he is the regional sales manager for Rucker's Wholesale Candy Co. of Bridgeport, IL.

WARREN MICKELSON - COACH



Warren Mickelson taught in District 77 for 34 years. His swimming coaching career spanned 25 years and 35 seasons with both the boys' and girls' swimming teams. During that time he was the assistant coach and worked with the B-squad and junior high swimmers. He was always a positive influence on the young boys and girls and instilled the love of competitive swimming. This was shown by the fact that over 90% of his junior high swimmers finished their senior year by continuing on the swim team. Warren also coached boys' gymnastics for fifteen years.

Upon his retirement from coaching swimming, he was awarded the Big Nine Swimming Coaches Retirement Award and was one of the first two assistant coaches to be honored by the Minnesota Swim Coaches Association with their Life Time Achievement Award. A quote from his good friend and fellow swimming coach Tim Johnson, "Mick set the

standard for assistant coaches, always prepared and always willing to help in anything that needed to be done."

"Mick" has been a lifetime member of the National Ski Patrol and a lifetime member of NEA and MEA. He is a past president of the YMCA swim team and was involved as a manager and life-guard at Tourtellote pool for nine years. Warren taught Sunday school and was a church council member at Christ the King Church where he has been a member for 49 years. Mick is a veteran, having served in the USAF for 3 ½ years. Mick started his athletic prowess at Ellendale High School, lettering two years in football and three years in basketball.

Warren and his wife Irene have been married for many years and have four children Laura, Joel, Kristine and John. He also has 8 grandchildren. In Warren's free time, he loves to fish, swim, and golf.

PAULA (UTTECH) PRYBYLLA - ATHLETE

Paula (Uttech) Prybylla, a 1990 graduate, had an illustrious career both in high school and college and embodied what a student-athlete is all about through her career at East. She was a three year letter winner in tennis in the fall, where she captained the 1990 squad and was named to the All-City tennis team in 1989 and 1990.

Paula continued to show her well-rounded athletic skills on the hard court in the winter where she lettered three years and was a starter during her final two seasons. Paula was a key component on the '89-'90 team that finished runner-up in the section and brought home a Big 9 Conference title. Individually she earned Honorable Mention All-Conference, was a Co-Captain, and earned All-City honors.

The spring season is where Paula was able to showcase her most accomplished sport. She was a four-year starter for Bob Maes and Paul Sorenson and played in three state tournaments, taking home two state titles in 1988 and 1989, as well as finishing 4th in 1987. her teams won four Big 9 championships during her career at East as well. Paula was Honorable Mention All-Conference her sophomore year, All-Section and All-Big 9 her junior year, and Team MVP, Co-Captain, All-Big 9, All-Star game participant, All-State Academic, and All-State in the coaches' poll during her well decorated senior season.

Upon graduation Paula enrolled at the University of Minnesota-Duluth where she continued to shine as a student/athlete in fastpitch softball. She was a four-year starter for the Bulldogs winning a District XIII NAIA championship and placing 5th in the NAIA National Tournament during her freshman year. After UMD switched from NAIA to Division II, Paula continued to excel, earning an All-American Scholar Athlete award her sophomore year. That first team in 1992 won the Northern Sun Conference Championship and Paula was named to the All-Academic team that same year. She finished her career in softball as a Tri-Captain for the Bulldogs.

After graduation Paula has been working as a Doctor of Chiropractic and an acupuncturist at Mankato Chiropractic Center. Paula still loves playing softball and helping coach softball. She married Joel Prybylla (East grad of 1990), and they have three wonderfully behaved children: a son (Jake-10), and two daughters (Syd-8), and (Sammy-6).





KRISTIN (PETERSEN) STORDAHL - ATHLETE

Kristin (Petersen) Stordahl was a standout basketball and softball player at Mankato East graduating in 1989.

Kristin (A.K.A. Pete) participated in cross country, lettering two times during the fall season.

Pete's basketball career had her playing up on the b-squad as a ninth grader. She later lettered as a sophomore for the Cougars and was a starter on the 1987 state champion Cougar squad. Furthermore she was named All-City and was the team's defensive player of the year, continually asked to guard the other team's best guard or scorer.

Kristin continued to show off her athletic skills and great knowledge of the game during the spring season in softball. She was moved to varsity in 8th grade and held the shortstop position for five straight seasons. Her excellent defensive skill alone would have earned her a starting position but she also carried a big bat by bating .323, .415, .419, .490, and .391. Pete was All- Big 9/ four times, led the team in hitting during her sophomore and junior year, was All-City four times, and was named All-State her senior year. Kristin's teams finished 2nd in the state in 1985 and were State Champions in 1986 and 1988. The Cougars were an impressive 101-12 during her five year career.

During the summer Kristin was not sitting around. She was part of the original Peppers' softball teams and played in three National tournaments. She attended the University of Texas-Arlington to play softball, but transferred back to Minnesota and received her communications degree from Brown Institute.

Kristin did some coaching while living back in Mankato as she coached junior high softball at Mankato East and C-squad basketball at Mankato West. She also worked for U.S. Bank for six years and was named the #5 banker in the company of 6,500 bankers. She led the company in 206 in home-equity loans and lines of credit. She was promoted to a sister company where she was a regional sales rep selling credit card machines to U.S. Bank business customers. In 2008 she led the company in leases.

Currently Kristin is a member of the Hastings Chamber and helps out at American Red Cross. She also coaches HYAA basketball and baseball in Hastings where she enjoys being a stay at home Mom as well.



STEVE WOLLE - COACH

Steve Wolle, a 1971 Mankato State graduate, has been a fixture at Mankato East from 1989-2008 when he retired from teaching. His dedication went well beyond the classroom, where he taught junior high math, the basketball floor, where he was an assistant coach from 1989-1999, and the baseball diamond, where he also assisted from 1994-2011. Steve served as the junior high athletic director for ten years and has probably site managed more athletic events than any other teacher at Mankato East.

Steve began his teaching (math) and coaching career (assistant boys' basketball) at Russell, MN in 1971 and moved to Welcome Memorial in 1975 where he coached C-squad boys' basketball and later became the head girls' basketball coach from 1983-1989.

While at Mankato East, Steve assisted on some pretty amazing basketball teams. The Cougars Girls won three section titles and took 3rd place in 1998 with a record of 26-2. In baseball, Steve was part of two section championship teams in his 14 years as an assistant coach. Recently Steve put an exclamation mark on his baseball-coaching career by being named Assistant coach of the year by the Minnesota State High School Baseball Coaches Association in 2011.

Steve has been involved in youth baseball with Mankato Area Youth Baseball (MAYBA) Since 1985 and was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2008. Steve also served 22 years in the Minnesota National Guard.

Steve is currently semi-retired and playing as much golf as his lovely wife, Jane, will let him. Steve has 3 children Michael (East 1990 grad and HOF inductee), Kristina (East 1998 grad and HOF inductee), and Bryan (East 2000 grad). Steve has the distinction of having all three of his children reach the 1,000-point scoring plateau in high school basketball!