

October 30, 2006

Nominations Committee
Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

Dear Nominating Committee:

Enclosed you will find the nomination form for my father, Jay Levine, as a contributor in the field of athletics. My father, who has since passed away, spent nearly thirty years as a coach and athletic administrator for Louisville Male High School. His love for athletics was evident in the work he did and the lives he touched. Wherever we went, people recognized my father. We could be half way across the world and someone would know my father from their days at Male High School. I remember sometimes we couldn't even go out to eat without him running into someone he knew. He was an all-around likeable guy, humble in nature yet someone who would help just about anyone.

At his funeral in 2003, the outpour of students, athletes, teachers, parents and coaches who came to pay their respects was truly moving. It was amazing to my mother and I that some twenty to thirty years after their time at Male High so many students came out to pay tribute for what my father had done for them during their years at Male. That in itself shows how truly special he was! My father was indeed "Mr. Male High" and as a third generation alumni myself (class of 1999) walking around the Male High campus it was truly impressive to see the many contributions that my father had given to the school.

I think the true testament to my father came when the athletic complex was named at his retirement in 1996. It is not often that one gets bestowed such an honor. I do believe that the powerhouse athletic program that has existed at Male High for so many years has much to do with the groundwork my father put into the program. Coaches are truly the cornerstone of any athletic program and I know my father spent a lot of time and energy recruiting the best for Male High (some of which are still there today). The list of athletes that went through Male High is impressive in itself, many who have gone on to have successful careers in college and thereafter in the pros.

I hope the committee will take time in reading the enclosed letters, a sampling of over fifty letters that my father received upon his retirement in 1996. Each one attests to the work and love he put into the Male High athletic program. And following his retirement, his work with the school was far from over. He went on to serve as President of the Male High Alumni Association! Nominating Jay Levine into the Kentucky High School Athletic Hall of Fame would truly be a tribute to high school athletics.

If you need any further support material, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing the committee's decision this spring.

Sincerely,



Shannon Levine



BIOGRAPHY OF JAY LEVINE

Jay Levine was born in Louisville, Kentucky in 1946, and graduated from Louisville Male High School in 1964. He received a B.A. in Education from the University of Kentucky in 1968, and a Masters of Education from the University of Louisville in 1975. He was awarded his principalship certification in 1977 from the University of Louisville.

Highlights from Mr. Levine's professional career include twenty-eight years as a teacher, athletic administrator, coach, activity sponsor and alumni worker for Louisville Male High School. Mr. Levine directed the athletic department from 1972 – 1996, served as track and volleyball coach, sponsored the school newspaper and yearbook. He was an executive board member of the alumni association from 1983 – 2003.

Mr. Levine chaired the Jefferson County Track Committee from 1975 – 1996, and directed the prestigious Meet of Champions from 1978 – 1996 and was regional track manager from 1986 – 1996. He was also manager of the regional soccer from 1983 – 1996 and supervised the high school division of the Mason-Dixon Games. He was a member of the Kentucky State Track Committee.

Mr. Levine served as a youth advisor at the Jewish Community Center (1970-75), edited the JCC newsletter and was camp director at the Jewish Community Center during this period of time. He was Louisville Editor for the Jewish Post and Opinion in 1975-76. From 1982-89, Mr. Levine ran the Games and People Summer Program for the Metro Parks.

Mr. Levine felt his role with the Louisville Male High Alumni Association had been very important and sighted his help in reorganizing the defunct association in 1983. He felt his most memorable accomplishments included: initiating the Hall of Fame Program, helping to create the Alumni Newsletter and writing and editing in 1991, *The 135 Years*, the revised history of Male, and coordinating numerous fund drives that have netted over a half million dollars for the school.

Mr. Levine held memberships in the Adath Jeshurun Congregation, The Jewish Community Center, AJ Men's Club, National Education Association, Kentucky Education Association, Association of Interscholastic Athletic Administrators, Kentucky High School Athletic Directors Association, The Sixth and Seventh Region Athletic Directors Association, The Louisville Male High School Alumni Association and the University of Kentucky alumni association.

Highlighting a few honors bestowed upon Mr. Levine over the years included High School Staffer of the Year by the *Courier-Journal* in 1964, National Newspaper Fund H.S. Teacher of the Year Award in 1970, Lifetime Membership Presentation by PTSA in 1988, Merit Award from Brotherhood of Christians and Jews, Twenty Years Service Award from KHSADA in 1992, as well as numerous awards from local groups for service and dedication. He was selected into the Male High School Hall of Fame in 1993. Mr. Levine was honored on his retirement by the naming of the athletic complex at Louisville Male High School after him.

He served as president of the school's alumni association for 1996 – 1999.

Mr. Levine was married to the former Diane Leigh Rubenstein and had one daughter, Shannon Levine.

In 1997, following his retirement from Male Levine returned to the Jewish Community Center as the teen director for six years.

Following his untimely death in 2003, several honors have been bestowed upon Mr. Levine including a tree dedication at Male High School and the Jay Levine Olympic Athlete Day Program from The Winner's Circle for Children (a non-profit organization which provides funding and program resources for children's health, human services and education). Several tribute funds through the Jewish Community have also been set-up in his memory.

May 11, 1996

Jay Lavine
Athletic Director
Louisville Male High School

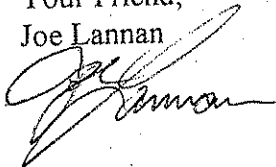
Jay:

Over the last seven years it has been my pleasure to associate with you and your programs at Louisville Male. I have been to many schools and seen many programs, but none has been as successful as Louisville Male's athletics. You can be proud of the winning tradition you helped to maintain and build upon while Athletic Director at Male High.

Jay, everywhere I went, people would talk about Male's athletics being a "class" operation. Some knew of my association, some did not and this says a lot for the way you ran the programs at Male.

Many thanks for the opportunity of being a part of the "class" operation and for your guidance and friendship. Good luck in all your future endeavors, although you won't need it because I know that you will work hard to succeed in whatever you choose to do, just like you did at Louisville Male High School.

Your Friend,
Joe Lannan

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joe Lannan", written over the printed name.

Dear Jay,

I shall always remember the excellent way you handled the job of A.D. while I was at Male.

As you know I have audited the other A.D's in the district and none of them had the accuracy you had with the ticket seller and game reports.

You also were excellent in the paperwork involved in purchase requests and standard invoices.

You also managed to be equally efficient with the yearbook.

I know you spent many hours at games and events beyond the required time.

I rarely ever saw you angry and you had many occasions where it would have been easy.

I remember fondly the seven years we worked together.

May you have many years of much earned retirement and good health. I'm sure you will not sit in a rocker. I wish you success in whatever endeavors you might take on.

Sincerely,

Janis Bell

Dear Jay,

I remember the day that I ask you to join me in the athletic Director's office as an assistant. Your answer to me was, "I don't know if I can handle that position". My answer to you was, "no but we can together".

Later on in the year I resigned to take a new job with the central office at the Lewisville Board of Education. When I told you I was leaving and had recommended you for the job.

you said with excitement "this
is the answer to my dreams!"

you took an athletic program
that had many problems and
through your love for Males
proved to be a stable driving
force that helped to lead the
program to the level of excellence
that it is today.

Good luck in your retirement
and I am sure there will be
something at Males to keep you
involved with the total program

Sincerely

Morris Longacre

Louisville Male High School

4409 Preston Highway
Louisville, Kentucky 40213
Telephone (502) 485-8292



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MAY 11, 1996

JAY LEVINE

I KNEW HIM AS A STUDENT, AS A TEACHER, AND AS AN ATHLETIC DIRECTOR. ABOVE ALL, I KNEW HIM AS A PERSON WITH UNWAVERING LOYALTY, AS A TIRELESS WORKER, AND AS A MAN OF INTEGRITY.

IN 1964, AS A SENIOR AT LOUISVILLE MALE HIGH SCHOOL, JAY BECAME BEST KNOWN AS A SUPER STAFF MEMBER OF THE NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL PUBLICATION - BROOK N BRECK. IN 1969 WE WERE MORE THAN HAPPY TO HAVE HIM JOIN THE TEACHING STAFF AT MALE.

AS I KNEW JAY LEVINE, HE COULD NEVER ACCEPT MEDIOCRITY. REGARDLESS OF THE DIFFICULTIES, UNLIMITED ENERGY AND DEVOTION TO THE TASK, PROVIDED THE END RESULT - A JOB WELL DONE.

MY ADMIRATION OF JAY LEVINE RUNS DEEP. HIS CONTRIBUTION TO MALE HIGH SCHOOL AND TO EDUCATION IN GENERAL, WILL LONG BE REMEMBERED.

JAY, I CANNOT VISUALIZE YOU AS WE OFTEN MENTION THE WORD RETIREMENT.

BEST WISHES IN THE YEARS AHEAD

Foster J. Sanders

Dear Jay,

What can I say about Jay
Levine, except "Mr. Male High".
A classmate of my brother John
but an alumni Board Member
with me for the last 12 years
It has been a real pleasure
to watch your dedication and
tireless work on behalf of the
entire Male High School Family
You always have a calm &
encouraging spirit and have
made volunteering a joy in
working on the many projects
over these many years.

Thanks for your friendship

Sincerely,

Dennis Schrecker

1959

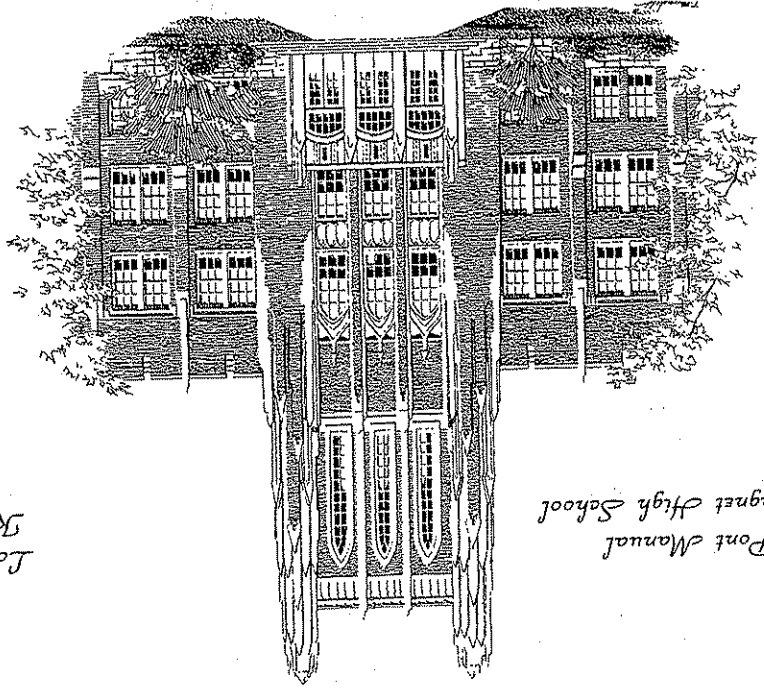
Dear Jay

I have only had this gift since your retirement Party. Gee, that's about as long as it took for our split gate checks to get to you! Ha!

I kept waiting for the right time to send you a letter that would expression all of my emotion and thoughts of your departure. Each time I would start, as I told Jim, it was very hard for me to say what I felt. While we have been rivals our friendship has grown.

Your words of wisdom have remained with after all these years. Jay, you are a good man. You sewed them very well and helped to place them in a position of excellence that they are still enjoying today.

(over)



Louisville,
Kentucky

duPont Manual
The Magnet High School

Outside of misguided devotion to Male (Ha!) you have left
your mark on Jefferson County Athletics.

I want to thank you for your friendship and our time together

Thanks for being uniquely "Jay" and the gifts you gave to
this tapestry of life

your friend
Jay Mayer

P.S. See I told you it was hard to do.

National School of Excellence

Post Office Box 34020
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(502) 485-3331
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JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

July 11, 1996

Mr. Jay Levine
501 Cambridge Station
Louisville, KY 40223

Dear Jay:

Summer is winding down, practice is starting, the vacation days were few and school will be opening soon. However, this year these familiar items don't pertain to you.

I hope that you have enjoyed the beginning of your retirement and the relaxing has just begun.

On behalf of the countless number of young people you have served over the years, I want to congratulate you. Your efforts to assist and make places better for young people is commendable.

I want to thank you for the support and cooperation during those years we worked together. You have helped develop the position of athletic director. Your professionalism has proven to individuals in our community that athletic directors have merit and value.

I cannot convey in words my sincere thanks to you for a job well done. My best wishes to you as you embark on your next journey.

Sincerely,



Jim Watkins, CAA
Director

jr

Jay Levine, booster of Male High, dies at 57

By PAULA BURBA
pburba@courier-journal.com
The Courier-Journal

Jay Levine, known to decades of Male High School graduates as the personification of school spirit and caretaker of the traditions of the 147-year-old school, died yesterday at Jewish Hospital after a brief illness. He was 57.

"If you wanted to know anything about the history of Male High School, you call Jay," alumni director Joyce Day said yesterday.

"He remembered everybody, all the kids," Day said, and they remembered him. "The one person people always ask about was Jay Levine. ... I can't put into words what he did for Male because of his love for Male."

Levine was a 1964 graduate who returned to Male as a history teacher in 1970. He also sponsored the student newspaper,

"Brook 'N' Breck," for which he had written as a student, and the yearbook, "The Bulldog," and he was an adviser to student government.

Levine became athletic director in 1972, and the school named its athletic complex after him when he retired in 1996.

"His skill in attracting coaches there made it the powerhouse athletics program that it is today," said 1985 graduate Jay Blanton, who works in Metro Mayor Jerry Abramson's communications office. "A lot of that can be attributed to his stewardship."

Levine also once served as the track and volleyball coach.

"There is a whole generation of kids who went through Male High



"My professional objective has been to try and be a role model for young people," Jay Levine wrote after being inducted into Male's Hall of Fame.

School for whom Jay Levine is synonymous with Male ... (but) he was a teacher first," Blanton said.

"I've never run across anybody that loved their school more than he did," said Ted Boehm, who was principal of Male from 1979 to 1992.

In 1983, Levine initiated the resurrection of Male's alumni association, which for the most part had been dismantled. He became an executive board member and later served as president.

He also initiated the Hall of Fame program; he was inducted in 1994.

"Louisville Male High School meant so much to me as a poor youth who lived six blocks away," he wrote in his acceptance letter. "My parents gave me

love and encouragement, the instructors and coaches at LMHS the 'tools' to become a college graduate.

"I hope through service I have repaid them all over the years. My professional objective has been to try and be a role model for young people. ... I

hope in some small way my years of service" have added to "this great institution that still has a promising future, but oh, what an illustrious past!"

Levine earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky and his master's degree from the University of Louisville.

Within about six months of retiring from Male, Levine became a full-time youth director at the Jewish Community Center. He had been a youth advisor there from 1970 to 1975.

He also edited the community center's newsletter and served one year as Louisville editor of the Jewish Post and Opinion.

Obituary information, B6

"I can't put into words what he did for Male."

Alumni director Joyce Day