

Paul A. Woodall, Jr.
February 14, 1938 – January 3, 1999

Athlete, teacher, coach are just three of the roles filled in exceptional ways by Paul Woodall, a master of motivation and technique whose winning records in Kentucky High School Track and Field is truly remarkable. A list of his accomplishments is staggering, making him an outstanding choice for induction into the Athletic Hall of Fame.

KHSAA

In 1958-59, while in the U.S. Army he was second army champion in the pole vault and javelin. While a student at New York University in 1961, he was New York State AAU Champion in the pole vault, the decathlon and was third in the AAU National All-Round Championship. In 1962, he placed third in the National Collegiate Indoor in the pole vault and was selected for the U.S.A. National Team, the Pan Am Games in Trinidad.

While a student at Western Kentucky University in 1963 and 64, Paul placed third in the OVC twice, in the javelin and set ~~an OVC~~ record in the pole vault. He had numerous Kentucky AAU championships by the time he graduated from Western.

Paul began his coaching career at Daviess County High School where he coached Cross Country and Gymnastics. *During his first year* Within the two years as Track and Field coach, one of his athletes set a state record in the pole vault. In 1967, Paul accepted a teaching and coaching position at Bryan Station High School in Lexington and remained there until his retirement in 1993. He coached swimming and diving for seventeen years, wrestling for eleven years, and was an assistant football coach for five years. From 1967-75, Paul was the head boys' gymnastics coach, pitting his teams against athletes who had access to equipment and training far exceeding what was available to a high school coach. During those eight years, his gymnastic teams were state runner-up once and state champions three times.

While a dedicated and successful coach in many sports, it was as a Track & Field coach that Paul amassed an amazing record. His relay teams were legendary, always stocked with speed. But Paul knew that championship teams weren't built on speed alone. His coaching philosophy was based on teaching sound technique and in motivating "his kids" to do more than they thought possible. He could see a potential winner in each and every one. The results speak for themselves. His Boys Track & Field teams earned six regional runner-ups, eighteen regional championships, three state runner-ups and seven state championships.

Coach Woodall's coaching record earned him respect and recognition in Kentucky and nation-wide. He often served as an official for Track&Field, Cross Country and Gymnastics. In Kentucky, Paul was the KHSCA Coach of the Year in Boys Track in 1971,75,79,80,81,82 and 83 and *KHSAA Regional Nominee* Coach of the Year five times. The Kentucky Track & Cross Country Coaches Association inducted him into their Hall of Fame. At Bryan Station, the Paul A. Woodall Track was dedicated in his honor and in 2002 he was selected for the BSHS Hall of Distinction.

On the national level, Paul was widely regarded as one of the most accomplished high school coaches in his field. In 1979, he was recognized as the American Motors Boys Track Coach of the Year. Five years later, he was selected by the NHSACA to be the National Director of the ^{National High School} All American Cross Country Meet. In 1987, The National High School Athletic Coaches Association selected him as the Regional Boys Track & Field Coach of the year. In recognition and tribute to his outstanding coaching accomplishments, Paul was chosen by the NHSACA as the National Boys Track & Field Coach of the Year. ~~Coach of the Year~~

Coach Woodall's tremendous successes as an athlete, teacher and coach stand as evidence of a man who loved to win, loved to teach and loved "his kids".

PAUL A. WOODALL, JR.
February 14, 1938 – January 3, 1999

EDUCATION

1956 High School Diploma, Wendell, Idaho
1957 – 1960 U.S. Army
1960 – 1962 New York University, New York, New York
1962 – 1965 BS, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky
1972 MS, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky

PERSONAL ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Kentucky Trap Shooting Champion – 1949, 1950
- Competed in Football, Basketball, and Track & Field in High School
- Competed in Football, Basketball, and Track & Field in Army
- 2nd Army Champion – Pole Vault – 1958-59
- 2nd Army Champion – Javelin – 1958 –59
- New York Metropolitan Champion – Pole Vault – 1961
- New York Metropolitan Champion – Decathlon – 1961
- New York State AAU Champion – Pole Vault – 1961
- New York State AAU Champion – Decathlon – 1961
- AAU National All-Around Championship, 3rd – 1961
- N.Y.A.C. Games, 3rd – 1962
- I.C.A.A.A.A. Indoor, 3rd – Pole Vault – 1962
- I.C.A.A.A.A. Outdoor, 4th – Pole Vault – 1962
- National Collegiate Indoor, 3rd – Pole Vault – 1962
- Philadelphia Inquiries Indoor, 3rd – Pole Vault – 1962
- U.S.A. National Team Member (Pan Am Games/Trinidad) – 1962
- O.V.C. Champion – Pole Vault – 1963
- O.V.C., 3rd – Javelin – 1963
- Kentucky Federation Champion – Pole Vault – 1963
- O.V.C., 3rd – Javelin – 1964
- Kentucky AAU Champion – Pole Vault – 1964
- Kentucky AAU Champion – Javelin – 1964

EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT

- 1965-1967 Teacher, Daviess County School System, Owensboro, Kentucky
- Track & Field Coach, Daviess County High School
- Cross Country Coach, Daviess County High School
- Gymnastics Coach, Daviess County High School
- 1967- 1993 Teacher, Bryan Station High School, Lexington, Kentucky
- Track & Field Coach 1967-1993

- Cross Country Coach 1967-1974
- Gymnastics Coach 1967- 1975
- Swimming/Diving Coach 1976-1993
- Wrestling Coach 1982-1993
- Assistant Football Coach 1967-72
- 1993 Retired

TEAM TITLES/CHAMPIONSHIPS

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Daviess County	1965-66	4 th in Region, 5 th (tie) in State
	1966-67	3 rd in Region
Bryan Station	1967-68	1 st in Region, 2 nd in State
	1968-69	2 nd in Region, 3 rd (tie) in State
	1969-70	2 nd in Region, 6 th (tie) in State
	1970-71	1 st in Region, 1 st in State
	1971-72	1 st in Region, 2 nd in State
	1972-73	1 st in Region, 10 th in State
	1973-74	1 st in Region, 5 th in State
	1974-75	1 st in Region, 1 st in State
	1975-76	1 st in Region, 2 nd in State
	1976-77	2 nd in Region, 8 th in State
	1977-78	2 nd in Region, 7 th in State
	1978-79	1 st in Region, 1 st in State
	1979-80	1 st in Region, 1 st in State
	1980-81	1 st in Region, 1 st in State
	1981-82	1 st in Region, 1 st in State
	1982-83	1 st in Region, 1 st in State
	1983-84	1 st in Region, 2 nd in Sectional, 5 th (tie) in State
	1984-85	1 st in Region, 2 nd in Sectional, 9 th in State
	1985-86	1 st in Region, 2 nd in Sectional, 16 th in State
	1986-87	2 nd in Region, 2 nd in Sectional, 3 rd in State
	1987-88	4 th in Region, 2 nd in Sectional, 4 th in State
	1988-89	2 nd in Region, 3 rd in Sectional, 20 th (tie) in State
	1989-90	5 th in Region, 5 th in Sectional, 26 th in State
	1990-91	1 st in Region, 1 st in Sectional, 5 th in State
	1991-92	1 st in Region, 1 st in Sectional, 3 rd in State
	1992-93	1 st in Region, 6 th in State

CROSS COUNTRY

Daviess County	1966-67	4 th in Region
Bryan Station	1967-68	4 th in Region
	1968-69	2 nd in Region, 10 th in State, Individual State Champion
	1970-71	5 th in Region
	1971-72	2 nd in Region, 6 th in State
	1972-73	1 st in Region, 4 th in State
	1973-74	1 st in Region, 3 rd in State

GYMNASTICS

Daviess County	1966-67	4 th in State
Bryan Station	1967-68	5 th in State-girls, 6 th in State-boys
	1968-69	1 st in State-boys
	1969-70	1 st in State-boys, 4 th in State-girls
	1970-71	2 nd in State-boys
	1971-72	3 rd in State-boys, 8 th in State-girls
	1972-73	1 st in State-boys
	1973-74	3 rd in State-boys

FOOTBALL (Assistant Coach)

Bryan Station	1969-70	2 nd in State
	1970-71	District Winner,
	1971-72	1 st in State

SWIMMING

Bryan Station	1975-76	15 th in State-boys
	1979-80	18 th in State-girls
	1980-81	10 th in State-girls
	1981-82	7 th in State-girls
	1982-83	7 th in State-girls
	1983-84	5 th in State-girls, 19 th in State-boys
	1984-85	15 th in State-girls, 21 st (tie) in State-boys
	1985-86	14 th in State-girls
	1987-88	27 th in State-girls
	1988-89	20 th (tie) in State-girls
	1989-90	25 th in State-girls

WRESTLING

Bryan Station 1982-93

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP/LEADERSHIP

1965-1993 KEA, NEA

1967-1993 FCEA

1965-1993 KHPERD

1965-1993 KHSCA

1980-1993 NHSACA

1965-1993 TAC/USA TRACK&FIELD

1986-1993 KTCCCA

FCCA

1973-1980 KHSAA Track & Field Committee Member

1980-1987 KHSCA Boys Track & Field Sports Chairman

1982-1984 TAC Olympic Development Regional Representative

1980-1986 NHSACA Boys Track & Field Sports Area Representative

1984 NHSACA National Convention Host Committee Member, and Boys Track & Field Chairman

1984 NHSACA National All American Cross Country Meet Director

1986-1993 KTCCCA Charter member, committee member

Ad Hoc Committee Memberships at school and county levels

Track & Field Official

Cross Country Official

Gymnastics Official

Speaker for Track & Field Clinics

HONORS/RECOGNITIONS

Boys Track & Field State Championships; 1971, 1975, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983

Boys Track & Field State Runner-up; 1968, 1970, 1972, 1976

Boys Gymnastics State Championships; 1969, 1970, 1973

Boys Gymnastics State Runner-up; 1971, 1972, 19

Football State Championship; 1972

Football State Runner-up; 1970

KHSCA Coach of the Year in Boys Track; 1971, 1975, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983

American Motors Boys Track Coach of the Year; 1979

Nominee for National High School Athletic Coaches Association Regional Boys Track Coach of the Year; 1980, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1987

NHSACA Regional Boys Track & Field Coach of the Year 1987

Kentucky Track & Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame, 1988

NFICA Distinguished Service Award; 1984

NHSACA National Boys Track & Field Coach of the Year 1987

The Track at Bryan Station High School is the Paul A. Woodall Track

The Paul A. Woodall Track Invitational is held each year at Bryan Station High School

Two athletic awards – one general, one swimming – named for Paul Woodall at BSHS

Bryan Station High School Hall of Fame, 2002

Husband-wife team keeps Bryan Station on the right track

By RENA KOIER

Courier-Journal Correspondent

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The world champion Pittsburgh Pirates have nothing on Bryan Station High School's track teams — whether you're discussing success or the celebrated "We Are Family" theme.

In the past decade, Bryan Station's girls' and boys' track teams captured seven state championships. The girls have won a remarkable four straight crowns. The boys are expected to win their second straight when the state AAA meet returns to the University of Kentucky's Shively Sports Center here May 24.

While sheer talent over the years at Bryan Station would have alone created some success, the bulk of the credit must go to the "mom and dad" of the program, coaches Paul and Reba Woodall.

When Paul was lured away from Daviess County in 1967, Bryan Station didn't even have a track. But one was built that year and his first Defenders' team was state runner-up. By 1971, he had produced a state champion. Four times his boys' teams have finished second, three times they have won the title. Reba's success with the girls' program is more recent. She first arrived at Bryan Station as a student teacher named Reba Reed in 1971. When she returned as a full-time teacher in 1974, she was given the track coach's job. Her first team finished fourth in the state. The other four have all won state titles.

It is no secret that Paul, once an Olympic decathlon hopeful, has taught Reba much of what she knows. "When I got the coaching job, I had to take a couple of gulps and ask for his help," Reba recalled. "He had such a record of winning. So I asked, and I listened."

After that first season had ended, Paul and Reba began dating. A year later, after Reba's girls won their first title, the two were married. Since then, for all intents and purposes, the boys' and girls' track programs have been one, with Paul and Reba sharing coaching duties over the whole group.

Last week in the Lexington Regional, Bryan Station's boys breezed in 17 events for the Lexington Semistate, set for this weekend at UK. The girls did better than Reba had expected them to do, qualifying 13, but finished a distant second to Franklin County in team competition. The two coaches agree that the boys should win the state crown, while the girls' chances are slim.

"I consider us (the boys) the favorite," Paul said. "We're gonna win it." "They're gonna have to fall down and die not to win it," says Reba of the boys' team. "A dozen ought to qualify for state. And seven or eight can win it. With the girls, we're hoping to qualify a minimum of four. If God blesses us, we could get seven or eight."

The Lady Defenders have been blessed before. "Last year, we didn't think the girls had a chance," Reba said. "And the first year we won, I was totally shocked. So I learned not to count us out until the last man is in."

Paul believes the Defenders' Anthony Jackson could win the state in the long and triple jumps. Jackson was first in the triple jump (44-6½) and second in the long jump (20-11¼) in the regional, while finishing first in the 110-meter hurdles (14.7).

"Anthony is definitely one of the best all-around athletes I've ever coached," Paul said. Jackson was rated the fourth-best triple jumper during the indoor season by Track and Field Magazine. His best distance indoors was 47.9. He has done 47-10 outdoors and Paul figures he'll be rated in the top 10.

Best bet for the Lady Defenders is Sharon Shell, who could win either shot put or discus. Stephanie Taylor and Carol Green, who finished one-two in the regional, are contenders in the 100-meter hurdles. But Reba says even if her girls don't "get lucky" this year, they ought to be back next spring.

"I have six good sophomores and juniors," she said. "I'm excited about next season."

So the Bryan Station track dynasty shows no signs of ending soon. The boys will probably win the state this year . . .

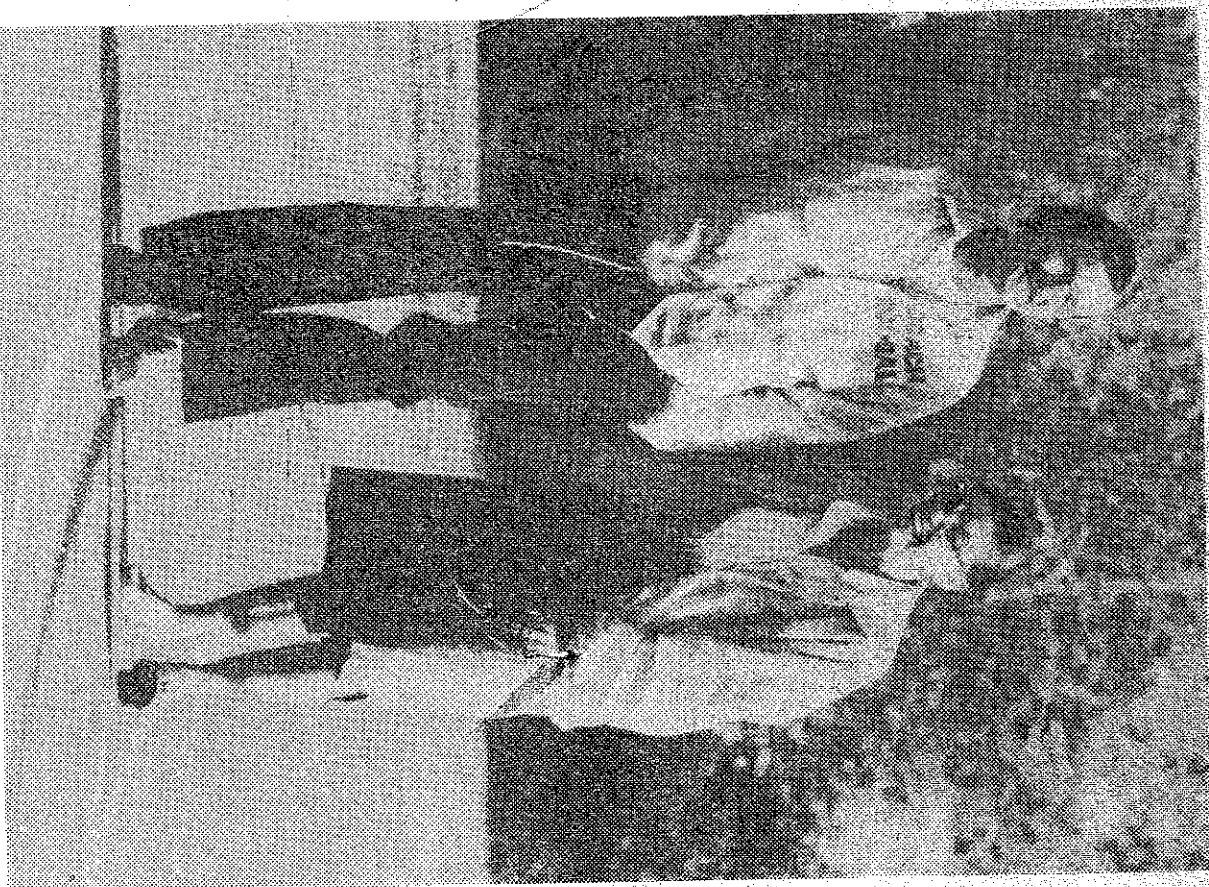


Photo by Tom Moran

Bryan Station track coaches Paul and Reba Woodall — husband and wife — discussed plans for the State AAA track meet in Lexington. The pair has won seven state titles for their boys' and girls' teams.

the girls may win it next year. What is everybody's part," Reba said. "We've been lucky to have kids with talent. And I know I've put in a lot of hours just learning. I'm still learning, too."

But Paul says she's come a long way. "That first year, I was coaching three people — the boys' team, the girls' team and the girls' coach. But now she's better than 90 percent of the men coaches I know. Most of the men just tell their kids to run like hell, go man, go. They for the kids, too, and get them to believe in what they're doing."

"It's been a lot of hard work on even- See A HUSBAND-WIFE PAGE 3, col. 1, this section

A husband-wife team keeps Bryan Station on right track

Continued from Page One

ignore the field events. I'm not bragging, but I think she had a pretty good teacher. She's also been to a lot of clinics."

Field events are always stressed at Bryan Station. Paul, who attended New York University and Western Kentucky University on track scholarships, finished third nationally in the decathlon in 1961. His goal of competing in the 1964 Olympics was wrecked by a broken foot.

"He simply loves the sport," says Reba. "He's definitely the best coach in the state. He knows so much about technique. He's knowledgeable about everything. So many coaches are good at maybe a couple of field events, but Paul knows all six."

Both Woodalls enjoy close relationships with their pupils. Their Scott County farm is frequented by current and former team members. Some even

work on the farm occasionally for extra money. Paul has a son, Paul Jr., 13, by his previous marriage. Daughter Elsie, 21, is married and lives in South Carolina.

Reba is mother, counselor, financier and friend to the students," Paul said. "Her ability to be close to and sincere with the kids has helped her a lot."

"Myself, I believe in being as close as I can to the kids, but still have an edge to me that they can't get hold of. And they keep coming out to see us, so evidently we're doing something right." The record, as they say, speaks for itself.