

John Wolfgram



John Wolfgram recently retired from coaching after a 45 year career in which his teams had a 309-92-1 record making him the winningest football coach in Maine history. A 1970 graduate of the University of Maine, where he played on the offensive line, he continued on as a graduate assistant, earning his Master's degree in education. John then went on to Madison Area Memorial High School where he taught and coached football and baseball. His football team captured a state football championship in 1974. In 1975 John took a teaching position at Gardiner Area High School. While at Gardiner John was an assistant baseball coach, varsity softball coach, capturing a state championship in 1980, and the head football coach. His teams captured three state football championships (1979, 1981, and 1985) during his tenure in Gardiner. In 1986 John

moved on to South Portland High School where he taught English and coached varsity football. John's teams captured four state championships (1992, 1995, 1996, and 1999) and established a state record of 31 consecutive wins. In 2001, John took a position as an assistant football coach at Bowdoin College. In 2006 he came back to high school coaching when he accepted a position at Cheverus High School. Over his tenure at Cheverus his teams captured three regional championships and state championships in 2010 and 2011. His Cheverus teams also won 34 consecutive games to break the record that he had established at South Portland just a few years earlier.

John has been recognized numerous times as "Coach of the Year" and was inducted into the "Maine Sports Hall of Fame" in 2013. As one administrator stated, "What sets John apart from others is not the number of wins but rather the preparation that he had that led to these wins." The athletes that played for him were expected to play with class and dignity, something that he always modeled for them. He paid attention to the smallest of details and always had his teams prepared. In 2004-2005 he was a select panel member for the sporting and coaching initiative, "Sports Done Right" and also served as a writer and contributor to the Maine Center for Coaching at the University of Maine. John has worked as a basketball official for 38 years and a lacrosse official for 28 years.

*It is an honor to recognize one of Maine's true greats, Mr. John Wolfgram.*



*Maine Principals' Association in partnership with  
Lifetouch School Portraits Recognizes the 2016*

**Maine Principals' Association  
Hall of Excellence  
Inductees**

*~ May 26, 2016 ~*

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*Rachel Bouchard, Athlete*

*Browne Family, Contributor*

*Phyllis Deringis, MPA Assistant Executive Director*

*Nate Dingle, Athlete*

*Frank Keenan, Administrator*

*Larry LaBrie, MPA Assistant Executive Director*

*Keith Lancaster, Administrator*

*Scott Morrison, Coach/Advisor*

*Diann W. Perkins, Coach*

*John Wolfgram, Coach/Advisor*

## *Program*

*6:00 p.m.*

*Reception*

*6:45 p.m.*

*Welcome and Meal*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Recognition of Inductees*

*8:30 p.m.*

*Closing and Photos*

## *Diann W. Perkins*



Diann began her storied successful educational career as a Physical Education teacher at both the college and high school levels in Maine. As a graduate of the University of Maine, she earned her Master's Degree in Education and commenced teaching in 1959. Without saying, this lady was a local, state, and national leader in the classroom and advocate for girls' interscholastic activities. She was extremely involved in a variety of sports and school initiatives. Over her tenure and beyond, she has presented on many occasions on such topics as: *20<sup>th</sup> Century Women, Nutrition and the Athlete, Equal Rights for Girls and Women*, and including *Survival in the Maine Woods*. She was published in an article titled *Track and Field as a Sport*, really directed at the inclusion of the female athlete. In 1963 and 1968 she attended the National Institute for Girls' and

Women's Sports in Michigan and Illinois to again promote the female athlete. Later on she presented alongside Pat Summit to change the girls' basketball game to match that of the boys' game. Whether officiating, coaching, or teaching, Diann's passion and leadership gained many foundations of the implementation of Title IX. She was a pioneer in leading Maine's girls' athletic programs. She has been honored as the MAHPERD and NASPE Secondary Teacher of the Year, along with several Distinguished Service Awards. Most notable were the Governor's Council (Maine Girls and Women's Sport Lifetime Commitment in Women's Athletics and Wellness Award) and the National Association for Girls and Women's Sports highest honor (Pathfinder Award).

Diann is a lifetime community service person always giving back to her town and state. She serves or has served on the Maine Department of Education and Cultural Services, the AAHPERD Association, the MAHPERD Association, numerous MPA committees, Maine Nutrition Advisory Council, MSAD #55 committees, and a plethora of Cornish civic associations. Today, she is extremely involved with the Maine Harness Association. Today's girls' athletes have Diann Perkins to thank for their extended opportunities!

*The MPA is honored to recognize one of Maine's leaders in girls' interscholastic activities, Ms. Diann W. Perkins.*

## Scott Morrison



Scott Morrison was an outstanding high school and collegiate swimmer who has continued to passionately and professionally give back to the sport in many ways. While working full-time as a licensed social worker, he has found time to coach swimming at Edward Little High School, Leavitt Area High School, and Lisbon High School, often coaching kids from all three schools at the same time. He has served as a representative on the NFHS Rules Committee and has served as a swim official at both the high school and collegiate swim championships. For the past 19 years he has been the meet director for the KVAC, has served as a liaison to the MPA Swim Committee for the last 18 years, and for the past 16 years has held the role of meet director for the MPA Swim Championships. In that capacity he has worked as a referee, a starter and an official, often times stepping in to fill any role that needed to

be filled. From 2007-2011, he served as the director of the New England Interscholastic Swim Meet.

Scott has been selected as the KVAC Swim Coach of the Year on five different occasions and in 2008 was selected as the Maine Swim Coach of the Year. In 2006, the swim championships were dedicated in his honor. In 2014, he was recognized with a "Larry LaBrie Service Award." Along with his dedication to Edward Little High School Swimming, he has also been involved in numerous community activities. He has served as a meet director for Special Olympics, coached youth soccer and youth swimming for many years in the Lewiston/Auburn area, and has been a YMCA swim officials' instructor for over 25 years. For the past 27 years, he has been on the executive committee of the Maine State Swim Officials' Association where he is a past president, vice president, and secretary. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Maine State YMCA Camp, the Mt. David Housing/Tri County Mental Health Board, and the Aids Coalition of Lewiston/Auburn.

*The MPA is honored to recognize a man who has dedicated his life in giving back to others, Mr. Scott Morrison.*

## Rachel Bouchard



Rachel Bouchard is one of the best and most recognized female basketball players in Maine History. This Hall-Dale native was a Converse All-American and Gatorade Player of the Year in 1987. Rachel led her alma mater to the State Championship in 1987 on her way to scoring 1910 career points and garnering 1255 rebounds.

Her high school exploits earned her first team status on the *Bangor Daily News* All-State team during her junior and senior seasons. Her number 34 jersey is retired at her high school.

As great as her high school career was, Rachel was just getting started. After accepting a full scholarship from the University of Maine, she became Seaboard Conference Rookie of the Year in 1988. She was a Kodak District I All-American in 1989, 1990, and 1991. She was a player with the rare combination of strength and touch; she dominated the lost post and could put the ball on the floor and get to the rim anytime she desired. Her unparalleled play won her first team North Atlantic Conference honors all four years at the University of Maine! She was the North Atlantic Conference Player of the Year in 1990 and 1991. Among her many awards were the ECAC Division I All-Star in 1991 and the NCAA Woman of the Year for the University of Maine in 1991. That same year, Rachel's number 43 jersey was retired at the University of Maine.

Rachel played professional basketball in France following her college career and she belongs to the Maine Legends Hall of Fame, the Maine Sports Hall of Fame, the University of Maine Hall of Fame, and the New England Basketball Hall of Fame. This incredible player and new member of the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame resides in Yarmouth, Maine.

*The MPA is honored to recognize one of Maine's great female athletes and person, Ms. Rachel Bouchard.*

## *Browne Family*



Richard "Dick" Browne started his golf career in 1965, at the age of five, when his parents, Paul and Lucy Browne opened Natanis Golf Course. Soon he was challenging the members to a game of golf and scored a 78 at the age of ten. He spent his childhood working on the course and golfing after work. This experience was an asset later when he was part of the Waterville High School Championship team.

In 1982, he stepped in full-time for his dad when Paul died unexpectedly. Later, in 1996,

he was elected to the Professional Golf Association (PGA). Since 1982, Dickie has been instructing children's, ladies', and special Olympic clinics while giving countless lessons to people of all ability levels.

He was a Winslow High School coach from 1992 - 1996 and 2000-2008. He was nominated KVAC coach of the year in 2004 and 2005. In 2006, he was named *Maine Sunday Telegram Coach of the Year* for Class B after coaching Winslow to their first state championship. He is currently, and has been since 1992, the tournament director of the Team and Individual Schoolgirl and Schoolboy Championships held yearly at Natanis. His contributions to high school golf have impacted thousands of Maine high school golfers. The entire Browne family has worked diligently to provide a great state championship venue. In 2013, he was inducted to the Maine Golf Hall of Fame.

He can always be found working at Natanis, running the tournaments and leagues, and joking with the members. He is truly an exceptional person who does an outstanding job of promoting golf.

*It is a pleasure to be able to recognize Mr. Richard "Dick" Browne and the Browne Family this evening.*

## *Keith Lancaster*



Keith Lancaster was an Athletics and Physical Education Director for more than 30 years. During that tenure he served Maine schools and students with distinction. His teams won championships as well as his personal recognition as "Coach of the Year" in more than one sport. He was a founder of the current Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association, which just celebrated its 45<sup>th</sup> year of existence. He also initiated the Maine Interscholastic Wrestling Officials' Association. For over a decade, Keith provided coaching education and instructor training as a member of the American Sport Education Program (ASEP). It was his tireless efforts that played a vital role in today's coaches' eligibility that was adopted in every state. All across this state many students have benefitted from his leadership in professional development of coaches.

Most notably, Keith served as the first Director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching at the University of Maine, Orono. It was during this time that Coaching Principles, Sports First Aid, and Coaching Youth Sports became a component of today's required coaching eligibility requirements. His vision and diligence over that time led to Sports, Schools, and Learning Results and the Sports Done Right. These programs gained national attention and provided venues for other states to begin discussions.

Keith became a state and national resource for coaches' education. During this time he served on many MPA Committees. He has been recognized at the state level (State Award of Merit) and the national level (National Distinguished Service Award). The Maine Interscholastic Administrators' Association bestowed an honor in his name presented each year to an MIAAA member - called the "Keith Lancaster Professional Development Award." It is likely that through his efforts, no single person has positively impacted more lives in a state, past and present, than Mr. Keith Lancaster.

*Please welcome to the MPA Hall of Excellence one of Maine's true educational leaders, Mr. Keith Lancaster.*

## Larry LaBrie



Few people in Maine have had a larger impact on interscholastic activities than Larry LaBrie. Larry started his teaching career at the Walton School in Auburn where he was a history teacher. He went on to a distinguished administrative career at both the Walton School and at Edward Little High School. While serving as a building administrator, Larry was active on numerous MPA committees and in 1992 he accepted the position as Assistant Executive Director at the MPA.

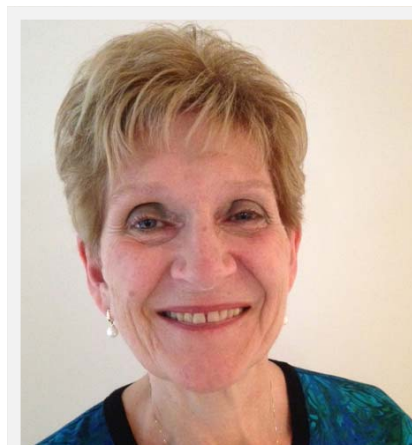
While at the MPA, Larry oversaw 19 different committees, served as the liaison to the Maine Athletic Directors' Executive Board and was on the Advisory Committee of the Maine Center for Coaching Education at the University of Maine. He implemented the Assistant Principals' Conference, the Mentoring Women in Sports Conference, the Workshop for New Athletic Directors, and the Workshop for New Principals. He developed the initial MPA Coaches' Handbook, established the first MPA Sports Medicine Committee, was responsible for the sports of lacrosse and girls' ice hockey, and was responsible for what is now known as "Super Saturday" where three of the state football championships are played in one location on a Saturday in November.

He worked with Ad Hoc Committees that looked at middle level activities, sport season leagues, coaches' education, classification, sports medicine, and technology.

In 2003 he was nominated for an NIAAA Distinguished Service Award and in 2005 had all four of the swim championships dedicated in his honor. From 2004-2006, he served as the president of the New England Council of Secondary School Principals. Upon his retirement, the "Larry LaBrie Service Award" was established by both the Maine Principals' Association and the Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association.

*It is a true honor to be able to recognize Mr. Larry LaBrie this evening.*

## Phyllis Deringis, Ph.D.



The career of Phyllis Deringis exemplifies her strongly held beliefs in the critical importance of a quality education for all students and the crucial role that principals play as educational leaders in schools. A graduate of Lewiston High School, she went on to earn a B.A. in English from the University of Maine, an M.A. in English from Northeastern University, and a Sixth Year Diploma in secondary education and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from the University of Connecticut.

Phyllis taught English at Ashland Community High School and for many years at Lewiston High School. She was chosen for a one-year position as an Instructional Support Group consultant in the Maine Department of Education.

In 1985, she became principal of Schenck High School in East Millinocket. At that time, she was one of five secondary school principals in the state who were women. She later served as director of the Division of Curriculum in the Maine Department of Education and as director of secondary education for the Portland Public Schools.

In 1995, Phyllis became assistant executive director of the Maine Principals' Association. She developed and implemented an ambitious professional development agenda, consisting of statewide conferences with highly regarded and nationally known speakers, seminars, summer institutes, on-going series, and study groups for the 950+ members of the Professional Division and their staff. She realized a vision of supporting novice principals and assistant principals in their positions by leading an initiative for administrator induction with a four-session series, *Great Beginnings*, and later added a mentoring/coaching component for new principals and for those who changed jobs. Phyllis also edited the association's newsletter and other publications; collaborated with other organizations; and staffed a host of committees ranging from the Volleyball and National Honor Society Committees to the Curriculum and Instruction and Resolutions Committees. Phyllis retired in 2011 following sixteen years of service to the association and its members.

*It is a pleasure to be able to welcome Dr. Phyllis Deringis into the Maine Principals' Association's Hall of Excellence.*

## Nathan “Nate” Dingle



Nathan “Nate” Dingle’s truly outstanding athletic career began at Wells High School in 1985-1989. Nate’s athletic performances bestowed such honors as two time Football Campbell All-Conference and the Bruce E. Campbell Memorial Trophy as the Class B Most Valuable Player. In wrestling, he earned two regional and one state championship. In track he was a conference champion in the shot put, 100 meters, and discus. He was a two time state champion in the discus and in 1989 it was announced that he was the “Outstanding Athlete for the Class of 1989.”

From there Nate signed with the University of Cincinnati. His awards and accomplishments included Football Rookie of the Year Award, UC records for tackles for loss and sacks, a Hitachi Scholarship as the outstanding athlete in the University of Cincinnati School of Education, and the Most Valuable Player for the 1993 season. As a graduate student in Exercise Science, he led a group of community volunteers that conducted AIDS awareness programs in Cincinnati.

Nate began his NFL career with the Washington Redskins and had stints with the San Diego Chargers, the Philadelphia Eagles, and lastly, the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Nate continues to earn distinction in the pharmaceutical industry as a virology specialist. Most notably being honored for commitment to excellence and team leadership. He currently lives in Louisville, Kentucky with his wife Wendy and children Hannah, Jacob, and Jack.

*It is an honor to be able to recognize Mr. Nathan “Nate” Dingle this evening.*

## Frank Keenan



Frank Keenan spent four decades in the education of Maine students specifically in the County but his impact in educational-based activities benefitted students throughout the entire state. Frank was a do-it-all educator and one of the few individuals to have been a classroom teacher, coach, official, athletic administrator, assistant principal, principal, and superintendent. Each position was a reflection of the quality of this individual and the respect people had for his leadership. Frank’s prowess goes from building fields, encouraging league affiliations, to hosting and administering regional and state events. At each level of his educational career, he played significant roles in the advancement of all students.

He was extremely active in the Maine Athletic Directors’ Association, the Maine Principals’ Association, and the Maine School Management Association. As a member of the Athletic Directors’ Association he served on the executive board. As a member of the MPA he served on multiple committees, serving as the chair on many of them. These committees led Maine through some prodigious transitions in the classroom, on and off the athletic fields, and in the challenges that face administrative leadership. Moving the Class A basketball tournament from Bangor to Augusta and creating the initial Assistant Principals’ Conference are examples of his contributions.

Frank has always been a community contributor serving as a member of the Kiwanis, Elks, and Rotary Clubs. He later served on the Presque Isle Recreation Board and the Presque Isle Country Club Board of Directors. He has been honored by the Maine Sports Legends and the Presque Isle High School Athletic Hall of Fame as an Administrator.

*The MPA Hall of Excellence is proud to induct a gentlemen who dedicated his life to Maine students, Mr. Frank Keenan.*