

FRANK C. ORSAK



Frank C. Orsak was born and raised in Galveston, TX. After graduating from Ball High School in June 1961, he attended Texas A & I University in Kingsville, TX for his freshman year. He returned to Galveston to marry his high school sweetheart, Jerri Chionsini, in June 1963. Together they spent three years at East Texas State University in Commerce, TX with Frank graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Education (Industrial Technology/Physical Education) in May 1966 and a Master of Science in Education in August 1970.

In September 1966, Frank began his “coaching” career in Deer Park, TX serving as assistant football coach at Deer Park Junior High School from 1966-1970. In 1971, he was promoted to assistant football coach at Deer Park High School and was also selected as Head Boys track coach. In 1982, Frank traded his football position to become the Head Boys Cross Country and Track coach for Deer Park High School.

Frank started his cross-country coaching with a total of 12 boys, and his track coaching with approximately 100 boys. He personally went to all of the physical education classes and recruited anybody who could “stand up, walk, and breathe. At the time of Frank’s retirement from Deer Park ISD, his cross-country athletes numbered 60 and his track athletes numbered approximately 150. During his tenure as cross-country and track coach his athletes accomplished the following:

6 district cross-country championships

1 regional cross-country championship...followed by 4th place in TX state meet.

2 regional cross-country 3rd place finishes

2 district boys track championships

Several regional and state qualifiers, including

John Bratloff – 3rd place in pole vault – TX state meet

Randy Blair – 4th place in 110 hurdles – TX state meet

Frank retired from Deer Park High School in June 1999 after serving as Industrial Technology (woodshop) teacher and coach for 33 years.

Frank actually started his track “officiating” career in 1971 at the National Junior College Championships at San Jacinto Jr. College and became a certified USATF official in 1984. He is still very active in officiating track events at all levels. Pole Vault has become his major event to officiate. Several personal awards include:

**15-year Service Award certificate – Texas Track and Field
1st annual John Davis Humanitarian award, Kansas City, 2002
Rice University – Victor Lopez Bayou Classic award – 2007
Nominated for Horace Crow Award –(outstanding field event finalist will be announced at Hall of Fame Banquet in Reno, Nevada December 5, 2008)**

He has officiated various local high school thru college and national track meets, some of which include:

**1984 NCAA – U of Houston
1985 USATF Olympic Festival Games – U of Houston
1988 Pan Am Games – Indianapolis, IN
1989 USATF Olympic Festival Games – Norman, OK
1992 USA Olympic Trials – New Orleans, LA
1993 University World Games – Buffalo, NY
1996 Grand Prix – Atlanta, GA
1996 USATF Olympic Trials – Atlanta, GA
1996 OLYMPIC GAMES – ATLANTA, GA
1996 Master’s Meet – Spokane, WA
1997 Goodwill Games – New York, NY
2000 USA Olympic Trials – Sacramento, CA
2004 USA Olympic Trials – Sacramento, CA
2007 Master’s Meet – Orono, ME
2008 USA Olympic Trials – Eugene, OR
(Selected, unable to work due to family illness)
2008 Master’s Meet – Spokane, WA**

Frank has traveled the country working many youth / junior meets, indoor and outdoor NCAA meets, indoor and outdoor USATF national championships, Conference USA, Big XII, U of Houston, Rice, and Texas A & M track meets. Undoubtedly, the highlight of Frank’s officiating career came when he was chosen as the HEAD JUDGE FOR THE POLE VAULT at the 1996 OLYMPIC GAMES in Atlanta, GA. He has always enjoyed being around the athletes and has always tried to be fair to all the competitors. Some long time friendships have come out of his officiating experiences.

Frank has served as official starter for the last 9 years for all the track meets being held

at North Shore High School, working under the Athletic Director, Ed Warken. Recently, Texas A & M head coach Pat Henry selected Frank to serve as vertical jump coordinator for all A & M track meets and to serve on the board for Texas A & M Track and Field.

Frank and Jerri have been blessed with two daughters, Susan and Staci, and six wonderful grandchildren. Susan and Robert Stenberg have two children, Allison (12) and Tyler (9). Staci and Shane Bonnin, have four boys, Blake (15), Bryce (10), Brady (9), and Brett (6). After having two very calm girls, these five grandsons have kept Frank and Jerri very busy with football games and all the different levels of baseball games. Allison is very involved in dance.

Frank and Jerri also have a dog named Maggie. Maggie was adopted in March 2002 and named specifically because of a track meet at Texas A & M that Frank “promised” he would NOT sign up to work...and he did! When he returned home from “Aggie” land he was introduced to Maggie Mae Orsak.