

**1963-
2013**



**[CHARLES E. JORDAN HIGH
SCHOOL'S 50 YEARS OF
ATHLETIC HISTORY]**

*Charles E. Jordan High School
6806 Garrett Road
Durham, N.C. 27707
(919) 560-3912 x2
Fax (919) 560-2099
David M. Davis
Athletic Director*

I would like for you to know how much of an honor it is to write the introduction to the history of Jordan Athletics. For some of you I'm sure it will be a great walk down memory lane. For others it will be a true history lesson. My own history in Durham athletics started at Lowes Grove Junior High in 1976 where I was the head baseball coach, assistant football coach and then the head football coach. Over those eleven years my goal was to one day get to "The Flagship" of Durham schools, Jordan! The Middle School concept came to Durham County Schools in the fall of 1988 and I was lucky enough to move with the 9th grade from Lowes Grove to Jordan. Jordan now took over the entire campus which it had been sharing with Githens Junior High School. I had already been coaching at Jordan for a few years while still teaching at Lowes Grove, but now I had made the "Big Time".

In my time at Jordan I have served as an assistant basketball coach under Johnny Avery and assistant football coach under Hal Keith, then Larry Junkin and then Jimmy Weekman. Upon coming to Jordan I coached the 9th grade baseball team which became the junior varsity team in 1990. I became the varsity baseball coach when Coach Popson retired after 1990 season. I have also had the pleasure to work under some of Jordan's iconic principals such as James Sills, Harold Rogers, Delia Robinson, Rodney Nelson, Rick Webber and now under the leadership of Jerome Leathers. In 1999 Randy Rogers decided to retire as athletic director and Mrs. Robinson named me as the new director. I became only the third athletic director of this outstanding institution and have worn the colors proudly ever since! Jordan has come a long way since 1963 and we expect the same excellence in athletics to continue in the next fifty years! In the next few pages, come along for the ride through conference and state championship teams and the coaches that took them there. Thanks for letting me be a part of it!

David Davis

Acknowledgements

A few years ago, I realized that the only history of Jordan Athletics was the banners hanging in the gym! There were still a few of us old enough to remember the teams who had gone through, so I asked Janet Turyn if she would take on the project of writing our history. Janet already had quite a history here. She was in the third graduating class and both of her sons played sports and also graduated from here. She has served as president of the athletic boosters club, has been the official "ticket lady", and has provided help in the athletic office. She is also a great friend to me and to Jordan High School. Anyway she agreed and we got started.

John Popson, who I think must have coached a little of everything in the first thirty years of the school, was invaluable in recalling many events. We also called on John Gray, who has a steel trap for a memory. He helped so much with the early and middle years of Jordan. Stephen Barringer was another great resource. If Stephen didn't know the answer to a question, he knew someone in the community who did. We also talked with many past and present coaches about their time here at Jordan. Thanks to Phil Davanzo for his expertise in editing and creating the layout for our booklet.

We hope we got it all correct and if we didn't, let us know and we will get right!

The Falcons Take Flight

The
1960's

In 1963 Charles E Jordan High School opened its doors to close to 500 students. John Popson, Jordan's first Athletic Director, oversaw 83 athletes participating in three sports, football, basketball and baseball. He also coached two of the sports, football and baseball. The next year three more sports teams and coaches were added; track, tennis and golf. Doug Kistler coached basketball as well as track, Sam Scoville coached men's tennis, and Jim Bradshaw coached golf. Coach Popson continued to coach football and baseball. In the 1967-1968 basketball season the men's basketball team was State Runner-Up, and the next year they gave Jordan its first State Championship.

The Flock Gets Bigger

The
1970's

With the new decade, the 70's, came many new athletic teams. In 1972 six girls and Coach John Gray started a women's track team and in 1974 the NCHSAA sanctioned it as a sport. Although the women's track team started with a small group of dedicated girls, by the end of the 70's they had won 6 Conference Championships, 1974 through 1979 and one State Championship in 1978. Women's tennis and women's volleyball were equally successful. The tennis team won the Conference Championship in 1977 and again in 1978, coached by Linda Baker. The volleyball team won six Conference Championships from 1973 to 1978 under the leadership of Coach Ann Harris. As the 70's ended Jordan had grown from three men's athletic teams to ten, and the women to six teams.

The Birds Come Of Age

The
1980's

During the 1980's due to the increase of Jordan's student population, the school was reclassified as a 4A school from a 3A school. Jordan also moved from the Triangle 3A to the Piedmont Athletic Conference (PAC-6), which included Hillside, Durham High, Northern, Person, Chapel Hill, Vance and Oxford Webb. Jordan's athletic teams won many conference championships as well as state championships during the decade. Volleyball continued its winning tradition under the direction of Ann Harris. They won the PAC 6 Championship from 1980 through 1988, and State Championships from 1983 through 1986 and again in 1989. Randy Rogers and his wrestling teams won conference championships for seven straight years, 1980 through 1986 and again in 1989. Men's tennis, coached by Peter Hoyte won seven conference championships from 1980 through 1985 and again in 1987. The women's tennis teams dominated the 80's, winning conference championships every year. John Gray and his women's track team continued to excel, winning conference championships in 1980, 1982, and 1985 through 1987. Four teams also won state championships. The men's basketball team coached by John Avery won in 1981, the golf team coached by Larry Junkin won in 1989, the women's tennis team coached by Wallis Green won 1986,

and Jim Maxwell's men's swimming team won three State Championships from 1987 to 1989. At the end of the 80's John Popson retired as Jordan's first Athletic Director and Randy Rogers took over the position.

A decade of Excellence

The
1990's

Most of Jordan's athletic teams excelled during the 90's by winning conference and state championships. In 1990 four teams won state championships, men's soccer coached by Steve Turner, women's swimming coached by Jim Maxwell, wrestling coached by Randy Rogers, and the volleyball team coached by Ann Harris won their 6th State Championship. Four teams won five or more conference championships. The baseball team, coached by David Davis was PAC 6 Champions in 1991 to 1993 and in 1996 and 1999. In 1996 the baseball team was the State 4-A Runner-Up. Men's cross-country coached by John Gray also won five Conference Championships, in 1990 and 1993 to 1996. John Gray's women's track teams continued their excellence by winning five PAC-6 Championships, in 1991 and 1992, and 1994 to 1996. Not only did the men's soccer team win the State Championship in 1990, they also won 6 Conference Championships in 1990 and 1991, 1994 and 1997 to 1999. The men's swim team also coached by Jim Maxwell won Conference Championships in 1994 and in 1997 and 1998, and the women's teams won it from 1997 to 1999. The following teams also won conference championships during the 1990s: golf, coached by Rick Webber in 1998; men's track, coached by Jimmy Weekman in 1996 and 1997; women's soccer, coached by Steve Turner in 1997 and 1999; women's tennis, coached by Kristen Shore in 1999; women's softball, coached by Butch Edenfield in 1997 and 1998; volleyball, coached by Ann Harris in 1990 and 1991 and Debbie Egan in 1995. In 1999 the Athletic Director Randy Rogers retired and David Davis became Jordan's third AD.

The Facilities Needed Some Work

During the 90's many improvements were made to the athletic facilities. A football press-box was built, and Jordan's tennis teams finally had their own courts located on campus. Lights were added to the soccer field, and the softball field was improved with the addition of new fencing and dug-outs. A total renovation of the baseball field was started. Due to the hard work of many parents and coaches new dug-outs and a press box-concession stand were built, lights and new bleachers were added, and a grass infield and irrigation system was installed.

During the 2000's Coach Davis continued improving the athletic facilities. New bleachers and a field house-concession stand were installed on Barringer Soccer Field, the track was rubberized, the softball field got lights, and a new concession stand and bathroom facilities were built for the football field. The summer of 2013 will see the main gym renovated with a new floor and bleachers and our tennis courts will also be renovated.

The Falcons
Start A
New Century
The
2000's

The athletic teams also continued to excel during the first decade of the new century. Men's soccer won the State Championship in 2001 and again in 2010. Coach Turner and his men's teams continued to dominate the PAC- 6 by winning conference championships from 2000 to 2010, and his women's teams won in 2000 and 2001. Many of the other men and women's teams won conference championships during this time too: golf coached by Rob Patterson in 2001; men's swimming coached by Jim Maxwell in 2000, and coached by Brian McDonald in 2004, and women's swimming coached by Jim Maxwell in 2001 and by Brian McDonald in 2003; lacrosse coached by Jamie Silva in 2004; basketball coached by Mike Terrell in 2000, and coached by Kim Annas in 2005; men's cross country coached by Mike Mulligan in 2010; baseball, coached by Devy Bell in 2007; men's track coached by Paul Perryman in 2005, and coached by Chris Starkey in 2010; football coached by Rick Brown in 2000 and coached by Mike Briggs in 2006; women's tennis coached by Graham Brosnan in 2002 and coached by Chad Aharon in 2004; softball coached by Butch Edenfield in 2001 and 2004; and women's track, coached by George McFadden in 2001 and 2002, and coached by Winter Bingham in 2008 and 2010.

Tradition of Winning Continues

The

2010's

During the first few years of the second decade of the 21st century Jordan's athletic teams continued their winning traditions. The following teams won PAC- 6 Championships: Steve Turner's men's soccer team in 2011; lacrosse coached by Jamie Silwa in 2011 and 2012; men's basketball coached by Kim Annas in 2011; wrestling, coached by Phil Davanzo in 2012; baseball coached by Devy Bell in 2011 and 2012; men's track coached by Chris Starkey in 2011; men's tennis coached by Erik Cain in 2012; women's soccer, coached by Don Jones in 2011; and women's track coached by John Gray in 2011. During Jordan's 2012-2013 athletic season seven teams won conference championships: volleyball coached by Erik Hofheinz; men's basketball coached by Kim Annas; wrestling coached by Phil Davanzo; men's lacrosse coached by Jamie Silwa; women's soccer coached by Sarah Kaneko; men's track coached by Chris Starkey; and women's track coached by John Gray. Jordan also won the 2012-2013 Wells Fargo Cup for being the top athletic school in the PAC-6

50 Years
Of
High Flying
Athletic
Excellence

In 2013 Jordan High School will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. During this time the athletic program has grown from 3 varsity sports in 1963 to 18 varsity sports today and from 83 athletes to 563. The athletic teams have won 19 state championships and 167 PAC-6 championships, and individual athletes have won state championships in wrestling, track and swimming. Jordan's athletes have been not only successful in their sports, but also in the classroom winning academic awards as well as athletic awards. As the 21st century moves forward the successes of the athletic programs and athletes will too.