

ARLINGTON SPORTS HALL OF FAME

2009 INDUCTEE-WILLIAM W. FINNEY



Bill Finney knew, from the eighth grade, that he wanted to coach. And from summer camps during his college years (1968-72) he has been doing just that.

After attending Syracuse University on a full-athletic scholarship for basketball, his first coaching job following college was as an assistant coach for the men's basketball program at SUNY Plattsburgh (NY). He followed that stint with a position as a boys' junior varsity coach for one year at Moriah High School (NY) and then four years as a head coach for boys at Peru High School (NY).

Following a move to Arlington in 1978, he began coaching Arlington youth teams. In 1983, he became Marymount University's women's basketball head coach, where he has remained to the present. He was also the head women's soccer coach for three years, beginning the program for the Saints and also served as the golf coach for four years. In 1988, he also added the duties of athletic director to his resume.

A consummate teacher, he has run teaching basketball camps at Marymount since 1984. He and his Marymount teams have given countless clinics and seminars.

In 26 years at Marymount, his current record is 525 wins and 191 losses, with a winning percentage of .733. Bill is ranked 12th among NCAA Division III coaches for number of wins. He has averaged over 20 wins per year. His teams have won 10 Capital Athletic Conference titles in the 18 years of CAC championships. His teams have gone to 15 NCAA post-season tournaments. They have been to one Final Four, two Elite 8s and eight Sweet 16s. The Saints have dominated in conference play with a regular season record of 212 wins and only 48 losses for a winning percentage of .815.

Bill has coached the National Player of the Year in Cori Carson in 1997 and 10 Kodak First team and honorable mention All Americans. His teams have won two national scoring titles, averaging 92.4 points per game in 1993 and 89.4 points per game in 1994. He is a four-time Capital Athletic Conference Coach of the Year and a one-time Regional Coach of the Year.