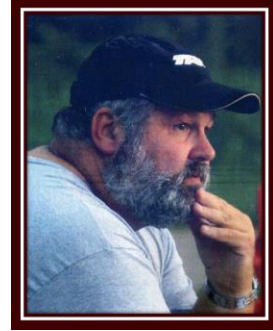


GREG NEWMAN

Commencing with his play in youth football and baseball in the mid-1960s, Greg Newman has been involved in the sports of Amherst County for most of his life. He credits early coaches, Dick Holt and Hall of Famer Glenn Ricketts, with having significant impact on his interest in youth sports. He was a high school athlete under other Hall of Fame coaches, Tom Berry, Jim Procopio, and John Seal, participating in football and wrestling.



For several years, the Bruins annually played a team from New Jersey on the ACHS field, which lent a big-time atmosphere and provided a lifetime memory for a young football player. He later was part of Amherst's football success in the early 1970s, as an offensive and defensive lineman on the team that won the regionals in 1974 against Martinsville. The Lancers then encountered eventual champion Gate City in the state semi-finals. The whole Gate City football experience is a significant part of Amherst County sports lore.

Newman's most long-term impact on the Amherst County sports scene comes through his involvement in the Madison Heights Dixie Youth programs, especially with girls' softball. He has coached teams of all age divisions, has won district championships and taken one team to a berth in the state tournament. He has especially enjoyed combining players from various counties into traveling squads. Two of his former players have gone on to play softball at Lynchburg College.

Newman has worked in the Dixie Youth program literally from the ground up, from removing rocks from the fields to building bleachers, and proudly recognizes the Madison Heights facilities as being among the state's best. He has contributed through further involvement in the Dixie Youth organization in a variety of capacities for decades. The program has benefited greatly from Newman's leadership and dedication, especially in his organizational skills. He was a reliable cog long after his own children had ceased participation.

His particular interest is in the promotion of sports opportunities for girls, as he has worked with teams involving his three daughters, and now granddaughters. He finds it especially gratifying to see that enthusiasm for girls' and women's sports is now emerging worldwide. At the same time, he can reflect upon the continuing achievements that are being enjoyed locally, on fields and among teams that he has helped to build and support.

Gregory Lee Newman – January 20, 1956

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Youth: Football – Madison Heights (1962-66); Baseball, Madison Heights (1964-68)
- ACHS: Football – J.V. (1970), Varsity (1971-75), lineman, district championship, regional championship, state semi-finals (1974); Wrestling – heavyweight (1974-75)
- Coach: Softball – Madison Heights Dixie Youth (1990-2013), district championships, state tournament; travel teams (2006-09), state 10th place
- MHYBA: Board member (25 years), Vice-president (1996), President (1997-99), equipment manager (2003)
- Amherst County: Amherst Sports Boosters, Band Boosters (1996-2002, 2005-09)