

LYNETTE MILES

As a child growing up in Philadelphia, then in Nelson County, Lynette Miles did not have many experiences in sports. It was not until her physical education teachers, Leroy Witt and Mr. Clark, in fifth and sixth grades, introduced her to sports that she started to develop that interest. They would enjoy field day competitions among the elementary schools, and she was able to then showcase her skills in a variety of activities.



Opportunities for girls in interscholastic sports were just coming into the picture in the 1970s. Her middle school physical education teacher, Carolyn Fleming, provided the girls with a limited intramural program after school, to supplement their class time in the gym and on the playing fields.

Her parents were reluctant to grant permission for her participating in sports in high school, but her coach was able to convince them of her potential and they graciously relented. She got her first taste of interscholastic competition at Nelson County High School, where she was a member of the class of 1974. There she was a leader on the basketball team, coached by Anna Leigh Greene and Connie Nimmo. Her successful experiences in basketball opened new opportunities and she continued to enjoy high school sports in the spring, with participation in both softball and track. She was an award-winning athlete in basketball and softball.

As a student then at Averett College (now University), she continued to play basketball under coach Rhonda Fleming. She was cited as the most improved player, and later as the recipient of the scoring award.

With a degree in physical education, Miles started with a substituting job in the spring of 1979 at Monelison Junior High (now Middle School). She has become a permanent fixture and institution at the school, and has amassed enviable coaching records in four sports: volleyball (278-74), basketball (320-155), softball (6-4), and track (60-30-1). Beginning just at the time that more athletic opportunities were being afforded girls, even at the middle school level, Miles has been able to provide her teams with the leadership to give hundreds of early teenage girls a positive and fulfilling experience. Numerous former players have gone on to play at the college level.

Grateful for the leadership afforded her by her physical education teachers and coaches, she has aspired to pass on the same experiences and values to her girls – to work hard to develop to their highest potential, and to take pride in who they are, in what they can do, and in reaching for high goals in order that they are successful in life. She feels that the Lord has blessed her in this journey as she starts her 37th year.

Lynette Miles – December 18, 1955

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Nelson County Schools – Middle School, intramurals; NCHS basketball, softball (pitcher, shortstop, third base), track (800, relays, long jump, 200); basketball MVP, softball MVP
- Averett College – varsity basketball; intramural volleyball (2 years); club softball (2 years)
- Monelison Middle School – physical education teacher (37 years, current); athletic director (10 years, current); volleyball coach (24 years), basketball coach (36 years), softball coach (1 year), track coach (24 years)