



## AL SANER

### TEACHER - COACH

Al Saner is the first teacher/coach to be inducted into the Point Pleasant Hall of Fame. Coach Saner graduated from Gettysburg College in 1954 and then spent two years in the Army where he attained the rank of Captain in the Infantry. After he was discharged from the Army, he attended Montclair State College where he received his Masters degree.

Coach Saner grew up in West New York and played for two legendary coaches - Coviello of Memorial West New York and Kasberger of St. Benedict's Prep in Newark. Another legendary coach, Warren Wolf was instrumental in bringing Saner to Point Pleasant. He recommended Coach Saner to the Point Pleasant Board of Education when they were looking for a coach for the new high school in 1963.



Coach Saner wasted little time in establishing himself as one of the outstanding coaches of his time. He guided the Panther Football team to a 154-89-9 record, to win eleven Division titles and three State titles and to participate in five State playoffs. Twice the Panthers were named top team in Ocean County. Saner coached three unbeaten teams and thirty four consecutive winning games, which is a Shore Conference record.

Even though he was known more as a football coach, Coach Saner also has an outstanding record as a coach for Track and Field. His teams compiled a 207-64-2 record in dual meets. They also won 6 Division titles, three Ocean County championships, three Shore Conference Relay championships and one Holmdel Relay championship.

Coach Saner has been named to the Shore Conference Hall of Fame, The NJSIAA State Coaches Hall of Fame and the NJ Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

In 1994, Coach Saner faced the biggest challenge of his life when he was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer. After his operations and recovery, he and his friend Elliot Denman organized the Al Saner Walk for Cancer, which is held each spring. The proceeds of this event have been donated to area hospitals to pay for testing for early detection of prostate cancer.

Coach Saner lives in Point Pleasant with his wife of forty years, Janice. They have two sons, James and Gary.