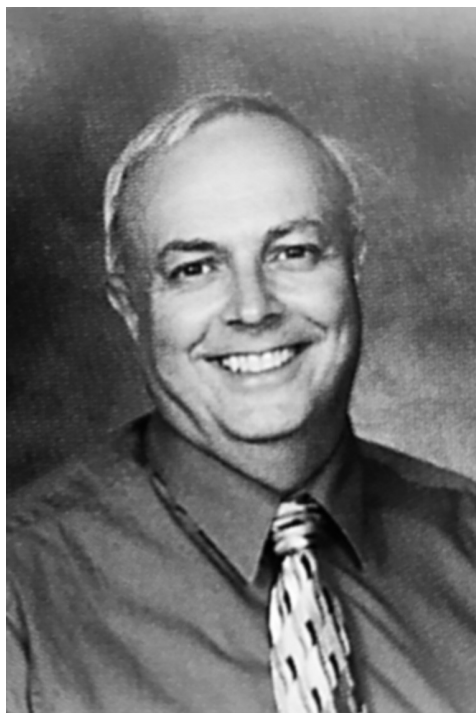




Bishop Stang High School

2019 Athletics Hall of Fame



COACH

JOE BALESTRACCI

1995—2014

DILIGENT

“Coach B” was only the third boys basketball coach in the history of the school, his career spanned 19 years and he enjoyed more than 200 wins. He was a professor of the game, dedicated to making sure his players knew the game, and that they were willing to commit to playing from baseline to baseline. Known for his impassioned coaching from the bench (or in front of it, as he never sat during a game), Coach B truly loved the game, and his players knew that he loved them too. He accepted nothing less than best effort from his players, and was diligent in practice and in the execution of the game plan. Coach’s straightforward manner and clear expectations were mirrored in his classroom, where students held him in high esteem. Under Coach B, Stang basketball was thorough and disciplined, and beat teams with the classic attributes of determination and consistency. Coach Balestracci led the Spartans to the state tournament in 13 of his last 16 seasons, including a trip to the state finals in 1997. His players admired his knowledge of the game, and Coach B’s teams were renowned for always playing fundamentally sound basketball and for being mentally tough.

Class of 2019 Bishop Stang Hall of Fame

