

**HIGH SCHOOLS
OF
DELAND
SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

**CLASS OF 2006
INDUCTION**

**DELAND-SPRUCE CREEK
FOOTBALL GAME**

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2005
"SPEC" MARTIN STADIUM**

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SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

The High Schools of DeLand Sports Hall of Fame was formed in the spring of 2000. Numerous people had commented about the need of the Hall but attempts had failed to get off the ground.

The original committee formed and decided that the first class would be inducted in the fall of 2002. It was decided to cover all public schools of DeLand which would include DeLand High School and the former Euclid and Southwestern High Schools. It was also decided that the Hall of Fame would include athletes, coaches, and boosters from these three high schools. The requirements of nominations were also decided upon, which can be found on a nomination sheet.

The first year of nominations found 23 athletes, coaches, and boosters being nominated. Six of these were selected to be in the first class for the fall of 2002. The second year found a total of 28 nominations with five of these being selected which is the maximum number that can be selected per year. This year there were more than 30 nominations from which the selections were made.

Each recipient receives a plaque for their own display. A second plaque is displayed on the Hall of Fame wall in the DeLand High School gym. You are welcome to come to the school and view the wall any time that the gym is open.

The current selection committee is composed of DHS Principal Mitch Moyer, DHS Athletic Director Craig Clements along with Sue Atkinson, Tom Bush, Red Calkins, Larry Candeto, Bo Davenport, Marian Fisher, Roger Gilmore, Bridgette Gordon, Dennis McComb, Reggie Odom, Martha Parissi, John Thomas, and Tony Tussing.

If you would like to make a nomination to the committee, contact the Athletic Director at DeLand High School, 386-822-6909 or mail the attached form on the back of this packet to DeLand High School, 800 North Hill Avenue, DeLand, Florida 32724. The funding for this project has been taken over by the DeLand High School Bulldog Booster Club. Any contributions should be made to that organization.

MARY ANN WALTS MEEKINS

Mary Ann Walts Meekins swam at DeLand High School and was in the class of 1944. Former DHS Coach "Spec" Martin was the one that got her to the state meets, where in 1941 she won three events. No one at DeLand High had repeated as a state champion until the 2000 season when Sara McLarty, the granddaughter of Meekins teammate Cynthia Fogle Bruce, won an event.

Meekins swam for the Riviera Club out of Indianapolis where she earned All-American honors from 1941 to 1944. She set the national record for the 800 freestyle event.

World War II prevented her or anyone else from swimming in the Olympics in 1944. She, however, was presented a certificate of being on the 1944 Mythical Olympic team. To this date she still swims in the Master Programs.

She and her husband, Charles, reside in Flagler Beach.

