

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VILLA MARIA ACADEMY COACH RECEIVES NATIONAL ACCLAIM

Malvern, PA When Maurene Moore graduated from Villa in 1964 she attended West Chester University as a Physical Education major. Upon graduation in 1968 she was hired at her Alma Mater, Villa Maria Academy, and has never looked back. Maurene was responsible for athletics in both the lower and upper schools. She taught all the health and physical education classes and was the coach for the field hockey, basketball, tennis and volleyball teams. "I was young and I was willing to work long and hard," she admits about the juggling act she was headlining.

She preferred the pace and maturity of the high school and after her first year at Villa, a separate AD was hired for the lower school. Maurene's performance as AD, teacher and coach has continued at Villa Maria for 43 years.

During her tenure at Villa Maria, Maurene has accumulated 565 career wins, including a 61 game winning streak achieved during 1994-95. Her squads have captured 19 AAAC League Championships, 10 PIAA AA District Championships, and two PIAA State Championships. She has led Villa Maria to the PIAA AA District Qualifier in 22 of 23 years. She ended her 2011-2012 Field Hockey Season with three high accolades from the Daily Local: Coach of the Year, Player of the Year (Caroline Troncelliti, senior) and Team of the Year. "Those distinctions never get old for me, ever. It's a sign that I'm doing my job right and this year it might have even meant a little more having the whole team involved," she says unwaveringly as she reflects on the honors.

Yet, Maurene's highest tribute came on January 14, 2012 when she was inducted into the ZAG Field Hockey NFHCA Hall of Fame. She was honored at the Philadelphia Convention Center at an induction ceremony.

One can't help but wonder if Maurene will ever end her coaching career. "I'll end a season and I'll tell myself I've had it, I'm done! But you get this whole new crop of potential players and you feel obligated to see the current ones through until the end. A competitive itch starts up again and I find myself on the sidelines coaching another season."

Maurene married Ron Polley early in her career. They have a son, Ryan, who is currently serving as Assistant Men's Lacrosse Coach at Yale University. Ryan is married to one of his mother's former players, Carolyn Gorrie '97.

Pictured: Villa Maria Field Hockey Coach Maurene Polley at her induction into the Field Hockey Coaches Hall of Fame at the Philadelphia Convention Center.

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With 16 Advanced Placement courses in eight disciplines offered at Villa Maria, students are guaranteed to find challenging coursework at any level. Ultimately, the proof of a school's success is the future success of the students. Students from Villa Maria have a distinguished record of achievement in both the caliber of colleges to which they are accepted and in the number of scholarships awarded to them. Since 2004, there have been 22 National Merit Finalists and 54 National Merit Commended Students. The class of 2011 received acceptances from 135 institutions of higher education and has matriculated at 48 different colleges and universities. In addition, the class of 2011 received a total of 245 merit-based scholarships totaling upwards of 12.7 million dollars.

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