

Walter "Bud" James (University of Chicago High School)

Bud James served as head boys and girls cross country coach at University of Chicago High School for 24 years. He served as head boys and girls track and field coach for 18 years. His boys TF team earned a fourth place at the Class A State in 1991 and a 2nd place State trophy in 1992. Bud coached a total of 24 All-State medal winners. He coached cross country teams to 19 regional championships and one sectional championship. 14 times his teams qualified for the State Meet. He coached individual Class A Cross Country State Champion Peter Mueller. He was awarded ITCCCA Boys Track and Field Coach of the Year in 1992. For many years, he, also, coached adult runners including a number of Olympic Trials qualifiers in the marathon and 10,000 meters. This includes his wife Cindy, a 2:36:04 marathoner and 4-time Olympic Trials qualifier, Jeff Jacobs a 3-time Olympic Trials qualifier. Bud was instrumental in the ITCCCA scholarship getting started 20 years ago. He was Park Forest scenic 10-mile race director for 20 years. He was a founding member of Running USA and served as head coach for the USA track and field national team for Seoul international road relay in 1992 and 1999. He received the USA track and field Presidents award in 1997. "Although retired, Bud will forever be coaching, because the life lessons and values he has taught those fortunate enough to be his athletes are the same ones they will share with everyone they meet."