

Alumni Stories

Frederick Battenfield, 1973-1975; Journalism

Years Attended: 1973-75 Area of Study: Journalism Email: fredintally@hotmail.com



Fred writes: "Currently Associate Professor of Sport Management at North Greenville University (Tigerville, SC). I earned a Ph.D. in sport management from Florida State University in 2004, a master's of sport administration from the U.S. Sports Academy in 1991 and a Bachelor of Journalism at The University of Texas at Austin in 1978. Worked three Olympic Games in the sport of volleyball; was a sports information director for 22 years at D I and D II schools and won 16 national publishing awards. I have published academic articles in the area of sport communications and marketing.

My sister Nancy (Moorhead), former YC physical education instructor and volleyball coach, tossed me a volleyball rule book one day and said, My sister Nancy (Moorhead), former YC physical education instructor and volleyball coach, tossed me a volleyball rule book one day during my freshman year, and said, "you're my referee." That was the beginning of a long association with volleyball where I became a national referee, played in four national tournaments, coached club volleyball and began the intercollegiate men's and women's programs at the University of Texas at San Antonio, among the many.

Bob Mikulewicz, the journalism instructor, launched me into the school paper, writing the recreation roundup for city Prescott Recreation Dept. in the Daily Courier, among other writing endeavors. His teaching launched me to Texas, where I graduated from one of the best journalism programs in the country and entered a long career in communications. Also, Dave Thayer, geology professor, still impacts my teaching career because he made learning rocks fun and instilled a thirst for creative thinking. Dave Brown, YC basketball coach, also taught me the basics of coaching that I utilized for many years.

People at my high school in Laredo, Texas thought I was nuts when I said I was going 1700 miles away to Yavapai. The best thing was that Willie Bean, another Texan, made me feel very welcome at YC. Maybe I was nuts, but I would do exactly the same thing today. YC gave me a solid academic foundation with its small classes and caring instructors. I actually remember more about my academic instructors at Yavapai than I do at The University of Texas. Although I haven't visited Prescott in many years, I still have a wonderful memory of the school on the hill where Teddy trained. Congrats on launching this Alumni Connection."