

Robert Randolph  
Youth Team Manager/Coach

Some people just have that golden touch. In coaching, that touch is pulling out the maximum effort and abilities from players and putting them together in a team framework to reach a goal — whether that goal is a win, a league championship, or even a state title. For 29 years, Robert Randolph did just that.

From 1967 to 1996, Robert coached at four area high schools — Trezevant, Collierville, Treadwell and Craigmont — and guided programs in basketball, track and field, cross country, golf, junior high football and other spring sports.

Although his love and much of his success was on the hardwood, Robert's first state title came on the cross-country course. In his first year of coaching in 1967, Robert led the Trezevant squad to the school's first state championship in any sport. That same year, he began his basketball coaching career as Trezevant's junior high coach.

From Trezevant, Robert moved to Collierville High, where he took over the reins of the boys senior basketball team. Over two seasons in 1972 and 1973, Robert led the Dragons to a 51-16 record and back-to-back state tournament appearances. Robert hit the pinnacle again in 1973, winning a second state title, this time in boys basketball. Collierville's state title was the first by a Memphis area team since 1938.

Robert also coached junior high football at Collierville, and, well, success there was just as quick. He guided the junior high Dragons to three Shelby County junior high championships and dropped only 3 games over 3 seasons.

After Collierville, Robert took his winning ways to Treadwell. He coached boys basketball and spring sports at Treadwell for 8 years, but it didn't take him long to get to the mountaintop again. In 1977, he led the Eagles to a 30-7 record and the TSSAA Class AA state championship. Treadwell won the crown with a 57-56 victory over Manassas. For his efforts, Robert was named the 1977 Best of Preps Coach of the Year for all sports.

Robert wrapped up his prep coaching at Craigmont for 14 years, leading the basketball and golf teams in his time with Chiefs.

He finished his high school coaching career with more than 400 victories. But more telling than the titles and wins was the impact he had on the young men who played for him, including Hank McDowell and Keiron Shine, who played at Memphis, and Tony Mickens, who played at Florida.

Please welcome to the Hall of Fame posthumously, as a youth team manager/coach — the late Robert Randolph. Accepting the honor for his father is his son, Robbie.