



MINNESOTA HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STAR FOOTBALL GAME



2009 Honorees

Shining Stars – Honoring Our Past All-Stars

For the second year, the Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game's "Shining Stars" program honors All-Star players from past years. The purpose of the "Shining Stars" program is to recognize past players who have made significant contributions to the Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game and in their lives since their All-Star Game experience. Former players that are selected as Shining Stars will be involved with this year's game and will be recognized during this year's All-Star events.

2009 Shining Star: Bruce Virgin, 1946 All-Star Game Alumnus

- Bruce Virgin is a 1946 graduate of Wells High School.
- Bruce earned All-Conference honors while at Wells in both basketball and football.
- In 1946 (63 years ago), Bruce played in the second-ever Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game as an End on the South All-Star team.
- Bruce graduated from the University of Minnesota and earned his Masters Degree from St. Thomas University.
- Bruce was a math teacher and taught in Minnesota high schools for 39 years.
 - He began his teaching career at Bagley High School and finished the last 34 years at St. Paul Harding High School.
 - At Harding Bruce was an assistant coach in football, basketball, and softball.
- He also was a high school football, basketball, and baseball official for many years.
- Bruce and his wife Kathleen have been married for 58 years; they are the proud grandparents of 11 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.
- The Virgins' reside in South St. Paul, Minnesota.

2009 Honorary Captains: Duane Blaska and Julian Hook

On the 50th anniversary of the 1959 Minnesota High School All-Star Game, we welcome back two of the Captains from that game. The 1959 All-Star Game was played on August 26, 1959 at the former Parade Stadium in Minneapolis, with the South All-Stars winning 18-7.

Duane Blaska: 1959 Captain, North All-Stars

- Named to 1958 Minneapolis Tribune All-State Football Team (Defense)
- Graduated from Anoka High School in 1959
- 1959 Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game: offensive captain and starting QB for the North All-Stars. His All-Star Game head coach was Bill Bevan, a former University of Minnesota All-American.
- Duane was one of 22 All-State players to participate in the 1959 All-Star Game.
- Member of University of Minnesota Golden Gophers football team, 1960-1962
 - Enrolled at the University of Minnesota at a wonderful time in their football history, playing on teams contending for the Big Ten Championship all three years, and a member of the only two Minnesota teams to go to the Rose Bowl.
 - Member of National Championship Football Team, University of Minnesota, 1961
 - Member of the Minnesota Gophers' Rose Bowl team, 1961 and 1962
 - Starting QB for Minnesota Gophers his senior year (1962)
- Graduated with a business degree in 1964 and worked 35 years for the McKesson Company in Pharmaceutical Distribution.
- Married to Wife Joan (a St. Cloud State Professor) for 45 years and have two sons.
- Currently resides in Anoka, MN

Julian Hook: 1959 Captain, South All-Stars

- Named to 1958 Minneapolis Tribune All-State Football Team (Defense)
- Member of the 1958 state champion Robbinsdale Robins football team
- Graduated from Robbinsdale High School, 1959
- 1959 Minnesota High School All-Star Football Game: defensive captain and starting linebacker for South All-Stars. His All-Star Game head coach was former Gopher head coach Bernie Bierman.
- Julian was one of 22 All-State players to participate in the 1959 All-Star Game.
- Member of University of Minnesota Golden Gophers football team, 1960-1962
 - Member of National Championship Football Team, University of Minnesota, 1961
 - Member of the Minnesota Gophers' Rose Bowl team, 1961 and 1962
 - All Big-Ten Linebacker, 1962
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration, University of Minnesota, 1963
- Master of Science Degree in Business Administration, University of Minnesota, 1964
- Juris Doctorate Degree, University of Minnesota Law School, 1967
- State Office: State Representative District 30A 1971-1972, State Representative District 41A 1973-1974
- Attorney based in Wayzata, MN, working in real estate, estate planning and corporate law
- Instructor, Business Law, University of St. Thomas, Master of Business Administration, 1975 to present
- Family: Wife, Peggy and children, Joseph, Michael, Patrick, Sarah and Elizabeth; 3 grandchildren
- Resides in Wayzata, MN