

I am honored to be named to the Pacific Northwest Football Hall of Fame. There are so many people whose influences and personalities go into the making of any coach. I would like to thank some of them who have had a big impact on my life and my thirty years of coaching.

1: My wife Marianne—mother of six children, foster mother of two more—and owning a law firm at the same time and now running for judge this August in King County---if there is a hall of fame for football coach's wives, she should be in it. I recall back in 1988, I was scouting a game (and this was in the day when you could not film your opponent and did things by hand). I can actually recall the date as it was her birthday, and she went with me—it was Friday October 13, 1988. We watched Billy Joe Hobert and the Puyallup Vikings carve apart whomever they were playing. At the time, I knew this girl was incredibly special and particularly unselfish, and we were married seven months later----and had our reception at Husky Stadium naturally. Football coach's wives are very special people ☺.

2: My mother Margery Jones signed me up for football in 3rd grade back in 1973. Thank you for doing that Mom ☺. My mother's calm and gentle encouragement through the years has always helped balance my ship and I have always felt like she was my biggest ally and supporter through the years.

3: My brother Darcy pushed me into football back in 3rd grade and has always made me feel like he was following my playing and coaching career with pride. I recall back when I was a sophomore on the Varsity kickoff team in 1979 at Bellevue High, and he had a few of his friends over who had been at Bellevue a number of years earlier, and he was telling them with pride about his little brother's exploits on the football field. I have always felt his strong support, pride and encouragement throughout the years and he has been to many, many of my games for many, many decades. Thanks Darcy.

4: My father, who passed away a number of years ago, had a rather unique impact on my football life and career. I spent many decades with my father at football games analyzing strategies and decisions of the coaching staffs of both teams. If you are familiar with how a typical civil engineer tackles problems and comes up with solutions, you will understand how strong of an impact this mathematical no nonsense approach to things had on me and was ingrained into my football mindset.

5: Coach Morgan and Coach Lampkin were my first football coaches. Coach Morgan was the brains and ran the offense, Coach Lampkin was the fire and ran the defense. Even though it was almost forty years ago, I can still picture both of them quite clearly. It was a different time back then and coaches of seven and eight year olds were rather liberal with their use of the English language, particularly when they were upset about something. At the time, I was attending Bellevue Christian School and I recall my mouthguard honestly just falling out of my

mouth as I listened to Coach Lampkin get on me about getting beat outside and giving up my outside shoulder at one of our first practices (I was a defensive end my first year). I believe that might have been one of the most frightening moments of my childhood. Funny thing is though, I really, really liked Coach Lampkin as he had a unique way of inspiring you as he was always fair and gave out just as much praise as he did correction. I can honestly say that for the rest of that entire season, practice or game, no one EVER got outside of me with the ball, and I did not ever give up my outside shoulder again---my school got me to read my Bible, but it was Coach Lampkin who literally put the fear of God into me.

6: As I progressed through the junior football world, other great coaches made big impacts on me and how I learned the game. Rick Redman, Cary Bozeman and Coach Bannick come to mind as strong personalities that helped shape how I played and later coached the game. Good people.

7: In 1979, I entered Bellevue High School and met the man who would most influence my coaching career—Dwaine Hatch. Coach Hatch was tough as nails and expected nothing less than that from his players. Coach had more sayings to remember than any man I have ever met. Here are a few of my favorites:

- a) Things are never as good as they seem, and things are never as bad as they seem—they are usually somewhere in between.
- b) The football field is a terrible place to be if you don't really want to be there.
- c) The only man you really need to impress is the man looking back from the glass.
- d) Winning isn't everything, but losing really sucks.
- e) Ability is important but dependability is critical

In 1995, I learned an "all timer" from Coach Hatch. That was the year I had the distinct honor of coaching with long time Snohomish line coach Ed Lucero. Coach Lucero, who is still coaching at Snohomish to this day, was our line coach at Sultan High School. Dwaine was the head coach and I was the offensive coordinator. We were absolutely destroying a team that day and we were ahead something like 49 to 14 with just over four minutes left in the game. Coach Lucero and I wanted to put some of the younger players into the game and we approached Coach Hatch about it. Unfortunately, the team we were playing had a stud running back we were having difficulty tackling and bringing down and he had gained quite a few yards that day. Coach Hatch ran our defense and I know this had been frustrating him all night long. When Ed and I approached him and asked, his response was something I will never forget, he said, "Are you kidding? We're not out of the woods yet!". Ed and I looked at each other, looked at the

scoreboard and the clock and both began to walk away with puzzled looks on our faces. Ed then darn near made me fall down laughing to tears as he could not help himself and he replied—"Well Coach, if we're not out of the woods yet, could we at least agree that the trees are getting a bit thinner?"

Coach Hatch introduced the Wing T to Bellevue High School in the fall of 1980, my junior year. It has gone through many tweaks, changes and modifications through all these years, but it has remained a cornerstone for that football program ever since. As I look at the rosters of our junior football programs and who it is that has been coaching the young players in Bellevue, the rosters are literally covered with former players of Dwaine Hatch's—Scott Svenson, Clint Mead, Todd Barnard, Bill Jolley, Bill Richmond, Steve Bennett, Greg Riva, Mark Landes, Pat Hill, myself---all former players or teammates of mine, and all of them former players for Dwaine. Coach Hatch's legacy is literally stamped to this day all over the Football Fields around Bellevue at all levels of play.

8: Neil Buckmaster was my 9th grade PE Teacher, and one of my football coaches in high school. Coach Buckmaster brought that tough Marine background and discipline to all whom he coached and has had a unique and distinct impact on my life as both a student athlete and as a coach. Coach Buckmaster is a great football coach, basketball coach and baseball coach. No matter the sport, Coach Buckmaster was simply a great coach at it and has a way of inspiring his players to want to better themselves and give their very best and being very fundamentally sound. When I became the Varsity Line Coach for Bellevue High School, Coach Buckmaster was an incredible mentor and teacher and has been a huge influence in my football life.

9: Bruce Nelson and I coached for many years together both in high school football and junior football (and many years coached both at the same time which isn't easy to do). Bruce has an amazing eye for what is going on at the field level and is an incredible scout and evaluator of another team's tendencies and talents. I have always focused on coaching my players and making them better, but Bruce helped teach me to not only do that well, but how to better see how the other team is doing things and where their weaknesses are. Bruce has been a great friend and a great mind to bounce things off of over the years and his impact to my football life has been a huge asset to me through the years.

10: Ed Lucero: As I mentioned earlier, Ed and I coached together quite a few years ago—however, Ed and I have stayed in contact through the years and Ed has also been an incredibly valuable mentor to me and how to coach an offensive line. I can't imagine having any two better mentors on teaching offensive line play than Neil Buckmaster and Ed Lucero. What an incredibly fortunate man I am to not only have learned from one of them but from both of them. Ed is my kind of football coach---old school, salty but not inappropriate with the players. Many of Ed's players think their name is "Donkey" which I always found rather amusing. As

with Coach Buckmaster and Coach Hatch and Coach Lampkin, Coach Lucero's toughness is genuine, and balanced with compassion and a true interest in what is best for his players.

11: Clint & Lance Rhinehart---Clint and Lance have worked with me for many, many years in the construction field. Their incredible abilities in that arena have been what has allowed me to find the time to coach football for so many, many years. Without their talents, I would have had to leave coaching many, many years ago. It is because of them that I am even able to be here today still coaching.

12: Butch Goncharoff: In all my years of coaching with Butch, what has always struck me as incredibly unique to him is how incredibly prepared so FAR in advance he is. While always able to maintain his focus on the game at hand, Butch has the uncanny ability of always being two or three steps ahead of everybody else about what is to come next week, or next month, or next year—almost like he has already been to the future, seen it, and is back in the present making adjustments for the future. It is simply hard to imagine someone outworking Butch with regard to a football game. I honestly just can't see it happening. His preparation and attention to detail never ceases to amaze me. Butch has taught me how to take preparation to the next level—a level that is hard to keep up with.

13: To my children---Jordan, Dakota, Dallas, Montana, Brooklyn and Indiana--- All of you have simply made football a part of your own lives—my four daughters all being water girls, Dakota a ball boy for eight years and now a player at the high school and my five year old now chomping at the bit to join in. Children, thank you for sharing your dad with so many others. I have had what I would describe as a "perfect" football moment: Up in the press box working the game, my daughter Dallas on the sidelines as a cheerleader, her brother Dakota playing well on the field, my daughters Brooklyn and Montana running around the sidelines with water bottles in their hands, and my wife, oldest daughter Jordan (who was a long time water girl, track captain and cross country captain at Bellevue) and youngest son Indiana sitting in the stands watching it all happen. It's hard to get better than that for a football coach.

I am sincerely honored and humbled by this award, and appreciative to so many who have had such a strong positive influence in my forty years of football—ten as a player and thirty as a coach. The last time it was fall and football season and I wasn't part of a football team, Richard Nixon was the President of the United States and the Miami Dolphins were having the first and only undefeated season in the NFL. Puts things into perspective when I think about it that way. Thank you!