



Michele Tidick

Year of Induction: **2013**

Year of Graduation: **N/A**

Coach, role model, confidant, leader, advocate—these are only a few of the terms used to describe Michele Tidick by her former players. Throughout her distinguished career in education and athletics, Ms. Tidick established herself as someone who was respected by all who came to know her. Without question, Ms. Tidick is one of our area's leading figures in the area of women's basketball, and her time with the Wildcats was memorable beyond anyone's expectations.

Michele began her coaching career with the Wildcats during the 1975-1976 basketball season. In addition to her years of coaching girls' basketball, Ms. Tidick also coached the girls' varsity swim team for 14 years, and she was the varsity bowling coach for one season. She took over the girls' basketball program and immediately led them to excellence. In her first season at the helm, the Wildcats went undefeated, winning all 18 games on their way to both the STAC and Section IV championships. Similar success followed in the '76-'77 season as the Lady Wildcats repeated as Section IV champions. These two years established the Wildcats as a force in Section IV, but even greater heights were to be reached. The 1984-'85 season will be remembered by the Johnson City community as it brought the Wildcats their first ever New York State Championship in any sport. Michele's team won a total of 23 games during their run to the state title, and to this day, almost 30 years later, it remains the only state championship a Johnson City basketball team has won. In all, Ms. Tidick's Johnson City teams won 132 games over the course of her 12 years as head coach, but the impact she would make on the local women's basketball scene was just beginning.

After leaving Johnson City, Ms. Tidick went on to continue her coaching career at Vestal where she won four STAC championships and five sectional championships. She also coached in the Empire State Games for many years. At the conclusion of her coaching career, Ms. Tidick achieved the rare milestone of over 400 total victories. Ms. Tidick's contributions to the game of basketball extend far beyond her coaching records. Below is a snapshot of Michele's involvement:

- 28-year volunteer with the Empire State Games, serving as coach and Regional Director
- Member of the Basketball Coaches Association of NY since its inception—Michele was the first woman to serve as President and Vice-President of this organization
- 17-year STAC Chairperson for women's basketball
- 17-year member of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association

- Currently the official scorekeeper for the Binghamton University Men's and Women's basketball teams
- 6-year volunteer for Special Olympics

For all of her accomplishments and contributions, Michele was inducted into the Section IV Hall of Fame and the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame in 2008. The Johnson City Athletic Hall of Fame is proud to welcome Michele Tidick, the coach who guided Johnson City's first state championship team and who has been a champion both on and off the court for her entire career.