

More changes: District 1 Athletic Director Deaton leaving staff August 28

Written by Marty Randall

Wednesday, 20 August 2014 00:00 -

Three members of the Scott School District 1 staff retired this past May.

Longtime Austin Middle School teachers Linda Caudill and Jack Owens and counselor Dennis Barrett received the congratulations and thanks of fellow teachers and administrators at the end of the 2013-14 school year.

On Thursday, August 28, the district's athletic director, Mike Deaton, will end his career as well, capping 28 years as the district's AD and with a total of 40 years in education.

Deaton was born in Hazard, Ky., to the late Charlie and Iva Pearl Deaton. The family moved to Scott County in 1958, and Charlie Deaton eventually became the district's elementary principal, while his wife taught for D1.

Their son graduated from Austin High School in 1970 and then attended Cumberland College (now University of Cumberland). Deaton got his degree there in 1974 and earned a master's degree in education from Indiana University in 1976.

When Deaton first joined District 1, he taught science and health. He also served as middle school athletic director for the latter seven of his first 12 years. When the position was merged with the high school AD job in 1986, he began serving as the AD for the entire district.

He also coached girls' basketball for 12 years. Deaton left coaching with a career win loss record of 130/106, but he got back into coaching in 2007-08, this time leading the boys' teams and accumulating a record 44/43 in the four years he coached the Eagles. He was the first AHS graduate to coach the Eagles basketball team since Harold Rigel left the job in 1952.

He finished the 2013-14 school year with 28 years as AD this past May.

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He commended Ryan Herald's willingness to take on what has become a job of juggling athletic schedules in not only basketball but also girls' softball and boy's baseball and girls' volleyball, cross country, track, tennis and soccer for middle and high school athletes. ADs are also required to attend several meetings and keep current on all new rules and rule changes determined by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA).

Deaton said he plans to spend several months relaxing before determining if he'd like to take on a new job. "It will be nice to sit back and see what comes my way," he related.