

Mark Alcorn



Mark Alcorn taught and coached at Holdingford High School for thirty-three years, coming in the fall of 1986 and retiring in the spring of 2019. In the classroom, his primary teaching assignment was government, United States history, and economics. He was also an Adjunct Instructor of History at St. Cloud State for eight years.

He published forty-seven articles for academic encyclopedias in the areas of constitutional law and history, one book chapter on President John Quincy Adams for the Chronology of the U.S. Presidency. He also presented scholarly research and papers a dozen times at conferences for college professors, such as the Midwest Political Science Association Annual meeting and the Western Political Science Association's Annual meeting.

He served as the social studies department chair for twenty-seven years, the teacher's right representative for twenty years, and a teacher's negotiator also for twenty years.

As a coach of thirty-four years, Mark served as the head girls and boys cross country and head girls track and field coach. He also served as an assistant track coach, boys and girls junior high basketball coach, as well as the girls C-squad basketball coach.

During his time coaching cross country and track and field, he coached and worked with thirteen individual and relay state champions. As a head coach, his cross country and track teams won numerous conference and section titles. In 1997, his girl's track team won the True Team State championship, and in 2000 and 2002, they won the MSHSL State Championship. His girl's track teams were also State Runner-up five times at the True Team State T&F meet.

Mark was named Cross Country Section Coach of the Year nine times, track section coach of the year five times, State Track Coach of the Year two times, and State True Team Track Coach of the Year twice. In 2019, he was inducted into the State High School T&F coaches association's Hall of Fame, having previously been inducted into the True Team Track Hall of Fame. The following year, he was given the President's Award for a lifetime of service to the track coaches association, having served several terms on the association's advisory boards, his involvement with True Team Track, and service as the president of the association for a term.

Since 1999, Mark has been the meet and competition manager for the True Team State T&F meets and continues that in retirement.

To Mark, the kids in his classroom and on his teams were easily the best part of the job. It is hard, to him, to imagine another school having nicer, more polite kids.

In retirement, he loves interacting with former student/athletes, sea kayaking, gravel biking, and participating in Canine Agility with two of his Siberian Huskies.

Lastly, Mark would like to thank two current Husker Hall of Fame members — Dale Bruns and Chet Blaszczek — for the influence they had on him as a young teacher and coach and his wife, RaNae, for all of her support of him and his student/athletes.

