



John L. Davis MS, ATC

EDUCATION: Ursinus College (BS), 1979; East Stroudsburg University (MS), 1983

CAREER: Volunteer assistant athletic trainer, Ursinus College, 1979-80; graduate assistant athletic trainer, East Stroudsburg University, 1980-81; assistant athletic trainer, Delaware Valley College, 1981-83; assistant athletic trainer, Amherst College, 1983-84; head athletic trainer, Montclair State University, 1984-present; director, University Health Center, Montclair State University, 1996; supervisor, Student EMS, Montclair State University, 1998; ATC spotter, NFL, 2015-present

VOLUNTEER SERVICE: NATA Board of Certification test site administrator and exam host, 1984-2004; National Blind Olympics host athletic trainer, 1986; U.S. Association of Blind Athletes Medical Advisory Committee, 1986-88; Pan-American Disabled Games athletic trainer, 1987; Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association secretary/treasurer, 1988-92; National Athletic Trainers' Association District Two secretary/treasurer, 1992-98; Medical Society of

New Jersey Committee on Medical Aspects of Sports, 1994-2011; National Athletic Trainers' Association Secretary/Treasurer's Committee co-chair, 1996-98; Athletic Training Society of New Jersey president-elect, president and past president, 1999-2005; Pequannock Little League safety officer, 2003-06; Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. Program instructor, 2004-present; National Athletic Trainers' Association District Two history and archives chair, 2004-present; National Athletic Trainers' Association College and University Athletic Trainers' Committee, 2008-13; NATA Financial Impact Tools Workgroup, 2009-10; CAATE Standards Review Workgroup, 2010-11; NCAA Student Athlete Affairs Advisory Group, 2010-13; National Special Olympics athletic trainer, 2014; NATA Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Committee, 2015-present; First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains church elder, 2011-14; Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association president and past president, 2011-17

Why did you pursue athletic training as your career?

Morris "Moe" DeFrank was an athletic trainer and physical education teacher at my school, Garnet Valley High School, and as an injured athlete, I saw the impact he had on the GV athletes. It was also inspirational to observe him evaluate and treat those from other schools after rival coaches from around the Delaware Valley, Pennsylvania, area called and requested his help. I believe his care and commitment helped to teach the area coaches about the value of athletic trainers.

What inspires you to volunteer and what do you get out of it?

Shortly after I arrived at Montclair State University in November 1984, I was introduced to Joe Camillone (Trenton State) and Tim Sensor (Kean), who were very involved in the New Jersey athletic training community. Also, a few months later, I found myself hosting the BOC exam at Montclair, where I met Ronnie Barnes (New York Giants) and Jim Gossett (Columbia) at that test site and they further introduced me to the benefits of volunteerism. The people and friends I have met through

being a volunteer in and outside of athletic training have been awesome. We have heard many times that athletic training is a "family," and being a part of something bigger than myself is very rewarding.

What is your most memorable moment?

I have had memorable moments from several different aspects of my career. This Hall of Fame induction, my EATA 49' Club induction in January and learning my daughter passed her BOC exam have been personal special moments. Athlete care wise, it was seeing a football player return to the field 10 days after arthroscopic surgery in 1987. Educationally, it was seeing Montclair State gain ATEP approval in 2000. EATA memories are the Party Dolls at Kutchers' Resort in 1988 and the financial redistribution in 1992. I am very proud to be one of only two EATA members to have held both the secretary/treasurer and president positions. My best NATA memory is helping the District Secretary/Treasurer's Committee get started in 1993.

Who are your biggest mentors and what impact have they had on you?

I have had many wonderful mentors – Pam

Chlad, head athletic trainer at Ursinus College; Phil Donley at West Chester University, where I was a "summer wonder"; John Thatcher, head athletic trainer at East Stroudsburg University, where I was a graduate assistant athletic trainer; and Joe Stantis at Amherst, a NATA Hall of Fame 1984 inductee. Bob Ward at Moravian College has been a personal lifelong friend and role model. Tim Sensor is a special friend and constant mentor.

What is the most valuable advice you have received during your career?

I can't say I was given any specific advice, but I did learn from my father to embrace the positive role models around me. I have tried to live by the motto "Don't count the days, make the days count!"

What advice would you give to young athletic trainers just starting out in the profession?

Your first job will not be your last, it does not have to be perfect nor have the best salary. Be totally committed; this is a career, not a 9-5 job. Reach out to the "family" of athletic trainers wherever you are located.