



**PINE ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME**

Robert Hoisington

2016

Robert C. Hoisington

Robert C. Hoisington was a 1946 graduate of Pine Island High School and was an outstanding three sport athlete, but would leave an incredible legacy as the first Pine Island Track athlete. A natural leader, Robert was the class president as a Sr. and was a great leader of the Football, Basketball, and Baseball teams. After going to elementary school in Oronoco, he decided to attend Pine Island High School. Not always having a ride, he displayed his character and fortitude, by running to school. Little did he realize that this determined effort to get to Pine Island would also lead to incredible stamina and a legendary career in his fourth sport, Track and Field. After a Baseball game in the Rochester area, "Bob" was allowed to try this new sport that was being introduced to the area, Track and Field. He was allowed to run and he was an immediate success. Thus, he is the first and paved the way for our Track and Field program, where thousands of PI athletes have followed his lead.

From competing for the "Islanders", the former nickname of Pine Island, he went to Macalester to earn his teaching and coaching degree and became one of the top half milers for the Scotts, and helped Macalester to three Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference titles, and has been named to their Athletic Hall of Fame.

His tremendous accomplishments as an athlete and leader at the High School and Collegiate level would be the foundation for a teaching and coaching career that spans over 6 decades. He went to Central and Southwest High Schools in Minneapolis and under his leadership, his teams claimed 7 State Championships, 22 Minneapolis City Track or Cross Country Championships, and 36 of his athletes won Individual State Championships. His honors are a tribute to his great contributions to our state and nation, as he is a member of these Hall of Fames; MN State High School League, MN Track Coaches, MN Cross Country Coaches, Minneapolis Public Schools, and the USA Track and Field HOF. Besides these honors, he was named the Outstanding Citizen Award recipient by Macalester, and received the Lifetime Contribution Award from the USA Track and Field Association. Though Robert has retired as a teacher and coach, he continues to be one of the most respected starters, referees, and meet managers in the nation.