

I lost Buddy on August 4th at 8:47 PM

<https://www.woodfinchapel.com/obituaries/buddy-powers>

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Another hair-razing experience

Riverdale's regular-season title leads to mohawks

By CHIP CIRILLO
Staff Writer

May makeovers have become a rite of spring for Buddy Powers. Last year the Riverdale baseball coach dyed his hair blond. Last week he got a mohawk. All in the name of a district championship.

"I'll do just about anything to get a victory," Powers said. Powers' motivational hair-styles began last season after the team won the District 7-AAA regular-season title.

"Last year a lot of the players bleached their hair, and I told them if they won it I'd bleach mine at the end of the season," Powers said. "So last year I had (blond) hair."

Last week four of the Warriors got mohawks before a crucial two-game series with Cookeville that determined the district title.

"They said, 'Coach, if we go ahead and do it will you do yours?' I said, 'Sure,'" said Powers, who got his mohawk in the dugout after Riverdale swept the Cookeville series.

Powers said he got a few everybody loose."

Powers got some wide-eyed looks when he visited his wife, Barbara, at Christiana Middle School the day after he received his new hairdo. She teaches eighth-grade English.

"I'm this straight-laced teacher, and my students said, 'Is that your husband?'" Barbara said. "They said, 'You're married to a mohawk man?' Some kid put his fingers up and said, 'Mohawk rocks.'"

Mohawks really rocked at the Powers household because infielder Trice Powers, the coach's son, also got a new haircut for the Cookeville game.

"I was the first one to do it," Trice said. "At first I was going to get a regular haircut, but our first baseman thought it would be funny to (get a mohawk.) I decided to leave it there, and a few of the guys joined in with me."

Coach Powers and his four mohawk players toned down their look by shaving their heads when the district tournament started Friday.

double-takes around Murfreesboro, but he doesn't regret it. "The kids got a kick out of it, and after they did theirs it took their mind off how important the two ballgames against Cookeville were," Powers said. "It's not a big thing, but it keeps

► Please see **POWERS, 3C**

LARRY MOODRUMACK / STAFF

Riverdale's Cody Harrell, Chad Hunter, Ben Jones and Trice Powers talked assistant coach Barry Messer, left, SID David Limbaugh, and Coach Buddy Powers into cutting their hair into mohawks before shaving it off after winning the district.

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<https://5starassets.blob.core.windows.net/multi-media/2581898/hub/Why%20Riverdale%20Baseball%20Bleaches%20Their%20Hair.pdf>

Now August 5, 2026:

So I spend the evening with sons Davy and JD getting my classroom ready, we go out to eat, I get home to watch my Cubs beat Skubal (fall asleep in the 4th inning - tired - lol) and wake up at 1:00am - to learn that Buddy Powers passed away at 8:47pm tonight.

Buddy is the reason I am in Murfreesboro instead of back in Atlanta

Buddy's first season coaching baseball at Riverdale was 1994. Davy's freshman football season was fall of 1994. Buddy was the head freshman football coach Bentley Shofner remember?

Buddy and Tom Nolan and others helped raise my 3 awesome kids.

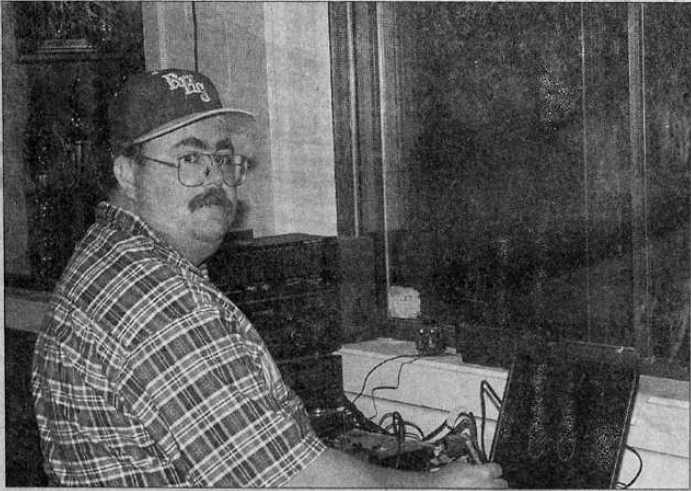
I went to my first Riverdale High School Baseball Alumni baseball game in spring of 1995. JD was playing baseball but any time he didn't have practice or a game we went to watch Riverdale. I noticed no music, no PA, just a scoreboard. I told some of the parents I grew up in Huntsville Park where a nice lady played an organ and batters were announced. Mrs. Maloney asked me to help. I bought them a boom box with a mic jack, a microphone and loaned them a film box full of CDs Stephen Burks Little did I know Dustin Smith.

Tom Kreager had just taken Steve Heath's place at the DNJ. Steve had taken old friend Cecil Joyce's place. In 2003 Tom did a story about me. I had been helping Riverdale for 8 years by then. If you read the article you will get an idea how much I loved Buddy.

RUTHERFORD

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TOM KREAGER / STAFF

Limbaugh knows the score

Riverdale benefits from statistician's passion

By TOM KREAGER
Sports Writer

Walk into the press box at the Riverdale High School baseball diamond and step into David Limbaugh's hobby.

It consists of a laptop, with music files dialed up. A television is tuned in to whatever baseball game is on the air beside him.

Cell phones go off, periodically. Some may be personal calls. However, most are either people adding to his hobby or tapping into it.

Limbaugh is a modern-day sports junkie. He always has been.

His hobby is just fueled by Riverdale athletics - specifically baseball and football.

"All of my life I've either played sports or watched sports," says Limbaugh, whose son J.D. is a sophomore on the team. "It's my hobby."

Limbaugh is affectionately known as the Riverdale sports information director by Riverdale baseball coach Buddy Powers. It's a title that he's earned after six years of compiling Riverdale baseball information.

Limbaugh runs his own Web site - riverdalewarriors.com that is full of Warrior baseball news and photos. The site began a few years ago after Limbaugh decided to build his own page.

Limbaugh lists all baseball scores from District 7-AAA. He also runs the district's standings, updates on the Warriors' games and links to newspapers where viewers can find a story on Riverdale athletics.

"I've donated that to the school," Limbaugh said. "I've registered that domain and that's a donation I make to the school."

Limbaugh started his hobby at Riverdale after attending a few baseball games. There wasn't any music or anything else to entertain fans. So, Limbaugh decided to do something about it.

"I just showed up one day," said Limbaugh, who used to run sound for bands. "I looked up one day and they didn't have any music or announcer or anything. I just showed up one day with a boom box and a box of CDs and pushed play."

He's been playing for the Warriors ever since.

Limbaugh said he isn't into entertaining the fans simply because he has a son on the team. Limbaugh said that he already has done this for the Warriors without any personal connections and he'll continue to do it after he doesn't have any children involved in Riverdale athletics.

"I'll do it for the rest of my life," Limbaugh said. "It's my mini-vacation."

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The last paragraph still haunts me Karen Becton Jones Doesn't it?

I start my 3rd baseball coach since 1995 with Wayne Kendrick

I am blessed to be able to say that Barry Messer

I have thousands of Buddy and Barry stories but this one is probably my favorite. Trice Powers Senior Season. Season is over. I am working Spring Fling at MTSU with Matthew Gillespie.

Buddy is up in the pressbox watching the games. Asks me if I want to ride down to Hoover and work with Bill Marbet on the grounds crew. Tells me to go home after the game and pack a bag and he will pick me really early Saturday morning and we will spend the weekend down there. I am in heaven - sitting in the left field house behind the fence with awesome grounds crew folks from around the SEC and Marbett's awesome DIRT folks. David Price is playing for Vandy. My favorite (to this day Ralph Skinner Collins Day) non-Riverdale player Zach Miller of Houston is playing for Ole Miss. We are around the Gator behind home plate and Ole Miss baseball SID Walks by and one of my Dirt friends tell him my favorite player is Zach - I told everyone that - lol - and Zach Cozart of Collierville starts walking up. He comes up with a ball to sign and I said, "Zach, I love ya - but wrong Zach" He laughs. Zach Miller brings a ball and signs it for me. That game, against Vandy, he hits a home run over the left field house and run down the hill and get it. Thanks to Buddy I have two Zach Miller baseballs.

On the way home Sunday evening, about halfway back, Buddy tells me he has resigned as baseball coach at Riverdale. That was my going away present from him. We lost Eron Powers last week and now Buddy. The Powers family is hurting right now. The Riverdale Baseball family is hurting right now. Please keep all of the Powers family and their friends in your thoughts and prayers.