

## Theo Morrow

### Sports



Reverend Theophylis Morrow, more affectionately known as Theo “Boo” Morrow graduated from Collinwood high school in 1963.

Morrow’s athletic career began in Junior High where he ran track and played freshmen football. At Collinwood he was encouraged to run track by the late Charley Hofelich. Along with track, Morrow also played varsity football and basketball. Morrow grew up in the Glenville area, and as a possible in-coming sophomore for January 1960, the football coach at Glenville high school told Morrow he was too small to compete against the varsity players. He received a special transfer from his Junior High school principal and with his mother’s signature, he transferred to Collinwood. No one ever said he was too small again. Morrow wants to thank Collinwood for giving him a chance.

Morrow’s athletic accomplishments include: 1960 - being a member of Collinwood East senate co-championship football team, 1962 - Collinwood’s Championships in track and field East Senate champs, District Championship track and field and Ohio State track and field championship, selected to the High School All-American in track and field team, voted Most Valuable Athlete at the Ohio State track and field championships, Cleveland Plain Dealer All-East Senate football team, the Cleveland Press All-scholastic football team, and the Cleveland Call and Post All-Star football team.

#### Individual accomplishments:

##### Track and field: (outdoors)

1962- State championship winner in 100 yard dash, District championship winner in the 100 yard dash. Set the record in the 180 yard slow hurdles, Senate track championships winner of the 100 yard dash, high and low hurdles 1961and 1962. Set the record for 180 yard low hurdles his junior year.

##### Track and field: (indoors)

1961-62 - Winning the 50 yard low hurdles in March 1961 included tying the record set by Harrison Dillard the 1952 Olympic champion.

- Winner and still record holder of the 50 yard high hurdles
- Winner of the Knights of Columbus high school 50 yard dash.

Morrow went on to the military in 1965. His experience there included Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Knox, Louisville, Kentucky. During Morrow’s Basic Training cycle he received a Top Secret security clearance. He was assigned to the Army Intelligence Division with the Air Force at Phang Rang air base South Vietnam, NCOIC of the transmitter sight, and served as the Liaison for Army Intelligence at Phang Rang air base. Morrow served 15 months in South Vietnam, January 1966 until March 1967. He was awarded the Vietnam service medal, Vietnam combat medal, 4 overseas combat service bars and a Good Conduct medal. In 1971, Morrow received an Honorable Discharge for service in the United States Army.

When Morrow returned from the Military in 1971, he became Licensed into the Gospel ministry. In 1972, he was ordained at the Morning Baptist Church and the Greater Peace Missionary Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio where he served as Director of Christian Education from 1979-1988. Morrow served as President of the Department of Christian Education; Liberty Baptist District Association for approximately 5 years in the early 1990's at the Central Bible Baptist Church. Morrow was also the Keynote speaker for both Progressive Baptist District Association, Youth Night and the Ohio State Baptist convention Youth department in Champagne, Michigan. Morrow also served as Pastor of Greater Mount Ararat Baptist Church. At Abundant Grace Fellowship, he serves as a member of the teacher's staff of the Adult Sunday school class. Morrow is also annual speaker for the senior outreach ministry and member of the Men's Grace Group ministry.

Morrow's credentials include:

American Baptist Theological Seminary; Nashville, Tennessee at the Cleveland Extension location earning both a Certificate in Christian Training in 1974 and a Diploma In Theology in 1976

Associate of Applied Science Degree from Cuyahoga Community College in Industrial Management – 1984

Graduate of the Center for Biblical Counseling from Light University in 2001

Morrow is also a Member of both the American Association of Christian Counselors and the Black African-American Christian Counselors.

Currently, Morrow can be found on the golf course (weather permitting) with his wife Annette or dispensing advice to their daughters, son-in-law and grandchildren. Theo and Annette have been married for 40 years and have two daughters, Felicia M. Cunningham and Saunita A. Morrow. They also have two grandchildren, Raymon and Imani and one son-in-law, Rev. Marcettis L. Cunningham.

Memories from The Collinwood Track Team

# The Cleveland Press

Sunday May 27, 1962

## Collinwood Is Ohio Track Champ

### Morrow Bags 17 Points, Wins 100

By Ed Chay  
Staff Correspondent

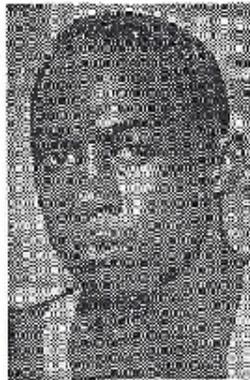
Columbus, O. - Cleveland Collinwood win its first state high school track and field championship at rain-drenched Ohio Stadium yesterday on the performance of two outstanding boys.

Fleet Theo Morrow and Mike Cavotta scored all of the Collinwood's 23 points, Morrow 17 and Cavotta six, as the Railroaders dethroned Dayton Roosevelt for the Class AA championship. Roosevelt, the pre-meet favorite, tied Cleveland East Tech for fourth place with 10 points. Dayton Dunbar was second with 21 points.

With Ron Hughes winning the 100, 200 and low hurdles and being voted the outstanding athlete in his division, Braceville captured Class A honors with 24 points.

Hughes is the seventh Class A performer in the 55-year history of the state meet to bag three firsts.

Morrow, sturdy senior, came close to duplicating Hughes' feat, but considering the atrocious weather conditions, Morrow's performance ranks with such former Class AA notables as Jesse Owens of East Tech, Gene Cole of Lancaster,



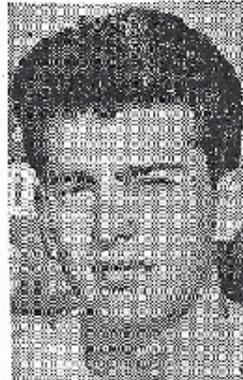
Theo Morrow

Glenn Davis Davis of Barbertown and Dave Mills of Lakewood.

**Morrow Won** the 100-yard dash in 10.2 seconds as a driving thunderstorm hit the stadium. In the preceding opening event the 120-yard high hurdles, Morrow was second in 14.3. He also placed second in the low hurdles (19.4) and was third in the broad jump during the morning with his all-time best of 22-6 1/4.

This tremendous effort earned the 5-8, 160-pound iron man the almost unanimous vote as the most valuable Class AA athlete. Hughes' selection was also by a wide margin.

Although Morrow took charge in the running events, Cavotta



Mike Cavotta

supplies a vital first place (six points) when he took the shot with a throw of 56 feet, 5 1/4 inches.

**Cavotta Had Fouled** at 58 and 59 feet on his two previous throws and had one more throw left. He came through with his clutch effort on the last attempt and that gave the Railroaders a rousing start.

Greater Clevelanders distinguished themselves by winning 14 individual titles, and gaining five second places.

Besides firsts by Morrow and Cavotta, husky Bill Lenkaitis of Strongsville, won the discus with 156-5; Jim McGeorge of Shaker Heights won the broad jump with 22-9 1/2; Jim Albrecht of North Olmsted won the pole vault.

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# The Cleveland Plain Dealer

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Thursday, May 31, 1962

## 'Twas "Glorious Day" in Collinwood Athletics! *Morrow, Cavotta State Champions*

by Lewis Coddington

For Theo Morrow, it was a magnificent day that took the award for top performance.

For Mike Cavotta, it was a clutch victory that erased all doubts as to who is the state's best shotputter. And for Collinwood it was perhaps the most glorious day in her athletic history. For the two-man team from Five Points took the coveted state championship last Saturday with 25 points.

"We have a goal this year," said Collinwood coach Charley Hofelich. "We want to win the District, State, and Senate." The District and State have been won. The Senate is tomorrow at West Tech.