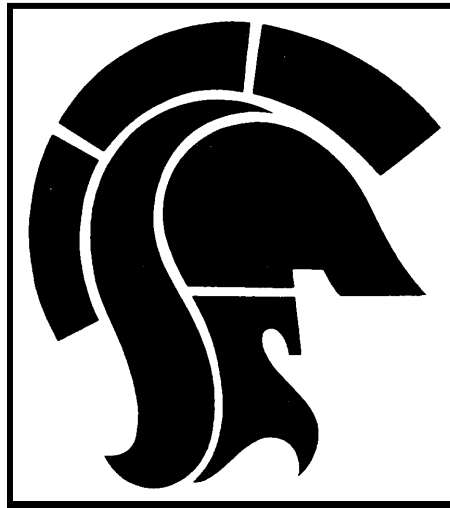


Shaler Area Athletic

Hall of Fame

CLASS OF 2016



Shaler Area Middle School

October 1, 2016

Athletes-Coaches-Officials

Contributors-Teams

Mission Statement

To recognize those individuals who have brought prestige and pride to the Shaler Area School district athletic program and to the community either as a player, coach, administrator, or supporter

Selection Committee

George Alexander, Teacher
Marna Bodnar, Community Member
Mark Connelly, Teacher-Coach
Gina Chmielewski, Teacher-Coach
Glenn Davis, Community Member
James DiNucci, 2001 Hall of Fame Inductee
Richard T. Dixon, 2001 Hall of Fame Inductee
David Fortun, 2007 Hall of Fame Inductee-Retired Teacher-Coach
Paul Holzshu, Retired Athletic Director
David Interthal, Teacher-Coach
Joseph Laslavic, Community Member
Carol Martin, 2008 Hall of Fame Inductee-Retired Teacher-Coach
Melissa McConville-Faulkner, Teacher
Kraig Nellis, 2007 Hall of Fame Inductee
Clint Rauscher, Athletic Director
Dr. Timothy Royall, High School Principal
David Shutter, Retired Principal
Mark Weidner, Community Member



SA Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony



Welcome ----- Dave Fortun
Committee Member

Master of Ceremonies ----- Dave Shutter

Dinner

Invocation ----- James Giel, Jr.

Presentations

Inductees

Walt Brown
Jesse DellaValle
Jill DiNucci
Olivia DiNucci
Brandon Lehmeier
Samantha Smyers

Bill and Sue Suit Memorial Athletic Scholarship

Dillon Brown & Jacey Schott

Walt Brown

Football - Wrestling - Track



Walt earned 10 varsity letters in high school as a 3 sport athlete, competing on the varsity football, track, and wrestling teams. He served as captain of the football and track teams and was named football MVP his senior season.

After high school, Walt spend 1 year at Staunton Military Academy where he again served as captain of the football team and was named a prep school All American. He received a football scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh, winning a national championship with the Panthers in 1976. Walt played in the Sun, Sugar, Gator, and Tangerine Bowls and was selected to play in the 1978 Senior Bowl. He was drafted in the 5th round by the Detroit Lions.



Jesse DellaValle

Football - Basketball



Jesse earned an impressive 7 high school varsity letters, 3 in football and 4 in basketball. He was a 3 time All Conference selection in Quad A football, a Post-Gazette Fabulous 22 selection, a Tribune Review Terrific 25 selection, and a 2nd team All- State selection as a multi-purpose back. His other honors include the KDKA Extra Effort Award, the WTAE Student Athlete of the Week Award, and being voted as the football team's MVP in 2009.

Jesse then lettered 3 years for Penn State University from 2012-2014. He ranked 2nd in the Big 10 in 2012 for punt return average, ranked 3rd nationally in punt return efficiency in 2013, and started at nickel back for a Nittany Lion defense that ranked 1st in the country in yards given up. Jesse was appointed as a team captain in 2014 and was a 3 time Academic All Big 10 selection.



Jill DiNucci

Basketball



As a 4 year letter winner, a 3 year captain, and a 4 year starter for the Lady Titan Varsity Basketball Team, Jill led the team in scoring for 4 consecutive seasons. She is the 3rd all- time leading scorer in school district history with 1,357 points, and Jill scored her 1,000th point during her junior season, an amazing accomplishment.

After graduating from Shaler Area, Jill played varsity basketball for the University of Chicago.



Olivia DiNucci

Basketball – Track & Field



Olivia earned 4 varsity letters in both basketball and track and field. On the court, she is the 5th all-time leading scorer for the Lady Titans with 1,093 career points. Olivia was named All-Conference, a Post-Gazette Fabulous 5 selection, and she received All WPIAL Honors for 3 consecutive seasons. She also competed in the WPIAL Championships for javelin and was an All-State Qualifier, setting the school district record at the time. Olivia's other high school honors include the WPIAL Scholar Athlete Award, the Chatham College Pat Blayden Spirit of Sport Award, the 2009 Shaler Area Female Athlete of the Year Award, and the U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award.

Olivia's basketball success continued at Emerson College where she started for 3 seasons and scored over 1,000 points. She also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Morocco where she coached over 10,000 Moroccan youth during her time there.



Brandon Lehmeier

Football – Wrestling - Track



Brandon earned an amazing 10 high school varsity letters, competing in football, wrestling, and track. More impressively, he dominated in each sport. In football, he is the school district's all-time leading rusher with over 3,000 yards. Brandon was voted the team's MVP in 2000 and was also named to the All Quad A North team and the prestigious Big 22.

In wrestling, Brandon was a WPIAL Champion, a PIAA Place Winner, and a winner of over 100 career matches. He was named the 2001 Wrestling Co-MVP, and he competed in the Dapper Dan Wrestling Classic. In track, Brandon's 10.8 second time in the 100 meter dash is still a school district record, and he competed in the 2000 and 2001 WPIAL Championships in that event. Brandon was also an integral part of the 2001 4x100 relay team which still holds the all-time school district record.

After high school, Brandon attended Slippery Rock University on a football scholarship.



Samantha Smyers

Golf



Samantha competed on the Shaler Area Varsity Men's Golf Team for 3 seasons before organizing and competing on the inaugural Women's Varsity Golf Team in 2009. She was a 4 year letter winner, a 4 time WPIAL Women's Gold Qualifier, and a PIAA State Championship Qualifier, ranking 22nd overall in the state.

Samantha was awarded a Division 1 golf scholarship to Saint Francis University where she competed for the Red Flash.



Shaler Area Athletic Hall of Fame

Class of 2001

James DiNucci
Richard T. Dixon
Arthur Howe
Kenneth Karcher
Joseph Kopnisky
James Laslevic
Louis Martig
Beverly Miller Markwith
Edwin Peery
Robert Siar

Class 2002

Mary Bukovac
Leo "Ducky" Elter
Forrest Ford
Julie Deer Keenan
Jan Kepple
Robert Kopnisky
Jerry Matulevic
Michael McDermott
Kenneth Nellis
'80 SA Baseball Team

Class 2003

Robert Bestwick
Gene Biles
Clifford "Lefty" Fair
Lauren Colaizzi Henzler
Keith Nellis
Kyle Nellis
Paul Schweiger
Gary M. Siriano
'77 '78 '79 Boys Swim Team

Class of 2004

Scott Bronowicz
Dr. Richard Brown
Earl Ceh
Donald Geyer
Robert Siar, Jr.
Matt Stennett
Jeff Trew
James Wirth
'80 Girls Basketball Team

Class of 2005

Alan Alt
Ralph DeStefano
Alan Gray
David Longwell
Clarence "Ben" Martin
Tricia Miller
Jason Rakers

Class of 2006

Colleen Geyer
Troy Letters
John Kuzniewski
Rich Massucci
'41 Millvale Football Team

Class 2007

Michael Handza
Michael Bacasa
Dave Fortun
Thomas 'Whitey' Gralewski
Richard LaFerriere
Kevin Nellis
Kraig Nellis
'47 '48 Shaler Football Team

Class 2008

Scott Alexander
Sam Bair
'45 Etna Basketball Team
Dan Kite
Carol Martin
Glenn Meyer
Harris Price

Class of 2009

2004 SA Softball Team
Curtis Hetz
Hannah Joyce
Doug Maggio
Clarence Metzger
William Suit

Class of 2010

Nicholas Christy
Yuri Dememtris
Leo Elter, Jr.
Joseph Miller
Michael 'Mickey' Moran
Milo Orsini
Howard Ruppert

Shaler Area Athletic Hall of Fame

Class of 2011

Donald Bender
Karen Hosek Kreuzer
Taylor Letters
Frank Merigliano
2006 SA Softball Team

Class of 2012

Ray Ballantine
Amy Bielski Hoffield
Steven Francis
Brenda Larrimer Miller
Nick Nelson
Robert "Popeye" Stout
'79 '80 SA Boys Soccer Team

Class of 2013

Pam Prah
Mandy Bodnor Leas
John Kuzemchak
Wayne Schuckert
'99 SA Baseball Team

Class of 2014

John 'Brooms' Abramovic, Sr.
Jill Anderson
Jack Bestwick
Melissa McQuade
Matthew Nelson
Richard Venezia

Class of 2015

Stuart Anglum
Dr. Edward 'Biff' Jones
Robert 'Bibby' Hammill
Nicholas Sefscik
Chelsea Siar
'73 '74 SA Wrestling Team

Special Thanks to:

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 - Nancy Cole, Shaler Area Print Shop
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 - Clint Rauscher, Athletic Director
- Denise Dillon, Athletic Administrative Secretary

