

1980 STATE CHAMPION GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM



The 1980 Shaler Area Girls Varsity Basketball Team amassed an amazing record of 33-3. The team captured both the WPIAL Class AAA Championship and the PIAA Class AAA State Championship.

The Lady Titans included Donna Miklavsic, Joyce Monahan, Michele Poerio, Valerie Roessler, Lynn Schreiber, Andrea Smyers, Teresa Solema, Anne Wallace, Doreen Behr, Carol Eckert, Lynn Eicher, Janice Fischer, Mary Ann Grubic, Karen Hosek, and Brenda Larrimer.

The 1980 championship team was coached by Tom Hanson and his assistant, Al Gray.

J. DONALD “DON” GEYER

Swimming Coach

1969 - 1976



Donald has made a name for himself playing and coaching many sports including football, baseball, volleyball, soccer, and track and field. His greatest contribution to Shaler Area, however, came in his roles as Supervisor of Health and Physical Education and varsity swimming coach.

As Supervisor of Health and Physical Education, Donald supervised 15 schools and 32 different teachers. Under his leadership, the school district implemented an innovative physical education curriculum which permitted students to specialize and allowed teachers to better utilize their skills and expertise.

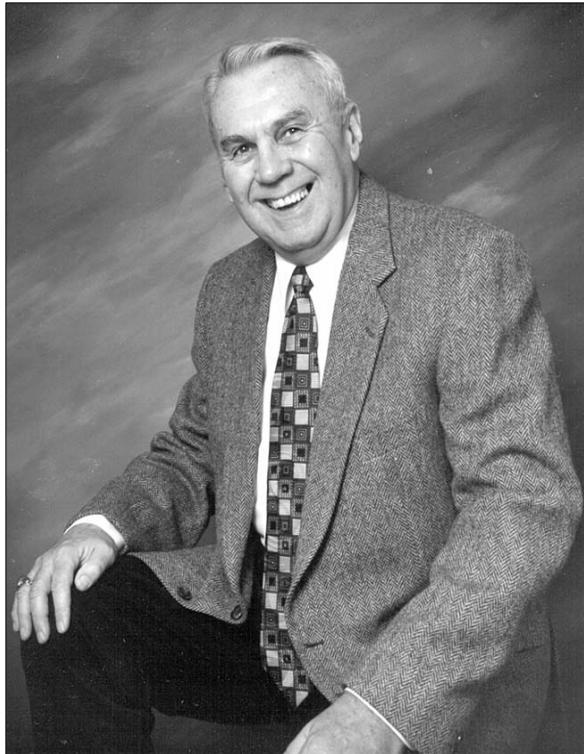
Donald is also credited with building the Shaler Area Swimming Program into one of the most dominant in the state. Throughout his tenure as coach, the boys and girls varsity swim teams were always at the forefront of any section in which they competed. Don laid the groundwork for Shaler's state champion teams in 1977, 1978 and 1979.

Donald was inducted into the Penn State University Hall of Fame for swimming in 1979. He also served as the WPIAL's Chairman for Swimming and was on the state committee in charge of organizing the championships. Donald has also been very active as a local and national official for 30 years.

EARL S. CEH

Millvale

Class of 1949



Earl's participation in high school athletics prompted him to dedicate his career to working with student athletes in many different capacities. At Millvale High School, Earl played football where he earned two varsity letters and basketball where he earned three letters and captained the 1949 squad.

Earl attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania from 1949 to 1953, and he received a Masters Degree from Edinboro University in 1970. He served as a head football coach for 21 years, an assistant football coach for four years, and worked as the North Hills High School Athletic Director for 16 years. Earl was also the President of

the WPIAL Football Coach's Association, the Clinic Moderator for Pittsburgh Coach of the Year Football Clinic since 1972, the Commissioner of Football Officials for all WPIAL Quad A schools for six years, and a basketball official for 25 years at the high school and college levels.

Earl was inducted into the Western Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame as a basketball official in 1980, was named Athletic Director of the Year in 1978 in District 2, was named Outstanding Basketball Official by the David B. Fawcett Tri-State Intercollegiate Association, and was inducted into the Western Pennsylvania Coach's Association Hall of Fame in 1973. Earl was also inducted into the North Hills School District's Hall of Fame in 1997, the Pennsylvania Scholastic Football Coach's Association Hall of Fame in 1990, and received recognition by the PIAA for contributions made as an official in 1973.

JAMES H. WIRTH

Shaler

Class of 1958



James was a three year letter winner in baseball at Shaler High School, but he truly made a name for himself on the basketball court. In 1957 and 1958, he was named both the WPIAL Section IX and Shaler's Most Valuable Player. He was the leading scorer throughout the district and was named to the "Herald" District All-Star Team. James also established the Shaler single game free throw record with an amazing 17 for 17 effort against West View, and he received the Pittsburgh Optimist Sportsmanship Award in 1958.

James was recruited to play basketball at Duquesne University, and he later transferred to St. Vincent College. At St. Vincent in 1962 and 1963, he was the team's leading scorer, co-captain, and was named to the all-conference basketball first team. James also coached basketball at St. Bonaventure and coached for 10 years for the DeHaven Baseball Association.

JEFF TREW

Shaler Area

Class of 1977



It is an understatement to say that Jeff was one of the most dominating swimmers in Pennsylvania during his years at Shaler Area High School. He was a six time WPIAL individual champion and a three time PIAA high school champion. In 1976, Jeff was ranked 5th nationally in the 500 yard freestyle and 11th in the 200 yard freestyle. He also captained and was an inspirational leader to the varsity swimming team from 1975 through 1977.

Jeff holds the Shaler team and pool record in the 200 and 500 freestyle and 400 freestyle relay. These records still stand today. He was also a state record holder in the 200 and 500 freestyle.

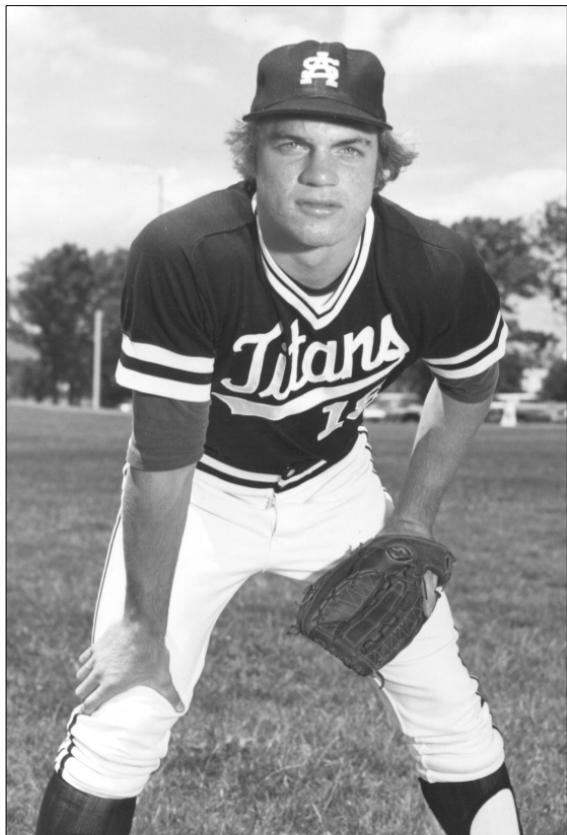
Jeff was the University of Pittsburgh's prize recruit in 1977. He attended and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh after earning a four year swimming scholarship where he served a team captain during his senior year. He was also a Mission Viejo Nadadores team member in 1978 and 1979.

Jeff already appears in the 2003 Hall of Fame as a member of the 1977-1978-1979 swim team.

MATT STENNETT

Shaler Area

Class of 1982



Matt dominated the football and baseball field during his years at Shaler Area High School. He was a three year letter winner in both sports and captained the football team in 1981 and the baseball team in 1982. Matt was named to the All-WPIAL Football Team in 1980 and 1981, the All-State Football Team in 1981, and *Parade* Magazine's All-American Football Team in 1982.

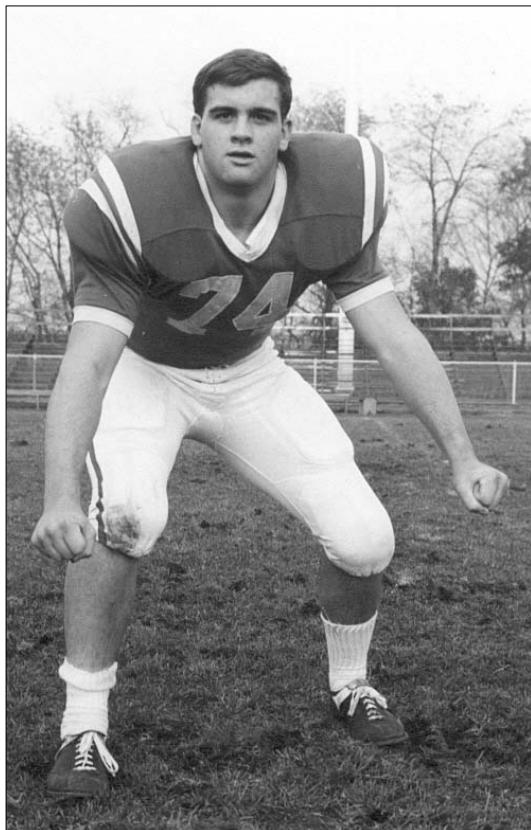
Matt's athletic accomplishments continued at the University of Pittsburgh where he was a two year letter winning wide receiver in 1984 through 1986. He was also a two year letter winner on the baseball team as an outfielder. In 1985,

Matt was named an All Big East Conference Outfielder and was an 11th round selection of the Houston Astros in 1986.

RICK M. BROWN

Shaler

Class of 1969



Richard was a stellar athlete at Shaler High School, distinguishing himself on the varsity football, wrestling, and track and field teams. In football, he earned three letters and was named captain and most valuable player his senior year. As a wrestler, Richard received two letters and was named captain and most valuable player. He was also the WPIAL Heavyweight Champion and the PIAA Runner-Up. On the track and field team, Richard was awarded three letters and was a two year captain and a two time most valuable player. Richard received more than 100 scholarship offers for his talent in all three sports.

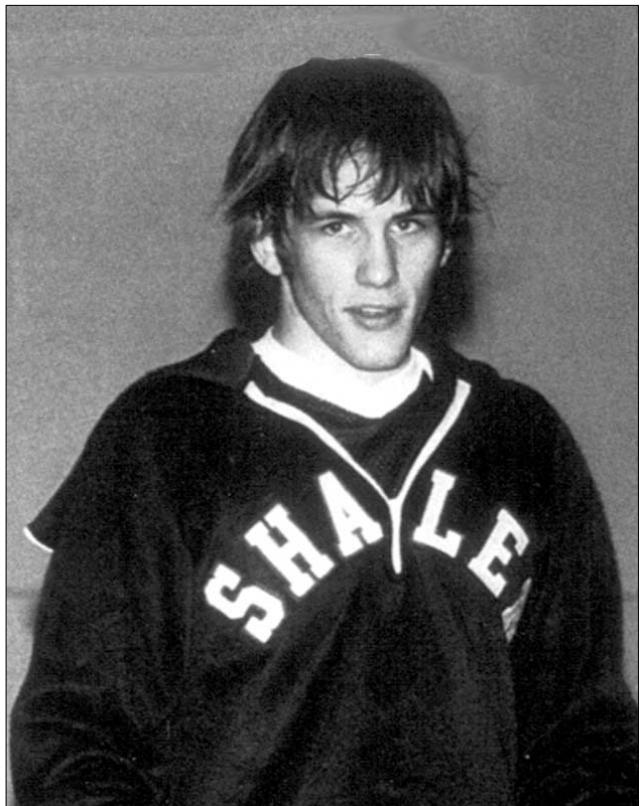
After receiving a NCAA Football Grant-in-Aid to Penn State University, he lettered in his junior and senior seasons. He played center in both the Sugar Bowl and the Cotton Bowl, and served as a graduate assistant for the Nittany Lions when they played in the 1975 Cotton Bowl. Richard also won the intramural wrestling championship four years in a row.

Richard has a M.S. degree in Outdoor Education and a Doctorate in Recreation Administration, and he is a Certified Fundraising Executive who is included in the *Who's Who in Fundraising Professionals*.

ROBERT M. SIAR

Shaler Area

Class of 1979



The Siar name at Shaler Area is synonymous with wrestling excellence, and Bob has certainly distinguished himself as both a wrestler and coach.

Bob won the PIAA State Wrestling Championship in 1979 as well as WPIAL sectional and regional championships in 1977, 1978, and 1979. He finished his wrestling career with a 98-3-1 record and was named a high school All-American three times. Bob was also named a US Army Scholar Athlete and received the Rex Peery Award for being the “most dedicated” wrestler. After graduation, Robert

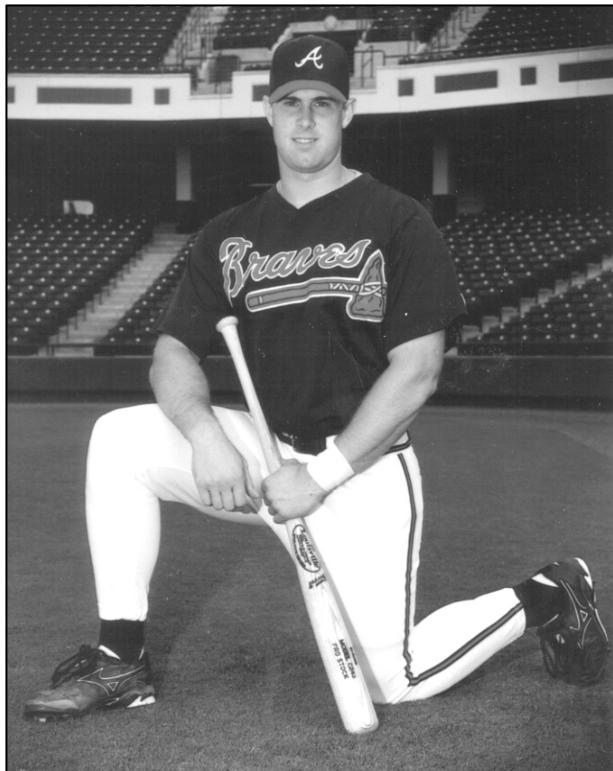
accepted a full scholarship to Michigan University.

In 1985, Bob accepted the position of Head Varsity Wrestling Coach at Cooper City, Florida. He served as Clarion University’s Assistant Wrestling Coach in 1989 and has served in the same capacity at Fox Chapel High School since 1991. Bob was named the WPIAL Assistant Coach of the Year in 2003, and he currently is the Allegheny County Wrestling Championship Director.

SCOTT BRONOWICZ

Shaler Area

Class of 1994



Scott dominated the baseball diamond during his four years at Shaler Area and then distinguished himself academically and athletically at the University of Maryland before playing professional baseball for several years.

At Shaler Area, Scott was a four year letterman and captain of the varsity baseball team. In the spring of 1994, he was voted the team's most valuable player and was named one of *USA Today*'s top – five candidates for Pennsylvania Player of the Year. His other honors that year included being selected as an all conference catcher, being named an All-

Star Western Pennsylvania catcher, and playing in Pennsylvania's East-West All-Star Game. Scott's success on the field resulted in him being drafted by the Houston Astros.

Scott chose to accept a baseball scholarship at the University of Maryland where he graduated in 1999 with a degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice. He was a four year varsity letter winner, a two time scholar athlete, and captain of the varsity baseball team. Scott concluded his college career as a .300 hitter whose 27 home runs rank him fourth best in the history of Maryland.

After graduating from Maryland, Scott was a catcher in the Atlanta Braves organization from 1998 to 2000 and for the Montreal Expos in 2000-2001.