

## **Albany Huskies Athletic Hall of Fame Biographies**

**1996**

**Julian "Curly" Gasperlin: Athlete 1945-1949**

Curly played football, basketball, baseball and track. He was a 4 year letter winner in baseball and a 3 year letter winner in football, basketball and track. He attended St. John's University where he played and lettered in football and baseball for 3 years.

**Jim Glatzmaier: Athlete 1968-1971**

Jim graduated in 1971 from Albany High School, where he participated in football, basketball, baseball and golf. He was All-Conference in football, basketball and golf. Jim was All-Area in football in 1971 and earned 17 letters during high school. In 1970 Jim was a member of the state championship baseball team.

**Peter Herges: Coach 1954-1993**

Even though he never competed as an athlete at Albany High School, Pete Herges contributed significantly to the success of teams and individuals through his 36 year association with the school district. Starting as a teacher and a coach in 1954 and then becoming Athletic Director shortly thereafter, Herges guided the athletic programs through one success after another. He coached football for 27 years compiling a 168-51 record. His teams were conference champions 13 times and inter-conference champions 3 times. He was District Coach of the Year 3 times and Region Coach of the Year once. He entered the Football Hall of Fame in 1986. He coached baseball for 10 years, including 4 conference championship teams. As a golf coach for 29 years he had one team state championship and 2 individual state championships. Other championships included 3 Region, 14 District and 19 Conference. Twenty-five individuals he coached were state entrants. He was named State Golf Coach of the Year once followed by National District 6 Coach of the Year. He was also an assistant basketball coach for 7 years. While Athletic Director, team championships were won at the state level by Girl's Basketball, Girl's Golf, Football, Boy's Golf and Baseball.

**Elmer Kohorst: Athlete 1950-1953**

A 1953 graduate of Albany, Elmer participated in football, basketball, baseball and track. He was All-Conference in football, basketball, baseball and All-Region in basketball and received All-State athletic honors as a senior. Following high school he attended the University of Notre Dame and was a 3 year letter winner in baseball as a catcher. He was selected to the NCAA All-American baseball team in both 1956 and 1957. This was the first time a Notre Dame baseball player had received this honor. After receiving his bachelor of science degree from Notre Dame, Kohorst signed a professional baseball contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers and played in their organization for 3 years. He managed semi-professional baseball teams in Rapid City, SD for 3 years and 2 years in Little Falls. He taught and coached basketball and baseball at St. John's Prep School for 12 years and then coached baseball and assisted in basketball at St. John's University until 1974.

**Del Schiffler: Athlete 1955-1958**

While attending Albany High School Del participated in baseball, basketball and football. He started in all 3 sports as a sophomore, junior and senior. During his junior and senior year he received All-Conference honors in all 3 sports. After receiving a teaching degree from St. Cloud State University he became a teacher and a coach at Melrose High School for 4 years, where he coached the 1974 Class A Basketball State Championship Team. He was president of the Minnesota State Basketball Coaches Association and a member of the advisory board.

**Joe Schleper: Athlete 1943-1946**

Joe attended Albany High School from 1943 to 1946. During this time he participated and lettered in football, basketball and baseball. Joe attended St. John's University for 2 years where he played baseball and St. Cloud State University for 2 years where he also played baseball.

**Kelly Skalicky: Athlete 1978-1981**

Graduating in 1981, Kelly was ranked 11th in her class by grade point average. She participated in golf and basketball. In 1981 she was All-American in basketball, golf and academics and was the National High School Golf Champion. In 1980 she was a member of the Minnesota High School State Basketball Champions. She was a state basketball tournament record holder for most assists in a single game, most assists in a 3 game series, most points in a single game, most points in a 3 game series, most field goals in a single game and most field goals in a 3 game series.

**Carol Thelen: Athlete 1979-1983**

Graduating in 1983, Carol participated in softball and basketball. She was MVP, All-Conference and All-Area in basketball and was All-State as a senior. She was All-Conference and All-Area in softball.

**1998**

**Dave Dirkes: Athlete 1972-1976**

Dave achieved a total of 6 letters in football and track. He was a Co-Captain in 1975 football and 1976 track teams. He was a 2 time All-Area selection in football, a 2 time MVP in track and 3 time District 19 shot put champion. In 1976 Dave became a Minnesota State High School Champion in shot put.

**Jerry Dirkes: Athlete 1963-1966**

Graduating in 1966, Jerry participated in cross country and track. He holds the District 19 880 record in track and numerous cross country course records. He went to St. Cloud State University where he was involved in cross country and track, earning All-American honors 4 times. In 1968 he was selected to run in an Olympic Qualifying Meet in Los Angeles.

**Janice Ettle: Athlete 1974-1977**

Janice was one of the pioneers of girl's sports in the state of Minnesota. She began her track career in 1974 while participating in the long jump and many running events. After winning events and setting school records she was named the 1977 Prep Track and Field Athlete of the Year. This inspired her to become a world class and All-American marathon runner.

**John G. (Jack) Hasbrouck: Athlete 1966-1970**

Jack lettered in football, basketball and baseball all four years of high school. He was named to the All Conference, All Area and All Region Basketball teams from tenth through twelfth grade. In football, he was All Conference and All Area in eleventh and twelfth grade. In his final year of high school, he was a member of the All State Baseball Tournament Team.

**Joe Hasbrouck - Athlete 1967-1971**

Joe was involved in golf, basketball, football, baseball and cross country. He lettered in football basketball and golf from 1968-1971. He was All-Conference in football from 1970-1971. He was a member of the basketball team that went to state in 1971. Joe won 2 individual state championships in golf in 1969 and 1970. Joe was awarded a golf scholarship to the University of Houston, TX.

**B.J. Michael: Superintendent 1944-1971**

B.J. was the Superintendent of schools in the Albany School District for twenty seven years and spent forty seven years working in education. He was a president of District 19 and Region 5 of the Minnesota State High School League. The Albany athletic field, Michael Field, is dedicated to him.

**Jeff Neutzling: Athlete 1969-1973**

Jeff participated in baseball, football and basketball. He was All-Conference in all these sports. He was a 4 year letter winner in baseball at the University of Minnesota. He was also on the All-Big Ten team his freshman and senior years.

**John "Boysie" Thelen: Athlete 1961-1965**

Boysie participated in football, baseball, track and basketball all 4 years in high school. He was Captain of 3 sports his senior year. In the years 1964-1965 he made All-Conference, All-District and All-Tournament for basketball. In 1963 and 1964 he was All-Conference for football.

**2002**

**Vern Baggenstoss: Athlete 1948-1952**

Vernon Baggenstoss was a 3 sport athlete and a member of AHS's first District 19 basketball team. Baggenstoss was named All Central Gopher Conference, All-District and All-Region after compiling a fantastic 27.7 points per game during his final prep

season. Following graduation, Baggenstoss enrolled at the University of Minnesota for 1 year and then entered the Armed Forces. While stationed at Fort Rich, Alaska, Baggenstoss led his base team to several Air Force basketball championships, eventually leading his team to the All Armed Forces Tournament in 1955. After leaving the service in 1955, Baggenstoss enrolled at SCSU where he became a 3 year All-Conference player and was awarded All-American status. In Baggenstoss' best year, he averaged 20 points per game and 22 rebounds per game. He graduated holding 3 rebounding records at SCSU. Following his years at SCSU he was drafted by the Minneapolis Lakers and was inducted into the SCSU Hall of Fame in 1984.

**Cheryl Pundsack DeBoer: Athlete 1983-1987**

A graduate of 1987, Cheryl was a 4 sport athlete for the Huskies in the 1980's, earning 10 letters and 6 All-Conference awards during her career. Additionally, Pundsack DeBoer had the unusual distinction of participating in the State Golf Meet as an 8th grader and the State Track Meet in the shot put as a senior. Although a real force on the basketball court, it was in volleyball that Pundsack DeBoer made her athletic mark. A 4 year starter for the Huskies, Pundsack DeBoer was All-Conference 3 straight years. Following graduation, Pundsack DeBoer entered Moorhead State University where she was named All-Conference in the Northern Sun for 2 years, All-NAIA District 3 years, a 1990 NAIA All-American and the MSU 1990 MVP after leading her squad to the National Tournament. She was a holder of 4 career marks at MSU.

**Paul Ebnet: Athlete 1957-1961, Coach 1967-2000**

Paul Ebnet won an amazing 16 letters in his years as an AHS athlete. A 3 time All Central Gopher Conference football player, Ebnet also lettered in baseball, basketball and track. A 3 year starter and 4 year letterman at SCSU, Ebnet was an All-Conference performer for the Huskies in 1964 and was named to the NAIA District 13 Football Team that same year. After graduating from SCSU, Paul returned to AHS in 1967 to begin a long career as an educator and coach. Ebnet served as an assistant football coach for Pete Herges for 11 years, as an assistant baseball coach for John Nett for 7 seasons, including the 1970 State Championship season, and an amazing 31 years as assistant basketball coach. Ebnet also was the head baseball coach for 13 seasons, winning 2 District 19 Titles and being named District 19 Coach of the Year in 1984. Coach Ebnet received his 25 year coaching award from the MSHSCA in 1995 and was named Minnesota Assistant Basketball Coach of the Year in 1997.

**Dick Glatzmaier: Athlete 1966-1970**

Dick Glatzmaier participated in football, baseball and basketball while at AHS. During his playing days he was named All-Conference in football and basketball in 1970 and in baseball in 1969 and 1970. He was named WCCO All-State Player of the Week in 1970 and was a member of the All-State Tournament Team after he led AHS to the Baseball State Title in 1970. Glatzmaier was a dominant force in high school baseball. During his senior year he pitched 32 consecutive innings without allowing a run and struck out 17 in the

state final, winning 1-0 in 12 innings against New Ulm. Glatzmaier has also 22 consecutive Grandma's Marathons and has completed several bicycle trips, including a trip from Eugene, Oregon to Little Falls, Minnesota; a total of 1900 miles.

#### Joe Lutz: Athlete 1943-1947

Joe Lutz was a 3 sport performer for AHS in the middle 1940's. Lutz was a regular for 2 years in football and baseball and for 3 years in basketball. His high school honors included the St. Cloud Times All-Area Football Team and being awarded the Senior Athlete Award in 1947. Lutz spent a lifetime in athletics and athletic administration, primarily in Mora, MN. Lutz served as an assistant football coach, head baseball coach and head basketball coach, compiling an excellent 240 win 122 loss record over 17 years. MHS Athletic Director for 25 years, Joe held a variety of Rum River Conference and MSHSL administrative positions.

#### Steve Schiffler: Athlete 1979-1983

A graduate of 1983, Steve garnered an amazing 8 All-Conference awards in his 4 year varsity career at AHS. Schiffler was a 3 year letterman in football and basketball. In addition, Schiffler was a 2 year member of the St. Cloud Times All-Area football team after quarterbacking the Huskies to 2 #1 ratings in the State Coaches Poll. But it was in golf where Schiffler gained his most notoriety. A 4 year letterman and 4 year All-Conference winner, Schiffler made 3 runs at a State Championship, finishing 2nd in 1982. Schiffler is well known in the Minnesota State Amateur Golf circles. As a freshman he won the Jr. MGA title. He has also been selected to play in various MGA/PGA matches and has been selected to play in the MGA Minnesota-Manitoba Cup matches. He has also played in several State Amateurs and was a 4 year letter winner in golf at St. Cloud State University.

#### William Seiler: Athlete 1986-1990

A graduate of 1990, Willie participated in football, basketball and track at AHS, lettering 4 years in track and 3 each in football and basketball. He achieved All-Conference status in all 3 sports in 1989, was on the St. Cloud Times All-Area team in 1989 and was the 1989 Ken Klemmer Award winner. At St. John's University Seiler was a 1993 team Captain, 1993 All-MIAC and the MIAC Player of the Year. He was named a 1993 All-American and the 1993 Sports Illustrated Division III Player of the Year.

#### Mark Woitalla: Athlete 1977-1981

A graduate of 1981 and a 2 sport athlete at AHS, Mark is remembered as a quick pulling guard for Coach Pete Herges and Coach Jim Mader. Woitalla was an All Central Gopher Conference pick in 1979 and 1980, but it was in wrestling that Woitalla achieved his highest honors. A 4 year letter winner for Coach Maury Meyer, Woitalla was the Region Runner-Up in 1979 and Region Champion in 1980 and 1981. His wrestling career culminated by winning Albany's only State Individual Championship in 1980. A 2 year All-American wrestler, Woitalla wrestled 2 years at the University of Minnesota. He is a

teacher and coach at Northfield High School, serving as the Defensive Coordinator for the NHS State Champions in 1997. He has coached 3 State Champions in wrestling, won 6 conference titles and coached 27 State Wrestling entrants. Woitalla was awarded Section Coach of the Year in 1987.

## 2006

### Jim Mader: Coach 1980-2003

Jim Mader is a 1963 graduate of Mound High School, where he participated in football and baseball. Jim attended Moorhead State where he was a four year starter as a middle linebacker. Jim is a member of the Moorhead State University Athletic Hall of Fame. From 1969 to 1980, Jim taught and coached at Jackson High School. His teaching was interrupted by a two year tour of duty in the United States Army from 1970 to 1972. Jim was stationed in Germany where he coached a high school football team to the South Germany championship. Jim began his teaching and coaching career at Albany High School in 1980. Jim was a special education teacher until 1990, when he became the athletic director and taught adaptive physical education. Jim was the Head football coach at Albany High School from 1980 until his retirement in 2003. Jim coached the football team to 18 conference, 15 section and two state championships. Coach Mader's teams also reached the State semi-finals five times and were the state runner-up once. His coaching record at Albany was 222 wins and 46 losses. Jim has been selected to the Minnesota High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame and to the Minnesota Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

### Tim Thelen: Athlete 1975-1979

Tim Thelen participated in football, basketball and golf while a student at Albany High School. He lettered three times in golf and twice each in football and basketball. Tim is remembered as a hard hitting linebacker in football, and as a senior he set the school record for free throw percentage in basketball. But it is golf where Tim has gained prominence nationally. After graduating from high school, Tim attended Foothill Junior College in Palo Alto California where he won the California Junior College Championship in 1982. Tim attended Houston Baptist University in Houston, Texas on a golf scholarship. Following a successful college career, Tim became a professional golfer. He was named the Southern Texas P.G.A. Assistant Professional of the Year in 1994 and from 2000 through 2004 was the Southern Texas P.G.A. Player of the Year. In 2000 and 2003 Tim won the National P.G.A. Club Professional Championship. In 2001 he was the National P.G.A. Club Professional Player of the Year. Tim is currently a regular on the Professional Golf tour, has played in the last five P.G.A. Championships and the last three P.G.A. Cup matches, where the top 10 club professionals from the United States play professionals from Great Britain and Ireland.

### Elmer Schleper: Athlete 1939-1943

Elmer Schleper participated in boxing, basketball, football and baseball at Albany High School. It is Elmer's long association with, and accomplishments in baseball that has

earned Elmer a state wide reputation. Elmer was a four year starter on the Albany High School baseball team, and served as the player/coach his Senior year. He played amateur baseball for 46 years for the Farming town team, and managed Farming for 23 years. During that time, the Schleper name became synonymous with amateur baseball in the area. Elmer was inducted into the Minnesota Baseball Hall of Fame in 1982. Elmer was a registered umpire for 46 years, working both high school and amateur games. He was instrumental in the founding of the Albany Huskie Booster club.

**Jason Burr: Athlete 1989-1993**

Jason Burr was a letterwinner in football, basketball and golf at Albany High School. He was a two time All Conference selection in both basketball and football. An outstanding quarterback, Jason was twice selected as the West Central Conference Most Valuable Player in football. As a senior, Jason was selected as the St. Cloud Times football player of the year and also the basketball player of the year. He was named to the Minneapolis Tribune and St. Paul Pioneer Press All - State Football teams. Jason was selected to the Academic All - State Basketball Team, and was honored by the Alexandria television station, KSAX as the area Athlete of the Year. Jason was selected as the Albany Huskie Honor athlete his senior year and was class Salutatorian.

**2010**

**Dick Cady: Coach 1964-1995**

Dick coached and taught in the Albany School District for approximately 35 years. During this time he worked as an English teacher, football, basketball and softball coach. His team won the State Class AA Girls Basketball Championship in 1983, defeating a powerful Edina team. This victory has been called one of the greatest upsets in Minnesota high school sports history. He had a record of 72-60 from 1982-1988 with the girl's basketball team. From 1980-1997 he coached the girl's fastpitch softball team and had 225 wins, 3 State appearances, 9 District titles and won numerous coaching awards. Dick was a key element to the coaching staff at Albany.

**Adam Dooley: Athlete 1990-1994**

Adam participated in football, basketball and golf while a student at Albany High School. He lettered 3 times in football, twice in basketball and 4 times in golf. Adam played safety on the football team and was known as "Downtown Dooley" on the basketball court. However, golf is where Adam truly excelled. Under the watchful eyes of coaches Pete Herges and Mike Kleinschmidt, he received All-Conference 3 times and won the Class A State High School Championship in 1994. After high school, it was on to the University of Minnesota where he earned a scholarship, was named All-Big Ten twice, played in the NCAA National Championships in 1998 and 1999 and became an All-American in 1999. As an amateur, he was the Minnesota Golf Association State Amateur Champion and Player of the Year in 1999. Following a successful amateur career, Adam turned professional in the fall of 1999 and played in mini-tours for 5+ years while living in Scottsdale, Arizona. His highlight as a professional was winning

the Nebraska State Open. In 2004, he returned to Minnesota to pursue a career in insurance. He regained his amateur status in July 2007 and subsequently won the Minnesota Golf Association Mid-Amateur Championship 2 years in a row.

#### Luke Herkenhoff: Athlete 1989-1993

Luke participated in football, basketball and track while a student at Albany High School. In football, Luke was a 3 year letterman and was a 3 year starter. He was All-Conference his junior and senior years and was the Conference Most Valuable Lineman his senior year. He was also named to the Associated Press First Team All-State, Minneapolis Star Tribune First Team All-State, St. Paul Pioneer Press All-State and part of the WCCO Radio All-State Team. Luke was a 3 year letterman and 2 year starter and All-Conference in basketball at Albany and a 1 year letter winner in track. After high school, Luke received 7 Division I full ride football scholarship offers. He ended up going to the University of Minnesota and was a starter for 3 years. He earned 3 varsity letters and was also the Most Valuable Lineman at the U of M.

#### Ron Juell: Coach 1964-1988

Ron coached and taught in the Albany School District for approximately 20 years. He worked as the track and field head coach and an assistant football coach. Ron was key in developing the weight training and conditioning programs for all athletes and was truly an "unsung hero" of the Albany football program for many years. He knew how to challenge athletes and got the most out of all of them who were willing to accept the challenge. In 1978 Ron was named the winner of the Paul Schmidt Award, being the most outstanding phy ed teacher in the state. Also, in 1979 he was the recipient of the Butch Nash Award, given to the most outstanding assistant football coach in the state.

#### Chad Pundsack: Athlete 1986-1990

Chad participated in football, basketball and track while a student at Albany High School, lettering 3 times in each sport. Chad was awarded All-Conference honors his sophomore, junior and senior years in football, along with All-Area his junior and senior years. His sophomore year he helped to set the Regional record in the 4x100 relay and took third in state in that event. During his junior year he received the NDSU Football Camp Most Outstanding Offensive and Defensive Lineman Award. During his senior year he was Captain of the football, basketball and track teams and was the only player named to both the Offensive and Defensive All-State Team for football. He received college offers from Wyoming, Minnesota, Navy, Montana, Western Michigan, Northern Illinois and NDSU. He ended up going to NDSU on a full ride football scholarship. He lettered and started 4 games in 1991 and was the first team outside linebacker in 1992 and 1993. As a senior Chad was named the conference Player of the Week, Student Athlete of the Week, first team NCC All-Conference team and third team All-American. Chad was selected to the 1995 Snow Bowl, the Division II All-Star Game. He was invited to NFL workouts with the Cleveland Browns and Philadelphia Eagles.

**Brenda Pilarski Utsch: Athlete 1975-1979, Contributor 1979-Present**

Brenda participated in volleyball, basketball and softball while a student at Albany High School. She lettered every year in volleyball and basketball and lettered both years she played softball. Brenda was the Captain of the volleyball team her sophomore, junior and senior years and earned All-Conference honors each of those years. She was one of the first members of the girl's basketball team, was an All-Conference selection and a St. Cloud Times All-Area Athlete in that sport. She was selected as an American High School Honor Athlete her sophomore year. She also was a state participant during her junior and senior years. Brenda was one of the first softball players here at Albany and maintained a .500 batting average. After high school, Brenda worked and volunteered under Pete Herges, Jim Mader and Maury Meyer. She officiated 7th-9th grade volleyball, basketball and softball. She took offensive stats for football and has been the official scorer for girl's and boy's basketball for many years here at Albany. She has also served as the team bus driver for volleyball. She has volunteered countless hours in the Albany sports programs, and she bleeds purple.

**2014**

**Vicky Braegelmann Goeser: Athlete 1999 - 2003**

Vicky Braegelmann Goeser is a 2003 graduate of Albany High School. While in High School Vicky earned 4 Letters in Volleyball and helped her team to a record of 73-15 during her 3 years as a starter. She was named All Conference in 2001 and 2002, also being named the team MVP in 2002. The St. Cloud Times honored Vicky as their All Area Player of the Year in 2001 and 2002. She was both All State and Academic All State in 2002 while helping lead her team to the Class AAA Minnesota State Volleyball Tournament. She graduated from Albany with many Huskies Volleyball records, and still holds both the Season and Career Kill Efficiency records today. Vicky would go on to continue her Volleyball career at the University of Minnesota Duluth. During her 4 year career at UMD the Bulldog Volleyball teams posted a record of 144-16 and would twice reach the National Division II Semifinals. She was named to the North Central Conference All Conference team in each of her four years, also earning the NCC Freshman of the Year award in 2004 followed by 3 consecutive NCC MVP awards - the only athlete ever to accomplish this in the NCC. Vicky was also named to the All Region team in each of years at UMD and was a 4 time Division II First Team All American. She was recognized by the NCAA as the Division II National Player of the Year following her junior and senior seasons, was a Division II Woman Athlete of the Year nominee in 2006 and the Division II Woman Athlete of the Year winner in 2007-the first UMD athlete ever to achieve this honor. She is the most decorated female athlete in UMD history, until recently holding career records there for Kills and Kill Efficiency, and was featured in Sports Illustrated in February 2008.

**Pat McCarthy: Athlete 1964 - 1968**

Pat McCarthy is a 1968 graduate of Albany High school. During his High School career Pat lettered 4 times in football, 4 times in track and 2 times in wrestling. He was All

Conference as a Junior in wrestling when he was the Conference Champion in the heavyweight division. He was also All Conference in Track and Field, where he won a Conference Championship in the Shot Put and was the former school record holder in both the shot put and discus. It was in Football, however, where Pat garnered the most accolades. He was All Conference in football as well, where he was the Co-Captain of the 1967 Huskies team that would go 9 and 0, outscoring their opponents by a score of 300-50 through the season. He was one of two 1000 yard rushers during this season, him being Albany's "Mr. Inside" while teammate Will Jarnot was Albany's "Mr. Outside". Albany Enterprise football articles from 1967 make mention of Pat as a "power buster", having a "night of rambling, amassing 235 yds in 25 carries", "breaking several other would be tackles", and even "bulldozing his way into the end zone, going the final five yards backwards" on his way to 1188 yards and 21 touchdowns that season. He was named as the fullback on the inaugural St. Cloud Times All Area team and also to the Minneapolis Tribune and WCCO Radio All State Teams while earning a full football scholarship to the University of Minnesota.

Rachel Stangler Royer: Athlete 1997 - 2003

Rachel Stangler Royer is a 2003 graduate of Albany High School. While in High School Rachel earned 6 letters in Cross Country, 5 in Track and 2 in basketball. In basketball she was part of team as a senior that finished 4th place in the Class AA State Girls basketball tournament. It was as a runner, though, where Rachel was most accomplished in her career. She was recognized as a Captain for her Cross Country and Track teams both in college and high school. In her high school cross country career, Rachel was All Conference from her freshman year through her senior year and competed in the Class A State Meet in seventh grade and also her freshman through senior year. She achieved All State in grades 9-12, finishing 3rd in the State as a senior. She was named the St. Cloud Times Runner of the Year in 2002. In track Rachel was All conference from her sophomore year through her senior year. She was a conference champion and holds the school records in the 1600M and 3200M runs. As a junior Rachel finished 10th at the State Track Meet in the 1600M run and 5th in the 3200M run. As a senior she placed 8th in the 1600M run and won the 2003 State Championship in the 3200M run. Rachel's college running career continued at Augustana College where she was a 10-time conference champion and 4 time All American. In cross country was the North Central Conference champion in 2004 and 2007. she finished 3rd at the 2007 Regional championships and 6th at the 2007 NCAA National Championships to earn All American honors. In track she was the North Central Conference Indoor champion in mile run in 2005, the 3000M run in 2005 and 2006, and the 5000M run in 2006 and 2007. She was the outdoor champion in the 5000M run and 3000M steeplechase in 2007 and the 3000M steeplechase in 2008. Rachel earned All American honors 3 times in the 3000M steeplechase - finishing 8th in the NCAA National Outdoor Championships in 2005, 5th in 2007 and 2nd in 2008, setting an Augustana school record. She was mentioned in Sports Illustrated for her outstanding performances at the 2008 North Central Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships in 2008.

#### Kari Wolford: Athlete 1999 - 2004

Kari Wolford is a 2004 graduate of Albany High School. While in high school Kari lettered 5 times in volleyball, 3 times in basketball and track and once in golf. In track and field, Kari earned Sub-Section medals in the discus and shot put in 2002, 2003 and 2004, being All Conference as a senior in 2004. In basketball she was All Conference as a junior and senior, also being named to the All District 19 team, All Area Honorable Mention, All State Honorable Mention as a senior and being selected for the senior all star game. Kari was a part of two state tournament basketball teams that finished 4th in the State Class AA basketball Tournament her junior year and 3rd her senior year. Kari was a 4 year starter on the Albany Huskies volleyball team, which had a record of 99-21 during that span, making the Class AAA State Tournament in 2002 and the Class AA Tournament in 2003. She still holds season volleyball records for total serve receptions, total serves, total attacks and total kills. Career records she still has are total serves, serve aces, total serve receptions, digs, total attacks and total kills. She was a 4 time All Conference selection and the team MVP in 2001, 2002 and 2003. She was named to the 2002 and 2003 State Tournament teams, academic All State in 2003 and also that year's St. Cloud Times All Area Player of the Year. Kari continued her volleyball career at the University of Minnesota Duluth. While at Duluth her teams posted a record of 144-16 and would twice reach the National Semifinals. She was named All North Central Conference and All Region in 2006 and 2007, while being named 2nd team All American in 2006 and 1st Team All American in 2007. Kari was named the AVCA Division II National Player of the Week on 9/4/2007 and ranks 9th all time for UMD in career kills and 6th all time for service aces.

#### 2018

##### Mike Kosik: Journalist 1973 -

Mike Kosik is a 1967 graduate of St. Anthony Village High School where he was a member of the track team for two years, running the half-mile and the mile, and served as the student manager of the basketball team for three years. It is also in high school where Mike began as a journalist, writing about sports for the school newspaper for two years. He would go on to attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and earn his bachelor of arts degree in journalism in 1973. In November of 1973, Mike was hired as the editor of the Albany Enterprise, and he has been a fixture at our Huskies events and with our Huskies teams and programs ever since. The fall of 2018 will mark 45 years of Mike covering Albany Huskies athletics. The genuine care for our Huskie student athletes and the strong connection he builds with them and the coaches and programs is absolutely fantastic. His commitment to them and the entire Albany Area is much appreciated by so many in our communities. He is also well respected for his work across the state, receiving a second place award for sports photography from the Minnesota Newspaper Association in 2006. Mike was also a member of the 205th Infantry Brigade Army Reserve Unit based at Fort Snelling from March 1974 to September 1983, serving in the public information office.

#### Paul Faulk: Athlete 1976 - 1980

Paul Faulk is a 1980 graduate of Albany High School. While in high school, Paul lettered three times in track & field, four times in football, and also earned a Boys Scouts of America Eagle Scout Award. In track & field, he lettered as a freshman and as a sophomore in the 440 yard dash and relay teams. However, it was competing in the shot put where Paul made his mark. He started throwing shot put his junior year and would go on to earn a 2nd place finish at the Region 5A meet and earn a trip to the state meet. As a senior throwing shot put, Paul won the conference, district and region championship, breaking the record for all three of these competitions and our high school records along the way. He finished 5th place as a senior in the shot put at the state meet. Paul was also a standout football player at AHS. Albany Huskies Athletic Hall of Fame Coach Ron Juell said that "Paul Faulk and Dave Dirkes (another Huskies Hall of Fame member) were the best offensive tackles I ever coached. Nobody worked harder than Paul Faulk." Paul was a two year starter at both offensive and defensive tackle, earning honorable mention all conference as a junior and all conference as a senior, also being named as the Central Gopher Conference Most Valuable Lineman. He was a co-captain as a senior on a team that was ranked #1 in the state until the final game of the season. Paul would start at right guard for the Out-State Football team in the Minnesota High School All Star game that year. After high school, Paul went on to the University of Minnesota-Morris, continuing his career in football and track & field. He would start every game in his four year career there at right offensive tackle. The 1980 team advanced to the Division III National Semi-Finals. Paul was recognized in an article in the Minneapolis Star Tribune for his performance in the National Quarter Final that year as Morris defeated the University of Dubuque, Iowa. In 1981, UMM again advanced to the Division III National Quarterfinals. As a senior Paul was a team co-captain, was voted Most Valuable Player. and earned North Central Conference All Conference honors at offensive tackle, earning a free agent tryout with the Minnesota Vikings.

#### Joanne Noreen Thomason: Athlete 2000 - 2005

Joanne Noreen Thomason is a 2005 graduate of Albany High School. While in high school, Joanne lettered two times in softball, four times in basketball, and five times in swimming. As a member of the Huskies swim team, Joanne was a two time state meet qualifier in the 200 freestyle relay and still holds school record times as part of the 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams. However, it was on the basketball court where Joanne would garner the most accolades and attention during her careers at both Albany Area High School, where she finished with 2051 career points, and at Mankato State University, where she finished her career with 1335 points. At AHS Joanne was a member of three state tournament teams, placing 4th in 2003 and third in 2004 and 2005. She earned a spot on the All State Tournament team in each of those seasons. She was named all conference four times, being named conference Most Valuable Player after her sophomore, junior and senior seasons. She was on the St. Cloud Times All Area team in 2004 and 2005, being named Player of the Year as a junior in 2004. In 2005 Joanne was named first team All State, a finalist for Minnesota's Ms. Basketball, and

played in the Minnesota Coaches Association All Star Game. At Mankato State University, Joanne's successful college basketball career culminated in a Division II Women's Basketball Championship in 2009. During that season, she was named Team MVP, All Conference, and Honorable Mention All American. Joanne's name can be found multiple times on the Maverick career and single season records.

Ross Denne: Athlete 1995 - 1999

Ross Denne is a 1999 graduate of Albany High School. While in high school, Ross lettered four times in both football and baseball and three times in basketball, being selected as a captain of all three sports during his senior season. He was a member of the National Honor Society as a junior and senior. In basketball, Ross was a three year starter, including his sophomore year on the Huskies team that advanced to the state tournament. In baseball Ross's name can still be found on many school record lists. He was named All Conference three times, All District for three years, Honorable Mention All District as a freshman, and St. Cloud Times All Area two years. His senior season Ross was named Academic All State, the Conference Most Valuable Player and participated in the Lion's All Star series. Ross continued his baseball career after high school with the Avon Lakers for eight years. On the football field, Ross was equally accomplished. He was a part of three state tournament teams, was the quarterback of the 1997 state championship team, and was an All Conference selection as a sophomore, junior and senior. His senior season Ross was also named 1st team All State, Academic All State, Conference Most Valuable Player and St. Cloud Times Player of the Year. He continued his football career at St. John's University where he played multiple positions (quarterback, tight end, strong safety, special teams) and was a part of four Division III national tournament teams -- one that reached the quarterfinals, two semi-finalists and the 2000 national runner-up team. During the 2002 season, Ross quarterbacked the Johnnies to the national semi-final game and was named All Conference for the MIAC. He also earned Dean's List honors and several Academic All Conference honors while playing football at St. John's.