

Class of 2024

27th Class

6:00 PM

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Courtyard by Marriott Hotel

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Athletic Hall of Fame

Committee Members

Wayne Bowling
Dawnjene "DJ" DeLong
Jerry Lauer
Jack Young
Chris Connell
Mike Dole
John Ross
Joni Copas
Missy Harvey
Larry Wood

The Hamilton City School District Athletic Hall of Fame Committee would like to thank the following companies and individuals for their generosity in supporting the Athletic Hall of Fame

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Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Induction Dinner Agenda

Master of Ceremonies

Danny Grabel

Invocation

Jack Young

Coach Sharp Scholarship Recipients

Casey Brann

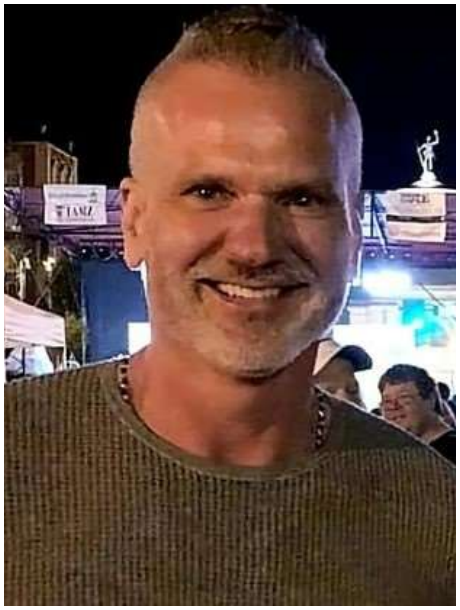
Payge Iglesia

Induction of the 27th Class of the Hamilton City School District Athletic Hall of Fame

Danny Grabel

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Tim Anderson - Class of 1986



Tim Anderson is a 1986 graduate of Hamilton High School where he was a standout on the hardwood court. Anderson was a three-year letter-winner for the basketball team when he played for fellow Hall of Fame coach, John Smith. Anderson was voted team captain during both his junior and senior seasons. During his senior campaign, with fellow Hall of Fame teammates: Norm Grevey, Maurice Riggins, and Donnie Riggins, the Big Blue won the Greater Miami Conference (GMC) Championship. Anderson earned ALL-GMC honors on two occasions and All Golden Triangle. He was also nominated to the 1986 McDonald's All-American Team and played in the Ohio District All-Star Game (Ohio vs. Indiana). During his career, Anderson scored 552 points and was a valuable leader on and off the court for the Blue. Anderson went on to play basketball at Freed Hardeman University in Hendersonville, TN. He currently resides in Fairfield and is the owner of Apachi Networks. Anderson has three children: Breanna Anderson, Jordan Anderson, and Mike Greer.

Kelly Connaughton - Class of 1994



Kelly Connaughton is a 1994 graduate of Hamilton High School where she played volleyball and basketball. She earned seven varsity letters in her time at the Blue. Connaughton excelled on the basketball court where she played for fellow Hall of Fame coach, Dan Brandenburg and was teammates with fellow Hall of Famers, Kara Bray and Angie Harris. During her senior season, she led Hamilton to winning the Sectional Championship. She was named the team's Most Valuable Player and earned First-Team All-League and *Cincinnati Enquirer* Honors. In her senior year, she was recognized as the Greater Miami Conference Player of the Year, Butler County Player of the Year, and District 15 Player of the Year. Connaughton also earned Second-Team Associated Press Southwest Ohio and Honorable Mention All-State. The City of Hamilton proclaimed March 4, 1994, as “Kelly Connaughton Day.” When she graduated, she was the leading scorer in Big Blue history with 942 points and currently ranks 6th in girls’ scoring. After high school, Connaughton attended Thomas More University where she continued her basketball career. She resides in Aurora, Indiana, and works at American Life as an Identity and Access Management IT. Connaughton has four children: Ryan (23), Kristin (19), Logan (5), and Lucas (2).

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Thomas Farris - Class of 1967



Tom Farris is a 1967 graduate of Hamilton Taft High School. He was a standout on the football and basketball teams, playing for Hall of Fame coaches, Fred Garretson and Marvin McCollum. On the football field, Farris was a two-year starter at cornerback, where he intercepted two passes. On the basketball court, he was a two-year starting forward for the Tigers. During his career, Farris scored 303 points and was named the team's Most Improved Player. Farris helped lead the 1967 Taft Tigers to a 17-6 record, captured the sectional championship, and beat cross-city rival Garfield three times in one season. Farris earned a full basketball scholarship to Bethel College where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in psychology and a minor in sports management. Farris coached and refereed Special Olympics basketball at Garfield Junior High School for 12 years. In that time the “Orange Crush” won first place six times. Farris retired from Ford Motor Company in Batavia as an assistant plant manager. Tom and his wife, Judy, have two sons, Thomas and Matthew.

Charlie Hatcher - Class of 2007



Charlie Hatcher is a 2007 graduate of Hamilton High School, where he was on the football and track and field teams. On the football field, Hatcher was a three-year starter on the defensive line and was twice named to the All-Greater Miami Conference Team. During his career, Hatcher accumulated 180 tackles and 14 sacks and scored one touchdown on a 90-yard fumble recovery. He was selected for the Ohio North/South All-Star Game, in which he started on the defensive line and recorded nine tackles. As a member of the track and field team, he threw the shot put and discus for the Blue. Hatcher had several scholarship offers and ultimately chose to attend Duke University, where he started over 30 games for the Blue Devils and received Duke’s Defensive Lineman of the Year Award. He was named team captain for the 2011 season and was named Academic All-ACC. Hatcher earned his bachelor's degree from Duke in computer science, then later earned his MBA from Duke’s Fuqua School of Business, with a focus on corporate strategy and finance. He currently works for EA Sports where he is the Director of Strategy. Hatcher and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in San Francisco, California, and have one son, Rowan.

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Bridget Henry - Class of 2004



Bridget Henry was a three-sport athlete for Hamilton High School, where she accumulated 11 varsity letters in basketball, soccer, and softball. On the soccer field, Henry was a four-year starter and was named captain for three years. She earned several awards during her career including Newcomer of the Year, Big Blue Offensive, and Defensive Players of the Year, and was selected Second Team All-GMC her senior season. On the softball diamond, she helped lead the Blue to three sectional championships and two regional championships. The team was state runner-up in 2001. Henry earned All-GMC recognition twice and earned the Big Blue Offense Award in both the 2003 and 2004 seasons. After high school, Henry played for Notre Dame College for one season, where she batted .385 with five home runs and 21 RBIs. She was named American Midwest Conference Freshman of the Year and was the first player in Notre Dame College history to make First Team NAIA All-Regional team. She transferred to Wright State University where she helped lead the team to the Horizon League Champions for two seasons and two NCAA Division One Appearances. Henry was selected as team captain and also was named Horizon League Tournament Defensive Player of the Year in 2008. She graduated with a degree in psychology and then earned her Master of Science in Nursing in Anesthesia from Case Western Reserve University. As a Captain in the United States Air Force, Henry was a supervisor and ICU nurse for the Mobile Forward Surgical Team and is currently a certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist with Seven Hills Anesthesia.

Keith Jones - Class of 1985



Keith Jones, a 1985 graduate of Hamilton High School, was a standout diver for Big Blue. During his senior season, Jones earned First-Team All-GMC and captured the District Championship, qualifying him for the OHSAA Division One State Championships. Jones earned a scholarship to Ohio University where he continued to dive for the Bobcats. He was a four-year member of the team and a finalist in the Mid-American Conference (MAC) Championships. Jones has achieved considerable success as a diving coach. He initiated his first coaching tenure with the Blue in 1994, marking the beginning of two separate coaching periods. Additionally, he served as a coach from 2009 to 2012. During those times, he coached three First-Team All-GMC members and four OHSAA Division One State Qualifiers. Jones also coached diving for the Heartland Diving Team and Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy, where he coached two Division Two State Qualifiers and one OHSAA Division Two State Champion. In 2013, Jones was named the Head Diving Coach at Toledo University. During his tenure there he coached two NCAA regional Qualifiers and one MAC Championship finalist. He is currently a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and enjoys fishing and golfing in his free time. Jones and his wife have four children: Khayman (28), Jacob (27), Jaxon (19), and Ian (17).

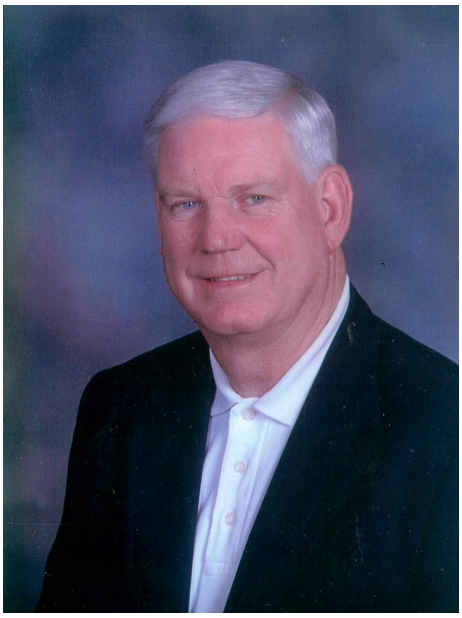
Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Travis Fitton Kinch - Class of 1977



Travis Fitton Kinch, a 1977 graduate of Hamilton Taft High School, was a member of the tennis, swimming, and diving teams, earning nine varsity letters during her time with the Tigers. Kinch helped lead the Tigers to the GMC Tennis Championship. Several of her teammates were fellow Hall of Famers: Sue Barber, Sally Belew Streeter, and Karen Turman. Kinch was also a member of the Cincinnati Marlins Dive Team and was a YMCA Nationals Swim Champion. After high school, she continued her diving career at Miami University where she won the MAC Diving Championship. Kinch graduated from Miami with both her bachelor's and master's degrees in exercise physiology. Kinch continued her strong athletic career after college while competing locally. She was an eighteen time Hamilton City Tennis Association Tourney Champion, including a singles title while being nine months pregnant. Kinch coached the diving team at New London Hills Club and was involved in many organizations throughout Hamilton, including Community First Solutions, Westover, and President of Chapter BR of P.E.O. Travis was married to Greg Kinch and had three daughters: Sinclair (31), Hannah (30), and Georgia (28).

Steve Mathews - Class of 1965



Steve Mathews is a 1965 graduate of Hamilton Taft High School where he was a vital three-year member of each the football, basketball, and baseball teams. Mathews played for Hall of Fame coaches Fred Garretson and Marvin McCollum. During his senior season, he was voted Captain of the football team. Mathews was a leader on the playing field and in the hallways at Taft. Besides being a three-sport athlete, Mathews was Vice President of the Senior Class and President of the Spanish Club. Mathews was offered scholarships to attend Brown University and the Naval Academy but chose to attend Miami University where he earned his bachelor's degree, and he later earned a master's degree from Xavier University. He was heavily involved in the Hamilton community as a member of the Kiwanis Club, Lindenwald Basketball League and coached baseball at West Side Little League. Steve joins his brother, Jerry Mathews, in the Hamilton City Schools' Athletic Hall of Fame. Mathews worked as the Hamilton City Schools' Business Manager for 26 years. Mathews and his wife Debby had three children: Jon (51), Jeff (49), and Jill Huff (47).

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Tim Ruecking - Class of 1986



Tim Ruecking, a 1986 graduate of Hamilton High School, was a member of the football, basketball, and baseball teams, earning eight varsity letters. On the football field, Ruecking played quarterback during his sophomore and junior seasons, throwing for 885 yards and eight touchdowns while accumulating a record of 10-4 as a starter. He moved to wide receiver his senior season where he had 25 receptions and five touchdowns, a Big Blue record at the time. Ruecking earned Honorable Mention All-Golden Triangle for three years. On the baseball field, Ruecking played outfield for fellow Hall of Fame coach, Dan Bowling. Ruecking accumulated over 50 hits and 50 RBIs in his career, while also belting six home runs. During his junior season, Ruecking had a .345 batting average and batted .385 his senior season. He earned an athletic grant from Hanover College. Ruecking retired from the Hamilton City School District. Ruecking and his wife, Amy, have two children, Ashley (34) and Andrew (32) as well as four grandchildren.

Jim Smith - Class of 1941



Jim Smith is a 1941 graduate of Hamilton High School where he was on the football team for fellow Hall of Fame coach, Ray Tilton. The 1939 Big Blue team went undefeated and was State of Ohio Co-Champs. Smith had football scholarship offers but chose to enlist in the Navy where he saw action in the invasion of North Africa, Sicily, Normandy, and the Harbor of Cherbourg. He enrolled at Miami University where he played football and graduated with Physical Education and Industrial Arts degrees. He taught PE at Buchanan Elementary where he started synchronized jump roping and square dancing. While at Harrison Elementary, he started the Flip Twisters, a gymnastics group. When he taught at Lincoln Elementary, he created the Hamilton Mini-Circus, known as the “Greatest Little Show Anywhere.” The student performances included unicycles, six-on-a-bike, trapeze, jump rope, Spanish webs, limbo, and tumbling. Mini Circus appeared on national television at events such as the Indianapolis 500 parade and numerous professional and college basketball games. Smith was an avid water skier and started the SkiBallers which won numerous national awards in slalom, tricks, and jump events. He was inducted into the Butler County Hall of Fame in 1993. Smith and his wife had two daughters: Candace and Tracie.

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Athletic Hall of Fame Members

By Induction Year

*Indicates deceased

Class of 1997
*Jim "Boxcar" Bailey
*Frank Clair
*Alex "Boo" Ellis
Kevin Grevey
*Jim Grimm
Derek Howard
*Judy Kraft
*Marvin McCollum
*Joe Nuxhall
*Paul Sarringhaus
*Warren Scholler
*Jack Smith
Greg Stokes
*Chuck Thackara
Mike Townsend
Bill Wilks

Class of 1998
Shauna Bowman
Bill Evans
*Bernie Griesinger
*Bill McCormick
*Rudy Oaklets
*Carl Ott
*Floyd "Breezy" Reid
Leonard (Jim) Smith
David Stalls
*Pat Sword
Charles "Skip" Taylor
*David "Chuggy" Waller

Class of 1999
Mel "Moody" Baker
Taylor "Tay" Baker
*Jack Gordon
Jerry Johnson
Andy Kolesar
Mark Lewis
*Ervin J. Nutter
*Bernie Reid
*Bill "Coach" Sharp
Elise Spears
*Arthur "Ray" Tilton
Willie Townsend
*David Weaver

Class of 2000
*Barbara Norman Fitton
*Lou Florio
*Jim Hall
*Ragan Henry
Demus Jones
Don Knodel
Kent McCormick
*Terry Merz
*Joe Okruhlica
*Harry Phillips, Sr.
*Virgil M. Schwarm
Jim Sutton
*Bob Wainscott

Class of 2001
Karen Baker
*Ron Couch
*Dick Dallmar
*Dana King
Marcy Maurer
*Don Nuxhall
*Jim Patterson
*Leonard Rush
*Alson Scrivner
*Bill Shank
*Ralph Smith
*Clint Spearman, Jr.
Payton Townsend, Jr.

Class of 2002
*Fred Belden
*Russ Bowermaster
Robby Cobb
*Fred Garretson
Dan Hartleb
Gary "Spud" Hornsby
Carolyn Hefner McAllister
Andrea Walters Moorehead
*Ray Pryor
*Charles Schwing
John Smith
Richard Smith
*Robert "Pappy" Smith
Tyrice Walker

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Class of 2003
Bryan Barlow
Tony Blaine
Scott Grevey
Barb Hurley
*Mike Marks
Mark Martin
*Winston Metcalfe
*Richard Nelson
*Cash Powell, Jr.
Ron Sutton
*Harold “Buster” Treinen
Jack Young
Dot Smiley Zaragoza

Class of 2004
*Jim Blount
*John Born
Wayne Bowling
Lisa Eggleston Brown
*Gary Fox
*Henry “Woody” Herzog
Bill Hibbard
Jerry Mathews
Marty New
*Frank “Eddie” Simpson
*Lowell Storm
*Jimmy Wagner

Class of 2005
Dick Boggs
Norm Grevey
Luke Hibbard
Greg Jonson
Bobby Lakes
*Phil Lillard
Mary Ellen Menzer
Charlie Pater
Andy Reid
Fred Weinman

Class of 2006
*Dave Bauer
*Eric Childs
*David Connell
Jay Fry
*William Hamm
Rob Huffman
Elgene Mainous
*Phil Phelps
Michael Reese
Marty Reist
Ron Spurlock
Sue Barber Westin

Class of 2007
John Bercaw
Larry Bowling
*Jack Garretson
Chris Kingsbury
*Claude “Cat” Neeley
David Rabb
Bob Rainey
*Gary Reist
Stacy Boling Wilson

Class of 2008
Sheree Barlow
*Mike DiStaola
*Joe Hudson
George Jonson
Jim Kernohan
Michael McCollum
Gerald “Jerry” Scrivner
John Spears
Otto Swanner
Fred Thomas

Class of 2009
Larry Allen
Don Baker
Bill Dinger
*Edward Eberth
*Anna Harvey
Tom Jones
Curtus Moak
Rickey Stone
Sally Belew Streeter
*Tom Taylor
*Elbert Walker

Class of 2010
Aaron Cook
Don Curtis
Alex Davis
Bob Garretson
Tina Gregory
Jerry Law
*Stan Lewis
Ed Mignery
*Craig Mills
*Garland Munz
Brian Nicely
Ted Norris

Class of 2011
Matthew Blauvelt
Dan Bowling
Pat Burtis
Malcom Dixon
Mark Hopkins
Ron McWhorter
*Francis Parrish
Chad Pennington
Richard Prather
John Ross
Tracy Collett Trunck
Larry Wood

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Class of 2012
Dewey “Duke” Baker
*Rollie Barton
Brett Couch
Pearlman “Tony” Hicks
*Lewis “Lew” Hirt
Angela Harris Martin
Mark McCormick
Seth Morris
Fred Rodgers
Greg Siereveld

Class of 2013
Phil Griesinger
Mike Gurr
*Dennis Harget
Andy Mignery
Linda Milholland
*Cecil New
Damita Shazier Rhodes
Michael “Tim” Taylor
Karen Turman
Sean West

Class of 2014
Robert Barnett
*Jim Carr
Michael Dully
Eric Higgins
Bryan Jackson
*Gordon Kraft
Katie Halcomb Luff
Warteze “Tez” Morris
Angela Tolbert
*Marcia White

Class of 2015
Anissa Booker
Kara Bray
Jeff Marchant
Brad Myers
Michael Myers
Ken Reed
*Woodrow Steigerwalt
Tracy Trauthwein
Dale Werk
Earl Whiteside

Class of 2016
Harry Bradbury
Tracy Goosey Daniels
Kyle Hodges
*Floyd Hopper
*Paul Hurm
Dan Messal
Alex Mignery
*Clyde “Tiny” Murrell
*Tim Reed
Nathan Rusbosin

Class of 2017
Chris Calihan
Dawnjene “DJ” DeLong
Rusty Hargraves
David Huff
Jennifer McKee Dyson
Adam Myers-White
Maurice “Mo” Riggins
Jon Smith
Ted Steed
Jason Vessely

Class of 2018
William “Billy” Allen
Joe Belew
*Harold Biendenbender
Adam Grissom
Craig Keller
*Gerald “Dip” King
Nate Mahon
*Gary Musselman
Donnie Riggins
Aaron Schechtman
Annette Smiley Manley

Class of 2019
Morris “Moe” Flaig
Nancy Fry Sturgeon
*Clyde Gilbert
Bryan Grevey
Mimi Mahon
*Jeff Michael
Perletha “Butch” Printup
Damon Pugh
Tom Townsend
Jim Truett

Class of 2020
Denicos Allen
Mike Daniels
Tom Downey
Steve Fisher
Kim Hibbard Madden
Kim Lakes Barrett
Phillipkeith Manley
Gregg Pettit
Christy Smith
*Richard Stephenson

Class of 2022
Lanny Ash
Marvin Bonar
Robert Bond
Haleigh Daniels
Jessica Fansler
*Donald Gilliespie
*Joann Scruggs-Hiatt
Dan Ratliff
Regina Renner
David Young

Class of 2023
Dan Brandenburg
Diana (Holderbach) Burtchin
Dean Curtis
Matt Hubbard
Brittany Lightfoot
Joe Mosketti
Adam Pankey
Gary Richardson

Hall of Fame Class of 2024

HAMILTON ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

The Hamilton City School District has a rich heritage of producing outstanding student-athletes from its Senior High Schools: Garfield, Taft, and Hamilton. These fine student-athletes have gone on to become outstanding citizens as well. We are pleased to recognize these distinguished individuals.

We encourage our alumni and friends' input and nominations.
Please submit your nominee's information, using the criteria below.

Send your nomination form to:
Hamilton High School
1165 Eaton Avenue
Hamilton, OH 45013
Attention: Missy Harvey, Director of Athletics
Or
Email your information to
Missy Harvey: mharvey@hcsdoh.org
Mike Dole: mdole@hcsdoh.org

Please feel free to submit news clippings, statistics sheets, etc. to help support your nomination.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:

1. **The nominee, either living or dead, has made a significant contribution to athletics in high school or beyond.**
2. **A player nominee must be a graduate of a Hamilton high school (Garfield, Taft, or Hamilton) for the last 10 years.**
3. **A coach nominee must no longer be an active coach in the Hamilton City Schools.**
4. **The nominee must be or have been a contributing member of society.**
5. **The nominee may be a Hamilton supporter who did not participate in a particular sport but has contributed to the school's athletic program.**

*****NOTE: Once nominated, the nomination stays in an active file.**

Nominee: _____ **Maiden Name (if applicable):** _____

*Address: _____ City: _____State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____)_____ **Year of Graduation:** _____

Using separate sheets of paper:

Please attach the accomplishments of this individual.

Please describe the reasons you feel this individual should be inducted into the Hamilton Athletic Hall of Fame.

Petitioner's Signature: _____**Phone Number: (_____)**_____

***If you do not know the current address of the nominee, please submit all other information.**

Please feel free to use additional paper for your comments. Unsigned nomination forms will not be considered.