

Class of 2026

29th Class

6:00 PM

Saturday, January 31, 2026

Washington Event Center

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Athletic Hall of Fame

Committee Members

Wayne Bowling
Mike Dole
Jerry Lauer
Tom Townsend
Joni Copas
Missy Harvey
John Ross
Larry Wood
Dawnjene "DJ" DeLong
Steve Heckman
Ty Smallwood

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 2026

Induction Dinner Agenda

Master of Ceremonies

Curtus Moak

HHS Class of 1997
Hall of Fame Member

Invocation

Dinner

Coach Sharp Scholarship

Missy Harvey, Athletic Director

Elijah Lay **Makayla Platt**

Introduction of the 28th Class of the Hamilton City School District Athletic Hall of Fame

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Randy Anderson - Class of 1976



Randy Anderson, a 1976 graduate of Garfield High School, was a standout for the Griffins on the baseball field. During his junior season, Anderson burst onto the scene when he led the Griffins with a .459 batting average and earned all Greater Miami Conference Honors. Anderson had an even stronger senior season, achieving an amazing .505 batting average. This included 56 hits, 15 doubles, and 5 home runs. Additionally, he scored 44 runs, had 44 RBI's, and 14 stolen bases. Anderson was named the team's MVP and led the league in hitting. For his performance, not only was Anderson named to the first team All-Greater Miami Conference, but he also received the most votes. Anderson received a baseball scholarship to Indiana University, where he played for one season before moving on to Western Kentucky University. Anderson was a two year starter for the Hilltoppers and had a career batting average of .317. As a member of the 1980 team, Western Kentucky recorded a record of 47-13 and finished as the 18th ranked team in Division 1 Baseball. Anderson was recently inducted into the Western Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame. Anderson earned a bachelor's degree in Management and an MBA from Western Kentucky University, where he also met his wife, Vicki. The two have been married for 44 years and counting. They have two children, Jacob Anderson and Kenda Kohls, and are proud grandparents to four granddaughters. Anderson retired in 2020 after a distinguished career as a management executive at Toyota Motor Manufacturing

Tyler Elkins - Class of 2005



Tyler Elkins, a 2005 graduate of Hamilton High School, where he was a three-year letter winner on the baseball team. A standout catcher under Hall of Fame coach Dan Bowling, Elkins enjoyed an exceptional career for the Big Blue. He finished with a .433 career batting average, highlighted by a .515 average during his senior season—the second-highest single-season mark in school history—along with four home runs and 34 RBIs. Elkins was twice named First Team All-GMC as a catcher and earned Hamilton MVP honors in 2005. He also helped lead the Big Blue to back-to-back GMC League Championships during his junior and senior seasons. Elkins continued his career at John A. Logan Jr. College, where he helped lead them to an 85-31 record in his two seasons. Elkins twice received All League Honors, Region 24 first team, and tournament MVP. He posted a two year career batting average of .363 with 140 hits and 100 RBI's. Elkins wrapped up his collegiate career at Bowling Green State University, helping lead the Falcons to back-to-back Mid-American Conference championships. After returning from Tommy John surgery, Elkins was named team captain and earned All-MAC honors as a catcher while he led the team with an outstanding .406 batting average. Elkins is a graduate of Bowling Green and currently lives in Cincinnati, where he works at Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky International Airport.

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Ian Emmons - Class of 2003



Ian Emmons, a 2003 graduate of Hamilton High School, was a standout on the wrestling mat, compiling 128 career victories, at the time the most in school history and now ranking second all-time. Emmons was a two-time GMC Champion a two-time sectional champion, and he captured the Southwest Ohio District title during his senior season. A two-time OHSAA state qualifier, Emmons placed fifth at the state tournament as a junior and capped his high school career with a State Runner-Up finish in his senior year. During his high school career, Emmons earned All-American honors in freestyle, Greco-Roman, and folkstyle wrestling. He continues to train and compete in submission wrestling and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, where he has medaled and/or won numerous local, state, and national championships. Emmons currently holds a blue belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. Emmons earned a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Cincinnati and is currently completing his Ph.D. in Strategic Management at the University of the Cumberlands. Emmons recently retired as a Deputy Fire Chief and now serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Healthcare Logistics. Emmons and his wife, Stacey, reside in Sarasota, Florida, and are the parents of three children: Audrey, Ian, and Reese.

Joey Gadd - Class of 2003



Joey Gadd, a 2003 graduate of Hamilton High School, was a well-rounded student-athlete who earned multiple varsity letters in wrestling, football, and show choir. His versatility and commitment to excellence were evident both in competition and in the classroom. On the wrestling mat, Gadd established himself as a dominant force, finishing fifth all-time in Big Blue history with 109 career victories. A respected leader among his peers, he served as team captain for three seasons and helped set the standard for hard work and accountability within the program. Throughout his career, Gadd captured several tournament championships, including titles at the Fairfield Invitational, LaSalle Invitational, and the sectional tournament. He also made Big Blue wrestling history during his senior season by becoming the first three-time state qualifier in school history, cementing his legacy as one of the program's all-time greats. He and his wife, Brooke, reside in Hamilton and have one child, Annalynn. Following his athletic career, Gadd continued to apply the leadership skills and work ethic he developed in the wrestling room to his professional life. Gadd has worked in the manufacturing field for more than 20 years and currently serves as a production supervisor at Thyssenkrupp Bilstein of America.

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Bennett Kowalk - Class of 2002



Bennett Kowalk, a 2002 graduate of Hamilton High School, Kowalk was a member of the golf, track and field, and football teams, with his greatest achievements coming on the football field. A two-year letter winner, Kowalk was a key anchor on the offensive line, playing left tackle, that helped lead Big Blue to the 2001 OHSAA state playoffs playing for fellow Hall of Fame coach Ed Mignery. During his senior season, Kowalk earned numerous honors, including First Team All-GMC, First Team All–Southwest Ohio, First Team All–Butler County, First Team All-Cincinnati, and Honorable Mention All-Ohio. The definition of a true student-athlete, Kowalk was a member of the National Honor Society and graduated in the top 20 of his class. Kowalk continued his football career at Harvard University, where he was a three-year letter winner. While at Harvard, his teams went undefeated against longtime rival Yale. In 2005, the Crimson completed a perfect season and captured the Ivy League Championship. In the final game of his career, Kowalk started in a memorable triple-overtime victory over Yale that clinched the league title. Kowalk graduated from Harvard with a bachelor's degree in Economics. Kowalk then received his masters from Fisher College of Business at The Ohio State University and his CPA. Kowalk has held a variety of jobs with finance companies, and recently became the Chief Financial Officer at Broadleaf Financial Group. Kowalk and his wife, Kara reside in Cincinnati.

Jim Lacey - Class of 1958



Jim Lacey, a 1958 graduate of Hamilton High School, was a talented multi-sport athlete for Big Blue, lettering in football, basketball, and baseball. He played football under Hall of Fame coach Lou Florio alongside Hall of Famers Don Curtis and Jerry Scrivner, emerging as a standout defensive lineman. As a senior, Lacey was voted the team's best defensive lineman, earned Greater Ohio League All-Star honors, received All-State recognition, and was selected to play in the Ohio North/South All-Star Game. On the basketball court, he served as a co-captain with fellow Hall of Famer Tony Blaine, was named team MVP, and still ranks among the top 100 scorers in program history with 440 career points. Lacey attended Ohio University, competing in both football and basketball, before serving in the United States Navy, where he continued to represent his country in athletics. Following his service, he worked for 30 years at Procter & Gamble and later coached basketball and baseball at Cincinnati Christian High School. Jim and his wife Dorothy recently celebrated 61 years of marriage and now enjoy retirement in Florida with their two children and three grandchildren.

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Cassidy Hicks Roell - Class of 2015



Cassidy Hicks Roell, is a 2015 graduate of Hamilton High School where she was a four year varsity standout on the Tennis team. During her career Cassidy recorded over 90 wins in her matches. Cassidy earned second team All-GMC Honors her freshman season, and First team All-GMC honors her Sophomore, Junior, and Senior years. Cassidy was the GMC Singles Champion on three occasions and in 2012 and 2013 she was named the GMC Player of the year. Cassidy capped her high school tennis career by capturing the Division OHSAA State Singles Championship. Cassidy was also a member of the National Honor Society and the J. Kyle Braid Leadership Foundation. Cassidy continued her tennis career by earning a scholarship to Wofford College. Cassidy was a four-year varsity member of the tennis team. She earned Southern Conference All-Freshman honors and was later named First Team All–Southern Conference in doubles during both her junior and senior seasons. Cassidy's doubles team was ranked #52 in the nation her senior season. Cassidy graduated from Wofford College with a bachelor's degree in Accounting. She works as an accountant and lives in Hamilton with her husband, Nicholas. Together, they are proud parents of three children: Peyton, Ciara, and Lucy.

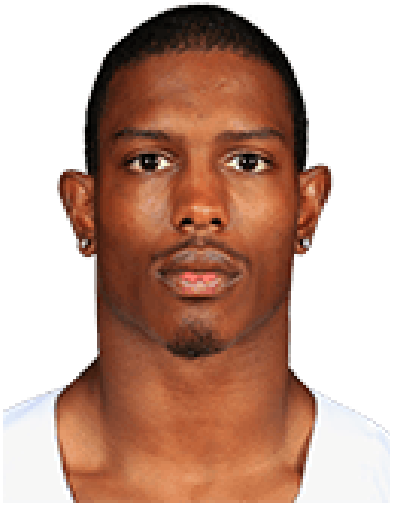
Dwayne Stacy - Coach



Dwayne is a graduate of Northwest Sr. High School class of 1983. While attending Miami University, he accepted his first coaching position with the Fairfield City Schools In 1985. He landed in Hamilton as the Freshman volleyball coach the next year. His coaching journey also included coaching volleyball at Wilson and Miami University (Hamilton Regional). He also coached wrestling at George Washington Junior High. Dwayne served as Varsity Fast-Pitch Softball Coach for Hamilton High, capturing the GMC Championship in 1991-1992. Extending the community impact of Big Blue Athletics, in 1993 Dwayne was asked to create an adult handicap softball league in Butler County for the MRDD. That league continues today and plays at the Joe Nuxhall Miracle Fields in Fairfield. In 2017 Dwayne was one of only 8 volleyball coaches across the United States named to lead a Club Volleyball Organization for the Upward Stars corporation. In the GMC, Dwayne won Coach of the Year Awards for Fastpitch Softball (1991-92), Boys Volleyball (2017-18) and for Girls Volleyball (2023-2024). Dwayne joins former players and fellow HOF members, Angela Harris Martin, Kara Bray and Kelly Connaughton. Dwayne retired from HCSD after teaching Physical Education for 35 years and coaching 39 years. He lives with his wife, Sharon, and has two daughters.

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Brandon Underwood - Class of 2004



Brandon Underwood, a 2004 graduate of Hamilton High School, excelled in both football and track. A standout defensive back for the Blue, he earned First Team All-GMC, All-District, and All-State honors, was ranked the 15th cornerback nationally and 10th overall player in Ohio, and competed in the Cincinnati East/West, Ohio North/South, and Big 33 Ohio vs. Pennsylvania games. On the track, Underwood set the school record in the 400-meter dash, a mark that still stands, and qualified for the state meet in the 200, 400, and 1600-meter relay. Underwood earned a football scholarship to The Ohio State University, playing two seasons and appearing in the 2006 National Championship game, before transferring to the University of Cincinnati, where he started in the nation's top-ranked secondary. He was a unanimous First Team All–Big East selection and competed in the East–West Shrine Game. Selected 187th overall by the Green Bay Packers in the 2009 NFL Draft, Underwood was a member of the Packers' 2010 Super Bowl championship team. He later played in the CFL with the Toronto Argonauts and Calgary Stampeders, winning a Grey Cup with Calgary in 2014. Underwood resides in Hamilton, recently earned his degree from the University of Cincinnati, works as a home remodeling specialist, and is the father of six children: Cameron, Blake, Carter, Isabella, Emilia, and Maxx.

EJ Underwood - Class of 2002



EJ Underwood, a 2002 graduate of Hamilton High School, was a multi-sport athlete who excelled in football, basketball, and track & field. Underwood was a three-time First Team All-GMC selection. He earned Honorable Mention All-State honors as a junior before being named First Team All-State and a Nike All-American during his senior season. Recognized as the top defensive back in the state, Underwood earned selections to the Ohio North/South All-Star Game and the prestigious Big 33 All-Star Game. Underwood was a two-time All-GMC basketball selection, earning First Team honors as a junior and being named Butler County Player of the Year. Underwood earned a scholarship to The Ohio State University, where he was selected to the Big Ten All-Freshman Team during his freshman season and was a member of the 2002 undefeated National Championship team, playing in all 14 games with two starts. A three-year letter winner for the Buckeyes, Underwood completed his collegiate career at Pikeville College, where he earned All-Conference honors. Underwood went on to compete professionally at the highest levels, playing in the NFL with the New York Giants, New York Jets, Buffalo Bills, and Minnesota Vikings. His career also included time in Arena Football and the Canadian Football League, where he received postseason honors. Underwood currently resides in Virginia and is employed in Real Estate and Wellness services. Underwood is the father of four children, Ayrielle, Micayla, Sophia, and Zo.

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

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 2026

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
Ricky 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 2026

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

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

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

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

Class of 2024
Tim Anderson
Kelly Connaughton
*Thomas Ferris
Charlie Hatcher
Bridget Henry
Keith Jones
*Travis Fitton Kinch
*Steve Mathews
Tim Ruecking
*Jim Smith

Class of 2025
Eddie Baker
Rick Harrison
Derrick Huff
Brenda Laboffe-Pierson
Joey Lewis
Marcus Oliver
*Perry Shazier
Terry Spivey
Jillian Spurlock
Christina Menche-Wilkins

Hall of Fame Class of 2026

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 from 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 to 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: _____

Please describe 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.