



OCONOMOWOC HIGH SCHOOL
**ATHLETIC HALL
OF FAME**

2024

**INDUCTION
CELEBRATION**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024



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OCCONOMOWOC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

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Welcome & Opening Remarks

Master of Ceremonies

Hall of Fame Inductees

Closing Remarks

We hope you will support our many business partners and sponsors listed throughout this program. It is their generosity, along with that of our guests, that contributes to the continued development of our athletic community and to the lives of our student-athletes.

*A special thank you to the following partners
who helped make today's event special.*

Master of Ceremonies: Mike Miller

Banquet Hosts: Cornerstone Sports Pub & Eatery

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OCONOMOWOC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

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Welcome

Today we have the opportunity to celebrate and honor individuals who have coached, supported, or participated in the athletics program at Oconomowoc High School. Their dedication and achievements while at OHS have inspired many and helped shape the Athletic Department into what it is today. Our goal is to induct as many individuals as we can into the OHS Athletic Hall of Fame over the coming years. Our committee would like to welcome our fifth Hall of Fame Class!

While on their athletics journey, there were many people who encouraged, celebrated, and supported our Hall of Fame inductees. This celebration allows the time to rekindle old friendships, relive the glory days, and most importantly thank those who helped them along the way.

CONGRATULATIONS

OHS Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees!

HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JON LYON

Oconomowoc High School
Athletic Director &
Associate Principal

JOE CLEARY

OHS Alumni Athlete,
Class of 1990

GEORGE FAHERTY

Retired OHS Teacher & Coach

ARNO KIRCHENWITZ

Retired Oconomowoc High
School Coach, Alumni Athlete,
Class of 1974

ROSS KOPFER

OHS Alumni Athlete,
Class of 1988

BETH LOPPNOW

Athletic Director Assistant

JIM O'LEARY

Former Oconomowoc High
School Athletic Director,
Coach, & Teacher

SCOTT RADUKA

Former Oconomowoc High
School Athletic Director,
Associate Principal, & Teacher

AUBREY SAMSON

OHS Alumni Athlete,
Class of 1998

DAVE SCHWEDER

Current Oconomowoc High
School Coach & Teacher

CARRIE VANDE ZANDE

OHS Alumni Athlete,
Class of 1986

MARY DEE WARZYN

OHS Alumni Athlete,
Class of 1980



SUPPORTING DREAMS LIKE THIS

When all you've worked toward is on the line, know you've got our support as you continue to pursue your dream on the court, on the field, in the pool and beyond.

Let's talk about the dreams you're working towards, and how I can help protect them.



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Congratulations 2024 OHS Hall of Fame Inductees



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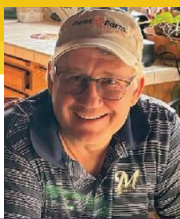


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2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Bob Blersch

COACH: 1989-2016

A coach's task is to make you do the things you don't want to do so you can achieve the goals you want to achieve.

- Bob Blersch

OHS COACHING:

- Coached freshman football
- Created the OHS coaching pay scales based on level of involvement and years of experience
- Worked with varsity assistant coach, Dan Delker from 1991-1996
- Worked with freshman coaches, Dan Marks ('91), Eric Stewart ('92), Brent Schrieber ('93), and Steve Olson ('94-'96)
- Took 20 wrestlers to Antioch, CA to wrestle over winter break in 1994. The team fundraised for the trip by running the haunted hayride at Marks Farms in October. While in California, they went 4-0 in dual meets and learned some west coast freestyle wrestling. In 1995, they hosted the Antioch, CA team at OHS
- First coach to recognize varsity wrestlers on the honor roll in the wrestling programs. One season, all 13 starters were on the honor roll
- Oconomowoc Middle School Coach, 1989
- JV Assistant Wrestling Coach to Gale Douglas, 1990
- Head Wrestling Coach, 1991-1996
- Oconomowoc Middle School, Silver Lake Intermediate, and Nature Hill Intermediate Wrestling Coach, 1997-2016
- OHS Varsity Assistant Wrestling Coach under Steve Olson, 2004-2006

OHS COACHING AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- 82-16-3 Dual Meet wrestling record for 1991-1996
- Coached 30 individual State wrestling qualifiers between 1991-1996
- Four-time Regional Wrestling Champion

- Four-time Sectional Wrestling Champion
- Six-time Wisconsin Little Ten Conference Champions
- Coached 8 State place finishers
- Oconomowoc boys coach of the year
- Wrestling conference record of 39-1-2 for 1991-1996
- Wisconsin Little Ten dual meet record vs. the following George Martin Hall of Fame Coaches:
 - 4-1-1 Hartford, Don Kreuser (G.M.H.O.F. '99)
 - 5-0-1 Watertown, Tom McGarvie (G.M.H.O.F. '11)
 - 6-0 West Bend West, Bob Kopecky (G.M.H.O.F. '17)

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

- Started the FIRST robotics program at OHS, 1998
- Started Lego Leagues at OASD elementary schools
- Started the VEX robotics program at OHS
- Master Teacher Digital Electronics for Project Lead the Way
- Master Teacher Engineering Design and Development for Project Lead the Way
- Started Project Lead the Way at OHS
- Implemented the International Baccalaureate Career-Related Certificate program



6th consecutive Little Ten Conference Championship win, 1996



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Otto H. Daemmrich, Jr.

COACH: 1955-1962

DECEASED: 1962

Although Otto's life was cut tragically short, his efforts in education and athletics continue to have a positive impact in the lives of the many who followed. Oconomowoc became and still is a storied powerhouse in wrestling. Here today, Otto's two surviving children, Bob Daemmrich and Bonnie Daemmrich, and two grandsons, Chris Daemmrich and Casey Daemmrich Nelson, are proud to accept on his behalf the honor of being installed into the Oconomowoc High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

- Robert Daemmrich & Bonnie Daemmrich

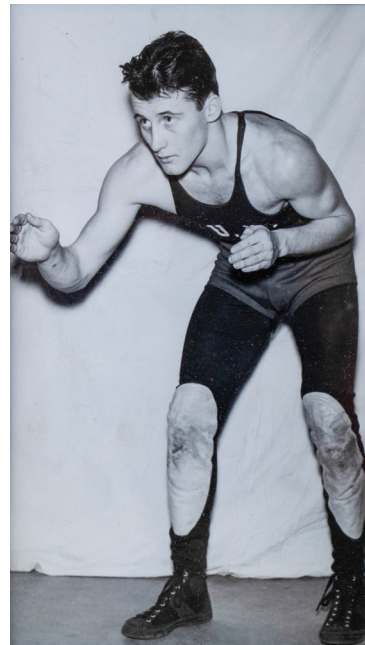
OHS COACHING:

- Began teaching physical education at OHS in 1955
- Developed a summer recreation program at OHS in 1956
- Began a wrestling club at OHS in 1956 which became the official wrestling program with Daemmrich as the first head coach in 1957
- Coached Jack Marks when he became the first individual State Champion for OHS in 1961
- Under Daemmrich's leadership, the wrestling team also placed 2nd overall at State in 1961
- During his four years leading the OHS wrestling program, he had wrestlers qualify for State

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

- Wrestled for West Milwaukee High School and only lost one varsity wrestling match
- Daemmrich was not able to wrestle at the State level because there was no State Tournament during the war years (1942-45)
- Lettered in wrestling at UW-Madison his first year but an injury ended his competitive career

- After graduating from UW-Madison, Daemmrich began his teaching career at Wisconsin School for Boys in Waukesha where he started their wrestling program
- During his time at Wisconsin School for Boys, he also began the wrestling program at Carroll College
- Daemmrich was inducted into the Wisconsin Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1980





2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Mike Barker

ATHLETE: 1982-1984 **OHS GRADUATION YEAR:** 1984

I am humbled, grateful and honored to be inducted into Oconomowoc High School's Class of 2024 Athletic Hall of Fame. I was fortunate and felt privileged to have been coached by OHS baseball icons Bill Martin, Pat Neary, and Arno Kirchenwitz, all of whom were inducted into the inaugural Athletic HOF Class of 2019. Most of all, I share this distinction with my parents Marty and Ann Barker who stood by me through all the trials and tribulations during my sports career at OHS and as a Wisconsin Badger baseball player. It means the world to me that my family name, Barker, will be forever etched in the history of Oconomowoc High School sports.

- *Michael Baker*

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- Varsity Baseball: 1982-1984
- Varsity Basketball: 1983-1984

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

BASEBALL HONORS:

- Waukesha Freeman County Player of the Year, .482 Batting Avg., 1984
- 1st Team Shortstop: Little Ten Conference, All-Area, & All-District Five, 1984
- 2nd Team All-State Shortstop, 1984
- Voted to play in WBCA All-State All-Star Game & selected for the Badger Gopher Classic game against Minnesota All-Stars, 1984
- Little Ten Conference Champions, 1984
- American Legion Conference Champs, 1983 & 1984
- State Legion Runner-Up, 1983
- American Legion Baseball State Champions, 1985
- Starting shortstop for the South Legion vs. North All-State Game
- American Legion All Star, 1984, 1985
- American Legion Team MVP, 1984, 1985
- Scholarship to play baseball for the University of Wisconsin Badgers

BASKETBALL HONORS:

- Voted Top Defensive Player, 1984

POST HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN:

- 1st Team All-Big Ten Centerfielder
- .441 batting average which ranked 9th in the country among NCAA Division 1 baseball programs
- 6th hardest batter to strike out in the country, striking out only 5 times in 218

plate appearances which is once every 43.6 at bats

- Wisconsin Badger Team MVP
- Wisconsin Badger Most Valuable Hitter
- 82 hits, 125 total bases, & 19 doubles, all remaining a single season record in Badger Baseball history
- Set or tied 9 Badger school records
- Set a single season record with 26 multiple-hit games
- First player in Wisconsin Badger baseball history to hit for the cycle since Don Schelfout performed the feat in 1950
- Led team in games played (52), at bats (186), runs (49), RBI (46), total bases (125), & slugging percentage (.672)
- Ended season with an 8-game hitting streak
- Hit safely in 19 of the last 21 games, & had 37 hits in 74 at bats with 23 runs scored & 23 RBI
- Hit inside-the-park home run vs Chicago State
- Committed only 1 error in 93 attempts (.989)
- 2nd team All-Big Ten as a sophomore in 1986
- Placed 3rd in the Big Ten Conference Playoffs, 1986

POST-HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Ran a successful baseball clinic under a corporation he formed called WAAC
- Successful career in consumer products sales & marketing, including being part owner of the company that created the Super Grip Ball
- Mike & his wife Sally are currently the national sales team responsible for all retailers & wholesalers for US Poly Enterprise, Inc.

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2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Renate Meckl

ATHLETE: 2009-2013 **OHS GRADUATION YEAR:** 2013

Being a part of changing the legacy of Oconomowoc Softball was an incredible honor. I am so grateful to my family, friends, coaches, and community members who have played a crucial role in making me the person and athlete I am today. Special thank you to the Selection Committee for this honor. It is an amazing privilege to enter this Athletic Hall of Fame with other groundbreaking athletes of OHS history, especially with my batterymate, Delaney Osterday.

- Renate Meckl

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- o Softball (2010-2013)
- o Volleyball (2009-2011)

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

SOFTBALL HONORS:

- o 4-Year Varsity Starter, 2010 – 2013
- o Team Captain, 2012, 2013
- o Team MVP, 2010, 2012, 2013
- o Team Offensive Player of the Year, 2010, 2011, 2013
- o Team Defensive Player of the Year, 2011
- o Regional Championship, 2010-2012
- o Sectional Championship, 2011
- o State Quarterfinals, 2011
- o Wisconsin Little Ten Conference Champions, 2013
- o **Individual Team Records Held**
 - Batting average, Season .582, 2010
 - Triples, Season - 9, 2011
 - Batting Average, Career - .508, 2010 – 2013
 - Hits, Career - 154, 2010 – 2013
 - Runs, Career - 123, 2010 – 2013
 - Triples, Career - 26, 2010 – 2013
 - RBI, Career - 121, 2010 – 2013
 - Base on Balls, Career - 50, 2010 – 2013
- o Wisconsin Little Ten 1st Team All-Conference - Catcher, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
- o Wisconsin Little Ten Player of the Year, 2013
- o Conley Publications All-County Softball Team - Catcher, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
- o Fastpitch Chronicles Top Catcher-State, 2013
- o Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association Honors
 - 1st Team All-District - Catcher, 2012, 2013
 - Honorable Mention All-State - Catcher, 2012

- 1st Team All-State - Catcher, 2013
- Academic All-State, 2013
- Senior All-Star, 2013

OHS AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

- o National Honor Society Member
- o High Honor Roll (2009-2013)
- o Kiwanis Breakfast Club – Mathematics Award (2016)
- o 4-year Scholar Athlete, 2010– 2013

POST- HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

- o 4-year Softball Student-Athlete at University of Tennessee-Martin, 2013-2017
- o 2x Team Captain, University of Tennessee-Martin, 2016, 2017
- o National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) All-American, 2013
- o Ohio Valley Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll, 2014-2017
- o Ohio Valley Conference Academic Medal of Honor, 2013
- o 4x National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-American Scholar Athlete Award, 2013-2017
- o German National Softball Team Member, 2017
- o National Champion - Boston Renegades Women's Professional Football, 2022

POST-HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- o University of Tennessee-Martin Graduate - Honor's Program, Summa Cum Laude, 2017
- o University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine - Doctorate, D.O. Candidate, 2018-2023
- o Pre-Doctoral Osteopathic Manual Medicine/Anatomy Fellowship Program, 2021-2022
- o University of Utah - Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Resident, 2023-present



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Delany Osterday

ATHLETE: 2009-2013

OHS GRADUATION YEAR: 2013

My time at Oconomowoc High School was special. Along with my awesome teammates and coaches, we were able to transform the culture of the program by bringing an overall expectation of winning every game we played. The success became infectious with a positive change in mind set that can still be seen in the current program today. Our coaches gave us the support needed to express our championship attitude and I will be forever grateful for the experiences and opportunities that it provided going forward. Again, my time in the Oconomowoc Softball Program was special and helped shaped me into the person I am today. I am truly honored to be inducted into the OHS Athletic Hall of Fame.

- Delany Osterday

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- o Softball (2010-2013)

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

SOFTBALL HONORS:

- o Four-year varsity letter winner, 2010-2013
- o Four-year WI Little Ten, First Team All-Conference team award winner, 2010-2013
- o 2x WI Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association All-District recognition, 2012, 2013
- o WI Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association All-State pitcher recognition, 2013
- o 2x WIAA Regional Championship, 2011, 2012
- o WIAA Sectional Softball Championship, 2011
- o WIAA State Softball Finals team participant - First time in 32 years, 2011
- o WI Little Ten Conference Softball Team Championship - First time in 31 years, 2013
- o 2x Team MVP
- o 2x Team Defensive Player of the Year
- o 2x Softball Team Offensive Player of the Year
- o 2x Varsity Team Captain
- o Hold current single season (212) and career (635) OHS Softball Strikeout Record
- o Hold single season (20) and career (61) OHS Softball Pitching Wins Record
- o Set single season and career records in pitching shutouts, earned run average, and doubles hit for OHS Softball Program
- o Threw first pitching no-hitter in OHS Softball history
- o 3x Milwaukee Journal Sentinel All-Area Softball Pitcher
- o 3x Lake Country All-Area Softball Pitcher

- o Waukesha County 2013 Female Christian Athlete of the Year award winner
- o WisSports 2013 State Pitcher of the Year finalist
- o WIAA 2013 Scholar Athlete award winner
- o WI Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association Academic All-State award winner
- o Wendy's 2013 High School Heisman award winner
- o WI Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association 2013 Senior All-Star Game participant

OHS AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

- o OHS Scholar Athlete Award winner

POST- HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

- o Four-year Division-One scholarship softball athlete at Georgetown University
- o Four-time varsity letter winner at Georgetown - pitcher/outfielder
- o Big East Conference All-Academic Team
- o First career pitching win vs conference rival Seton Hall
- o Pitching win vs University of Maryland in District invite, 1st time to beat University of Maryland in program history
- o Hitting two home runs vs conference rival Butler University, last series of career with HR at last swing of the bat
- o Big East Conference Championship participant, 2017
- o Getting an opportunity to play games vs storied programs such as UCLA, Arizona State, Texas A&M, and University of North Carolina



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Steve Rux

ATHLETE: 1979-1982

OHS GRADUATION YEAR: 1983

It is an incredible honor to be inducted into the Oconomowoc High School Hall of Fame. The passion I have had for Teaching and Coaching throughout my career was truly ignited by the Educators, Coaches, and Teammates that I had the privilege of getting to know at OHS as well as the many relationships that were fostered in the Oconomowoc Community. I have wonderful memories of my time at OHS not only as a student-athlete but later as a Teacher and Coach at Oconomowoc in the late 90's. Over the years, I have often told my players that some of my favorite memories are from the times I spent playing High School Football. My message to them is that High School Athletics can be life changing and transformational if they embrace the challenges that come with the experience and they will build friendships that will endure throughout their lives. I am most grateful for the love and support of my family; my wife Colleen and my children Connor, Kellen and Calista.

- Steve Rux

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- o Football: 1979-1982

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- o All-Conference Lineman, 1981 & 1982
- o Lineman of the Year in the Little Ten and All-Region, 1982
- o Member of the South All-Star Team, 1983

POST HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

- o Football Scholarship University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1983-1987
- o Two-year letter winner as a Badger Offensive Lineman
- o Head Football Coach, Waukesha West
- o Coached Waukesha West to win 4 Classic 8 Conference Championships
- o 5 times voted Classic 8 Coach of the Year
- o 3 times voted Regional Coach of the Year
- o Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year 2010
- o Coached Waukesha West to winning two football State Championships, 2004 & 2010, and State Runner up, 2014 & 2015
- o Inducted into the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame, 2021

POST-HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- o Bachelor's Degree in History, University of Wisconsin- Madison
- o Teaching Certification, University of Utah
- o Master's Degree, Curriculum and Instruction, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
- o High School Social Studies Teacher and Football Coach for the past thirty three years
- o Teacher and Football Team Offensive Coordinator, Brighton High School in Salt Lake City, 1992-1995
- o Teacher and Football Team Offensive Coordinator, Oconomowoc High School, 1996-1999
- o Teacher and Head Football Coach at Waukesha West High School, 2000-Present.



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Paul Swan

ATHLETE: 2005-2009

OHS GRADUATION YEAR: 2009

It is very humbling and a tremendous honor for me to be inducted into the Oconomowoc Athletic Hall of Fame. I grew up in Oconomowoc playing sports all my life. I can remember going to the varsity football and basketball games when I was younger and looking up to all the standout athletes wanting to be just like them someday! I have countless memories that I still cherish enormously to this day. I owe a great deal to my family, teammates, friends, and coaches who all believed in me so much. I had a handful of coaches from my days in Oconomowoc who were instrumental in my development for where I am today, who I will forever be grateful for. I still have best friends to this day who were my teammates all throughout my years of sports in Oconomowoc. Growing up here and being a part of this community is unlike any place in the world and I love it so much! I've always wanted to make Oconomowoc proud and still wake up every day trying to accomplish that!

- Paul Swan

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- o Football: 2005-2008
- o Basketball: 2005-2009
- o Track: 2006-2009

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

FOOTBALL HONORS:

- o Letter winner, 2006, 2007, 2008
- o 3-year starter as linebacker & running back
- o Team captain junior & senior year
- o Ranked in the top 10, State Midwest Preps players, 2009
- o All-State, All-Region, All-Area, & 1st Team All-Conference Linebacker, 2008
- o Honorable Mention, All-Conference Running Back, 2008
- o Team MVP, 2007 & 2008
- o Invitation to Wisconsin All-Star Game, 2009
- o All-Conference linebacker & 2nd team All-Conference running back, 2007
- o 346 tackles, 22 sacks, & 82 tackles for loss in 3 years as starter on Varsity
- o All-Area & All-Region team linebacker, 2007

BASKETBALL HONORS:

- o Team captain junior & senior year
- o 3 year starter as forward
- o Letter winner, 2006, 2007, 2008

TRACK HONORS:

- o Team Captain sophomore, junior, & senior year
- o Letter winner, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009
- o 4 x 100 State Runner-Up, 2009
- o Conference Champs 4 x 100 Relay, 2009
- o Conference Champs 800 Sprint Medley, 2009
- o Broke multiple school & conference records in 4 x 160 indoor, 4 x 100, & 4 x 200

POST HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

- o Football scholarship to Bowling Green State University, Ohio
 - 4-year letter winner, 3-year starter - linebacker
 - Team captain junior & senior year
 - 3 bowl games
 - MAC Conference Champions, 2013

POST-HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- o NASCAR Cup Series Pit Crew member for RCR 3 Team
 - Daytona 500 Winner, 2018
 - 2019 Xfinity Series Champions
 - 2022 Most Valuable Pit Crew Runner-Up



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Eric Swanson

ATHLETE: 1989-1993 **OHS GRADUATION YEAR:** 1993

I am deeply honored to be inducted into the Oconomowoc High School Hall of Fame. Athletics played a vital role, providing me with essential skills such as teamwork, resilience, goal setting, leadership, and dedication. I am very proud to have represented OHS and I am thrilled to see my daughters, Emma-Jean (class of 2026) and Natalie (class of 2029), following in my footsteps by swimming for OHS. I'm thankful to God, my family, coaches, and teammates for their steadfast support throughout my athletic journey

- Eric Swanson

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- o Freshman Soccer, 1990
- o Varsity Swimming: 1990 - 1993

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- o Four varsity letters for swimming
- o Four-year State swimming individual qualifier: 1990-1993
- o Two-time State swimming runner-up, 400 Free Relay (1991), 100 Fly (1992)
- o Two-time State swimming champion: 100 Fly (1993), 500 Free (1993)
- o Two-time State team runner-up swimming: 1990, 1991
- o Four-time first team All-State
- o Five-time first team All-Conference
- o High school All-American: 1993
- o High-School academic All-American: 1993
- o OHS Most Valuable Athlete, swimming: 1993

OHS AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

- o National Honors Society Vice-President, 1993

POST HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

- o Four-time varsity letter winner – University of Wisconsin-Madison Swimming: 1994-1997
- o Four-time academic All Big Ten: 1994-1997
- o University of Wisconsin-Madison Scholar Athlete: 1995
- o Four-time Big Ten swimming championship participant: 1994-1997
- o Big Ten swimming championship consolation finalist: 15th Place 200 Fly, 1996
- o United States Swimming Senior National Qualifier: 1996



Swim champ

Oconomowoc's Eric Swanson enjoys the spoils of victory during the 1993 Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association boys state swim meet. Swanson wins both the 100-yard butterfly and the 500-freestyle events at the meet.

Don Meyer, Enterprise Staff



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Darin Vande Zande

ATHLETE: 1985-1988 **OHS GRADUATION YEAR:** 1988

I am honored and humbled to be inducted into the OHS Athletic Hall of Fame. Being a member of elite teams with the great athletes and coaches at OHS gave me experiences that I have never forgotten and have helped shape me into the person I am today.

- *Darin Vande Zande*

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- o Football: 1985-1987
- o Wrestling: 1986-1988

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- o Football State runner-up, 1987
- o Football Conference Champions, 1986 and 1987
- o Parade All-American defensive line, 1987
- o All State defensive line, 1987
- o Football All Area, 1986 and 1987
- o Football All-Conference, 1986 and 1987
- o Wrestling State qualifier, 1987 and 1988
- o Wrestling State 3rd place, 1987
- o Wrestling regional and sectional champion, 1987 and 1988
- o Wrestling Conference Champion, 1987 and 1988

POST HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

- o Scholarship to play football at the University of Iowa
- o Member of the University of Iowa Football team, 1988-1993
- o Member of the 1990-91 Iowa Big Ten Champion & Rosebowl Team

POST-HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- o Master of Arts degree in recreation administration, 1995
- o Special Education Teacher Certification, 2010



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Don Bence, Sr.

SPECIAL CATEGORY: Friend of OHS Athletics

A raccoon is curious, adaptable, and resourceful. Lessons learned through Oconomowoc sports have taught me that. Go Raccoons!

- Don Bence, Sr

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- Varsity Football: 1953-1955
- Varsity Baseball: 1953-1955

OHS ATHLETICS AWARDS & CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- Lettered in football in 1953, 1954, and 1955
- Football quarterback, running back, and kicker
- Football Championship, 1953 - coached by Virgil Licht
- Lettered in baseball in 1953, 1954, and 1955
- Baseball: played all positions in outfield - coached by Bill Martin

OHS AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

- Senior year Homecoming Court and Prom Court
- Marilyn Zwieg, who would become Don's wife, was also a member of the prom court senior year

POST HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

- Bowled in a Milwaukee league on the same team as former Brewer Manager, Harvey Kuenn
- Elected to the Oconomowoc Bowling Hall of Fame
- Catcher for the Five O's
- Sponsored, played, and coached softball teams in Ixonia and Oconomowoc
- Won several softball championships for Bence Barbershop, Hoene's, Witlasch's, and St. Matthew's Church
- Had one-time honor of catching Eddie Faner (The King and His Court)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHS ATHLETICS:

- Through Bence Barbershop, donated to OHS athletics from 1961 to now
- Volunteered for Ed Rux as a member of the football team "chain gang" on the sidelines, manning the walkie-talkie headsets
- Coached grandson Casey Bence in OHS Youth Football from grades 5-8 in 1996-1999
- Casey played on the OHS football team when they tied for the championship in 2003, 50-years after Don won the championship



2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



William Hodgins

SPECIAL CATEGORY: Friend of OHS Athletics

It was a pleasure to spend so many years working with so many outstanding volunteers and watching the student athletes. I had the privilege to volunteer under six athletic directors and go as far back as working at Roosevelt Field. I would like to thank the committee for this honor.

- William Hodgins

OHS GRADUATION YEAR: 1967

OHS TEAMS PARTICIPATED:

- o Football: 1963, 1964
- o Basketball Student Manager: 1963, 1964, 1965
- o Track Student Manager: 1964, 1965

OHS AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

- o Cooney Crier, Sports Editor, 1966 and 1967

POST-HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- o Graduate of UW-Whitewater, 1971

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHS ATHLETICS:

- o William's father was the spotter for home football games beginning sometime in the 1950's and William would fill in if someone was unavailable in the chain gang or sideline spotter
- o William took over as the football sideline spotter in 1972
- o After 1972, the scoreboard operator left and William moved to the press box - he only missed one home game in 47 years
- o Worked alongside John Heuser, Harold Tinus, and Wally Bennett who had over 70 years combined on the chain gang. Mike Lange and Bob Heuser were also part of the chain gang for many years.
- o Worked alongside Chookie Kilander who manned the scoreboard for almost 40 years
- o Bill Hodgins and Bob Gilpatrick were the announcing team for over 20 years



HONORING OUR ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Read the programs for each induction class on our website at oasd.org/HallOfFame.

INDUCTION CLASS OF **2023**

COACH CATEGORY

Scott Raduka

ATHLETE CATEGORY

Bill Blunck
Mark Davis
Vicki (Duchow) Kuhl
Barry Petersen
Jacqueline (Grittner) Reeves
Rick Snyder
Ed Waylock
Chip Zastrow

SPECIAL CATEGORY

Jack and Toni Bub
Keith Farley

INDUCTION CLASS OF **2022**

COACH CATEGORY

George Faherty
Magdalen "Mamie" Redman

ATHLETE CATEGORY

Joe Cleary
Roger Jaeger
Frank Jones
Whipple Jones
Ashley Linscott
George Schmid

SPECIAL CATEGORY

Mike Bickler
Jim O'Connor

OCONOMOWOC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

INDUCTION CLASS OF 2020/21

COACH CATEGORY

Ken Wasserman

ATHLETE CATEGORY

Robin Dabareiner

John Derby

Joe Dudley

Ann Goggins Gregory

Eric Jensen

Ross Kopfer

Samantha Osterndorf

Chad Vande Zande

SPECIAL CATEGORY

Lyman Humphrey

INDUCTION CLASS OF 2019

COACH CATEGORY

Virgil Licht

Gale Douglas

Bill Martin

Ed Rux

Alex Marlis

Pat Neary

ATHLETE/COACH CATEGORY

Arno Kirchenwitz

John Kleinschmidt

ATHLETE CATEGORY

Steve Wagner

JT Bruett

Jamie Fraundorf

Mike Griswold

Aubrey Samson

Duane Hoffmann

ATHLETE/SPECIAL CATEGORY

John (Jack) Marks

SPECIAL CATEGORY

Suellyn Schellpeper



OCONOMOWOC HIGH SCHOOL
**ATHLETIC HALL
OF FAME**

2025

Help us honor the next Athletic Hall of Fame inductees on Homecoming Weekend 2025

Nominate an athlete, coach, or friend of athletics.
Details at www.oasd.org/HallOfFame



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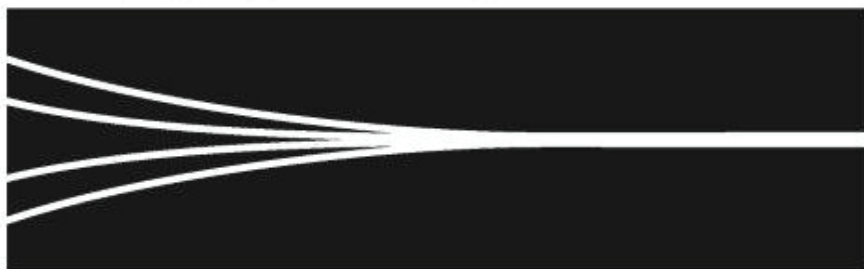
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