

A W H A A - Preserving and maintaining the rich tradition of West High athletics

# 2021 HALL OF HONOR DINNER POSTPONED

#### **UPCOMING EVENT**

**COVID Permitting** 

"HALL OF HONOR" DINNER Wednesday, March 16, 2022 5:30 PM

The Meadows on Cleves Warsaw Pike Addyston, Ohio

Guest Speaker John Popovich

#### **2022 HALL OF HONOR DINNER**

Due to COVID-19, the March 2020 AWHAA Hall of Honor Dinner was post-poned, as has the 2021 Hall of Honor Dinner this year. Assuming COVID will be under control next year, the six outstanding alumni athletes selected to be inducted March of 2020 will instead be inducted during the March 16, 2022 AWHAA Hall of Honor Dinner.

As listed in the 2020 AWHAA Newsletter last year, the six alumni athletes to be inducted are: JIM HOEH, Class of 1971, received letters in football and wrestling at West High; DARRELL KEETON, Class of 1979, lettered in baseball and football as a Mustang; DAVID THORNTON, (deceased), Class of 1982, received West High letters in football, wrestling and track; ALLISON GOODRICH, Class of 2001, lettered in softball, volleyball, and basketball for the Lady Mustangs; DANNY HORACE, Class of 2001, earned West High letters in basketball and football; STEPHANIE HUDDLESTON, Class of 2007, lettered in tennis, basketball, volleyball and softball as a Lady Mustang.

Sports broadcaster John Popovich will be guest speaker. He retired as WCPO-TV sports director after more than 40 years with the station. *Sports Of All Sorts*, the city's longest-running sports show, was started in 1980 by Popo.

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Hello and welcome to The West... I am Phillip O'Neal, in my third year as the athletic director of Western Hills High School and ninth year working in Cincinnati Public Schools. I am a product of Cincinnati Public Schools, graduating from Walnut Hills in 2006. I went on to receive my bachelors from the University of Cincinnati. Following college I joined the United States Army Ohio National Guard, currently with a rank of first lieutenant. I have a beautiful wife of nine years and two wonderful children.

What a wild year it has been! When COVID first hit last year we had to end winter athletics early and the entire 2020 spring season was canceled.

Over the 2020 summer, fall athletics were approved to resume under strict guidelines and limited spectators at games. Our coaches and players were under unprecedented stress as they tried to keep themselves safe and healthy. Even with everything going on we are still 'Moving the Needle Forward'!

We brought back the Girls Varsity Soccer team this year after almost an 8-year drought. Our new coach, Madison Smith, has a wave of new girls excited for the foundation laid and what is to come! The Boys Varsity Soccer team highlight of the year was winning the 'Crosstown Cup' back from Withrow. It's a traveling trophy that they lost last season but winning it back this year was everything! The Varsity Football team was conference champions and won the CMAC Championship! Even better they were led by Sophomore Omarion Beckley who has two more years to establish his greatness in a Mustang uniform.

Winter sports are rolling right now! The district has suspended all spectators but we are streaming all games live.

Follow our twitter account at 'Western Hills Mustangs Athletics' where you can find game streams you can watch in the comfort of your home. Two things that have stood out this winter is first, we have our first female wrestler who recorded her first win of the season. In my three years here at Western Hills we've had multiple female wrestlers but none have won a match until this year! The second thing is our boys' basketball team is building off last year establishing themselves as a serious contender. The Enquirer (newspaper) did an article on our team in January highlighting our team's recent success. I recommend looking up the article. We have high hopes for this team as they enter the postseason. Check www.westernhills.cps-k12.org for tournament information.

To the future... The baseball and softball teams look to repeat as conference champions after taking the year off. We also hope to start back the 'Best of the West Baseball Showcase'. We have west side teams interested and searching for a date that will work for everyone. Be on the lookout for that event in early May 2021.

Hope that everyone is staying safe and healthy as we battle the pandemic. God Bless you all... Phil AD... #GoWest

# WEST HIGH/DATER WRESTLERS HAVE 2nd PLACE FINISH

Congratulations to Coach Chris Bangi's West High/Dater Wrestling Team that had a 2nd place finish overall this year!

106 lbs - Summier Young, WHHS, 2nd place 120 lbs - Amir McCloud, Dater, 1st place 132lbs - Jacob King, Dater, 2nd place 160 lbs - Brenden Morris, WHHS, 1st place 182 lbs - Javontie Thomas, WHHS, 2nd place 195 lbs - Tristan Angel, WHHS, 1st place 220 lbs - Antonio Willis, WHHS, 2nd place 285 lbs - Brian Borden, WHHS, 1st place

#### **CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS** ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

August 10, 2009, a Resolution established the Athletic Hall of Fame of the Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS). At their annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies, CPS and the Activities Beyond the Classroom Foundation (ABC Foundation) commemorate the heritage, spirit and significance of interscholastic sports, and the coaches and athletes who have contributed to the athletic programs at CPS' high schools. The inductees' contributions have maintained pride in the community's athletic traditions and inspired others through outstanding athletic achievements.

Nominations are open to all male and female athletes and coaches, living or deceased, who have distinguished themselves in interscholastic athletic competition as part of a Cincinnati Public Schools high school team. Induction is based solely upon high school athletic accomplishments in sports officially recognized by the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Nominees must have demonstrated good citizenship while in high school and after leaving high school. All nominees (except coaches) must be out of high school for at least 10 years. The following West High alumni athletes and coach will be inducted into the CPS Athletic Hall of Fame at the next event:

MARK THOMPSON, Western Hills High School Class of 1980, was a baseball 3-year letterman and team captain his senior year. He was 1st team All-PHSL, 1st team All-City, 1980 PHSL Player of the Year, and Mizuno All-State selection in 1980. Mark was also a soccer 3-year letterman and team captain his senior year, with 1st team All-PHSL and 1st team All-City honors. After West High graduation. Mark was a University of Cincinnati baseball 4-year letterman. He started coaching as Western Hills High School Assistant Baseball Coach, and Varsity Soccer Coach, 1985-1989. Mark then became Elder High School Varsity Baseball Coach in 1990, and is their all-time winningest coach, without ever having a losing record. He has led the Panthers to many league, district, regional, and state championships. Mark was inducted into the Western Hills High School Athletic Hall of Honor in 2008.

Hills High School Class of 1958, was a 6-year letter girl in GAA, playing tennis, basketball, softball, field hockey and volleyball. She was basketball manager her senior year, and a 3-year tennis champion. Carol played softball from 1951 to 30 years. Pat was Western Hills High 1970, winning several City champion- School Head Wrestling Coach 11 years, ships and playing in 6 World Softball winning 10 consecutive PHSL Cham-Tournaments, as All-Star Third Baseman pionships, and PHSL Wrestling Coach in 1964. She was an Empress Chili Women's Softball Team sponsor 12 years, with Girls' Tennis Coach, 1985-1995, Metro the team being National Champs 1986, 1987, and 1988. Carol was inducted into the Greater Cincinnati Softball Hall of 1993-1995. He was Hi-Y Association Fame in 1991, and the Western Hills High moderator, 1977-1980, as well as as-School Athletic Hall of Honor in 2004.

DESMON GAULT, Class of 2004, received 11 varsity letters at West High/ Dater – 3 football, 4 wrestling and 4 track. In football he was All-District, Division 1 All-Star Team, First Team All-League, Western Hills/Elder MVP, East/West All-Star starting RB, and Iron Man Award recipient. In wrestling, he was David Angel Invitational MVP, Southwest Ohio League Champion, and Adam Cox Invitational MVP. In track he was 1st Team Southwest Ohio Track & Field, Southwest Ohio 100 Meter Dash, 4x400 Meter Relay League Champion. He received the United States Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award, Triple Crown Award, and the Bette Jo Bere Angel Character Award. He played football at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2004, and Semi-Pro Football for NKExtreme and River City Night Hawks. Desmon was a 2018 West High Athletic Hall of Honor inductee.

ROBERT "BUD" STILLE (Deceased), Western Hills High School Class of 1933. lettered in tennis at West High. He was Southwest District High School Tennis Tournament Champion in 1931. Bud ranked No. 1 in Cincinnati Junior Singles, was Singles 4th Runner-up junior year in the state tournament, runner-up in doubles junior year in the state tournament. and State singles runner-up in 1933. After high school, Bud beat Tony Trabert Series champion through 1979. in the Eastern Hills Tennis Tournament and won the Cincinnati Municipal Tennis Tournament Mixed Doubles Championship in 1944 with his fiancé. He also was a championship singles and doubles badminton player. He was National YMCA Badminton Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles Champion in 1941, ranked #3 in the 1951 men's doubles nationals, and #8 in national ranking in mixed doubles in 1952 with his wife. Bud was inducted into the Western Hills High School Athletic Hall of Honor in 2008.

CAROL WEISS KIRADJIEFF, Western PAT EAGAN (Deceased), earned 4 baseball letters at the University of Cincinnati where he was center fielder on the 1968 All Missouri Valley Conference Team. He was a Cincinnati Public Schools Health and Phys. Ed teacher of the Year, 1976-1985. He was Head Conference Tennis Coach of the Year. 1995, and West High's Athletic Director, sistant baseball, football, and basketball coach throughout his tenure. He was a member of the Southwestern Ohio Wrestling Coaches' Association 15 years, serving as President, 1983-1984. Pat was inducted into the St. William School Hall of Fame in 1990, the Southwestern Ohio Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2000, and the Western Hills High School Athletic Hall of Honor in 2007.

#### **WEST HIGH GREAT PASSED AWAY**

JIM FREY, Class of 1949, passed away April 12, 2020, in Pointe Vedra Beach, Florida at 88 years of age. While at West High, Jim lettered in baseball and basketball, and was a lifelong friend of classmate and teammate Don Zimmer.

Jim was a left-handed batting and throwing outfielder, spending much of his career in the farm systems of the Boston/Milwaukee Braves and St. Louis Cardinals. A recurring arm injury prevented him from his best shot at the big leagues in 1958. Following the end of Jim's playing career in 1963, he joined the Baltimore Orioles as a scout and Minor League Baseball manager. He was promoted to the Orioles' coaching staff in 1970, and coached three American League pennant winners and one World

A week after the end of the 1979 World Series, Jim was named manager of the Kansas City Royals. He led the Royals to the American League West Division title in 1980, then, in the 1980 American League Championship Series, the Royals swept the New York Yankees in three straight games to capture the American League title. But Jim's Royals dropped the World Series to the Philadelphia Phillies in six games.

During the strike-marred 1981 season, in which the Royals finished the first half with a 20–30 record, Jim was relieved of his duties on August 31, despite the 10–10 ball club leading the second-half American League West standings.

Jim then returned to the coaching ranks with the New York Mets for 1982–83. He was hired by the Chicago Cubs for the 1984 season, and the Cubs won the division title, earning their first postseason appearance since 1945. The Cubs won the first two games against the San Diego Padres but lost the National League Championship. Jim was chosen as recipient of the The Sporting News 1984 Manager of the Year Award.

After a trying 1985 season in which the entire five-man starting rotation simultaneously spent time on the disabled list, the Cubs sputtered in 1986. Jim was let go two months into the season and the next year he surfaced as a color commentator on the Cubs' WGN Radio broadcasts.

In December 1987, the Tribune Co. hired Jim to replace his old boss, the Cubs General Manager who had resigned two months earlier. Jim hired his lifelong friend and West High classmate, Don Zimmer, to manage the team.

Jim made a bold move in the winter of 1988 trading several players, but the trade paid off for the Cubs with respect to the 1989 season as the Cubs won a division title. Following the 1989 campaign, Jim was named Major League Co-Executive of the Year by United Press International (UPI).

The 1990 season was disappointing, then Jim was reassigned within the Cubs organization after the 1991 season. Later on, He helped found and became Vice Chairman of the Independent Somerset Patriots of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball.

Jim spent forty-three years in professional baseball before retiring in 1992. In retirement, he enjoyed his family, good friends, and the game of golf. His competitive spirit, keen mind and quick wit are remembered by family and friends.

Jim is survived by his Western Hills High School sweetheart and beloved wife of sixty-eight years, Joan Miller Frey, his son, three daughters, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

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#### WHHS HALL OF HONOR MEMBERS

MALCOLM ANDREWS	'01	PAT LUNSFORD	<b>'</b> 61
ELMER BEST	'32	ART MAHAFFEY	
MAURY BIBENT		LINWOOD MARSHALL	
JEAN TUERCK BIMEL		ARCH McCARTNEY	
EARL BOSSUNG		DICK McCOY	
JOHN BOTUCHIS MICHEAL BOVARD		ALESIA JORDAN McMILLAN	
DAN BOYLE		FRED MEIER	
JIM BOYLE		VERLIE MEYERS	
BOB BRATER		MIKE MIDDLETON	
KEN BRATER	'71	BOB MORGAN	'29
CHUCK BRINKMAN		ROLAND MUHLEN	
ED BRINKMAN		STEVE NeSMITH	
PHIL BROWN		ROY NIXON	
DONNA BURKS		PAUL NOHR	
TREVOR CANFIELD		JILL MUSSMAN O'BRIEN	
MELISSA CARMICHAEL		PAT O'BRIEN	
KEN CONATSER		TOM OYLER	
WILLIS CONATSER	'51	HARRY PANARO	
JENNIFER HOGAN CONDON		DAVID PANDILIDIS	
ANESTIS JOHN "IRISH" CONDORODIS		DARRYL PETERSON	
PHILL COOK		RON PINSENSCHAUM	
RALPH CROSTHWAITE		TOM PRICE	
BOB CZERWINSKI WILLIAM "BUZZ" DALTON		JIM RAY	
AL DeGARMO		CHRIS REMBOLD	
JON "CHIP" DEIFEL		BILL REUSING	
CONNIE DETTMER		CHARLES REUSING	
JENNIFER PUEHL DIERIG	'87	JACK REYNOLDS	'66
RICK DOPPES	'73	KARL RHODES	
DICK DROTT		PAT RILEY	
PAT EAGAN		PETE ROSE	
JOHN FISHER		BILL ROTHAN	
JIM FREY		PAT RYAN	
SID FRIEDMAN		BILL SACHS	
JACK GANNON	'49	GLENN SAMPLE	
DESMON GAULT		BOB SCHNABEL	
RAY GEBHARDT		CLIFF SCHNABEL	
DEBBIE GENTILE		JERRY SCHOEN	
WILLIAM J. GERHARDTWILLIAM GILLILAND		ROBERT SCULLY	
CHRIS "GOOSE" GIVENS		JIM SEITZ	
BILL GRAVES		LAVERNE DICK SEITZ	
DIANNE BRATER GRIESSER	'59	KEN SELBY	'65
RALPH GRIESSER	'59	CHARLES SHARE	
PAT GROENIGER		BOB SHIMIZU	
JAMIE WILLIAMS HAMMOOR		BOB SIEKMANN	
MIKE HANDLON		JEFF SLAYBACK	
RODNEY HEATH		CAROL SMITH	
DIANE HEILMANN		LEN STAHL	
STU HEIN	'48	ROBERT "BUD" STILLE	'33
DAVE HEISS	'66	BONNIE BRUEGGEMANN STONE	'60
ERV HOINKE		J. HAROLD SWEET	
RAY HORNBACK		JOHNNY TAYLOR	
ROBERT HORTON		CHESTER THOMAS	
EDDIE JACKSON		MARK THOMPSONLORI TROESCHER	
DON JACOBS		KRISTIE BRADSHAW VENEMAN	
BOB KAPPES		ANITA OPPELT VOLLMER	
GARRY KEETON		CLYDE VOLLMER	
RICK KEETON		HERM WEHMEIER	
KRISTEN KERKHOFF		PHIL WHEELER	
CAROL WEISS KIRADJIEFF		HOWARD WHITSON	
BRADLEY A. KUEHN DICK KUEHN		TERRY WILLIAMS CONSTANCE WITTE	
FRANK KUGLER		DONNA WUERDEMAN	
ROY LAGALY		BILL ZIMMER	
CAROLE GUDGEON LEMEN		DON ZIMMER	
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#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

ASSOCIATION OF WEST HIGH ALUMNI ATHLETES (AWHAA)

Dues are \$10.00 per year payable each July 1. Make check payable to AWHAA.

Name	Phone	
Street Address	City/State/Zip	
Graduation Year From West High	E-mail Address	
Mail application and dues to Bill Meier, 5655 Antoninus Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45238.		
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ATHLETIC HALL OF HONOR NOMINATION  (Forward to: gailsuiter@aol.com or Gail Suiter, 5602 Kingsbury Road, Fairfield, OH 45014)		
Name	Phone	
Graduation Year From West High	E-mail Address	
Street Address	City/State/Zip	
West High, college, and career athletic biographical	information*	
*Attach additional information; biographical in	formation must be provided for nominee to be considered.	