

25TH ANNUAL

1980-2004

GREATER FLINT AREA SPORTS



WAYMAN BRITT

LEONARD PLUDE

GREG REYNOLDS

LONNIE YOUNG

ELI COPELAND

**BEN ROOF
SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD**

**FLINT CENTRAL 1958
FOOTBALL TEAM**

ERWIN KETZLER

JIM ABBOTT

**BENTLEY H.S. 1973
BASEBALL TEAM**

**CARPETS BY JIM SMITH
1974 BASEBALL TEAM**

INDUCTION BANQUET

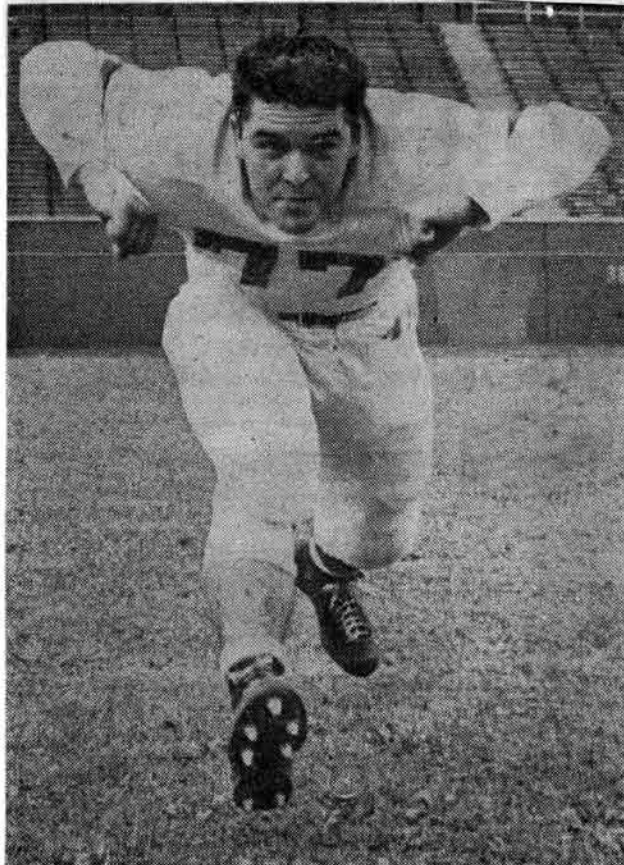
SATURDAY DECEMBER 4, 2004

GENESYS SPORTS & BANQUET FACILITY

Wednesday, October 29, 1958

Central Standout for Third Straight Year

Hardin's Fame Spreads



TRIBE LEADER—Ken Hardin, 200-pound tackle, is Central High's best-known lineman. He was the Tribe's most valuable player last Fall and continues to sparkle as cocaptain this Fall. (Journal Photo)

Tackle Ken Harden raced 40 yards for another Indian score

Ken played his high school ball at Flint Central where he graduated in 1959. He was an All-State tackle his senior year besides being captain of the team. After the season ended his teammates voted him the Most Valuable Player Award which is a real honor for a lineman.

It's more than being a three-year regular that stamps Central High's Ken Hardin as the most talked about tackle heading into the Thanksgiving Day

football game against Northern High.

The 190-pound Hardin first stepped into the exceptional class in 1956 when he started out on the junior varsity but improved so rapidly that he was a regular by Turkey Day, a rare achievement for a sophomore in a Tribe grid camp.

He proved his stuff by playing both offense and defense in a season when the Indians resorted to as much two-platoon football as possible. How well he handled the assignment was evident when he became an all-Saginaw Valley Conference choice and a second-team all-Stater.

Hardin, who was an all-Saginaw Valley Conference player and a second-team all-Stater, was honored as the team's most valuable player.

Ken states that his biggest thrill came, "when I recovered three fumbles

Congratulations Ken,

You've always given your best, not only to your team but also to your family and your community.

We are very proud of you.

Love,
JoJo and Tony



Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame

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WELCOME TO THE 25TH ANNUAL GREATER FLINT AREA SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET AS WE HONOR THE CLASS OF 2004.

Tonight inductees have achieved the highest awards given to athletes: All-State, State Champions, All-American, All-Pro, National Champions and an Olympic Gold Medal. Few Cities have produced as many talented and dedicated athletes as the Greater Flint area.

Tonight Jim Abbott, Wayman Britt, Leonard Plude, Greg Reynolds, Lonnie Young and the late Eli Copeland and Erwin Ketzler are being honored for their achievements and contributions to the world of sports.

Each year the Board of Directors selects a person to receive the "Special Service Award." This year's recipient is Ben Roof.

Tonight we honor two teams in the scholastic category, 1973 Bentley High School Baseball Team and the 1958 Flint Central Football Team. The non-scholastic team inductee is the 1974 Carpets by Jim Smith Baseball Team.

The Board of Directors would like to say a special "THANK YOU" to the Flint Journal for twenty-five years of continuous support. Not only have they promoted the Hall of Fame with their articles in the Flint Journal, they have donated the handsome plaques that are displayed here in the Genesys Recreation and Banquet Center.

A special "THANKS" goes to the Genesys Recreation and Banquet Center for being the permanent home of all the past and future plaques of our honorees.

Enjoy your evening with old friends and great memories.

Dick Daly
President

THE 25TH ANNUAL GREATER FLINT AREA SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET

Saturday, December 4, 2004-Genesys Recreation & Banquet Center
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play?'**

Henry Roxborough

We
wish to extend
our sincerest congratulations
and best wishes to the honorees

of the

2004

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TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

SOCIAL HOUR AND CASH BAR 5:30 to 6:30

Welcome, Introduction of Guests and Officers.....Dick Daly, President

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2004 INDUCTEES

Master of Ceremonies.....Ed Phelps, Sports Director, WJRT Channel 12
Invocation.....Rev. Randall P. Schultz, Pastor Our Savior Lutheran Church

ENJOY YOUR DINNER

Presentation of the Class of 2004.....Ed Phelps

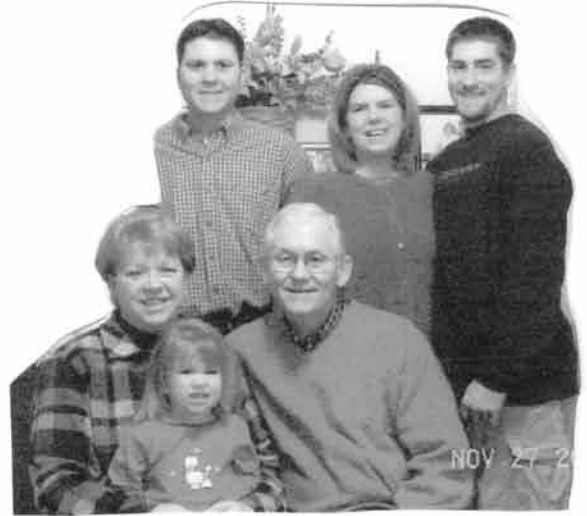
THE 2004 INDUCTEES

- ★ GREG REYNOLDS
- ★ LEONARD PLUDE represented by his son, Mike Plude
- ★ 1973 BENTLEY HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM
- ★ ELI COPELAND represented by his son, Charles Copeland
- ★ WAYMAN BRITT
- ★ Special Service Award - BEN ROOF
- ★ 1974 CARPETS BY JIM SMITH BASEBALL TEAM
- ★ LONNIE YOUNG
- ★ ERWIN KETZLER represented by his daughter, Kathleen
Swiatkowski
- ★ 1958 FLINT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM
- ★ JIM ABBOTT

Join us for Autographs and an Afterglow by the Plaques

Congratulations Greg Reynolds!

We're so proud
of our brother and
uncle! Love you,
Gretch, Don, Joel
Christa, Mike, and Hannah
(: new addition!)



Greg,
I love you
for the golfer, man,
and husband you
are. I'm so proud.
Biggest fry
just for my
pal!
Love, Panda



You're almost
as good a
golfer as you
are a Dad!
We love you.
Love,
You're #1 Jan
and Diana

"Papa, you're the champ!"
Love, Katlyn and Cohen



Brother + Uncle Greg...
Thanks for providing
another great reason for
a family vacation. See
you in Flint! We're so proud!
Love, Craig, Della, Sara, Chantal
and Elizabeth

We love
you!

Greg Reynolds

Golf Friendships Keep Expanding

By Brendan Savage

Greg Reynolds' accomplishments on the golf course are so numerous it would be almost impossible to mention them all.

There are appearances in 21 USGA events, including a victory in the 2002 U.S. Senior Amateur Championship and a runner-up finish this year. And two U.S. Senior Opens, one British Senior Open and seven U.S. Amateurs.

There are four Michigan Tournament of Champions crowns, two victories apiece in the Michigan Mid-Amateur and Michigan Medal Play, 18 appearances on the Golf Association of Michigan Honor Roll, two GAM Player of the Year awards and a spot in the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame.

And don't forget the local achievements that include three City Amateur Championships, a record seven victories in the Genesee All-Star Golf Classic — the area's version of The Masters — and the combined 17 club championships at Spring Meadows and Flint Golf Club.

But all the trophies, victories and accolades are only part of Reynolds' story. When his career is finally over — and he doesn't appear to be slowing down a bit at age 57 — Reynolds will cherish his off-the-course memories as much as anything.

"I've probably met more important business people through golf than I would have in a business environment," said Reynolds, an Iowa native who is the director of assembly productions engineering for the metal fabricating division of General Motors.

One year, while playing in the U.S. Mid-Amateur, he stayed in the home of Terry McGuirk, who is the vice chairman of Turner Broadcasting System as well as the president and chairman of the Atlanta Braves.

Another year, after the Bogey Busters tournament in Dayton, Ohio, playing partner Frank Broyles invited Reynolds to play at Augusta National, where the former Arkansas football coach is a member. Reynolds shot 67 at Augusta and then received an even bigger thrill.

"Frank tells me to grab my bag and come around the clubhouse with him," Reynolds recalled. "We walk around the back and there's Byron Nelson. He tells Byron this is the guy who shot 67 at Augusta, he looks at me and tells me (Nelson) is all yours. Go work with him. Have him help you.

"So I got to work with Byron Nelson."

There was his 4-under-par 68 in the first round of the 2003 Buick Open, when son Chris carried his bag and Reynolds posted a score that was better than defending champion Tiger Woods.



"That will rank right up there with my memorable experiences," Reynolds said of his 68. "It was fun to have Chris on the bag with me.

One of Reynolds' fondest memories involves Bel-Air Country Club, where he was the runner-up in this year's U.S. Senior Amateur.

It was back in the early 1980s that Reynolds received an invitation from an old friend to play at Bel-Air. Reynolds' friend said his regular playing partners included singer Mac Davis and actor James Garner.

Their round, which began on the 10th hole, featured a long-drive contest on every hole. But the catch was that for tee shots to count, they had to not only be in the fairway, but they had to be validated by the rest of the group since it was February and hard to tell where the fairways ended and the rough began.

"I'd have no chance," Reynolds said. "I'd be on a sprinkler head in the middle of the fairway and they'd vote no."

When the group made the turn, they arrived at the first tee to find a group of onlookers that included PGA Tour players Ben Crenshaw and Jerry Pate as well as Ken Venturi and several other members of the CBS Sports golf team.

"I'm supposed to be \$3,000 down in this long drive contest and when we go in, (Garner) is making a big deal out of beating me," Reynolds said.

"So I took a loaded dollar bill I carried and told him since he was Maverick, we'd have to play Liar's Poker, double or nothing. The bill I carried had six ones on it and I beat him."

Congratulations Dad

The Plude Brood

Michael Maureen

Kathleen Mark

Eileen Bruce

Karen Paul

Therese Margaret

Julia Barbara

and their Mother, Barbara



Leonard Plude

His Skills Were in All Sports

By Dan Nilsen

Leonard Plude was the kind of athlete you didn't want to tangle with — especially in a boxing ring.

A seven-time letter winner at St. Matthew High, Plude was a fearsome lineman and linebacker in football, a rugged guard on the basketball court and a power-hitting catcher in baseball. Outside of school he was a long hitter in junior golf that once shot 77 with 14 one-putt greens.

But it was in the boxing ring that Plude built a reputation from Berston Field House to the South Pacific. A 5-foot-11, 190-pound heavyweight, he had a 22-3 amateur record and won 16 of 17 fights while stationed with the U.S. Navy on Johnston Island during World War II.

If not for a leg injury suffered during the war, Plude might have built a professional career in the ring. While in a small boat in heavy seas, he was slammed into a gunwale and ruptured a quadriceps muscle. Despite surgery, the leg was never the same.

"I was going to fight pro, but that leg was too much," said Plude, now 81 and living in Swartz Creek. "I couldn't go three rounds

"I could fight if they stayed still, but I couldn't move. It would just buckle and dump me right on my nose."

The injury undoubtedly saved the noses of a lot of other fighters. In his brief ring career, Plude developed a reputation as a hard-hitting heavyweight who usually won by knockout.

One time on Johnston Island, another serviceman issued a challenge to any of the 3,000 sailors and marines on the island to meet him in the ring. Plude answered the call. The fight lasted 22 seconds.

"They rang the bell, I turned around and there he was," said Plude. "I threw a right hand and hit him right on



the button, and he saw the birdies."

Jack Carso, who began a lifelong friendship with Plude when both were shipping out of Flint for Navy, remembers a number of bouts in boot camp at the Great Lakes Naval Training Base.

"He hit one guy under the heart and he was unconscious for 20 minutes," Carso said. "There was a professional middleweight there who told Leonard he should go pro."

At Berston, trainer Dee Cavette asked Plude to spar three rounds with state Golden Gloves champion Richard Dicks, who had to travel to Detroit to train because no one around Flint could give a competitive workout. Plude said he could go two rounds.

"Afterwards, Dicks said, 'oh man, we don't have to go to Detroit anymore,'" Carso said.

Denied a career in the ring, Plude nonetheless stayed in the fight game for 40 years as a judge and state inspector.

But he also kept his athletic career going by playing football with Flint semipro teams like the Falcons and the Blue Devils. The leg would hold

up because he wasn't required to make the same kind of quick moves necessary in boxing.

"He was a tough player, one of those guys who played all the time, even when he was hurt," said Jack Park, former Blue Devils quarterback. "He was a good man to have on your side."

"You remember Dick Butkus?" asked halfback Joe Gregson. "That's Leonard. When we needed yardage, I'd just grab onto the back loop of his pants and follow him through. He'd mow them down."

Plude played a lot in pain. He's had at least 24 surgeries in his life, including three sets of artificial knees.

Plude was a diver in the Navy, anchoring buoys 50 feet under water without a diving suit. He had no trouble swimming with the giant sea eels and barracudas, but meeting up with a 1,800-pound tiger shark changed his outlook.

"That was the last time I dove," he said. "That thing was 12 feet long and you couldn't reach around it."

After the war, Plude worked briefly for AC, but spent most of his life as a rigger moving heavy machinery for Ironworkers Local 25. He also owned Plude's Bar, working two jobs to support a family of 12 children.

That's the other side of Leonard Plude. The hard-punching boxer who put so many opponents on the canvas also put 10 of his children through college. Along the way, he found time to help coach football at three Flint area high schools. "He was a tough guy, but inside he's an old softy," Carso said. "He was more like a brother to me. He really took good care of me.

"My mother used to say, 'if I could have had another boy, that's the kind of son I'd want.' "

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Eli Copeland

All-Star Talent Made Softball Look Easy

By Rickey Hampton

The late Eli Copeland was an outstanding fastpitch softball player on teams such as M&S Orange and the Joe Louis Punchers.

But more impressive than his abilities on the diamond, say those who knew him, was his demeanor off it. Copeland, being inducted tonight into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame, was a beloved teammate.

"Eli was one of the nicest guys I've ever met," said Collins Pack of Detroit, one of the last living members of the famed Joe Louis Punchers.

"He was a great teammate. He was always upbeat. I used to go and visit with him all the time. We corresponded a lot over the years."

Being surrounded with quality people meant a lot to the men like Copeland and Collins. They were part of a combined team of All-Stars from the M&S Orange and Brown Bombers that merged into the Joe Louis Punchers, a team sponsored by the world champion boxer.

They barnstormed around the country in the '30s and '40s playing in tournaments and exhibitions. As African-American men in a time of strict segregation policies, they often encountered difficult circumstances.

"We played against mostly white teams," Pack said. "We had people call us names, but our thing was to show them that we could play. We tried to win them over with the way we played, and we did."

"We would play in front of huge crowds. And, sometimes, when Joe Louis would travel with us, we would really get big crowds. Everyone wanted to meet the world champ."

Copeland and his teammates enjoyed star status in the African-American community.

"They were all idols to us," explained Gerald Moore, whose father, Willie, also was an outstanding player.

Gerald Moore grew up watching games at Berston Field and Atwood Stadium.

"We didn't need big-league heroes to look up to. Our heroes were all here, right in front of us," Moore said. "I'm sure a lot of them could've gone on and played professional baseball, but the doors weren't open to African-Americans at that time."

Although people considered Copeland a star, he never let that go to his head.

"He was always a real thoughtful person," Moore said. "If I needed some information on a game, or a player from back in the day, all I had to do was call Eli."

Pack remembers Copeland as a steady player.

"Understand that we were a team of all-stars," Pack said. "We had some brilliant players who could get the job done with a lot of flair."



"Eli wasn't that kind of player. He wasn't real flashy, but he was reliable and productive. He was a good hitter who fielded his position (right field) very well. He never struck out, and always put the ball in play."

Copeland, who graduated from Central High School in 1937, played in adult leagues as a 15-year-old. In addition to playing with the Punchers and Orange, Copeland played with the Flint Yellow Dogs and James Lumber squads.

Some of his most productive seasons came with the Yellow Dogs. He led the team in hitting from 1937-39 with a combined average of .389.

In the 1940 Class A championship game, Copeland tripled home the winning run as the Yellow Dogs beat Muskegon, 5-4.

Copeland's play earned respect from his peers. Diz Kirkendoll, a standout pitcher for the Fort Wayne Zollner Pistons, called Copeland the best hitter in softball.

The Zollner Pistons beat Copeland and the Punchers in the 1945 World Tournament championship game, 1-0. The Fort Wayne team was owned by Fred Zollner, who also owned a basketball team that would become the NBA's Detroit Pistons.

Copeland played 15 seasons (1935-50). He worked at General Motors Parts Division as a supervisor for 35 years. He died in 2002 at age 83.

He and wife, Lena, had four children. He also had three stepsons, many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Copeland was inducted into the Michigan Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame in 1983. In 1997, he was inducted into the Greater Flint Afro-American Hall of Fame.

"He would've been proud, and we are proud of him," said Flint's Charles Copeland of his father. "It's good to know that other people take time to remember the things he did as a ballplayer."

"I never got to see him play, but I'm always proud when people tell me what a great player he was."

The Flint Journal is proud to be involved in the
Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame.

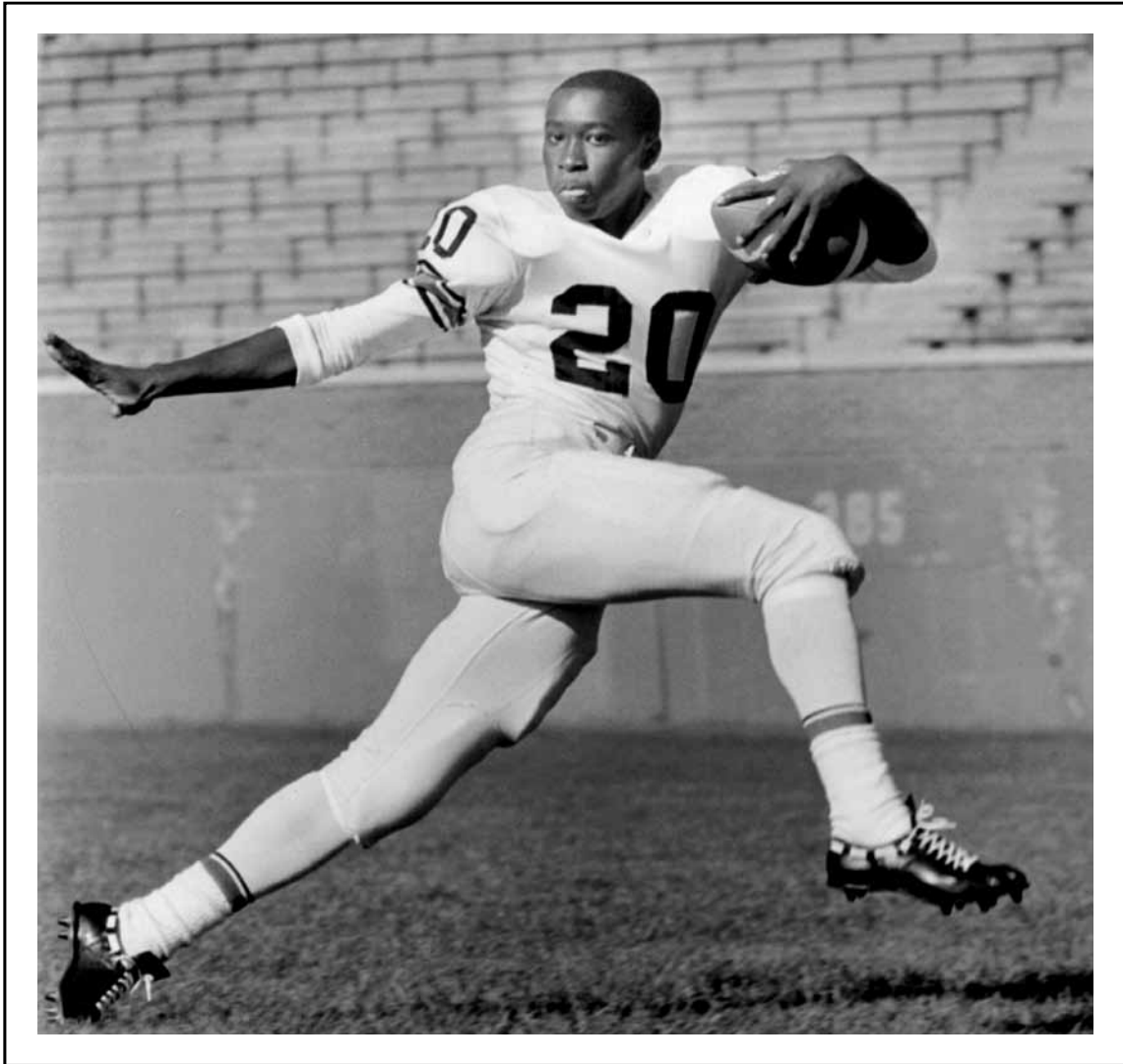


photo: "George Hoey" - Flint Journal Photographer, Barry Edmonds

We would like to acknowledge Flint Journal employees
who have been inducted into the hall of fame:
Maurie Cossman, Barry Edmonds, M.A. Gorman,
Len Hoyes and Doug Mintline.

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FLINT JOURNAL**
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Erwin Ketzler

Precise Magician When He Took Aim

By Greg Tunncliff

Erwin Ketzler was a stickler for precision.

Whether he was shooting a cannon for the Ninth Armored Division in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II or a bow at the Flint Bowmen Club, Ketzler rarely missed his target.

"He was the most meticulous guy I ever met in my life," said Don LaDuke, Ketzler's close friend and former Flint fire chief. "He couldn't stand disorder."

Ketzler's penchant for accuracy helped him become one of the top archers in country. His abilities are recognized tonight with his induction into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame.

Ketzler, who lived in Flint for 69 years, died in 2000 at age 82.

"Dad was a perfectionist," said Kathleen Swiatkowski, Ketzler's daughter who lives in Gladwin. "He had the finest-tuned fingers."

Before entering the service, the 1938 Central High graduate worked at Buick City and shot arrows as a hobby. He captured 12 Flint city archery championships and 10 state titles, becoming a local celebrity in the process.

After returning home from the war, Ketzler became a national archery hero.

The 5-foot-7 Ketzler won five straight National Field Archery championships from 1951-55, earning the NFA's Instinctive Shooter Award five times.

"He was so good you couldn't believe," LaDuke said. "You had to see him to appreciate what he did with a bow."

Ketzler's accomplishments are even more impressive considering he shot without scopes and sites, two things many shooters use today. He tried a few gadgets, but mainly used his instincts to excel.

Where most shooters would map out on paper what they were going to do, Ketzler would do it all in his mind. He would picture the arrow's flight to the target, then execute the shot — usually to perfection.

"You couldn't learn to shoot the way he did," LaDuke said. "He was a magician."

Archers, like any athletes, get better with practice. Like a basketball player improves his shot the



more he shoots a ball, an archer get more acquainted with his bow the more he uses it.

What made Ketzler different from the typical archer is it didn't take him long to get in touch with his bow. LaDuke remembers a summer Sunday afternoon at the Flint Bowmen Club when Walt Knoblock, former owner of Knoblock Hardware in Flint, presented Ketzler with a new bow.

According to LaDuke, Knoblock told Ketzler that if he liked the bow and he could shoot straight with it, he could keep it. Ketzler promptly went out, shot 10 or 12 of his own arrows, and broke the course record.

"He was just a natural," LaDuke said. "He was unbelievable."

Ketzler's unique talent gave him the opportunity to perform in front of some famous people. He put on several exhibitions at IMA Sports Arena, now Perani Arena, including one with The Beatles. He also hunted with noted outdoors enthusiast Ted Nugent.

Ketzler retired from Buick in 1974 after 33 years as a grinder, quality controller and inspector. He is a lifetime member of the Flint Bowmen Club and was inducted in the Michigan Bowmen Hall of Fame.

"He was so good and he went as far as he could with it," Swiatkowski said. "He took it right to heart."

Flint Northern High School



Congratulates Wayman Britt



**On his induction into the 2004
Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame**

**We proudly salute you and the previous Vikings who have been
honored for their athletic achievements.**



**Congratulations to the Sports Hall of Fame for
25 Great Years!**

Clyde Bell
Principal

Buddy Kimura
Athletic Director

Wayman Britt

Freakish Court Size Brilliant Court Play

By Dean Howe

Wayman Britt was a power forward trapped in a 6-foot-2 body, almost a freak on the basketball court at Northern High and the University of Michigan.

As a high school junior in the 1971 state Class A finals, Britt grabbed a game-high 29 rebounds in the Vikings' stunning upset of Detroit Kettering. The official box score gave him only 15, but coach Bill Frieder, whose official statistician was sitting close by, maintained Britt, indeed, had 29 rebounds.

"Yes, I did get 29 rebounds," Britt said. "A lot of it had to do with the way I was positioned underneath the basket. My brother (6-6 James Britt) was supposed to stand in front of their center. I would be behind. I got a lot of basketballs off the rims that night."

The following year, Britt and his teammates completed an undefeated season (25-0) in capturing another state title. Frieder's second Vikings' unit was one of the most balanced in Flint and state basketball history. It was Britt, the captain, who set the tone for that team's ferocious work ethic, defined by defense and crashing the backboards.

"What a team we had with Terry Furlow, Dennis Johnson, Joel Ragland, Ricardo Jones and Raymond Bridges coming off the bench," said Britt. "We liked to run and our defense you couldn't penetrate."

A Class A all-stater in 1972, Britt had offers from several colleges but yearned to play at Michigan. He didn't think, for a moment, though, he'd wind up being a forward in the physical Big Ten Conference.

Perhaps it was a stroke of good fortune—for Michigan and Britt—that forward would again be his spot on the court.

"I'd been ill my sophomore year as we were beginning to practice," Britt said. "Coach (Johnny) Orr had penciled me at guard but Steve Grote was looking very good in practice so the coach asked me to try it at forward."

Britt was there for the next three seasons and UM flourished.

With three straight winning seasons, the Wolverines reached the ultimate in the spring of 1976 by advancing to the Final Four of the NCAA the tournament in Philadelphia.

Britt played a crucial role in Michigan's semifinal victory over previously undefeated Rutgers. Often assigned to defend the opposing team's top scorer, Britt was expected to have his hands full guarding Rutgers All-American Phil Sellers, a 6-5 player averaging nearly 30 points a game.

Britt hounded Sellers all afternoon, holding Sellers to 12 points as Michigan rolled into the championship game



with an 86-70 victory.

The Wolverines met undefeated Big Ten rival Indiana in the title game and lost after leading at halftime.

Britt always liked the challenge of defending taller opponents. He relished the opportunity to leap over defenders and grab rebounds.

A native of North Carolina, Britt found enough competition in a family of three older brothers. They were taller, too.

"I think, in the long run, that helped me in rebounding," Britt said. "Plus I had quickness and good agility and I was pretty strong. All those factors helped me on the basketball court."

He is overjoyed to have the Michigan Defensive Player of the Year Award named in his honor. He was the first recipient of that award after his senior season in Ann Arbor.

Being a 6-2 forward turned out to be a curse when it came to professional basketball, however. Drafted by the Los Angeles Lakers in 1976, Britt lasted through the exhibition season.

Two years later, he had a brief stint with the Detroit Pistons and then his basketball career was over.

"I knew there was no way I'd play forward in the pros and guard was something I had to learn all over again," he said.

He has lived in the Grand Rapids area since 1978 and, for 24 years, was a manager for Steelcase, one of the largest manufacturers of office furniture in the United States. Recently, he became an assistant administrator for Kent County.

Britt and his wife, Dinah, have seven children.

"It is quite an honor to be inducted into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame," he said. "There were so many good memories for me at Northern High.

"Coach Frieder worked us very hard so we could win championships. I tried to carry that attitude throughout my basketball career."

Jim,

A Special Time,
A Special Place
Certainly Special People
and a Tremendous Honor.

Congratulations!
Mom, Chad & Dad

Congratulations

to the

1958 Flint Central Indians

State Championship Football Team

and it's Coaches

Bill Doolittle, Jim Whittaker, Tim Bograkos, Marv
Shebel and Ken Green



From Jim, Bill, and Jean Green

Congratulations!

Jim Abbott & Wayman Britt

**Greater Flint Area Sports
Hall of Fame Inductees**



The University
of Michigan Club
of Greater Flint



Jim Abbott

Flint's Goodwill Sports Ambassador

By Dean Howe

Jim Abbott might be Flint's best sports ambassador ever.

It's not just that he could be a dominating left-handed pitcher in high school, at the University of Michigan, in the Olympics and on Major League Baseball diamonds across the land.

Abbott was an inspiration to the physically challenged, although he never thought being born without a right hand was an impediment to athletic success.

"Growing up, I never thought I had much of a handicap at all," said Abbott. "Neither did the people I played against. I can see now how it may have helped inspire some people to better themselves in life. I feel good about that."

In the 1970s and '80s, Abbott did what Flint kids loved to do — play sports. He did so on baseball and football fields, and in school gymnasiums. Backyards would do just fine, too.

His Flint roots remain imbedded in Abbott. He praised a background filled with encouragement to gain athletic achievement.

"I do a lot of speaking engagements," said Abbott, from his home in California. "I always start out with what it was like to grow up in Flint and become part of a great sporting community. In Flint, sports was a way to make a name for yourself, a way to gain acceptance. Flint had it all."

Abbott, being inducted tonight into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame, is quick to credit Flint coaches who helped further his career — men like Jeff Blanchard, Neil Conover, Joe Eufinger, Bob Holec and Sam Paraschos. In his pre-high school days, Abbott ran cross country for coach Mike Vance at Whittier Junior High.

"I did not take to that sport too well," Abbott said. "I think I threw up after every race. It helped keep me in shape."

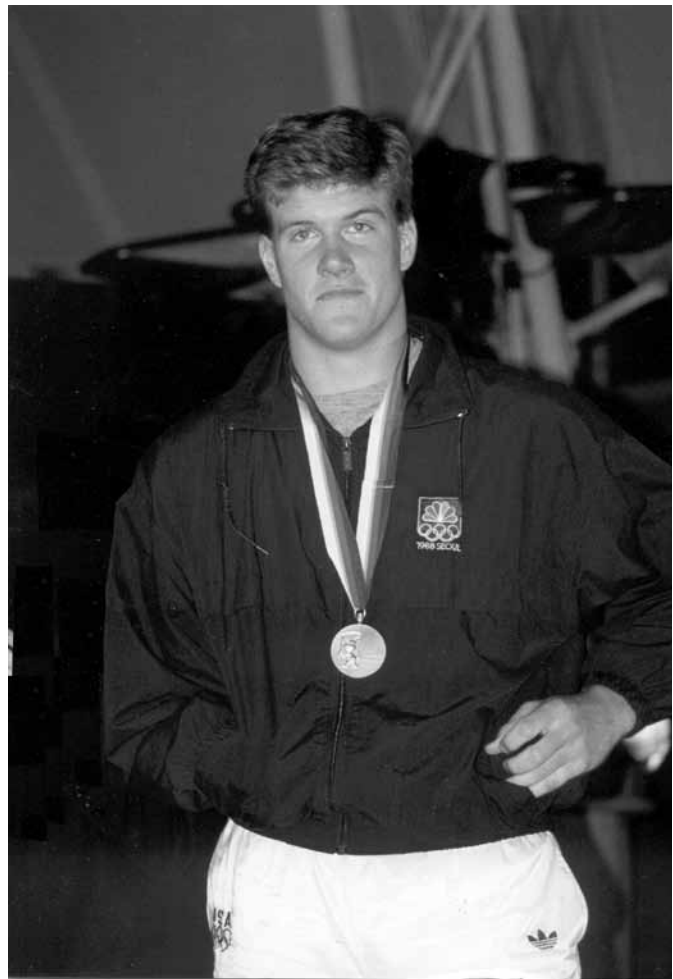
Abbott and his climb to success has been well-chronicled.

As a quarterback, he led Central High's football team to the Class A state semifinals in 1984. A star pitcher on the baseball team, he soon landed a college scholarship to the University of Michigan where he helped the Wolverines win a Big Ten Conference championship.

He helped pitch the United States Olympic baseball team to a gold medal in Seoul, South Korea in 1988. A year earlier, Abbott had been awarded the James E. Sullivan Award, given to the nation's top amateur athlete.

Drafted by the California Angels in 1989, Abbott spent 10 seasons in the big leagues. His highlight was pitching a no-hitter for the New York Yankees on Sept. 4, 1993 against the Cleveland Indians.

"I had my fastball and offspeed stuff working good that



day," he said. "The fans in New York were great to me."

In his major league career, Abbott also pitched for the Chicago White Sox and Milwaukee Brewers. He retired from baseball in 1999. Last March, he was inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame.

Abbott still works for the Angels in a limited capacity as a pitching instructor. He is constantly asked to speak to community groups.

Abbott and his wife, Dana, have two daughters, Maddy, 8, and Ella, 4.

He maintains a year-around home in California, but spends summers in Michigan's northland visiting parents Mike and Kathy Abbott.

Despite his splendid career, Abbott was never a man to boast about his accomplishments. That and his work with inspiring physically challenged people make him arguably Flint's best sports ambassador ever.

Abbott knows where he grew up, too, and what lessons he learned in a town bound by a strong sports heritage.

"Those people who took the time to help make me a better athlete and better person ... I'll always be extremely thankful to them," he said.

"Those people were from Flint. And Flint will always be my hometown."

Michigan State University

Alumni Association of Genesee County

Congratulates

Lonnie Young

2004 Inductee into the Greater Flint Area Sports
Hall of Fame



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in Your Twenty-Fifth Year**

Greater Flint Olympian - CANUSA Association

Lonnie Young

Dream Came True in First NFL Game

By Matt Charboneau

It was the fall of 1985 in St. Louis, and Lonnie Young found himself in a position he had previously only dreamed of: The starting lineup for an NFL team.

Sure, he was an All-Stater at Beecher High before going to Michigan State, where he was honorable mention All-Big Ten his senior season. But Young was a 12th-round pick of the Cardinals. Players drafted that low rarely made the team, let alone crack the starting lineup.

But that's just what happened with Young. And he couldn't have felt more prepared.

"One of the biggest highlights for me was starting the first regular-season game as a rookie," Young recalled of the season-opener against the Cleveland Browns. "Standing out there, I just had this sense of belonging. That this is what I was supposed to do my whole life. It was a very big deal for me."

Young was a big deal for the Cardinals, too, making the All-NFL Rookie team on his way to a 12-year career that culminated with a trip to the Super Bowl in 1994 with the San Diego Chargers.

Beecher was where Young got started. He was named All-State in both football and track while adding All-Big Nine Conference honors in basketball as well.

His prep career was highlighted by a loss of all things. On Oct. 27, 1979, Beecher lost to Grand Blanc 51-50 in one of the most exciting high school football games in area history.

Young and future NFL No. 1 pick Carl Banks led the Buccaneers against Steve Smith and the Bobcats. Smith, a high school All-American, went on to star at the University of Michigan.

The struggles of the Beecher district are not lost on Young, whose mother worked in the Beecher schools for 20 years.

"It's really disappointing," Young said. "It's unfortunate and I wish things could get better there."

"But it was a great experience for me, playing with guys like Carl Banks and Courtney Hawkins."

Young went on to play four years at Michigan State, culminating in the Spartans' 1984 Cherry Bowl appearance. The 10-6 loss to Army was Young's final game at Michigan State.

"MSU was a great experience for me," said Young, whose days in East Lansing were highlighted by a 19-7 win over Michigan in 1984. "If I had to do everything again, I would make the same choice and go right back to Michigan State."

"The coaching staff did a great job of preparing me for football as well as preparing me for life after football. Tyrone Willingham was my position coach my freshman and sophomore years, and Nick Saban was my position



coach my junior and senior years.

"I had very solid coaches who've made a big impact on my life."

Young played six seasons with the Cardinals — three in St. Louis and three in Phoenix — before being traded to the New York Jets in 1991.

After three seasons in New York, Young played the Super Bowl season in San Diego in 1994 before returning to the Jets for his final two seasons. Young intercepted 11 passes in 147 career games, starting 98 of them.

Since retiring after the 1996 season, Young has been involved in several business ventures, including owning Express Personnel Services in Lansing.

Now living in New York, Young is an area scout for the Cardinals.

"I'm working my way up the ladder toward becoming a general manager," Young said. "I think it's vitally important that you learn how to evaluate talent before you can start to build a team."

He still gets together for lunch with Banks, who also lives in the New York area, and gets back to Flint as much as he can with both parents living in the area.

He and Banks were very active in the Flint community during their playing days, holding an annual football camp as well as helping with a program that allowed youngsters to seek guidance for substance abuse.

It's a pride in his hometown that Young had continued to display no matter where his career has taken him.

"I've always been very proud to be from Flint," Young said.

Ben Roof

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On Your Induction Into The
Greater Flint Area
Sports Hall Of Fame
2004*



*Love From Your Entire Family
Bertha, Ellen & Stan, Jon & Stephanie
Nathaniel, Nickolas, Ben & Alexis
Garnette, Janice, Dan & Jeanette
All Your Nephews & Nieces*

*"The measure of a man is not in the things
he accumulates for himself, but
in the amount of himself
he gives to others."*

Special Service Award

Ben Roof

By Len Hoyes



There's a fine line separating Ben Roof's business acumen from his community service.

He's been in business for 20 years as the owner of A-Frame Awards, but his community service actually spans more than 40 years.

He's been a significant behind-the-scenes contributor to the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame since its inception in 1979 and his contributions continue to expand.

He helped design the individual plaques which are displayed at the Genesys Health Club, the current home for the Hall of Fame.

He worked closely with Jim Massar, a longtime member of the Hall's board of directors, to find a new home when the Hall of Fame outgrew the lobby of IMA Sports Arena. He also was a major help in designing the room where honored teams and other memorabilia are displayed.

When the Hall of Fame began its program to honor athletes of the year and coaches of the year last spring, Roof started a scholarship program for four athletes.

For these and other contributions he receives the Special Service Award tonight.

"I was flabbergasted when they told me about being selected," he said.

"You don't expect recognition when you're doing something you enjoy."

His wife, Bertha, two children and four grandchildren are helping him celebrate tonight.

"He's more than deserving," said Dick Daly, current president of the Hall of Fame's board. "His generosity is amazing. He's dependable and his overall service has been great. He has given back to many organizations, not just the Hall of Fame.

"He was mostly responsible for taking the plaques from the Sports Arena and fitting them into the health club. We asked for a bill for his services, then he sent back the check. That's typical for him."

The participation by the 68-year-old Roof goes beyond the Hall of Fame since he broke into bowling as a worker at the original Dort Bowl. He was an outstanding bowler, with a personal high average of 212, a perfect game in 1977 and an individual series of 747 in the early 1970s.

"There were only two 300s bowled in Flint that year," he said. "The Flint Journal came out to take my picture. Nowadays with all the new equipment and new techniques, it's common to have several perfect games

on the same night or the same weekend."

He is a former member of the board of directors for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Flint and a former director for the Greater Flint Area March of Dimes.

He is a former member of the Flint Bowling Association's board of directors and was its president in 1994. He was inducted into the Flint Bowling Hall of Fame in 1988.

Roof was National Volunteer of the Year in 1998 for the Young American Bowling Alliance based in Greendale, Wis. He was a key figure in developing that group, which is the national governing body for bowlers 18-and-under. He was one of four national trainers for the YABA's junior Olympic program which develops instructors for young bowlers.

Roof credits his father, Bud Lillard and Sam Hamilton, all deceased, as the important mentors in his life.

He also is a lay minister at Our Savior Lutheran, which he has attended for 60 years.

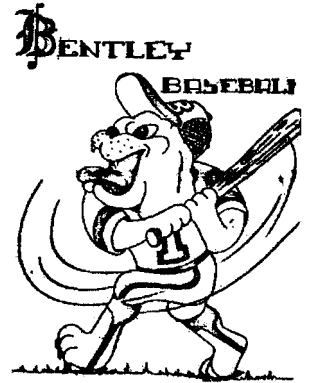
Does he plan to slow down?

"Not when I'm enjoying myself," he said.

Bentley High School

**Congratulates
the
1973 Bentley State Championship Baseball Team
and Coach Vukovich**

*On being inducted into the 2004
Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame*



CONGRATULATIONS

COACH JIM VUKOVICH

AND

**THE 1973 BENTLEY HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS B STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BASEBALL TEAM.**

*We are proud to be a part of the
winning tradition that this team has carried on.*

Barbara and Jane Vukovich
Ellen and Jim Klobuchar
James and Anna
Arlene and Dr. Steve Hildensperger
Lauryn, Russ and Grace Mary
Phil Rashead



Members of the Bentley High baseball team who won the school's first state championship are standing from left: (the identity of the individual not in uniform is unknown) Bernie Klink, Gordon Hesse, Tom Gilbert, Rich Tessner, Coach Jim Vuckovich, Tim Gilbert, Ken Stewart, Doug July and Mike Minock. Kneeling from left: Dave Kammerzell, Gary Conn, Mark Spencer, Jeff Young, Ken Sutkowi and Phil Paliani. Members of the team not in the photograph are Ken Lowe, Bill Dean, Dan Sutkowi and Kevin West

Pitching, Defense Led Bulldogs to State Title

By Dan Nilsen

On the final bus ride home, the game ball was dropped out the window and never seen again.

That was about the only mistake the Bentley High baseball team made in 1973.

The Bulldogs were nearly flawless otherwise in rolling up a 22-6 record and winning the Class B championship, the first state title in school history.

With major-league prospect Gary Conn and Rich Tessner on the mound, and a sound defense behind them, Bentley won six tournament games by a combined score of 21-2.

The Bulldogs' only weakness was hitting, with just two players batting over .300. But they knew how to manufacture runs and score when they had to.

"I always figured if we could get a run or two lead, we were in good shape," said Bentley coach Jim Vukovich. "When you have somebody like Conn that averages 12 strikeouts a game, and Tessner with 10, that doesn't leave you many outs to go."

Conn was simply overpowering, with a 90-mph fastball that he threw 90 percent of the time. He went 12-0 with a 0.42 earned-run average and recorded 145 strikeouts in 83 innings, nearly two per inning. He had two no-hitters as

a senior, three for his career.

Scouts swarmed to his games, as many as 17 in one day, and the Milwaukee Brewers gave him a \$30,000 bonus to sign right after the state championship game.

"I was really blessed with a good arm," said Conn, who was throwing smoke in sixth grade. "It was just God-given talent."

Tessner wasn't nearly as fast, but had a natural sink on his fastball that netted a lot of groundballs. The sophomore right-hander started slowly but soon became as unbeatable as Conn. Both had excellent control, and catchers Mike Minock and Dave Kammerzell handled them well.

The defense took care of the rest.

"That was one of the lowest error totals I've had on any ballclub," Vukovich said.

Tessner and second baseman Mark Spencer both hit over .300, but the team average was under .280. Those were the days of wooden bats and no designated hitter, and the Bulldogs also say "Vuke" was stingy with his scorekeeping.

But he was big on fundamentals.

"We could bunt, steal and hit-and-run," said Spencer.

Continued on pg 56

Flint Central High School

Congratulates Our Latest Inductees into the 2004 Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame



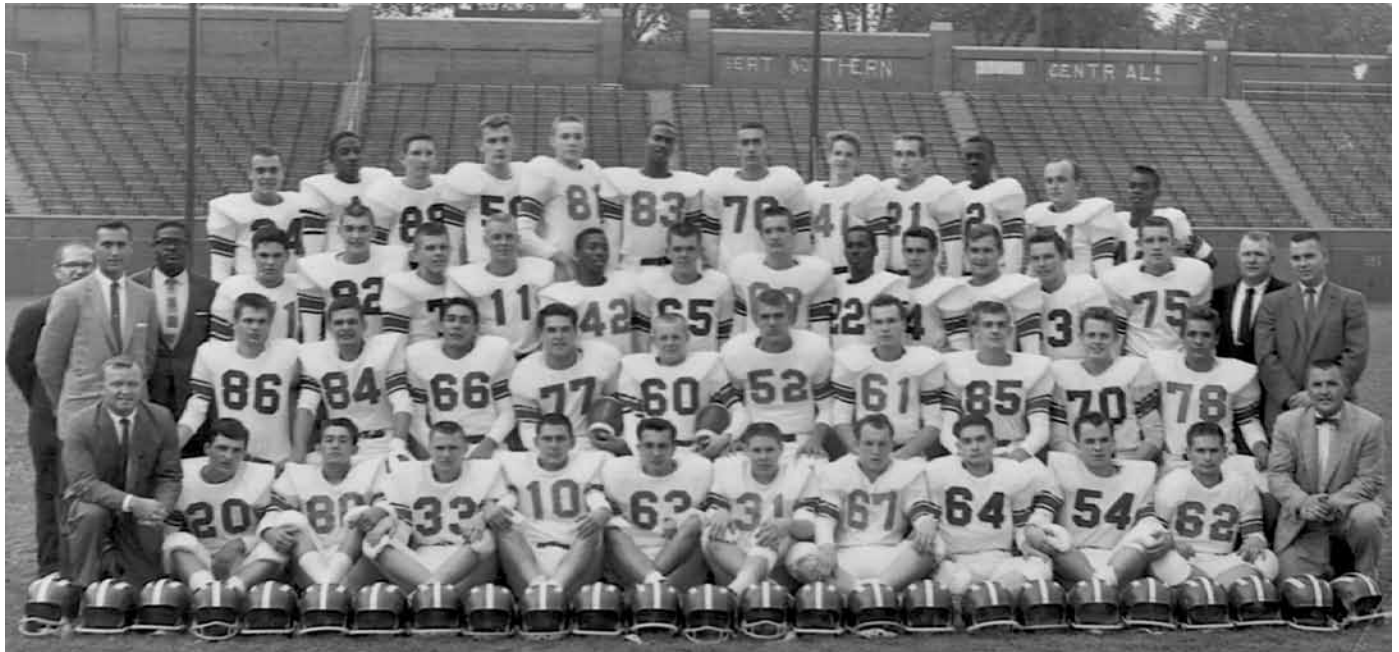
Jim Abbott
1985



Eli Copeland
1937



Erwin Ketzler
1938



1958 Flint Central State Championship Football Team

Corinne Archie-Edwards
Principal

Dr. Laurie Kohout
Athletic Director

Flint Central High Football 1958



Members of Central High's 1958 football team front row from left: Bert Szabo (20), Mike Cardenas (80), Jim Mellow (33), Dick Kucharski (10), Myron Shelton (63), Larry Dreasky (31), Sam Phillips (67), Leonard Teitelbaum (64), Lewellyn Campbell (54), Howard Teitelbaum (62). Second row: Kent Blaver (86), Mel Thomas (84), Baldemar Cardenas (66), Ken Hardin (77), Norm Walworth (60), Mike Auer (52), John Burtrum (61), Doug McDonald (85), Dan Stachowik (70), Ed Parker (78). Third row: Sander Simon (71), Dave Roberts (82), Tom Grablick (73), Jerry Jellis (11), Art Thrash (42), Gerry Cole (65), Dick Bolton (68), Ron Watkins (22), Ken Baxter (34), Don Stephenson (32), Jim Copeland (23), Bud Budzinski (75). Fourth row: Paul Walton (24), Henry Young (40), Bert Olah (88), Bob Hudson (50), Keith Richardson (81), Joe Haralson (83), John Peterson (76), Fred Knapp (41), Tom Dancey (21), Carl Jackson (12), John Marshall (51), Ben Kendell (4). The coaches at left Jim Whitker (front), (standing from left) Ken Green, Tim Bograkos, Don Coleman. The coaches at right are (front to back) Bill Doolittle, Bob Leach, Marv Shebel. Players not pictured are Ed Bernie, Don Jones, Ron Szabo, Art Kelly, Lanny Valentine.

Grid Season Highlighted Special Year

By Dan Nilsen

It was the Year of the Indian in 1958-59.

Central High not only ruled the state in football, but also three other sports. From the spring of '58 to the spring of '59, the Indians won Class A championships in golf, cross country and track, and reached the quarterfinals in basketball.

"I think we had the debate team and cheerleading titles, too," said quarterback Jerry Jellis.

But it was Central football that drew the big crowds and big headlines in the fall of '58.

Central went 8-0-1, outscoring its opponents 354-59, including a 51-0 rout of archrival Northern in the annual Thanksgiving Day game. Crowds in the 9,000-10,000 range filled Atwood Stadium, with a high of 16,433 for the Turkey Day classic.

The only blemish was a 13-13 tie with Bay City Central that divided the mythical state title. Flint Central was recognized by United Press International and the Detroit Free Press, while Bay City was crowned by The Associated Press. The Detroit Times declared the teams co-champions.

Halfback Ron Watkins earned All-State honors after a

1,021-yard season, and Jellis (439) and Carl Jackson (603) combined for a school-record 1,042 yards passing. At least five Indians went on to Division I colleges.

Most of this came as a surprise to coach Bill Doolittle, who was coming off a 3-5-1 season in 1957.

"We never knew we were going to be that good," confessed Doolittle, who later coached Western Michigan University for 11 years. "I knew we had some talent, but I didn't know how good they'd be. There weren't a lot of superstars, but there were a lot of good kids. And they were quick."

Watkins had 9.9 speed in the 100-yard dash, which he used to win the state 100 and 220 the following spring. Right halfback Art Thrash was a hurdler, and defensive back Henry Young was another sprinter.

The offensive line of center Mike Auer, guards John Bertrum and Baldy Cardenas, tackles Bob Budzinski and Ken Hardin and ends Mel Thomas and Doug McDonald was average-sized, but quick on its feet. Jim Mellow was at fullback.

Most of them played both ways, but a deep roster meant Doolittle was never short-handed. Keith Richardson

continued on pg 56

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Carpets by Jim Smith 1974



L to R Top Row: Bob Grandas, Rick Leach, Craig McGinnis, Gene Johnson, Larry Sorensen, Mike Schlegel, Walt Head
Middle Row: Greg Dikos, Jerry Johnson, Steve Jaksa, Greg Cocks, John Phipps, Ed Rykowski
Bottom Row: Bat Boy, Rich Tessner, Ron Schmidt, Ted Mahan, Scott Anderson, Brian Petroff, Gordie Smith

CARPETMEN Fulfilled Their 'Destiny'

By Len Hoyes

A team of destiny.

That's an appropriate description for the 1974 Carpets by Jim Smith baseball team being inducted tonight into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame.

Others have tried but none has duplicated Smith's effort which produced the Flint area's only championship in the 40-year history of the Connie Mack World Series for players 18-and-under in Farmington, N.M.

The national championship produced a final record of 45-8 for the team managed by Walt Head, now the veteran baseball coach at Saginaw Valley State University.

The eight losses are somewhat misleading because of a 17-6 record in the City Baseball League, where Smith played against adults. Even so, it ranked No. 2 among nine teams in a strong league and had a 2-1 edge against champion Bishop Construction.

Smith lost only twice against Connie Mack-age competition, compiling a 28-2 mark. One loss came in an exhibition and the other was a 10-inning, 6-5 setback to Long Beach, Calif., in the nationals.

Larry Sorensen won 12 games, Rick Leach and Rich Tessner won nine and Craig McGinnis won eight.

The "team of destiny" description is appropriate because Smith came from behind in three of five victories at Farmington. It also came from behind three times while posting a 5-0 record in the qualifying regional a week earlier at Marshall.

"These players were mature for their age. They felt in any game it was just a matter of time before they pulled out the victory," said Head.

Leach, Ted Mahan, McGinnis and Brian Petroff were holdovers from the 1973 team. Seven area schools were included on the roster, plus Sorensen of Mt. Clemens who lived here that summer.

Mahan was from Davison, Leach, Gene Johnson, and Ron Schmidt from Southwestern, McGinnis and Petroff from Powers Catholic, Greg Cocks from Ainsworth, Greg Dikos from Swartz Creek, Ed Rykowski from Carman, Mike Schloegl and Steve Jaksa from Grand Blanc and Tessner from Bentley.

Connie Mack rules allowed Head to add Northern's Jerry Johnson, Central's Bobby Grandas and John Phipps and Ann Arbor Pioneer's Scott Anderson prior to the regional tournament.

Leach was named the most valuable player at Farmington. He offset a defeat by twice being the winning pitcher. Schloegl led all hitters with a .562 average (9-for-16). Dikos equaled the tournament record with four home runs and drove in 10, one shy of the record. Sorensen pitched a four-hit, 1-0 shutout, Mahan batted .368 and all five joined Petroff (.347

continued on pg 57

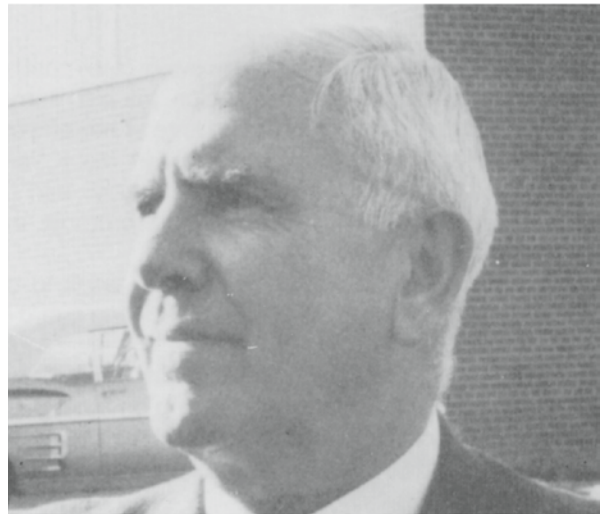
SPECIAL SERVICE AWARDS



1980

CHARLES STEWART MOTT

Thousands of boys and girls in the Flint area were introduced to athletics through the generosity of the Mott Foundation. The Foundation generally was started just for that purpose, eventually growing into adult programs, too. Mott's interest first, and the Foundation later, established a community format copied nationwide. It was reward enough for Mott's love of children and sports.



1980

FRANK MANLEY, SR.

A result of his intense interest in Flint area youth, Manley inspired C.S. Mott to finance a pilot program in sports and recreation. As a result, the Mott Foundation was created and the community school philosophy adopted. The combination of Manley's enthusiasm and Mott's support provided a base of opportunity for all children and adults, a format copied nationwide.

Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame 2004 Board of Directors



Front Row - Fred Briggs, 1st. Vice-Pres., Jim Rutherford, Recording Secretary, Jim Massar, Cathy Snyder, Judge Duncan Beagle
2nd Row - Len Jasinski, Bill Haley, 2nd Vice-Pres., Nick Pappadakis, Gerald Moore, Dick Daly, President
3rd Row - Bill Troesken, Tom Healey, Jerry Topolinski, Treasurer Bob Root, Executive Secretary, Craig Coney, Bill Trosko
Missing from picture - Booker Moore, Phil Pierson



Lynn Chandnois 1980
 Flint Central All State
 MSU All American NFL
 Player of the Year-1952-All-Pro



Don Coleman 1980
 Flint Central All-State
 MSU-All American, National
 Football Found.Hall of Fame



Jennie Weiss 1980
 Five-Time Women's State
 Amateur Golf Champion,
 Mich. Amateur
 Sports Hall of Fame



Lloyd Brazil 1980
 Outstanding Flint H.S. Career
 First Flint Football All American
 at University of Detroit



Steve Bysco 1980
 Excelled in many sports,
 Minor League Baseball, Boxing,
 Basketball, Bowling, Wrestling



Tom Smith 1980
 St. Michael Coach
 Influenced thousands,Winning
 528 Games Coaching 3 Sports



Paul Krause 1980
 Flint Bendle-14 Letters
 Star at Iowa, 16 Years in NFL
 Set Interception Record 81



Guy Houston 1980
 Flint Northern Football Coach
 Record-148-41-13, First H.S. Coach
 Inducted in Mich. Sports Hall of Fame



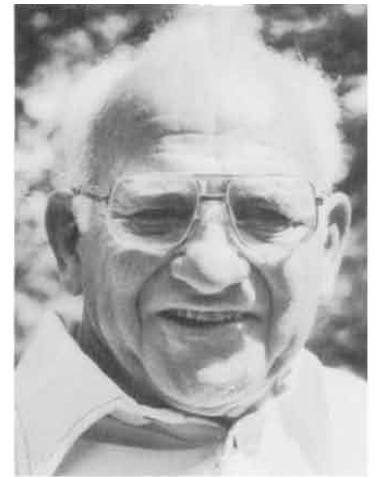
Merv Rettenmund 1981
 Southwestern H.S.-Ball State
 Univ. Played in 4 World Series
 During 13-Year Career



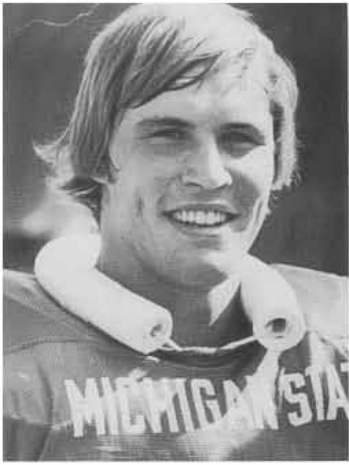
Frank Szczepanski 1981
 Special Service Award for
 Charity efforts through bowling
 Prominent Bowling Writer



Chet Lipski 1981
 At 5'7", 145lbs. Considered
 one of the best All Around
 Athletes in Flint History



Doug Blom 1981
 Outstanding Golf Career
 Won 19 City Amateurs and
 over 50 titles in 25-year span



Brad Van Pelt 1981

Owosso H.S. 3-Sports All State,
MSU All American,
New York Giants-All-Pro



Clarence Peaks 1981

Flint Central Quarterback,
MSU All American,
NFL Star Fullback



Roger Bernard 1981

Standout Professional Boxer
1923-37 Compiling a record of
307 Victories and 25 Defeats



Sue Novara-Reber 1982

Northwestern High School,
Two-time World Sprint Cycling
Champion, Won 7 U.S.A. Titles



Leo Sugar 1982

Flint Northern Multi-Sports Star,
Purdue All Big Ten,
NFL Standout-Defensive End



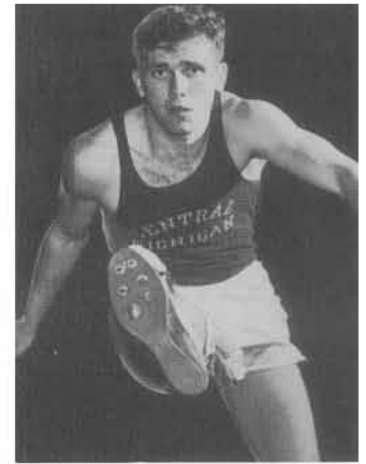
Everett A. Cummings 1982

Special Service Award for
Leadership in Developing
Athletic & Recreation Facilities



Fred Trosko 1982

Flint Northern 9 Letter Winner
U of M Halfback,
Coach at Eastern Mich. Univ.



Jim Podoley 1982

Mt.Morris H.S. Standout Athlete,
C.M.U Starred in Football,
Track. NFL Redskins & Giants



Jim Barclay 1982

First Northern H.S. Basketball
Coach-Won four State Class A
Basketball Championships



Floyd Bates 1982

Central H.S. 3 Sports Star, Played
Softball with Joe Louis Punchers,
Basketball Harlem Globe Trotters



Dave Hoskins 1983

Pitched for Cleveland Indians,
One of Best in City League,
Outfielder & Pitcher in 1940s



"Tubby" Raymond 1983

Northern H.S., Univ. of Mich.
Coached Delaware to Three
NCAA Division II Football Titles

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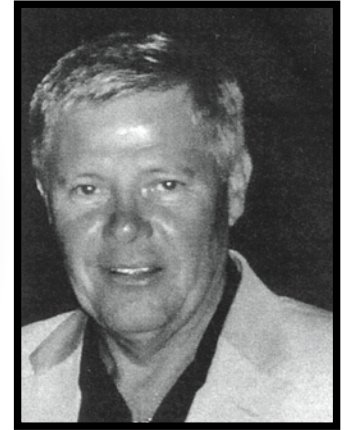
Congratulations, Dad

and the

**1958 Flint Central Indians
State Championship Football Team**

And all the 2004 Inductees
into the
Greater Flint Area
Sports Hall of Fame

The Dreasky Family



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Bob Rowe 1983
 Flushing High Star
 W.M.U. Lineman of the Year
 NFL All-Pro St. Louis Cardinals



Pam Stockton Brady 1983
 Southwestern H.S., 24 Nat'l
 Badminton Junior Championships, 16
 Nat'l Adult Titles



Jim Doyle 1983
 Flint's Greatest Softball
 Pitcher, Pitched in 1980 Pan-Am
 Games Pitched a No Hitter at 49



Bill Hamilton 1983
 Northern Football & Track Star
 Outstanding Baseball &
 Softball, Member Mich. Softball
 Hall of Fame



T.J. Halligan 1983
 Special Service Award, Bowling
 Proprietor for 40 Years, Pres. of 3
 Minor Leagues of Pro Baseball



Fred Lawson 1984
 Special Service Award for
 Contributions to Junior Golfers.
 Pro at Mott Park & Swartz Creek



Dominic Tomasi 1984
 Star at Northern, Capt. & MVP
 of U of M 1948 National
 Championship Football Team



Jimmy Johnson 1984
 Central H.S. II Letter Winner,
 South Carolina State
 All American Football 1937



Howard "Gus" Hughes 1984
 Star Athlete-St. Michael & Central,
 Coached St Michael to Class C State
 Championship in 1928 Basketball



Howard Gilroy 1984
 Bowling Great 4-300 games,
 more than 90-700 Series. His
 803 series was best in 37 years.



Peg Hammond 1984
 Eight-Time City Singles Champ
 Tennis, Mott Foundation Sports
 Teacher in Tennis & Badminton



Jesse Thomas 1984
 Central All-Around Athlete
 MSU Multiple Track Champ,
 NFL Def. Halfback Balt. Colts

Congratulations to Norm Walworth and the 1958 Flint Central State Championship Football Team

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The man of integrity teaches his children first to walk,
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He teaches them how to work as good stewards,
and to enjoy one another when work is done.

He quietly performs his job for those who pay him,
not for applause.

The man of integrity teaches his children to make right decisions,
and how to make decisions rightly.

He teaches them to run from what would harm them,
and to embrace what will save them.

To earn, to save, to give,
to better the position of others.

The man of integrity offers more than his time;
he offers himself.

He teaches them to love one another,
but to love the Lord most of all.

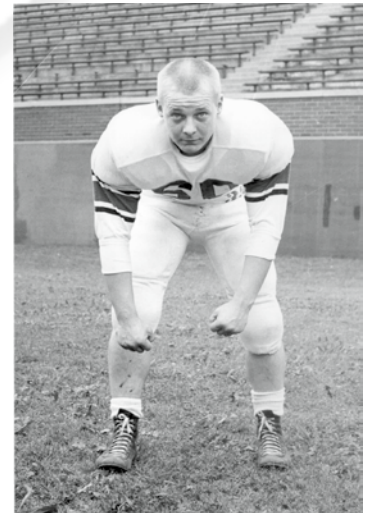
And in all things, he asks nothing in return.

For the man of integrity,
his reward is the praise of his children.

Congratulations to Norman Walworth,
our Man of Integrity,
from your loving, proud children!
Cindy, Val, Todd, Bart, Brad
& wife Janet



“Coach, Bill Doolittle, gives instructions to Linebacker, Norm Walworth in the closing minutes of the Central Northern Thanksgiving Day Game in 1957.”





Herb Washington 1985

Central State Champion Sprinter
MSU World Records 50 to 60 Yd.
Dash, Stole 29 Bases for Oakland A's



Russ Reynolds 1985

Northern All-Around Athlete,
MSU Capt & Quarterback
23 Yrs. Beecher Football Coach



Stan Broome 1985

Special Service Award
Known as "Mr. Flint Central"
36 Yrs. Coaching, Administrator



Nap LaVoie 1985

Special Service Award 38
Years as Coach, AD at Central
Head Football Coach 1934-1939



Ken Failing 1985

Coached St. Mary to State
Basketball Championship 1939
Pro Athlete on Flint Teams



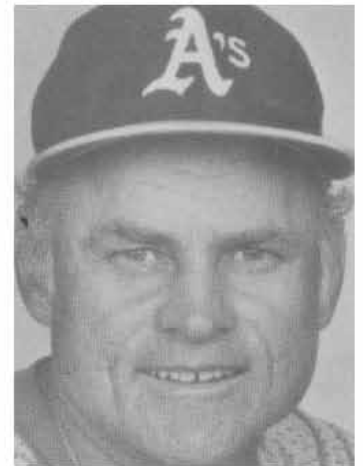
Mike Menosky 1985

Played for Red Sox &
Wash, Senators. Flint's First
Major League Baseball Player



Leroy Bolden 1985

Northern Star on 1950 State
Champions, MSU All American
NFL Cleveland Browns



Steve Boros 1985

Northern Baseball Career
U of M Standout, Played Pro Baseball,
Flint's First Major League Manager



Bill Barclay 1986

U of M Lettered in Golf, Football,
Basketball, Coached Northern
Basketball Team 1933 State Title,
Won State Amateur Golf Title



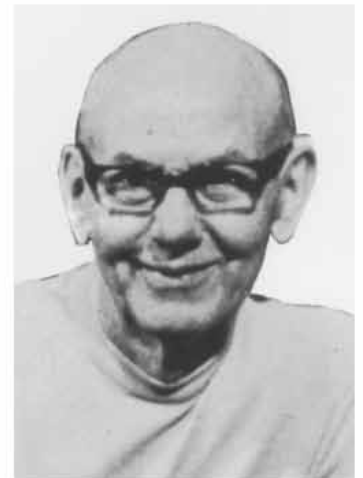
Jeanette Robinson 1986

Member of Women's Pro
Bowling Tour, Won Nat'l Title
in 1974, 15 Sanctioned 700-
Series



Bill Minardo 1986

Special Service Award First
Comm. Sch. Dir, Retired as
Dir. of Comm. Svcs.



Ollie Craven 1986

Bowled many 300 Games
Over 100-700 Series, World
Record for five games 1,324



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Norb Badar 1986

Track, Cross Country Coach
Northern, 33 Yrs, 4 State Titles,
Coach of Year Nine Times



Ellis Duckett 1986

Northern 2 Time All State
Halfback MSU Star Played in
1959 Rose Bowl



Sophie Kurys 1986

Record Setting Star in American
Girls Baseball League-1943
Stole 200 Bases in one season.



Ted Prichard 1987

Pitched Minor League Baseball
Was 21-6 for Elmira, N.Y., City
Rec. Director 1937-1942



Jerry Rideout 1987

Special Service Award as "Mr.
Buick Open" Golf Tournament,
Dir. of P.R. at Buick



M. Joe Roberson 1987

Northern and Flint J.C. Excelled
in Baseball and Basketball.
Pitched in Minors, A.D. at U of M



Mel Winer 1987

Central H.S. Multi Sports,
Starred in City Rec. Leagues,
Won City Title in Golf & Tennis



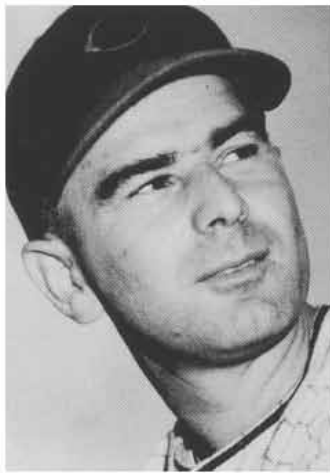
Jo Lake 1987

Coached 8 State Champions in
Basketball, Volleyball & Softball
at Holy Rosary & Kearsley



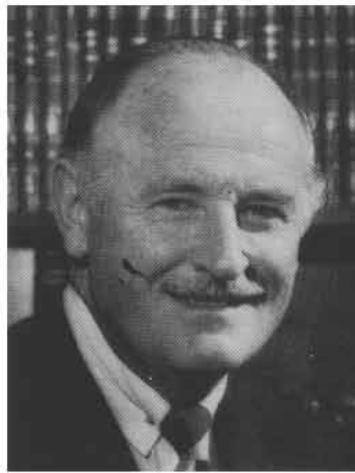
Leon Burton 1987

Northern Star in Football & Track
Arizona State-Led Nation Rushing
Scoring in 1957. Pro-N.Y. Titans



Andy Sventko 1987

Excelled City League Baseball,
Mgr. Bishop Construction,
Nat'l Amateur Champs 1975



J. Vincent Murphy 1987

Special Service Award for
Support of Golden Gloves
Physician for Athletic Teams

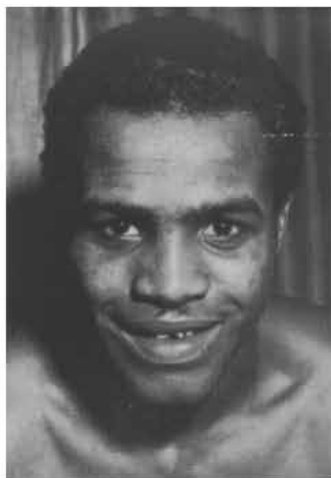


Bob Fleischmann 1988

Outstanding Tennis Player at
Northern, Flint Jr.C. & MSU
Won 9 Straight City Titles



Pete Fusi 1988
Northern All State Football
MSU Football Center 1946-49
Outstanding H.S. Football Coach



Bennie McCombs 1988
Golden Gloves Champion
Mich Light Heavyweight
Champion, 90-6 as Pro Boxer



Howard Auer 1988
Tackle at U of M, Coached Central
1947 State Champions, Had
83-39-05 Record at Central



Ed Krupa 1988
Northern "Wonderboy" All
State Football & Basketball,
Notre Dame Halfback



John Matthews 1988
8-Time Nat'l Wrestling Champ
U.S. Olympic Team,
Best Wrestler in C.M.U. history



Barry Edmonds 1988
Special Service Award as
Superb Journal Photographer
Documented many events.



Bob Suci 1989
Grand Blanc 15 Letter Winner
MSU 2-Way Player
AFL Defensive Back



Gene Summers 1989
Northern Outstanding Player
M.C.C.-Set 7 Basketball Records
Northern Mich-Set 5 Records



Ray Seidel 1989
St. Michael H.S. Starred in
Baseball Pitched 5 Seasons in
Minors



Vinnie Frechette 1989
Won Ten City Golf Titles
20-700 Series 300 Game
Pitched Softball No Hitter



Mike Goggins 1989
St. Michael H.S. 12 Letter Star
Univ. of Detroit Capt Football 1951
Catholic All-American Team



Jack Morse 1989
All-Time Great Player in
City Basketball Leagues On
3 Title Teams, 2 Scoring Titles

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Ken Morrow 1990

On U.S. Olympic Gold Medal Hockey Team 1980, N.Y. Islanders Won Four Straight Stanley Cups



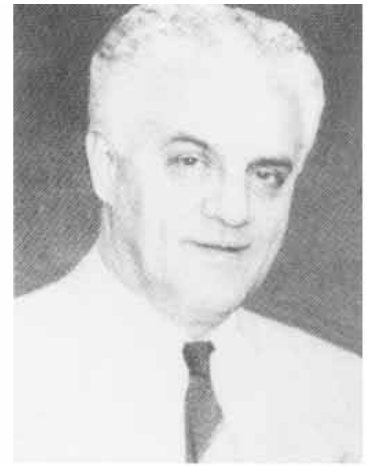
Al Johnson 1990

Central H.S. All State Football Mich Softball Comm. of Year 1985, Sports Dir. Flint Parks & Rec: 30 Yrs



Jock Leslie 1990

State Golden Gloves Champion Pro Boxer-fought Willie Pep for Title at Awood Stadium



Mike Gorman 1990

Special Service Award Led drive to create College & Cultural Center & Flint U of M



Bob Harvey 1990

Central-earned 7 Letters E.M.U. played 3 sports, Played Minor League Baseball



Reggie Williams 1990

Southwestern & Dartmouth. Played in two Super Bowls, NFL Man of the Year 1986



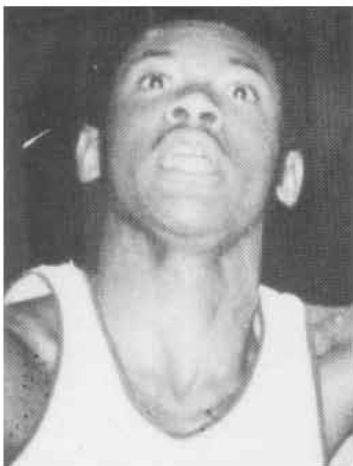
Bart Markel 1990

Three Time National Champion in Motorcycle Racing. Retired in 1972 with Record 28 Victories



Dennis Johnson 1991

Northwestern All State End Southern Cal All American NFL Vikings, Tampa Bay



Terry Furlow 1991

Northern State Basketball Champions MSU-Set Game & Season Scoring Marks, NBA No.1 Draft Pick-76ers



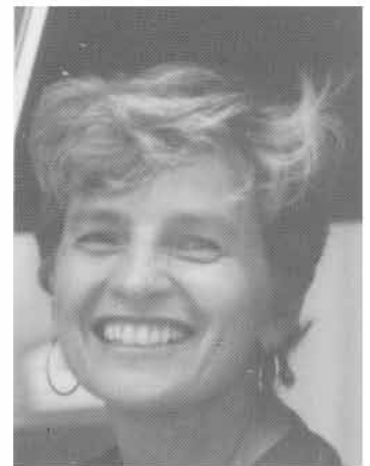
Ron Pruitt 1991

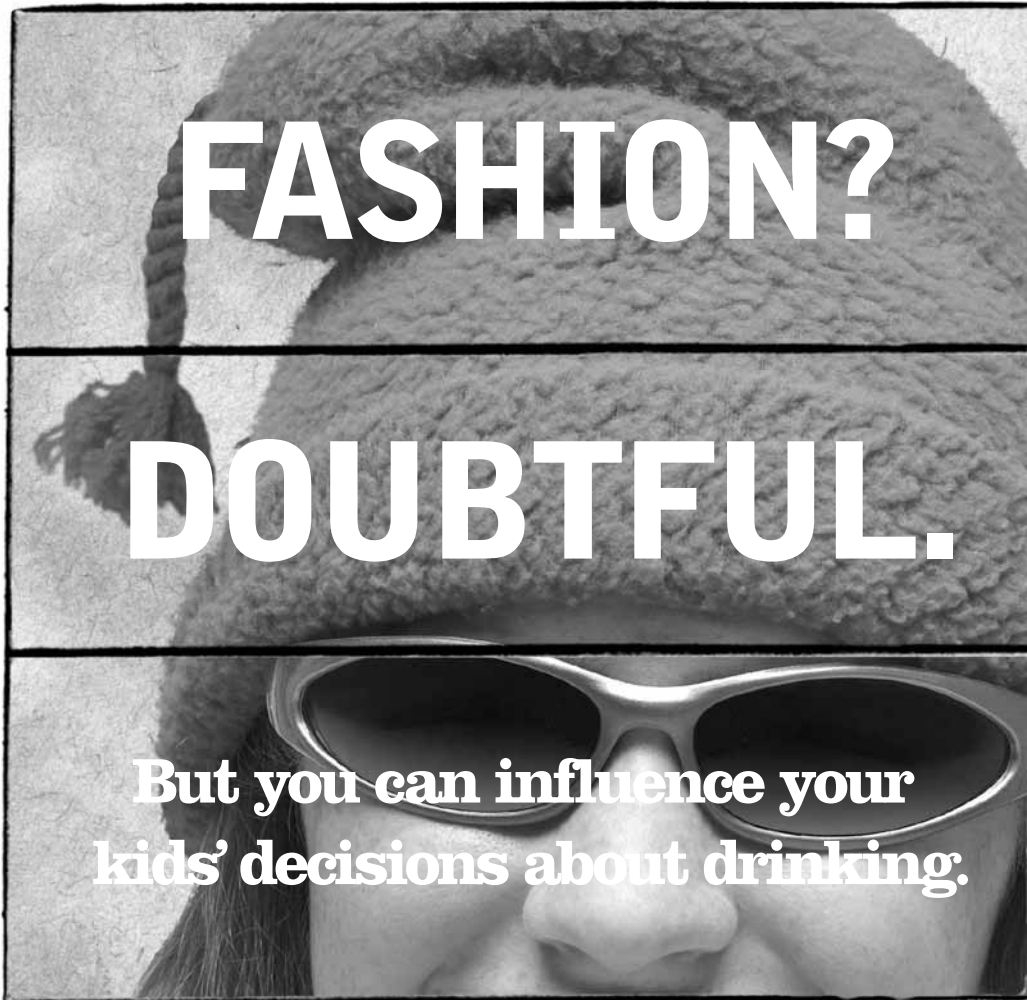
Central 3 Sports Star, MSU All American Catcher, Played with 4 Major League Teams



Bobby Crim, Louis Craig 1991

Special Services Award for Crim Road Race Benefitting Special Olympics which he founded and she originally directed. The Crim Race has over 10,000 participants annually.





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Andy McDonald 1991
Northern QB & Head Coach
C.M.U. All American NFL
Asst. Coach, Northern Arizona



Bob Leach 1991
Central Outstanding Player &
Head Coach, Uof M Baseball,
Coached Ferris, Asst. Coach NFL



Joe Kinzel 1991
Central Basketball, Outstanding
Golfer, Bowler, Figure Skater,
Minor League Baseball



George Guerre 1992
Central-Outstanding in Football
MSU Standout Halfback, played
in North-South All Star game



Stan Gooch 1992
Flint Tech & CMU Basketball
Coached Central to 3-State
Titles, Coached Mott C.C.



Tony Branoff 1992
Central All-State,
U of M MVP-All Big Ten, Played
East West Shrine Game, Sr. Bowl



J.B. Cook 1992
Northern Tennis State Champ,
Played, Basketball, Paddleball,
Softball, Popular Official



Doug Mintline 1992
Special Service Award for
promoting community sports,
Flint Journal Sports Editor



Anne McLogan Herman 1992
St.John Vianney, W.M.U.,
on U.S. Wheelchair Team in
Paralympics 7 Nat'l Marks



Bill Yambrick 1992
Northern Football
W.M.U. Capt., MVP
Member WMU Hall of Fame



Larry Mancour 1992
Grand Blanc, Flint J.C.
Basketball Star, Golf Pro-Helped
organize return of Buick Open



Booker Moore 1993
Southwestern Set numerous
records, Penn State Halfback,
NFL No. 1 Draft Choice-Bills

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Uncle Larry Dreasky
and the
1958
Flint Central Indians

8 - 0 - 1

State Champions



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Bill Boike M.D.

Guy Boike M.D.

David Boike D.D.S

Jeff Boike

Barry Boike

Greg Boike



Pete Sark 1993
Special Service Award for
Community Sports Promotions
Multi Media Sports Reporter



Len Sweet 1993
Northern "Wonderboy"
2 Straight State Championships
Coached Dye to State Title



Mike Secret 1993
Won 1987 Race Across America,
Set 3 World Records in Endur-
ance Bicycle Racing



John Bero 1993
Northern Baseball Infielder
Played in Major Leagues & Mi-
nors for 10 years



Herb Odom 1993
Northern H.S. Won
State Golden Gloves
MSU-Won NCAA Boxing Title



Jack Pratt 1994
Area's Winningest Football
Coach, Over 200 Victories,
3 State Basketball Titles



Trent Tucker 1994
Northwestern H.S.-All State
Minnesota-All Big Ten
NBA 11 years, No. 1 Draft Pick



Joe Pitock 1994
C.M.U Holds Batting Record
Coached 39 years-Mostly at
Grand Blanc-566-380 Record



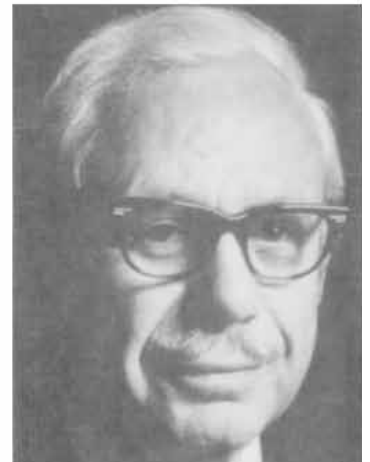
Cotton Goodell 1994
One of Flint's fastest ever Baseball
Player, Minor League Standout,
Record 31 H.R.s in 1940



Wally Jakowczyk 1994
St. Mary 3 Sports, First Parochial
Player All City Football.
Minor League Baseball.



Rick Leach 1994
Southwestern All State 3 Sports
U of M All American QB
1st Round Draft Choice-Tigers



Dr. Hira E. Branch 1994
Special Service Award
for donating medical help at
football games & Golden Gloves

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Jack Petrill 1995
Community Service Award
Rec. Director-IMA Promoted
city's biggest events



Andy Sabota (Pelio) 1995
Northern Led Team to State
Basketball Title, played Minor
League Baseball



Grover Krikland 1995
Coached NW High to 2 State
Basketball Titles, 60 Straight
Victories 20 Straight City Series



Nick Manych 1995
Beecher-3 Sport Star
E.M.U. 3 Time All Conference
Drafted by Colts in NFL



Justus Thigpen 1995
Northern basketball M.C.C. All Conf
2 yrs Weber State 1st Flint
Player NBA



Dorothy Kukulka 1995
Coached Northern Girls Basket-
ball to record 76 Straight Wins,
4 State Titles,



Chub Guzak 1995
Northern 3 Sport Star
Minor League Baseball
Standout for Seven Seasons



Jim Crang 1995
Beecher 13 Letters,
All State Halfback Scored
perfect 500 Phys. Fit Test



Pamela McGee 1996
Northern State Champs `78-`79
USC-2 NCAA Titles-Won Gold
Medal on U.S. Olympic Team



Paula McGee 1996
Northern-76 Straight Wins
Began Northern's Unequaled
Dynasty, USC 2 NCAA, titles



Art Johnson 1996
Northern All State Halfback
MSU Star, Avg. 7 yds per carry
CFL All Pro, Rookie of the Year



Harvey Ethier 1996
Special Service Award for
Dedication to Parochial Athletics
Coached all sports at St. Mary's



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Community College Athletics"*

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— Andrew Carnegie*

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Bill Blamer 1996
Coached at Flint Tech, had .722
Winning Average. Flint J.C.
Coach 5 Conference titles



Don Jarrard 1996
Coached at Flint J.C. Outstanding
local player. Capt. MSU Golf Team.
Dir F.J.G.A



Carl Cmejrek 1996
Southwestern 9 Letters 3 Sports
U of M All Big Ten Baseball,
on Rose Bowl Football Team



Hank Minarik 1997
Central All State Football 1945
MSU All American NFL-Steelers



Joe Ponsetto 1997
Central Capt. Football, All Sag. Valley
U of M-First Freshman to start at QB
All Big Ten Capt



Clete LaSalle 1997
St. Michael H.S. 11 Letters
All City Football, Pitched for Flint
Eagles & Blue Devils



Lamar Gant 1997
Northwestern H.S., at age 18 won
first World Powerlift Championship
followed by 14 championships



Bernie Compton 1997
St. Mary H.S. Led Team to State Basket-
ball Title ,WMU Capt. Basketball and
Baseball Teams



Fred Turner 1997
State Amateur Golf Champ,
Won 8 Major City Tournaments
Exceptional career over 20 yrs



M.B. Cossman 1997
Special Service Award
for promotion of Flint Sports Past
Sports Ed. Flint Journal



Dr. Gerald Piesko 1998
Special Service Award
Medical Assistance to Schools
and Pro Hockey Teams.



Audrey Smith 1998
Special Service Award
Service to Flint Jr. Golf Assoc. and
Olympian/Canusa Golf.



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Eli Copeland
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Ed "Shorty" Pearce 1998
Northern Two-Way Star-led Sag. Valley Conference in scoring-1935 MSU Played in Orange Bowl



Edward Novak (Nowaczyk) '98
St. Mary. Led Team to State Basketball Title. Played in Minors Tigers & Giants organizations.



Harold Kaczynski 1998
Central All Sag. Valley 1939 C.M.U Hall of Fame Football, First Vice President State Coaches Assn.



Joe Byrd 1998
State Golden Gloves Champion, U.S. Olympic Boxing Coach, Coached many local Champions



Ray Collard 1998
Northern Baseball & Basketball Star Amer. Legion MVP 1951 Most Improved Player-MSU



Eugene Marve 1998
Northern All Sag Valley Conf. All American Sag. Valley State Univ. NFL Played 11 years



Dick Leach 1999
Central All City, All Valley QB, U of M Catcher NCAA Champion, Exec. Director Sag. Valley



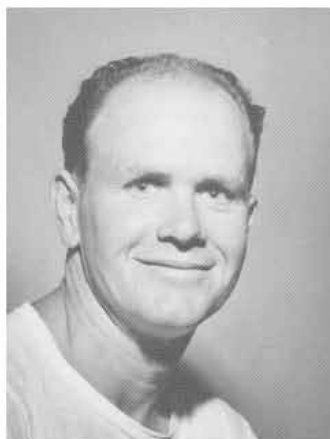
Paul Staroba 1999
St. Matthews H.S. 3 Sports All State, U of M-Led Big Ten in Punting NFL-Cleveland Browns



Ricky Patton 1999
Southwestern-All State Halfback Jackson State-All American NFL Super Bowl 49ers-1981



Dar Christiansen 1999
Southwestern Outstanding Coach 21-0-City Football Record State Champ 1976



Varnard Gay 1999
Only Coach to win Track State Titles in three enrollment classes. Anchored four Relay Teams at W.M.U.



Deanne Moore 1999
Fenton H.S. All State Basketball Softball MSU Hall of Fame, Athlete of Decade for Softball

Congratulations

to

JIM ABBOTT

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STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM
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Joe Dowdy 1999
Basketball Coach at Central for
15 Yrs. Won Five City Titles,
Fourth in City Career Victories



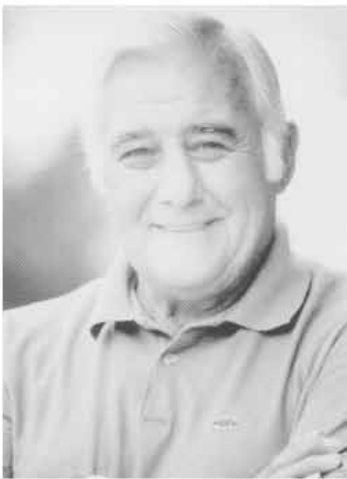
Leo Donoghue 1999
Special Service Award as
Promoter of Pro Wrestling, Won
State Welterweight Championship



John Lindholm 2000
GAM Player of the Year, State
Amateur Golf Champion, 6
Time Genesee All Star Classic



Reggie Barnett 2000
Central H.S. All American Notre
Dame Academic All American
MVP 1974 Orange Bowl



Pete Fornari 2000
City League Batting King,
MSU-6 Letters, coached 3
sports Mandeville Ainsworth



Jim Morrissey 2000
Powers Catholic Football Standout
MSU All Big Ten, MVP Senior Yr.
NFL Chicago Bears-won Super Bowl



Tom Alward 2000
Bendle H.S.-12 Letters, All State
Nebraska-won Nat'l Football Title,
played in NFL Tampa Bay



Tom Cole 2000
St. Michael H.S. 3 Sports
W.M.U Hall of Fame Baseball,
Flint Baseball Comm. 33 years



Willie Moore 2000
Starred on area's best Softball
Teams, City Bowling Champion,
Premier Umpire



Frank Gallagher 2000
Special Service Award for
bringing Pro Hockey to
Flint, Charter Member IHL



Bobby Reed 2001
Southwestern Two Sport Stand-
out Pitcher & Quarterback
U of M All Big Ten Pitcher



Ray Steffan 2001
Flint Central 3 Sport Star
MSU 3 Year Basketball MVP,
32 years Coach Kalamazoo

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Flint Bowling Association

John McTaggart
President

Allen Cozart
Executive Director

Dan Roof
Treasurer



Leroy Decker 2001
Fenton H.S. A.D
Won 518 Games Coaching
Boys & Girls Basketball



Don Reid 2001
St. Marys 3 Sports Star All State
Class D-3 Sports, Notre Dame
Football



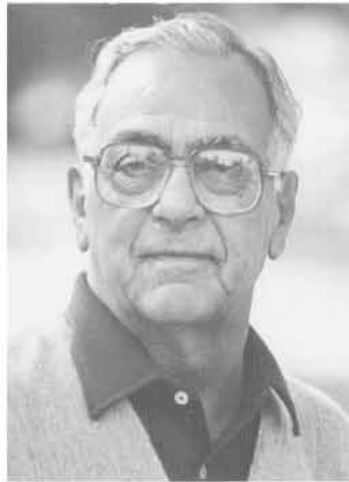
"Bud" Brotebeck 2001
Central Basketball & Baseball
W.M.U. 3 Letters, Played
in College World Series



Jay Springsteen 2001
Won Three Grand National
Motorcycle Racing Crowns, Total
40 Victories



Jack Baldwin 2001
W.M.U Led Team to College World
Series, Coached at Mandeville &
Ainsworth 28 Yrs.,
State Hall of Fame



Ed "Blackie" Abraham 2001
Coached at Sacred Heart H.S. Guided
Youngsters Year-Round and as Sum-
mer Baseball Supervisor



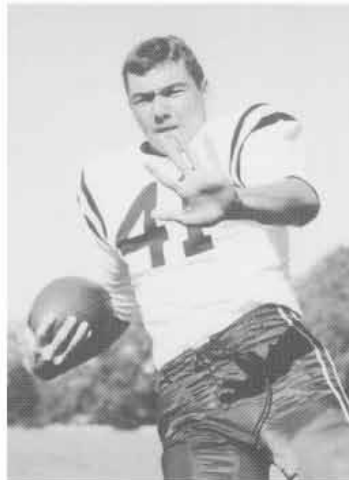
Len Hoyes 2001
Special Service Award for
Lengthy Service to Area Sports.
Past Journal Sports Ed.



Jim Vukovich 2002
Northern & U of M Baseball
Bentley H.S. Baseball Coach
State Champs Won 575
Games in 39 Yrs.



Steve Urick 2002
Northern 8 Letters, U of M
Baseball Minor League
Baseball, Talented Golfer



Bruce McLenna 2002
Fenton H.S. Football
MVP Hillsdale Played with Three
Teams in NFL



Kathy McGee 2002
Coached Powers Catholic Girls
Basketball to 3 State Titles, 13
Straight Big 9 Crowns



Carl Banks 2002
Beecher H.S. Football
MSU All Big Ten, 2 Pro Bowls
SuperBowl with Giants

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CONFERENCE &
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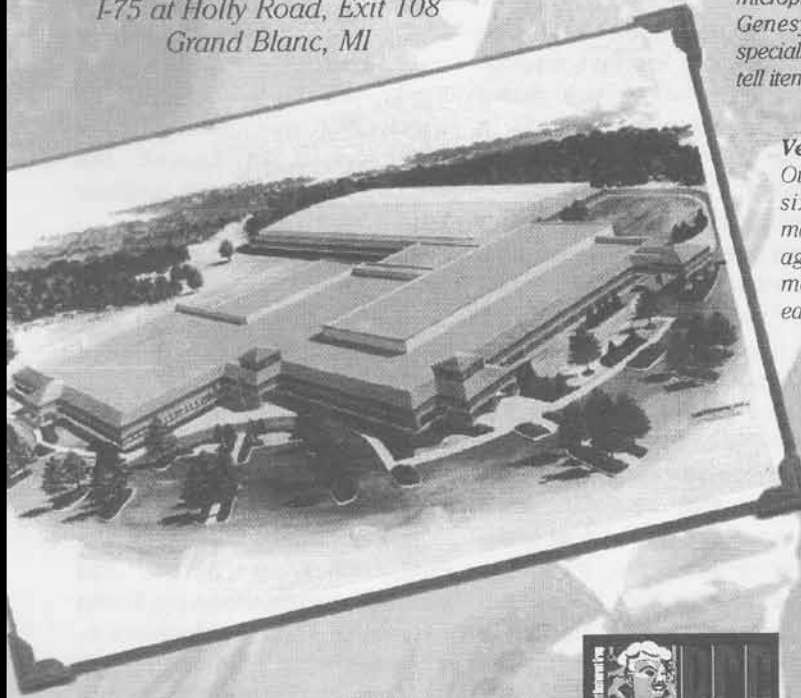
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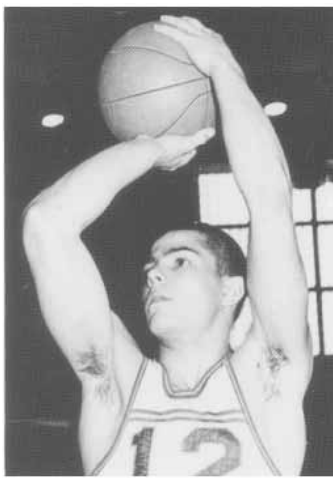


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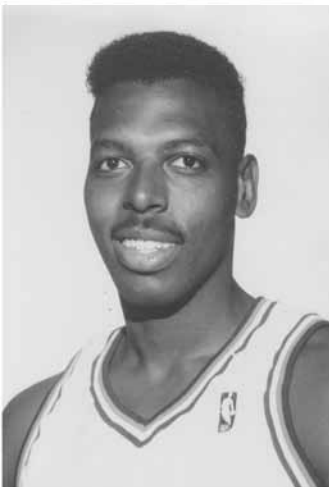
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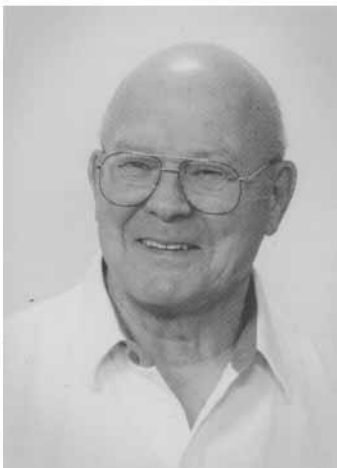
Frank Thomas 2003
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Mary Klein 2003
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George Hoey 2003
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1958 Team continued

moved into a starting role at end, Larry Dreasky and Bert Szabo also carried the ball and Norm Walworth and John Peterson were defensive specialists.

It took only one game to learn how good they were. Defending state champion Midland came to town for the season opener with its 23 returning lettermen and a line that averaged 210 pounds. The Indians sent the Chemics home with a 25-19 defeat.

Routs of Muskegon and Ann Arbor followed. The first AP rankings came out, with Bay City Central first and Flint second. It stayed that way after the deadlock in Bay City.

Thrash tied it 6-6 in the second quarter on a 30-yard pass from Jellis, after Jackson was literally "knocked out" by a Bay City blitz.

Watkins took the second-half kickoff 89 yards for a touchdown and a 13-6 lead, but Bay City tied it in the same quarter. Central reached the Wolves' 9 with 1:22 left, but Jackson was sacked for 17 yards and a final pass fell incomplete.

After that, nobody came within 20 points of Central. In the next three games the Indians forced 14 fumbles by Alpena, Saginaw Arthur Hill and Saginaw.

After a 38-0 rout of Pontiac, UPI bestowed its state championship on Central — a full week before the Northern game.

The Vikings came in with a respectable 5-3 record, but suffered the worst loss in their 31-year history to that point. Central scored on eight of 13 possessions, punted only twice and set series records for points, margin of victory, yards rushing (437) and total offense (543).

Bentley Baseball continued

"We knew how to produce runs."

The rest of the starting infield had leadoff hitter Ken Sutkowi at third base, Doug July at shortstop and either Conn or Tessner at first base. Tom Gilbert joined his twin brother Tim in the outfield, along with left fielder Gordon Hesse.

The Bulldogs started slowly at 4-4 but won the County B League by three games, even though Conn sprained an ankle May 21 and sat out the last two weeks of the regular season.

He was still limping in the district tournament, but fired a three-hitter to beat Mt. Morris 5-1 for the title after Tessner had three-hit Frankenmuth 1-0 in the semis.

The regional at Hamady High was a "duel of aces" between Ainsworth's Glen Slater, and Conn.

Conn beat him 1-0 as both hurlers tossed four-hitters.

"That was one of the most pressure-packed moments

continued pg 57



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Bentley Baseball continued

Conn beat him 1-0 as both hurlers tossed four-hitters.

"That was one of the most pressure-packed moments I've ever been in because Glen Slater was my cousin," said Spencer, who singled off Slater in the first inning and scored the game's only run on Tessner's double. "If we had lost, I believe Ainsworth would have won the state." Bentley then bombed Lowell 11-0 to reach the final four at Wyandotte Roosevelt.

Rain pushed the games to Monday, June 18, and Conn tossed a 2-1 one-hitter at Pinconning in the morning. Tessner then three-hit Romeo 1-0 in the title game, with the final out coming on a dropped third strike that Minock had to throw to Conn at first base to end the game.

Minutes later, Conn was in a limousine, signing with the Brewers. Then, on the team bus, he teased Tessner by holding his glove out the window, not realizing the game ball was inside.

"Oh please, don't," Tessner cried as the ball fell out and bounced down I-75 near Tiger Stadium.

"At first they all thought it was funny, but they didn't realize it was the game ball," said Tessner. "Oh well."

Tessner went on to lead Bentley to another state title in 1975, the second and last one for Vukovich.

Smith continued

average) on the all-tournament team.

Tessner pitched a four-hit shutout in the semifinals and drove in the winning run in the championship game, a 5-3 decision against Reading, Ohio.

Grandas was unable to play because of a broken foot suffered in the regional finals and Rykulski had to forego the trip because of pre-season football practice at Central Michigan University. However, Rykulski had a major role in getting the Carpetmen to Farmington by hitting a two-run homer in a 3-1 victory over Wyandotte in the regional finals. Anderson saved two victories in the regionals.

Smith outscored five rivals 30-12 in the regionals and had a 44-17 edge in six national tournament games.

Head called a 1-0 victory over Reading in the second round of the nationals "the best game I've ever seen." Sorensen pitched, Leach drove in the lone run with a sacrifice fly and Schloegl turned a would-be home run into the final out with a sensational catch.

Baseball success continued for some players after Farmington. Leach, already in the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame as an individual, played all or parts of 10 seasons in the major leagues with a career batting average of .268, including .309 with Toronto in 1986.

Sorensen had a 93-103 record over an 11-season major league career, including an 18-12 record and a 3.21 earned-run average with Milwaukee in 1978 when was a member of the American League All-Star team.

continued pg 58

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Smith continued

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1946 Weller Softball Team



Back Row, Left to Right: Jack Wiltz, Merle Palmer, George Ananich, Tony Majda, Norm Markle, Jim McQueen, Floyd Flint, Len McNeill, Bill Wiltz, Jake Snitko, Marco Marcet
Front Row, Left to Right: Harry Weller, Sponsor; Tiny Meek, Lou Kleckler, Mgr.; Don Williams
Not Pictured: Bert Minyard

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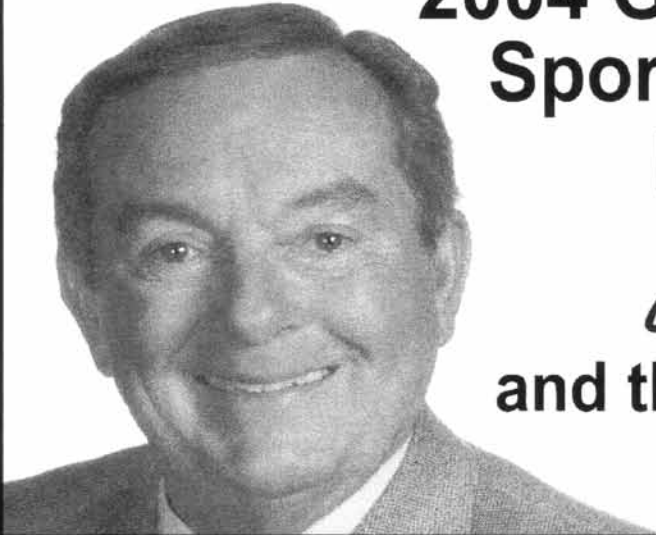
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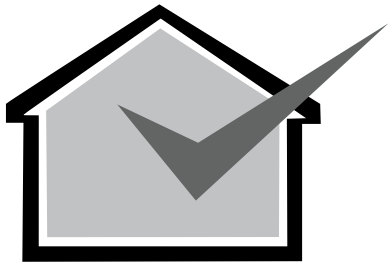
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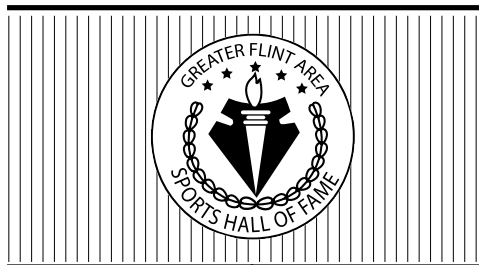
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SCHOLASTIC

- 1992 - Flint Northern Wonder Boys 1939/40
- 1993 - Flint Northern Football 1950
- 1994 - Flint Central Football 1924
Flint Central Football 1947
- 1995 - Flint Northern Basketball 1936
Flint Northern Football 1942
- 1996 - St. Matthew Basketball 66-67 & 67-68
- 1997 - MSD Track 1945 & 1946
- 1998 - Flint Northern Basketball 38-39 & 39-40
Flint Northern Baseball 1953
- 1999 - Flint St. Marys Basketball 1939
Flint Northern Basketball 70-71, 71-72
- 2000 - Flint St. Michael Football 1941
Flint Southwestern Football 1976
- 2001 - Flint Northern Football 1956
Flint Holy Redeemer Basketball 69-70
- 2002 - Flint Northern Girls' Basketball 1978,
'79, '80, '81
- 2003 - Beecher Football - 1949
Holy Rosary Girls Basketball - 1974, 75

NON-SCHOLASTIC

- 1992 - M&S Orange Softball Team 1945
- 1993 - American Legion Fisher Post 342
Baseball 1941
- 1994 - Eastside Merchants Baseball 1943-44
- 1995 - White Seal Basketball 1946-47
- 1996 - Buick Recreation Baseball 1936
IMA Girls Softball 1947
- 1997 - Julie's Pawn Shop Basketball 1972
Flint Sausage Baseball 1930-31
- 1998 - James Lumber Basketball 1951
- 1999 - Bishop Construction Baseball 1975
- 2000 - Yellow Dogs Softball 1940
- 2001 - Pfeiffers Beer Basketball 1957-58
- 2002 - Red Arrow American Legion
Baseball 1943
- 2003 - Weller's Service Softball Team - 1946



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To be inducted into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame the first thing that must happen is to be nominated. No matter how significant the accomplishments of an individual or team may be, a nomination is necessary in order for that person or team to be considered. Do not take for granted that an individuals or teams credentials are so well known that induction will be automatic.

All of those who will be inducted tonight or have been inducted previously had to be nominated first.

The nominating process is easy. All that is required is to submit the name of the individual or team on a nominating form. The GFASHF does much of its own research, but the more information you can provide when nominating someone the better. It is helpful to include the name of a contact person on the nominating form if additional information is needed.

Nomination forms are available at the Reception Desk at Genesys Recreation and Banquet Center or by contacting Bob Root, Executive Secretary, at Carman-Ainsworth High School-1300 N. Linden Rd., Flint, MI 48532 Phone: 591-5510



The Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame

News Scholarship Awarded

This past year Ben Roof of A-Frame Awards, initiated an annual college scholarship to be administered by the Board of Directors of the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame.

A contribution of \$1,000.00 was given for the scholarships with \$250 each awarded to two young women and two young men selected by the Board of Directors and area high school coaches.

The Board of Directors wishes to thank Ben Roof and A-Frame Awards for this generous contribution to the youth of the greater Flint Area.

Flint Central High School

Congratulates Our Latest Inductees into the 2004 Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame



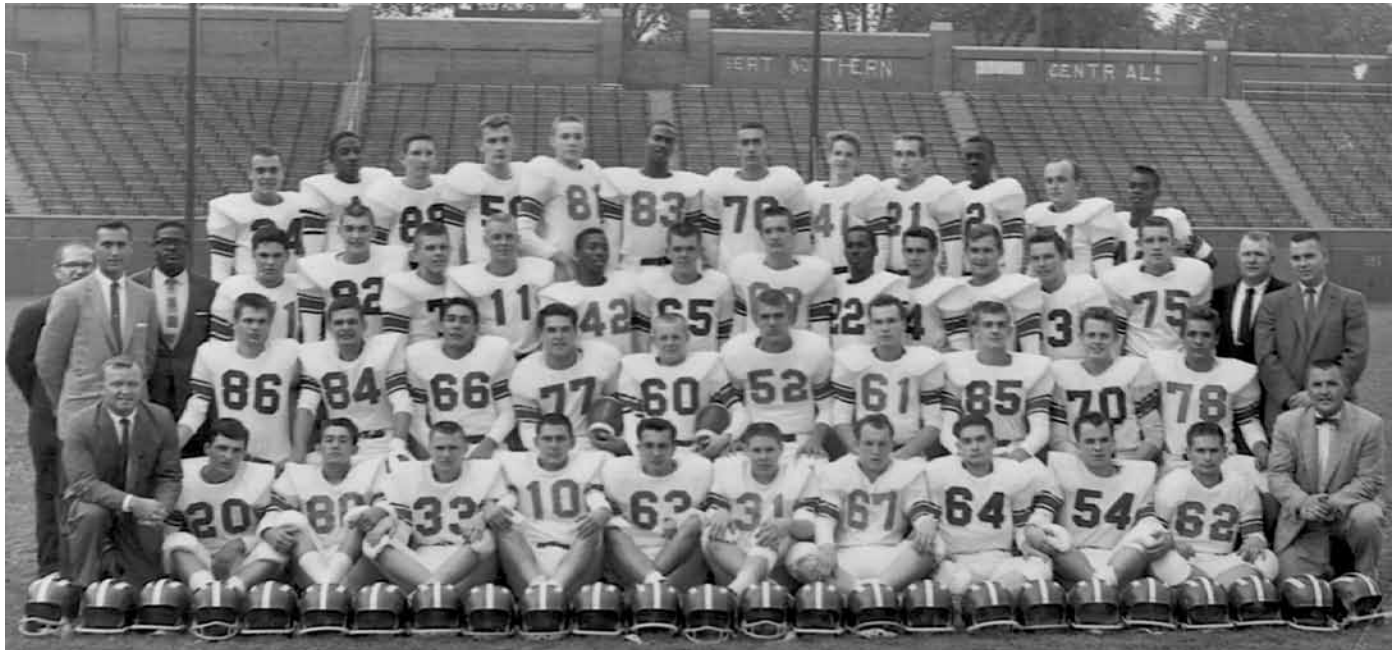
Jim Abbott
1985



Eli Copeland
1937



Erwin Ketzler
1938



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