

HALL of HONOR INDUCTEES



ASSISTANT COACH

Ron Boven – Mattawan HS

Coach Boven has been in 8th grade for 45 years—as the 8th grade basketball coach that is. Mattawan schools have enjoyed his coaching presence with the boys' teams since 1974 and with the girls' teams since 1992. A retired sixth grade teacher with the district, he has continued to enjoy working with the middle school aged children even beyond retirement. He has 350 combined wins (boys and girls) and figures he has coached about 900 student-athletes over the years. He is proud of his part in developing a rotation system that works well to ensure equal playing time. At this level, player development trumps winning (although he HAS had 4 undefeated seasons.)

Along with basketball, Ron has coached youth baseball and softball as well as volunteering to help with the track and cross country teams.

Ron has been married to his wife Janna for 51 years. Their children include Jeff, Tom, Marcy, Amy and Matt. He wishes to also mention his mentor and colleague Tom Short who introduced him to coaching and is a close friend.

ASSISTANT COACH

Bruce Capel – Hudsonville Unity Christian HS

Bruce Capel has been Hall of Fame inductee, Scott Soodsma's assistant coach for 21 years. He volunteered his time for most of these years until just recently he has received a small stipend. Bruce has helped Scott coach every summer and is at every scrimmage, always willing to put in the extra time. While Scott coached both the boys' and girls' programs, Bruce would run the entire boys' program during the summer. Until Bruce became part of the program, Unity Christian had not won a district championship in 12 years. After Bruce's arrival, Unity has won 8 conference championships, 13 districts, 4 regionals and 1 state championship.



Bruce has a great ability to relate to his players. They enjoy his style of teaching them one-on-one basketball skills and also his ability to mentor them. He shares how to be good Christian men and model citizens in the community. His players come to him repeatedly for help with basketball and personal issues. He brings so much to the team and their school, giving faithfully to the program, expecting nothing in return. Scott says, "Bruce has supported me and 'had my back' since the very beginning. That kind of loyalty is hard to find. Bruce is very worthy of the Hall of Honor."

Bruce and his wife Cyndee live in Hudsonville.

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ASSISTANT COACH

Hal Commerson – Rochester HS



Coach Hal Commerson has been a fixture at Rochester High School and West and Reuther Middle Schools for the past 45 years as a teacher and coach. He has done it all—from coaching all levels of boys’ and girls’ basketball at one time or another, to being a successful coach of boys’ and girls’ cross country, track, and golf. His teams have accumulated over 60 titles including conference, regional, county and two state championships (girls’ cross country in 1978, and girls’ golf in 2002). He has earned numerous coach of the year

awards over the years as well.

Coach Jeff Haney nominated Hal for the BCAM Hall of Honor. Jeff says that Hal is very deserving of this honor. Along with all of his coaching duties, he has helped run countless camps for young players and helped to host coaching clinics at Rochester HS. Hal finally hung up his whistle in 2019.

Hal and his late wife Gale’s children include: Katie (Mike) Starn, and Ryan (Jessica Rogers) Commerson. He also has two grandchildren: Holden and Jake Starn. He wishes to also mention his mother Helen as well as Ed Wright (mentor), Jeff Haney and Dave Werk (friends and coaching partners).

ASSISTANT COACH

Scott Stull – Saline HS

Scott Stull has been a dedicated member of Saline basketball for the last 27 years. Over these years he has coached 27 seasons of middle school girls and 25 seasons of middle school boys. He has accumulated 423 wins along with 11 undefeated seasons. Scott has dedicated his life to building up young adolescents to be prepared for the high school level. He teaches them how to compete respectfully and how to grow as people. Behind the scenes, he takes care of all the rest as well. Scott schedules all of the busing, practice schedules and game schedules, collects uniforms, and organizes the collection of the physicals paperwork for ALL FOUR middle school basketball teams. Saline head coach Leigh Ann Roehm says, “Our boys’ and girls’ programs would not be where they are without the strong foundation that Scott has set. He does all of this without complaining, simply out of a spirit of service to our kids.”



In his “free time”, Scott can be found coaching middle school girls’ volleyball (1991-present) and freshman/JV baseball (20 seasons). All put together he has over 1,000 victories at Saline Schools in all sports coached.

Scott wishes to thank his parents Gene and Janis Stull, his brother Steve, his sister Sandy Stroub, and his nominating coach Leigh Roehm.

FRIEND OF BASKETBALL

David Cencich – Warren Mott HS

There is some dispute as to how long David Cencich has been doing the scorebook for Warren Consolidated School District. If you ask him, he will tell you 45 years. But apparently he may have started in 1968 for a total of 50 years!! Regardless, it has been a long, long time!!

Dave has done the scorebook for both boys' and girls' basketball beginning at Warren High School until they closed in 1992. After this, he was transferred to the new Warren Mott HS as a teacher and so continued to do the scorebook there for both sports until the girls' season was changed to the winter. Dave continues to this day keeping the junior varsity and varsity scorebook.

Coach Patrick Schmidt nominated Dave for the Hall of Honor. He commends Dave for his dedication to the school's athletic programs and feels he is very deserving of this honor.



FRIEND of BASKETBALL

Rick Swanson – Manton HS



It was hard to decide which Hall of Honor category Rick Swanson fit into best. Although he definitely could have qualified for the Assistant Coach or Media award, ultimately we decided on Friend of Basketball due to his devotion to coaching, officiating, and broadcasting for the Manton Rangers. Rick coached boys' basketball for 23 seasons between 1974-1999 and served as an assistant to BCAM Hall of Fame Coach René LaFrienieré. He also was a very successful coach of boys' track for 40 years. This makes for a total of 72 athletic teams that he has coached at Manton between 1974 and 2015.

In addition, Rick served as public address announcer for boys' and girls' basketball and football for 40 years. Even today he does play-by-play basketball and football games for a local radio station which also streams on the internet. His history and knowledge of the community and basketball in the area helps bring a different view of basketball to the listeners. If that weren't enough, Rick tried his hand at officiating basketball and volleyball for 10 years between 1984-94 in addition to his "real" job of teaching English at Manton HS (35 years).

Head Coach Ryan Hiller nominated Rick for the Hall of Honor. Ryan notes that "While coaching, Mr. Swanson was as composed an individual as you would ever meet. He never raised his voice, but always had the attention and respect of every single one of his players. His players would literally do anything for him."

Rick is joined today by his wife Patrice, children Andrew (Jennifer) Swanson, Nathan (Amy) Swanson, and Haley (Christopher) Lamphere, and grandchildren Brody, Beckett, McKynley, Lucas, Markus and Ava. Special thanks go to his parents, Herbert and Ruth Swanson.

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FRIEND of BASKETBALL

Julie Zych – Benzie Central HS

When Will Lynch thinks of dedication to the game of basketball, the name Julie Zych immediately comes to his mind. Julie has manned the scorebook for Benzie Central varsity and JV boys and girls for 20 years. Prior to 2003 she would travel to the away games, but not as much since her daughter graduated. She is accurate and precise and her numbers always add up. Julie knows the rules of the game and constantly keeps everyone on their toes. She is a strong advocate for all school athletics and especially for basketball.



Prior to doing the book, Julie coached junior high girls basketball for 10 years. Her players still complain about all the running she made them do to get in shape. She played basketball in high school and beyond, as did both of her children. Julie will no doubt guide her three grandchildren onto the court as well. She was active in the local leagues showing the youngsters how to play the game correctly.

Julie and her husband Rick are parents to two children, Mike (Meagan) and Anna (Dave). They have three grandchildren, Everett, Berlin and Brantley. She would also like to mention special friends Will and Barb Lynch who are also very active in the Benzie Central sports scene and have previously been BCAM Hall of Honor inductees.

MEDIA

Erik O. Furseth – Traverse City, MI



Erik O. Furseth was the voice of the MHSAA basketball finals for 50 years. He also served as the public address announcer for MSU men's basketball for about 35 years. Additionally he served as the color commentator for the broadcasted MSU men's away games in the 1970's. Recently he has done the announcing for his local St Francis boy's games in Traverse City.

Erik was recruited to play football for MSU by Biggie Munn back in 1949, but after a shoulder injury, gave up his scholarship. He was encouraged to try out for the basketball team instead where his scholarship was reinstated and he went on to play four years for Pete Newell, serving as captain of the team in 1953. After college he served in the Air Force where he also played and coached basketball. Following his two year military service, Erik went on to a career in broadcasting—working for WILS Radio in Lansing as a DJ and moving up to station manager later on. He did everything: news, music, sports, and LOTS of commercials. You have no doubt heard Erik at some time or another as he has done voice-over work and local commercials for many different companies and organizations.

OFFICIAL

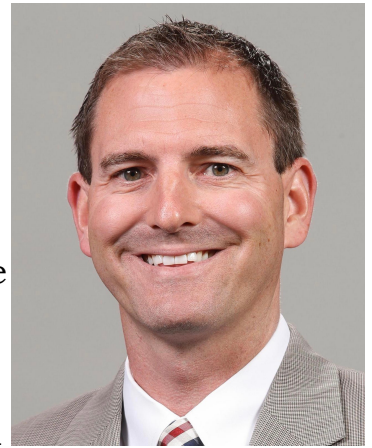
Bradley Brunet – Wyoming, MI

Brad Brunet has been a registered basketball and football official for 20 years. He has officiated several boys' and girls' quarterfinals and semifinals, as well as the 2018 boys basketball State Finals.

Brad officiates football at both the high school and collegiate level. He officiated the 2016 D1 MHSAA Football Final. He officiated numerous D2 & D3 playoff games as well. Currently Brad officiates D1 college football and is a member of the Missouri Valley Football Conference officiating staff. In addition to college, Brad officiates in the Arena Football League where he worked the 2018 Arena Bowl.

In addition to on field responsibilities, Brad currently is the Supervisor of Football Officials for the OK Conference where he assigns, trains and evaluates over 275 officials for 50 schools. As the registrar in basketball and football for the West Michigan Officials Association, he assigns games at the middle school, freshman, junior varsity and varsity levels. In addition to being on the WMOA board of directors, Brad encouraged the organization to join in the fundraising effort for the Wes Leonard Heart Team, raising money for AEDs with the goal of having a device in every school.

Back in his high school years, Brad played basketball at Wyoming Park High School for current BCAM member Thom VanderKlay.



OFFICIAL

Rob Stanaway – DeWitt, MI

Rob Stanaway has just completed his 34th year of officiating high school basketball and 20th year at the collegiate level. He has worked everything from regular season to four high school State Finals games over the years. In addition, he officiates for high school football in the fall. He has had the opportunity to be the head linesman in one final and two semi-finals.

He has served in several capacities with the Capital Area Officials Association since its inception (15 years) including being a registered trainer the entire time and has served as director of basketball in the organization for the last 14 years. This leadership position requires that he be in charge of all the training, development, meetings content and facilitation, and coordination of anything related to basketball officiating. If that wasn't enough, he has served as the vice president for the past two years as well.

He says that while he enjoys his time on the court, nothing compares to helping others develop as officials. "It is tremendously satisfying to see other officials become successful, earn their opportunity to work tournament games and reach their officiating goals."

Rob lives in DeWitt with Deb, his wife of 18 years. His son Aaron lives in Seoul, South Korea with his wife and two daughters. His daughter Amber lives in Phoenix, AZ.

