

HALL of HONOR INDUCTEES



FRIEND OF BASKETBALL

James Collins – Alma, MI

Jim Collins joined the staff at Fulton Adult/Alternative Education (FAAE) in 2001. Before this, there were no competitive sports at FAAE. Soon after he arrived Jim organized a co-ed basketball team and teams in several other sports that were offered in the Michigan Alternative Athletic Association (MAAA). At one time Jim coached players from at least 3 area counties. Some of the students had playing experience and some didn't. But all of them were able to play at Jim's school. Without these teams, these students would not have had an opportunity to play sports. Under Jim's mentorship, these students learned important lessons that competitive sports teach—hard work, teamwork, practice and preparation, and grace and sportsmanship.

Jim didn't have the resources that coaches in traditional schools have. Jim had to be his own AD and even had to officiate some of the games where he was also the head coach! For many years Jim and other colleagues transported students to games in Flint and Detroit in their own vehicles.

The Fulton teams recorded over 682 victories in Jim's 21 years. This also included state championships (11) in all four of the major sports MAAA offers (basketball, football, volleyball and softball). A mentor to literally thousands of young people on the court and in the classroom, Coach Collins' legacy to the community will live on for generations. He has dedicated his life to teaching, coaching and helping individuals in great need, not just in sports, but also in the game of life.

Jim currently lives in Alma and is married to Kathleen. They have one son, Ryan.

FRIEND OF BASKETBALL

Janis Dinda – Delton Kellogg HS

Janis Dinda has attended hundreds of athletic contests in her life, but basketball had always been her favorite, even as a girl when she would watch her older brother's church league games. In 1985 she began teaching at Delton Kellogg HS and started attending the basketball games there—home and away. Her love for the sport returned, and beginning with the 1988 season, she learned how to run the scoreboard and keep the official book and work at the scorer's table when needed. She has scored every varsity boys' contest since. Over the years, she has taken on scoring for all levels of the boys' program—only occasionally missing a sub-varsity game due to scheduling conflicts between boys and girls.

She took over scoring the girls' games in the early 2000's—scoring for both boys' and girls' programs. In 2007, when the seasons changed, she scored 100 games that winter working both programs with games four nights a week. She continues to score for both programs but follows the boys' teams when a girls' game is scheduled for the same time. This will be her 35th year at the table.

The program at DK has always manufactured their own scorebooks, even before Janis was around. But over the years she has modified the format to work better as scoring has changed; and she continues the DK tradition of creating all the scorebooks each year for all the levels of basketball. She takes great pride in making sure that each quarter is in its own separate color when she scores, which makes it very easy to retell the story of the game.

Janis volunteers year-round with the sports programs at Delton Kellogg. You can find her working the long jump during track season (35 years), working in the press box (scoreboard) during football season (30+ years), and timing at the finish line during cross country season (25+ years).

Delton Kellogg athletic director and girls' varsity head coach Michael Mohn nominated Janis for the BCAM Hall of Honor. He notes her incredible commitment to the kids, the coaches, and their teams as she never has missed a varsity game in over 32 years. "Janis has a huge heart for kids, and it shows with every effort she makes in supporting our DK student-athletes."

Janis has many people she would like to thank: her long-time table partner, Tom Norton—the "man on the clock"; the many coaches including Mike Mohn, Jim Hogoboom, and Rick Williams; the DKHS athletic directors: Karen Leinaar, Mike Garvey, Ben Farkas and Mike Mohn; the many basketball officials she has worked with over the years; the many volunteers at the opposing schools; and most importantly the student-athletes—they are the reason any of us are here.



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ASSISTANT COACH

Gary Hull – Hanover-Horton HS

Head varsity coach Chad Mortimer is here today receiving his induction into the BCAM Hall of Fame, but as he is sure to tell you, he didn't get here alone. One of the most important reasons Chad is here is because of the people who surrounded him each and every day. One of those important people was Gary Hull, his assistant coach for 22 years.

Chad appreciates everything Gary has done for the program at Hanover-Horton. Gary's knowledge, attention to detail and coaching skills enabled the boys' program to have the great success they have had over the years. Gary is a great role model for the players, staff and community and is a "heck of a coach". Chad says that "Gary's loyalty, dedication and friendship have meant so much to me. We have always coached really well together. We had a lot of trust and respect, and we weren't afraid to question each other on why we should or shouldn't do something."

Gary loved being part of a program that helped build several conference championships and make deep runs into the state tournament. One highlight was coaching his son and making a trip to the final four with him in 2003. At one time the entire Hull family had coaching roles in the basketball program at Hanover-Horton. Wife Sheri coached middle school girls, son Jake coached JV boys, and daughter Jess coached JV girls. It was an exciting time as Gary was able to be part of their coaching experiences.

Coach Hull gives special thanks to Coach Mortimer for the many years of memories and the friendship that was built over this time. Most importantly, he wishes to thank his wife for all the support during the long seasons, late nights, and long road trips, and for the help with scouting trips and filming. Gary is very proud of his children, Jake (Erin) Hull, and Jessica Hull (Ryan Frasier), as well as grandchildren Channing, Nyha, Ava and Jack.

ASSISTANT COACH

Raymond Lee – Sandusky HS

Devotion, dedication and loyalty could best describe Raymond Lee at Sandusky High School. He started coaching boys' 7th grade basketball in 1978 and has been at Sandusky for the past 44 years! He next coached boys' freshmen and JV but then moved to the girls' program in 1982 and coached the JV team for over 30 years. He has been the girls' varsity assistant for the last 10 years.

He is a successful JV basketball coach with over 400 wins and four undefeated teams. However, he is most proud of the work he has done to help the development of the Sandusky Redskins basketball program. Ray is a true team player at Sandusky. He gets to practice early to set up, carries equipment to away games, officiates scrimmages, fills water jugs, tapes ankles, and any other duties needed to help the girls' basketball program.

Ray loves being in the gym and is an absolute "gym rat". You can often see him on Sundays opening the gym for girls to work on their game. He opens the gym on Saturday nights for men's basketball so that the younger and older players can come in and enjoy the game of basketball. He can no longer play—but gets them water in cups, reads his book, and catches up on the basketball gossip around town!

Ray would like to thank his wife Cheri, and children Cory, Nole, Ryan and Rhonda for allowing him to be a part of the premier girls' basketball program in the Blue Water area for the past 44 years. He would also like to thank head coach Al DeMott for allowing him this same honor. Finally, he would like to pay special thanks to his brother, Brown City girls' varsity coach Richard Lee for this nomination into the BCAM Hall of Honor.



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OFFICIAL

Randy Melvin – Dowagiac, MI

Randy Melvin has had an outstanding 48 year career as an MHSAA official and is not done yet. He has officiated over 1500 high school basketball games. He has also officiated in the JUCO and NAIA college ranks for 15 years. He has been fortunate to work 2 girls' finals in 1994 and 2003 and one boys' final in 2007, as well as 12 quarterfinal and 7 semi-final high school games. Randy is also an ASA softball umpire. He was inducted into the Michigan ASA Hall of Fame in 2012 and into the National ASA Hall of Fame in 2013.



Josh Hood, Assistant Principal, and head girls' varsity basketball coach at Niles Brandywine High School nominated Randy for the BCAM Hall of Honor. Josh says "Randy is much more than an official to players and coaches in Southwest Michigan. He is a great human being who goes out of his way to build positive relationships with players, parents, fans and coaches. Randy demands respect while out on the court but is approachable and always confident in his abilities. Randy is known for his great demeanor while officiating with integrity."

Randy would like to thank Josh Hood for his nomination, and also his officiating partner Andy Saetre, who Randy has worked with for over 25 years. Most importantly he would like to thank his wife Kathy ("She is my rock") and his four children Brent, Brian, Sara and Tanner for all their support when he was gone 3 to 5 times a week.



MEDIA

Scott Novak – Dowagiac, MI

Scott Novak began his phenomenal career of covering high school sports in Southwest Michigan during his junior year of high school in 1979 when he started at the Dowagiac Daily News as a photo stringer. One night, the assigned writer was unable to attend the basketball game Scott was photographing, so Scott did double duty. That person never wrote another story for the paper and Scott became their Decatur freelancer. After high school graduation in 1980, a position was created for Scott to be a part-time sportswriter while attending Southwestern Michigan College. This evolved into being the full-time darkroom technician and part-time sports editor. In the summer of '84 he was promoted to sports editor just in time to cover the ALCS, the NLCS and the World Series. He took one journalism class at SMC but did not return to school after being named the full-time sports editor. Eventually he was also named sports editor for the Cassopolis Vigilant and Edwardsburg Argus, two weekly area newspapers. Over time, several newspapers were consolidated under one roof and Novak took over all the sports coverage. He has received numerous awards for both photography and sports writing from the Michigan Press Association.

Niles' head varsity girls' basketball coach Josh Hood nominated Scott for the BCAM Hall of Honor. He writes, "During the past 40 years you could find Scott Novak on the sideline of every big game in the area bringing outstanding press coverage to several communities. Mr. Novak is a friend to all of us coaches in Southwest Michigan and has spent his life of work building positive relationships with players, fans, coaches, parents, and administrators. On his nights off, Scott usually writes a column about the importance of participation in high school sports or highlights student-athletes in the area. During a time when coverage of high school sports is dying across the state, Scott has not missed a beat. There's not a school in our area that doesn't respect and appreciate all that Scott Novak does for our sports programs."

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FRIEND OF BASKETBALL

Amy Paradine – Quincy HS

Amy Paradine has been involved in basketball for the past 27 years, as a head coach and helping run the game clock. Paradine, a long-time 7th grade math teacher, has a knack for numbers, as well as attention to detail.

Amy began her teaching and coaching career in 1995 at Quincy Community Schools. She coached 8th grade basketball from 1995-1997, was assistant JV girls' basketball coach from 1996-2004, and she was an assistant varsity girls' coach from 2015-2018.

Paradine has been a staple in the QHS gymnasium as a clock operator. Amy has kept clock for middle school boys' and girls' games from 2005–present, at high school girls' games from 2005-2014 and 2019-present, and filled in when needed at boys' and girls' high school games over her entire career.

Scott Rodesiler, head varsity basketball coach, nominated Amy for BCAM's Hall of Honor. He writes that “her dependability, attention to detail, and ensuring that the game clock was fairly administered are things that athletic directors appreciate about Amy. She helped out all of these years because of her love for her students, a passion for basketball, and her willingness to get involved in giving to her school and community.”

Amy would like to thank her husband Kevin and son and daughter-in-law Anthony and Allison. She appreciates Scott Rodesiler for nominating her and thanks all the coaches and athletic directors at Quincy Schools. Finally, she wishes to thank her mentor teacher Gail Banker for being so supportive.



ASSISTANT COACH

Wayne Wilson – Goodrich HS

Wayne Wilson was a sportswriter for a little more than 20 years, mostly at the Oakland Press in Pontiac. During the majority of his career there he was the high school sports editor and in charge of coordinating the coverage of high school sports. He did preseason previews, covered games several times per week, wrote a “Kosmo” column predicting winners of games, covered the state tournament, and selected all-county teams. However, in 2000, he took the plunge from one of the least respected careers (sportswriter) to another (4th grade teacher and coach).

The bulk of his coaching career has been with the boys' basketball program at Goodrich High School. He served as varsity assistant to Gary Barns from 2001-2017, assisting in the day-to-day logistics of running a program, directing camps, and coaching summer league games. During that time he also coached the JV boys' basketball team for two seasons, middle school boys for 5 years and several elementary school teams. Since 2017, he has concentrated mostly on coaching middle school boys at Goodrich Middle School and spent two seasons coaching middle school girls at Davison Middle School.

Head Coach at Goodrich, Gary Barns, was always a big fan of Wayne's sports writing. He “made the game come to life”. When Wayne started helping Gary's team he brought a new wealth of knowledge to the program. Wayne was huge on fundamentals and making sure everyone was developing. He was patient while pushing the players to succeed at the same time. Gary says, “If I had to sum up Wayne Wilson in one word, I would say LOYAL. He has never changed from the first time I met him. He gives respect and demands respect. Because of the years that he has dedicated to the Goodrich Boys' Basketball program, I have found success. He is a big part of what we have built and continue to build.”

Wayne has had the privilege and honor of coaching all four of his children: Jari, Macker, Cap (wife Hannah), and Ara, at various times; but he is not sure that they enjoyed it as much as he did. He wishes to thank his wife, Janelle, for being the brains of the operation, also his parents Wayne and Marcia for their love, support, and guidance. Finally, he thanks Gary and Stacey Barns, along with their son Dave, for welcoming him into the Goodrich boys' basketball program, and for their friendship.