

Welcome to the first 25 years of the St. Mary Central High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Few institutions have had the rich athletic history and tradition of this small Catholic high school in Menasha, Wisconsin. This booklet remembers these past Hall of Fame inductees and their team and individual achievements. But in a larger sense, this booklet commemorates all of the Zephyr players, coaches, teachers, and fans of the past 70 years. It is through their effort also that the following have been honored.

Where did the team nickname—Zephyrs come from? In 1934 the Burlington Railroad introduced the Pioneer Zephyr—America's first diesel-powered streamline passenger train. On May 26, 1934, the Burlington Zephyr staged a 1,000 mile record breaking non-stop run from Denver, Colorado to the World's Fair on Chicago's lake front to climax the "Wings of a Century" transportation pageant. The train streaked across the Midwest at speeds over 100 mph. Total fuel cost for the trip was \$14.64. Through the efforts of the St. Mary's coach in the '30's who traveled on the Zephyr and the St. Mary's administration, the school adopted that fitting nickname.

St. Mary's Hall of Fame Biographies

Barbara Asmuth, class of 1976, inducted in 1992

Barb earned letters in basketball, tennis, volleyball and cheerleading during her years at St. Mary's. She was the conference singles champion and later participated in basketball and tennis at St. Catherine's College in St. Paul. She has coached tennis on the high school level.

Thomas Balthazor, class of 1959, inducted in 1996

Tom was the rampaging fullback for the Zephyrs 1958 7-0-1 conference co-champions and was a unanimous All-Conference selection. A 7-7 tie with St. John's of Little Chute was the only blemish on the record. In the last four games that season they scored 139 points to the opponents 12. In baseball, Tom was the ace pitcher of the Zephyr nine that took second place in the 1959 State Baseball Tournament. He continued his baseball career after high school.

Gary Batley, class of 1959, Inducted in 1989 (deceased)

Gary was a three-sport star for the Zephyrs. He quarterbacked the 1958 champions and was a sure-handed shortstop on the 1959 WCIA state baseball tournament runners-up. A deadly outside shooter, Gary was the leading scorer on the 1958-59 Zephyrs who took 2nd place in the state tournament to the powerful Racine St. Catherine five. He attended St. Thomas College and graduated from UW-Oshkosh in 1967. After a brief stint in teaching and coaching, Gary went into sales.

Bill Becker, class of 1961, inducted in 1991 (deceased)

Bill earned 10 letters during his Zephyr career in football, basketball, and baseball. An all-conference performer in football and basketball, his final game, 29-point performance in the ESCIT National Basketball Tournament is still talked about today. In baseball, he consistently led the Zephyrs and the Menasha Legion team in hitting. After high school, he earned 7 letters in basketball and baseball at Lewis College in Lockport, Illinois.

Kari Beisenstein-Fink, class of 1989, inducted in 2001

Kari lettered three years in basketball and tennis and once in softball. She scored 543 career points and earned first-team all-conference honors in basketball as a senior and led the Zephyrs to the WISAA Class B State tournament. In tennis, Kari finished 23-3 overall in singles and 36-7 in doubles and won the regional championship in doubles with Michele Roth. Kari went on to play three sports at Edgewood College in Madison. She won conference titles in tennis at both singles and doubles at Edgewood. Kari is married to Dan Fink the basketball coach at SPASH and has two daughters Madeline and Zoe.

Patrick Below, class of 1958, inducted in 1998

Pat played basketball for St. Mary's from 1956-58. He was selected as the Most Improved Players his junior year and during his senior year was All Conference and All-State tournament. Not bad for a player who almost quit after

his sophomore season when he sat on the bench but Coach McClone took him aside after that year and told him to keep his “dobber” up. He earned a scholarship to Marquette University and play basketball from 1959-61. He graduated from Marquette in 1962 with an electrical Engineering degree and later earned an MBA from Indiana University. He then pursued a career as a business consultant (authored several books on the subject) and at age 68 isn’t even thinking of retiring. He has five children and seven grandchildren.

Norm Brown, class of 1960, inducted in 1992

Norm earned the rare distinction of lettering all four high school years on both football and basketball. He earned All-Conference honors and all-State honors in football during his senior year. He’s best remembered for his 4 TD’s against Marshfield Columbus and his buzzer-beater jumper against Madison Edgewood in the 1959 state tourney semi-final game ending Edgewood’s 21-game winning streak. Norm is now retired after a successful career in the printing business.

Sandy Mix Campbell, class of 1986, inducted in 2002

Sandy was an all-conference performer in both volleyball and softball and also competed in basketball. She was a member of the 1986 state softball champion team and then went on to receive degrees from Mankato State University and the University of Iowa. She thought her Zephyr career was all about teamwork and her fellow teammates were her family away from home. She works in corporate fitness today and for recreation, Sandy and her husband play hockey.

Bill Ciske, Class of 1946, inducted in 1986

Bill was the quarterback of the 1943 Zephyr team that defeated Appleton and was also a stellar performer on the basketball court. After graduation, Bill spent a number of years pitching minor league baseball and then returned to Menasha where he continued to throw for the Menasha Macs. Bill also coached the Zephyr grade school team and the Menasha Legion baseball nine. After a career in police work, Bill is now retired in Florida.

Gene “Torchy” Clark, class of 1947, inducted in 1983

A charter member of the Hall of Fame, “Torchy” Clark put together an unbelievable playing and coaching career. After leading the Zephyrs in scoring in 1947, including a 30-point game, he played basketball at Marquette. He also played some football for the Zephyrs and caught 5 passes in the Appleton game. Few know this, he even did some boxing at St. Mary’s. His coaching stops took him to Gilman, St. Mary’s Appleton, Xavier, and central Florida University. His football and basketball records at Xavier will never be matched. He was a teacher

for 51 years, a coach for 38 years, and is a member of six Hall of Fames! His sons were great athletes also. "Torchy" resides in Orlando, Florida.

Tom Collins, class of 1939, inducted in 1989

Because of work commitments, Tom did not participate in sports during his high school years. His love of sports, however, led him after graduation to a career in sports broadcasting. After calling the Zephyr games on WNAM from 1951-59, he moved to a bigger market in Milwaukee where he did Milwaukee Braves and Milwaukee Brewer baseball, Marquette basketball, Big Ten football, and Milwaukee Bucks basketball. Tom resides in the Milwaukee area.

Ben Coopman, class of 1934, inducted in 1983 (deceased)

Another charter member of the Hall of Fame, Ben was captain of the 1933 Zephyr five that participated in the National Catholic Tournament at Loyola University in Chicago. In football, he played every down of both offense and defense for four years except for the final two minutes of his final home game. Ben was a life-long resident of Menasha.

Molly Cummings, class of 1986, inducted in 2000

Molly was the captain of the Zephyr tennis and basketball squads during her Zephyr career and also played on the 1986 state softball champs team. Her big thrill was hitting a home run in the championship game. She graduated from Stanford University where she played Lacrosse and received a PhD from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She is a biology professor at the University of Texas. To satisfy her competitive spirit, Molly is currently a member of the USA Women's Kayak Polo Team. Molly feels she learned so many important lessons about life through sports at St. Mary's

John DeYoung, class of 1955, inducted in 1990

All all-conference performer and a 10-letter winner in football, basketball, and baseball, John left behind a legacy of clutch touchdowns, baskets, and base hits as a member of 3 State Championship teams. He lettered in baseball at the University of Wyoming and garnered numerous Fox Cities' honors in softball, basketball, golf, and bowling. John lives in Appleton. John is thankful for all the great friends and teammates at St. Mary's for having a great coach in Ralph McClone.

Ron Dibelius, class of 1956, inducted in 1983

Ron is a charter member of the Hall of Fame and earned 10 letters in football, basketball, and baseball. One of the most graceful athletes in Fox Cities

history, his legendary feats include scoring 76 points in one high school game and making the All-State Tournament team four years in a row. He participated in the North-South all-Star game in 1956. He tallied 29 points in his first college game at Marquette and after his sophomore year, signed a professional baseball contract with the Washington Senators. He transferred to UW-Oshkosh and was an NAIA All-American. He was also drafted by the New York Knicks. Ron spent much of his adult life in the insurance business in Boise, Idaho, then served as the tennis coach at Boise State University. Currently, he's the Assistant Athletic Director at Boise State.

Clifford Dilts, coach from 1931-36, inducted in 1996 (deceased)

Clifford was the Zephyr football and basketball coach during the early years of the school and the left in 1936 for Shawano High School where he won the state basketball tournament in 1938. He is also enshrined in the Wisconsin State Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame.

Dave Eckholm, class of 1962, inducted in 1999

Dave was an All-Conference end in football and an All-Conference forward in basketball and received honors on the state level too. He received his bachelor and master degrees from UW-Stevens Point and was the school's Registrar for many decades. He served on many civic and collegial boards during his career. He and his wife Lynn live in Stevens Point and winter in Scottsdale, Arizona. They have 4 children and many grandchildren who are all involved in athletics. Dave feels that in addition to all the friends he made in athletics, his participation in the school play and Rosemary Trettin's Forensic program were also rewarding aspects of his life.

Chris Fahrbach, class of 1975, inducted in 1983

Another charter member of the hall of Fame, Chris' life has truly been devoted to basketball. As their high scorer, Chris led the 1974 and '75 Zephyrs to the state tournament. After a splendid basketball career at North Dakota, he was drafted by the Milwaukee bucks. Chris spent many season playing and coaching basketball in Norway. A Fox Cities resident, Chris has helped coach the Zephyrs basketball teams and in 2004 was selected to the University of North Dakota All-Century Basketball team along with Laker coach Phil Jackson. Chris especially remembers all the great teammates and friends from high school and currently works for Tom Mader Construction.

Vernon Fahrenkrug, class of 1947, inducted in 2000

Vern was an all-conference performer in football and also lettered in basketball and baseball. His fondest memories of high school are beating Neenah in both football and basketball. His free throw against Neenah sent the game into overtime where the Zephyrs won. He attended St. John's in Collegeville and won all-conference honors in football. He later coached track at the University of Detroit and has been very active at his parish and at St. Francis High School in Michigan. He also sings in bass in a quartet called the "Fourgettables."

Tom Fink, class of 1954, inducted in 1998

Tom was the bruising all-conference fullback in 1953 and was on the second team in 1952. He was the 1952 MVP and was co-captain as a senior. He was a reserve on the Zephyrs 1953 state championship basketball squad. Tom later went on to play college football at Marquette and today lives in Menasha.

Mike Gage, class of 1967, inducted in 2002

Mike received many, many honors during his four-year basketball career at St. Mary's. He graduated from Princeton University and William Mitchell College of Law. He is currently an Outagamie County Judge after spending 4 years as the county's District Attorney. Mike married Mary Pfrang from the Dave's Burger Shanty family—a place frequented by scores of Zephyrs in the '50's, '60's, and '70's.

Leon Geiger, class of 1946, inducted in 1988

Leon was a high scoring halfback on the 1944 Zephyr eleven tallying five touchdowns over a two-game period. He received a football scholarship to Marquette and was a starter in 1949 on the highest scoring team in Marquette football history. He lettered for three years and was also a defensive captain for the Hilltoppers. Leon later played service and semi-pro football.

Don Gosz, class of 1955, inducted in 1987

A basketball and baseball letter-winner at St. Mary's, Don's athletic fame came after high school. A member of the state basketball coaches Hall of Fame, he found coaching success at Stockbridge, Fond du Lac Springs, Campion, Whitefish Bay Dominican, the University of Wisconsin, and Menasha High School. His Dominican team won two state championships and established a state record 62-game win streak. Don has also run the very successful Don Gosz Basketball Camps. A graduate of UW-Oshkosh, Don believes his best memory of St. Mary's is playing on teams with some of the finest athletes ever to play at St. Mary's.

Jim Griesbach, class of 1974, inducted in 1994

Jim played basketball and baseball but most of his honors came from football. Besides all conference, he also made the all-Fox Cities team and the Channel 5 Northeastern Wisconsin team. He later played football and basketball at North Dakota State. After he graduated he received a MBA degree and also helped coach football and baseball. He has served on several boards in the community and feels he was very lucky to play with some great athletes at St. Mary's. Jim lives in Menasha.

Amy Haberman, class of 1972, inducted in 1995

Amy was another of the young ladies who competed in the initial years of girl's athletics at St. Mary's. She played on the 1972 basketball team but it was in track where she found fame. At the state meet during her senior year, she took first in the 880 and mile. After high school she continued to compete in track and appeared in many national meets as a distance runner often appearing in televised meets. Today she lives in Santa Cruz, California and despite a recent illness, continues to train other athletes and competes in races.

Jennifer Paul Heck, class of 1988, inducted in 2005

Jennifer was selected to the Hall of Fame for her swimming success even though St. Mary's didn't have a swimming team. The athletic department awarded her 4 letters for her pool exploits during high school. She received a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin and was team captain and All-Academic Big Ten. Jenny and her husband Ken live in Rhinelander and have 3 children. Jenny keeps busy volunteering in her children's schools and is also a coaching volunteer. She feels very fortunate to have had so many teachers and coaches at St. Mary's who produced so many confident, caring, and productive adults.

Kim Syring Hegg, class of 1986, inducted in 2002

Kim lettered four years in track, was twice MVP, and was also the state high jump champion in 1985. Kim also placed in the long jump. She also lettered in volleyball and basketball (scored 336 career points and was 2nd team All-Conference) and after high school played two years of volleyball for UWGB. She is the mother of 3 children and extremely active in church ministry.

Chad Heroux, class of 1992, inducted in 2002

Chad lettered 3 years in basketball and baseball and 4 years in cross country for the Zephyrs. In his buckets career, he scored 1,174 points and was team MVP and 1st team All-conference both junior and senior years. Chad finished 6th and 10th in the state cross country meet and was All-Conference his senior year in baseball.

Chad attended UW-Milwaukee and graduated cum laude with a degree in business administration.

Mike Heroux, class of 1967, inducted in 1986

Mike won 11 Zephyr letters in football, basketball, and baseball and was the second Zephyr cager to tally over 1000 career points. After graduation, he received a basketball scholarship to the University of Montana and played for three years. Mike and his wife have enjoyed watching their children's athletic careers and they currently live in Oshkosh.

Molly McClone Horn, class of 1972, inducted in 1990.

Molly arrived at St. Mary's just as the girl's athletic program was getting off the ground. A letter winner in basketball and tennis, she took second place in singles in the state tournament. At St. Norbert College, she lettered 3 times in both basketball and tennis and was MVP of the basketball squad and captain of the net squad. She continued her participation after college winning many local tournaments.

Chuck Johnson, class of 1971, inducted in 1989

Chuck won letters at St. Mary's in football, basketball, track and baseball and lettered in swimming at St. John's University in Minnesota. A truly versatile athlete, Chuck continued his athletic participation after college graduation by joining the Marine Corps. His exploits while a Marine stationed in Beirut in '83 appeared in Time and Newsweek. He later received a Phd from Northwestern and served as an administrator in many school districts.

Farnham "Gunner" Johnson, class of 1941, inducted in 1983 (deceased)

An all-conference performer, "Gunner" lettered in football, basketball, and tennis as a Zephyr. High school highlights include a football victory over Neenah and a basketball berth in the national tournament in Chicago. During the WW II years he was a standout end for the Wisconsin Badgers, then had to transfer to Michigan for a year with legendary Elroy "Crazylegs" Hirsch where he was the Wolverine's leading pass catcher and he also lettered in tennis. He served in the Pacific and after the war returned to Wisconsin and played for one more year. "Gunner" was the first Zephyr to play professional football playing for the Chicago Bears and Chicago Rockets. Next came a long career in international business. Until his death, "Gunner" was a mainstay at all the Hall of Fame banquets and was a dear friend to many.

Bob Karisny, class of 1957, inducted in 1992

Bob was a standout on the Zephyr basketball and baseball squads of the mid fifties. Few have forgotten his game-winning home run of future major leaguer Howie Koplitz of Oshkosh. Following graduation, Bob attended UW-Oshkosh and won three letters in both basketball and baseball. Next came coaching stints at Shiocton, St. Mary's, Oconto, and then St. Mary's again. In 1981, he became the co-owner of ERA Acre Realty and then in 2007 merged with another company to form Century 21-ERA Acre. He co-owns Valley Title Services and owns First Place Mortgage. Bob and his wife Mary have two children who are now both enshrined in the Zephyr Hall of Fame.

Mike Karisny, class of 1986, inducted in 1996

Mike was a four-year letter winner at St. Mary's but also lettered in golf, baseball, and track. A prolific scorer for the Zephyrs he was the conference player of the year in 1986 and received all area and all-state recognition. He was awarded a scholarship to UWGB and lettered all four years. He also lettered once in tennis. He was the Phoenix team captain in 1989-90 and played for Dick Bennett and with Tony Bennett. Mike has coached his daughter on many success youth teams After not making the state tournament during his high school career, Mike has used that disappointment in his coaching to help youngsters understand how to overcome failures in their lives. He is very proud of his sister Jennifer being inducted into the Hall of Fame this evening although, in Mike's words, "she was barely tolerable as a child." He thanks his parents, his coaches, and his teammates for providing fond memories that he has carried throughout adulthood. He currently works with his father in Century 21-ERA Acre Realty.

Maureen Hermus Kelly, class of 1976, inducted in 1994

Maureen was a standout in volleyball, basketball, tennis, and track and had a very successful basketball, volleyball, and softball career at St. Mary's University in Winona, Minnesota. She later received a Masters Degree from Western Illinois. She has been an educator in the northern Illinois area and has an active family (2 sons) involved in sports, music, and scouting. Although she doesn't get back to the Fox Cities often, she loves hearing alumni news.

Bob Kersten, class of 1953, inducted in 2004

Bob was a standout football and basketball player for the Zephyrs and a key player in the improbable Zephyr state basketball championship of 1953—a team worthy of the word "team." He was co-captain that year and also all-conference. Bob helped coach some of the Zephyr teams in the '50's and '60's. He was a successful area businessman, and now in retirement lives in Arizona and northern Wisconsin.

Jim Kersten, class of 1956, inducted in 1985

A two-year letter winner in baseball, Jim is best remembered as the hard working center on the conference champion cage squads from 1954-56. He later played on many successful Marquette University cage teams. After graduation, Jim had highly successful coaching stints at Winneconne, Racine St. Catherine's, and Manitowoc Roncalli where he was also the Jets Athletic Director. Jim is a member of the Wisconsin State Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame, is retired, and lives in Manitowoc.

Ken Konkol, class of 1956, inducted in 1985 (deceased)

A winner of 11 athletic letters, Ken was the ball-hawking guard on the State championship cage squads of 1953 and 1955. He was a leading hitter on the baseball team and in football is most remembered for kicking three straight extra points in his final game against St. Norbert thus preserving St. Mary's only unbeaten, untied season. He is one of three brothers in the Zephyr Fall of Fame.

Richard Konkol, class of 1962, inducted in 1993

A two-time WCIAA state tennis doubles champ with Adie Martin, Rich was also a standout guard on the 1961 and 1962 cage squads. He was co-captain and MVP in 1962 and his free throw accuracy that year—87%--might still be a Zephyr record today. Rich gave over 20 years of service to the Zephyr basketball and tennis squads. His fondest memories of St. Mary's are the great coaches, great friends, and playing in the National Catholic Tournament in Rhode Island in 1961. Rich continues to work in insurance, mortgage brokerage, and financial consultant. He and his wife Patti reside in Menasha and enjoy spending time with their two grandchildren in Eagle River.

Ted Konkol, class of 1953, inducted in 1986 (deceased)

Ted's athletic career at St. Mary's was tragically cut short by his drowning in 1952 before his senior year. A slashing runner on the gridiron, his speed and strength made him a sure bet for the All-State team until his untimely death. Ted was a key member of the 1951-52 cage squad that came close to winning the state championship. The following year, the 1953 Zephyr State Champs made him the honorary team captain.

Robert Koser, class of 1944, inducted in 2000

Bob lettered four years in football and two years in basketball. He had few peers as a lineman and was heavily recruited to play football by Notre Dame, Stanford, and Miami of Florida. Bob choose instead to enter the work force. His

biggest thrill in high school was being captain of the Zephyr eleven that beat Appleton High School in football. Bob was extremely active in parish work all his life and lives in Neenah.

John Koslowski Jr., class of 1980, inducted in 1993

A prolific scorer, John amassed 1000 points by his junior year. After high school, he continued his high scoring ways at Lakeland College. He was voted the Most Valuable athlete in college and is a member of the Lakeland College Hall of fame. Following a year of professional basketball in France, John returned to the Fox Cities area where he's involved in the printing business. He has also coached many area grade school, high school, and college teams. His fondest memories of high school are the great games in the St. Mary-Xavier rivalry.

Patricia Koslowski Konetzke, class of 1982, inducted in 2007

Trish was standout volleyball and basketball player who truly loved the times spent with her father John who coached her in basketball. After high school, she starred in basketball at Lakeland College where her brother John had also played. Trish is married to Larry Konetzke, has a daughter Rebecca, and loves trout fishing and traveling.

Leo "Sammy" Kraus, class of 1935, inducted in 1984 (deceased)

No mention of St. Mary's High School athletics would be complete without mentioning the contributions of Sammy Kraus. For decades he turned out winning football and basketball teams at St. Mary's Grade School. Many of the current Hall of Fame members got their start under Sammy. He was also one of the premier baseball umpires in the area.

Gerald "Gus" Laemmrich, class of 1961, inducted in 1985

At only 6'1", Gus was a dominating center at a time when most opposing centers were taller than him. His kangaroo leaping ability made him a feared rebounder on the State Champion squad of 1960. An all-conference performer, he was also a member of the All State tournament team. He capped his Zephyr career with his selection to the ESCIT National Tournament All-Star team in Rhode Island. Gus went on to a stellar four-year basketball career at Texas A & I and later was a successful basketball coach at Hortonville and Xavier. He retired after a successful career in the printing business, lives in Winneconne, and answers now to "Grandpa Gus."

G. Steven Larson, class of 1969, inducted in 1989

Steve played basketball and football at St. Mary's and continued his career at UW-Fox Valley where he established the school assist record. A student of the game, Steve's real success in basketball, however, came from coaching. He guided successful teams at Fond du Lac Springs and at St. Mary's. His 1985-86 Zephyr squad had a 22-0 regular season record and was state ranked. He then became the head basketball coach and athletic director at Edgewood College. He continued his education by earning a master's degree and then a PhD in Educational Administration. His highly successful Edgewood teams were noted for playing anyone—even the big state university schools. His fondest memory in high school was arriving in Marinette to find an ice cold locker room, an ice cold gym, and an ice-cold shower. To get even, Coach Pliska scheduled the return game in the St. Mary's cracker box gym. Steve is retired from coaching and is the commissioner of the Northern Athletics Conference.

Jennifer Wittmann Lenz, class of 1988, inducted in 1999

Jenny was a standout basketball and softball player for the Zephyrs and continued to play those two sports at Cardinal Stritch College in Milwaukee. Jenny is married to Jesse Lenz and has two daughters and works part-time at Winnebago Color Press in Menasha.

David Lotzer, class of 1969, inducted in 2003

Ed Lotzer, class of 1959, inducted in 2001

Ed lettered three years each in football, basketball, and baseball. He earned first-team all-conference honors in football two times and second-team all-conference honors in basketball. He was a speedy centerfielder on the 1959 baseball team that finished second in the state. Ed lives and works in Wisconsin Rapids.

Adrian R. Martin, class of 1962, inducted in 1987

Adie was a two-time WCIAA tennis doubles champ with Rich Konkol and also played on successful Zephyr football, basketball, and baseball teams. His highlight was being a member of the team that played in the ESCIT National Catholic Tournament in Rhode Island and earning 10 letters in four different sports. He received a BS degree from UW-Oshkosh and a ME-PD degree from UW-Stevens Point. He coached football, basketball and track for ten years and then spent 30 years officiating high school and college football and basketball. He retired from teaching after 32 years in 1999 and has written 6 books including *Cyclone McClone*. He lives in Menasha.

Mike McClone, class of 1968, inducted in 1991

A three-sport letter winner, Mike capped off his senior year by making the All Fox Cities team as a quarterback in football and a guard in basketball and earned MVP honors in both sports. He held the conference free throw record by sinking 17 in a row in one game. Mike then lettered for three years as a member of the Dominican College basketball team and today he is the President of McClone Insurance in downtown Menasha.

Ralph J. McClone, class of 1944, inducted in 1983 (deceased)

This charter member needs no introduction. Mac was a speedy halfback on the Zephyr football team that only lost one game over a two-year period. His senior year in basketball he was selected as the captain of the State Tournament all-tournament team. After a stint in the Navy, Mac played football and basketball at Marquette. After graduation, he began a highly successful coaching career at his alma mater in football, basketball, and baseball resulting in numerous conference and state championships. He was also selected to the State Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame and the gym at the ‘new’ St. Mary’s Central is named in his honor. Mac and his wife Rita raised 10 children who attended St. Mary’s.

Jennifer Karisny McGinnis, class of 1990, inducted in 2008

Jenni was a standout tennis player at St. Mary Central where she was named the FVCC Player of the Year on both 1988 and 1989. She was unbeaten in 16 matches, earning her second straight championship in #1 singles in the WISAA regional tournament in 1989. She was also a key member of the basketball team that earned a state berth and served as co-captain for the 1988-89 season. She went on to play tennis at St. Norbert and team’s MVP for three years and earned Academic All-Conference honors. Jenni graduated summa cum laude and was named the NCAA Woman of the Year in 1993. She is married to Judge Mark McGinnis and after several years of teaching is now a stay-at-home mom.

David Michalkiewicz, class of 1973, inducted in 1990

Chatter was a 10-letter winner for the Zephyrs and capped off his high school career by making the all-conference teams in football and basketball. In baseball, he hurled a no-hitter against St. Lawrence Seminary. Then followed a successful baseball career at UW-Oshkosh and more years in amateur baseball. He has been an assistant coach on many levels in basketball and baseball and feels very fortunate to see 4 children graduate from St. Mary’s after their own stellar athletic years. He says he’s lucky in that he’s had a wonderful wife Linda who has supported him and the 4 children in all their activities. Chatter lives in Menasha.

Paul Mix, class of 1961, inducted in 1989

Paul was one of the fastest linemen in Zephyr football history and a devastating blocker. An all-conference selection in 1960 with the 7-1 conference champs he also made the All-State Catholic first team. Paul lettered for 2 years in baseball. He was awarded a football scholarship to Texas A & I and later helped coach the local 1000 Yards youth football program.

Dick Mintonati, class of 1957, inducted in 1986 (deceased)

Dick was a three-sport star for the Zephyrs earning all-conference honors as an end in football and a forward in basketball. He was a starter on the 1955 unbeaten, untied football eleven and a starting forward on the state cage runners up in 1956. He competed in football, basketball, and baseball at Ripon College earning many honors. Dick died in a helicopter crash while in the military.

Mary Beth Nienhaus, class of 1961, inducted in 1987

Mary Beth was an outstanding athlete at a time when there was no high school athletic program for girls. A winner of numerous golf tournaments as a teenager, she played on the men's golf team at Marquette University. After college she became a highly successful basketball and golf coach at Appleton West High School. Mary Beth is now retired from teaching but continues to run her Winegami Golf Course.

Pete Peterson, class of 1955, inducted in 2001**Beth Pier**, class of 1983, inducted in 1997

Beth earned 9 letters at SMC by being part of the volleyball, basketball, and softball squads. She led the Zephyr cages to the WIAA Class A State tournament in 1983, scored the winning basket at the buzzer to beat the strong Xavier squad and was all-conference in all three sports. She continued to basketball and volleyball at St. Norbert College where she was on seven different championship teams. Her St. Norbert basketball team made the NCAA Division 3 final Four in 1985. For the past 14 years she has been the head volleyball coach at Lake Forest College in Illinois.

Chris Pier, class of 1983, inducted in 1997

Many of the same things that were printed about her twin sister Beth, also apply to Chris. She, too, was an all-conference performer in volleyball, basketball, and softball. In college she lettered all four years in basketball and softball. Her 1984-85 basketball team is a member of the St. Norbert College Hall of Fame. She is currently the head tennis coach and senior administrative assistant at Lake Forest

College in Illinois. Both Beth and Chris tell everyone that they were proud to be Zephyrs!

Rube Prunuske, class of 1939, inducted in 1984 (deceased)

Rube was a star of the conference champion Zephyrs in football and basketball during the late 1930's. He continued his winning ways at St. Norbert College and later played football at Ft. Riley Kansas and Camp Grant in Illinois and basketball at Ft. Lewis Washington. Rube blocked five punts in one game but could never score a touchdown in the 13 years that he played football. In basketball he scored 21 points in a 44-19 victory over Neenah. Rube also coached for seven years in New London and Walworth and then entered private business.

Shelley Fulton Raaths, class of 1991, inducted in 1998

Shelley played tennis, basketball, and softball at St. Mary's. She scored 665 points in her basketball career and was named co-Player of the Year and was the leading scorer in the FVCC as a senior. Her senior year in tennis she was the player of the year. As a freshman, she teamed with Jenni Karisny to win the number 2 doubles crown. As a sophomore and junior, Shelley won the number two singles crown and as a senior she won the numbers one singles crown. In four years she never lost a conference tennis match. Shelley competed for 4 years on the UW-Milwaukee tennis team. Shelley believes that Zephyr sports brought about a great deal of friendship and fun in her life. She lives in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

James Rechner, class of 1981, inducted in 2006

Jim was an All-Conference football running back for the Zephyrs and an MVP in basketball in 1980-81. He was member of the first team to ever beat Green Bay Premonre and gained 218 yards, scored two touchdowns, and kicked 4 extra points in a win over Manitowoc Roncalli. He was a running back for St. Norbert for two years but knee injuries cut short his career. His Kimberly-Clark career has taken him all over the United States but he currently is back home living in Appleton .

Bill Resch, class of 1940, inducted in 1984 (deceased)

Bill was an outstanding performer for the highly successful Zephyr football and basketball teams from 1937-40. He was captain of the 1940 State Tournament All-Tournament team and competed in the National Catholic Tournament in Illinois in 1938 and 1940. According to Bill, the team gave a good account of themselves although they never won a game. He held the school scoring record with 36 points—a record that stood for over a decade. Bill received a scholarship

to the University of Minnesota but a football knee injury cut short his promising athletic career.

Ken Resch, class of 1957, inducted in 1992

Arguably the finest power fullback in Zephyr history, his multi-touchdown and 100+ yard performances were common for this rampaging runner. An All-Conference and All-State performer, Ken was also part of the 1956 and 1957 conference basketball championship teams. After a brief stint as a Badger footballer, Ken returned to the Fox Cities and entered business.

Herb Roedel, class of 1957, inducted in 1988

Herb was the outstanding lineman of the McClone coached football teams of 1955 and 56. The 1955 squad was undefeated. Herb was a two-year starter at guard for Marquette. He tried out for the Dallas Cowboys and survived until the final cut. He then signed with the Oakland Raiders and played most of the year as the starting left guard. St. Mary's solid science background served Herb well as an engineer in adult life. His big hobby now is fly fishing.

John Roedel, class of 1964, inducted in 1993

Like his brother Herb, John was a fast, aggressive lineman. After making the All-Conference and All-State teams, John selected the University of Wisconsin after being heavily recruited by many major college football programs. He started at left guard for the Badgers. He also competed in track in high school. John resides in the Minneapolis area.

Mike Rohe, class of 1952, inducted in 1992

Mike was a vital part of the Zephyr athletic resurgence of the early fifties. A shifty runner, a ball-hawking guard, and a sure-handed fielder were some of the comments observers made about Mike's performances. After high school, Mike continued his basketball career for one year at Regis College. He played later on numerous hardball and softball squads and even performed one year with the touring professional basketball team, the New York Olympians. He and his wife of 49 years Lois have 6 children, 16 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Mike lives in Gresham, Wisconsin.

Richard Rohe, class of 1950, inducted in 2008

Dick was the captain of the basketball team and co-captain of the baseball team and received the athletic medal at graduation. He attended the UW Extension in Menasha and was the team's high scorer and made all-conference. From there he transferred to St. Norbert where he played basketball and was team captain his

senior year. He also was on the tennis team. He graduated with a degree in economics and went into a variety of business ventures. He and his wife Verna have six children and he currently lives in Crivitz.

Jeanne Romnek, class of 1977, inducted in 2001

Jeanne lettered four years in volleyball, basketball, and track. She was MVP and captain in all 3 sports and in 1977 finished fourth in the shot put at the state track meet and fifth in the discus. Jeanne played one year of softball at UW-Oshkosh and later coached the Xavier High School softball team and earned coach of the Year honors four times. Jeanne lives in Menasha.

Jim Rueckl, class of 1960, inducted in 2007

Jim was mainstay of the Zephyr basketball and baseball squads from 1958-60. His basketball teams finished first and second in State tournament competition and one of his baseball squads finished second. Jim suffered a serious knee injury during his senior year against Milwaukee North but continued to play sports. About nine years after graduation, Jim ‘discovered’ the San Diego area. He continued his athletic career by playing sand volleyball and racket ball. Occasionally he played basketball. His claim to fame is beating Pat Riley two out three games going one on one. Now that his knees have worn out, he plays golf with former Menasha athlete Clem Massey who lives nearby. And when Zephyr Hall of Famer Don Gosz and his brother Bob Rueckl come out and join them, they form a memorable foursome. According to Jim, if his knees don’t get better, lawn bowling and horseshoes might be next.

David Rusch, class of 1953, inducted in 2006, (deceased)

Dave was a mainstay of the Zephyr football and basketball squads of the early 1950’s. He made all conference in both sports and was big contributor to the Zephyrs surprising 1953 state basketball championship. His effort was rewarded by making the All-State tournament team. Dave played football and basketball for one year at St. Thomas. He helped coach several Zephyr teams in the ‘50’s and ‘60’s and was also a basketball official.

Thomas Schnell, class of 1982, inducted in 2003

Tom earned three letters in football for the Zephyrs and was first-team offensive end and lineman of the year for the FVCC as a senior. He was chosen to play in the North-South Shrine all star football game. Team MVP in football. Scored 511 points in two years on the basketball team. Three time letter winner in track who finished 4th in the 400 and 800 as a senior. Tom continued his athletic participation at St. Norbert.

Richard “Skip” Schurer, class of 1956, inducted in 1988

Skip was a triple-threat back on the undefeated Zephyr eleven of 1955 and lead the conference in scoring with 49 points. He was also the MVP and co-captain of that squad. He made the All-Conference and All-State eleven and was a starter on the fine 1955-56 basketball team that finished second in state. He also lettered in baseball two years. After high school, Skip continued playing football first with Camp Pendleton and then with the semi-pro Manitowoc Chiefs.

Robert Skoronski, class of 1975, inducted in 2005

Bob was an All-FVCC tackle for the Zephyrs and placed 3rd in the state class B track tournament in the shot put. His biggest thrill was the big win over Pennings in 1973. Bob attended Yale and was a 3-year letter winner in football. In 1978 he made the All-Ivy League first team, the All-New England team and was also on the first team All-East.

Al Taves, class of 1942, inducted in 1987 (deceased)

Al earned 8 letters in football, basketball, and boxing. After high school he continued his football and basketball career at both Creighton and Bowling Green. He played in the NIT basketball tournament in New York and in 1944, led the Bowling Green football tam in scoring. After college, he had a meritorious 33-year career in the Marines and retired with the rank of colonel.

Doug Trish, coach from 1940-46, inducted in 1983, (deceased)

In his five years as the Zephyr football and basketball coach, Trish attained an enviable record. His 1942 football team was undefeated. A disciplinarian and fundamentalist, Trish was not afraid to take on bigger schools like Appleton and Neenah—and beat them. He had a tremendous influence on the St. Mary students and was sorely missed when he left in 1946 to enter business. Trish, too, is a charter member of the Hall of Fame.

Pete VanderHyden, class of 1960, inducted in 1984

Pete was the glue that held the 1960 State Championship team together. A scorer, a passer, a defensive whiz, Pete earned All-Conference and All-State-Tournament honors. He was also the #1 player on the Zephyr tennis team. Pete received a basketball scholarship to Marquette and also played tennis for the Warriors. He is retired, lives in Huntington Beach, California and plays tennis nearly every day and has also played in several national tournaments. His wife Vangie also plays a mean game of tennis. Pete has four children, a stepson, and seven grandchildren. Do you want to bet that they all play tennis!

Mike VanHandel, class of 1987, inducted in 2004

Mike was the Player of the Year in the FVCC in 1987. His biggest thrill was the 4-overtime win over Milwaukee Lutheran in the 1987 state tournament in Milwaukee. He was an all-conference soccer player for the Zephyrs and also played baseball and ran track. In college, stand out soccer player and made All-Conference and played one year of basketball. Mike is a Business Analyst with Schneider in Green Bay. He and his wife, Kelly, have 3 children—Benjamin, Patrick, and Eleanor—and are expecting #4 in August.

Tom Verbrick, class of 1943, inducted in 1999 (deceased)

Tom won four letters in football and was a key player on the 1942 team that had a 5-0-1 record. They had two big wins over Neenah and Edgewood and a tie with Two Rivers. Tom was also one of the better boxers in the early 1940's and in 1943 had a 4-1 record.

Maggie Hall Walsh, class of 1981, inducted in 2005

Maggie played volleyball, softball, and basketball for the Zephyrs. Her biggest thrill was being part of the first SMC volleyball team to go to state. She was the volleyball MVP and made the All-Conference team on several occasions. In college, she walked on and made the University of Arizona volleyball team but after a few months quite to concentrate on her studies. Maggie also has been active in her church and community affairs.

Robert Wessenberg, class of 1945, inducted in 1995 (deceased)**Robert Wittmann**, class of 1986, inducted in 2008

Bob was an exceptional football, basketball, and baseball player at St. Mary's and was co-captain of the football and basketball teams. He made the first team all FVCC teams in both football and basketball. He played one year of college basketball at UW-Milwaukee. He graduated with a degree in engineering and currently lives in Illinois with his wife Cathy and their two children, Maggie and Sean.

Pat Woullff, class of 1988, inducted in 2007

Pat was the co-MVP of the Zephyr basketball team, was the FVCC Player of the Year, and made the All-Conference team during his junior and senior year. He continued to play basketball in college at Edgewood and is their all-time leading scorer and a member of their Hall of Fame. Pat is currently a teacher in the Wautoma system and he and his wife Lori have two children Allison and Aaron.

Tom Yaley, class of 1948, inducted in 1991

Besides leading the 1948 basketball Zephyrs in scoring, Tom was one of the finest tennis players in school history. In his last three years, he lost but one match. In that time the Zephyrs under the direction of Hugh Strange won 39 of 40 matches against competition throughout the country. He played tennis for Tulane University and currently lives in California.

Suzanne Swiecichowski Zampolini, class of 1989, inducted in 2001

Sue lettered in cross country, track, and basketball during her high school career. As a senior, Sue won the WISAA Division 2 State Cross Country championship after finishing 14th as a junior. In track, she won the 3,200-meter run and finished second in the 1,600 at the WISAA Division 2 State Meet as a senior after finishing third in the 3,200 as a junior. In basketball, Sue was a starter on a team that advanced to the WISAA Division 2 State Tournament. Sue continued to run after high school as a member of the Michigan Tech cross country and track squads.

Katie Zelinski, honorary alumnus, inducted in 2003

Katie coached everything St. Mary's had to offer in the early days of the girl's sports program. She laid the foundation for the strong tradition of excellence that the girl's program still has today. She was a dedicated volunteer, a great coach, and a Mom to all those who played for her. Her father was a coach, her daughter a coach and now a grandson is a coach—four generations of coaches in the family.

Lois Zelinski-Henkel, class of 1872, inducted in 1983

A premier athlete, Lois was a charter member of the Hall of Fame after a life-long career in sports. A star of the Zephyr basketball, tennis, and track teams, she continued her athletic success at UW-Oshkosh where she played basketball, track, softball, and field hockey. After leaving Oshkosh, she continued to play amateur basketball in the United States, Brazil, and Cuba. Lois even coached for a few years and feels very fortunate that St. Mary's was one of the first high schools in the state to start a girl's sports program and that she got to play for her mother Katie.

Paul Zelinski, class of 1952, inducted in 1988

Paul was a standout on the football team and an All-Conference performer and leading scorer in basketball. During his senior year he led the Zephyrs in scoring with 290 points. His 1952 team played one of the most memorable state tournament games ever, a controversial overtime loss to Eau Claire Regis. Paul

waited four years before attending Marquette and earning a degree in electrical engineering. He is retired and lives in Florida.