

# 2016 Bucks County Chapter Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame

## Biographies of Living Candidates

### VOTE FOR TEN

**1L - Peter Cimino Jr.**--Peter was a two sport star for three years at Bristol High School. He was a forward on the basketball team and a pitcher on the baseball team. He is best known for scoring 114 points in a high school game against Palisades High School. This achievement was a Pennsylvania record and second place in the nation at that time. Peter was named to the Pennsylvania All-State Basketball Team and received the *Courier Times* Athlete of the Year Award. Peter continued to play baseball as he signed a contract with the Washington Senators in 1960. He progressed through the minor leagues until he was called up to the Minnesota Twins in 1963. He spent several years as a reliever for the Twins with an ERA of 2.92. In December 1966 he was traded to the California Angels and pitched for them until 1966.

**2L - John Eustice**--John is a 1973 graduate of William Tennent High School. Since childhood, John developed a love for the sport of cycling. He became involved in competitions in the early 1970's. Over a span of five years, starting in 1970, he competed in and won the Pennsylvania State Cycling Championship. In 1974, he also won the New Jersey State Championship. John founded and captained the first American professional cycling team to be involved in a "Grand Tour" (the 1984 tour of Italy) and the first American team to participate in the Tour of Spain in 1985. From 1975 through 1988, John was a pioneer racer on the European circuit as an amateur and as a professional. He was a two time United States Professional Cycling Champion in 1982 and in 1983. John was also the team prize winner in the Core States International Pro Cycling Classic. Since retiring from professional racing, John serves as an analyst for ABC Sports/ESPN/CNN and Comcast SportsNet for Tour de France. He is a member of the Professional Racing Committee for USA Cycling and organizes many professional races.

**3L- Michelle Finegan**—Michelle was a standout athlete in field hockey, basketball, and softball at William Tennent High School. She was named to the Suburban One All League Team and the All *Intelligencer* Team. At the University of Delaware, she was an excellent defender. She scored the winning goal in the AIAW Nationals vs San Jose University that secured third place for her team. Following graduation, Michelle continued to play field hockey at the national level. She was named to the USA National Team and was an alternate on the 1984 U.S. Olympic Team. She played on the National Team from 1981-86 and 1993. She competed on the team as they participated in tournaments in Germany, Canada, Holland, Australia, Wales, and England. She played in the USA American Cup in 1985. Michelle coached at St. Joseph's University as an assistant and then as a head coach. In her ten-year tenure as head coach she led her team to seven consecutive Atlantic 10 Tournament appearances, two championship game appearances, and over 100 wins. She was named Coach of the Year on two occasions. Michelle also coached at Lehigh University and is currently coaching at C.B. East High School and is very active in the USA Field Hockey Futures Developmental Program.

**4L - James Jones**--James excelled in the sports of football, basketball, baseball and track at Bristol High School. In 1957, he was the Lower Bucks County Mile Champion, establishing a new record. He placed third at the PIAA Championships in the Mile and 800 Meters. In 1958, he was named to the All-County Football Team. In the spring he was the PIAA state champion in the 800 Meters and placed second in the Mile. The following year James won the 800 Meters and the Mile and also anchored the 440 Relay team at the District One Championships. He repeated the same results at the state championships with less than a two-hour break between events. In 1977, James became the track and field coach at Bristol High School and later their cross country coach. He received many league honors as Coach of the Year in both sports. During his coaching tenure he coached 18 District One Champions in various events and many state medal placement winners. James was inducted into the Bristol High School Hall of Fame in 1988.

**5L – Al Matuza Jr.**—In high school at Pennsbury, Al was a member of the football, basketball, and track teams. In football Al was named to the All Lower Bucks County First Team and the All Delaware Valley First Team. He was also Honorable Mention All-State. As a basketball player he was a member of the All Lower Bucks Second Team. During the track season he was a member of two relays. In the 4 X 200 Relay his team won first place in the county, District One, and PIAA Championships. In the 4 X 400 Relay the team won first place in the county, District One, and fifth place in the PIAA Championships. Al matriculated at Duke University. In his football career he played both defensive end and tight end. He returned to his Alma Mater as assistant football coach and two years later as head coach. His team won the league championship in 1990. His four- year record was 26-16-2.

**6L - Pancho Micir**--There have been many great athletes at Bishop Egan High School and one of the very best is Pancho Micir. He excelled in the sports of football and baseball. In football Pancho was named First Team All-Catholic in 1965 and 1966. He was the MVP of the City Title Game in 1966. His other awards included First Team All-Scholastic, Crowell Award as the outstanding

scholastic football player in the Delaware Valley, Maxwell Club Award, and Knute Rockne Award. He was also named the National Football Foundation Student-Athlete of the Year and Honorable Mention All-American. Pancho enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania where he continued his accomplishments in football. He led the Ivy League in passing and total offense in 1970. He was the team's MVP and the *Daily Pennsylvanian* Football Player of the Year. Pancho has dedicated many years to the coaching profession. He has coached eighth and ninth graders in football, softball, basketball, wrestling and track in the Pennsbury School District. His teams achieved more than 20 undefeated seasons with 13 consecutive in football.

**7L - Nancy Almond Oliver--**Nan was a twelve letter athlete at Bristol High School in field hockey, basketball, and softball. She attended East Stroudsburg University and was a four-year starter in field hockey. She was named MVP of her team in her junior and senior years. She was selected to the All-College Team and participated in three United States Field Hockey Tournaments. In the winter season, she played A.A.U. basketball at several venues on the East coast. In the spring she played on the university's first softball team. She also played on the Pennsylvania A.A.U. teams. Upon graduation, Nan coached field hockey and basketball at Woodrow Wilson and Delhaas High Schools. Later at Steinert High School in New Jersey, she started varsity sports programs for girls. She officiated field hockey and basketball at the highest levels in high school and college. Nan served as a member of the USFHA Committee for many years. As an avid sailor she competed and won first class ribbons/trophies in regattas in the Eastern Coastal Region. Nan was also inducted into the Bristol High School Hall of Fame.

**8L - Brian Penecale--**Brian was one of the finest multi-sport athletes ever to compete for C.B. East. During his three years, Brian earned nine varsity letters in four sports. He was First Team All-League in baseball, basketball, football, and track. *The Intelligencer* and *Philadelphia Inquirer* selected him to their All-Area Football Team. In his junior and senior year, he was selected to *The Intelligencer* All-Area Basketball Team. In track, Brian was the Colonial Division Champion in the Javelin and High Jump. At West Chester, he established NCAA and school receiving records. He was selected to the *Street and Smith's* and Nike All-American teams.

**9L - Matthew Rader--**At Pennsbury High School, Matt achieved excellence in the sports of football, basketball, and baseball. He was a starter on varsity in all three teams throughout his high school career. In football he was First Team All-State and First Team All-League. He played in the Big 33 All-Star Game. *The Bucks County Courier Times*, *The Trentonian*, and *The Trenton Times* all named him as the Player of the Year. He received the Maxwell Club Award. Matt was named the National Football Foundation North MVP as well as the Philadelphia Eagles Bucks County MVP. In baseball he was also named Player of the Year in Bucks County, First Team All-League and *Philadelphia Inquirer* First Team. As a basketball player, Matt was a member of the All-County Team and All-League First Team. At Duke University, Matt starred in baseball and football. He transferred to the University of Pennsylvania where he led the university to the Ivy League Title in football. He was the Maxwell Club Team MVP and was the Burger King Scholar Athlete of the Year as well as Second Team All-Academic All-American. Following graduation, Matt has played on the USA Rugby Team and the USA 7's Rugby Team. He is a member of the Pennsbury Hall of Fame.

**10L - Cathy Osmer - Rahill** - Cathy began her career at Central Bucks East High School. From 1984 to 1988, Cathy earned nine varsity letters at East. She was All-League for three years in field hockey, four years in lacrosse and two years in basketball. She was High School All-America in 1988 in field hockey, and 1987-88, in lacrosse. Cathy received a scholarship to the University of North Carolina where she was on the 1989 NCAA National Championship Field Hockey Team. Cathy was an All-Conference selection in 1989.

**11L - Ron Righter--**Ron was a standout basketball, baseball, and volleyball player at C.B. West High School. He was named to the All-Bux-Mont Team in baseball and basketball. He scored over 1,000 points and was named All-State Honorable Mention in basketball. As a pitcher he led his team to two Bux-Mont titles. Ron enrolled at Duke University where he continued playing basketball and baseball. In his freshman year, he averaged double figures on the freshman team that was ranked in the top five of the country. He pitched for Hall of Famer Enos Slaughter. In his junior year Ron returned to the Philadelphia area to attend Saint Joseph's University. He was the leading scorer on the team as they advanced to the NCAA Tournament. He earned Big Five Honors in his senior year and was once again the team's top scorer. Ron continued playing in Europe for two years. He entered the coaching profession as a head coach of cross country and basketball at Wilkes College. He became the assistant coach at Washington State University, University of Iowa, and associate head coach at USC. His final coaching position was head coach at Clarion University. He won over 400 games, three PSAC West titles, one PSAC title, advanced to the PSAC playoffs twelve times and to the NCAA Tournament. He was inducted into the St. Joseph's University Hall of Fame.

**12L - Craig Robinson--**At Council Rock High School in the late 1960's, Craig was a member of the varsity football, basketball, and baseball teams for three years. He was named to the LBCL All-League First Team in baseball and in football. He was also selected as the Player of the Year in football. Craig continued to play baseball at Wake Forest University where he was named to the All-ACC Team as a shortstop. He was drafted by the Phillies in 1970. After playing in the minor leagues for three years he played shortstop for

the Phillies (1972-73), Atlanta Braves (1974-75 and (1976-77), and the San Francisco Giants (1975-76). His career hitting average was 219. He continued as a coach and manager in AA and AAA minor leagues.

**13L - Jenny Stewart Rutecki**--Jenny was one of the most prolific field hockey players at Neshaminy High School in the late 1980's. She was a starting player on the varsity team for three years as she led her team to three league championships. She was named to the All-League First Team in her junior and senior years. The *Bucks County Courier Times* named her as Player of the Year in both her junior and senior years. In her career, she recorded 19 assists and 47 goals as a midfielder. Jenny was chosen to play in the Junior Olympics at the University of Kansas in 1988. Her team won the Gold Medal. In her senior year, she also was named a National High School All-American. She was also a member of the girls' soccer team for two years at the high school. Jenny received a full scholarship to play at Penn State University. She started every game as a midfielder in her four years. She recorded 7 goals and 61 assists. In her time on the team, Penn State advanced to the Final Four in 1990 and 1992. She was a member of the United States National Team and Junior National Team and played in several international events. Jenny was named Freshman of the Year for the Atlantic Ten Conference. In her career, she was named to the College Field Hockey Coaches All-American regional and national teams in her junior and senior years. She was a member of the Big Ten All- Conference Team and the Big Ten Academic All-Conference Team. Following college, Jenny has coached at the high school level and is a P.I.A.A. official.

**14L - Roger Sanders**-Roger was one of the most outstanding wrestlers in Lower Bucks County in the late 1950's. He won the LBCL Championship in 1958, 1959, 1960 losing only one dual meet. He was the District One Champion in 1958 and 1960. At West Chester State College, he continued his wrestling success. In four years he never lost a dual meet. He was Middle Atlantic University Division Champion on three occasions and the NCAA College Division Champion in 1963-64. He was named an NCAA All-American and has been inducted into Pennsbury, and several collegiate Halls of Fame. He was also inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Following graduation Roger has coached wrestling at New York University (50-18-1) and Bloomsburg University (250-104-8). His teams have won the Eastern Wrestling League Championships on two occasions and the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Championship eight times. Roger has become extremely interested in assisting blind athletes in their athletic participation. He is the wrestling coordinator for the United States Association for Blind Athletes and has officiated in the Para-Olympic International Games. In November Roger was inducted into the Russel E. Sturzebecker Hall of Fame at West Chester University.

**15L - Bryan Scott**--Central Bucks East remembers Bryan as one of the finest three sport athletes in their history. He received nine letters in football, basketball, and track. In football he was named to the All-League, District One, and All-State teams. He was the Gatorade Player of the Year in Pennsylvania, a Parade All-American, a *USA Today* Player of the Year, and the *AP* Big School Player of the Year. He was a Big 33 selection. Bryan rushed for more than 3,000 yards in his high school career. In basketball, he averaged 21 points a game and was named to the All-League and District One Teams. On the track team he was the state medalist in the 100 Meters. Bryan played football at Penn State for the legendary coach, Joe Paterno. He was a four-year letterman and starter for three years on defense. Bryan had a ten-year career in the NFL. In his NFL career he played for the Atlanta Falcons, Buffalo Bills, New Orleans Saints and Tennessee Titans. Bryan created a non-profit foundation, Pick Your Passion Foundation, to encourage youth participation in the performing arts in underserved communities. He was inducted into the C.B. East Hall of Fame.

**16L - Marc Sodano**--Marc compiled a 94-13-2 record in his wrestling career at Central Bucks East High School. He was league champion all four years, three-time District One Champion, two-time Regional Champion, and the 1982 PIAA State Champion. Marc's collegiate career followed a similar path at North Carolina State University. His collegiate career record was an impressive 95-15-4. He was an NCAA qualifier over the course of four years. Marc was the ACC Champion twice and named an NCAA All-American. He also distinguished himself as an Academic All-American.

**17L - Guy Stewart**--As a Pennsbury athlete, Guy was the captain of the basketball team and played on the LBCL championship soccer and track teams. He continued his participation in basketball and track at East Stroudsburg State College. Guy entered the teaching and coaching profession at Willingboro High School where he coached track and cross country. He next coached J.F. Kennedy High School to a cross country championship. In 1968, he returned to his Alma Mater. For over three decades he had an illustrious career as he coached the cross country and track teams. His cross country teams won seven league championships and four District One Championships. In 1970, they were third in the state championships and second in 1975. He coached the individual state champion, Donna Gardener, in 1974 and 1975. His track team won the league on nine occasions and the District One Championship in 1971. They finished second in the state in 1988, 1992, and 1976. He has been named Coach of the Year on many occasions. His athletes have also been very successful at national meets. For his accomplishments, Guy was inducted into the Pennsbury Hall of Fame.

**18L-Walt Snyder**—Walt graduated from Danville High School where he lettered in football, basketball, and baseball. At East Stroudsburg University he continued to be an outstanding player in football and baseball. Walt began his teaching career at Woodrow Wilson High School. After seven years as an assistant coach in football, he became the head coach at Council Rock High School. His goal was to build the football program to compete with the other elite schools in the area. In his twenty-year career, Walt produced thirteen winning seasons, five league championships, and an overall record of 111-84-7. Walt served as director and president of the PSFCA for many years. He coached in the Big 33 game and was head and assistant coach in the Bucks County All Star Football Classic. More than 75% of his players attended collegiate institutions. Walt was named Coach of the Year and was elected to the Pennsylvania Scholastic Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He was also inducted into the Council Rock Hall of Fame. As a result of his dedication in the classroom and on the playing fields, the stadium at Council Rock was named in his honor.

**19L - Paul Wilson** - Paul coached for eighty seasons at Central Bucks East High School as a cross country, spring track, and winter track coach. Paul's teams compiled two hundred fifty dual meet wins, won eighteen League Championships, and three District One Championships. His teams finished in the top ten at states nine times, and his cross country team finished second in 1998. In 1999 Paul was named the PTFCA Cross Country Coach of the Year. He was the *Philadelphia Inquirer* Coach of the Year four times in cross country and twice in track. His athletes earned two state championships in the 800 Meters. He coached eight District One Champions in cross country and track and over eighty league and cross country champions.

**20L - Ken Worthen** – Ken began his athletic career at State College High School where he competed on the varsity cross country and spring track teams. At Penn State University he was a member of the cross country, indoor track and spring track teams. As co-captain of the track team in 1971 he led the team to a sixth place finish in the NCAA Championships. Athletes at Bensalem and Council Rock School Districts have greatly benefitted from Ken's coaching. He was the head and assistant cross country coach at Council Rock South from 2006-2011. Beginning in 2004, he was the head coach of the South indoor team. During that period of time many of his athletes medaled at the state level with three winning gold medals. From 2005 until the present Ken has been the assistant coach of the spring track team. His athletes were highly successful and won four first place medals. For over two decades Ken was Bensalem's cross country coach and assistant and head indoor track coach. Seven of his athletes were first place finishers at the state meet. Over the same period of time Ken coached the spring team where six of his athletes placed first. His 1987, his team won the state PIAA championship. Ken also had many of his athletes achieve at the national level with eleven being named All Americans. Ken received several awards as Coach of the Year for indoor and spring track. He was inducted into the Bensalem Hall of Fame.

## **Biographies of Deceased Candidates**

### **VOTE FOR TWO**

**1D - Gerry Friedrich** - Bishop Egan High School Basketball Player - scored over 1200 points in three seasons at Egan in the late 50's. He went on to an outstanding career at St. Francis College in Loretto, PA.

**2D - Wayne Hellman** - Pennridge High School Football and Track and Field Coach, Athletic Director, and PIAA Track, Cross Country and Swimming Official. Wayne was Pennridge High's first football coach in 1954. He led his teams to six Bux-Mont Titles and three undefeated seasons in '55, '57, and '64. He also coached the track and field team to two Bux-Mont Titles. Wayne graduated from Lansdale High School where he captained the football and basketball teams and was a champion high jumper. He was also Class President. Wayne went on to the University of Pennsylvania where he played football all four years. In 1982, he retired from coaching and became Athletic Director at Pennridge. For 56 years, Wayne was a respected PIAA track and field, cross country, and swimming official.

**3D - F. Elizabeth Hess** - Pennsbury Aquatics Director, Synchronized Swimming Coach, and International Swimming Judge. She was the captain of Temple University's swimming and softball teams while a student in the early 1950's. Elizabeth was the Pennsbury Aquatics Director for seventeen years and Synchronized Swimming Coach for forty-three years. She led the Falconettes to placement in thirty-five National Championships, was a member of the U.S. Synchronized Swimming governing body and 2003 winner of the Lillian MacKeller Award for outstanding service to U.S. Synchronized Swimming in 2003. She was inducted into the Temple Hall of Fame in 1983.