

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NIGHT

February 12, 2010

Welcome Hall of Fame recipients, family members, friends, and Bear fans, young and old. This is the twenty second year for the St. Joseph High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Athletic Director, Kevin Guzzo, and Principal, Jeff Runser, will be honoring the four new inductees with a plaque at halftime.

St. Joseph High School has a very simple philosophy. Each individual has the right and responsibility to develop and grow as a student, as an athlete, and as a person through a variety of experiences. Athletics has been a positive outlet for our honored guests. Certainly, as you read through the profiles of the inductees, you can see that these people serve as strong role models in all facets of life. They have distinguished themselves as great athletes, but more importantly, as good students and community leaders throughout the United States.

We hope you enjoy tonight's activities and invite you to spend some time with the new inductees, their families and friends, at a reception in the Field House Athletic Office after the game.

Bill Laukus

Bill Laukus graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1940. While attending St. Joseph High School, Bill was a three time letter winner in football and two time letter winner in track.

After graduating from high school at the age of 17, Bill played semi-professional football for the Twin City Tornados for one year before enrolling at the University of Wisconsin. After playing football at Wisconsin his freshman year, Bill joined the Air Force in 1942. Bill served for three years, playing football for the Air Force in 1945, his last year of service. Once discharged, Bill returned to our area where again he played semi-professional football, this time for the Twin City Independents. Bill played with Independents from 1945 until 1948.

Bill officiated high school football and basketball in the area for over 15 years, and umpired ASA softball for 25 years. In 1969 the National Federation of State High School Athletics Association honored Bill for his service to high school sports.

Bill resides here in St. Joseph.

Eric Robinson

Eric Robinson is a 1989 graduate of St. Joseph High School. Eric was a two time letter winner in football and was part of the 1988 District, Regional and State Runner up team. For his accomplishments his senior year, he was an All Conference and All State Honorable Mention

selection. Eric also participated in wrestling where he won three varsity letters while earning 89 career victories. During Eric's junior year he was the Big 8 Conference Heavyweight Champion, along with being a state qualifier.

Since Eric returned to the area after college he has given much of his time back to the community. Eric is currently a junior varsity football coach at the high school and also volunteers his time as a rocket football coach. Eric is the founder and head coach of the St. Joseph MYWAY youth wrestling program, along with being the head coach of Upton Middle School's wrestling team.

Eric is a commercial laundry technician at Whirlpool and lives in St. Joseph with his wife DeEtte and his three children Bryce, Collin, and Claire.

Amanda (Shafer) Simpson

Amanda Shafer Simpson graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1997. During her tenure at St. Joseph Amanda earned a total of eight varsity letters: four in swimming, two in soccer, and one each in golf and volleyball. In swimming Amanda was All Conference and All State in each of her four years, along with receiving ten total All State Recognitions during her career. She was a state runner up four different times at the State Swimming Championships. Amanda held six different swim records, four of which are still current today.

Amanda continued her brilliant swimming career at Western Kentucky University on a full athletic scholarship. Amanda earned three varsity letters at Western Kentucky along with being a three time Academic All American Athlete. She currently holds All Time Top Twenty-five ranking in four different events at Western Kentucky.

Amanda currently resides in Austin Texas with her husband Jeff. She is a Regional Sales and Merchandising Manager for Whirlpool Corporation.

Tim Shermak

Tim Shermak is a 1998 graduate of St. Joseph High School. Tim participated in football, basketball, and track and was awarded eight varsity letters for his efforts. During Tim's senior year in football he was selected All Conference as he helped lead his team to conference, district, and regional championships. In Baseball Tim was a three time All Conference and All District selection, along with being a two time All Region and All State selection.

Tim continued his athletic career in baseball at Lake Michigan College for one year before transferring to Elmhurst College. Tim played baseball at Elmhurst for three years and was selected as the team captain his senior year. Tim returned to his Alma Matter as an assistant baseball coach from 2006 to 2008.

Tim currently resides in Lombard, Illinois with his wife Heather and their daughter Grace. He is in his seventh year of teaching third grade in Wood Dale, Illinois.