

## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NIGHT February 23, 2018

Welcome Hall of Fame recipients, family members, friends, and Bear fans. This is the twenty-ninth year for the St. Joseph High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Athletic Director Kevin Guzzo will be honoring five 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 and, 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 after the game with the new inductees, their families and friends, at a reception on Main Street near the Student Center.

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### Hank D'Agostino

Howard "Hank" D'Agostino has a long history of being involved in the sporting world. Hank played basketball and earned 3 varsity letters while in high school in Chicago. He went on to study at Western Illinois University where he played football for four years and basketball for one year while earning his teaching degree.

Hank moved to Michigan and was a teacher for 42 years in the area, including spending 15 years as the Athletic Director for Upton Middle School. Throughout his teaching tenure, Hank coached football and basketball, and also taught Driver's Education for 40 years. He also spent 40 years working as a sports official in Michigan, highlighted by working the State Finals in basketball, baseball, and football. Hank umpired minor league and college baseball games, and once, in 1957, umpired a Chicago White Sox/Ausco game. What we hold very dear to our hearts is the 23 years that Hank has worked for us as game event coordinator.

Hank, an army veteran, lives locally with his wife of 59 years, Janice, and has 4 adult children.

### Megan Mejeur-Dickerson

Megan Mejeur graduated from St. Joseph High School in 2006, where, along with being on the honor roll all 8 semesters, she lettered all four years in track and three years in basketball.

In basketball Megan earned All Conference honors in 2004 and 2005 and was All State Honorable Mention her senior year. Megan led the Lady Bears in scoring, rebounding and field goal percentage her junior and senior years. She led the team in steals her senior year and was third, now fourth, in career rebounds.



Megan also lettered in track all four years. She was a Regional Champion in the 400 meter and numerous other relays while qualifying for the State Finals all 4 years. Megan's success on the court and track led her to become our Rae and Ted Stone award recipient for 2006.

Megan chose Hope College to receive her Bachelor's degree. While at Hope she played basketball for two years, helping her team reach the Elite 8 tournament. Megan then decided to retire from basketball so she could focus on her degree in Occupational Therapy and to apply to grad school.

After graduating from Grand Valley with her Masters in Occupational Therapy, Megan has worked as a therapist for four years at Generation Care.

Megan resides in Grand Rapids with her husband, Adam Dickerson, and their daughter Gracelyn, and are expecting another baby.

### **Brad Guinane**

A 2008 graduate, Brad Guinane lettered three years in both football and basketball. Brad earned All Conference recognition his sophomore through senior years in both sports. In his senior year, the football team was undefeated and went on to win both District and Regional championships. Brad was named First Team All State by the Detroit Free Press and was a member of the 2007 South Bend Tribune All Southwest Michigan Football Team.

Brad's senior year in basketball was also impressive. Brad was Associated Press All State Honorable Mention, Detroit Free Press Class B All State First Team, and Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan (BCAM) All State First Team. Brad was also a nominee for the Herald Palladium Athlete of the Year Award and was the WSJM Athlete of the Year.

Brad went on to play four years of basketball at Hillsdale College, graduating in 2012. During his tenure at Hillsdale, the team received an NCAA Tournament Bid (DII), and the team had their best regular season winning percentage in school history. In 2012 Brad was team captain, team MVP, Conference Player of the Week (GLIAC) three times, First Team All Conference, First Team All Midwest Region, and Division 2 All American, the first in school history at the DII level.

After receiving his degree in Finance from Hillsdale, Brad played for the British Basketball League (BBL) for the 2012-13 season as Guard/Forward for the Durham Wildcats. He led the team in 3 point field goals.

Brad received his Masters degree in Business Administration and Management from Durham University Business School and has been working as Senior Sales Representative at Coyote Logistics in Chicago.

### **Lara Izokaitis**

Lara Izokaitis was a two-sport athlete, earning a varsity letter in soccer and four letters in volleyball. Lara earned All Conference her sophomore, junior, and senior years and was selected as the MVP of the conference both her junior and senior years. During her senior year Lara was offered multiple DI full athletic scholarships and chose to play for the University of



Kansas. Lara also tried out and played for one of the top Junior Olympic volleyball teams in Chicago and traveled around the country competing at the national level.

Lara played for the University of Kansas Jayhawks team for her entire college career, earning academic honors by the NCAA numerous times. Although tempted to turn professional on the pro-beach volleyball tour, Lara remained a Jayhawk until she graduated in 1997 with a degree in elementary education.

Lara has lived all over the world, making an impact and bettering the lives of others. She has worked with special needs children; teens and young women with self-esteem and confidence issues; post 9/11 relief; helped open a day care center for street children in Lithuania; worked with girls who were trafficked and those battling addictions. She is a former NYC model who mentored young models and gave back to women's causes in the community. Lara's passion for volleyball has continued as a coach. She has coached at all levels, including a 16 year old girl's club/Junior Olympic team, a Division III team in NY, and helped coach a men's intramural team at KU.

Lara lives in St. Joseph and is currently working on her second book with the hope of making her community and the world a better place.

### **Carlee Maddox**

Playing ball was Carlee Maddox's "thing" – basketball and volleyball, that is. Carlee was named to the All Conference team in basketball in 2002 and 2003, her junior and senior years, and was named AP All State Honorable Mention in 2004. Carlee led the team in scoring, assists, steals and blocked shots her junior and senior years. She also led the team in field goal percentage her sophomore through senior years. Carlee still holds records here at St. Joe - second in career blocked shots at 97 and third in a single season, 47, as well as 54% in field goal percentage (2<sup>nd</sup>).

Carlee was one of the key ingredients in the volleyball program back in the early 2000s. She earned All Conference and All State honors in 2003 and 2004. During her junior year the volleyball team won District and Regional Championships and made it to the State semi-finals. The team won the District Championship title again in 2004.

Carlee's accomplishments in basketball and volleyball led her to be selected as the Herald Palladium Berrien County Female Athlete of the Year in 2004. Carlee was also a finalist for the Miss Volleyball Award and was named to the First Team at the National Junior Tournament.

Carlee was offered a full scholarship for volleyball at Marshall University. She played with Marshall for two years, helping her team to a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the MAC her freshman year.

Carlee resides in St. Joseph with her dog Breezy and is employed by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Health Services.