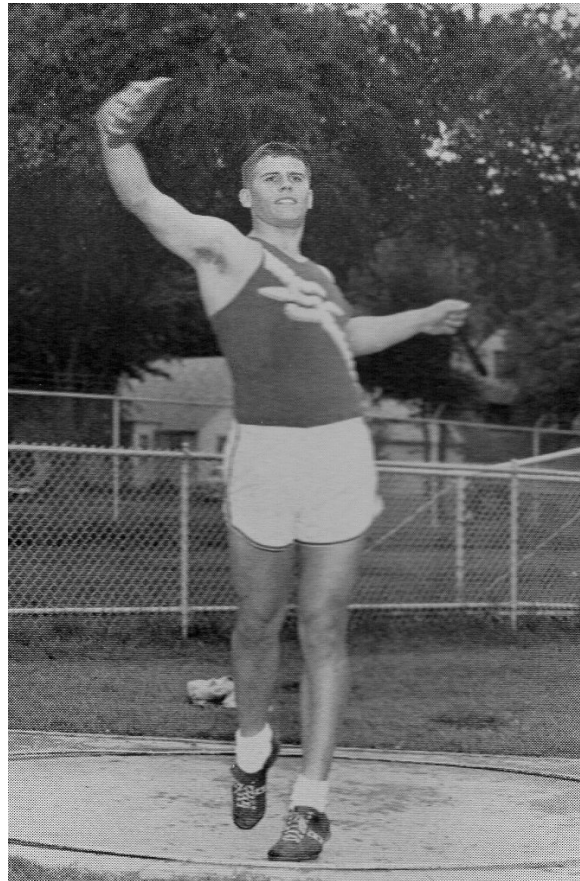




**Southwest High School
2017 All Sports Reunion
and Hall of Fame Induction
September 16, 2017
PROGRAM**



Phil Renslow

Welcome

For over 75 years Southwest High has been an unmatched leader in athletic excellence. It is our pleasure to bring into the Athletic Hall of Fame the 2017 class of the best of the best.

Today, we will honor five amazing athletes, a dedicated coach, an inspirational family, two unselfish boosters, and an undefeated football team by bringing them into the Southwest High School Athletic Hall of Fame

Program Schedule

9:30 AM Social Hour and Continental Breakfast

10:30 AM Welcome address

**10:35 AM Video Presentation
The Making of Champions**

10:45 AM Introduction of 2017 SWHS HOF Inductees



1958 Undefeated Football team



Jerry McNeal

Class of 1954

Athlete

Jerry McNeal was recognized and found himself involved in Al Halley's running corps early in his Southwest experience. Jerry did find time to be active in Hi-Y, and was a representative to Boys' State. In high school, Jerry was awarded 6 varsity letters in Cross-Country and Track, and was elected Cross-Country Captain in 1953.

Jerry was 1st in City Meets in 1952 and 1953, and led his team to the City Championship both years. Also, Jerry led his team to State Championships in 1952 and 1953. In so doing, Jerry set individual records in the 1953 City, Swain Invitational, St. James, and Hiawatha Golf Course Meets.

McNeal's Southwest Track record has a similar ring. In 1953: a record for the Metropolitan Indoor Mile, 1st in the City Meet mile, and 3rd in the State Meet mile. In 1954: another record for the Indoor Metropolitan Mile, a record time in the City Meet mile, and 2nd in the State Meet mile.

Jerry accepted a Track and Cross-Country scholarship from The University of Kansas, where he excelled in both sports. In his KU years and the time since then, Jerry has compiled an amazing record of achievements and honors, a scant few of which are listed below:

- 1956 and 1957 NCAA Division 1 Cross-Country All-American
- 1957 Anchored relay team which won Kansas Relays 4-mile event with the American university team record time of 16:57.8, which was the first time any American university team had beaten 17 minutes.
- 1978 Runner's World 2nd ranked U.S. Master's Marathoner
- 1980 Runner Yearbook 2nd ranked U.S. Master's Marathoner
- 1983 Road Running Club of America All-American Marathoner (Ages 45-49)
- 1984 Carried Olympic Torch in Kansas City, Missouri
- 2007 Elected to U.S. Track and Field Minnesota Hall of Fame

Jerry was an executive with Daytons for 35 years. In his "retirement", he has worked for 20 years as an elementary Teacher's Aide, and also as an assistant Cross-Country and Track coach at Minnetonka High School. Jerry and his wife live in Minnetonka; their 5 children live in the Minneapolis area



Cross Country All-American



Larry Hartse
Class of 1959
Athlete

There is a sport's cliché describing undersized players as having a big heart and can-do attitude. Larry Hartse would be the poster boy. As an athlete at Southwest, he lettered three years in football, hockey and track. He was twice All-City in football and hockey. He went to the State Track Meet as a pole vaulter twice and as a hurdler once.

There was no All-State team in football but Larry was selected to play in the North-South all-star game as a senior.

After graduation he and teammate, Al Fischer, went to the University of Minnesota where they played on two Rose Bowl teams. They won the National Championship in 1960. Perhaps never before or since have two Minneapolis teammates played in two consecutive Rose Bowls.

Larry stayed in Minneapolis and taught at North High where he coached football, hockey and gymnastics for 15 years and later taught at Washburn until his retirement.



All-City



Larry with Coach Peterson



Phil Renslow Class of 1961 Athlete

The 1961 track team probably had the four best shot and discus throwers in the state but by High School League rules only three could compete in the state meet. The three that went to the meet dominated both events.

The best of the best was Phil Renslow who was the state champion in both events.

Phil moved on to the University of Minnesota where he dominated the Big Ten in both events. After a serious injury, he moved to St. Cloud State to finish his career. He might well have competed for a professional track club but refused to take performance enhancing steroids which were common.

Phil began a teaching career in Minneapolis, which brought him back to Southwest in 1968 where he was a track coach and pool director in addition to teaching Physical Education. After a brief teaching career, he moved to the insurance industry but returned as a volunteer track coach who guided the career of Pat Bailey who set a new state record in the discus in 1974.

Phil's wife, Margaret, was in the Class of 1960. They have four children.



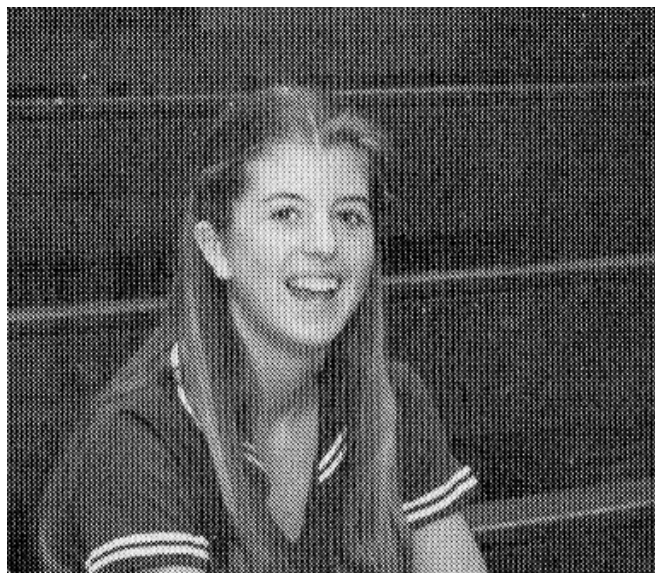


Kathy Wahl Johnson
Class of 1977
Athlete

When Coach Walt Williams was quoted saying “Miss Wahl is one of the most outstanding girls to ever compete for Southwest”, most would say it was understatement. Right from her freshman year she began making an impact on the Basketball and Track teams. In Basketball she lettered four years and was co-captain and was named to the All Conference team. In Track she lettered four years and was co-captain. She finished first in the city and region meets in the mile and the mile relay. That mile relay team finished third in the State meet. Amazingly, she only ran Cross Country in her senior year but finished first in the city meet and qualified for the state meet.

Her list of accomplishments outside of athletics is equally fantastic. She was homecoming queen, Athena Award winner, National Honor Society and won the Dayton’s Famolare Scholarship all while serving in the student council and on the dance committee and holding down a job at Clancy’s Soda Fountain.

She left Southwest for the University of Minnesota where she lettered in cross country and track all four years. She is married to Kenny Johnson, Class of 1962



Mike Roach, Class of 1984

Paul Roach, Class of 1988

Boosters

Paul and Mike took over the SW Foundation (formerly Crary) Golf Tournament, and have run it continuously for ten years. This event has raised tens of thousands of dollars for Southwest High and it's athletics program.

Paul and Mike Roach have been members of the Southwest Foundation for over 20 years, beginning their tenure in 1997, three years after the SWF began. In addition to keeping the Foundation alive through those years, and helping it grow to it's current dynamic existence, Paul and Mike were instrumental in soliciting and administering Foundation scholarships, which have benefited hundreds of SW grads.

Mike was especially instrumental in the merger of the SW Education Fund with the SWF in 2013 and the development and implementation of the strategic and communication plans, as well as the hiring of an executive director.

Paul continues to volunteer his time as the SWF treasurer - processing, investing and conducting the bookkeeping for contributions, expenses, grants and scholarships on a day to day basis. Fun fact: In his time as treasurer, Paul has written over 500 grant checks for scholarships to students, projects supporting Southwest High School, and Southwest Area athletics for a grand total of over \$1.1 million.

Mike played on the soccer, hockey and track teams. He lead his soccer team to the State Tournament in 1983 and was named to the All State Team. He attended St. Cloud State University

Paul lettered in football (3 years), basketball (2 years) and track (2 years). He was a captain in basketball and track and was named All-City in basketball. He was City and Section Champ in the 400 meter, as well as a State Track Meet participant. He was at one time a school record holder in the 400. Paul went on to earn varsity letters in track and basketball at Hamline University.

Paul lives in Bloomington, is married to Kim Roach and has three children, Molly, Megan and Emily

Mike and his wife, Kris have a son, Peyton, and a daughter, Nicole



Mike



Paul



Katie Haviland Ziola
Class of 1981
Athlete

Katie was a true all-around three sport athlete earning a combined 11 letters in Tennis, Basketball and Track. In addition to starring on the court and track, she was also a natural leader who was selected as team captain in each sport. Katie was also a National Honor Society member and in 1981, she was the obvious choice as Southwest's scholar athlete Athena Award winner.

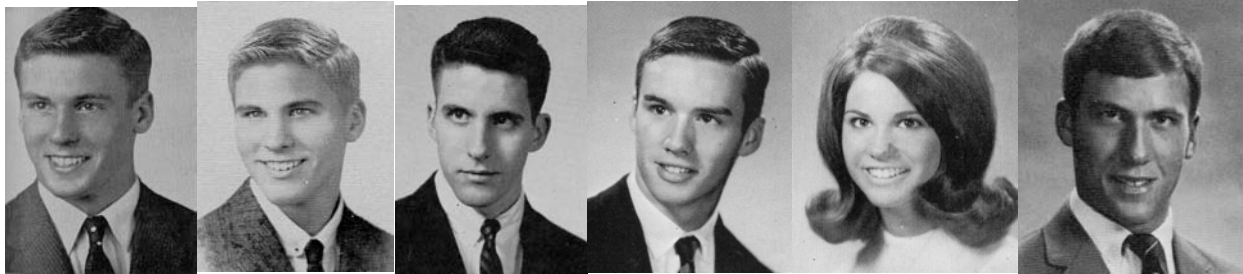
While Basketball is where Katie really starred, she was also a key to the SW Tennis team reaching State her junior year as the #1 doubles player. In Track, she ran the 440 and mile relay as well as throwing shot put and discus. But it was Basketball where she dominated as a point guard. In her junior year, she was All-Conference and All-State (1980 MN Sportscaster's Association) and in her senior year she was again All-Conference and All-State (1981 WCCO).

After high school, Katie lit up the courts at Cornell (IA) playing both guard and forward. After being voted team MVP as a freshman in 1981-1982, she followed that season up with being named Midwest All-Conference her sophomore year (1982-1983). Nearly 35 years later, she can still be found in the Cornell record books top 5 All-Time for most rebounds per game (3rd), most points in a game (5th) and most single game field goals (2nd).

Katie earned her teaching degree from Cornell in Health and Physical Education, K-12 in 1984. She has dedicated her life to early childhood education- owning a licensed child care business since 1989. She has been married to her husband Brad for 33 years. They have 3 adult children, Megan, Kacie, and Sam, son in law Joe, daughter in law Megan, and new grandson Wesley.

Over the years, Katie has been involved in youth ministry through her church having served 20 years as a parent educator, and has participated in numerous volunteer outreaches. She is an outdoor enthusiast and enjoys spending time hiking, biking, kayaking, camping and gardening.

Fischer Family



Al (Butch)
1959

Dick
1960

Jerry
1962

Phil (Cy)
1966

Mary Ellen
1967

Joe (Josh)
1969

The era of athletic contributions by the Fischer family began when Al ran for a touchdown the very first time he touched the ball in a Varsity game. For the next dozen years, the impact continued as they accumulated 29 letters.

After four years of football, hockey and track letters, school records in the 100 and 220 dashes and being voted MVP for the entire City Conference in football, Al went on to the University of Minnesota where he played on two Rose Bowl teams, one of which was the national champion.

Brother Dick followed with a letter in hockey and two in baseball.

Although spending only his senior year at Southwest, brother Jerry added one letter in baseball.

Phil, who still holds a City Conference record for his 99-yard touchdown run and was twice on the WCCO All State team of the week and tied Al's 100-yard dash record, added letters in football, hockey and track to the family legacy.

Not to be over shadowed by the brothers, Mary Ellen spent three years on the Indianettes precision danceline.

Brother Joe kept the tradition of excellence alive with the fastest 440 dash in school history. He took his track talents to Mankato State where was on a record setting sprint medley team and was inducted into their Hall of Fame.

Proud of their school and neighborhood, Dick and Phil coached Southwest youth hockey teams to five state tournaments, which contributed to the success that Southwest hockey enjoyed for the next 15 years. Phil raised his family in the neighborhood and they added 8 letters to the family total. When new hockey uniforms were needed the brothers lead the fund raising campaign.



Coach

Walt Williams

Born in Clarkfield, MN, Walt Williams joined the Navy right out of high school in 1943 and served in the South Pacific. With a year's college credit in hand from the Navy, he attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, after World War II. He met and married Sally Hoeg there, and starred as a basketball center at 6 feet, 5 inches. After college, Walt began his career as a high school teacher and a coach.

Walt coached basketball in five different decades, from 1949 to 1980! He taught and coached five years in Farmington, MN. He taught social studies and coached basketball at Southwest from 1955 to 1980 at Southwest. Walt is on the esteemed list of basketball coaches with over 300 wins. He retired with 326 wins in an era when high school basketball season was only about 16 games long! He coached 601 high school basketball games! Walt was an innovator - think of the changes to the game during his career: the first one-handed shot, the first jump shot, the first dunk, the first behind the back pass, the first 7' foot high schooler. The equipment changes - glass backboards, nylon nets, "basketball shoes", the old 4 panel balls of uneven shape in the 40s and 50s to the beautiful basketballs with consistent air pressure of the 60s, 70s, 80s and beyond. Rules changes - 1949 was the first year actual coaching during a game was allowed, goaltending, 3 second lane widened from 6 feet to 12 feet. Plays, full court presses, match-up zones. Walt was a pioneer on the cutting edge.

Many of his teams, especially in the early and mid 70s, contended for city conference championships, which was considered by many to be the toughest basketball conference in the state during that era. His Southwest team won a conference championship in 1961-62.

In addition to launching many of his athletes into college basketball, a remarkable number of Walt's former players became successful high school and college coaches. Walt never forgot to have fun with his players with post practice games of H-O-R-S-E and hook shot contests

Walt also served as an assistant track and football coach, and coached girls basketball towards the end of his career.

Walt and his wife, Sally, raised their family within walking distance of school on 46th and Zenith

1958 Undefeated Football Team

Like most great teams, the undefeated 1958 football team owes a part of its success to the football legacy started by the 1951 City Championship team and carried on by the teams to follow.

The 1958 team was largely made up of boys who played youth football for Pulver's Drive Inn light midget division team, which ironically also went undefeated until their final game.

The 1955 team was loaded with great athletes haunted by injuries which lead to a reserve freshman named Al Fischer getting his first game experience. He made the most of it by scoring from 60 yards out the first time he touched the ball.

The 1956 team broke in a new coach as Art Fredrickson made his debut at the helm with defensive coach, Norm Johnson, who was great at analyzing the opponents offense and planning a defensive scheme to neutralize it and line coach Al Banks.

The heart of the 1956 team as well as the 1957 team was Al Fischer, Mike Daggett and Larry Hartse who would star in 1958. The 1957 season ended with three wins to springboard the start of the 1958 season.

The 1958 team showed their strength against Washburn in the Preview, which was the only time they met that season. The Preview was followed by seven straight, convincing wins which set up a showdown against Roosevelt at Parade Stadium. Although Roosevelt only got into Southwest territory once by recovering a fumble, gained only 38 yards and one first down, their defense was stout. Southwest got to the Roosevelt 10 yard line five times but never scored.

By virtue of going 8-0 while Southwest went 7-0-1, Washburn was voted to play in the Twin City Game.



CAPTAINS: Butch Fischer and Mike Daggett.
COACHES: Norman Johnson, Art Fredrickson, and Al Banks.

Thanks for being here

We look forward to seeing all of you and many more athletic supporters next year when we induct another group of athletes into the Hall of Fame and enjoy the 2018 All Sports Reunion and Induction Ceremony

Suggestions and positive comments as well as recommendations for future inductees can be sent to jjrotsch@gmail.com

Hall of Fame Committee

Jeff Rotsch, Chair

Jack Rice

Ted Colburn

Jim Barry

Bo Schoening Dolphin

Dan Froehlich

Phil Fischer

Mark Gherity

Marni Orthey-Lamberty

Ryan Lamberty, Athletic Director

Tara Fitzgerald, Assistant Principal

Dr. Karen Wells, Principal

Previous Inductees

2016 Inductees

Jim Hancock
Marni Orthey-Lamberty
Jaime Plaisance
Greg Murtha
Cross Country Teams
1962, '63, '64 '65
Bob Perkins
The Lundeen Family
Karyn Daline Polland
Mike Fermoyle
Forrest Tahdooahnippah
Corey Colehour

2015 Inductees

Tim Wahl
Jaime Cheever
Jack Thommen
Clint Andrus
Cross Country Teams
1969, '70, '71, '72, '73
Peter Graves
The Rotsch Family
Herb Schoening
Coach Bob Hoisington
Al Cray
1951 Football Team

2014 Inductees

Al Opsahl
Byrl Thompson
Wayne Sullwold
Al Fischer
1970 Hockey Team
Dan Roach
Tom Chorske
Coach Dave Peterson
The Meredith Family
Stephanie Schoening Spencer
Harvey Feldman