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Central Washington University Athletic Hall of Fame Nominees, 2012

Central Washington University Athletic Hall of Fame Council

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HALL OF FAME NOMINEES FOR 2012

PREVIOUSLY ELECTED/NOT INDUCTED

- _____ **Bob Gregson, Swim Coach**
- _____ **Jeff Hillis, Swimming**
- _____ **Theartris Wallace, Basketball (By Veterans)**

TOP RECENT NON-ELECTED VOTE GETTERS

- _____ **1984 Men's Swimming Team**
- _____ **Gerry Abbott, FB & Booster (Meritorious Service)**
- _____ **Paul Harshman, Track and Field**
- _____ **Byron Johnson, Football**
- _____ **Bill Beattie, Football**
- _____ **Jim Clem, Baseball Coach**
- _____ **Tyson Raley, Football**
- _____ **Tyce Nasinec, Basketball**

PREVIOUS NOMINEES

- _____ **1980 Men's Cross Country**
- _____ **Nick Snyder, Football**
- _____ **Brian McElroy, Football & Track**
- _____ **Rick Harris, Football**
- _____ **Tom Merrill, Football**
- _____ **Bart Orth, Wrestling**

FIRST TIME NOMINEE

- _____ **Art Hutton, Track and Field**

Art Hutton, Track and Field Coach (Nominated by Steve Slavens): CWU Track and Field Coach 1964-71 and Cross Country Coach 1963-70. . .Led track team to Top 10 national finishes in 1966 (5th), 1967 (7th), 1968 (9th) and 1969 (8th). Those are the only Top 10 national finishes in school history. Won District 1 titles in 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1971. No district meet was held in 1969 or 1970. . .Coached 1970 cross country team to a sixth place national finish in its first-ever national meet appearance. . .**Steve Slavens writes in his nomination:** "In eight years of coaching track and field at Central Coach Hutton built a dominant force with his teams. His teams were always represented well at the national NAIA level. In those eight years Coach Hutton lost only one (dual) track meet. He then moved on to coach the Morriscan Olympic team before moving on to the University of Washington to finish his career. Coach Hutton won two

state track and field titles at Clover Park before joining college ranks."

PREVIOUS NOMINEES

Tyson Raley, Football (Nominated by Steve Hertling) – One of six players in CFA history to earn first team all-conference honors four times (1990-93). 3,982 all-purpose yards (3rd as Of 2001). As of 2001, ranked second in career catches with 160 and also rushed for 1,521 yards. . .Graphic Design major at CWU.

Tyce Nasinec, Basketball Player and Coach (Nominated by Johnny Spevak): Played 1995 through 1999. Top 10 in points, field goals made, three-pointers made, assists, steals, minutes played and games started. Also Top 20 in three-point percentage, free throws made and free throw percentage. On 1998-99 teams that was 24-5 reaching West Region semifinals. Lead that team in assists and three-pointers. Was assistant coach at CWU for several years.

Bart Orth, Wrestling (Nominated by twin brother Ben): Four-year letterman 1995-99. Compiled over 100 wins. All-American in 1997 placing seventh and in 1998 when he finished second in national meet. Team captain and led CWU to fifth place national finish. . .Twice named NAIA Academic All-American. . .Taught business education at high school level before moving into Christian Ministry. President of non-profit organization Partnership for Transformation.

Paul Harshman, Track and Field & Cross Country 1979-84 (Nominated by Clifford Brock Hogle, Paul's high school coach): CWU's Track MVP and Inspirational award winner in 1984. 1982 team captain in cross country and 1981 Inspirational award winner. . .Still holds school 3000 record of 8:18.4 and 10,000 record of 29:41.50 25 years after they were set. . .Also still ranks second all-time in 5,000 and 10th in 1,500. Only GNAC athlete to rank in Top 10 in four different events. . .Placed third in 10,000 to earn All-American honors in 1984 national meet in time of 30:07.0. Also placed seventh in 5,000 in 1984 and 11th in 10,000 in 1982 national meet. . .Competed in NAIA national cross country meet four times (1979-82) leading Wildcats to Top 10 national finishes each time. . .1984 district champion in 5,000 (14:42.10). . .In post-collegiate career has won over 25 Seattle area road races. Placed second in 1992 Seattle Marathon and seventh in 1995 Portland Marathon. Ran a 2:22 time in 1991 Las Vegas Marathon. . .Was sponsored by and ran for Reebok, Asics and Etonic shoe companies from 1984 to 1995. . .Has been a teacher and music director (high school band) for past 25 seasons. Currently teaches in Shoreline school district. . .Is Director of Bands at Shorewood High School. Also teaches the Beginning and Concert Bands at Lakeside Middle School in Seattle. Also serves as the conductor of the Music Works Jazz Orchestra, a professional jazz ensemble in the Seattle area and is in demand as a guest conductor and clinician for both jazz and concert band festivals throughout the country. . .Paul's jazz ensembles have been considered among the finest in the nation since the early 90s, winning many of the most prestigious jazz festivals in the country including the Reno Jazz Festival, the Fullerton Jazz Festival, the Lionel Hampton/University of Idaho Jazz Festival and others. . .His groups have qualified for the Essentially

Ellington Festival in New York City five times and in 2005 received an honorable mention award at the festival. . His ensembles have performed through invitation in Chicago, Switzerland, The Hague in The Netherlands, Washington D.C. and New York. . 1984 grad with a BA Music Education, Cum Laude. Received Master of Music Degree from Northwestern.

Bill Beattie, Football (nominated by CWU Hall-of-Famer Jack Curtright). . Was honorable mention offensive line All-American for Wildcats in 1982. Won CWU Best Blocker award the same year. Three-year starter for Wildcats....According to Curtright is one of the top football coaches in the state of Washington at Olympia High School. . 22 years as head coach, 7 at Elma and 15 at Olympia....151-73 record including 8-2 in 2009 qualifying for the playoffs for the 12th time in 22 years. . Won 11 conference titles...Has reached quarterfinals 3 times and semifinals once. . Twice his teams have been State Academic champions. . Has had more than 60 players play at the college level. . Four of his former assistant coaches have gone on to be head coaches. . Coach of the Year 10 different times. District III Coach of the Year in 2003. . Has participated in State All-Star game in three different capacities – as a player (1978), as an assistant coach (1996) and as a head coach (2005). . Oversees a program that annual draws 150 participants (varsity, 2 JV teams and a freshman team). . Recognized by Seahawk Football as State Coach-of-the-Week twice (2001 and 2008). . Originated Bear Buddy program at Olympia in which high school players mentor and follow young kids through their seasons. **(Note: Information on coaching record not updated for the past fall).**

1984 Men's Swimming and Diving Team (Nominated by Terry Lathan): Led by CWU Hall-of-Famer John Sayre, who was a world-class swimmer and was a contender for the 1984 Olympic team, and Hall-of-Famer Jeff Walker, the Wildcats claimed 26 All-American awards (14 in individual events and 12 in relays) in winning their first-ever NAIA national men's national swimming team title. It was the first of three national men's titles for Bob Gregson, who also won titles in 1986 and 1987. CWU finished with a 7-1 dual meet record and scored 292 points in the national meet in finishing first.

Gerry Abbott, Football and Booster for Meritorious Service (Nominated by Dave Coffman) – Played football between 1965 and 1968. Served on CWU Foundation Board for four years (1998-02) providing strong support for Central athletics. Also served on several committees in providing direction for the Foundation Board. . Past president of Wildcat Club. Organized Tom Parry recognition banquet.

1980 Men's Cross Country (Nominated by Phil Phimister) - Team tied for fifth at NAIA national meet led by Phil Phimister who placed 29th. Finish is highest in school history. Coached by CWU Hall-Of-Famer Spike Arlt. Also included Ted Mittelstaedt (43rd at national meet), Jack Stillmaker (45th), Kent Hernandez (78th), Paul Harshman (99th) and John Freeburg (200th). Tim Moran traveled with team to national meet but was sick and was unable to compete.

Jim Clem, Baseball (Nominated by Gary Frederick) - Elected to high school baseball coaches Hall-of-Fame in 1993. Compiled 481-212 record in 30 years at Burlington and Dayton. Was 26-20 in two years at Dayton and 455-192 in 28

years at Burlington-Edison. Ranks ninth all-time among Washington State prep baseball coaches in victories. Finished second in state tournament in 1989 when team won 21 straight on way to a 24-2 record. Also placed third in state tournament in 1981 and 2006, fourth in 2004 and fifth in 1987, 1988, 1994 and 1995. Placed ninth seven times. . Had 22 consecutive winning seasons, qualifying for state championships 15 times. Won 12 Northwest 3A league titles and finished second nine times. Sent 95 players to the college ranks. Nine players were drafted by major league baseball. . Had 2-2 career mark with two saves in 1974 and 1975 at CWU. Selected as the Don Hopkins Memorial Baseball Award Winner. Was National Federation High School Coaches Association Coach of the Year for Washington state in 2006. Worked as a baseball clinician in numerous camps. . Also coach American Legion baseball between 1982 and 2005 compiling record of 658-224 . His senior Legion teams (1982-87) posted a record of 162-76, winning four District championships. His Junior Legion teams (1991-2005) won 496 games and lost 148, winning nine league championships, earning 10 state berths, winning three state titles and two regional championships. Combined won-loss record between high school and legion baseball of 1139-436. . Wife Annette competed in track and field at CWU. Son Zachary played four years for UW and was drafted in 11th round by Milwaukee Brewers. . Earned a BA from CWU in History and Psychology in 1973 and a Masters in Athletic Administration from CWU in 1993. Competed two seasons at Peninsula College before transferring to CWU, twice earning Team MVP honors. . Also coached basketball early in his career and served as athletic director at Burlington-Edison, continuing in that post upon his retirement from coaching following the 2006 season.

Brian McElroy, Football and Track (Nominated by Tracy McElroy): Was a two-sport standout for the Wildcats earning All-America honors in track and field placing sixth in the triple jump at the 1988 NAIA national meet with a leap of 48-10 ³/₄. Mark was third best in school history. Was 1988 team captain. Competed in one season of track and two seasons of football. Though he was overlooked on the all-conference team, he was selected to the 1989 Little All-Northwest football first team that encompassed all the NAIA programs in the Northwest, indicating that he was one of the best defensive backs in the region. Was the 1989 Team Most Inspirational award winner. Played on two teams that never lost a regular-season game going 18-0-1 in the regular-season . . Participated in the 1990 Mini-camp with the New York Giants, the Super Bowl champions. Played at Walla Walla CC prior to enrolling at Oregon State and Central Washington. . In high school was a State triple jump champion at Mt. Tahoma High School. . Professional achievements including being a church elder, recreation therapist, Little League football coach and former athletic director/Acting executive director for Boys and Girls Club. Was affiliated with Team LRF (Lymphoma Research Foundation) as a survivor/advocate.

Tom Merrill, Football (Nominated by Gary Frederick) – Played at Central Washington in the mid 1950s. Was head coach at the high school level for 29 years, compiling record of 159-118. Coached 23 seasons at Kennedy High School (1972-94). Also coached at Wishkah Valley, Tyee and Roosevelt. Ranks 44th on the all-time Washington State High School winning list. Was inducted into the Washington State Football Coaches Hall of Fame in 1998.

Rick Harris, Football (Nominated by Bob Guptill) - Voted Best Tackler award winner four years in a row (1975-78). Only athlete in CWU history (in any sport) to win a "special award" four different times. Team captain and Most Inspirational Award winner in 1978 (giving him three special awards for that team). Twice first team all-conference linebacker. From Toppenish. Did not win any All-America honors, but that might be more a reflection on team's success than his individual accomplishments. Was an outstanding Hall-of-Famer down lineman, who teams often ran the ball away from according to Tom Parry.

Jeff Hillis, Swimming (Nominated by Bob Guptill) - Won 13 All-American awards, including six individual national championships between 1985 and 1988. Three-time national champion in 100 breast (1986-88). Three-time national champion in 200 breast after finishing second freshman season. Also swam on national championship 400 medley relay team in 1986. Helped lead Wildcat teams to team national championship in 1986 and 1987. School record holder in 100 and 200 breaststroke.

Nick Snyder, Football (Nominated by Bob Bunton) - Played for Wildcats in 1987 and 1988. Selected Best Tackle award winner in both seasons. Was first team all-conference both seasons. Honorable mention All-American in 1987. . .Had 158 tackles, including 116 in junior season. As of 2000, only one other player in school history who played only two seasons had more tackles. Graduated in 1990. . ."Nick could flat out play. Undersized, but had great speed and nose for the fall.

Byron Johnson, Football (Nominated by Vernell Chandler): Played for Wildcat football team between 1962 and 1965. Was offensive end and defensive tackle. Four-year letterman. All-conference honorable mention sophomore, second team as junior and first team as senior. Drafted by Dallas Cowboys. Also played basketball. . .Was long-time football coach and history teacher at Franklin High School. Died of diabetes in 1998 at age of 53.

NOMINATED BUT NOT ELIGIBLE BECAUSE OF 10-YEAR GRADUATION RULE UNTIL 2014

Scott Iwata, Mascot, 2000-04 (Nominated by Lucas ??? & Renee Allwine) - Has run several marathons for non-profit causes. PRSA (Public Relations Society of America) National, PRS NYC, Team in Training through the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society & the NY City Road Runners. . .Scott spearheaded a fundraising drive for new mascot outfit. He personally raised \$5,000 from private donors to make over the new Wellington. Since graduating, he has competed in the Country Music Marathon, the Bronx Half Marathon and presently is in training for the San Francisco Marathon and Philadelphia Half Marathon, all while fundraising more than \$6,000 for blood cancer research. . .Is an Associate Account Manager at America Online Platform-A Online Division. Won the Zango Bullseye Award which is an employee of the year award only given to 12 people nationwide. . .

Theartris Wallace - Averaged 12.6 points and had 255 rebounds. Maybe not Hall-of-Fame numbers, but was second team All-American in 1969 and here is what Dean had to say about him when he ranked him among his all-time Top 10: "He was a super player at both ends of the court and was a

great team player. He played tough defense and was a great shooter.. He had a skinny frame, but was a hell of a rebounder for his size." .

NOT NOMINATED BUT MENTIONED BY SOME

TEAMS

2002 Football - 11-0 in regular-season before losing to UC Davis in CWU's first NCAA post-season appearance.

MERITORIOUS

Kirk Dornan

COACHES

Jeff Zenisek, Football Coach and Player - Best Blocker award winner in 1981. Coached Wildcats to only national championship in team sport. Had record of 35-17-1 in five seasons as head coach.

John Picha, Football Player and coach and Track Coach

Greg Olson, Football Player and NFL football coach

FOOTBALL

Kenny Thompson, Football and Track - Team MVP in 1991. First team All-American, Rushed for 1,455 yards and 22 touchdowns in two seasons. 6.4 per averaged second best in school history behind Hall of Famer Pat Patterson. Also school record holder in high jump with best of 6-11. Placed sixth in national indoor meet in 1991 (6-9) and fifth in 1990 in outdoors (6-11).

Jimmie Dillingham, Football - Ranked third on all-time rushing list with 2,405 yards (as of 2001) and 22 touchdowns. No. 2 in all-purpose yardage with 4,181 (as of 2001), including 1,241 on kickoff returns.

Kyle Fowler, Football - Caught 72 passes for 1,221 yards and 17 touchdowns. Led CWU to first-ever NAIA national berth in 1984. Only played two seasons and doesn't have the career numbers of some other players, but probably best overall receiver CWU has had past 20 seasons (though Brian Potucek and Kenny Russaw fans might argue that point). "Great hands".

Craig Danielson, Football - First team All-American offensive lineman in 1985. Also All-American in wrestling placing seventh in 1987 national meet. Only offensive lineman every to be named Team MVP.

Mark Doll, Football

Mike Grant, Football - First team All-American wide receiver. Caught 86 passes for 1585 yards.

Zak Hill, Football -

Tim Kofstad, Football - First team All-American linebacker in 1981. Ranks 15th (as of 2001) in career tackles, despite playing just two seasons.

Tracy McKenzie, Football - Great linebacker on 1988-91 teams. First team All-American. As of 2001, eight in school history in tackles with 227.

Pat Maki, Football – Was CWU all-time leader in interceptions with 19 (in an era when the passing game was not as dominate) before Jason Patterson broke the record in 2001.

Other Possible Candidates - Mark Doll 2009, Dan Murphy 2010, Nat Conley 2011, Jason Patterson 2011, Zak Hill 2013, Brian Potucek 2016, Mike Reilly 2019. Johnny Spevak 2020.

VOLLEYBALL

Katie Orgill

Carolyn Mires

IN THE FUTURE: Kate Reome 2014, LeAnne McGaughey 2015.

CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK

Keith Baker, Track – Five-time All-American, finishing sixth, fourth and second in 110 high hurdles in 1990, 1991 and 1992 and second in 60 indoor hurdles in 1992. Won 1991 national indoor hurdles title. School record holder in 110 hurdles.

Toby Suhm, Track & Cross Country - Had highest finish ever in NAIA men's national meet (13th in 1977) prior to ninth place finish by Eric Tollefson. Won two district 5,000 meter titles and one 10,000 meter title.

Bill Jurgens, Track - Placed second and third in shot put at 1953 and 1954 national meet.

Jon Torrance, Track - Only male athlete ever to win national individual title in track-and-field. Won 1987 hammer title and placed sixth in discus in 1986 national meet. Two-time district discus champion. Twice selected track MVP (1986-87). Was also CWU's first Academic All-American in track-and-field in 1987. Shared team captain that year with Charles Chandler.

Mike Pace, Track & Cross Country - Finished fourth in 1987 NAIA national meet in 1500 and second in 1988. School record holder in 1500. Team MVP in cross country.

SOCCER

Judy Koenigs, Women's Soccer - CWU's all-time leading scorer with 27 goals and 65 points. Two-time all-conference. Married to Scott Earle who is one of the winningest baseball pitchers in school history. Both are probably future Hall-of-Famers.

Darcy Neil - Four time Team MVP as defender (1992-95). Three-time all-Conference. Honorable Mention All-American.

BASKETBALL

Dave Oliver, Basketball - Two-time honorable mention All-American in 1976 and 1977. One of top scorers and rebounders in school history among two-year players.

Ray Orange, Basketball - Second Team All-American in 1980. Honorable mention All-American in 1979. One of best shot blockers in school history.

Carl Aaron, Basketball –Scored 1,410 points in two seasons 1987-88. One of only two players (20.7) along with Mel Cox (21.2) to average 20 points a game in career. Definitely one of top 10 players in school history, but probably didn't get a degree so may not be eligible without waiver.

Leon Johnson, Basketball – Third best career average in school history (18.9). Along with Aaron only two-year player in school history to score 1,000 career points.

Dave Biber, Basketball

Justin Thompson, Basketball –

Rose Shaw, Basketball

Kristin Willis, Basketball

In the Future, : Lance Den Boer (2017)

SWIMMING

Craig Weishaar, Swimming - Won 14 All-American certificates, including national title in 1978 200 breaststroke. Three time national runner-up in 400 IM (1975-77).

Russ Ferguson, Swimming - Won 16 All-American certificates, including national title in 1977 100 breaststroke. Also finished second twice in 200 breaststroke.

Tom Drury, Swimming - After transferring from University of Washington, won 1987 national title in 1650 free. Finished third twice in 500 free and once in 1650. Also swam on two second place relay teams.

Cyndi Hudson, Swimming - Won 20 All-American awards between 1986-88. Finished second in 1986 and 1987 50 free. Swam on four national championship relay teams. Elected not to turn out senior season.

Tani Thorstenson, Swimming - Won 19 All-American awards between 1984-87. Swam on two national championship relay teams. Highest individual finish was third.

WRESTLING

Bill Elliot, Wrestling Coach - On CWU's first wrestling team. Long-time successful high school coach at Cashmere and member of High School Coaches Hall of Fame.

Joe Sanford, Wrestling and Pro Rodeo Clown - 1978 National champion. Later was fairly well-known professional rodeo clown.

Bill Hoglund, Wrestling - 1982 national champion at 118.

Lenal Brinson, Wrestling - 1987 national champion at 126.

BASEBALL

In the Future – Jamie Nilsen (2018)

TENNIS

Vern Ball, Tennis - Won a pair of district tennis championships in late 1950s.