



GREECE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Athlete of the Year &
Hall of Fame Celebration

2025



GREECE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent's Office

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Jeremy Smalline

Superintendent

June 2025

Dear Finalists,

Congratulations on being named finalists for the annual Greece Athlete of the Year Award. This is an outstanding achievement that reflects your talent, dedication, and the impact you've made on your teams and in your sport. You've earned this recognition, and we are incredibly proud of you.

Your participation in interscholastic athletics has shaped you in powerful ways. Through sports, you've learned the value of discipline, teamwork, resilience, and perseverance. You've experienced firsthand that hard work and commitment open doors—not just in competition, but in life. Athletics and academics together help young people discover their potential and understand that the effort we invest directly shapes our outcomes.

Tonight, we celebrate the very best of the Greece Central School District athletes. As we recognize 24 of our district's most accomplished student-athletes, we also honor the support systems that helped you reach this moment—your teammates, coaches, families, and fans. Their belief in you has made a difference.

Whether or not you take home the top award, know this: you are all champions. You've set a high standard, and you've made your schools—and our entire community—proud.

With admiration and appreciation,

Jeremy Smalline

Superintendent of Schools

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

Thursday, June 12th

Master of Ceremony

Dean Dennison - Olympia Teacher

National Anthem

Emily McMichael, Athena

Deputy Superintendent

Marc Fleming

Greece Central School District Superintendent

Jeremy Smalline

Board of Education President

Sean McCabe

Greece Olympia Hall of Fame

Dean Dennison

Greece Scholar Athlete Teams

Ray Istas

Team Sportsmanship Recipients

Tony Lipani

Lifetime Achievement Award

Coach of the Year Award

Community Service Award

Community Dignitaries

Bill Selke & Frank Opaczewski

Honoring our 24 Finalists

2025 Female Greece Athlete of the Year

2025 Male Greece Athlete of the Year

OLYMPIA HALL OF FAME



Lauren Chester

The Greece Olympia Hall of Fame proudly welcomes Lauren Chester into its Class of 2025. A celebrated member of the Class of 2015, Lauren earned the esteemed Greece Athlete of the Year award in her graduating year. Her remarkable athletic abilities were showcased across Soccer, Basketball, and Track and Field. In Soccer, she achieved All-County honors in 2012, 2013, and 2014, was recognized as the Division IV Player of the Year in 2014, and participated in the Section V All-Star Game in the same year. On the track, Lauren made her mark by setting the Greece Olympia school record in the 400 meters in 2015. Her consistent excellence earned her All-County honors in the 400 meters in both 2014 and 2015, as well as in the 200 meters in 2015, culminating in her becoming the Section V Champion in the 400 meters in 2015. Beyond her athletic achievements, Lauren excelled academically as a member of the National Honor Society and contributed to the school's artistic community through her involvement in the Pit Orchestra and Symphonic Band before continuing her education at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

OLYMPIA HALL OF FAME



Jason Collins

The Greece Olympia Hall of Fame is honored to induct Jason Collins into its Class of 2025. A notable member of the Greece Olympia Class of 1998, Jason distinguished himself in Football, Basketball, and Baseball. In Football, his exceptional talent earned him All-County recognition in 1997, and he played a pivotal role in the team's triumphs as Division and Section V Champions in the same year. His achievements on the field were further acknowledged with his selection to the prestigious Eddie Meath All-Star game in 1997 and his subsequent induction into the Section V Football Hall of Fame in 2020. Following his accomplished playing career, Jason dedicated his time to mentoring young athletes as an Assistant Football Coach from 2002 to 2007. His academic pursuits led him to Iona College and St. John Fisher College.

OLYMPIA HALL OF FAME



Steve Fleming

The Greece Olympia Hall of Fame is thrilled to induct Steve Fleming, a distinguished member of the Class of 1998, into its Class of 2025. Steve was a standout three-sport athlete, leaving his mark in Football, Basketball, and Track and Field. On the gridiron, his exceptional talent earned him All-County and All-Greater Rochester honors in 1997, and he was instrumental in the team's victories as Division and Section V Champions that same year. His prowess was further highlighted by his selection to the prestigious Eddie Meath All-Star game in 1997. On the basketball court, Steve garnered All-County recognition and showcased his skills in the Section V All-Star Game, both in 1997. His athletic versatility extended to Track and Field, where he achieved All-County honors in 1997 across the Long Jump, Triple Jump, and Shot Put. Steve continued his academic journey at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

OLYMPIA HALL OF FAME



Kevin Hauck

Kevin Hauck, a remarkable athlete from the Class of 2002, is set to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2025, and his journey serves as an inspiration for young athletes everywhere. With stellar achievements in both Soccer and Basketball, Hauck's accolades include being named to the All County team in 2000 and 2001, as well as making the Section V All Tournament Team and All State game in Soccer and Basketball during his senior year. His tenacity and dedication to excellence led him to continue on to play collegiately at Monroe Community College and SUNY Brockport.

OLYMPIA HALL OF FAME



Josh McCleary

The Greece Olympia Hall of Fame proudly welcomes Josh McCleary, a celebrated member of the Class of 2018 and the esteemed 2025 Greece Athlete of the Year, into its ranks. Josh made a significant impact in Indoor Track and Field and Track and Field, setting the Indoor Track and Field school record in the Long Jump in 2018. His dominance in the Long Jump was evident as the Monroe County Champion in 2018 and a multiple-time All-County selection in 2017 and 2018. He achieved the remarkable feat of becoming a Section V Champion in the Long Jump in both 2017 and 2018, contributing to the Section V Championship team in 2016. His exceptional talent earned him All-Greater Rochester honors in both 2017 and 2018. In Track and Field, Josh continued his success, earning All-County honors in 2017 and 2018 and once again claiming the title of Monroe County Champion in the Long Jump in 2018. He further solidified his standing as a top athlete by becoming the Section V Champion in the Long Jump (2018), the 100 Meters (2018), and the 200 Meters (2018), earning All-Greater Rochester accolades in 2017 and 2018. His outstanding achievements culminated in becoming a New York State Champion in the Long Jump in both 2017 and 2018.

OLYMPIA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

BILL BARKER '69	JACQUELINE BLAKE '11
MARK BRENNAN '61	JOE BONALDI '20
KRISTIE BOWERS '13	ELIZABETH CASEY '17
DON CARLO CLAUSS '98	DOUG CHILDS '64
HEATHER COLLINS '13	KATE DEPUY '99
DAN DEVOS '87	STACI DONALD '93
GLENN DOW '86	ALAN DRECHSLER '71
JOHN DUBOIS '11	KIM FINZER '84
BOBBY GARRISON '20	CHARLES GIORDANO '77
JACQUELYN HOUGHTON '91	MIKE INFANTINO '71
IAN JAMES '20	ERIN JOHNSON '00
MARTA KENNEDY '76	KARL KHUNS '62
ROGER KLIMEK '79	THOMAS KOLB '65
JOSEPH LODICE '11	ROBERT LAWLER '13
JOSEPH LOIACONO '99	EDDIE LONG '91
LARRY LONG '91	THOMAS MARTIN '69
AMY MEASER '80	KEVIN MILLER '13
DESMOND MOBLEY '20	BILL NELSON '61
CHUCK NOZZI '20	MIKE OBERHOLZER '84
KIM PALMIERI '85	LARRY PIERCE '71
MIKE PILGER '76	SUE QUETSCHENBACH '87
JULIE RIVERS '84	ADAM RODGER '94
LISA SANTELLI '91	CATHLEEN SCHMITT '77
STEVEN SIVERD '13	VAL SNELGROVE '73
DEMOND STEWART '96	THERESA SPRAGUE '76
LAURA LEE SULLIVAN '87	CHERYL TERWILLIGER '88
LYNNE TEXTER '80	WILLIAM THORPE '65
CATHERINE TRAINO '83	PETER J. TUFFO '90
NICOLE VANDENBERGHE '92	JOSHUA VELTRE '17
RONALD WHEELER '65	EDUARDO WILSON '85
MARCUS WILSON '86	SUE YAGIELSKI '92
MARK FRISICANO '04	DAVID THORPE '67
JAMIE PAINTING '02	KATIE KONARSKI '97
DUDLEY "SKIP" BAILEY '74	KEVIN KNOPE '91

GEORGE BAIRD Coach
 LOUIS BASILE Coach
 STEVE DEROOY '17
 PAUL FAUTH Coach
 BEN GIOSEFFI Coach
 GENE JOHNSON Coach
 DOUG LADD Coach
 LOUIS LOMBARDO, '20
 CHUCK MITRANO '11
 TOM MURPHY '13
 SKIP SUTHERLAND Coach
 JOHN VANLUVEN, Coach

CHEERLEADING PROGRAM '19

ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

At the end of each sports season, the NYSPHSAA honors student-athletes and teams that excel in the classroom. Those student-athletes, teams, and schools work very hard throughout the year, not only through athletics, but also through academics. To receive the Scholar-Athlete recognition, a student-athlete must achieve a GPA of 90% or higher while participating at the varsity level. This year, we had a total of 488 scholar athletes across the District.

In addition, NYSPHSAA also honors teams that have 75% of the varsity roster team with a GPA of 90% or higher. This year, we had 28 total teams across the District that were scholar-athlete teams. Congratulations to all of our teams and student-athletes that have achieved this award.

Over a four year period, we have continued growth in athletics with participation numbers in excess of 499. With the increased participation, it has led us to increase teams by 34 and our coaching staff by 46.

Summer athletic camps have had over 2000 students participate in these opportunities each summer. Specific focus for these camps are the development of skills in socialization, leadership and learning the skills of a particular sport from qualified leaders and experts in the sport. The amount of students participating is evidence of our District meeting the needs of our community.

Community Service Award



Frank Opaczewski

The Greece Athlete of the Year Program was started in 1976 by Frank Opaczewski. Frank was a sports fan his whole life, played competitive travel Softball and was always interested in community athletics. He was also very supportive of student athletes and thought the athletes of Greece should receive more recognition, and the Greece Athlete of the Year Program was born. Opaczewski was working as Vice President of Manufacturers Hanover Bank in 1975 when he approached then-district Athletic Director Joe Drum. He told him of his idea and got the green light to pursue sponsors to fund the event. So the banker went right to his own marketing department and Manufacturers Hanover became the sole sponsor for his idea.

The first thing Opaczewski needed to do was to figure out a format as to how to select candidates. Frank decided to allow any Greece resident at any school to be eligible for the award. That meant the winner could come from Olympia, Athena, Arcadia or many other schools that included Greece residents, like Aquinas, Nazareth, Hilton, Spencerport and Cardinal Mooney.

Frank was the leader of the committee for ten years. He and all of his people who assisted, had put together an amazing decade of honoring the student athletes of Greece and he wanted to make sure it did not come to an end. We appreciate his efforts with the Greece Athlete of the Year Ceremony and honor him with this year's Community Service Award.

Lifetime Achievement Award



Tim Hill

For over three decades, Coach Tim Hill has been a cornerstone of the Greece Central School District and the Greece Olympia community, shaping the lives of countless student-athletes. A 1981 graduate of Olympia, his dedication to coaching began in 1989, and since then, he has passionately led 65 teams across the sports of Football, Basketball, and Softball. His commitment culminated in a memorable 1997 season as Head Coach of the Olympia Spartans Varsity Football team, guiding them to the school's only Sectional Championship in that sport.

Beyond the field, Coach Hill's impact extended into the classroom, where he served as a dedicated math teacher within the Greece Central School District until his retirement in 2020. His commitment to service was further exemplified in many ways. One of the more memorable events was his annual organization of hospital visits for players and cheerleaders participating in the prestigious Eddie Meath All-Star Football Game, fostering a spirit of community and compassion at the Golisano Children's Hospital.

Coach Hill's enduring dedication to local athletics is evident in his 15-plus years of service on the Greece Athlete of the Year Committee. Furthermore, his commitment to preserving the legacy of Greece Olympia athletics is profound. A member of the Greece Olympia Sports Hall of Fame Committee since 1997, he has tirelessly served as its Chairman since 2014.

Coach Hill's enduring contributions are a testament to his passion for mentorship, sportsmanship, and the Greece community. Tim resides in Greece with his wife, Lisa, and their two sons, Jason and Ricky.

Coach of the Year Award



Mike Setzer

Mike Setzer has completed his tenth year as the head Varsity Boys Basketball Coach and his third year as the Varsity Golf Coach for Greece Athena. Prior to that, Coach Setzer was the JV coach and Assistant Varsity Coach for twelve years and the Modified Coach for three years.

Under Coach Setzer, the Trojan basketball teams have won five Monroe County Division Championships, earned the Section V #1 Seed honor four times and reached the Section V Finals six times. In 2025, the Trojans won the Class AA Section V Championship. That team also won the New York State Regional Championship and went on to the New York State Semifinals. This was only the third team in Athena Boys Basketball history to make it that far! The 2025 Golf Team went 12-2 overall, were undefeated in their division and were Monroe County West Division 2 Champions.

Coach Setzer earned Monroe County Division 3 Boys Basketball Coach of the Year honors in 2017, 2023 and 2025. In addition, he was named Section V Coach of the Year (Class A1 and Class AA) in 2018 and 2024 for Boys Basketball.

Coach Setzer has taught chemistry at Greece Athena High School since 2001. He and his wife, Erica, have two children, Caden (14) and Teagan (12). Coach Setzer feels very fortunate that his family regularly attends Athena Basketball games, including his parents, Gene and Casey Setzer.

ARCADIA NOMINEES



Riley Pearl, daughter of Brian and Silva Pearl, is a senior at Greece Arcadia. She has been on Varsity Cheerleading and Varsity Softball since sophomore year. Her Cheer team won four sectional titles, two county championships, and placed 2nd and 3rd at the NYSPHSAA State Championships. Riley earned two First Team All-County honors, Most Improved Player, the Nancy Saxton Leadership Award, the Twelve Season Athlete Award and the Scott Spino Scholar-Athlete Award. She was a team co-captain of her Cheer team. A dedicated volunteer, she supported Ignite Gym, literacy programs, the Special Olympics, and several community service events. Riley will attend St. Bonaventure for Biology.



Kaitlyn Spring, daughter of Laurence and Karen Spring, is a senior at Greece Arcadia. Kaitlyn has been a member of the Varsity Soccer team since her freshman year at Arcadia. She is also a two year participant of Unified Bowling and Flag Football. Kaitlyn was named 2024 Defensive Player of the Year for Flag. She also was a two year captain of the Varsity Soccer team and First Team All-County. Kaitlyn is a member of the National Honor Society and maintains a 95 GPA. She plans to attend SUNY Brockport in the Fall where she has committed to play Division 3 soccer. Kaitlyn will be attending SUNY Upstate afterwards to receive her Doctoral degree in Physical Therapy.



Aimee Turner, daughter of Jason Turner and Musu Williams, is a senior at Greece Arcadia. Aimee has been a three-sport Varsity athlete since freshman year. She has received numerous accolades including All-County honors in Volleyball and Basketball, and All-Greater Rochester in Basketball and Flag Football. Aimee led her teams to back-to-back Section V Championship games in both sports and received MVP of the Section V Basketball Tournament—an uncommon honor for a runner-up. As starting quarterback and captain, she led Arcadia's Flag Football team to an undefeated regular season. She has been awarded athletic scholarships to play for Roberts Wesleyan University in the Fall.

ARCADIA NOMINEES



Daniel Granville, son of Brett and Kathleen Granville, is a senior at Greece Arcadia. Daniel has been a Varsity member of his Cross Country and Track team since freshman year at Arcadia. Throughout his running career, Daniel has been awarded five MVPs and holds the school record for Indoor Track in the 3200m. This spring, Daniel will compete in the New York State Outdoor Track & Field Championships in the 3200 meter race. Daniel is an active member of the National Honor Society. Daniel's future plans are to go to Canisius University and participate in Division 1 Cross Country and Track.



Julian Jones, son of Tina Spann, is a senior at Greece Arcadia. Julian has been on the varsity Cheer team since his sophomore year. Julian has gotten many awards during his Cheer seasons. These awards include the Nancy Saxton Leadership Award, Varsity Athletic Award five times, another leadership award from All Star Cheer, All County, and MIP. Julian and his Cheer team have won sectionals four times back to back and was featured on the news for team of the year. He also participates in All Star Cheer at Cheer Athletics. He and his all-star team were invited to England to compete and earned second place. They were the first team ever from America to compete. He has received a scholarship to attend SUNY Brockport in the Fall.



Xavier Smith, son of Dwayne Smith and Shelley Brundidge is a senior at Greece Arcadia. Xavier has been a starter for the varsity Football team since 8th grade and a member of the varsity Basketball team since his freshman year. Xavier has been named MVP for the Football and Basketball team for the past two years. Xavier recently scored his 1000th career point in Basketball this past season. Xavier is the leader in many statistics for the Football team as well as being named a Eddie Meath All Star. He is a member of the NFF of scholar athletes and also received the BEAMER Hughes award. Xavier will attend Brockport in the Fall to study Exercise Science and play Football.

ATHENA NOMINEES



Emily McMichael, daughter of Scott and Debbie McMichael, is a senior at Greece Athena where she is a three sport varsity athlete for Soccer, Basketball and Flag Football. Emily was captain this past year for each of her varsity sports and has been selected All Greater Rochester for both Soccer and Flag Football. She led her Flag team with the most flag pulls the last two seasons and is a starter on both offense and defense. She is a 2024 Section V Champion for Flag and holds the team record for the longest touchdown reception of 68 yards. In addition to playing sports, Emily has sung the National Anthem for school events the past several years. She is a member of the National Honor Society, a Scholar Athlete and has earned High Honor Roll with Distinction honors. Emily will be attending Nazareth University where she will play Soccer and also hopes to start a Flag Football club. Emily is a two-time nominee for the Greece Athlete of the Year.



Emilee Montagliano, daughter of Deb and Josh Montagliano, is a junior at Greece Athena. She is a four year varsity member of the women's Soccer program and three year varsity member of the Flag Football team. She was awarded MVP for the past two seasons in Flag Football. Also being named defensive MVP twice, Second Team All-County twice, recording 23 shutouts in 3 seasons and captain of the Soccer team this past season. All while maintaining a 90% or higher GPA, gaining scholar athlete all seven athletic seasons and being inducted into the National Honor Society with the highest regard this year.



Kate Rayburn, daughter of Dennis and Jeanna Rayburn, is a senior at Greece Athena. Kate has been a member of both Varsity Soccer and Flag Football teams since sophomore year, and was captain for the past two years in both sports. Kate earned First Team All-League the past three years for Varsity Soccer, and also received Defensive MVP. Kate received All Greater Rochester honors in Flag Football last spring. During the 2025 season she recorded seven interceptions and thirteen touchdowns. She is a member of the National Honor Society and will be receiving Valedictory Honors. Kate received both a merit and Flag Football scholarship from Roberts Wesleyan University, and will be attending this Fall.

ATHENA NOMINEES



Joshua Bradley, son of Anthony and Tracy Bradley, is a senior at Greece Athena. Joshua has been a Varsity Golf member since 8th Grade. He has received Varsity Golf Team MVP five times, First Team All-County award five times, 2024 All-Greater Rochester. Joshua also represented Section V in the 2024 New York State Boys Golf Championship (Finished T28; 99), historically becoming the fifth Athena Golfer to compete in the State tournament. Joshua will attend Southern University in Fall of 2025 to play Division 1 Collegiate Golf.



I'Zick Reaves, son of Lucy and Carlos Reaves, is a senior at Greece Athena. I'zick has been playing Basketball for the Trojans since his sophomore year. He was also a participant of the Football and Track team. He has made it to sectional finals all three years and was capable of leading his team to win his third and final year. He has received countless offers but plans to attend a juco or Daemen University to pursue his Basketball dreams in the Fall.



Samuel Saucke, son of Casey and Laurie Saucke, is a senior at Greece Athena. Sam began Varsity Baseball at the tail end of his 8th grade year and has had the honor of being team captain for the last two years. Sam was recognized with First Team All-County, All Greater Rochester, and team MVP for the second year in a row. Sam had a .508 batting average, .600 on base percentage, .870 slugging percentage, with six home-runs, and twenty stolen bases. Sam plans to continue his academic and athletic career at Monmouth University next year.

ODYSSEY NOMINEES



Aaliya Burkhartzmeyer, daughter of Bill and Theresa Burkhartzmeyer, is a senior at Greece Odyssey. She is a four-year Varsity member on the Soccer team, as well as a two-year member on the Lacrosse team. She's been a team captain for Soccer this past season, and received the honor of being a scholar athlete a total of six times while competing each year. She was crowned as the Player of the Game on April 21st against Brockport for Lacrosse where she displayed hustle, determination, and helped transition the team from offense to defense in their 14-6 win. Aaliyah is also a Valedictorian, and a member of National Honor Society. Aaliyah plans on attending Pennsylvania State University in the Fall.



Isabella Burkhartzmeyer, daughter of Bill and Theresa Burkhartzmeyer, is a senior at Greece Odyssey. Isabella has been a member of the Varsity Soccer team since her freshman year and played Varsity Lacrosse during her senior year. She was captain of the Soccer team since her junior year and her coach named her MVP. She earned Second Team All-County as a goalkeeper in her junior year. Isabella is a member of National Honor Society and is a Valedictorian. Isabella plans to attend Merrimack College in the Fall.



Kayla McCormick, daughter of Mike and April McCormick, is a senior at Greece Odyssey. She is a four year Varsity member of the Soccer Team and played the Inaugural year in Varsity Flag Football. She won MVP for Soccer this past year and has been team captain for the last three years. She earned Second Team All-County, and most improved player in her Junior year. She has received an academic scholarship and will be playing soccer for SUNY Morrisville in the Fall.

ODYSSEY NOMINEES



Tyler Ashton, son of Christopher and Amy Ashton, is currently a junior at Greece Odyssey. He is a three-year Varsity member of the Baseball team and a first time varsity member of the Soccer team. This year Tyler was the MIP for Soccer. In Baseball he was the team MVP. He also broke multiple program records and helped lead the Griffins to their best season as a program. Tyler is also a scholar athlete making high honor roll this past year and plans to play baseball in college.



Anthony Johnson, son of Denise and Anthony Johnson, is a senior at Greece Odyssey. He played one year of varsity Football here and set two school records and won defensive MVP for Football and was also a team captain. He set the record for the most tackles in a game and most tackles in the season. He was also selected and played in the Rochester Eddie Meath All Star game. Anthony plans to attend Mansfield University in the Fall.



Gavin Williams-Clemons, son of Trevor Williams and Angela Clemons, is a senior at Greece Odyssey. He has been on the Varsity Basketball team since a freshman for the past 4 years. Has won an MVP for his Basketball team and is the first person in school history since 2019 to achieve the 1000 points milestone and was named Second Team All-League for the second season in a row. Gavin has also been a part of Student Council and The Black Student Union. Gavin plans to attend Genesee Community College in the Fall.

OLYMPIA NOMINEES



Victoria Koumako, daughter of Fatoumatou Akakpo and Kodjo Koumako, is a senior at Greece Olympia. Victoria has been a member of the Varsity Outdoor Track & Field team since her freshman year and the Indoor Varsity Track & Field team since her Sophomore Year. She holds two individual records in the 55m and the 300m and is a part of the 4x200 relay that broke the school record. She has been selected MVP of her Track team for two consecutive years.. She was a two time Democrat and Chronicle nominee for Athlete of the Week. This spring, Victoria was the Section V Class B1 Sectional Champion in the 100m hurdles and will compete in the New York State Outdoor Track & Field Championships. Victoria is a member of National Honor Society, Black Student Union and Student Council. She has received a scholarship and a grant to attend Buffalo State University to major in Biology and is committed to run Division 3 Track.



Hannah Roxstrom, daughter of Stacy and Robert Roxstrom, is a senior at Greece Olympia graduating with Valedictory Honors. She is a four-year Varsity Soccer player and second-year Varsity Flag Football athlete, serving as Captain for both. This past Soccer season she received Team Co-MVP honors, First Team All-County, Section V All-Tournament Team, All Greater Rochester Honorable Mention, and played in the Senior All-Star Game. This spring, she recorded 7 touchdowns, 74 flag pulls including 29 for losses and 8 interceptions. Hannah was named Monroe County Defensive Player of the Year and was a First Team All-County selection. Hannah is the National Honor Society Secretary, Class Vice President, a volunteer recognized with the Young Citizen of Excellence Award and an Olympia Ignition Mentor. She will be attending SUNY Brockport as a Nursing major and Honors College student in the Fall.



Sarah Tawaf, daughter of Haroon and Cindy Tawaf is a senior at Greece Olympia graduating with Valedictory Honors. Sarah has been a starter on the Varsity Soccer Team since her freshman year. As a captain this year she was selected as Team Co-MVP, First Team All-County, and was honored to make the Fourth Team All-State this past Fall. She has been a captain on her Varsity Flag Football Team since her junior year and had 376 rushing yards, 189 receiving yards, 7 touchdowns along with being awarded First Team All-County this spring. She also participated in Varsity Bowling, is a member of the National Honor Society, and volunteers for Ignition. She is continuing her soccer career at Rochester Institute of Technology next Fall.

OLYMPIA NOMINEES



Noah Ray, son of Robin Esden and David Chontosh, is a senior at Greece Olympia. He has been a Varsity athlete in Track & Field (indoor and outdoor) and Soccer. Noah earned All Greater Rochester honors in Indoor Track and has won multiple Monroe County and Section V championships. He holds school records in the 600m dash, 55m hurdles, 100m hurdles, and 400m hurdles. This spring, Noah will compete in the New York State Outdoor & Track & Field Championships in the 110m hurdles and the 400m hurdles. A role model on and off the track, Noah has consistently made the High Honor Roll. He plans to continue his academic and athletic career at the University at Buffalo.



Matthew Valicenti, son of Michael Valicenti and Vicky Lewis, is a senior at Greece Olympia. In 10th grade Matthew joined the Varsity Football team and has been on it ever since, setting school records and winning Offensive Player of the Year and MVP honors in back to back seasons., Matthew has been recognized as a NYSPHSAA scholar athlete, was selected to play in the Eddie Meath All-Star game and Section V Player of the Week. He also participated in Varsity Indoor and Outdoor track in 11th and 12th grade. He has competed in sectionals and counties each and every season. He is also part of Olympia's Early College Program and will be attending St. John Fisher University to participate in both Football and Track in the Fall.



Curtis Welker, son of Craig and Amy Welker, is a senior at Greece Olympia. Attending the school for two years, Curtis has been a member of the Varsity Soccer, Basketball, and Baseball teams. He served as a captain for all three of these teams his senior year. In Basketball he was a leader statistically as well, being top three in almost every statistical category. Last year he was named to the All- Independent Second Team for Baseball and participated in the Senior All-Star Game. Curtis is also a member of National Honor Society and was inducted into the Greece Youth Hall of Fame. He plans on attending St. Bonaventure University this coming Fall.

HISTORY

The Greece Athlete of the Year Program was started in 1976 by Frank Opaczewski. Frank was a sports fan his whole life, played competitive travel Softball and was always interested in community athletics. He was also very supportive of student athletes and thought the athletes of Greece should receive more recognition, and the Greece Athlete of the Year Program was born. Opaczewski was working as Vice President of Manufacturers Hanover Bank in 1975 when he approached then-district Athletic Director Joe Drum. He told him of his idea and got the green light to pursue sponsors to fund the event. So the banker went right to his own marketing department and Manufacturers Hanover became the sole sponsor for his idea.

The first thing Opaczewski needed to do was to figure out a format as to how to select candidates. Frank decided to allow any Greece resident at any school to be eligible for the award. That meant the winner could come from Olympia, Athena, Arcadia or many other schools that included Greece residents, like Aquinas, Nazareth, Hilton, Spencerport and Cardinal Mooney.

Frank was the leader of the committee for ten years. He and all of his people who assisted, had put together an amazing decade of honoring the student athletes of Greece and he wanted to make sure it did not come to an end. The Greece booster clubs ran the event for the next fifteen years. At that time the committee decided to change the format and only allow students from the Greece Central School District to be eligible for the award. Many years later, the late Steve DeRooy helped to take on and lead the Greece Athlete of the Year committee from the year 2000 up until his untimely passing in 2014. Steve lived to serve others, while bringing his passion and dedication for athletics to Greece. His positive influence left an everlasting impact on the Greece School Community.

As a result of Frank and Steve's dedication to our student-athletes, the Greece Athlete of the Year ceremony is continued to be held annually. Over the years the committee added a Community Service, Lifetime Achievement, and a Coach of the Year Award. Please visit www.greececsd.org for more information on the ceremony.

Special Thank You

Thank you to the following for their countless hours and support in making the Greece Central Athletic Ceremony a memorable event.

Jeremy Smalline
Marc Fleming
Dave Richardson
Raymond Istas
Anthony Lipani
James Reaves
Ferdie Auriuso
Jason Bunting
Jack McMahon
Matt Vergamini

Lynn Collister
Sharon Cira
Mary Grabowski
Carrie Cacia
Dean Dennison
Barb Schmitt
Jen Laemlein
The Imaging Center
Joe Swetz
Olympia Custodial Staff

Greece Athlete Celebrating Our 49th Year

Athletes of the Year

1976 Julie Gilmore	Mark Sansone
1977 Cathleen Schmid	Charles Giordano
1978 Amy Van DenBurghe	Robert Locke
1979 Nancy Drum	Mike Dianetti
1980 Claire Drexler	Bryan Hitchcock
1981 Carol Schlemme	Mark Walczak
1982 Marlene List	Tom Stenglein
1983 Ellen Monaghan	Jon Suhr
1984 Beth Ranches	Shawn Coyle
1985 Kim Palmieri	Ed Wilson
1986 Karen VanDen Voorn	Marcus Wilson
1987 Tracy Schmidt	Jeff Stenglein
1988 Cheryl Terwilliger	Peter Mojsej
1989 Cheryl Lennox	Mark Leonardo
1990 Beth Spinelli	Peter Tuffo
1991 Becky Loos	Ed Long
1992 Sue Yagielski	John Wallace
1993 Kristen Kuehn	Brian Geyer
1994 Kendra Damann	Bakahri Hymes-Young
1995 Shawna Williams	Todd Hagreen & Rob Strellick
1996 Missy Bargmann	Demo Kovalenko
1997 Jamie Adams & Paula Listrani	Mike Husdan
1998 Ana Frisk	Don Carlo-Clauss
1999 Katie DePuy & Katie Murphy	Joe Loiacono
2000 Erin Johnson	Craig Pipal
2001 Jamie Painting	Steve Strellick
2002 Jamie Painting	Andy Wigton
2003 Kristen Bowers	Andrew DiBitetto
2004 Donna Bertolone	Andrew DiBitetto
2005 Corrine Keller	Rob Lawler
2006 Megan Shoniker	Levar Goff
2007 Megan Shoniker	Cory Robinson
2008 Jessica Shufelt	Brad Shelofsky
2009 Melinda Sawnor	Josh Veltre
2010 Jessica Sexton	Brandon Cheeseman
2011 Samantha Barton	Joe Bonaldi
2012 Shannon Kirkpatrick	Steven Klimek
2013 Emily Tucker	Desmond Mobley
2014 Jeanella Hughes	Ian James
2015 Lauren Chester	Carnell Noble Jr
2016 Makayla Binter	Anthony Lamb
2017 Chima Dimgba	Kyle Benham
2018 Destiny Fernandes	Joshua McCleary
2019 Destiny Fernandes	Ryan Karker
2020 Grace Collins	Dylan Rice
2021 Sydney Kraft	Xavier Hurell
2022 T'Aliyah Perkins	Ricky Hill
2023 Wrianna Hudson	Connor Osier
2024 Kaitlyn Spring	Jonathan Bucciarelli

Coach of the Year

2002 Jason Bunting	2010 Jeff Hibbard	2018 Jim Guzielek
2003 Mike Butler	2011 Nino Pilato	2019 Tim Connor
2004 Scott Smith	2012 Bryon George	2020 Danielle Boneberg
2005 Roger Klimek	2013 Matt Vergamini	2021 Jeff Humphreys
2006 Jim Johnson	2014 Mike LaBue	2022 Stacey Pike
2007 Mike Butler	2015 Mike Butler	2023 Lisa Cannon
2008 Gary Meyers	2016 Demetrius Bennett	2024 Timothy Brunner
2009 Dan Webb	2017 Rob Cerone	2025 Mike Setzer

Community Service Award

2001 Tom Murphy	2010 Mike LaBue	2014 Gerald Phelan
2002 John Sodeman	2011 Bill Teasdale	2020 Nancy Latone
2004 Dave Thomas	2012 Mike Burke	2021 Demond Stewart
2003 Bill Selke	2013 Geri & Jerry Spino	2022 Red Fedele
2004 Dave Thomas	2014 Gerald Phelan	2023 Rick Dibble &
2005 Ed Marshall	2015 Angelo & Karen Andrese	Dale Meier
2006 Bill Dell	2016 Brian Button	2024 Ellis Snow
2007 The Dominick Family	2017 Kurt Schramm	2025 Frank Opaczewski
2008 Tim Hill	2018 Tim Nadelen	
2009 Jack McMahon	2019 Rich Dibble	
& Jim Shoemaker		

Lifetime Achievement Award

2001 Richard Kishlar	2011 Mike Baducci	2021 Rick Smith
2002 Benjamin Gioseffi	2012 Jim Press	2022 John DiTullio
2003 Gene Johnson	2013 Tom Mooney	2023 Jeffrey Humphreys
2004 Doug Childs	2014 Gary Meyers	2024 Jeffrey Hibbard
2005 Don Hagreen	2015 Steve DeRooy	2025 Tim Hill
2006 Paul Fauth	2016 Lesley Flick & Chris Sloane	
2007 Dick Cerone	2017 Dr. Beverly Ziegler	
2008 Val Snelgrove	2018 Sandy Swingle	
2009 Don Brown	2019 Louis J. Lombardo	
2010 Gerry Nasella	2020 Gary & David Hogestyn	

Greece Athlete - Celebrating our 49th Year

2024 - 2025

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