

The Runner

Volume XVII Issue I

January 2022, Clinic Edition

Regular Features:

- President's Message
- Your District Reps and Committee Chairpersons
- Welcome to the Clinic
- Longevity Awards
- Scholarship Information
- Academic All-Ohio Results
- OAT&CCC Membership Application

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Welcome BACK to the Clinic!

A message from the President, Doug Joy

Welcome! And thank you for attending the 2022 Track & Field Clinic! As I think back on my two years as President of the OATCCC, I can honestly say I haven't enjoyed the journey. I have endured the craziest time in the OATCCC's history: Covid, the loss of entire season, three different sites for the TF State Championships, a change of venue for the State CC Championship, no live Clinic in 2021, and a change of leadership within the OHSAA.

However, and in spite of all of this—our sports are strong! We have tried to grow our sports by giving out thousands of dollars to our Grassroots Elementary Grant; we entered into a contract with Milesplit to promote our sports and athletes; we continued to recognize our athletes and our coaches at the local, state, and national levels of achievement; we started a junior high indoor meet; and all of those negatives I listed before—we still managed to turn those into positives in some way.

I am very proud of all of the members of this Association and the hard work that everyone has put in. I am also thankful for all of the individuals who have become my close friends and the new coaches I have just met.

It has been an honor to serve as your President the past two years. Please know that



Easton Hilton - home of the best clinic in the USA

Photo courtesy of Hilton Hotels

your time and effort in coaching our student-athletes is truly appreciated! The OATCCC Executive Board hopes that you will find this year's Clinic educational and motivational as you prepare for the 2022 Track & Field season. Good luck to all of you and your teams and may you have healthy and successful seasons.

ENJOY THE CLINIC!

Sincerely,

Doug Joy

Mid-West Meet of Champions

Senior classic returns to Michigan State University in 2022

The Midwest Meet of Champions featuring the top seniors from Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana makes its third trip to Michigan State University on June 11th to showcase the talents of this year's graduating athletes before they continue their careers at the collegiate level.

Transportation arrangements are being finalized with a tentative itinerary centered around Team Ohio busses departing on Friday, June 10th and arriving at MSU for an afternoon practice session, followed by a fun evening on campus with media and entertainment events and an opportunity to meet their counterparts from the other states. Then, Saturday, athletes will compete in one of the finest regional meets in the nation.

ANY senior interested in being a part of Team Ohio and this competition should go to [the www.oatccc.com website](http://www.oatccc.com) for information updates.



THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF TRACK AND CROSS COUNTRY COACHES REPRESENTATION BY DISTRICT

1 Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana

2 Lake, Geauga, Cuyahoga

3 Lorain, Medina, Wayne, Ashland

4 Summit, Portage, Stark

5 Holmes, Coshocton

Carroll, Tuscarawas

Harrison, Jefferson

6 Erie, Sandusky, Seneca

Huron, Crawford, Richland

Wyandot

7 Hancock, Putnam, Allen

Paulding, Van Wert

Mercer, Auglaize, Hardin

8 Muskingum, Guernsey

Noble, Belmont, Morgan

Monroe, Washington

9 Darke, Shelby, Miami, Logan

Champaign, Clark, Green

10 Franklin, Union, Madison, Pickaway

11 Licking, Knox

Marion, Morrow

Delaware, Fairfield

12 Fayette, Ross

Pike, Highland

Adams, Scioto

13 Preble, Butler

Montgoery, Warren

14 Hamilton, Brown

Clermont, Clinton

15 Williams, Fulton

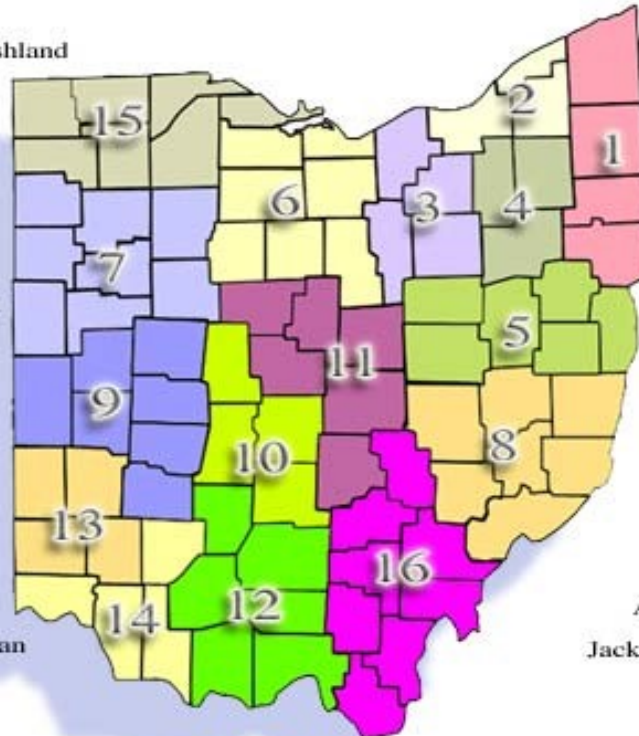
Lucas, Wood

Defiance, Henry

16 Perry, Hocking

Athens, Vinton, Meigs

Jackson, Gallia, Lawrence



| <u>Position</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>School</u> | <u>Phone</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| President | Doug Joy | John Glenn High School | 740-586-4993 |
| Vice Pres. | Andy Cox | Thomas Worthington High School | 614-638-9091 |
| Past Pres. | Diane Krumpak | South Range High School | 330-501-3215 |
| Treasurer | James Dingus | Olentangy Liberty High School | 614-301-7761 |
| Secretary | Julie Cole | Chardon High School | 440-223-4636 |
| District 1 | Steve Hill | Ashtabula Edgewood High School | 440-228-6798 |
| District 2 | Anjanette Whitman | Lutheran West High School | 440-655-0209 |
| District 3 | Steve Lias | Firelands High School | 440-315-8962 |
| District 4 | Michael Laubacher | Massillon Perry High School | 330-936-4619 |
| District 5 | Ed Lidderdale | Sandy Valley High School | 330-209-1086 |
| District 6 | Matt Schock | Seneca East High School | 419-618-8974 |
| District 7 | Jim Epperly | Waynesfield-Goshen High School | 419-234-3328 |
| District 8 | Dugan Hill | Caldwell High School | 740-732-5634 |
| District 9 | Jack Lintz | Northmont HS / Tipp City TF | 937-750-0214 |
| District 10 | Ryan Beck | Gahanna Lincoln High School | 614-354-1347 |
| District 11 | John Jarvis | Watkins Memorial High School | 740-973-5520 |
| District 12 | Matt Paxton | Unioto High School | 740-773-4105 |
| District 13 | Randy McKinney | Eaton High School | 937-533-3207 |
| District 14 | Jim Vanatsky | Loveland High School | 513-600-5800 |
| District 15 | Paul Barney | Toledo Christian Academy | 419-389-8700 |
| District 16 | Al Riffe | Vincent Warren High School | 740-678-2393 |



THE RUNNER

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WELCOME TO THE CLINIC!

The OATCCC Welcomes Coaches from across the Nation

Welcome to the largest track clinic in the USA! We may take for granted that we will have an outstanding clinic every year, however, you need only attend clinics in other states to realize how lucky we are here in Ohio.

After all we have been through as coaches, athletes, and officials over the past two years, to be back at the Clinic in-person and hearing the best coaches in the nation present the newest trends in our sport—what a privilege! The Clinic and all it has to offer has never been something taken for granted, but the opportunity for all of us to be together again and see our coaching friends and share the sports that we love so much—a day will not pass when we do not appreciate those who have made the Clinic possible and our sponsors who stood by us throughout these incredible times.

So—enjoy this clinic! In the column to the right, please take note of the special certification classes being offered in response to the many new requirements being placed on coaches.

Additionally—we have tried to bring you the most current research and practical training based experts we can find in each of the four event areas. This year's lineup once again lives up to that billing and we look forward to seeing all of you in our many specific event sessions.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Ohio College Night

Thursday evening—Main Hallway

Help your kids with recruiting! This is the fourth year our Clinic has invited college coaches from around Ohio to have the opportunity to meet our high school coaches and talk about their athletes. At the time of printing, over a dozen college coaches have committed to this endeavor. STOP BY!

Sports Medicine / Pupil Activity Supervisor's Class

Saturday, 8:15-10:15—Magnolia Room

This class meets the sports medicine requirements for the PAS Certification. **There is a \$20 fee for this class** that is not covered by your clinic registration. Likewise, you do not have to be registered for the clinic to attend.

Pole Vault Certification

Saturday, 8:15-10:15—Room C-D-E

This class meets the three year renewal requirement of pole vault safety certification and rules updates. **There is no fee for this class** as it is covered by your clinic registration. You will need to show your clinic badge to attend.

OATCCC COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS

| | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Track & Field Clinic Director | Wayne Clark | Cross Country Clinic Director | Carson Cheek |
| Indoor State Championship Meet | Jeff Sheets | Hall of Fame Chairperson | Neal Charske |
| Mid-East Cross Country Director | Neal Charske | Scholarship Chairperson | Bob Karl |
| Awards Chairperson | Diane Krumpak | Historian | Carson Cheek |
| Academic All-Ohio | R. Scott Williamson | The Runner Editor | Dave Kirk |
| College Liaison | Kris Boey Ohio Wesleyan Univ. | OHSAA Liaison | John Kuzio OHSAA, Director CC/TF |
| Mid-West Track Meet Coordinator | Lori Robinson Thomas Worthington HS | S.E.I. Chairman | Jeff Sheets |
| Pole Vault Safety Clinics | Marty Dahlman | Website | Andy Cox, Ed Lidderdale |
| Cross Country Poll | Dugan Hill | Constitution / Bylaws | Vern Kiehl |
| Membership Chairman | Donna Joseph | Wheelchair Division Liaison | Dave Kirk |

A complete contact list of phone numbers and addresses for these people can be found at:

<http://oatccc.com/contact-us.aspx>



CLINIC DEDICATION

Terry Oehrtman

2022 OAT & CCC Track and Field Clinic Dedication

Dale Gabor

The Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches has had many enthusiastic non-member supporters throughout the years. None have had a more positive influence on this organization than Dale Gabor, the Track & Field and Cross Country Administrator of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Dale passed away on October 28, 2021 after a year-long illness. His loss has deeply impacted Ohio's track and field and cross country community.

After more than 50 years of marriage, Dale's wife, Linda, and his adult children, Tricia and Stephen, remain as his immediate family and our deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers go out to them.

Dale was important persona for his St. Ignatius HS community. Throughout his 46 year tenure with the school, Dale taught Theology, Latin, and English. He coached cross country, track & field, and basketball before serving 25 years as the Wildcats' Athletic Director before his retirement in 2008.

Winning or losing in athletic play was not the end game for Dale Gabor. Dale is best remembered for his philosophy of "doing things the right way." He promoted this viewpoint among all associates and athletes within his realm. He was a doer. He wasn't afraid to facilitate the solving of issues in the track & field and cross country world. These resolutions always came without sacrificing principles or making sports bigger than life. Dale's leadership epitomized the values of sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity while advocating the teaching of educational life skills.

During Dale's term as OHSAA Administrator, tournament action in Track & Field and Cross Country flourished, making these events the largest spectator attended championships in the United States. Of important merit, Dale became a national leader by instrumentally adding seated athletes' competition opportunities to Ohio's State Championship format in 2013. He also initiated the OHSAA HS Early Season Cross Country Meet and the 7th/8th Grade Cross Country State-wide Invitational. Another brain child of Dale's is the extremely successful OHSAA 7th/8th Grade State Track & Field Championships, to this date the only junior high school tournament sponsored by the OHSAA and the only championship in the nation to include seated athletes.

Dale was highly respected by the State Track & Field and Cross Country Officials' Association and served as the OHSAA State Rules Interpreter. He was a member of the State Rules Advisory Committee here in Ohio and also served as a member of the National Federation of High Schools Track & Field Rules Committee.

Among other recognitions, Dale has been enshrined into the OHSAA Officials' Hall of Fame and awarded the Fred Cope Officials' Award of Merit. Dale was also inducted into the St. Ignatius Hall of Fame and the Wildcats' home track facility is named in his honor. The OAT/CCC also recognized Dale with the Distinguished Service Award in 2012.

It is with gratitude for his many contributions and his valued promotion of our cherished sports of track & field and cross country that:

The Ohio Association of Track & Cross Country Coaches dedicated the 2022 Track & Field Clinic in honor of and to the memory of

DALE GABOR





Clinic Notes

General Membership Business Meeting

Doug Joy, OAT & CCC President

The General Meeting of the OATCCC will be held on Thursday night at 9:30pm. This meeting is open to all members of the Association and changes to the OATCCC Constitution and Bylaws brought forward by the Executive Board may be voted on at this meeting. You are encouraged to come! The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

AGENDA FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING

State Track & Field Clinic
Easton Hilton, Room A
Columbus, Ohio

Thursday, January 27, 2022—9:30pm

Call to Order
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Committee Reports

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| -Historian/CC clinic | Cheek |
| - Membership | Joseph |
| -District Rep Intro | Joy |
| -CC/TF Proposals | Joy |
| -Mideast Meet | Charske |
| -Midwest Meet | Robinson |
| -Indoor TF | Sheets |

Committee Reports (cont)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| -The Runner | Kirk |
| -Scholarships | Karl |
| -Web Site | Cox/Lidderdale |
| -Awards | Joy |
| -CC State Meet | Oerhtman |
| -College Liaison | Boey |
| -TF Clinic | Clark |
| -TF State Meet | Joy |
| Approval of the Constitution | Joy |
| For the good of our sports | Joy |
| Adjournment | Joy |

Your OATCCC provides the following for our sports' student-athletes and coaches:

CC and TF Clinics
MidEast CC Meet/Midwest TF Meet
Coaching Awards/Recognition
Indoor State TF Meet
Hall of Fame Banquet
Scholarships
Pole Vault Safety Seminars
CC Poll
HOF Display at Jesse Owens Stadium
The Runner

The OATCCC appreciates the OHSAA approval of various proposals and ideas over the years which have had a positive impact on our sports. Proposals which have been implemented include:

Girls Pole Vault
Boys 4 x 2 Relay
Girls CC: 3 divisions
CC: additional passes for teams at State Meet
TF State Meet: 9 to finals
Seated events at TF meets
TF State Meet: at-large qualifiers
CC State Meet: current 20 team format
TF practice start date

Support our Sponsors! Visit our website (oatccc.com)





Clinic Notes (Cont'd)

Other Clinic Notes

MF Social / Karaoke Night

Thursday, 10:30pm-12:30am (Juniper Room, Easton C-D-E)

Always a favorite. Come share a song with your fellow coaches.

Athletes in Action - Tim Ellis

Friday, 7:30 - 8:15am (Magnolia Room)

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes will have a breakfast meeting beginning at 7:30am in the Magnolia Room of the Hilton. Fellowship and good feelings are free - Vasco Paving will be sponsoring this breakfast gathering.

Rules Interpretation Meeting

Friday (By Division—check your Clinic schedule for room and time!)

You must be registered and wearing your clinic badge to enter this meeting. Meetings will be done by division and this year on a staggered time schedule. Therefore—please check the Clinic schedule for the appropriate room and time. You may stay in the room of the session you were attending. No one will be admitted once the meeting has begun and you must stay for the entire time to receive credit. Don't forget your OHSAA cards that came in your Rules Interpretation packet!

UCS Social

Friday, 9:30-12:30am (Easton B)

Join us at the conclusion of the Hall of Fame Banquet!

Academic All-Ohio Results from 2021 Cross Country

R. Scott Williamson, Chairperson

Our endeavor in honoring our scholar-athletes with the distinction of academic All-Ohio has been very successful. The OATCCC proudly recognized nearly 500 student athletes at this fall's State Cross Country Meet. This was a very proud moment for these athletes, their parents, and their coaches. Congratulations to all!

The 2021 Cross Country recipients are posted on the Association website (<http://oatccc.com/academic-all-ohio/>). For a complete list of all honorees, please see our display in the hospitality room at the Clinic. We were the first coaches' association in Ohio to celebrate our athletes' scholastic abilities as well as their athletic excellence. Over the past 27 years, our program has grown to where we recognize nearly 1,200 Ohio student-athletes each year as Academic All-Ohio. We have received many positive comments on this program, and with the coaches' help, we are looking for even better results this spring.

In the Clinic and spring edition of *The Runner*, and in your outdoor track Regional packets (in May), you will find an application form. If you do not find this form, please question your Regional meet manager as this form has been made available to all Regional managers. If you have a State Meet bound athlete who is eligible for this award, you must bring the completed form to the OATCCC table at the State Meet. Also bring the athlete with you to receive their certificates. It is the responsibility of the coach to have the eligibility form signed by the school principal or a guidance counselor. No athlete will be entered into our records whose grade point average has not been correctly figured on a 4.000 point scale. This can and must be done.

These records are made available to interested college coaches upon request and are posted on the OATCCC website.



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Mid-East Cross Country Championships

Neal Charske

The Thirty-fourth Annual Mid-East Cross Country Meet was held in Kettering on November 20, 2021 on a pretty typical fall day - perfect for running and yielding winning performances that just missed the meet records.

Meet Director, Neal Charske, reports that the individual winner of the girls race was Julia Flynn of Team Michigan in a time of 17:30.3. The winner of the boys division was William Zegarski from Team Ohio in a time of 15:03.9. In the team scoring, Ohio finished 2nd in the girls race with 60 points. Michigan won the event with an impressive 28 points while Indiana finished 3rd with 73 points and Illinois finished 4th with 110. In the boys race, Ohio finished in third with 48 points. Michigan took the team title with 39 points with Indiana finishing second with 40. Illinois finished in 4th with 138 points.

Top scorers for the Ohio girls were Grace Hartman (Oakwood) - 2nd (17:56.2), Samantha Coleman (Rocky River) - 9th (18:31.5), Regina Rose (Granville) - 10th (18:33.1), Morgan Schmitt (Aurora) - 19th (18:49.1), and Michaela McGill (Mt. Gilead) - 20th (18:51.2).

The Ohio boys top finishers were William Zegarski (Little Miami) - 1st (15:03.9), Luke Ondracek (Walsh Jesuit) - 6th (15:30.6), Brady Yingst (Lima Perry) - 11th (15:39.2), Evan Bork (St. Edwards) - 14th (15:42.5), and Hayden Schmidt (Anna) - 16th (15:44.4).

For a complete listing of the Mid-East results, check with our OATCCC website, or at the following address:

[OATCCC Mideast XC Information](#) AND [Milesplit complete results](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: NOVEMBER 19, 2022



William Zegarski, 2022 Boys Champion
Little Miami HS / Ohio

Julia Flynn, 2022 Girls Champion
Traverse City Central HS / Michigan

Ohio Well Represented at the Eastbay Midwest Regionals

Ohio athletes miss qualifying to the National Championships

A number of Ohio runners gave up part of their Thanksgiving break to make the trek to the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in Kenosha on Saturday, November 27, 2022. The weather was pretty brisk, but winning times were almost a full minute faster than 2019—14:49.5 for Hough (MI) and 16:54.4 for Stewart (CO).

In the girls team race, Ohio was led by Katie Clute in 17:53.1 (Olmsted Falls, 17th), Grace Hartman in 18:18.4 (Oakwood, 35th), Megan Hipple in 18:39.2 (McDonald, 52nd), Alyssa Mason in 19:14.7 (Hilliard Davidson), and Layce Artman in 21:24.4 (Ashtabula Edgewood, 135th).

In the boys team race, Ohio was led by Thomas Rice of Glenoak with a time of 15:44.7 (35th). Rounding out Ohio's scoring were Keegan Souhan in 15:56.8 (Beavercreek, 44th), Kieffer Bell in 16:05.3 (Talawanda, 55th), Ryan Winkler in 16:34.9 (Toledo St. Francis, 96th), and Logan Flament in 16:36.3 (Poland Seminary, 99th).

We congratulate all of the Ohio runners who represented our state so well against the other 13 states who come to the Midwest Regional. After a two year layoff due to Covid concerns, this meet is on its way to recovering its national prestige as the top national event for high school cross country. Mark your calendars for the 2022 event.

Information can be found here: [Eastbay Cross Country Nationals](#)



Riley Stewart (Cherry Hills, Colorado)
Riley Hough (Fenton, Michigan)

Photo courtesy of
[Eastbay Cross Country \(eastbayxc.com\)](http://Eastbay Cross Country (eastbayxc.com))



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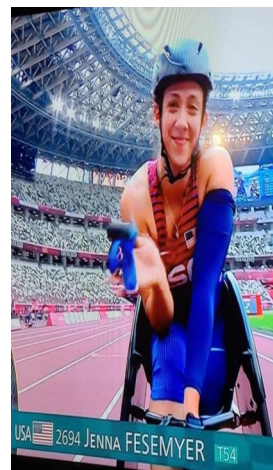
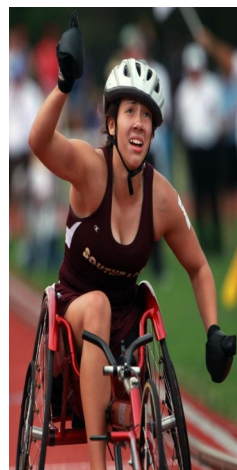
Ohio Represented at the Tokyo Paralympics *Jenna Fesemyer makes USA Paralympic Team*

When wheelchair athletes take to the track this 2022 season, it will mark the 10th year since the OHSAA, the OATCCC, and the Ohio Association of TF Officials came together to provide this opportunity for Ohio's athletes who compete in seated competition. Seated athletes have competed on the Jesse Owens track a total of 451 times with this year's entries sure to put this number over the 500 mark. Ohio remains one of the leaders in paralympic high school events and now, we have our first Paralympic athlete to come out of this program: Jenna Fesemyer.

Jenna became Ohio's first State Champion in 2013 when she competed as the only girl in all four seated events. She still holds the State Records in the 100M and the Shot Put. Following her high school career, she entered the University of Illinois and, under the guidance of coaching legend Adam Bleakney, raced in several international events including a Gold Medal performance at the 2019 Parapan American Games (Peru) and the Bronze Medal at the 2020 London Marathon.

Now she is a Paralympian (Tokyo, 2020). She competed in the 1500M, the 5000M (7th), and the Marathon (11th). She now competes professionally for Team Toyota and has her sights set on Paris 2024.

You make Ohio proud, Jenna Fesemyer—and set quite the example of hope for all of the wheelchair athletes here in our state's high schools.



Jenna Fesemyer—then and now

2020—2021 OHIO GATORADE ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Looking back at last year's winners

(Photos courtesy of these athletes' hometown newspapers and Gatorade.com)



**Grace Hartman
Oakwood HS**

**Ohio Athlete of the Year
2020 Cross Country**



**Nathan Moore
Lake HS**

**Ohio Athlete of the Year
2020 Cross Country**



**Paige Floriea
Mentor HS**

**Ohio Athlete of the Year
2021 Track and Field
Jumps**



**Justin Braun
Westerville Central HS**

**Ohio Athlete of the Year
2021 Track and Field
Sprints**

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2021 DISTRICT COACHES OF THE YEAR

| | | BOYS TRACK & FIELD | | GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD |
|----|--|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | | Lou Domitrovich, McDonald HS | | Mary Domitrovich, McDonald HS |
| 2 | | Ted Ginn, Glenville HS | | Bob Berwald, Mentor HS |
| 3 | | Scott Lanham, Avon HS | | Scott Van Fleet, Medina HS |
| 4 | | Jeff Howard, Woodridge HS | | Orlando Green, Buchtel HS |
| 5 | | Ty Harris, West Holmes HS | | Amanda McElwee, Tuscarawas Valley HS |
| 6 | | Tim Kuhn, Ashland Crestview HS | | Todd Polk, Margaretta HS |
| 7 | | Larry Topp, Minster HS | | Paul Gladden, Liberty Benton HS |
| 8 | | Toni Cirolì, St. Clairsville HS | | Doug Joy, John Glenn HS |
| 9 | | Kris Williams, Cedarville HS | | Ann Vogel, West Liberty Salem HS |
| 10 | | Dave Spring, Pickerington North HS | | Roger Whittaker, Gahanna Lincoln HS |
| 11 | | Rex Carr, Granville HS | | Lauren Huelsman, Mt. Gilead HS |
| 12 | | Dave Frantz, Northwest HS | | Brian Netter, Unioto HS |
| 13 | | Michael Fernandez, Wayne HS | | Mark Stiver, Oakwood HS |
| 14 | | Brian Weaver, Turpin HS | | Darren Braddix, Princeton HS |
| 15 | | Rachel Kinsman, Archbold HS | | Eric Peterson, Oak Harbor HS |
| 16 | | Tyler Schaad, Vincent Warren HS | | Doug Cattran, Sheridan HS |

| DISTRICT | | BOYS CROSS COUNTRY | | GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY |
|----------|--|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 | | Terry Kenney, South Range HS | | Ted Yuhuniak, Salem HS |
| 2 | | Robert Wolf, St. Ignatius HS | | Dave Englander, Shaker Heights HS |
| 3 | | Colleen Lahood, Black River HS | | Jared Zollars, Waynedale HS |
| 4 | | Lee Sternberg, East Canton HS Melissa Graham-Perkins, Marlinton HS | | Kevin Somerville, Revere HS |
| 5 | | Luke Immel, Garaway HS | | Olivia Scott, Minerva HS |
| 6 | | Bob Pabst, Norwalk St. Paul HS | | Jordan Studer, Colonel Crawford HS |
| 7 | | Terry Schnipke, Columbus Grove HS | | Jessie Magoto, Minster HS |
| 8 | | Amy Tooms, John Glenn HS | | Jason Lipot, Fort Frye HS |
| 9 | | Dennis Prenger, Ft. Loramie HS | | Howard Russ, Beaver Creek HS |
| 10 | | Joe DePalma, Dublin Coffman HS | | Nathan King, Hilliard Davidson HS |
| 11 | | Jake Hayes, Mt. Gilead HS | | Chrisi Rogerson, Gahanna HS |
| 12 | | Doug Hughes, Whiteoak HS | | Aaron Ridenour, Westfall HS |
| 13 | | John Agnew, Carroll HS | | Jimmy Barton, Waynesville HS |
| 14 | | Tom Rapp, Mason HS | | Steve Nester, Loveland HS |
| 15 | | Aaron Al-Sorghali, Toledo St. Francis HS | | Tim Atkinson, Liberty Center HS |
| 16 | | JD Walters, Sheridan HS | | Troy Wolfe, Sheridan HS |

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OHSAA 7/8 TF State Championship Athletes and Coaches of the Year recognized by OATCCC

Congratulations to all of the 7th and 8th graders who qualified to the 4th Annual State Championship meet held May 15 at Hilliard Darby High School. Track & Field is the only sport with a 7/8th grade championship sponsored by the OHSAA. The meet is an all-division combined competition with athletes qualifying during the course of their seasons according to FAT results. The top 24 athletes in each event qualify for each event and athletes can qualify in all three of their permissible entries. The meet highlights 10 running events and five field events with seated athletes competing in the 100M, 400M, and Shot Put.

Ohio is the only state that offers a junior high championship as well as the only State Championship where seated athletes can participate at the 7/8th grade levels and score for their team's point total toward the title.

In girls' competition, Huber Heights Weisenborn won the team title with 50 points followed by Runner-up Bellfontaine with 45 points. The Warriors were led by three-event Champion Trinity Bibbs who won the 100M (12.35), the 200M (25.79), and ran a leg on the record-setting 4 x 200M (1:46.33). For her efforts, Trinity was named the 2021 MS State Athlete Award winner. Scott Amburgey was named the 2021 MS State Coach Award winner for guiding his team to their first State Championship title at this level.

On the boys side of competition, the 2021 MS State Athlete Award went to William Bauman of Westerville Blendon MS who won the 110HH (15.81) and placed third in the 200IH (25.95). The team title, however, was won by Massillon MS coached by 2021 MS State Coach Award winner, Becca Moore. The Tigers scored 27 points to take the Championship over the 20 points scored by three-way tied Runner-ups—Ironton, Pickerington Ridgeview, and Bellbrook.

Congratulations to all of the 7/8th participants and Champions! We look forward to seeing you at the next level of competition.



*Coach Becca Moore and her
7/8th Grade Massillon Tiger State Champions*

The Elementary School Grants

ITEMS YOU WILL RECEIVE WITH THE GRANT

6x Aluminum batons
4x Accusplit stopwatches
2x 100 ft measuring tapes
1x 2.2# soft medicine ball
1x 3.3# soft medicine ball
1x 4.4# soft medicine ball
2x 300g soft turbo javelins
20x 12" banana hurdles

Total cost value - \$339

**Items will be
shipped
pre-packaged
directly to
schools from
MF Athletic**



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2022 Indoor State Championship Returns to Spire Institute

Jeff Sheets, Heath HS

The OATCCC will sponsor the fourteenth annual State Indoor Track and Field Championships on Friday (March 4) and Saturday (March 5) at the [Spire Institute in Geneva](#). This year's schedule will feature the top 24 athletes in the DI meet on Friday (running starts at 2:00pm), and the DII/III Meet on Saturday with field events at 12:00 and running beginning at 2:00.

The Top 40 list of each event and for declarations for the State Championship will again be maintained throughout the course of the indoor season so athletes and coaches can track their progress. In the past, we have accepted results from some out-of-state meets and this will continue in 2022. For example, many Cincinnati schools run at the University of Kentucky and this year, those results will again be accepted—but check ahead of time!

The facility at Spire is a US Olympic training facility with state-of-the-art competition venues and a Benyon 300M, eight lane track. With two pit areas in each of the jumping field events, simultaneous boys/girls events competition will be similar to what athletes have been accustomed in past years. Although access to the field, even for coaches, is much more restricted, visibility of events, seating for 5,000 and live video feeds should more than make up for this.

Spire and OATCCC officials continue to work on the details of event scheduling and competition flow in order to maximize this experience for athletes and fans alike. You can follow developments on the oatccc.com website ([click here](#)).

Our State Championships have always been very professionally organized and it is the desire of the OATCCC Executive Committee to offer another opportunity for Ohio athletes to showcase their talents. Good luck—and see you in Geneva!

Midwest Meet of Champions—Preparing for 2022

Lori Robinson, Thomas Worthington HS

The 2022 Midwest Meet of Champions will once again see Ohio athletes in action. The meet is scheduled for Friday/Saturday, June 10/11, 2022, at [Michigan State University](#) in East Lansing, Michigan. This competition showcases senior talent from the states of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. We are also hopeful that past participants—Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Illinois - might re-join us in the near future.

In 2019, before Covid, Team Ohio's men's and women's squads combined for 407.5 points to outscore Team Michigan's 342 and Team Indiana's 196.5. In the women's meet, Ohio won their sixth consecutive meet with 199 points followed by Michigan with 177 and Indiana with 97. The women won eight of the events including all five field events. They also won the 4 x 1 and 4 x 2 relays. In the men's meet, Ohio also finished first with 208.5 points ahead of Michigan's 165 and Indiana's 99.5. Ohio's male athletes won eleven of the seventeen events including four of the five field events, and the 4 x 1 and 4 x 2 relays.

For a complete list of results, rosters and photos from the meet, [CLICK HERE FOR BOYS](#), [HERE FOR GIRLS](#).

BE A PART OF IT IN 2022 — AND HERE IS HOW:

1. Coaches should make the Midwest staff aware of their athlete's contact information by (A) filling out and dropping off a "Quick Fact" questionnaire at our table during the Clinic weekend and/or the Indoor Championships (B) go to our team website [by clicking here](#) or to the [Association website](#) and fill out an on-line questionnaire (C) or directly contact Lori Robinson of Thomas Worthington High School
2. Speak early with your senior athlete and his/her parents about *holding that date*. Please don't schedule a graduation party for these days!
3. Be certain to DECLARE by filling out a quick DECLARATION FORM at the Midwest Meet tent during the State Outdoor Championships. For your convenience, the Midwest Staff will be setting up the tent early on Thursday afternoon. Our goal is to receive 95% of the declarations prior to the start of the meet.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE—AND GO TEAM OHIO!

Visit the OAT & CCC website at: www.oatccc.com



THE RUNNER

Page 12

Track and Cross Country Coaching Longevity Awards Carson Cheek, Chairperson

The OATCCC wishes to recognize the coaches who have devoted twenty or more years of devoted service to our sports. If you meet the following criterion or if you know of another coach who qualifies—whether active, retired, or deceased—report to the “Awards” display area at the Clinic, or contact Jessica Rudolph at:

Carson Cheek
5628 Philothea Rd.
St. Henry, Ohio 45883
eatfn@bright.net

The awards are as follows (application on page 12):

CERTIFICATE: A coach who has coached 20 years in one sport (track or CC) or 30 combined seasons of both can receive a certificate at the Awards display

LAPEL PIN: A coach who has coached 25 years in one sport or 40 seasons of both can receive a lapel pin at the Awards display.

PLAQUE: A coach who has coached 30 years in one sport or 50 combined seasons of both and if they have accomplished either of these during the most recent calendar year, qualifies for a plaque.

OATCCC Marvin Crosten Scholarship Applications Bob Karl, Scholarship Chairperson

The OATCCC Marv Crosten Scholarship program was established to recognize the outstanding sons and daughters of OATCCC members with scholarship awards. Named in honor of long-time coach and OATCCC officer, Marv Crosten, this scholarship program is available for students currently in their senior year of high school or their freshman year of college. The scholarships are for one year only and the parent-coach must have been an active member of the OATCCC for three consecutive years directly prior to the application being filed.

The individual scholarship awards will be given in recognition of outstanding athletes, coaches, Hall of Fame members, Ed Barker Award recipients, and the current OATCCC president. This is done in order to honor many of the positive contributors to our two sports over the years. The amount of the scholarship is \$1,000. It is a privilege to be able to help these young people as they further their education at the collegiate level.

The OATCCC scholarship committee is accepting applications for the 2022 awards. The deadline for applications to be returned to the scholarship committee is April 1, 2022. [Click here for applications](#) and send to:

Bob Karl, OATCCC Scholarship Chairperson
3005 Laplata Drive
Kettering, Ohio 45420

2021 OATCCC FRED DAFLER AWARD WINNERS

GIRLS' TRACK

Dan Otten
Celina HS

BOYS' TRACK

Tom Loy
East Canton HS

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY

Olivia Scott
Minerva HS

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY

Tom Rapp
Mason HS

*Congratulations to all of our Career Coaches of the Year!
It is a privilege to honor you for your years of dedication and accomplishment.*



Ohio Association Of Track And Cross Country Coaches

TRACK AND CROSS COUNTRY COACHING LONGEVITY APPLICATION

The OAT&CCC wishes to recognize the coaches who have many years of devoted service. Coaches who meet the following criteria or know other coaches who have qualified are urged to contact the longevity chairman at the Awards Display Area at the OAT&CCC clinic in January. Coaches to be considered may be active, retired, or deceased. Coaches should send this form with the information at the bottom of the sheet to Carson Cheek through his e-mail address (eatfn@bright.net)

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. In one of two categories - in a single sport, or combination of both sports.
 - A. If you have coached **either** Track **or** Cross Country **for 20 seasons or more;**
 - B. If you have coached **both** Track and Cross Country **for a combined 30 seasons or more.**
2. All seasons of coaching are included: Jr. High, High School, and College - head or assistant positions
3. Count out of state coaching only if you have been coaching in Ohio for more than ten years.
4. Count only one season per year if you coach both boys and girls teams - or jr. high and high school teams. Please be careful not to double count the number of seasons.
5. Do not count indoor track as an additional season if you coach track.

OAT & CCC LONGEVITY AWARDS:

CERTIFICATE AWARD: A coach has 20 seasons in one sport (*either track or cross country*), or 30 combined seasons (in *both* track and cross country) can receive a certificate at the Awards Display Area at the OAT&CCC Clinic. The certificates can be updated every five years and at retirement.

LAPEL PIN AWARD: A coach who has 25 seasons in one sport (*either track or cross country*), or 40 combined seasons (in *both* track and cross country) can receive a certificate at the Awards Display Area at the OAT&CCC Clinic.

PLAQUE AWARD: A coach who has 30 seasons in one sport (*either track or cross country*), or 50 combined seasons (in *both* track and cross country) can receive a plaque if they have accomplished either during the most recent school year. A coach who may qualify in both criteria may purchase a second plaque by contacting the Longevity Committee Chairperson. The cost is approximately \$25.

Coach _____

School _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

E-Mail Address _____

| History | Schools | Level | Years | Total |
|---------------|---------|-------|----------------|-------|
| T & F | _____ | _____ | 19____ - _____ | _____ |
| T & F | _____ | _____ | 19____ - _____ | _____ |
| T & F | _____ | _____ | 20____ - _____ | _____ |
| CC | _____ | _____ | 19____ - _____ | _____ |
| CC | _____ | _____ | 19____ - _____ | _____ |
| CC | _____ | _____ | 20____ - _____ | _____ |
| Total seasons | | | | _____ |



CLASS OF 2022 HALL OF FAME

Neal Charske, Chairperson

The OAT&CCC Hall of Fame is an impressive display of names and pictures of its members now featured at the Jesse Owens Track Facility at Ohio State University. Inductees are also featured on the Association website at <http://oatccc.com>. Members of the Hall of Fame, as well as the Ed Barker Award winners, are voted on by the Executive Board who receive the nominations from the district representatives. If you have someone you would like to nominate for the Hall of Fame, please see your district representative and fill out the special form by June 30th of the year for which you are asking consideration.

Jessie Magoto

Many coaches find their lives blessed by the opportunity to learn their craft under the guidance of mentors whose expertise and passion for the sport open a window to greatness that perhaps seemed unimaginable at the onset of their own careers. Jessie Magoto had such a mentor in Katie Horstman, a legend in her own right, and did she ever learn her lessons well.

Returning to her hometown of Minster in 1999 to teach English and coach, Jessie put her leadership talent to work in both Cross Country and Track where her teams have won a combined total of 15 State Championship titles and six State Runner-up titles. Along the way, her teams have set the records for the lowest number of points at a State Meet (34), the largest margin of victory (97), and the most State titles earned by one team (13). Individual State Champions in Cross Country have included three time winner, Sunni Olding, and the 2017 Champion, Emma Watcke. Additionally, Minster athletes have stood atop the State Track & Field podium on four other occasions as individual State Champions, and another 29 individuals and 31 relays have claimed All Ohio honors.

But there is more to being a Champion than just beating people, and Jessie's peers have recognized these qualities in her bestowing recognition such as three time winner of the NFHS Cross Country Coach of the Year, one time as the NFHS Track & Field Coach of the Year, the Mideast women's coach (2016-18), the OHSAA Sports, Ethics, and Integrity Award and the Fred Dafler Career Coach Award. And now—the Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to Jessie who lives in Minster with her husband and three children.

Minster High School Team Titles:

District Champions: 23XC 10TF

Regional Champions: 14XC 9TF

State Champions: 13XC 2TF

Regional Runners-up: 7XC

State Runners-up: 4XC 3TF



Angela Bizzarri

When Angela Bizzarri stepped onto the track at Oregon's Hayward Field for the 2016 Olympic Trials, no one who ever saw her run as a young athlete should have been surprised.

As a freshman at Mason, the first of her eight Individual State Championship titles came in Division I Cross Country (2002). She would go on to win the 2004 Individual title capping an undefeated season and finish her XC career in 2005 as the Runner-up. On the track, she was the epitome of the true distance runner. After winning her second State Championship title in the 3200M—the first of her four year sweep in that event—she added the 1600M to her State repertoire winning that event her senior year along with a leg on the State Champion 4 x 800M relay, thus capping the distance triple.

Leaving Mason with seven school records, she moved on to the University of Illinois where, ironically, she also holds seven school records and became the most decorated woman in Illini history. A four time All American in cross country, she stamped her collegiate career in 2009 by winning the NCAA National Championship. The previous spring, she had won her first national title by winning the 5000M, and she followed up her cross country success with the indoor 3000M title. Along the way to these Championship efforts, she garnered nine All American honors, five Big Ten titles, the 2009 USTFCCA Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award, and the Big Ten Medal of Honor (2010). In 2019, Angela was inducted into the University of Illinois Hall of Fame.

After college, Angela signed with Brooks Sports and competed on the national level for several years posting PR's in the 5000M of 15:57.10 and the 10K of 33:04.10 and making 2016 a very good year. And then came the Trials.

Not surprising at all.

Angela has recently completed Medical school and lives in California with her husband, Karl.





THE RUNNER

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CLASS OF 2022 HALL OF FAME (Continued)

Neal Charske, Chairperson

J.J. White

Jeremy Jason White—J.J. to everybody who knows him and this perhaps being the only time anybody has heard his full name—began his running career at Dublin Coffman High School and introduced himself to the State Championship Cross Country community with a modest 16th place All Ohio performance his freshman year followed up by an All Ohio 5th place 3200M the following spring. Perhaps, little did anyone realize except his coaches, Chad Biegler and Kevin Foley— J.J. was just getting warmed up.

Over the next three years, J.J. dominated Ohio cross country winning a State Runner-up title his sophomore year and the State Champion titles his junior and senior years. His senior year, he ran the second fastest time ever on the Scioto Downs course missing Olympian Bob Kennedy's record by only 1.2 seconds. A two time qualifier to the Kinney National Championships, J.J. earned All America honors with his 3rd place finish in 1992. On the track, it was the same. He won State Champion 3200M titles in 1991 and 1993, taking third in '92. He capped his senior year by winning the 3200M at the Midwest Meet of Champions and the International Prep Invitational. J.J. earned USA Today All America recognition and was ranked the #1 3200M runner in the United States by *Track and Field News*.

Stanford called and J.J. answered, helping boost their cross country program to a 1996 NCAA National Championship title and earning the first of his two All American honors. The second would come the following year in the indoor 3000M. All in all, J.J. competed in eight NCAA National Championships setting PR's ranking him amongst the finest to compete for the Cardinal—800M (1:51), 1500M (3:46), Mile (4:01), 3000M (8:04), 5K (14:01), 8K XC (24:33), and the 10K XC (30:49).

Stanford helped set the stage for J.J.'s professional life as well. He completed medical school at Virginia Tech, his emergency medical residency at Mt. Sinai Medical Center (Miami, FL) before moving on to the position of Associate Dean of Osteopathic Medicine at Auburn University. Residing in Alabama, J.J. has served as an Instructor for the Department of Homeland Security Center for Domestic Preparedness. An All American runner, yes—but an All American person as well.



Sidney Booker

Known for their ferocity and strength, "Wolverines" has proven to be an apt mascot name for the Dunbar Track & Field program under Coach Sidney Booker. A lifetime of devotion to the young people of Dunbar High School—Sidney has been at the helm of Dunbar Track & Field for 43 years—these Wolverines could not have had a better mentor from whom to learn.

Dunbar's prowess, especially in the sprint events and the relays, has set a level of excellence that may not be achieved again in a single coaching career. Under Coach Booker, Dunbar has—in addition to its State Championship and State Runner-up titles—finished in the top 10 on five other occasions. There have been 25 Dayton City League TF Championship titles and 13 Cross Country titles with Sidney being recognized as the Dayton Public League Coach of the Year those 28 times. Athletes have won 22 individual and relay State Championship honors and many others have been recognized for their All Ohio performances. State records have been set in the outdoor 4 x 400M and the indoor 4 x 200M, 4 x 400M, and the 4 x 800M. Brian Bell set the Ohio indoor 800M record on his way to two National Indoor Championship titles in the 800M as well as qualifying for the Junior World Championships. Dunbar broke the National Record in the indoor Sprint Medley and individuals have earned All American honors 18 times including two-time Olympic Trials qualifier, Antonio Blanks in the 400M.

An OATCCC, NFHS, and USATFCCCA National Coach of the Year winner, Sidney has also been named the Southwest Ohio TF Coach of the Year on eight occasions and served as hurdle coach for Team Ohio at the Midwest Meet of Champions.

Sidney lives in Dayton, and for his lifetime of devotion to the Dunbar Wolverines, congratulations on the Hall of Fame!



Dunbar High School Team Titles:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|---|
| State Championships (Outdoor): | 4 | State Championships (Indoor): | 8 |
| State Runners-up (Outdoor): | 2 | State Runners-up (Indoor): | 1 |
| Regional Championship titles: | 12 | | |
| District Championship titles: | 13 | | |

PLEASE JOIN US!

The OAT&CCC Hall of Fame Banquet will be held Friday, January 28, 2022 in rooms A-B of the Easton Hilton Hotel, from 6:30 - 9:30pm. Even if you are not coming to the banquet, please feel free to join us for the UCS social from 9:30pm - 12:30am in room Easton B. Come join the fun!



CLASS OF 2022 HALL OF FAME (Continued)

Neal Charske, Chairperson

Ron Russo

Nothing speaks more positively about a runner's high school experience than when they return to their alma mater to coach. Such is the case with Ron Russo who captained Colerain's first State Championship team in 1978. Perhaps one of the finest collections of runners at one high school, Russo and his companions finished the season ranked 3rd in the nation. A good starting place for what was to come when he returned in 1990.

Building the program and depth it takes to compete at the State Championship level needs time, and by 1996 Colerain had arrived—at State Meet and in the National rankings. The 1997 team led by 5th place finisher, Kelly Crum, won the first Colerain State Championship in any sport. Alison Zeinner would win the 3200M individual title in 1998 leading the Cardinals to their second title, and then finish 10th with Kelly Crum in 11th in 1999 leading them to the triple. When they won their fourth consecutive title in 2000, they continued their national rankings domination, the highest finish being 3rd both in '97 and '98.

Coach Russo's girls (at Colerain, 1990-2010; at McAuley 2011-2012) dominated in the spring. Colerain's presence in the distance events have seen one team State Championship ('00) and a team Runner-up in '99 followed by McAuley earning two State Runner-up titles in the 4 x 800M relay. Allison Zeinner won the 3200 DI State Championship in 1998 and Danielle Pfeiffer won two Runner-up titles in the 800M ('11, '12). In 1996, Ron won the Girls Division I Cross Country District Coach of the Year and in 1992, 1996, and in 1998, was recognized by the OATCCC with the Fred Dafler Career Coaching Award.

Besides the girls' accomplishments, Colerain's boys also saw great accomplishments under Ron's guidance winning two District Championships and three Runner-up titles. Mason Ward won the DI 1600M in both 1999 and 2000, the Penn Relays Mile ('00), and then finished 3rd in the Millrose Games Mile and 4th at the Golden West Meet in California.

Ron lives in Covington, Kentucky and is in his fourth year of coaching at Thomas More University.

Colerain Girls Team Titles:

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----|------------------------------|---|
| State Championships (CC): | 4 | | |
| State Runners-up (CC): | 3 | | |
| Regional Championships (CC): | 8 | Regional Championships (TF): | 1 |
| District Championships (CC): | 15 | District Championships (TF): | 9 |



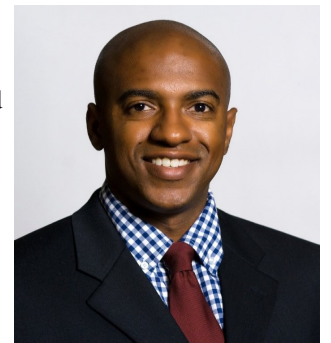
Shannon Wheatley

The 400M is considered one of the most challenging races in Track & Field, requiring the combination of strength and speed endurance. At Thomas More Worthington High School, that perfect combination can be summed up in two words: Shannon Wheatley.

Some people are blessed with natural speed, but regardless of the level of athlete, one has to work hard to make those incremental progressions that come at the highest levels of competition. Wheatley's work ethic defined his high school career. Shannon's 6th place finish at the 1997 State Meet in 48.98 and leadoff leg of Worthington's 4 x 400M were a glimpse of what that work ethic might yield, but there was never any doubt in the mind of his coach, Andy Cox. Cox saw Wheatley's character and leadership on and off the track as Wheatley was elected as President of the Class of '99.

Wheatley's junior campaign started with adversity. He broke his ankle during the basketball season and had a limited amount of time to train before the start of the outdoor season. Despite that, he finished the season as State Runner-up with a time of 48.63 in 1998 at the final state meet at the Horseshoe. He pushed himself and his teammates and followed up his runner-up finish with his State Championship double in the 200M (21.87) and the 400M (47.10) in 1999 at Welcome Stadium in Dayton. His 46.7 relay split to capture the 4 x 400M and team title was the end to a fantastic high school career that included All American recognition on six different occasions during the Indoor and Outdoor National Scholastic Championships.

Wheatley headed south to the University of Tennessee, where he set school records, became an All-American, and was a member of Tennessee's 2001 SEC and NCAA Championship teams. Following a career-ending injury, Wheatley graduated with a degree in History and has continued to translate his work ethic into serving others as an educator, a coach, and advocate for Track & Field. He now resides in Sacramento, California, with his wife and two children.



Visit the OAT & CCC Hall of Fame at: <http://www.oatccc.com/halloffame>



CLASS OF 2022 HALL OF FAME (Continued)

Neal Charske, Chairperson

Ryan C. Wilson

A three sport competitor at Columbus Academy and Westerville North HS, Ryan Wilson exemplifies every coach's argument against the current trend of sport specialization at such young ages. Ryan helped North to a 1995 Soccer State Championship title, played basketball, and - somehow - still managed to win five individual State Championship titles. Ryan stands as an example to all young athletes that you really can have it all if you mix some talent with a lot of hard work and a healthy, positive attitude.

The dominant hurdler in Ohio in the 1998, Ryan won the 110HH and 300IH as well as the long jump helping Westerville North win the State Championship team title. He repeated his hurdle dominance in both events in 1999 winning both races and jumped 23' 7.5" to take 3rd in the long jump.

The University of Southern California beckoned and there Ryan earned team MVP honors his last three years in recognition of his PAC 10 titles in the 110HH and the 400IH. He was recognized as the PAC 10 Male Track Athlete of the Year in 2003 and won the NCAA National Championship title in the 110HH that same year. A three time All American, Ryan was inducted into USC's Track & Field Hall of Fame

For the next decade, Ryan remained a dominant force in the USA Championships including a 13.02 PR in 2007, a 2010 Runner-up title, and a 2013 National Championship title. He competed extensively on the Golden League/ Diamond Circuit from 2007-2014 and was the Silver Medalist at the 2013 IAAF World Championships (Moscow).

Ryan then turned his attention to coaching and that expertise helped Nia Ali become the 2016 World Indoor Champion in the 60HH and then follow that up with the 2016 Olympic Silver Medal in the 100HH. As a medalist, Nia acknowledged Ryan's excellence in coaching with the Order of Ikko medal.

Ryan currently resides in Los Angeles, California.



John M. Coyne III

When a pole vault pole breaks, it sounds like a shotgun going off—everybody stops what they're doing and looks. The story about John Coyne is that he calmly walked over to his equipment, pulled out a new pole, and without hesitation came right back down the runway to clear the winning height. Pole vaulters—there is a mix there of talent, precision, and a little crazy that inspires all of us to watch when they soar to heights that make others a little dizzy. And John Coyne could soar!

A two time State Champion in his event, John was the standard by which all other pole vaulters in Ohio were measured. His 16'4" jump to win the 1986 State Champion title also set the State Record for all divisions and stood for the next 24 years. As a State Meet and Division II record, however, the 16'4" jump would stand for another four years after that. He still holds the records for Medina County and Buckeye High School—both Sports Halls of Fame into which he has been inducted. Additionally, John earned All American honors at the Pathmark National Scholastic Indoor Championship and the Golden West National Outdoor Championship placing third in both meets. He was recognized by the National High School Athletic Congress Association as a Track All American (1986) and was Ohio's Gatorade Player of the Year for Track & Field.

After high school, John headed for Knoxville where he became Tennessee's Freshman School Record holder and held the school record in both indoor and outdoor. With major wins at the Penn Relays and in SEC competition, John also achieved at the national level qualifying to the NCAA National Championships twice each in indoor and outdoor, and winning All America honors on two of those occasions. The four year letterman came back from an injury in 1990—for which he was recognized with both the Comeback of the Year Award and UT's Toughest Competitor Award, John was a part of Tennessee's 1991 NCAA Outdoor National Championship team.

Following his graduation from Tennessee, John returned to Northeast Ohio and earned his law degree from Cleveland State University before returning to Medina. He continues to serve his community as President of Medina's City Council giving back to the community in which he was raised. John and his wife, Jennifer, have three children and still live in Medina.



Visit the OAT & CCC Hall of Fame at: <http://www.oatccc.com/halloffame>



CLASS OF 2022 HALL OF FAME (Continued)

Neal Charske, Chairperson

Harry T. McKnight

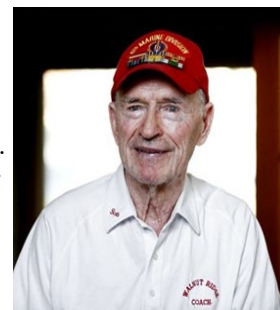
A 1937 OHSA survey showed only 55% of the schools in the state had women's basketball, but 67% of those favored dropping it. By 1956, another survey indicated that less than half of the state's school offered young women the chance to participate in sports. Then came Harry McKnight.

As high school athlete, Harry was a member of the 1944 State Runner-up team at Columbus East HS. Drafted out of high school, Harry joined the Marines and fought at Okinawa in 1945 at the battle for Sugar Loaf Hill where 240 men of Company C went up the hill—only 16 came back. Upon his discharge at the end of the war (1946), Harry entered Ohio State University on the GI Bill and was a pole vaulter for Ohio State's Big Ten Championship team of 1948. As an ROTC graduate and commissioned officer, he would serve in the Ohio National Guard for another 26 years, participate in the Berlin Airlift, and retire as a Lt. Colonel—all the while competing locally and nationally in the pole vault until 1961. It was also in this time period when he found his true calling as a teacher and a coach and would serve the Columbus City Schools at East HS (1951-61) and Walnut Ridge HS (1963-86) over a 36 year career.

He helped found the Ohio Track Club in 1954 that helped recruit and develop athletes like Glen Davis (two time Gold Medalist, Rome) and Jack Moreland (1964 Olympian, 20K Racewalk). Then in 1959, under the guidance of Harry and Alex Ferenczy, the Women's Division of the Ohio Track Club was formed in order to promote track and field for girls' and women's competition—long before the OHSA or NCAA would contest Championships (1975 for the OHSA, 1982 for the NCAA). This program produced such greats as Estelle Baskerville (1964 Olympics, high jump), Sue Knott (6x National AAU 440 yd dash Champion and former World Record Holder for the Indoor 440Y), Laurie Barr (1971 Pan Am Games, 200M), and Beth Hudson (national class sprints and hurdles).

Harry's high school athletes included Champions Jim Marshall (1955, Shot Put) and Howard Brook (1957, Pole Vault). Art Angel was a Runner-up (1959, 120Y Hurdles), Brian Slane went on to become Ohio State's first 17'0" pole vaulter, and Bernie Casey was a finalist in the 1960 Olympic Trials. He coached the 1968 USAF Team at the 1968 AAU National Championship and was the head coach for the winning Women's USA team in its meet vs. Russia (VA), and was also the head coach for both the men's and women's teams vs. Russia in St. Petersburg.

Harry has been recognized by a number of Halls of Fame, and for his pioneering work in women's athletics, was awarded the inaugural USATF Hometown Hero Award in 2017. At 95 years old, Harry still resides in Columbus.



Jennie Castle

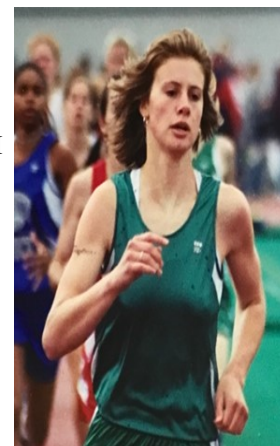
Barnesville HS is no stranger to Hall of Fame caliber distance running and Jennie Castle put the state on notice her freshman cross country season with an All Ohio 8th place finish that propelled Barnesville to the State Championship team title (1997). The coaching dilemma Sean McCate and her dad, David Castle, faced in the spring was where to put such a gifted all around athlete. Jennie could do everything: 200M (26.2), 400M (57.95), 800M (2:12.05), 1600M (5:15), 3200M (11:43), the 4 x 400M, the 4 x 800M - and the 300IH (45.76). The hurdles? Really? These times represent school, league, and District/Regional record setting efforts in 8 of the 12 running events offered at the State Championship level and the 2:12.05 800M won the State Champion title and was the DII State Record for nine years. What an athlete!

Before it was over, Jennie earned All Ohio recognition seven times and was a force in both DII and DIII 800M races depending on the classification year. She also helped the 4 x 800M relay to a 3rd place podium finish in 2001. A four time Regional 800M Champion, Jennie set a standard for Southeast Ohio runners that few have reached.

From Barnesville, Jennie took her talents to the University of Akron where she was recognized four times as MAC 2nd Team and twice as MAC First Team setting an 800M PR of 2:06.91. When she moved up to the 1500M in 2005, she won the MAC Conference title (4:23.26) and qualified to the NCAA National Championships. Jennie was also known as a student—a regular on the U of A's Dean's List and repeatedly recognized as an MAC All Academic athlete as well as winning the USTFCA All Academic recognition on two occasions and NCAA All Academic and ESPN All Academic District Awards on one occasion each.

Following her career at Akron, Jennie represented the Atlanta Track Club racing in national level events including the Duke Invitational in 2010 where she Pr's in the 800M (2:06.78). She was a USATF 800M semi-finalist at the 2008 Indoor Championships, the USATF Georgia 5K Runner-up in 2009, and the USATF Georgia 5K Champion in 2010.

Jennie now lives in Kelso, Washington.





THE RUNNER

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2022 ED BARKER AWARD

Neal Charske, Chairperson

Randall L. McKinney

The OATCCC Association was started in 1941, the brainchild of Ed Barker. In 1964, the OATCCC chose his name to represent the award now given as an acknowledgement to individuals who have shown the most exceptional service to the OATCCC and to the sports of Cross Country and Track & Field in Ohio.

The OATCCC takes great pride in naming Randy McKinney of Eaton High School the 2022 Ed Barker Award winner for the leadership roles he has undertaken and the major impact he has had on the sports of cross country and track & field.

Randy has represented the coaches and athletes of southwest Ohio in a number of capacities helping the sports of cross country and track to grow both as a coach and an official. Recognized on nine occasions as a District Coach of the Year, Randy was the 2003 NFHS Sectional Coach of the Year as well as the Ohio Coach of the Year for boys cross country. While his coaching successes are numerous, so are his contributions as a meet manager to both sports. Randy has been running invitational and relay meets since 1983 as well as summer running camps for athletes from all over his county and road races for runners of all ages.

On the state level, Randy has been an integral part of the OATCCC Executive Board representing the Schools of District 13. A member of the Association since 1983, Randy has served as a polling captain for the Division II Cross Country Coaches Poll since 1988. A certified USATF Level 1 and Level 2 (Endurance) coach, Randy has also been a presenter at the OATCCC Cross Country Clinic (2014).

For all he has done for the Association, coaches around the state, and student-athletes across the years—the OATCCC is proud to recognize Randy McKinney as the 2022 Ed Barker Award winner. Congratulations, Randy!



NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR

Willie Smith, Beachwood High School

The NFHS, which has been recognizing coaches through an awards program since 1982, annually honors 23 coaches for their excellence in sports for the 2020-2021 school year.

A very special congratulations goes out to Willie Smith of Beachwood High School upon his selection as the NFHS National Coach of the Year for Girls Track & Field.

Although Willie modestly gives credit to his mentors who helped him along the way—specifically Dick Mann of Cleveland Heights, Claude Holland of John Adams and Cleveland Heights, Lou Slapnik of Collinwood, and Jim Emery of Beaumont (all four Hall of Fame coaches) - the athletes of Beachwood HS have spoken highly in interviews about their coach of his caring, his work with them on training techniques, and the leadership and character lessons he has tried to instill in them. The Bisons have learned their lessons well and the result has been six State Championship performances in both the indoor and outdoor seasons and with both the boys' and the girls' teams.

Willie has served the OATCCC as a long time event coach of the Midwest Meet of Champions staff and has won numerous local and state recognition awards. The OATCCC nominated him in December for the state award based on his team's performances. He was then selected as the NFHS Midwest Sectional Award winner, and in February was notified of his national recognition.

Congratulations Willie!



Willie Smith

*National Girls' Track & Field
Coach of the Year*





THE RUNNER

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OHSAA SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS, AND INTEGRITY AWARD WINNERS

GIRLS' TRACK

John Paul
Canton Central Catholic

BOYS' TRACK

Toni Cirolì
St. Clairsville HS

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY

Gwen Faller
New Philadelphia HS

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY

Dan Sekerak
Hebron Lakewood HS

Congratulations—and thank you! Your outstanding traits of ethical behavior and integrity in your duties and responsibilities are a credit to our profession.

2021 CROSS COUNTRY CLINIC

Carson Cheek, Clinic Director

If you missed the 2021 Cross Country Clinic, then you missed an outstanding day at the Airport Marriott in Columbus. Moving the Clinic back to Columbus proved to be the right thing to do as it posted a 4.81 approval rating (out of 5) - the second highest since 2014 when Jack Daniels was the speaker (4.87).

John Kuzio of the OHSAA started the Clinic with a great Q & A on the state of Ohio Cross Country and a review of the State Meet. He also provided some insights into the spring State TF Championship. Matt Schock of Seneca East joined Tom Loy and HOF coach Lee Sternberg of East Canton in presenting valuable and well received discussions. Jessie Magoto (Minster) and Howard Russ (Beavercreek) also delivered messages that ranked as some of the all-time best presentations.

Please mark your 2022 dates: Friday, November 18th is the Cross Country Clinic which will be staying in Columbus at the Airport Marriott.. The Mid East meet will still be held the next day in Kettering.

Any questions, please feel free to contact Carson Cheek at (419) 305-5797, or see the clinic website for more information:

<https://oatccc.com/clinics/cross-country-coaches-clinic.aspx>



John Kuzio
OHSAA CCTF Liaison

2021 DALE GABOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

Nominations for this award are submitted to the District Representatives and winners are announced—odd numbered districts in odd years, even numbered districts in even years.

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| DISTRICT 2 | Tony Longino-Thomas | Official |
| DISTRICT 4 | Mike Popovich | Sportswriter |
| DISTRICT 6 | Tom Tucker | Meet Manager |
| DISTRICT 8 | Arianne Davis | ATC / Race Organizer |
| DISTRICT 10 | Jon Agriesti | Owner, Timing First |
| DISTRICT 12 | Leonard Steyer | Athletic Director |
| DISTRICT 14 | Harold Grice | Official |
| DISTRICT 16 | Shirley Cox | Meet Worker / Timer |

*Thank you for all you have done over the years on behalf of
The sports of cross country and track and field!*



THE RUNNER

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THE RUNNER RUNS ITS COURSE

OATCCC Newsletter to Move to Online Monthly Format

All good things must come to an end—or change to meet the times—and *The Runner* is no exception. Beginning in 2022, the monthly newsletter posted on the OATCCC website under “NEWS” will inherit its printed predecessor’s name, *The Runner*.

The new online format will allow for a more interactive experience for coaches, athletes, and fans. It will allow for a more immediate update of news items relevant to the CC/TF community rather than the once per year re-cap as well as to podcasts and other media presentations offered by the online program including photos, interviews, and links to news stories on both the state and national levels. The opportunities for more people to become involved in the writing, publishing, and presentation of special interest stories, profiles, and events is limitless—and probably overdue. This is an exciting change for the OATCCC and we all look forward to the new directions *The Runner* will take.

Begun in 1946 by Ed Barker, *The Runner* has evolved across the years and for me personally has been a labor of love. As only its 11th editor in this 76 year time period and holding the title for the longest tour in that office (18 years), I cannot thank all of you across the years who have played a part in my life and the work I was blessed to have done on behalf of the Association. It has been fun, and as this role comes to an end for me, I want to wish you and *The Runner* all the best of luck in the years to come.

Sincerely, *Dave*



Dave Kirk
Editor of *The Runner*
2005-2022

OHSAA SWIMMING JOINS TRACK & FIELD FOR PARA INCLUSION EVENTS

Dave Kirk, US Paralympics Liaison

In October of 2019, and “mirroring the success of Para events for track and field athletes,” the OHSAA added two swimming events to its State Championship format—the 50M Freestyle and the 100M Backstroke. The 2020 State Meet was to host the first of these events, but due to Covid, athletes did not get the opportunity to race. But in February of 2021, history was made as Para athletes took to the pool to compete for State Champion titles and All Ohio honors.

Abby Gase of Otsego High School becomes the first female athlete in Ohio history to compete in and earn All Ohio honors IN BOTH SPORTS with her 5th place finish in the 50M Freestyle, 3rd place finish in the 100 Backstroke, and her State Championship title in the Shot Put. Bryson Hummel of River Valley High School earns the same designation with Runner-up swimming titles in the 50M Freestyle, 100M Backstroke, and Track & Field 8th place finishes in the 100M, 400M, 800M, and a 3rd place finish in the Shot Put. Both seniors have represented the Paralympic community in the highest manner of sportsmanship and paved the way for future multi-sport athletes in these events. Additionally, Abby’s performance earned her USOPC All American recognition in Track & Field for her achievements in the Shot Put. In its national leadership role, Ohio Seated Track & Field continues to set an example of leadership for the rest of the nation and welcomes Ohio Swimming to this growing family of sports.

Additionally, in Ohio, 2017 saw the addition of a State Championship in Track & Field to the Jr. High/Middle School level of competition and Paralympic athletes in 7th and 8th grades competed, received State recognition for their championship performances, and scored for their teams in this one day, all-divisions meet. Ohio remains the only state to include these athletes in championship competition at these grade levels and ensures the continuing growth of these events at the high school level.

The benefits that the awareness the Wheelchair Division has created about Paralympic sport and the job our coaches are doing working with these students to dream bigger and compete in Paralympic sport continue to make Ohio a national leader in this area of Track and Field competition.

GREAT JOB OHIO!



Abby Gase
Otsego HS
Bryson Hummel
River Valley HS

Champion
TEAMWEAR

**The OATCCC says,
“THANK YOU!” to Champion Teamwear -**

The sponsor and uniform supplier to our teams at the
Midwest Cross Country Meet and the Midwest Meet of Champion
Thanks for helping our champions *look* like champions!



Ohio Association Of Track And Cross Country Coaches

ACADEMIC ALL-OHIO AWARD 2022 OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

ELIGIBILITY

1. You must have an accumulative high school G.P.A. of 3.5 or better to be eligible. Grades must be computed on a 4.0 scale and carried out to three (3) decimal places. If your school does not use a 4.0 scale, you must have your guidance counselor convert the average to an unweighted 4.0 scale equivalent. G.P.A.'s must be calculated at the end of each semester preceding the student's current season.
2. Athletes must qualify for the State Meet
3. Freshmen are not eligible
4. Only relay team members who competed at the Regional or State Meets are eligible.

Nomination Form

(Use this form for boys or girls - not both - and please write very neatly or type)

SCHOOL NAME _____ DIVISION: I II III
ADDRESS _____ COACH'S NAME _____
CITY _____ COACH'S PHONE _____
ZIP _____ SCHOOL PHONE _____

| STUDENT NAME | SEX | GRADE | GPA | EVENT (S) | (For OATCCC use only) |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Principal's signature _____ Coach's signature _____

1. The coach is responsible for turning in this form at the OATCCC table at the State Track Meet. Please bring your athletes with you to receive their award at this time. Forms turned in after the State Meet will NOT be eligible.
2. The coach is responsible for having this form signed by the school principal or counselor.
3. The coach will have the responsibility of notifying their respective local media.
4. **G.P.A. cannot be over 4.000**



Ohio Association Of Track And Cross Country Coaches

Membership is for the calendar year, January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022
DO NOT SEND THIS FORM IN IF YOU REGISTERED FOR THE CLINIC!

SCHOOL _____ TELEPHONE _____
SCHOOL ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____

Individual Memberships:

_____ \$10 For each coach - list coaches on the lines below.

School Memberships:

_____ Enroll your entire staff! The price is still \$10 each, but it says something about your staff!

*Membership includes voting and Association privileges: Mid East Cross Country Championships,
OAT&CCC Indoor State Championships, Midwest Meet of Champions, and the OAT&CCC Runner*

Print Name(s) for school, individual, or association membership below:

| | | Coaching Position (please circle) | | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | | | Boys | Girls |
| | | | Track / CC | Track / CC |
| 1. | Head / Asst | HS / MS | Track / CC | Track / CC |
| Home address | | Phone: | | E-Mail: |
| 2. | Head / Asst | HS / MS | Track / CC | Track / CC |
| Home address | | Phone: | | E-Mail: |
| 3. | Head / Asst | HS / MS | Track / CC | Track / CC |
| Home address | | Phone: | | E-Mail: |
| 4. | Head / Asst | HS / MS | Track / CC | Track / CC |
| Home address | | Phone: | | E-Mail: |

Make checks payable to OAT&CCC

(Mail to address below if different than school)

Mail to:

**Donna Joseph
3822 Highland Avenue
Shadyside, Ohio 43947**



*The Ohio Association of
Track & Cross Country Coaches*

**Dave Kirk, Editor
Galion High School**

_____ Boys' Varsity Cross Country
_____ Boys' Varsity Track
_____ Boys' MS Cross Country
_____ Boys' MS Track
_____ Girls' Varsity Cross Country
_____ Girls' Varsity Track
_____ Girls' MS Cross Country
_____ Girls' MS Track

PLEASE ROUTE TO: