

14th annual

NORTH AUGUSTA SPORTS
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION CEREMONY

2019 INDUCTEES

LEIGH PAGAN
GERRY SAGUS
KEITH WATERS
1967 DIXIE BOYS

Brought to you by



P O S E Y
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Co-Sponsored by



6:00 P.M.
WELCOME RECEPTION

6:30 P.M.
WELCOME
by Kelly Zier

INVOCATION
by Dr. John Younginer

DINNER
7:15 P.M.

BOB BOLTON AWARD
Presented by Rob Freitas

SERTOMA ATHLETES OF
DISTINCTION INTRODUCTIONS
by Jason Lynn

Drew Jordan
Zach Griffin
Caree Collier
Chris Torres
Mya Burns
Chad Champy
Kyler McKie

INDUCTION CEREMONY

LEIGH PAGAN

Introduced by Diane Shuler

GERRY SAGGUS

Introduced by Rod Greenway

KEITH WATERS

Introduced by Charlie Waters

1967 DIXIE BOYS NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Accepted by Al Duval

CLOSING REMARKS

John Felak North Augusta Sports Commission Chairman



LEIGH PAGAN

Leigh Pagan was born in Eureka, California to Barbara and Lloyd Pagan. Shortly after birth, her family returned to her parent's home town of Trumann, Arkansas where her father worked for Kimberly Clark in Memphis, TN. Her father transferred to Kimberly Clark's Beech Island, SC plant in 1968 and her family settled in North Augusta just in time for Leigh to start first grade. Leigh soon developed an interest in sports when her older brother, Bryan, began playing little league sports. Leigh and Bryan were always

outside playing baseball, football or basketball with all the Hammond Hills neighborhood kids. Leigh began playing softball in the sixth grade with the Belvedere Girls Softball League, the only organized sports league for girls in the CSRA in the mid 70's.

Leigh's outstanding run in athletics began in the 8th grade playing basketball for Coach Maggie Ward at North Augusta Junior High. Leigh was the team's leading scorer and was selected All-Conference and team MVP in the 9th grade. Leigh expanded her athletic career to include participation in volleyball and softball in the 9th grade, the first year these sports were offered for girls.

At North Augusta High School, Leigh was a three-year starter and team captain in volleyball, basketball and fast pitch softball earning team MVP honors in all three sports her junior year and repeating as team MVP in basketball her senior year. The southpaw was an excellent shooter leading the team in scoring all three years. Leigh garnered Aiken Standard All-County honors all three years including the Aiken Standard Player of the Year her senior year. Leigh was Aiken County's leading scorer her junior and senior year averaging over 20 points and 10 rebounds per game. She earned All-Conference honors her junior and senior years and was selected to the South Carolina Coaches Association of Women's Sports Senior All-Star Team. Leigh also earned All-County honors in volleyball her junior and senior year. In volleyball and basketball, she was coached by Diane Shuler in the 10th and 11th grade and was reunited with Coach Maggie Ward for her senior campaign. Leigh played first base for Coach Verne Rushton's Yellow Jacket Softball team. Leigh earned a full scholarship to play volleyball and basketball at USC-Aiken for Coach Johanna Gibbs. The Lady Pacers were NAIA District 6 Champions in both volleyball and basketball her freshman year. She was a four-year starter and team co-captain in volleyball earning All-Conference and team MVP honors two times. In basketball, Leigh was a two-year starter and in her senior year was the team's leading scorer, co-captain and an All-Conference selection. In addition to her outstanding performance on the court, Leigh excelled in the classroom earning NAIA District 6 All Academic honors in both volleyball and basketball. Leigh was USC-Aiken's first two sport Academic All-American performer earning the honor in her junior and senior year in volleyball and in her senior year in basketball. She was named USA-Aiken's Female Scholar Athlete of the Year her senior year.

After college, Leigh continued her athletic career by participating in Greenville County, SC Recreational and YMCA Women's and Co-Ed softball and power volleyball leagues. She also competed in both in-door and out-door USA Volleyball tournaments with the UpSouth Volleyball Club.

Leigh is a CPA having earned a BS in Accounting from USC-Aiken and a Master's in Tax from Clemson University. She began her professional career as a tax accountant at Ernst & Young in Greenville, SC and eventually moved to the private sector as the Tax Director of an insurance company in Greenville. Leigh is a graduate of Leadership Greenville and has been active in community volunteer and board leadership activities including the United Way, Pendleton Place Children's Shelter, Rosewood House of Recovery and the Emory's Foundation. She is currently a corporate insurance tax executive for a large publicly traded insurance company in West Des Moines, Iowa.



GERRY SAGGUS

Born and raised in North Augusta, Gerry Saggus was an outstanding athlete in the 1960's and 70's. Parents Hubert Earl and Barbara Saggus provided Gerry with an opportunity to play and excel on many athletic fields.

A three sport athlete, his favorite sport was football. The speedy running back played basketball and was an excellent baseball player roaming center field. In 1968, he was a member of the State Champion Boys of Summer All-Star team and participated in the

Dixie Youth World Series in Birmingham, Alabama.

Football is where Saggus shined. For North Augusta High School, he scored 15 touchdowns as a member of the 10th grade team in 1966 and was voted the "Most Valuable Scrub" or better known as the 10th grade MVP. Beginning in his 11th grade season, Gerry began tallying rushing yardage that would eventually earn him a college scholarship. He was chosen Most Athletic in both his sophomore, junior and senior years as a Yellow Jacket. Voted the Augusta Shriner Back Award as a junior, he broke the NAHS single season rushing mark with 1,257 yards as a senior to bring his high school career to 1,863 yards. He also scored 8 touchdowns in each of his junior and senior years. Gerry was the co-captain, selected Most Valuable Player, the STAR Player of the Year, CSRA Back of the Week and selected for the Big Nine All-Star team. He was also named in Who's Who 1968 South Carolina athletes.

Gerry signed an athletic scholarship to The University Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles to join fellow HOF member Hugh Eggersman, future NFL great Ray Guy and Aiken's Wilson Plunkett. He was signed as a halfback and kickoff and punt return specialist. His punt return of 60 yards for a touchdown helped lead Southern Miss to an upset win over 5th ranked Ole Miss and Archie Manning. He was the leading punt returner on the team in 1970 and also made the Big Gold Coaches Honor Roll in 1973 and the USM Dean's List in 1974 with a 4.0 GPA.

After an offer to go to camp for the New Orleans Saints, Gerry became a teacher for 31 ½ years with Richmond County. He was the Head Football coach for 3 years and an assistant for another 9 with Butler High School while also coaching baseball, track and golf. He was a member of the coaching staff at NAHS during the State Championship year of 1989 while also helping the baseball and softball team for the Yellow Jackets. His time at North Augusta remains the highlight of his coaching career.

Gerry spent 28 years as a Georgia High School football official and 15 years as a softball umpire for GHSA and GISA. He officiated several state championship football games in Georgia included some played at the Georgia Dome.

Gerry is married to the former Sherilyn Hunt, her brother was George Hunt a teammate of Gerry's at USM, and has two children. Son Gerry and daughter Stacey (Usry) also played sports at NAHS. They have 7 grandchildren, three of which are current athletes at North Augusta High School.

Gerry continues to attend athletic events supporting his grandchildren and will always be in our community. Now a Hall of Famer, he will be remembered as an outstanding player, coach, father grandfather and devoted alumni of North Augusta.



KEITH WATERS

Keith Waters moved to North Augusta in 1959 from Miami, FL with his parents and 3 brothers. Attending North Augusta High School, it didn't take him long to begin to show his athletic talent for Yellow Jacket country. Keith played three sports in high school, football, basketball and baseball. He is the second member of his family inducted into the North Augusta Sports Hall of Fame following brother Charlie's induction in 2008.

His football career included two JV seasons and as the 3rd team QB in 1962 on varsity for legendary coach Cally Gault. He played one down of offensive football that year, kicking an extra point against Dentsville High. Basketball brought better success where he competed for one season on JV and two seasons on varsity. His accomplishments included the CSRA All-Tournament team in 1962 played at the Bell Auditorium where the Jackets finished runner-up.

Baseball being his real passion, Keith was a member of the Palmetto Majors State Champions in 1962 and 1963. He played varsity baseball for 3 years as a shortstop with his team earning state runner-up in 1961. Upon graduation, he attended Clemson University where his athletic career reached new heights. Before his graduation in 1968, Waters was a walk on candidate for football, basketball and baseball for the Tigers. His football career included an invite to camp from Coach Frank Howard as a place kicker and scout team wide receiver. He tore his ACL in '66, needing knee surgery which ended his football career and affected his upcoming baseball season.

Keith's baseball career began as the starting shortstop for the freshman team where he batted .343. He started as the Tigers center fielder from 66-68 and finished with a career .270 mark. Clemson won the ACC championship in 1967. He also led the ACC in triples in 1968.

After graduation, Keith entered the US Army and spent the next 20 years in a distinguished career which included Vietnam, graduation from medical school and becoming an Army Flight Surgeon. He retired in 1968 as a Lt Colonel. Keith was called back to service in 1991 in support of Operation Desert Storm. Dr. Waters spent 22 years in private practice, retiring in 2010. Keith is married to wife Debby, has two children, Scott and Kathy. His two grandchildren include Hannah Saunders, a sophomore at Clemson and Watson Saunders, a baseball prospect from Blythwood HS.



1967 DIXIE BOYS

At the end of every summer, baseball All-Star teams are selected to play in the area to determine the best community

team. The summer of 1967 began this way and a group of ballplayers from North Augusta were entered in the Jaycee baseball tournament. From August 7 through August 12 the North Augusta boys defeated teams from Augusta, Columbia County, Richmond County and Waynesboro to represent the State. The team then defeated the Virginia champs in two straight games to advance to the Dixie Boys World Series held in Jackson, Mississippi August 14-18.

Mickey Mantle was on the front of the program and the south's State Champions from Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana joined North Augusta and the host team from Jackson to determine the World Series Champs. After a first round win over Louisiana, North Augusta earned an 8-3 win over pre-tourney favorite Jackson, Mississippi. Starting pitcher Walter Kraus was lifted and replaced by Butch Brown with NA down 2-0 in the second inning. Sandy Franklin's home run in the third tied the score and Brown's superb relief stint netted only one run and two hits for the opposition the rest of the game. In the third, Brown's double and Terry Jones solo homer put the locals up for good. North Augusta scored runs in every inning after getting blanked in the bottom of the first.

North Augusta's win earned them a shot at the unbeaten squad from Highland Park, Tennessee in the winner's bracket final. A convincing 11-2 win gave the team a much needed rest as the balance of the tournament was played out to determine the finals opponent and a chance at history.

Tennessee earned another shot at the title by winning the loser's bracket to face North Augusta in the finals. The double elimination tournament saw Tennessee earn an 8-6 win and force the deciding game. Sandy Franklin was given the ball but the high scoring affair was tied 5-5 after two innings. Brown was brought in for relief and Franklin was sent to short where he would go 4-4 at the plate. Tied at 6 after 4 ½, North Augusta pounded the ball for 4 runs led by a Bruce Walters home run. Brown shut out Tennessee the rest of the way to earn the win and the National Dixie Boys Championship to bring back to North Augusta. The buses were greeted by a throng of fans to bring to a close the championship run of another fine group of young men from our community.

Team members included Robert Rogers, Al Duval, Mickey Derrick, Tommy Owings, Glynn Richey, Bernard Enevoldsen, George Whatley, Keith Ford, Sandy Franklin, Terry Jones, Jimmy Bush, Butch Brown, Dyke Dolly, Bruce Walters, Walter Krause, Jimmy Simiril, Phil Still and coaches Ray Walters, Bill Brown and Manager Milton Richey.

NORTH AUGUSTA SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Sammy Anderson – 2009

Craig Baynham – 2008

Earl Baynham – 2006

Larry Baynham – 2005

Ned Baynham – 2016

Lenny Best – 2016

Charley Britt – 2005

Jim Buist – 2009

Jim Bush – 2012

Mathew Campbell – 2011

Pat Carpenter – 2008

Pat Collins – 2010

Randy Cooper - 2017

Gordon Cox - 2018

Betty Crocker - 2018

Dick Day – 2009

Hugh Eggersman – 2011

John “Fuzzy” Floyd – 2011

Cally Gault – 2005

Antonio Grant - 2018

Rod Greenway – 2016

Johnny Harrison – 2014

Joseph Houston – 2015

Harry Howard – 2009

Paul Knox – 2010

Al Lown - 2017

Vicki Mann – 2014

Reggie Merriweather - 2017

Donald Metz – 2006

Beth McKie Meyer – 2012

Hubert Morris – 2011

Charles Overstreet – 2013

George Parks – 2015

Jeff Pope - 2017

Jerry Priestley – 2006

Micheal Rouse – 2006

Ralph Sapp – 2010

Dick Sheridan – 2008

Lee Sheridan – 2010

Allen Simmons – 2015

Ellen Smith – 2006

Frank Staley – 2013

Ed Stillwell – 2008

Sammy Twigg – 2012

Bill Utsey – 2014

Charlie Waters – 2008

Dr. Gamewell Watson – 2005

Charlie Williams – 2013

Sam Woodring – 2005

1949 State Champion Baseball Team – 2013

1958 State Champion Football Team – 2009

1961 State Champion Football Team – 2012

1964 State Runner-up Baseball Team – 2015

1970 State Champion Girls Volleyball Team - 2017

1973 State Champion Golf Team – 2016

1989 State Football Champions – 2014

1991 State Champion Cheerleaders - 2018

2019 HALL OF FAME SELECTION COMMITTEE

*Stan Godwin
Ned Baynham
Kyle Smith
Al Lown
Diane Shuler
Charlie Bush*

Brought to you by the
NORTH AUGUSTA SPORTS COMMISSION

Our Mission:

To develop, attract, promote and sponsor athletic events in the city of North Augusta and surrounding areas that provide participation and spectator opportunities for our citizens while creating tourism revenue in a positive, family oriented environment.

NORTH AUGUSTA SPORTS COMMISSION

*John Felak, Chairman
Jason Lynn
Ken Franklin
Rick Thomas*



2020 NORTH AUGUSTA
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION CEREMONY BANQUET
February, 2020
www.northaugustasports.com

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