

# BHS Alumni Association to induct 2015 Hall of Fame members on February 20

The Bedford High School Alumni Association will be inducting seven individuals and two teams into its 2015 Hall of Fame.

The inductees will be introduced to the public on Friday, February 19 during half time of the BHS Basketball Game vs. Ann Arbor Skyline.

The induction banquet will take place at BHS on Saturday, February 20 in the cafeteria. There will be a social/tour of the high school beginning at 5 p.m. The dinner will begin at 6 p.m. with the induction to follow.

Edd Bankowski, chairman of the BHS Hall of Fame and Alumni Association trustee, said that normally the induction would have been held last fall. "Since that didn't happen, we are going to have the induction the weekend of February 19-20 and again in the fall during football season for the Class of 2016."

Don Balasz, Phyllis Boehm, Laura Collins, Jon Deinners, Mike Hennessey, Lewis Horn, Lisa Beins McCaig, Bill Orth, Mickey Rudolph and Pam Krell made up the Hall of Fame selection committee.

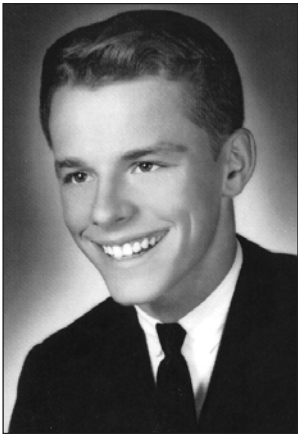
you can see," Mr. Bankowski said. The 2015 Hall of Fame inductees are as follows:

**Jerry Jaffee** – *Theatre/Post High School*. Jerry is a 1965 Bedford graduate. He combined the two things that he loved most from high school, wrestling (he was on the team for three years) and theatre (he starred as Conrad in Mrs. Carol Emptage's production of *Bye Bye Birdie*), into a successful career in professional wrestling.

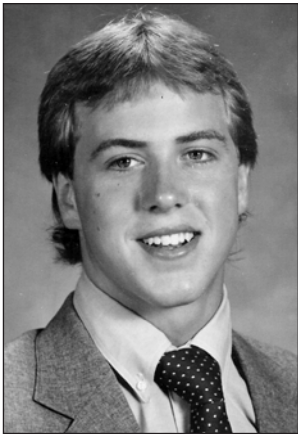
He gained fame in the 1970's as Dr. Jerry Graham, Jr. and continued his career until retirement in 1992. His matches included many famous wrestlers: "The Sheik," Wild Bull Curry, Flying Fred Curry, Dick the Bruiser, and Randy Savage. He also appeared with Hulk Hogan and Andre the Giant.

Jerry competed internationally, becoming a five-time WWA Tag Team World Champion, with partner Don Kent. He worked for Vince McMahon of the WWE, and a tour highlight was when he wrestled in Kuwait.

He was quite popular in Toledo in the local television wrestling shows. Jerry became



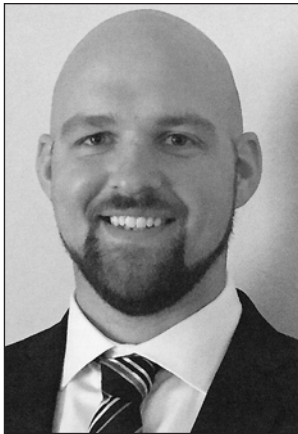
Jerry Jaffee



Rick Judson



Kelly Meinhart

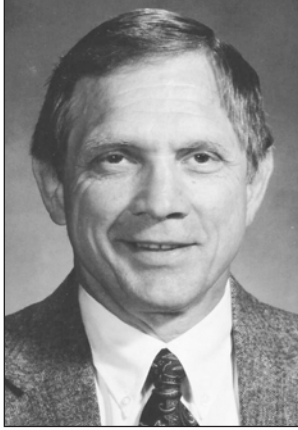


Chris Morris

Bruiser and produced Bruiser Bedlam that was televised throughout the Midwest. In the 1990's, he went to work for Ted Turner as a promoter for WCW. Jerry also produced an audio book, *Confessions of a Big Time Wrestler*.

He was inducted into the Independent Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2006 and the W.A.R. Hall of Fame in 2016.

**Rick Judson** – *Outstanding Athlete*. Rick is a 1987 BHS graduate. He played football, baseball, and even ran some track for Bedford. He was the varsity quarterback from 1985-87.



Bill Regnier



Jenifer Sulewski



Mary Lou Zaums

But, Rick was best at hockey. Starting at seven years old, he played travel hockey throughout his time at Bedford. He would go from football practice to hockey practice in the Detroit area. Rick was considered one of the top 20 players in the country in his age group, and played on two state and two national championship teams during his junior and senior year in high school.

He started all four years at the University of Illinois at Chicago, which was in a "hockey only" conference, the CCHA.

In 1989, Rick was drafted by the Detroit Red Wings, but he stayed in school. From 1992-2009 he played with the Toledo Storm. During that time, he was on two ECHL Championship teams in 1993 and 1994. In 1994, Rick was the MVP in the Riley Cup Playoffs. He also holds the "all-time" ECHL scoring record.

During his professional career, he played four years of Roller Hockey from 1994-1997. During his collegiate and professional career, Rick played in approximately 975 games (including playoffs), scored 400 goals, 497 assists, for 897 points. Rick also played in Europe. He was recently inducted into the Toledo Hockey Hall of Fame.

**Kelly Meinhart** – *Outstanding Athlete/Coach*. A 1984 BHS graduate, Kelly was named to the All-Great Lakes League and All-Academic

Team in three sports. She won two varsity letters in both basketball and volleyball, and three in softball.

In basketball, Kelly was captain of the team her senior year and won the Bedford Athletic Boosters Club Award. Her senior year in volleyball, Kelly was chosen All-Monroe County by the Monroe Evening News, as well as All-State (honorable mention), and won the Bedford Athletic Boosters Club Award again. In 1983 and 1984 Kelly was chosen All-Monroe County in softball and was captain her senior year. She won the Mudge Spencer Award.

Kelly attended UT where she was one of the top players on a Rocket softball squad. She earned first-team All-MAC honors as a catcher in 1987 and as a designated hitter in 1988, as well as first-team All-Mid-east Region in 1988. As a freshman, Kelly was a member of the 1985 Rocket squad that won a regular season MAC Championship. Kelly holds the UT record for triples in a season (8 in 1985) and triples in a career (13). She ranks 6th for RBI's (81) and 3rd in at-bats (678).

In 2013, Kelly was inducted into the UT Varsity "T" Hall of Fame.

As a coach, Kelly coached girls' junior high basketball from 1992-2006, junior high volleyball (8 years), 9th grade volleyball (5 years), and served as a post-season assistant with the 2005 State Championship Volleyball team. She coached Girls' Varsity Softball from 1994-1998 and 2005-2009. Her teams still hold school records for Batting Average, ERA, and Shutouts.

Kelly was named Monroe Evening News Coach of the Year for Softball in 1998 and 2008. Kelly is currently a teacher at Bedford High School.

**Chris Morris** – *Outstanding Athlete*. Chris is a 2001 BHS graduate and was a three-year starter at center and defensive tackle for the Kicking Mules. He was also a two-year starter on the basketball team. His senior year, Chris was selected to the All-State First Team, was named a "PrepStar" All-American, ranked among the top 80 prospects in the Midwest, as well as among the state's top players: Detroit

News (11th), Detroit Free Press (17th) and the Lansing State Journal (21st). On the field, his senior year, Chris recorded 42 tackles, including nine for losses with five sacks.

Chris continued his football career at MSU. As a freshman, he was an Academic All-Big Ten selection, saw action in the first nine games, before being injured and sidelined for the remaining three games. As a sophomore, he was named to several more All-Academic teams, including All-Big Ten again. During his 2003 season, Chris started all 13 games at center. Chris' junior year he was selected All-Big Ten (honorable mention), again won Big Ten All-Academic honors among other academic awards. He started all 12 games at center. He was a mainstay on an offensive line that helped produce a rushing attack that ranked second in the Big Ten and tenth in the NCAA, averaging 238.5 yards per game. He did not allow a sack in nearly 400 passing plays. Chris went into his senior season as an All-American candidate, as well as a candidate for the Rimington Award (College Football's top center). During his sophomore and junior seasons, Chris started 25 straight games for the Spartans. His senior year he started all 11 of the games the Spartans played.

In 2006, Chris was drafted by the Oakland Raiders where he played in 51 games over four seasons. For a short time he also played for the Carolina Panthers, where he played four more NFL games.

**Bill Regnier** – *Outstanding Coach/Teacher/Administrator*. Bill began his teaching and coaching career at BHS. He coached wrestling for 30 years from 1965-1995. After that, he served for 15 years as the district's athletic director from 1995-2010. Bill also coached football at Bedford from 1965-1986 as a varsity assistant, and from 1987-1995 he was the head football coach for nine years.

Some of Bill's many accolades/accomplishments include: Wrestling: 9 state championship teams, 4 state runner up teams, 19 regional championships, 20 district championships, 26 Great Lakes League

Championships with 25 in a row. Bill coached 27 state champions, 107 state place winners, and over 30 high school and college All-Americans. He was voted coach of the year many times: Monroe County (9 times), Regional (8), Michigan Class "A" Coach of the Year (6), Michigan "all classes" (2), and NFICA "National Coach of the Year" in 1992.

Football: Great Lakes League Champions 1990, Bill coached Bedford Football to their first ever appearance in the MHSAA football playoffs in 1990, Toledo Metro Coach of the Year 1990, Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Regional Coach of the year in 1990.

Athletic Director: Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Region 12 Athletic Director of the Year. In addition, Bill has been inducted into numerous halls of fame including the Michigan Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Even more, Bill also served as an officer of the Bedford Alumni Association for many years, so he was involved, in a large part, with the building of the Community Stadium, the Bedford Hall of Fame/banquets and more.

**Jenifer Sulewski-LaRoy** – *Outstanding Athlete*. Jenifer is 2003 BHS graduate and one of only a few Bedford athletes to win 12 varsity letters (basketball, volleyball and softball). During her four years in those three sports, Jenifer won All-SEC honors (6 times), All-County honors (5), All-Region honors (7), All-District (3), All-Academic several times, and also earned Player of the Week several times. In addition to these awards, Jenifer was captain of the basketball team her senior year.

In volleyball, as a sophomore, Jenifer played a big part in the 2001 State Championship team, which is already in the BHS Hall of Fame. Her junior year she earned Second Team All-State honors and helped lead the Mules to the state semifinals. Her senior year, Jenifer again helped the Mules make another trip to the state semifinals. She was selected First Team All-State as well as Mon-



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