

Team plus 6 inducted into Bedford alumni hall of fame

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Six individuals and a team

were inducted into the Bedford High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame last weekend.



Terri (Blok) Bosma was inducted into Bedford High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame last weekend. She spoke about how her time at Bedford prepared her to fight cancer.

Matthew Bell, Terri (Blok) Bosma, Steve Danforth, Tony Gill, Bill (Marty) Hammerstein, Phyllis McMacken-Maschke and the 1966 football team were inducted.

Honored for his musical talents in high school and afterward, Mr. Bell thanked Ron Koch, Bedford's band director, for his assistance.

"This is a tremendous honor," Mr. Bell said. "This isn't an award for me, but for the music department and Mr. Koch himself."

Mr. Bell said he hoped the induction served as an inspiration to other musical students.

"Sometimes band members are not watched by a lot of people," Mr. Bell said. "I hope you keep recognizing the success of these students."

Making a plea for the continuation of music programs, Mr. Bell said music prepares students for the world.

"We live in a world with constant budget cuts, but music in our schools should never go away," Mr. Bell said.

Mrs. Bosma, who was inducted as an outstanding athlete in basketball, volleyball and softball, discussed how the high school prepared her to face her battle with cancer later in life.

"In 2002, I was diagnosed with a malignant tumor. I remembered back to my days in Bedford," she said.



MATTHEW BELL

While in high school, Mrs. Bosma said she was a jock, but after her surgery for her tumor, she underwent extensive physical therapy. At first, she couldn't hold a basketball. But slowly she was able to begin dribbling. Then, she improved to being able to shoot again.

"God sent me to Bedford to get through all of this," she said.

Mrs. McMacken-Maschke's daughters, Ellen Bacon and Karen Adamski, spoke on their mother's behalf, who was honored posthumously as an outstanding teacher.

"She would have been so proud to have been inducted," Mrs. Adamski said.

The women talked about how their mother was issued a speeding ticket by the students for her uncanny ability to move quickly down the halls.

They also created a Top 10 list featuring reasons why their mother was inducted. The No. 1 reason, "She showed compassion for all students and co-workers."

For the first time in the Hall of Fame's 10-year history, a team was inducted. Several members of the 1966 football team attended the banquet. That team won the Great Lakes League championship.

Ray Kwiatkowski, the team's coach, spoke about that year and the accomplishments of the team.

"I had the pleasure of being with them for two years," he said. "It's amazing."

Players and coaches received medallions engraved with their names. Individual honorees received plaques recognizing their induction.

With Sept. 12's inductees, 68 individuals and one team are in the hall.