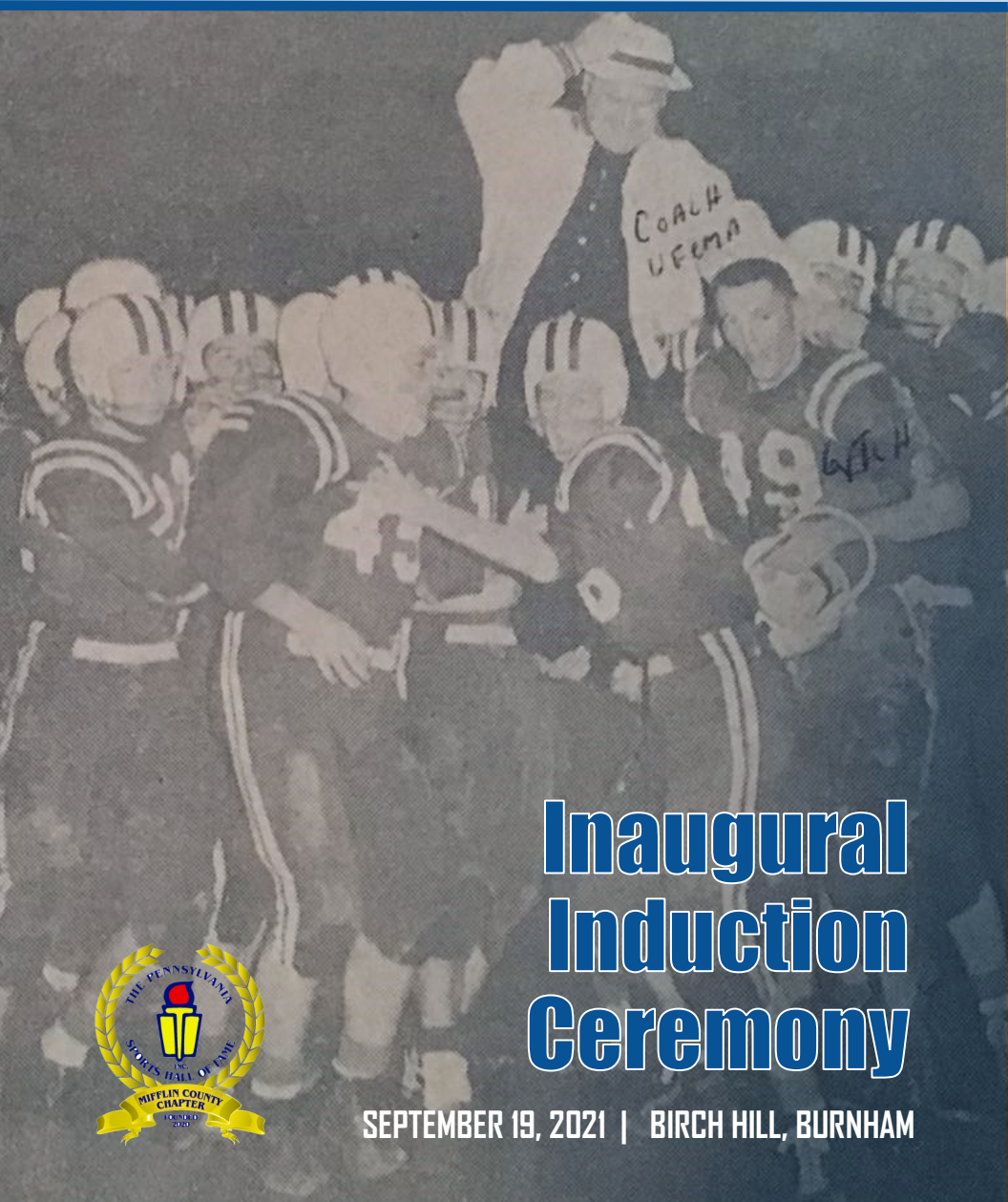


Mifflin County Sports **HALL OF FAME**

PRESERVING HISTORY. HONORING EXCELLENCE. CONNECTING GENERATIONS.



Inaugural Induction Ceremony



SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 | BIRCH HILL, BURNHAM

PHILIPS

**Congratulates This Year's
Hall of Fame Inductees...**



**Especially Our Long-Time
Employee Cindy Baxter!**





Tonight's Festivities

WELCOME

Jon Zimmerman, President of Mifflin County Sports Hall of Fame

EMCEE

Roger Herto

GUEST SPEAKER

Steve Jones, "The Voice" of Penn State Athletics

HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS

Individuals (Presenters)

- Ralph Baker (Dr. MeeCee Baker)
- Cindy Baxter (Harold "Junior" Powell)
- Dave Bradley (Jim Foster)
- Fran Fisher (Tim Curley)
- Tim Thompson (Ben McClure)
- Alex Ufema (Ufema family)

Teams

Lewistown Area High School girls basketball teams
1996-97 and 1997-98 PIAA Class AAA Champions

CLOSING REMARKS

Jon Zimmerman

Thank you for supporting the Mifflin County Sports Hall of Fame.



Guest Speaker

STEVE JONES: AN ICONIC VOICE ON PENN STATE FOOTBALL AND MEN'S BASKETBALL BROADCASTS

People consider work to be what they do for a living.

For Steve Jones, the long-time radio voice of the Penn State football and basketball broadcasts, the term “work” doesn’t apply.

Jones prefers a better description—“fun.”

“I love what I do,” Jones says about broadcasting more than 1,000 basketball games and 250 football games. “I’ll do this for as long as they let me.”

Jones has been the voice of men’s basketball at Penn State since 1982. He took over play-by-play duties for Nittany Lion football games on radio back in 2000 when legendary Fran Fisher retired.

Jones feels fortunate



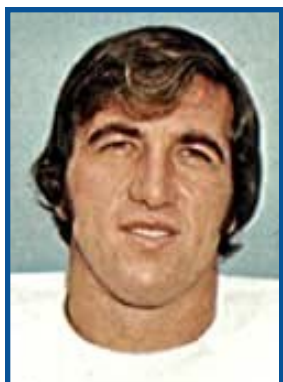
STEVE JONES SITS IN THE BROADCAST BOOTH.

enough to have called memorable moments, including the Nittany Lions’ triple overtime win over Florida State in the 2006 Orange Bowl; milestone wins

by Joe Paterno; and Nittany Lion basketball games, such as an upset of North Carolina in the Sweet 16 of the 2001 NCAA Tournament and 2009 NIT tourney title.



STEVE JONES IS PICTURED WITH THE LATE FRAN FISHER AT REC HALL.

**RALPH BAKER**

Ralph Baker

Lewistown High School – 1960

Penn State University

AFL/NFL New York Jets (1964-1974)

Born in Lewistown, Ralph Baker first gained prominence on the gridiron as both an offensive and defensive lineman at Lewistown High School. Following graduation, he took his talents to Penn State, where he became a standout linebacker. As a senior, Ralph co-captained the Nittany Lions and earned selections to the Hula Bowl and East-West

Shrine Bowl. Ralph was drafted by both the NFL's Pittsburgh Steelers and the AFL's New York Jets in 1964. Steady and dependable throughout his 11-year career, Ralph recovered a fumble late in the 1968 AFL Championship Game against Oakland to propel the Jets to Super Bowl III. Ralph's six tackles and fumble recovery helped to beat the heavily-favored Baltimore Colts and earned him a Super Bowl Championship ring. Ralph retired after the 1974 season, but returned to the Jets as an assistant coach for five seasons.

**CINDY BAXTER**

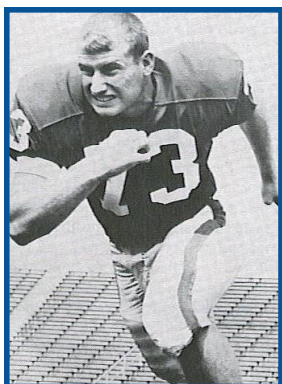
Cindy Baxter

Penn Highlands High School – 1972

Lock Haven University

Cindy Baxter stood out as an athlete when the competitive opportunities for women were limited. After playing both basketball and softball in high school, she went on to play softball at Lock Haven University. However, it wasn't until age 21 when Cindy discovered racquetball. Over the ensuing years, she forged a celebrated career culminating in her 1991 induction into the USA

Racquetball Hall of Fame. Cindy was instrumental in building a reputation for the United States National Racquetball Team in the 1980s by distinguishing herself as a major competitor on the international racquetball scene. In 1986, Cindy became the first American athlete to win three consecutive gold medals in the International Racquetball Federation World Games. Additionally, she garnered 16 national titles and was twice named Sportswoman of the Year by the United States Olympic Committee.



DAVE BRADLEY

Dave Bradley

Chief Logan High School – 1965

Penn State University

NFL Green Bay (1969-71), St. Louis (1972)

WFL Chicago Fire (1974)

Dave Bradley was born in Burnham. As a senior at Chief Logan High School, he was a first team all-state selection by both the AP and UPI and was named to Scholastic Magazine's All-American team. He was a member of the Pennsylvania team that competed against Texas in the 1965 Big 33

Football Classic. After graduation, he played collegiately at Penn State as both a guard and tackle. He was a starting tackle on the 1969 Orange Bowl Championship team, played in the Gator Bowl and was selected to participate in the 1969 Senior and Hula Bowl games. The Nittany Anthology website named Dave to its All-Penn State 1960s decade team as a guard. He was selected by the Green Bay Packers in the 1969 NFL Draft and played four seasons in the NFL and one season in the WFL. Dave died on October 1, 2010.



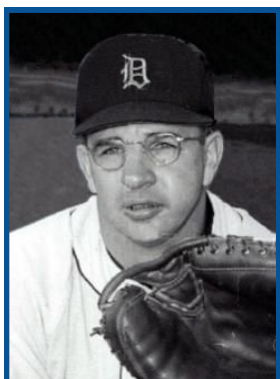
FRAN FISHER

Fran Fisher

Media Contributor

Fran Fisher's long and storied broadcasting career included radio play-by-play of Mifflin County sports following his move to Lewistown in 1962 from Greensburg. Along with local high school games, his play-by-play talents extended to Little League Baseball and auto racing from the Port Royal Speedway. He will be remembered in the sports annals of Mifflin County for his iconic call, "You'll not believe it!, You'll not believe it!", when Rothrock High School won the 1963 Class C

Basketball State Championship on a half-court buzzer beater. In 1966, while still at WKVA, Fran was hired by Penn State as the color commentator on its football broadcasts and was promoted to do the play-by-play announcing in 1970. Throughout the 1970s, 80s and 90s, Fran called all of Penn State's most memorable victories, including the 1983 Sugar Bowl that gave the Nittany Lions their first national championship. He will always be remembered as "The Voice of Penn State Football." He died at the age of 91 in 2015.



TIM THOMPSON

Charles “Tim” Thompson

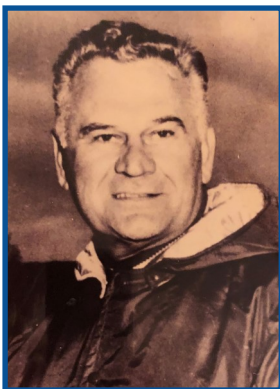
Lewistown High School

Professional Baseball (1947-1962)

MLB Brooklyn, Kansas City A’s, Detroit

Scout LA Dodgers, St. Louis, Baltimore

Born in Coalport, Clearfield County, Tim moved to Lewistown when he was a sophomore in high school. He signed a minor league contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers joining them in spring training in 1947. His minor league career spanned nearly 1,500 games, mostly in Class AAA. Tim was called up by the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1954 where he played with Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella, Pee Wee Reese, Duke Snider and Gil Hodges. He appeared in 187 games with the Dodgers, Kansas City Athletics and Detroit Tigers. His best year was 1956 when he hit .272 and was the starting catcher for Kansas City. In 1963, Tommy Lasorda helped Tim begin a 35-year stint as a scout where he gained a reputation for mining raw talent often overlooked by others.



ALEX UFEMA

Alex Ufema

Lewistown High School Coach

Three Undefeated Seasons

24-Straight Victories from 1957-59

Voted Into Previous Hall of Fame in 1989

Alex Ufema’s ultimatum when hired as Lewistown High’s head football coach in 1946: “... Beat Huntingdon!” The Panthers suffered a defeat and a tie before finally winning in year three. What followed was the Golden Age of Lewistown football as Ufema guided the Panthers to a 121-51-6 record from 1946 to 1963. Included in that magical run were three perfect seasons—1951 and 1957-58—as well as string of Western Conference and Susquehanna League championships. Lewistown reeled off 24-straight wins from 1957 to 1959. Ufema stepped down after the 1963 campaign. He was also coached basketball at Lewistown, winning Mountain League titles in 1954 and 1955. Ufema died in 1994, but his memory lives on as the Alex Ufema Award is presented annually to Mifflin County’s top scholastic football player.



1996-97 LEWISTOWN GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Seated (from left): Ashley Mear, Krista Gingrich, Sweeta Hutchinson, Maggie Johnston, Mackenzie Moser, Jenna Feathers and Kimberly Maxwell. **Standing:** Melissa Merrill, Hillary Worley, Andi Zampelli, Enid Dunmire, Assistant Coach Charlie Funk, Head Coach Kevin Kodish, Assistant Coach Ron Mills, Scorer Jim Fosselman, Niki Snyder, Heather McElwain, Gina Soccio and Jada Pursel.

32-0! The season couldn't have been any sweeter for the 1996-97 Lewistown Area High School girls basketball team.

The Panthers rolled through a perfect regular season, winning the Mountain League title, despite Krista Gingrich missing the first 13 games of the season due to injury.

Lewistown trailed Tyrone by 9 points heading into the fourth period in the District 6 Class final but rallied to win by 10 points.



Mackenzie Moser, Sweeta Hutchinson, Melissa Merrill and Enid Dunmire raise the PIAA Championship trophy in Hershey.

In the Western final, the Panthers trailed Blackhawk 53-47 going into the last quarter, but held the Cougars scoreless for six minutes to rally.

Lewistown captured its first PIAA crown with a 53-45 win over North Schuylkill as Gingrich poured in a game-high 22 points, including 11 in the fourth quarter.



1997-98 LEWISTOWN GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Seated (from left): Katie Wear, Jada Pursel, Kimberly Maxwell, Heather McElwain, Krista Gingrich, Maggie Johnston, Jenna Feathers, Jessy Wear, Heather Wheeler. Standing: Gina Soccio, Hillary Worley, Niki Snyder, Andi Zampelli, Scorer Jim Fosselman, Assistant Coach Charlie Funk, Assistant Coach Ron Mills, Head Coach Kevin Kodish, Kelli Altieri, Rebecca Getz, Haley Knable and Erin Searer.

Returning most of the lineup from the previous season, the 1997-98 Lewistown Area High School girls basketball team capped a 31-1 campaign with a second consecutive PIAA Class AAA title.

Lewistown fell to Bishop Guilfoyle early in the season, but the Panthers rebounded by winning their remaining games to end the season.

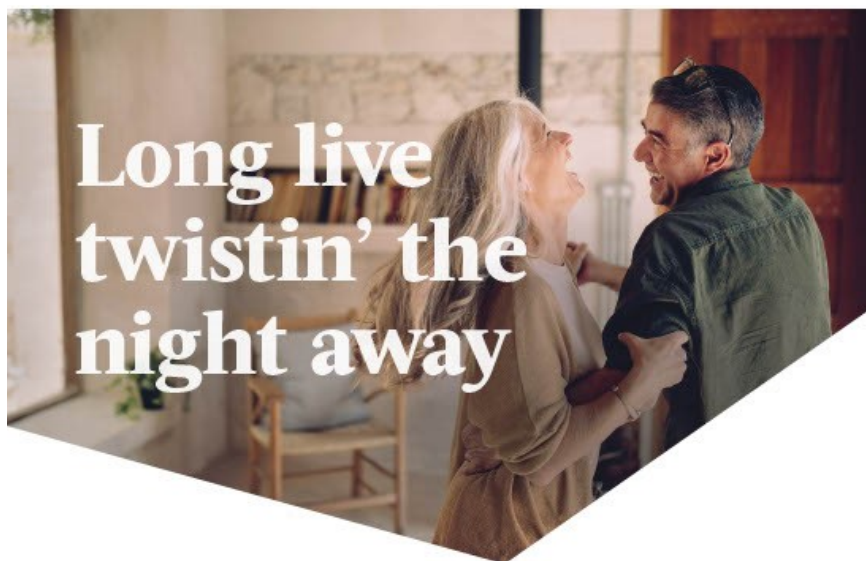
Along the way, Lewistown captured Mountain League and



Krista Gingrich, Maggie Johnston and Heather McElwain celebrate back-to-back PIAA Championships.

District 6 titles on its way back to Hershey. In the PIAA final, the Panthers beat Berwick 71-57 to capture the coveted gold ball.

In the end, 31-1 was just as fun for head coach Kevin Kodish and the Panthers as they celebrated back-to-back state championships.



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Why Join The Mifflin County Sports Hall of Fame?

To Assist In The Recognition,
Preservation And Promotion
Of The Glorious History Of
Our County's Athletes, Coaches
And Teams.

Hall of Fame Membership Application

\$25 checks payable to Mifflin County Sports Hall of Fame and mail to PO Box 989, Lewistown, PA 17044

NAME

BIRTHDAY (MONTH/DAY/YEAR)

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PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR

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