

Ross Hall of Fame inductee, 2002

Earl Christy

Earl Christy was introduced to competitive diving at age 7 by Olympic diving champion Wally Colbath. Earl began training and practicing in the seventh grade at Fremont Junior High School in 1934 under the coaching of “Bim” Stults.

Earl competed on the varsity swimming and diving team from 1936 through 1940. He was a member of the 1938 High School Championship Swim Team. As a sophomore competing in the 1938 interscholastic Swimming Championships in Philadelphia, Earl gave a hint of things to come with a 10th-place finish. In 1939, Earl was the Northwest District Interscholastic diving champion and runner-up in the state diving competition, losing by two-tenths of a point.

In the 1939-40 season, Earl was undefeated and won the state diving title. He earned four letters in swimming and diving and served as the team co-captain in his senior season. Besides diving, Earl competed in the 200-yard freestyle relay in his final season and was named a National High School All-American Diver.

After high school, Earl attended a one-year postgraduate course at Western Reserve Academy, where he was undefeated in diving and the team co-captain. Earl went on to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering at Texas Technological University in 1947.

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Tammy Haas Mittelhauser

Tammy Haas Mittelhauser was a star athlete for Ross from 1978 to 1981. She earned three letters in track and field and two more in basketball.

In 1981, she set the school's 800-meter record and placed fourth in the event at the state track meet. Her 800-meter mark of 2:17.0 remained the school record for 38 seasons. After the state meet, Tammy was invited to the Midwest Race of Champions in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She was the track team's Most Valuable Performer in both her junior and senior seasons, serving as captain both years, and was named the top Ross Senior Female Athlete at the end of her high school career in 1981.

When she was not competing in sports, Tammy was leading the cheers, earning letters in 1978 and 1979. After graduating from Ross, Tammy returned to coach track and field. In the 1999 and 2000 seasons, she was the sprint coach, coaching her daughter, Tiffany, on the record-setting 4x100-meter relay. The team qualified for the state meet, making Tammy and her daughter the only Ross mother-daughter combination to compete in the state meet and set or help set school records.

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Steve Parker

Steve Parker was the personification of speed in purple and white. A 1968 Fremont Ross graduate, Steve lost only once in 1967 and was undefeated in 1968 in the 100-, 220-, and 440-yard dashes. Steve set school records in the 100 (9.8), the 220 (21.3), and the 440 (48.4). The 220, converted to meters, equals 200 meters, which equates to a record of 21.1. That record has stood the test of time and remains the longest through the 2025 season, totaling 57 years.

Parker won two letters in basketball and three in track, and for good measure, added another as a defensive back in his only season, his junior year of football. Add to that, he was good enough on traveling baseball teams to get a look from the Pittsburgh Pirates. He was the Buckeye Conference champion in the 100, 220, and 440, in both his junior and senior seasons, and finished in the top 16 in the state in the other events. Ross Athletic Director and Hall of Famer John Titsworth referred to Steve as the “best athlete he had ever seen at Ross.”

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Robert “Dud” Serwin

Say “diving” at Fremont Ross and the name Robert “Dud” Serwin will bob to the surface. Serwin, who was known as Serwinsky in high school, was the first four-letter winner for the strong Fremont Ross swimming and diving teams of the late 1930’s. In 1937 and 1938, Serwin dominated the state in diving, winning a state title in 1937 and finishing third in 1938 after battling a foot injury for most of the season. He was the district diving champion in 1937 and 1938. In 1938, he finished second in the Interstate Swimming and Diving Championships in Philadelphia, leading Ross to a fifth-place finish in the competition.

He was named co-captain of the 1938 Ross team. “Dud” was a key member of the Ross team that won 22 straight meets. He was selected as a “yearly Hall of Famer” at Ross in 1938, the only Ross athlete to receive that honor. He was named an All-American for his 1937 performance by the National Intercollegiate Swimming Association.

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Pete Werling

Pete was a standout wrestler for Fremont Ross in the mid 1970s. He won three on the mat for the Little Giants and tempered the rough world of wrestling by winning a pair of letters on the tennis court.

As a junior, Werling gave an indication of things to come when he posted an 18-7 record while serving as the Little Giants co-captain.

He won the Buckeye Conference championship at 138 lbs. and qualified for the state tournament in Columbus.

The following year, Pete again served as co-captain and ran off a 22-3 record while winning the sectional and district titles as a 145 lber. He again qualified for the state tournament. In the state tournament, he placed third after battling back from the flu. He lost to the eventual state champion in overtime in the quarterfinals. The flu sapped his strength, costing him the overtime loss. One of the most outstanding statistics in Pete Ross's career was that he won or placed in every tournament he entered during his junior and senior years. After graduating from Ross, Pete competed on the Bowling Green State University wrestling team, winning three letters.

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Russ “Rusty” Zimmerman

Russ was a three-sport star at Fremont Ross from 1967 to 1970. Russ won three letters in baseball and added two more in basketball and football.

He served as the captain of the basketball and baseball teams in his senior year. He was a tight end, defensive end, and place kicker in football. He was a member of the Ross football team that upset state power Sandusky 28-27 in 1969. Russ was a second-team All-Buckeye Conference offensive lineman.

He was captain of the basketball team, playing forward and center on a team that defeated state-ranked Elyria. Russ was a standout catcher in baseball, batting .468 as a senior and being invited to the Kansas City Royals training camp.

Russ won the Baron-Sherman Award as the outstanding male senior athlete and the Ken Svanoe Scholarship Award for academics and athletics in his senior year.