

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2014 Ross Graduate

Jared Ballenger participated in multiple sports while at Fremont Ross High School. He played basketball

And football, earning one varsity letter in each of those sports. He excelled in track and field, earning four varsity letters. Jared began competing in track and field in the 6th grade, when he finished third in the discus at the Middle School State Meet. In the 7th and 8th grades, he was conference and Ohio Middle School State Champion in the shot put and discus.

During his four years of outdoor track, Jared won three conference titles in discus and two in shot put. He qualified for four state track meets in discus and one in shot put. In discus, he finished fifth his freshman year, sixth his sophomore year, and 11th his junior year; Jared won the Ohio High School Division I discus championship his senior year and finished third in the shot put. Jared competed in the Midwest Meet of Champions, representing Ohio in the discus and shot put. Jared holds 26 meet/league/school records in the shot put and discus. He was also named the outstanding male field-event Athlete of the Year in his freshman and senior years.

After graduation, Jared attended The Ohio State University and competed in the discus, shot put, and javelin. He competed in three Big Ten Conference Championship meets and qualified for two East Regional meets. He earned three varsity letters while at Ohio State and is currently seventh on the Ohio State all-time discus list.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2003 Ross Graduate

Luke Lyle enters the Hall of Fame as a three-year letter winner for the Fremont Ross basketball teams of 2001, 2002, and 2003.

Luke was a member of the first Ross teams to win three straight league championships. A big reason for their success was Lyle.

After contributing as a sophomore, he made his presence known during his junior and senior seasons. Through his junior season, Lyle finished with 317 points scored, 118 assists (third in team history for a single season), 29 steals, and an 84.73 free-throw percentage. Besides being named his team's co-MVP, Luke was also named All-GLL first team, All-District 6 second team, and All-Northwest District second team.

Luke's senior season was even more impressive, with 378 points scored, 149 assists (second in school history), and 105 free throws made. His career assists of 282 rank first in Ross history. With those numbers, Lyle was named his team's co-MVP and co-captain. The awards continued. Lyle was "Player of the Year" in the Great Lakes League and Northwest District 6. He finished his career with 742 points and was the first player since Hall of Famer Mike Reardon in 1974 to be named to the All-Ohio first team.

After graduation, Luke first attended Ohio Dominican College in Columbus and later transferred to Baldwin Wallace University. The team he was part of broke the school record for most wins in 2006, finishing 25-5, and was the OAC regular-season and tourney champions.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1995 Ross Graduate

A multi-talented athlete during her years at Fremont Ross, Holly Pelfrey garnered eight varsity letters. Two each in volleyball and basketball and four in softball.

There was no question that this talented Fremont Ross athlete excelled at those three sports; she is remembered most for softball. Pelfrey, in earning her four letters in the sport, received such awards as four-time All-Great Lakes League recognition. During her junior season, Holly played on a team that won 23 consecutive games. She was named team MVP and named honorable mention All-Ohio. During her senior season, she received the Coaches Award and Gold Glove Award and was named second-team All-Ohio.

During her volleyball career, she earned All-Great Lakes League recognition two years, as well as the team's co-MVP and co-captain. She was an All-District 6 first-team selection and named to the All-GLL first team in 1994.

Basketball earned her honors such as All-GLL honorable mention in her final two seasons and the 1995 top defensive player and captain's awards.

After high school, Pelfrey went on to be a four-year starter for the Ohio Northern softball team. She was named to the second team All-Central Region in 1997. She received the captain's award in 1999. She finished her career as part of Ohio Northern's 100-hit and .300 clubs with a .320 career batting average. She graduated in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science in Wellness.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2000 Ross Graduate

Peter Scranton won seven varsity letters during 1997-2000. Scranton won three varsity letters in Soccer and four varsity letters in Tennis.

It was tennis where Scranton really shone. After winning sectional and district titles with Ryan Newman his sophomore season, he won sectional and district titles again in his junior year of 1999, but this time, it was in singles play. He finished as a district semifinalist. His senior year, after winning another sectional title, which also brought Scranton his 100th career victory, he appeared in his third district tournament. Scranton won the honor of competing at the state tournament after a district runner-up finish. Scranton was the third male to reach the state tournament for the Little Giants since 1975. The other two include state champion and fellow Hall of Famer Jim Flower, who won the title in 1974, and Matt Collins, who advanced to the OHSAA tournament in 1980. Equally impressive, Scranton finished his tennis career without ever losing a set to a conference opponent over his four seasons. Scranton went on to play second singles for Ohio's Davis Cup Team.

In the fall of his senior year, he earned Defensive MVP in Soccer and was an All-Star Game participant.

Scranton was all-academic during all four years of high school.

Peter went on to study at Eastern Michigan, where he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree. He then obtained a Law Degree from The Ohio State University in 2006.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ross Teacher and Coach

Joe Siesel is a 1963 graduate of Bellevue High School, where he received three letters during his football career. Work on the family farm prevented him from playing any other high school sport. Joe was a two-year All-Ohio selection after being named his team's Most Valuable Lineman.

Upon graduation, Siesel starred for Doyt Perry at Bowling Green State University as a lineman and punter for the Falcons. His college play was noticed at the National Football League level when he was signed by the New York Giants. An unfortunate ankle injury during his rookie season forced him to give up playing the game he loved.

Upon returning to Ohio, Joe took a teaching and coaching job in Wadsworth. Siesel remained there for five years. Fremont Ross came calling, and in the fall of 1973, Joe was the defensive coordinator for Chuck Shuff and the Little Giants. After a 9-1 season at Ross, Siesel followed Shuff to Massillon, where he coached for two seasons. Wanting to get back to Fremont, Pete Moore brought Siesel back to the Purple and White. Over the next 16 seasons, Siesel and his defenses were part of nine league championships as Ross teams compiled a record of 104-55-4.

Joe retired from coaching in the spring of 1992 and has made his home in Fremont ever since.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1985 Ross Graduate

Chris Simmons broke onto the high school scene his sophomore season in the fall of 1982, when he fought for a starting linebacker spot on the Fremont Ross football team. Three years later, Simmons finished with three varsity letters. With three more letters in basketball and three in baseball, Simmons joined the Hall of Famer Mark Miesle in 1985 as the first athlete to win nine letters since Hall of Famer Bob Brudzinski accomplished the feat in 1973.

Simmons' football awards were many. His sophomore season brought second-team All-Buckeye Conference honors. His junior season earned him first-team All-Buckeye Conference and All-Northwest Ohio special mention. Simmons was a teammate on Fremont Ross' Division I Regional II Championship team. That championship placed Simmons and the Little Giants into the "Final Four" in Division I. In his senior season, Simmons was first-team All-Buckeye Conference and second-team All-District. Chris was also awarded his team's most valuable offensive player, gaining 704 yards on 145 carries and scoring seven touchdowns from the tailback position.

In basketball, Chris was a starter on the Sectional Championship team during his sophomore season. He was named All-Buckeye Conference honorable mention. He was the most valuable defensive player during his junior season.

During his Ross baseball career, Simmons won the Most Valuable Sophomore Award and was second-team All-Buckeye Conference as a junior.

Simmons then attended the University of Michigan on a football scholarship.