# Biloxi Sports Hall of Fame Inductees



# Class of 2024

# Johnny Ray Brown

Johnny Ray Brown excelled at football and track while at Biloxi High School. Brown starred on back-to-back state championship track teams in 1977-78, including his 9.7 run in the 100-yard dash which set a school record. Brown graduated in '78 and earned a two-sport athletic scholarship to Jackson State University. On the gridiron, he led the Tigers to three SAC Championships from 1980 to 82. That effort earned Brown NFL Training Camp invites in Oakland and Kansas City after graduating from JSU. Brown came home to coach and teach in the Biloxi School System for 25 years and spent 17 years connected to the Boys & Girls Club.



## Will Clingon

For Will Clingon, running was a marathon and a sprint as he helped Mercy Cross High School go the distance to a state cross country title in 2006, two second place finishes in 2004 and 2005 and the overall state second place spot in 2007. As a Crusader, Clingon earned nine all-state selections in track and cross country, set three school records in the 800, 1600, and 3200-meter runs, and a school best in the 5000-meter run. Clingon went on to Mississippi College and was a four-time all American South Conference honoree as well as ASC Freshman of the Year. Clingon also earned a conference gold medal in the 5000-meter run while in Clinton.



## **Darlene James Fairley**

One newspaper article billed Darlene James Fairley as a track superstar, and here's why. In 1975, she became a member of Biloxi's first-ever all female track squad that won the South State Big 8 Girls Championship. Fairley also sprinted to a south state title in the 100-yard dash that year then cruised to a state championship with a record time of 10.8. Fairley also set the school record in the long jump. Her fast feet got her a track scholarship to Alcorn State University. From there, Fairley came back to the Coast to coach youth sports until 1987, when she moved to Lawton, Okla. and took up coaching and community service. Fairley's a 2001 inductee to the city's Athletic Officials Hall of Fame.



## Russell (Rusty) Gill

When someone is remembered as being part of the lore of the Biloxi-Gulfport football rivalry, they've done something special. Rusty Gill etched his name in the record books when he picked off a Gulfport pass in 1968 to seal the deal for the Big Red. Gill played linebacker for the Indians from 1966 to 69. His defensive skills were also on display at Gulf Coast Community College where he played for two years and was a Junior College All-American and member of the Perk Team of the Decade from 1965-75. The honors also came in during Gill's time at Millsaps, where he was the team's outstanding Lineman and a National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame Scholar Athlete Award honoree. Gill is currently a practicing lawyer and community leader in South Mississippi.



#### **David Marsland**

A baseball team can always use a good left-handed pitcher. David Marsland was that and more at Biloxi High, Gulf Coast, McNeese State, and Mississippi State. In 1988, Marsland went 12-4 on the mound and helped lead Biloxi to a state title. The next year, he was 9-5 and earned the school's Most Outstanding Pitcher Award and a spot in the Coast Baseball All-Star Game. Marsland's still in the school record books in eight different categories. He also went 14-6 while at Gulf Coast and helped the Bulldogs make it to the NJCAA World Series. Marsland chalked up an 11-6 record while at McNeese and MSU. Marsland also saw professional action in the minor leagues during 1994.



#### Pete Misko

Pete Misko probably did more for baseball off the field than on it. He coached thousands of Biloxi area kids and lots of baseball and football teams. Misko helped coach a number of local, regional and State Championship teams with pride, class, and dignity. He was truly a multi-tasker as a husband, father, coach, groundskeeper, facilitator, and chauffeur for kids to and from practices and games. Misko and his wife Lisa helped create the Biloxi High Diamond Club to add fundraiser to his long list of community service honors.



### Silas Partman III

The late Silas Partman III came to South Mississippi via Franklinton, LA. where he played football, and Grambling State University where he earned a track scholarship before graduating in 1973. When Partman moved to Biloxi, he took on the names of Junior, Pops, Coach Silas, and Coach Partman as he coached youth sports teams in the city for more than 30 years. In 2013, Partman was recognized as Volunteer of the Year by the City of Biloxi. His daily regimen was the same ... he would leave his job at Ingalls, rush home, change clothes, and head out to the ball field to coach or give kids a ride to and from practice and games. Silas Partman III passed away last year at the age of 71.



## Nicole Rosetti

2005 is a year known for Hurricane Katrina, but for Nicole Rosetti, it's the year she graduated from Mercy Cross after racking up 14 all-state awards in track, including two gold medals, a silver, and a bronze. Rosetti helped the Crusaders to state second place finishes in 2000 and 2004. Rosetti also set six school records in middle, long distance, and cross country categories. That body of work earned her a track scholarship to Mississippi State. While in Starkville, Rosetti helped lead the Bulldogs to one of their best cross-country seasons ever in 2006. She also was an all-SEC Academic Scholar Athlete while running track for the lady Bulldogs.



## Wally Ross

Wally Ross is a true multi-tasker. He was a two-sport athlete at Biloxi High, earning a letter in football and helping the Tribe win the Big 8 Championship in 1978. A knee injury cut short one athletic career and opened the door, or in this case the throttle, for another. Ross went on to excel in powerboat racing, winning the 1990 National Championship in the Sport E Class, which featured 15-foot tunnel boats and 75 horsepower engines. In 1990 and '91, Ross took home the American Powerboat Association Closed Course title. In fact you may have seen Ross tearing around back bay in some of the powerboat races they held back in the day.



#### Susie Seymour

If Biloxi's playing in just about any sport, there's a good chance Susie Seymour was either watching the game, or helping set up the event. Her first endeavor into youth sports and community service was back in the mid-80s as a board member for the City of Biloxi's Pee-Wee football league. From then until now, she's been either a board member or president, or part of an executive committee in football, baseball, baseball, and many other sports. In fact, Seymour served as a host family for an exchange student who ended up being part of the 2000-2001 Biloxi High State Championship team.



## Jimmy Taylor

Jimmy Taylor has reeled in his share of big fish and big honors over the years. In fact, he's caught and released more than 500 billfish during his time on the water. In 1994, Taylor helped create the Mississippi Gulf Coast Billfish Club and has been involved with the organization for more than 23 years. Taylor has also been involved in every Gulf Coast Billfish Classic since the event began, either as dockmaster, emcee, or the release judge. As for his own fishing merits, he's earned at least 30 big game fishing awards in tournaments all over the world. Taylor's a 1969 Biloxi High graduate and 1975 Southern Miss grad.



#### **Brandon Trochesset**

He had already helped Biloxi teams win Dixie Youth and Babe Ruth state titles, but that was just the beginning for Brandon Trochesset. In 1988, he took the mound and helped lead the Indians to a state championship. Those winning ways followed him to an American Legion state title in 1991, and a 1992 state Community College title as a freshman with Gulf Coast. He also led the Bulldogs in hitting that year. In 1994, Trochesset led William Carey in hitting. After his playing days, he coached youth baseball for 12 years. In 2010, Trochesset's team won the 10-year old state title.



## Bryan (BA) Vollmuth

BA was a force on the Biloxi Indians baseball team, earning a spot on the state's Dandy Dozen team and also taking home the Jason Bays Award. Vollmuth took his talents to Hattiesburg and helped Southern Miss baseball soar to new heights. In 2009, the Golden Eagles won the NCAA Georgia Tech Regional where Vollmuth was the MVP of that tournament. He and Southern Miss went on to the college's first and only appearance in the College World Series. Vollmuth also played and was an all-star in the prestigious Cape Cod League and had a stint in the Oakland A's organization.



## Jay Vollmuth

Jay Vollmuth played football for Biloxi High from 1976-79 and at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College from 1979 to 1982. However, his major contributions came on the baseball diamond as he coached and served as a board member and president of the Biloxi American Little League for 20 years. Vollmuth was also a key factor in developing the Biloxi American T-Ball league. As a coach, Vollmuth helped lead numerous Biloxi teams to state tournaments and state titles and served as the longtime announcer for Biloxi High Baseball.

# 1965 & 1970 Biloxi High Baseball State Champion:

Steve Baudry, Ernie Brown, Hendy Canaan, George Croncich, Danny D'Anella, Roy Elder, Jim Howarth, Seth Hersh, Doug Mitchell, Charlie Nobles, Ralph Olier, Randall Patterson, Randy Pons, Butch Raley, Earl Ross, Harold Sablich, Wayne Scarbrough, Tommy Tiblier, Jimmy Wallis, and Ronnie Farris (Coach)

## 1970 Biloxi High Baseball State Champion:

Gene Allen, Pete Bosarge, Don Bourgeois, Art Bressler, Buddy Brice, Darrel Broussard, David Delugas, Vincent Feranda, George Krebbs, Glen Lamas, Reggie Lechner, George Locke, Mike Moran, Phil Mosley, Marvin Newman, Mike Patrick, Gary Shemper, Danny Smith, Mike Stafford, Lee Trahan, Lee Trahan, Wilfred Wade, Mike Wallis, Elmer Williams, Ronnie Farris (Coach), and Steve Burns (Asst. Coach)

# 1966 American Little League State Championships Baseball team (ages 11 & 12):

George "Rocky" Meaut, Vincent "Pete" Bosarge, Mitchell Hebert, Mike Wallis, Billy Ray Allen, Randy Jenkins, Danny Elliott, Ivan Kovacevich, Don Bourgeois, Daniel Gerlack, Kirk Thompson, Carrol Kovacevich, Keith Saucier, Larry Anderson, Dan D'Anella (Manager), and Walt Ewing (Coach)