

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let's create a better world. As recent events have unfortunately shown, we need it.

Let's take on the challenge of improving our society, of reducing violence, of being kinder to each other. George Eliot wrote, "What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult to each other?"

As former athletes, this task is right up our alley. We know how to take on tough challenges and overcome them. We know that difficult odds are just that, and nothing more. We can do this.

We start with two action steps: better understanding each other; and making a positive move.

The first step in better understanding each other is to better understand ourselves. We must pause, and examine our own actions, statements, thoughts, and biases. Not to justify or rationalize them. But to truly understand them. Honest self-reflection is necessary for change. And, if we don't already have it, we must cultivate in ourselves a willingness to deal with difficult issues, and to take real, positive action, not just pay lip service.

Once we have completed our self-appraisal, we must think about those who may seem unlike us. Every day, we interact with people who look different than us, who act different than us, who have different cultures than we do. We need to avoid stereotyping and get to know the people around us.

Many of us have a head start on this experience as former Buckeye athletes. When we came to the OSU campus, we joined teams that were much more diverse than at our high school. We quickly learned that the color of a teammate was irrelevant. What mattered was not the color of their skin, but the content of their character. Hours spent together in practice, in the locker room, and in competition let us get to know each other. Familiarity led to understanding. We were teammates, working toward a common goal, victory, as Buckeyes, who happened to look different from each other. Robert F. Kennedy said, "The world of sports knows no religious, racial or political differences. Athletes, from whatever land they come, speak the same language. The lessons of competition are lessons for life." When we have frequent interaction with people who look and act different from us, we learn more about them, and their culture.

From our background of strong relationships forged in the fire of competition, there are many positive moves we can make. We can speak out against injustice. We can express our strong belief in equality, and racial justice. We can condemn racism. We can support visible, positive change, that is real, that matters. We can acknowledge that there is justifiable hurt, pain, and anger. We can be better, kinder, more supportive. We can respect people for their differences. We can, as leaders in our communities holding positions of responsibility, demand that the status quo does not remain in place.

We take pride that Ohio State is at the forefront of combating the scourge of racism. OSU Director of Athletics Gene Smith recently stated, "The department will continue to support our student-athletes as they participate in activities to eradicate hate and racism in our society." He also said, "We will continue to support our student-athletes as they participate in driving positive change in America so that every person is respected regardless of the color of their skin."

The OSU Varsity "O" Alumni Society is chartered by the Ohio State University Alumni Association. One of the core values of the Alumni Association is "Diversity. We value diversity. We embrace inclusion in all interactions." A key part of the Alumni Association's strategic plan is to "Strengthen the Association's commitment to its culture through initiatives focused on diversity."

Varsity "O" values diversity and embraces inclusion. We are "athletes helping athletes". Varsity "O" is committed to defeating racism. We ask you to join the fight.

**Go Bucks!**

**Steve Chappelle**

Varsity O President  
Wrestling ('71-'74)



# OHIO STATE ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2020 REVEALED

The Ohio State Athletics Hall of Fame will add 12 new members this fall. The Class of 2020 includes **Aaron Brown** (football), **Eric Brunner** (men's soccer), **Karen Dennis** (director of track and field and cross country), **Amanda Furrer** (rifle), **Steven Kehoe** (men's volleyball), **Daren Lynch** (men's gymnastics), **Regis Monahan** (football), **Lance Palmer** (wrestling), **Don Perry** (men's gymnastics), **Samantha Prahalis** (women's basketball), **Amanda Purcell** (rowing) and **Francis Schmidt** (football coach).

The Ohio State Athletics Hall of Fame was created in 1977 and has inducted 446 athletes, coaches and administrators through 2019. Dennis and Schmidt will bring the number of head coaches in the hall to 30. Brown and Monahan will up the number of inductees for football to 128 and Brunner will be the fourth men's soccer standout inducted. Furrer is the third woman from the rifle program selected for the Hall of Fame and Kehoe will bring the number of men's volleyball inductees to six. Lynch and Perry will raise the total of men's gymnasts inducted to 13 and Purcell will be the seventh rower enshrined. Palmer will be the 18th wrestling letterwinner placed in the Hall and Prahalis will be the 14th women's basketball player to be inducted.

## **Aaron Brown**

### ***Football (1974-77)***

An unsung hero on some great Ohio State defenses, Aaron Brown lettered in football from 1974 through 1977 and was a part of Big Ten championship teams in 1974 and 1975. Described as soft-spoken and respected by all his teammates, Brown was a three-year starter for head coach Woody Hayes at nose tackle and currently ranks No. 15 all-time with 314 career tackles. Brown also added 32.0 career tackles for loss. In Brown's senior season of 1977, in which he was a captain for the Buckeyes, he was named a First Team All-American and closed his career with 14 solo tackles against Alabama in the Sugar Bowl. Brown still ranks 10th in program history in career tackle for loss yards with minus 181 and second in single-game TFL yards (minus 42 vs. Minnesota in 1976).

A member of four teams that won at least a share of the Big Ten title, Brown played in two Rose Bowl games along with an Orange Bowl and Sugar Bowl. The teams he was a part of had an overall record of 39-8-1 with a 29-3 mark in conference play. Brown was drafted in 1978 by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and went on to have a 10-year career with the Bucs, Atlanta Falcons, Philadelphia Eagles and Winnipeg of the Canadian Football League. In 2000, he was selected to the Ohio State All-Century Team by the Columbus Dispatch.

## **Eric Brunner**

### ***Men's Soccer (2005-07)***

Eric Brunner led the Buckeyes on an historical run in 2007 that culminated in an appearance in the NCAA College Cup Final after winning the Big Ten Conference championship.

The first Buckeye to earn First Team All-America honors, Brunner was a 2007 MAC Hermann Trophy candidate and a First Team All-Big Ten honoree in addition to making the 2007 College Cup All-Tournament team.

A Dublin, Ohio, native, Brunner was the first Buckeye to make the United States National Team (2008). He was drafted by the New York Red Bulls and played in 103 Major League Soccer games. As a Buckeye, the 2007 captain appeared in 89 games, starting 79.

## **Karen Dennis**

### ***Director of Track and Field and Cross Country (2003-present)***

One of the most respected names in the track and field community, Karen Dennis joined the Ohio State staff in 2003. She spent four seasons as an assistant track coach (2003-06), served as the women's track and field/cross country head coach from 2006-14 and was named the Buckeyes' director of track & field and cross country prior to the 2014-15 campaign.

# OHIO STATE ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

## CLASS OF 2020 REVEALED (CONT.)

### **Karen Dennis (cont.)**

*Director of Track and Field and Cross Country (2003-present)*

Dennis has had outstanding achievements thus far in her career at Ohio State. Under her direction, the Buckeyes have won eight Big Ten Championship team titles, including the women's 2020 indoor conference title and 2018-19 indoor and outdoor sweep. The women's program won their first conference indoor title and first outdoor title in 42 years. The men's program swept both the indoor and outdoor conference titles in 2018, making Dennis the first woman in Big Ten history to lead a men's team to a title in any sport. Since coming to Ohio State, Dennis has coached athletes to over 60 individual B1G titles, more than 50 First and Second Team All-Americans and has coached athletes to five national championships.

Dennis's coaching has caught the eye of fans and athletes all over as she has been called a 'Trailblazer' throughout her career. The veteran coach is a seven-time USTFCCA Regional Coach of the Year and a four-time Big Ten Coach of the Year. She has been inducted into the USTFCCA and Michigan State Athletic Hall of Fame. Dennis was the head coach of the women's 2000 Olympic Team, 1989 World University Games coach, 1991 Pan American Games coach and coached in the World Championships in 1995. She is an advocate on the USATF International Competition Committee and is a past president of the Athletic Congress Women's Track Coaches Association.

### **Amanda Furrer**

*Rifle (2010-12)*

Olympian Amanda Furrer prepped for the competition against the world's elite as a Buckeye for four seasons. She captured five All-America honors as a member of the Ohio State rifle team and thrice qualified as an individual for the NCAA Championships. Furrer placed Top 10 nationally in all three appearances, finishing as high as seventh. The Spokane, Wash., native finished 15th at the 2012 Olympic Games and also won multiple medals at the national championships.

On the conference level, Furrer's five Western Intercollegiate Rifle Conference titles lifted the Buckeyes to three WIRC team crowns.

### **Steven Kehoe**

*Men's Volleyball (2008-11)*

Steven Kehoe guided the 2011 Ohio State men's volleyball team on a magical run which ended under the confetti as NCAA national champions. The Buckeye setter snagged Most Outstanding Player distinction for both the MIVA and NCAA postseason tournaments, leading to OSU Male Athlete of the Year recognition as well.

The 2011 title campaign also included Kehoe's second of back-to-back All-America and MIVA Player of the Year awards. He corralled All-MIVA First Team status thrice (2009, 2010, 2011). Kehoe remains ranked Top 10 in school history for career assists (4,012), digs (595) and aces (97).

A Fisher College of Business student, Kehoe earned nearly every academic award out there, including the 2011 Big Ten Medal of Honor.

### **Daren Lynch**

*Men's Gymnastics (1998-01)*

Three-time All-American Daren Lynch enters the Ohio State Athletics Hall of Fame with an incredible legacy. Lynch, a Londonderry, N.H., native, wore the Scarlet and Gray from 1998-2001 and is one of only three Buckeyes to win the NCAA vault championship. Earning the title in 2001, Lynch also helped Ohio State capture its third NCAA team championship that same year. A standout in the Big Ten, Lynch was the 2000 Big Ten vault champion and captained the squad to its eighth Big Ten team championship in 2001. Lynch was a Big Ten Medal of Honor finalist as well as a four-time Ohio State Scholar-Athlete and an Academic All-American.

After his standout career as a Buckeye, Lynch continued his education at Ohio State and received his master's degree in physical therapy. He now has more than 15 years of professional experience as a physical therapist for Ohio State.

# OHIO STATE ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

## CLASS OF 2020 REVEALED (CONT.)

### **Regis Monahan**

#### ***Football (1932-34)***

Regis Monahan, a Pittsburgh native, played for the Buckeyes from 1932-34 as a guard and tackle while also doubling as a kicker. In 1934, he was a team captain and First Team All-American while helping Ohio State win a share of its first Big Ten title in 14 years. Monahan also famously appeared on the front of a Wheaties box in 1935.

With Monahan leading the way on the line, Ohio State went 18-3-3 from 1932-34 and had one of the nation's most explosive offenses his senior year in 1934. That Buckeye team compiled 267 points in just eight games and scored 30 or more points five times. He went on to the play four professional seasons with the Detroit Lions from 1935-38 and was part of the Lions' 1935 NFL championship team.

### **Lance Palmer**

#### ***Wrestling (2007-10)***

Lance Palmer reached the All-America stand at the end of all four seasons wrestling for Ohio State as one of eight four-time All-Americans in school history. He advanced to the 2010 NCAA Championships finals for his highest national finish. Palmer also twice cracked the Top 4, including as a true freshman in 2007.

Postseason success came to fruition at the Big Ten Championships as well. Palmer was not only crowned the 149-pound B1G champ in 2010, but also garnered Most Outstanding Wrestler of the Championships recognition.

The 2010 team captain racked up 121 career victories, ranking in the Top 10 in Ohio State lore. He, too, excelled scholastically and earned the OSU Academic Achievement Award as voted on by the Ohio State faculty and staff.

### **Don Perry**

#### ***Men's Gymnastics (1952-55)***

Don Perry was a four-year letterwinner for the Buckeyes from 1952-55 and was Ohio State's first All-American in 1954 after finishing fourth on trampoline at the national championships. Perry, who captained the Buckeye squad for three seasons, earned CGA All-America honors in 1954 and 1955 in tumbling. Perry competed internationally and placed fourth at the 1956 Pan-American Trials. He also was a member of the Buckeye track team for a year.

He received his master's degree in physical education from Miami University and pursued a career as a teacher and high school coach for nearly 30 years. He has also returned to the Big Ten as a gymnastics judge and served as the President of both the Ohio and National High School Gymnastics Coaches associations.

### **Samantha Prahalis**

#### ***Women's Basketball (2009-12)***

Samantha Prahalis had one of the most productive careers in Ohio State women's basketball history. She ranks in the Top 10 in school history in nearly every statistical category, including points, assists, steals, field goals made, three-pointers made and free throws made. Prahalis is still the Big Ten leader in career assists with 901 and is one of just three players in NCAA history with 2,000 points and 900 career assists.

A two-time All-American, Prahalis capped her career by being named the 2012 Big Ten Player of the Year after averaging 19.8 points, 6.3 assists and 4.1 rebounds per game. She was also part of a pair of Big Ten regular season titles, three Big Ten Tournament titles, 109 victories and four NCAA Tournament appearances.

After her Buckeye career, she was the sixth overall pick in the 2012 WNBA Draft by the Phoenix Mercury. She averaged 11.6 points and 4.5 assists in her first season and was runner-up in Rookie of the Year voting. Prahalis then went on to make multiple stops overseas in Romania (2013-14), Russia (2014), Turkey (2015), Italy (2015-16) and Hungary (2016-17).

The Commack, N.Y., native coached three seasons at a pair of New York high schools from 2017-20 and is currently an assistant coach for the women's basketball program at James Madison University.



# OHIO STATE ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2020 REVEALED (CONT.)

## **Amanda Purcell**

### ***Rowing (2003-05)***

Initially a walk-on to the Ohio State rowing team, Amanda Purcell worked to become a First Team Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association Pocock All-American in 2005 while also earning CRCA All-Central Region and Second Team All-Big Ten honors that year. She was just the second Ohio State walk-on to earn All-America honors.

A three-time Ohio State letterwinner (2003-05), Purcell led OSU's first 1V8 boat to a No. 1 ranking in 2004 in a season when the Buckeyes recorded just their second Top 4 finish (1V8) nationally. She was equally accomplished in the classroom becoming a three-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree while earning three Ohio State Scholar Athlete awards.

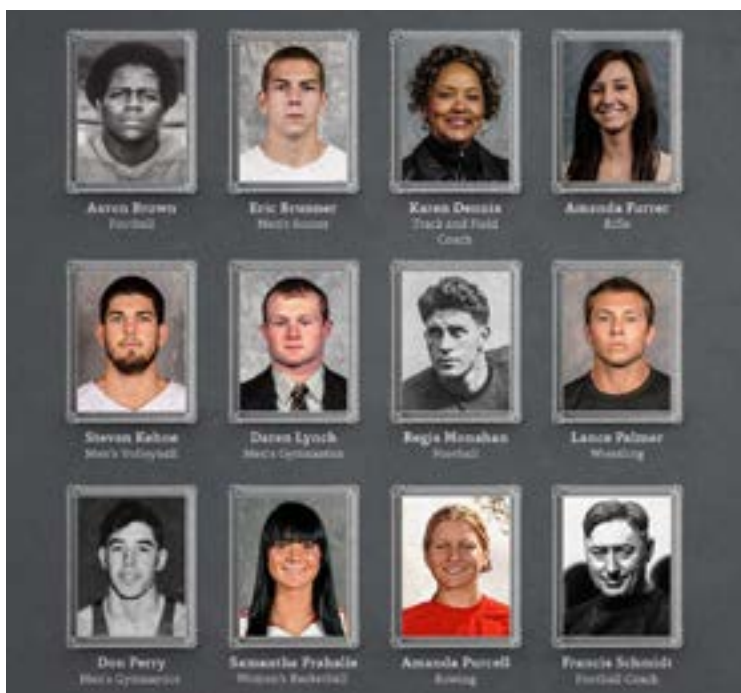
Following her Ohio State career, Purcell was a volunteer coach at Ohio State, coached the Upper Arlington High School team and coached at Brown, Virginia and Indiana. She currently coaches junior rowing in Dallas, Texas.

## **Francis Schmidt**

### ***Football Coach (1934-40)***

Francis Schmidt was the head coach of the Ohio State football program from 1934 to 1940 and his comments about arch-rival Michigan – “Those fellows put their pants on one leg at a time, the same as everyone else” – led to the tradition of awarding gold pants to players and coaches following wins over the Wolverines.

During his seven seasons with the Buckeyes, Schmidt's team went 39-16-1 with an offense that was dubbed “razzle dazzle” by the media because of its use of reverses, laterals and passes. His inaugural team in 1934 scored 267 points, second most in school history up to that point. His second team, in 1935, was nearly as good, outscoring opponents 237-57. Those Buckeyes finished 7-1 and won their first Big Ten title in 14 years. The season was punctuated with a 38-0 season-ending win over Michigan, part of a stretch from 1934-37 that saw the Buckeyes outscore the Wolverines 114-0. In 1939, Schmidt led Ohio State to an outright Big Ten championship, the school's first in 19 years. Schmidt, who also coached basketball and baseball at various stops prior to Ohio State, was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1971.



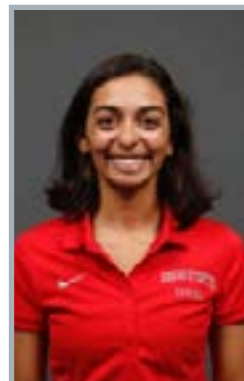
# Varsity “O” Honors OSU Scholar-Athletes

As part of the annual OSU Scholar-Athlete recognition, each spring Varsity O presents the VO Postgraduate Scholarship awards to one male and one female student athlete. The scholarships are designed to recognize and acknowledge academic and athletic achievement as well as campus and community involvement/service. Each scholarship grants \$4,000 to the student-athlete recipient.

This year's female Varsity O Post-Graduate Scholarship winner is **Anjali Fernandes**. Fernandes, a Perrysburg, Ohio native, is a four-time Ohio State Scholar Athlete, a two-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree and the 2019 Big Ten Distinguished Scholar. As the coxswain for the Buckeyes' 1V8, she helped the boat to a second-place finish at the 2019 Big Ten Championships and a sixth-place finish at the 2019 NCAA Championships.

In addition to several Big Ten and Ohio State academic awards, she also was named a 2019 Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association Scholar Athlete, and her efforts on the water earned her CRCA Pocock Second Team

All-America recognition. In 2018, she was a Wexner Medical Center Student Research Intern worked with Dr. Alexa Meara studying patient numeracy and its effects on the severity of systematic lupus erythematosus. She graduated in May, 2020 with a degree in English literature with a minor in biology, and plans to attend Medical School.



This year's Bill Wentz Varsity O Post-Graduate Scholarship winner is **Jordan Lukens**. Lukens, a native of Greensboro, North Carolina, earned his undergraduate degree in Zoology and plans to pursue Medical School in the fall.

Lukens is a member of the OSU Spirit team and served as one of the most recognizable figures in the state of Ohio: Brutus Buckeye. The 2019 UCA Collegiate Mascot National Champion who had Top 10 finishes at the 2017 and '18 UCA College Nationals earned Ohio State Scholar-Athlete accolades and was a Nationwide Children's Hospital research associate in the department of otolaryngology, and has three studies published in international journals of pediatric ENT.



In addition to these individual awards, Varsity O also recognizes each year teams who achieve significant academic achievement milestones, for highest team GPA, and most improved GPA. The 4 teams recognized in Spring 2020 for their academic achievement over the course of the year are:

Large Team Highest GPA	Women's Swimming & Diving (3.510)
Large Team Most Improved GPA	Men's Fencing (increase of 0.135 over last year)
Small Team Highest GPA	Men's Tennis (3.538)
Small Team Most Improved GPA	Women's Gymnastics (increase of 0.172 over last year)



## The 1908 Football Season and its Greater Significance to Ohio State

### WALTER “RINK” BARRINGTON

*By Robert J. Roman*

Ohio State fans love to debate the question, who was the greatest Ohio State football player? The consensus answer is usually Archie Griffin, although a legitimate case can also be made for Orlando Pace. And no one may have been more exciting touching the ball than Teddy Ginn. Historians will often still make a case for Chic Harley, who is said to have first “put Ohio State football on the map.”

There was a time, however, when the unanimous choice would have been a quarterback named Walter Barrington, better known by his nickname “Rink.” In 1913, the Ohio State Alumni Magazine confidently named Barrington “the greatest of all Ohio State University football players.” Two years later, the university selected an All-Time Team, and Barrington was the panel’s only unanimous selection. In 1924, a writer for the New York Sun developed his own all-time Ohio State team, and Barrington was his only selection from the pre-Big Ten era.

Rink Barrington had been Ohio State’s quarterback as a freshman in 1905 but it was in 1906 that he truly began to shine. That year, the NCAA legalized the forward pass, and Barrington, the leading scorer on the O.S.U. basketball team, was the perfect player to exploit the new rule. Using both his legs and his arm, he led Ohio State to the championship of the Ohio Athletic Conference. After the 1907 football season, the Washington Herald published a feature on Barrington that declared him “the college student who beats them all.” At Ohio State, such recognition for the local hero was celebrated as a recognition for the entire school.

That game helped prove Ohio State worthy to enter the nation’s elite. It was just four years later that the university accepted an invitation to join the Western Conference, now known as the Big Ten. Rink Barrington is probably not still a candidate to be considered Ohio State’s greatest football player, but he remains one of the most important. If Chic Harley “put Ohio State football on the map,” it was Rink Barrington who first attracted attention of the map-makers.



*Robert J. Roman is the author of [Ohio State Football: The Forgotten Dawn](#) where additional stories such as this one can be found.*



# 2020 FOOTBALL GAMES: USE OF THE VARSITY “O” ROOM

As we look forward to what we hope is the 2020 OSU football season, Varsity O wants to remind our members of a few guidelines with respect to use of the Ohio Stadium Varsity O room on football Saturdays.

Due to the ever changing regulations caused by COVID 19 with respect to social distancing and size of approved gatherings, these rules, and even the use of the VO room, are subject to modification prior to and during the season. Please keep in mind that each game may have a different set of requirements or limitations. Most importantly, please be respectful to the Red Coats whose job it is each week to ensure the use of the room complies with the regulations of VO, the Athletic Department and Fire Marshall. This will be especially true during the upcoming season.

The use of the VO room on football Saturdays is available only to VO football members who have made a qualifying donation or who are grandfathered lifetime members, and their guests. Due to concerns of overcrowding, and the uncertainty of the number of persons that may be permitted in the room due to social distancing, this number may be reduced and the guests of VO football members may be restricted to family members or eliminated for the 2020 season. Regardless of what regulations are in place, for entry into the VO room the football member is required to show his current membership card to gain entrance. The VO football member must accompany any family member or guest entering the VO room.

We again hope to be able to open the room 2 hours prior to kickoff. We also hope to provide a food service similar to the past, however current restrictions prohibit buffet style service. At the present time the times the room will be available and the extent of food service that will be available, and the cost of same, is not known. Your VO board will attempt to communicate this information to you prior to the first game. Remember that it is the VO member's responsibility to see that all food and beverage services are paid for regardless of whether consumed by himself, family member or guest. Failure to do so may result in the member being required to pay and future access to the room being restricted or denied.

Also, as in years past, we hope to again be able to offer beer for sale in the VO room. Again each member is responsible for the actions of himself, family and guests. Varsity O and Levy Foodservice reserve the right to limit or refuse the sale of beer to anyone or everyone should the situation require. Should the need arise, VO and Levy also reserve the right to have any person removed from the VO room and to restrict or deny the VO member and his family or guests future access to the room.

The VO room is a great place to meet old friends and teammates or make new friends. Please respect that it is made available for our use by the past gifts of VO football members and by a long time honored arrangement with the athletic department.

This season is bound to have a few twists and turns with new rules or regulations each week. Your understanding is appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns please address them to a VO Board member.

GO BUCKS!





# BEHIND THE SCENES: THE OSU ATHLETIC COUNCIL

There is a little-known organization on campus that advises the University President and the Director of Athletics on issues relating to intercollegiate athletics. It is the Athletic Council.

The Athletic Council maintains policies and programs that are designed to improve the academic progress and well-being of student athletes. The Council also advises the Department of Athletics on decisions about finances and facilities.

The Council consists of sixteen voting members: eight tenured and tenure track faculty; two undergraduate students; one graduate student; one professional student; two alumni; and two staff.

The Council meets on the first Wednesday of every month during the fall and spring semesters with senior representatives of the Athletic Department, Student Athletic Support Service Office, the Faculty Athletic Representative, and the president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

The Council has three standing committees: Academic Progress and Eligibility; Equity and Student Athlete Well-Being; and Finance and Facilities. Each committee meets monthly, or more frequently as needed. The Council also has one ad-hoc committee – the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Misconduct – which began work during the 2018-2019 academic year to help the Athletic Department review existing university and athletic department trainings and protocols related to sexual misconduct. The Committee anticipates completing its work by August 30, 2020.

The Athletic Council took up the following issues during the 2019-2020 academic year:

- ❑ OSU sport psychologist Dr. Jamey Houle led a discussion on the role of sports psychologists in the Athletics Department. He explained that their primary goal is student athlete wellness and that they concentrate on preventative care. Athletics has added three fulltime counselors to assist in this work this past year.
- ❑ Deputy Director of Athletics Janine Oman addressed the Council on the evolution of sports science and student athlete performance and discussed recent steps taken by the Athletics Department to enhance student athlete performance. These measures have included adding a sport psychologist and nutritionist. She also reviewed recent upgrades and additions to the university's sports facilities designed to enhance student athlete training and spectator experiences.
- ❑ The Council heard a presentation by Rick VanBrimmer, the Assistant Vice President for Trademark & Licensing, on the trademark and licensing of Ohio State's name and Athletic brand. The Council discussed ongoing national, legal, and legislative developments related to student athlete control of their "Name, Image, and Likeness" with Athletic Director Eugene Smith. The Council met separately with President Michael Drake to discuss his role on the NCAA's Name, Image, and Likeness exploratory committee and talked about the implications of pending litigation and legislation for Ohio State University and Ohio State student athletes.
- ❑ The Council reviewed, discussed, and approved the annual report of the Athletics Department's Institutional Control Standards Committee.
- ❑ In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Council requested and received regular reports from Athletic Director Eugene Smith regarding the processes and procedures being followed to ensure student athlete well-being and departmental compliance with NCAA rules, as well as projections for the FY21 and FY22 budgets.
- ❑ The Council instituted two, new, recurring agenda items at its monthly meetings. The Council added "hot topics," a time for Council members to bandy about thoughts and ideas as a collective, in conversation with Athletic Department administrators, to see if further discussion or deeper exploration of the chosen topic by a Council committee was warranted. Topics discussed included potential pitfalls of student athlete over-enrollment in online courses - a pre-COVID-19 discussion. The second new agenda item was "student voices." The Council made a concerted effort to hear directly from student athletes at every meeting. The Council, for example, welcomed presentations from the leadership of African-American focused, student athlete organizations RAS and SHEROS, as well as from participants in the Bucks Go Pro program and Wolstein Leadership Academy.

# BEHIND THE SCENES: THE OSU ATHLETIC COUNCIL (CONT.)

The Athletic Council's three standing committees engaged in the following work during the 2019-2020 academic year:

## 2019-2020 Academic Progress & Eligibility Committee (AP&E)

AP&E ensures that OSU athletic teams provide student athletes with the resources they need to excel in the classroom, particularly when competing away from campus, by requiring and reviewing rigorous academic mitigation plans for travel for each varsity team. AP&E also closely monitors the progress of students who have been deemed ineligible to play because of poor academic performance, a key safeguard to maintaining academic integrity within the department of athletics, and an important part of the process for getting struggling students back on track. AP&E also selects student athlete award winners.

- ▢ Reviewed teams' missed class time forms and accompanying mitigation plans.
- ▢ The Chair of AP&E met with the Student Athlete Support Services Office (SASSO) and the Faculty Athletic Representative to review and provide feedback on the Academic "Stress Test" before it was brought before Council.
- ▢ Reviewed, discussed, provided feedback on, and approved Academic Mitigation Plans and Academic Recovery Plans for the small number of students who were struggling academically.
- ▢ Remained in close contact with SASSO to ensure that all student athletes received the support that they needed during the transition to online classes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ▢ Voted on two awards: the Big Ten postgraduate scholarship award and the Big Ten Medal of Honor.

## 2019-2020 Finance and Facilities Committee (FiFA)

FiFA reviews and make recommendations to the Athletic Council regarding the Department of Athletics' budget, facilities, ticketing, and the University Golf Course. During the 2019-2020 academic year, the committee met six times and conducted the following business:

- ▢ Reviewed the Department of Athletics' budget for FY 2020-21.
- ▢ Approved and recommended full Council approval of basketball ticket pricing for 2019-20 season.
- ▢ Reviewed long term plans of the Department of Athletics for facility construction and maintenance.
- ▢ Formed an Ad Hoc Sub Committee to assess the decline in football season ticket sales among students.
- ▢ Developed a survey for students regarding interest in football season tickets.
- ▢ Reviewed and recommended adoption of pricing for 2020 greens fees and membership fees at the university golf course.
- ▢ Reviewed student, faculty, staff, alumni outreach regarding the fan experience.
- ▢ Reviewed potential impact of "dynamic pricing" for public/single ticket inventory.
- ▢ Approved and recommended full Council approval of football ticket pricing for 2020 season.

## 2019-2020 Equity and Student-Athlete Well-Being (ESAW)

ESAW (1) monitors issues of equity related to student-athletes and provides timely reports on equity matters to the Council; (2) monitors issues related to the well-being of student-athletes, including emotional and physical health, personal development, social responsibility, sportsmanship, and ethical conduct; (3) serves in an advisory capacity to student welfare and development programs within the Department of Athletics including, but not limited to SASSO, and SAAB; (4) monitors media coverage and encourages efforts to provide accurate information about student-athletes to the university community and general public; and (5) fosters communication about the progress and success of student-athletes to the university community and the general public.

## BEHIND THE SCENES: THE OSU ATHLETIC COUNCIL (CONT.)

During the 2019-2020 academic year, the committee met and conducted the following business:

- Dr. Jamey Houle, Lead Sport Psychologist for the Department of Athletics, who oversees the mental health services provided to student-athletes, provided an overview of the Sport Psychology Treatment Team, their initiatives that contribute to a “Culture of Wellness”, and student-athlete referral process. The Sports Psychology Treatment Team is engaging in proactive measures and providing a wealth of services to support student athlete wellbeing and resiliency. Further, these services are provided in multiple ways (e.g., individual, group, programs) to meet the diverse needs of student athletes.
- Derek Cowherd, the Director of OSU’s Student-Athlete Support Services Office (SASSO), as well as Kim Doran, Director, Instructional Support Services & Chief of Staff, and Shaun Swearingen, Associate Director of SASSO, provided a discussion about the structure, goals (i.e., create independent learners), processes (i.e., individualized approach), and focus (i.e., start with the basics) of SASSO. SASSO provides services from recruitment to graduation, as well as post-graduation opportunities. The Athletic Department provides extensive support to set student athletes up for success even before they start at campus. The services provided are exemplary as evidenced by their well-trained and highly knowledgeable staff.
- Derek Cowherd, the Director of SASSO, and several student-athlete leaders/representatives and advisors across several student-athlete groups or organizations discussed these groups: SHEROS, RAS (Redefining Athletic Standards), SAAC (Student-Athlete Advisory Committee), Global Buckeyes, SVP (Sexual Violence and Prevention Program), and Peer Educators. Mr. Cowherd talked about the role of SASSO in working with student-athletes as they endeavored to develop groups and providing the groups with resources and supports. The student-athletes and advisors talked about the groups’ missions, events for student-athletes, and the benefits of their involvement. The student-athletes discussed their involvement in promoting mental health and wellness amongst each other, tackling difficult or challenging issues, developing leadership, and engaging with the larger Columbus community. It was clear that the student-athletes felt empowered to create groups based on their needs and engage in the work that they do and know that they would be supported.
- Monique Bowman, Associate Director of Visual Media & Public Relations for the Athletic Department, is part of the Digital Media Squad that manages the social media presence of OSU Athletics, provides social media education to student-athletes, and provides information to coaches if they have been made aware of or observed troubling information from student-athletes on social media.
- Three members of the Cheer and Dance Teams discussed the Spirit Program. They shared information about OSU’s spirit program, their experiences in their respective sports, and the support they received from the Athletics Department. They also spoke about training for competitions, recruitment, becoming varsity status, and they emphasized the unique opportunity they had to engage with student-athletes across other sports when they perform at other sporting events. The committee applauded the Athletic Department and Varsity “O” for including the Spirit Program last year and recognizing these team members as student-athletes.
- Dr. Keely Croxton, a committee member, discussed updates from the Athletic Council Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Misconduct. The Ad Hoc committee has made steady progress in addressing their charge and the Athletic Department has been proactive in addressing this issue.
- Dr. Jamey Houle, Lead Sport Psychologist for the Department of Athletics, discussed the supports, strategies, and changes his team had engaged in to continue to meet the needs of the student-athletes in the virtual setting, given the upheaval brought about by COVID-19. He also noted that the team was also focused on what good might come out of this experience (e.g., learning the effectiveness of new modalities for service delivery, identifying innovative methods of providing supports) and offering information and supports to coaches and other sports staff.

# INSIDE THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT: DIANA SABAU

Diana Sabau is the Deputy Director for The Ohio State University Department of Athletics.

In April 2017, Sabau was named sport administrator for Ohio State football, an oversight position for the program that includes budgeting, scheduling, negotiating contracts and compliance. She was lead team administrator for Ohio State's 2017 Goodyear Cotton Bowl trip and the department generated revenue from the bowl for the first time in four years. The 2018 team repeated as Big Ten champion and competed in the 105th Rose Bowl Game.

Sabau supervises and is sport administrator over Ohio State's women's ice hockey team, and co-ed rifle and pistol programs. Her national search and hire of hockey coach Nadine Muzerall has redefined the program: Muzerall was named coach of the year in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association in 2017-18 and the program had its best season ever: advancing to the Frozen Four. The 2018-19 team won 20 games and advanced to the WCHA's Final Faceoff.

Deputy Director Sabau is also responsible for the coordination of the overall athletics brand messaging. Her daily leadership includes revenue generation, tracking trends in technology for business advancement, strategic planning, maximizing partnerships for the student-athlete experience and public relations.

Sabau oversees the departments of creative services, fan experience and promotions, marketing, social media and video services, as well as the OhioStateBuckeyes.com website. She serves as the chair for the revenue generation council for the Department of Athletics, and she chairs the department's recruiting committee, which focuses on enhancing collaboration among all coaches.

As manager for the department's overall strategic plan, currently under a five-year review and called A Higher Purpose, Sabau ensures her departments and units strategically align with the mission and values of the university and communicate to Buckeye Nation the news of remarkable experiences and financial successes.

Sabau is accountable for enhancing the focus on the department's major partnerships and revenue production with IMG, NIKE, Gatorade, CBS digital, Coke and the Big Ten Network. The department recently signed an unprecedented \$252 million partnership agreement with NIKE and the university.

The department liaison with The Ohio State University Office of the President, Sabau works with its Chief of Staff and communications team on collaborative and wide-range messaging and crisis management plans.

Sabau is also a member of the Ohio State Board of Trustees planning and oversight committee.

Sabau served six years on the executive team for the Columbus Local Organizing Committee that planned and hosted the 2018 Women's NCAA Final Four. Chief among her responsibilities was ticket sales — the event was sold out — along with budgeting, student-athlete engagement and fan experience and promotions.

Sabau is a member of the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators and National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA). Sabau graduated from the NACWAA HERS Institute for Administrative Advancement program in June 2008 and the Executive Leadership Institute in 2013.

She earned an MSA from Ohio University, a BA from St. Bonaventure University and attended Oxford University, Somerville College.

Sabau and her husband, Jamie, have two children: a son, Tanner, and a daughter, Camille.





# LIFE LESSONS FROM BUCKEYE GREATS

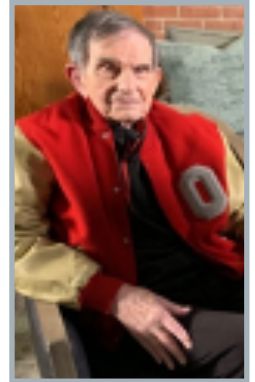
By Steve Chappellear, Varsity O President

If you would like advice on how to live a successful life, there's no better place to look than a college commencement address.

Every year, wise leaders are asked to share their thoughts with excited graduates. Here at Ohio State, those leaders have included four former Buckeye athletes, and one former head football coach.

The first of these was **Charles A. Csuri**, who spoke in 1985. Chuck Csuri was an All-American football player who was the captain of the 1942 National Championship team, Ohio State's first. He was named Big Ten MVP. He left school in 1943 and joined the Army. He was promptly sent to Europe and found himself in combat at the Battle of the Bulge. His bravery and gallantry in that battle led to him being awarded the Bronze Star for heroism. He returned to OSU, earned a doctorate degree, began a long career as an Ohio State professor, and was a pioneer in computer animation, computer graphics, and digital fine art.

Among his many awards, he is a member of the OSU Athletics Hall of Fame, and received the inaugural Jim Jones Career Achievement Award from Varsity O in 2018.



In reflecting on his student days, Chuck noted how life was different on campus in the early 1940s:

"OSU had about 14,000 students when I was a freshman. As we attended our classes, we often wore white shirts and occasionally a necktie. According to today's standards, the girls dressed like they were going to Sunday School. I had a crew cut hair style and I was very respectful of authority. In Columbus, trolley cars were our public transportation and cost \$ .05. I knew one student who had a personal auto. There were obviously no parking garages. The Student Union building was in a wooded area. In 1941, as a member of the football team, we traveled by train to play USC in Los Angeles. It was an incredible trip for someone who never traveled ten miles outside of Columbus, Ohio. When we played football, we wore leather helmets and high-top shoes and there were no face masks. Incidentally, we beat USC, 33-0. I had a wonderful experience as a student-athlete, but I discovered there was life after football."

Chuck urged the graduates of 1985 to find a role in life that can have meaning, to enjoy your work, and if you don't, don't be afraid of change. "Work should challenge you and give you a sense of purpose."

**Wayne Woodrow "Woody" Hayes** spoke at commencement in 1986. He also served in the military during WWII, as a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy, participating in both the Atlantic and Pacific Operations. He became Ohio State's head football coach in 1951, and served 28 years in that position, winning five national championships, and 13 Big 10 Conference titles.

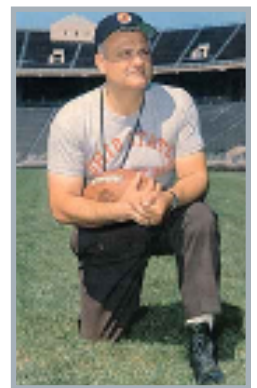
Woody began his commencement speech by declaring, "This is the greatest day of my life." He spoke of the importance of "paying forward". He quoted Ralph Waldo Emerson as saying, "You can pay back only seldom. You can always pay forward and you must pay line for line, deed for deed, and cent for cent. Beware of too much good accumulating in your palm or it will fast corrupt."

He advised the graduates, "One thing you cannot afford to ever do—that's to feel sorry for yourself." He lauded the value of hard work. "I ran into coaches I coached against who had a much better background

than I did, knew a lot more football than I did, but they couldn't work as long as I could. They couldn't stick in there as long as I could. You can out-work anybody. Try it and you'll find out you can do it."

Woody gave some life lessons learned on the football field. "When you get knocked down, which is plenty often, you get right up in a hurry, just as quickly as you can. Then, number two, do you know what to do? You probably need more strength. Do you know where you get it? You get it in the huddle. You get it by going back and getting a new play and running that same play together. That 'together' is the thing that gives you the buildup to get ready to go again. And in your lifetimes how well you can work with people will depend on how quickly you get back to 'em and get together."

Woody noted, "There's nothing that comes easy that's worth a dime."



## LIFE LESSONS FROM BUCKEYE GREATS (CONT.)

**Clark “Special K” Kellogg, Jr.** was the commencement speaker in 1998. He played basketball for the Buckeyes from 1979-1982, earning All Big Ten and MVP honors. He went on to play professionally for the Indiana Pacers. Following his playing career, he has been a television basketball analyst, and has served on the Ohio State Board of Trustees. He received the Jim Jones Career Achievement Award from Varsity O in 2019.



In his remarks to the graduates, Clark quoted from Solomon, in the Book of Ecclesiastes, “The race doesn’t always go to the swift or the battle always to the strong. Nor does food come to the wise, or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned, but time and chance happen to us all.”

He said, “One of the challenges that I know I face and I think that we all face is somehow trying to balance what we do, with who and what we are, and who and what we are becoming.”

He went on, “Achievement and status is very much highly valued and highly esteemed in our culture and in a lot of cases highly compensated. But I think there is great danger in allowing whatever we do to define who we are. I realize that is a thin line. But I read a book called “Grace Works” by Dudley Hall a few years ago. And he put it this way: ‘Our lives are most full and satisfying when being defines doing.’ Not the other way around. Our nature, our inherent nature defines character. We are created uniquely and wonderfully made. We have different gifts and abilities and talents. And we’re most fulfilled when we operate in agreement with our nature in regard to the things we do.”

**Gregory S. Lashutka** spoke at commencement in 1999. Greg played tight end for the football Buckeyes in 1963-1965. He went to law school after graduation and later served as the Columbus City Attorney. He was elected Mayor of Columbus in 1991. He was re-elected to a second term in 1995.



Greg spoke to the graduates just as his time as Mayor of Columbus was coming to an end. He acknowledged the pivotal role that his time as a student at Ohio State, and as a football player under Woody Hayes, had on his development. He told the graduates that they needed to think about their values, such as community, civility, and spirituality.

He mentioned that his former coach, Woody, had spoken at the OSU commencement in 1986, the year before he died, and quoted the Emerson lines about paying forward. Greg agreed that paying forward was vital.

“You can pay forward—investing in people, in communities, and in this great country, independently of what they have done for you. Paying forward may be the best and most enduring quality of a civil society. It is the balancing force to the technological and economic breakthroughs that promise so much in the coming years. And it is critical to resolving the social, moral and economic struggles we face at the dawn of a new century.”

The most recent Buckeye athlete to serve as commencement speaker was **Archie Griffin**, in 2015. Archie was the starting tailback for the Buckeyes from 1972 through 1975. In addition to his two Heisman Trophies, Archie won many other college awards. He is one of four players to win the Chicago Tribune Silver Football, the Big 10’s Most Valuable Player Award, twice (1973–1974). United Press International named him Player of the Year twice (1974–1975), the Walter Camp Foundation named him top player twice (1974–1975), he won the Maxwell Award (1975), and Sporting News named him Man of the Year (1975).



The College Football Hall of Fame enshrined Archie in 1986. Ohio State enshrined him in the OSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1981 and officially retired his number, 45, in 1999. He was inducted into the Rose Bowl Hall of Fame in 1990. In 2007, he was ranked No. 21 on ESPN’s Top 25 Players In College Football History list. On January 1, 2014, Archie was named the All-Century Player of the Rose Bowl Game.

## LIFE LESSONS FROM BUCKEYE GREATS (CONT.)

Archie spoke in May, 2015, in Ohio Stadium, as he was about to retire from his position as President and CEO of the OSU Alumni Association, and as his son Adam was graduating.

Archie told the story of his first time to carry the ball as a Buckeye, as a freshman in 1972, in the opening game against Iowa. He fumbled the ball and was yanked out of the game. Like Clark Kellogg, Archie quoted a Bible verse, from the Book of James: "My brothers and sisters, consider it nothing but joy when you fall into all sorts of trials. Because you know the testing of your faith produces endurance."

He said that this verse "is simply saying that when you fumble the ball, it is a test of your faith and endurance." "Your failures in life do not define you. How you handle that adversity, how you pick yourself up off of the ground and come back the next day is the true measure of your worth."

Archie gave sound advice to the graduates: "Show up on time. Be accountable for your actions. Do what you say you are going to do. Treat people the way that you want to be treated. Pay forward. You can never truly pay back those who have helped you, but you can always pay forward to others. Woody taught all of us that. And one more thing: listen. Really listen to people. You really can learn so much by simply listening. It's an increasingly lost skill in our hyper-connected, multi-tasking society, which makes it all the more important."

Archie noted that the week after the Iowa game, and his disappointing fumble, Woody gave him another chance, in the game against the North Carolina Tarheels. Two and a half quarters later, Archie had rushed for 239 yards, a school record. His previous failure had not defined him. The test of his faith had produced endurance and made him better.

He concluded, "I wish nothing but the best for you as you walk out of the gates of this stadium and into the rest of your life. I wish you great happiness, great fortune, great peace, and great understanding. But I also wish something else: I wish for you to have faith that someday when you are my age, you will look back at your fumbles in life and relish the tests you were given. I wish for you a time when you are down and counted out and forced to dig deep and come back to show the world who you really are. I have a feeling that you will get that chance someday, but what you make of it is truly up to you. Now, I know that you will handle it, and you will handle it well because you are a Buckeye, and that's what we do and that's how we roll!"

Five great Buckeye champions. Five inspiring speeches to Ohio Stadium alumni. That's how we roll.



# VARSITY O



## REMEMBERING BILL MYLES 1936-2020

Former Ohio State assistant football coach and associate athletic director Bill Myles passed away May 12, 2020. Myles, 83, had been in declining health. He suffered a massive stroke in 2014.

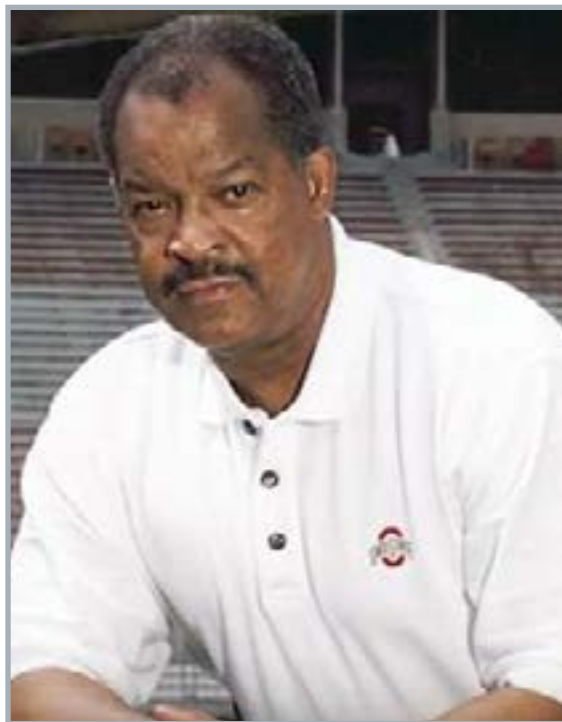
Myles was one of Ohio State's first African American coaches and served at OSU for more than four decades, starting when Woody Hayes hired him away from Nebraska as an offensive line coach in 1977. He was a great coach, husband, father, and a man amongst men. He was a father figure to many of his players, who will never forget him.

When Earle Bruce replaced Coach Hayes after the 1978 season, Myles and Glen Mason were the only assistant coaches Bruce retained. Myles later became an associate athletic director, overseeing football and basketball as well as the expansion of women's sports under Title IX. Myles helped lead the coaching search that led to the hiring of John Cooper after the 1987 season.

In 1995 under athletic director Andy Geiger, Myles created Ohio State's outreach program designed for athletes who hadn't graduated to return to complete their degrees. "No one was reaching out to these guys, so I thought it would be a good idea to establish a program that would bring them back," Myles told the "Call & Post" newspaper in 2007. "It was a win win for everyone, the athlete and the school. It's one of the things I'm proudest of in my time here."

Myles grew up in Kansas City and played football at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Tom Osborne hired him as an assistant coach at Nebraska, where he coached until Hayes lured him away. He retired from OSU in 2008, though he remained close with the program.

Myles is survived by his wife, Lorita. He is the father of two children, Debbie and Bill.





# ADVICE FROM THE TEAM DOC

## Adapting to change: Ohio State Sports Medicine now offers Telehealth Care

Just like the athletes we treat, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and Sports Medicine have had to be nimble and make adjustments mid-game in order to succeed. We have offered Telehealth Care, using video and telephone, for many outpatient appointments in response to limiting the spread of COVID-19.

While telehealth doesn't allow for a hands-on physical exam, our Sports Medicine physicians say they have been able to easily examine many conditions by having patients demonstrate their movement patterns just as they would in the office, order tests, review X-Ray and MRI results and make referrals for physical therapy.

To care for patients remotely, the medical center deployed more than 200 cameras, updated more than 500 computers and set up over 2,000 accounts in Updox, a HIPAA-compliant telehealth platform. Nearly all providers are equipped to provide these private consultations from a location outside of their usual clinic.

Ohio State Sports Medicine offers same-day and by-appointment Telehealth Care using:

- ▣ Video visits where patients can see and speak with their provider live from wherever they would like, using a smartphone, tablet or computer. Download the Ohio State MyHealth app to get started [HERE](#).
- ▣ Telephone Visits: Providers and patients discuss medical concerns over the telephone.

To prepare for a telehealth visit, patients can expect to describe their symptoms in detail, provide their medical history, share photos and ask questions. Additionally, to have a video visit, patients need a strong internet connection, and a quiet, private, well-lit location.

At Ohio State Sports Medicine, you can receive our expert care using your smartphone, tablet or computer.

For all in-person visits, you can feel confident that all five of our Sports Medicine locations are safe. We've taken significant measures to minimize the risk of the spread of COVID-19 and worked tirelessly to ensure that our patients are protected.

Call Ohio State Sports Medicine at 614-293-3600 to learn if your next appointment can be a video appointment or visit the website [HERE](#).

If you have immediate care needs in Columbus, visit our new Orthopedic Injury Walk-In Care at the Jameson Crane Sports Medicine Institute on campus. For more information on the Walk-In clinic check out the website [HERE](#).



# JOIN TEAM BUCKEYE IN PELOTONIA 2020

Varsity "O" is providing an opportunity for members to join Team Buckeye, and take part in this year's Pelotonia.

Pelotonia began in 2008 as a two-day bike ride in Columbus, Ohio to raise funds for cancer research at the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – The James. Pelotonia, the Ride, has historically included a weekend of cycling, entertainment and volunteerism.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, there won't be a weekend of group bicycle riding, but Pelotonia will continue, nonetheless. Individuals can participate as a bike rider, runner, walker, swimmer, or as a virtual rider or volunteer.

As a 501(c)3 not for profit organization, Pelotonia raises money for cancer research at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solve Research Institute. In just eleven years the Pelotonia community raised over \$208 million for cancer research. But they aren't stopping there. Every single dollar that is raised is invested in innovative cancer research.

Varsity O's policy is to not endorse fundraising efforts for charitable organizations, as there are many worthy causes deserving of support, and Varsity "O" cannot support all who seek our support. Therefore, Team Buckeye is simply a vehicle for those Varsity "O" members who would like to either participate in this year's Pelotonia or support those members who are participating.

Registration Direction:

Go to: <https://pelotonia.org>

- ❑ Click Register
- ❑ Choose Rider Registration, Virtual Rider Registration or Volunteer Registration.
- ❑ Enter your personal information
- ❑ Choose the ride in which you would like to participate/Support.
- ❑ Request to join a Peloton: Team Buckeye or click search, which will list all pelotons that you could join.
- ❑ Complete requested donation information
- ❑ Learn all desired Pelotonia information and FAQs directly from the website
- ❑ All information, ride descriptions, parking, contact telephone numbers and resources are provided on this website by Pelotonia.

Thank you for considering support of this great activity.



RIDE A BIKE, AND HELP KNOCK OUT CANCER.



# CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Ohio State University Varsity "O" Alumni Society seeks nominations from members for its four annual awards.

The Barbie Tootle Buckeye Spirit Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated unconditional loyalty and support of athletics at The Ohio State University. The winner may be, but is not required to be, a former athlete, or a coach or member of the Athletics Department staff.

Previous winners of this award include Barbie Tootle, Ruth Hyde Porteus, Helen Fryoff, Larry Romanoff, Peg Schafer Jackson, Denny Tishkoff, Kate Griffie, Kristin Watt, Craig Little, Sandy Slomin, Andy Geiger, Jan Wolf, Donna Ball, Teri Casperson, Linda Logan, Dr. Debbie Mendel, Kim Dally, Theresa Bowers, and Vlade Janakievski.

The Phyllis Bailey Career Achievement Award pays tribute and recognition to a female Ohio State letter winner who, through her career, has contributed to the honor and fame of The Ohio State University, having capitalized on the values learned in intercollegiate athletics and having achieved singular success in her career.

Past winners of this award include Phyllis Bailey, Barb Vogart Holman, Robin Tucker, Dru Ann Hancock, Tara VanDerver, Sally Dellinger, Michelle Willis, Andy Teitelbaum, Mamie Rallins, Denny Hoobler, Katie Smith, Stephanie Hightower, and Kristin Watt (some of these were selected before the award was restricted to females).

The Jim Jones Career Achievement Award pays tribute and recognition to those male Ohio State letter winners who, through their careers, have contributed to the honor and fame of The Ohio State University. These award winners have capitalized on the values learned in intercollegiate athletics and have achieved singular success in their career.

Past winners of this award include Charles Csur, Jameson Crane, and Clark Kellogg.

The Loyalty Award pays tribute to those individuals who, over the course of their lifetime, have been extraordinary in their services to Varsity "O" and/or the Ohio State University Athletics Department.

Past winners of this award include Lou Fisher, Dr. William D. Heintz, Dr. Chalmer Hickson, Marv Homan, Sol Maggied, Frank "Moose" Machinsky, Robert Ries, Alex Schoenbaum, Ralph Waldo, Larry Romanoff, and Jeff Logan.

Please submit names and relevant supporting information to Awards Committee Chair Matt Finkes, at [matthew.finkes@osumc.edu](mailto:matthew.finkes@osumc.edu).



## Varsity O

# WHY BE A VARSITY “O” MEMBER

The Ohio State University Varsity “O” Alumni Society is an exciting, active alumni organization consisting of former Ohio State varsity athletes who earned at least one letter in their varsity sport. We enjoyed our time competing for the Buckeyes and we strive to help current and former Buckeyes. Our slogan is “Athletes Helping Athletes”, which we achieve by creating programs designed to help current and former Buckeye athletes. We are proud of our rich history and tradition and celebrate our legacy through our Athletics Hall of Fame, team reunions, and sales of Varsity “O” apparel, rings, mugs, and flags. We support current athletes through fully funded scholarships, post graduate scholarships, recognition of team captains, a first-time letter winners’ ceremony, and awards to the teams with the highest and most improved grade point averages. We provide Buckeye networking opportunities through social media, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn, the Varsity “O” website, quarterly newsletters, our annual Homecoming Tailgate, pre-game football tailgates, receptions at football and basketball games, and receptions at select away football games and other sporting events.

Benefits of membership:

- ▣ Ability to purchase OSU football tickets
- ▣ Free admission for two to OSU Olympic sports events
- ▣ Invitations to exclusive Varsity “O” events
- ▣ OSU golf course walk-on privileges
- ▣ Access to Varsity “O” Store for exclusive goods and apparel
- ▣ 20% discount on goods at Ohio State Team Shop
- ▣ Quarterly Varsity “O” Newsletter
- ▣ Sustaining membership in OSU Alumni Association
- ▣ Buckeye Club Membership

Be a part of The People, The Tradition and The Excellence and become a Varsity “O” Member today! Go to [\*\*varsityo.alumni.osu.edu/membership/\*\*](https://varsityo.alumni.osu.edu/membership/)

Questions? Write [\*\*buckeyecub@osu.edu\*\*](mailto:buckeyecub@osu.edu) or call **614.292.9908**

## Varsity “O” SEEKING BOARD CANDIDATES FOR 2021

Varsity O is seeking board candidates for the upcoming 2021 year. Please submit resume and cover letter to: Candace Dark, Past President at: [\*\*candacedark@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:candacedark@gmail.com)

Applicant interviews will occur over the summer and will likely be virtually. Previous Varsity O membership and engagement as well as attendance at Varsity O sponsored events is a plus.





## MEET ANTONIO SMITH

Antonio Smith is an author, motivational speaker, entrepreneur and community activist who has reached unimaginable heights, simply because he's not afraid to fail. Antonio's experiences and platform have propelled him to do two simple things in life: create and inspire.

As a walk-on to the Buckeye football team in 2002, Antonio earned a National Championship ring his freshman year. By the end of his senior season, he had earned much more...an athletic scholarship, a starting position, and the respect from players and coaches across the nation, as Antonio was regarded as one of the premier defensive backs in the country. Antonio went on to play three seasons in the NFL for the Indianapolis Colts, Detroit Lions and Cincinnati Bengals.

Antonio's work ethic off the field was just as good. He graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering in 2007, and after his NFL career, spent several years with a local engineering firm designing schools and hospitals across Ohio. "Engineering simply teaches you how to solve problems," Antonio says. This solution based mindset led Antonio to pivot from solving problems for engineers and architects, to partnering up with his former teammate Roy Hall to operate Driven Foundation, which is a local non-profit organization that solves problems for the community. Over the last decade, Driven has distributed more than one million pounds of food to families across Central Ohio.

In 2014, Antonio joined the Men's Varsity "O" Alumni Association Board, and was active during the merger between the Men's Varsity "O" and the Women's Varsity "O" organizations. For the last several years, Antonio has been responsible for the annual Homecoming Tailgate in which approximately 400-500 former athletes get an opportunity to reconnect and enjoy fellowship with one another before the Buckeyes take the field for the annual Homecoming Game.

Antonio is excited to see Varsity "O" continue to grow and be on mission with "Athletes Helping Athletes!"

Antonio resides in Columbus with his wife Jasmine and two children, Zayla and Zen.



# MEET THE BOARD

Varsity O Alumni Society Board of Directors



**STEVE  
CHAPPELEAR**

President

Wrestling ('71-'74)  
Attorney, Frost Brown Todd  
[schappelear@fbtlaw.com](mailto:schappelear@fbtlaw.com)



**JILL (VINCENT)  
BURKE**

President-Elect

Synchronized  
Swimming ('76-'80)  
Principal in Southwestern  
City Schools  
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**LIZ (HELICKSON)  
LUCAS**

Secretary

Rowing ('97-'01)  
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Hilliard City Schools  
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**JOE BUDDE**

Treasurer

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**CANDACE DARK**

Past-President

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Director of Outreach &  
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OSU Wexner Medical  
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**CASSIE DICKERSON**

Board Member

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**MATT FINKES**

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**TOM LEVENICK**

Board Member

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**RON MACIEJOWSKI**

Board Member

Football ('68-'70)  
Executive Vice President, Greer  
Steel Company  
[rmace3166@outlook.com](mailto:rmace3166@outlook.com)



**LIBBY (GRAF)  
O'BRIEN**

Board Member

Women's Lacrosse ('05-'09)  
Special Needs Preschool  
Teacher in Southwestern  
City Schools  
[libbygraf@yahoo.com](mailto:libbygraf@yahoo.com)



**JASON SINGLETON**

Board Member

Men's Basketball ('95-'99)  
Athletic Director  
Columbus Academy  
[singletonj@columbusacademy.org](mailto:singletonj@columbusacademy.org)



**ANTONIO SMITH**

Board Member

Football ('02-'06)  
Vice President,  
Driven Foundation  
[asmith4485@aol.com](mailto:asmith4485@aol.com)



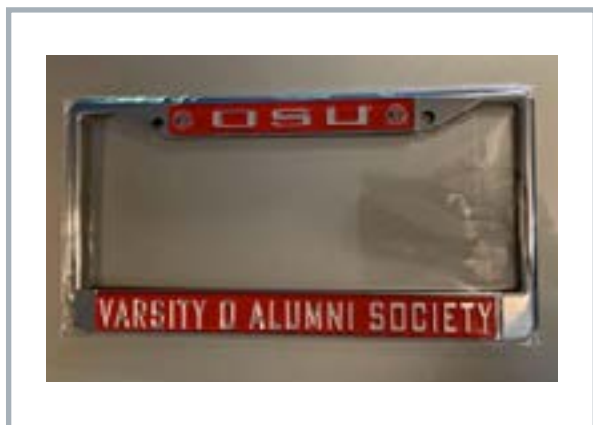
**KATY (CRAIG)  
SWATHWOOD**

Board Member

Track & Field ('99-'02)  
Executive Sales  
Representative, Eli Lilly &  
Company  
[kcs swathwood@gmail.com](mailto:kcs swathwood@gmail.com)

# SPECIAL VARSITY "O" ALUMNI SOCIETY LICENSE PLATE FRAMES, CHENILLE AWARD FRAMES, FLAGS & BANNERS AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO PURCHASE

Questions? [Joe@BuddeRealEstateLaw.com](mailto:Joe@BuddeRealEstateLaw.com)



**ITEM #1**

Varsity O License Plate Frame



**ITEM #2**

Framed Chenille Award

## LICENSE PLATE FRAME

\$30 - includes shipping when delivered to a business address

\$35 - includes shipping when delivered to a residence due to UPS charges

## FRAMED CHENILLE AWARD

\$75 - includes all shipping costs



## ORDER FORM

**ITEM NUMBER REQUESTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*If requesting item #2, please list name, varsity sport(s) and year(s) participated how you would like it to appear on the award.

**VO MEMBER NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VARSITY SPORT(S):** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEAR(S) PARTICIPATED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SHIPPING ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this order form and your check payable to: OSU Varsity "O" Alumni Society to:

*Joseph E. Budde, ESQ, 259 W. Schrock Road, Westerville, OH 43081*

# 



### DESCRIPTION

SKU # FLC -2008	Varsity O Alumni Society Printed Nylon Flag	\$ 130.00
SKU # FLC -2009	White Varsity O Alumni Society Printed Nylon Flag	\$ 130.00
SKU # FLC -2010	White Varsity O Alumni Society Printed Nylon Banner	\$ 107.00
SKU # FLC -2011	Red Varsity O Alumni Society Printed Nylon Flag	\$ 130.00
SKU # FLC -2012	Red Varsity O Alumni Society Printed Nylon Banner	\$ 107.00

### BILL TO

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

### SHIP TO

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: please provide street address for all shipments. We can not ship to P.O. Boxes.*

SKU #	DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT	QTY	PRICE EACH*	TOTAL	OFFICE USE ONLY
CC Number: _____			<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		
Exp Date: _____			Ohio Residents add 6.75% sales tax		
Zip: _____			<b>SHIPPING CHARGES</b>		

### SHIPPING CHARGES

The following charges are for shipping in the continental 48 states. Please call for orders to Alaska, Hawaii, and international destinations, as these will include air freight charges.

For quick delivery, we can ship UPS 2nd-day and UPS next-day services for an additional charge. Please call and we will be able to quote you the special charges.

### SHIPPING CHARGES

Add to all orders

MERCHANDISE VALUE	\$A/H
Up to \$50.00	\$7.75
\$50.01 - \$100.00	\$10.00
\$100.01 - \$200.00	\$16.00
\$200.01 - \$400.00	\$25.00
\$400.01 - \$1000.00	\$36.00
\$1000.01 and over	\$ CALL

Email Completed form to: [patricia@flagladyusa.com](mailto:patricia@flagladyusa.com)


















Call with any questions! 614-263-1776 x 306



# **VARSITY "O" STORE**

**ORDER BY  
JULY  
20**

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
VO FALL 2020**

 <b>\$100.00</b> Nike Protect Jacket	 <b>\$106.50</b> Nik Jac	 <b>\$48.00</b>	 <b>\$58.00</b> Jord Top Ava colo	 <b>\$55.00</b> Nike D OLC H Available in 1 other color.
 <b>\$45.00</b> Nike Dry Vict Solid OLC Po Available in 2 colors.	 <b>\$45.00</b> Nike Dri-FIT Po Available in 2 other colors.	 <b>\$42.00</b> Jordan 23 Alpha Dry Long Sleeve Hooded Top Available in 2 other colors.	 <b>\$28.50</b> Nike Dry 3/4 Sleeve Raglan Tee Available in 1 other color.	 <b>\$51.50</b> Nike Flux Jogger Available in 1 other color.
 <b>\$35.00</b> Nike Women's Legend Veneer	 <b>\$48.00</b> Nike Women's Short Sleeve	 <b>\$48.00</b> Nike Short Sleeve Windshirt	 <b>\$51.50</b> Nike Women's Flux Crew	 <b>\$28.50</b> Nike Women's Dry 3/4 Sleeve
 <b>\$51.50</b> Nike Women's Flux Jogger Available in 1 other color.		 <b>\$28.50</b> Nike Women's Dry Tempo Short Available in 1 other color.		



MTS Customer Support - ref # 4782439  
 1-800-749-3813 | myteamshop@bsnsports.com  
 Team Coordinator Varsity O varsityosociety@osu.edu



**VO2020**

www.bsnteamsports.com



**SHOP NOW**

Order 7/6 to 7/20

No orders will be accepted after the deadline.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MEET THE COACH NIGHT

Zoom Event • July 16, 2020 • 6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

We are excited to invite you to an enlightening introduction and chat with your Head Coach of the Ohio State Men's Basketball Team, Chris Holtmann. Hosted by Varsity "O" President, Steve Chappellear, this is sure to be an enjoyable event where you get to know Coach Holtmann and his philosophies on Ohio State Buckeye Basketball. This will be a virtual event and Zoom information will be sent once you have registered. Register in advance for this webinar [Here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Go Bucks!

### Chris Holtman Bio

Chris Holtmann grew up in Nicholasville, Kentucky, before playing basketball at Taylor University. In 1994, his senior year, he earned All-America honors and Taylor reached number one in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) rankings. Holtmann got his start in coaching as a graduate assistant at Taylor in 1997. The next year, he became an assistant coach at Geneva College, then returned to his alma mater as an assistant in 1999.

Holtmann joined Gardner-Webb's staff in 2002 and spent the next five seasons there, first as an assistant coach and then as associate head coach. After two seasons as an assistant at Ohio University, he returned to Gardner-Webb as head coach. At Gardner-Webb, he led a successful rebuilding effort culminating in the school's first Division I postseason appearance in 2013. He was named conference and district coach of the year for his efforts.

In July 2013, Holtmann left Gardner-Webb to become an assistant coach at Butler. In October 2014, he took over the program as interim head coach when Brandon Miller requested a medical leave of absence from the university. January 2, 2015, Holtmann was named the permanent Butler Head Coach, where he coached the Bulldogs to a three-year record of 70 wins/31 losses and three NCAA Tournament appearances.

Holtmann left Butler June 9, 2017 to become the head coach at Ohio State.

His first three seasons at Ohio State have followed the blueprint established during his tenures at both Gardner-Webb and Butler — Success.

He was named the 2018 Big Ten Coach of the Year after leading the Buckeyes to a 25-9 overall record, a No. 2 finish in the Big Ten regular-season standings (15-3) and a Second Round appearance in the 2018 NCAA Tournament. The Buckeyes won 20 games in 2018-19 (20-15), marking the sixth-consecutive season Holtmann teams have won 20 or more games.

Chris Holtmann will begin his fourth season at the helm of the 2020-21 Buckeyes.



For a complete listing of upcoming Alumni Association events, visit [osu.edu/alumni/activities-and-events/events](https://osu.edu/alumni/activities-and-events/events)

Alumni events are filled with fun, festivities and, yes, sometimes football. The Ohio State experience doesn't stop with commencement, so come together with your fellow alumni to enjoy more time as a #BuckeyeForLife.

## NEWS

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US to be shared in future newsletters! [varsityonews@gmail.com](mailto:varsityonews@gmail.com)