

2020 & 2021
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTEES

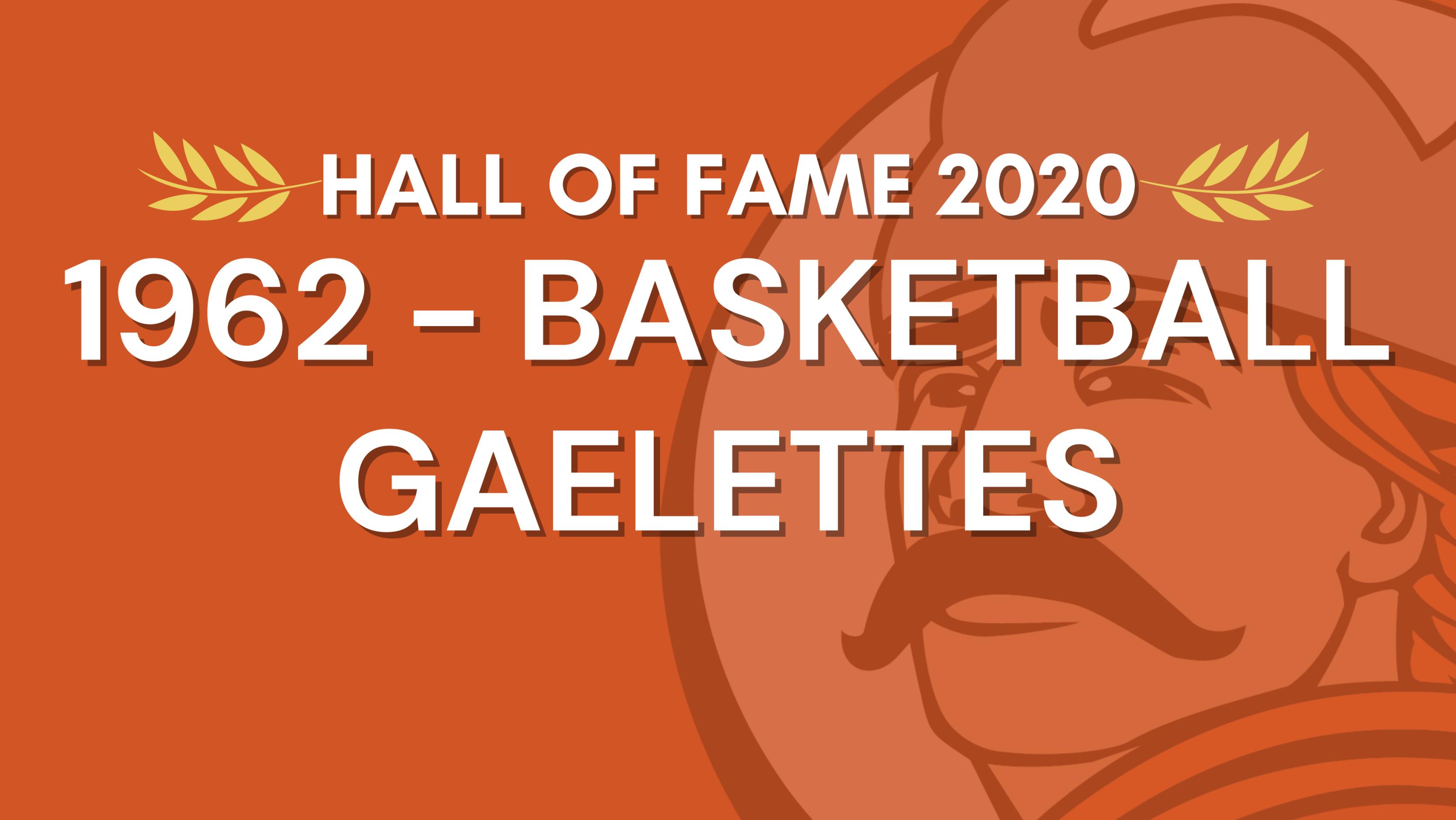


HALL OF FAME 2020



1962 – BASKETBALL

GAELETTES





1962 – BASKETBALL GAELETTES



The 1962 Shelton High School Girls Basketball team ranks as one of the most outstanding in school history because the coaches and players are listed as the very first interscholastic girls' athletic team both in Shelton and in the greater Naugatuck Valley. The Gaelette team members had to fight to create a brand new program in every aspect. Budget, uniforms, schedules, officials, practice space, and transportation were all huge obstacles that were overcome by this determined group of dedicated female student athletes and coaches. All championships and athletic programs which have followed since owe a debt of gratitude to this remarkable team. Members of the 1962 SHS Girls Basketball team include: Carol Petro, Sr. Linda Pepe, CSJ, Lorraine Hemenway Sedlock, Karen Kruk (Manager), Bernice Nicolari (Coach), Jerrilyn Gildea Klubek, Linda Zimmerman Bishop, Elaine Biercevicz Piazza, Linda Wight Gogan Letsch, Grace Petro DelStritto, Cheryl Ballas, Cindy Vick Iutzi, Beverly Homick O'Hara, Michelle Cayer Kawalautzki, Jozette Gralow Carlson, Christina Biercevicz Vogel DeGennaro, Cathy Carey, Barbara Churma Majeski, Mickey Biasucci Doria

20'

1962 BASKETBALL GAELLETTES



20' 1962 BASKETBALL GAELLETTES



SPORTS CLUB

L to R: Christina Biercevicz, Bev Homick.
Bottom: Barbara Churma (co-captain). Elaine Biercevicz (co-captain).

The Girls' Basketball Team took the place of our Sports Club this year. Under the capable leadership of Miss Bernice Nicolari, faculty advisor and coach, the girls ended their season with ten wins in twelve games. The girls set a precedent not only in the number of victories, but also in gaining recognition for their club, and they were feted at a banquet at which letters and trophies were given.

P. SULLIVAN



20' 1962 BASKETBALL GAELLETTES

SPORTS CLUB

Shelton:

SCORES

* Seymour	69-13
* Notre Dame	43-20
* Hamden	20-19
* Branford	31-21
Lauralton	32-45
Amity	39-30
* Seymour	43-25
* Jonathan Law	43-31
* Amity	41-37
* Meriden	32-16
* Lauralton	33-20
* Jonathan Law	19-18
* VICTORY FOR SHELTON	



GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

Center: Karen Kruk, Manager.

Row 1, left to right: Cathy Carey, Mickey Biasucci, Joszette Gralow, Cheryl Ballas, Cindy Vick, Linda Zimmerman, Grace Petro.

Row 2: Barbara Churma, co-captain; Michelle Christina Biercevicz, Carol Petro, Bev Homick, Wight, Lorraine Hemenway, Linda Pepe, Jer Elaine Biercevicz, co-captain.





 **HALL OF FAME 2020** 
GREG BIERCEVICZ

GREG BIERCEVICZ

Greg Biercevicz, Shelton High School Class of 1973, is the youngest of Walter and Florence Biercevicz's seven sons and daughters. All graduated from Shelton High School. Elaine ('64), a pioneer in women's athletics, was inducted into the Shelton Hall of Fame in 2019. Chris ('65) and Karen ('70) are retired Shelton Elementary School teachers. Walt ('66) and Joe ('68) were on Joe Benanto's first Shelton Baseball Teams; Joe was drafted by the Chicago Cubs during his senior year. Walt was drafted out of Norwalk Community College; but didn't sign until Uncle Sam drafted him into the US Army. Mark ('72) played with Greg on Shelton's first State Baseball Championship team in 1972, the team that made national news for halting Naugatuck High School's 64 game win-streak.

Greg co-captained the 1973 Housatonic League Basketball Champions and the 1973 Connecticut Class A Baseball Champions (1972 and 1973). He made the All-State Baseball team as well as the All-Housatonic and All-Valley Basketball and Baseball Teams. He was also chosen All-New England High School Shortstop. Greg went on to play shortstop for UCONN, eventually becoming a key performer on the pitching staff.

A 4-year letter winner at the University of Connecticut, Greg was a tri-captain in 1977 as the team won the Yankee Conference Championship (both 1976 and 1977) and the ECAC NE Championship. This team also qualified for the Northeast Regional Playoffs. He was the 1977 Season Record Holder for Complete games with 6 and for Strike Outs with 97. During the summers, he played in the Cape Cod League; Greg played at Yankee Stadium in the 1976 Sixth Annual All-Star Game.

GREG BIERCEVICZ

In 1977, Greg was selected by the Seattle Mariners in the 15th round of the Major League Baseball Draft. He was ranked 5th best in the country while with Bellingham with 11.2 Strikeouts for 9 innings pitched and 11th best in the country with an ERA of 1.49. He set the Northwest League Record with 11-1 record and a 0.89 ERA rookie year. He was selected Player-of-the-Year for Bellingham by the Northwest League National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, receiving the TOPPS Chewing Gum George M. Trautman Award. He was also TOPPS Minor League Player of the Month of August.

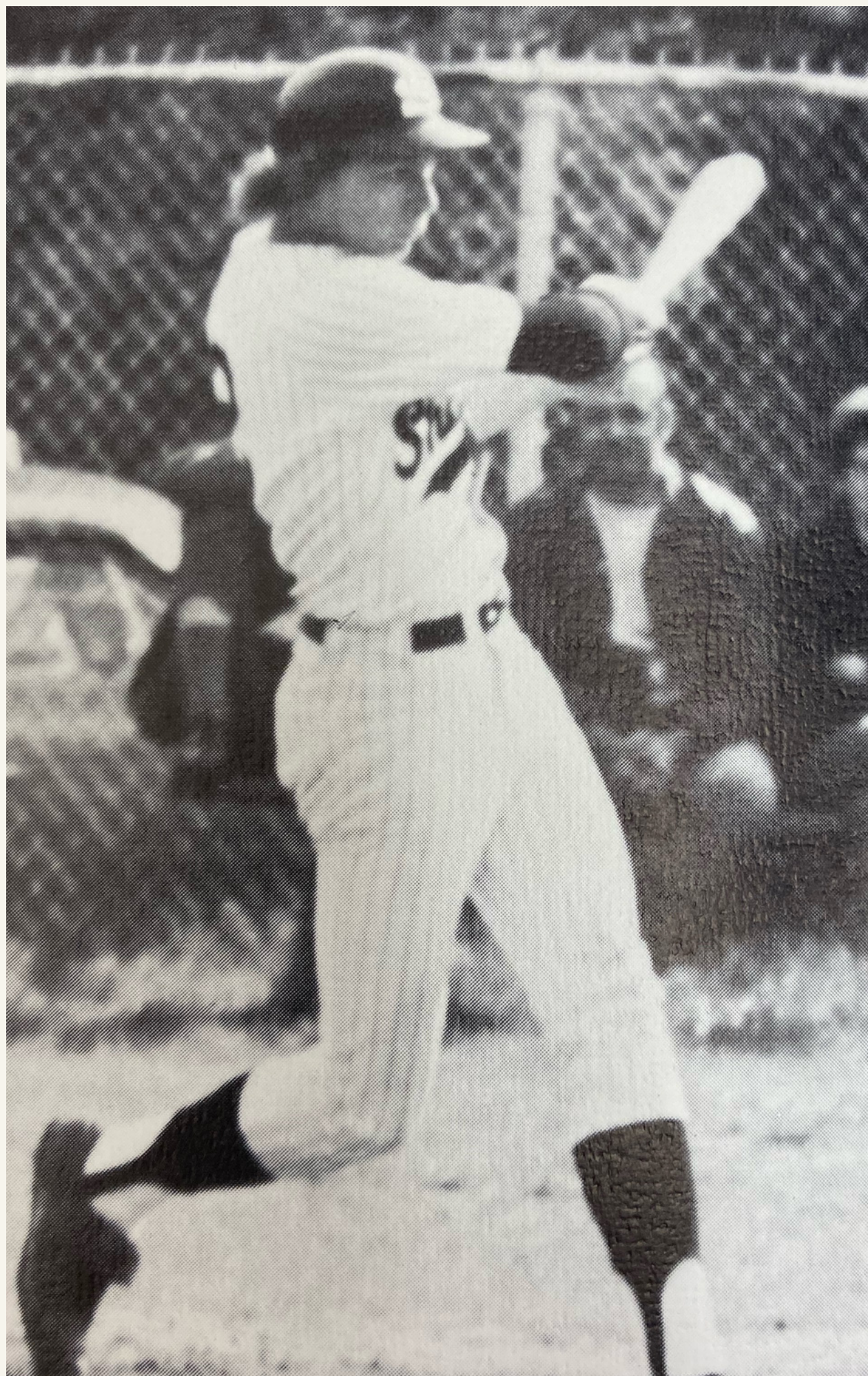
In 1978, Greg played Triple-A ball in San Jose, California and Winter ball in the Mexican League. From '79 to '81 he played for Spokane, Washington, receiving the Spokane Chamber of Commerce Award with a 10-10 record. He signed on with the New York Mets AAA Tidewater team at Norfolk, Virginia, where he achieved the Second Best ERA in the International League (AAA) in 1982 and in 1983. The team became International League Champions both years, winning the Governors' Cup. In 1983, the team won the Triple A World Series Championship. His 1982 Venezuelan team won the Winter Ball League Championship. Greg ended his career with Chicago AAA in Denver and Baltimore AAA in Rochester, New York.

Greg was offered coaching positions with the Mets for years, but opted to turn his hobby of woodworking into a highly successful carpentry business before becoming semi-retired. He married Janice Marcucio, Shelton Class of 1974. They have 2 daughters, Danelen and Jessica, and a grandson Brody.

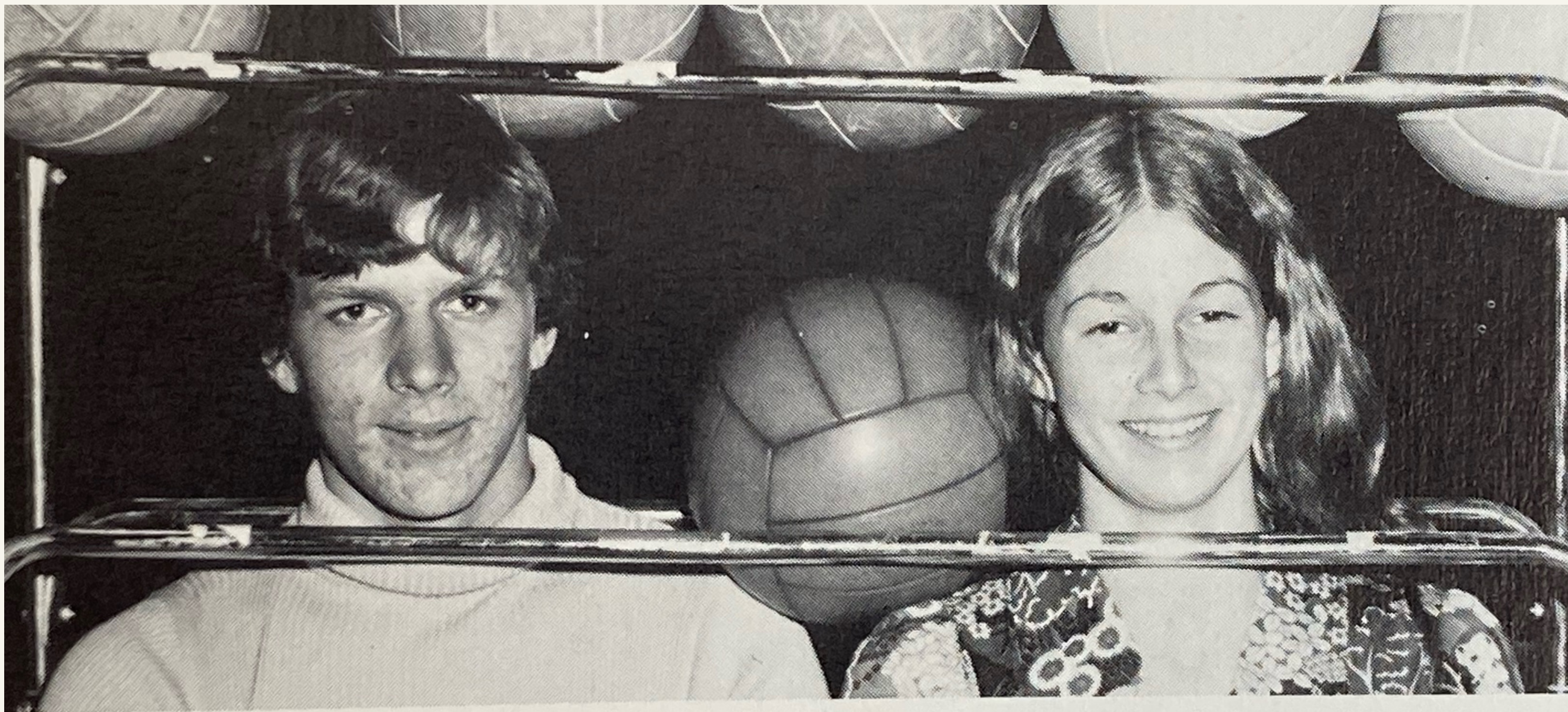
20' GREGG BIERCEVICZ



20' GREGG BIERCEVICZ



20' GREG BIERCEVICZ



MOST ATHLETIC
Greg Biercevicz, Debby Young



2020 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BIRDS



20'

GREG BIERCEVICZ





HALL OF FAME 2020



SUSAN MARTIN

SUSAN MARTIN

Susan Martin graduated from Shelton High in 1968. She returned to teach social studies in 1973 until 2010. During this time, she pioneered Geography courses and led the way for Advanced Placement Government. At Shelton High, she served as Commencement Director for over 20 years and as Student Council Advisor. She also started the School and Community Volunteer Service course.

Sue is one of the original (and current) volunteers for the Audrey Dreyer Food Bank. Susan's selfless and grand gesture of kindness is continuously shown by organizing and assembling the food bank, which gives to families in need who attend Shelton Public Schools. Susan certainly has a passion for helping others.

Following her retirement in 2010, Sue continued to teach in the Adult Education program. She has served on the Juvenile Review Board for more than 20 years. She is also active in the city election process as a moderator. Sue began the student voter registration process while teaching at SHS.

Susan is also an avid golfer and a big supporter of Shelton High School athletics. You can find her on local courses participating in various golf tournaments. Susan's dearest experiences of Shelton High School are running into her past students and sharing memories from her classroom. Sue would like to thank her early mentors, Leon Sylvester and Sue Karcher. She would also like to extend thanks to her family and to the Guras for considering her worthy of this honor.

SUSAN 20' MARTIN



SUSAN 20' MARTIN



SUSAN 20' MARTIN



SUSAN MARTIN

'20



SUSAN 20' MARTIN



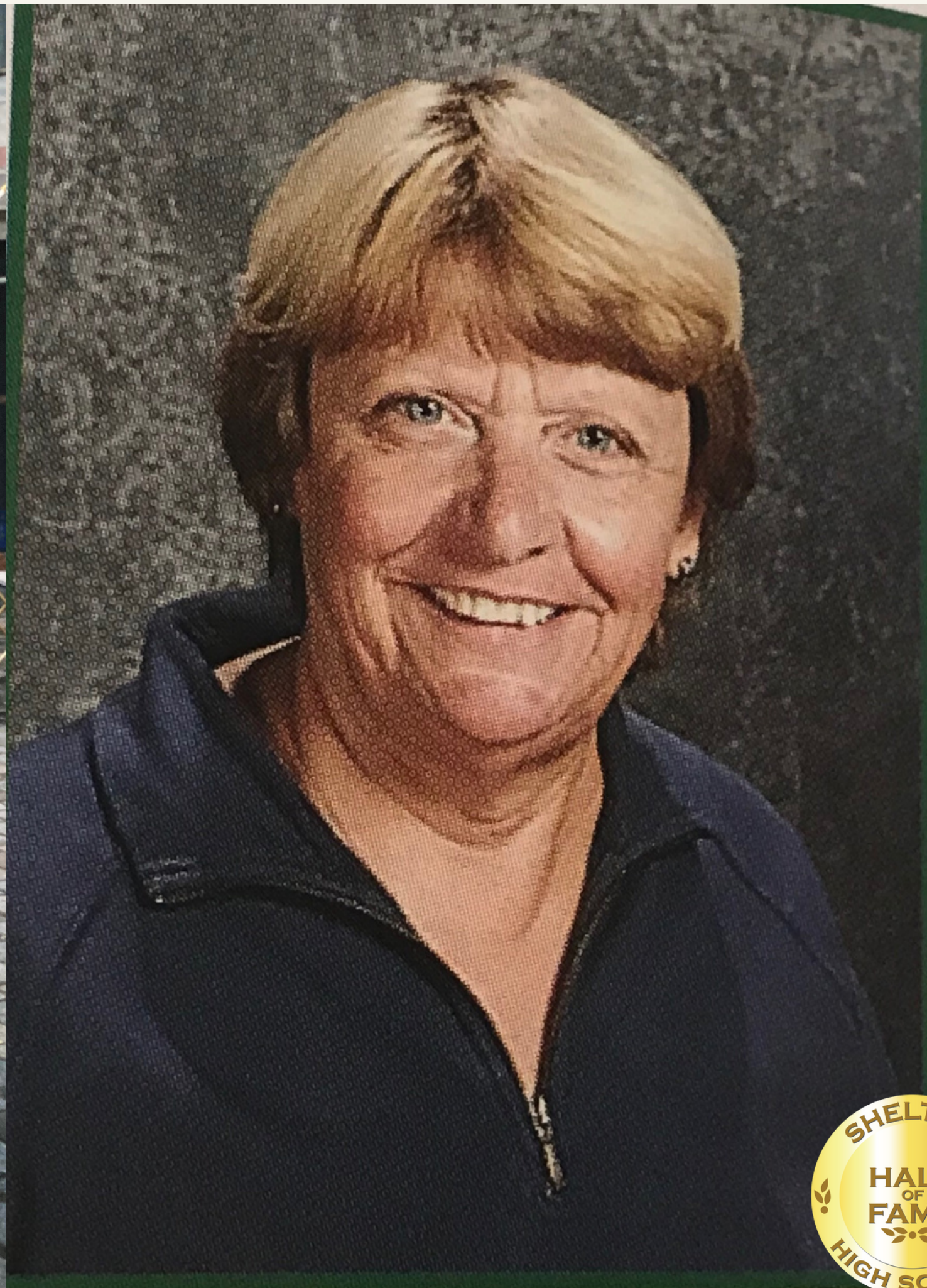
SUSAN 20' MARTIN



SUSAN 20' MARTIN



SUSAN 20' MARTIN





HALL OF FAME 2020



**ANTHONY
SAVIGNANO**

ANTHONY F. SAVIGNANO

Anthony F. Savignano... Sonny was born on June 13, 1935, to Ermini and Josephine Savignano of Shelton, Connecticut.

Sonny attended Shelton schools and was a member of the 1953 Shelton High School (SHS) graduating class. He continued his education at Bridgeton Academy Prep School before attending Fairfield University. While at Fairfield, Sonny majored in math and earned a Bachelor of Science degree with teaching certification. He received his Master's Degree from the University of Bridgeport in 1966 and his 6th year in Administration in 1973.

After graduating from Fairfield, Sonny was hired as a teacher in the Shelton school system. He taught math from 1958 until 1971. He was appointed head basketball coach in 1959, a position he held until 1971.

In 1971, Sonny left the classroom to pursue the administrative side of education. From 1971-1977, he served as Vice Principal at SHS, which was then located on Perry Hill. He then helped transition the staff and student body to the new and current Shelton High School as a Housemaster from 1977-1981. Sonny was later named Headmaster of his alma mater, Shelton High School, a role he cherished for ten years until 1991. His final two years were spent in central office as Director of Operations overseeing building projects and general building maintenance throughout the district.

The honors and recognitions Sonny earned throughout his tenure in the Shelton school system are numerous. He was recognized by the Connecticut Principals Academy as a mentor for new principals. This was a role he thoroughly enjoyed. He saw it as a way to further contribute to the development and

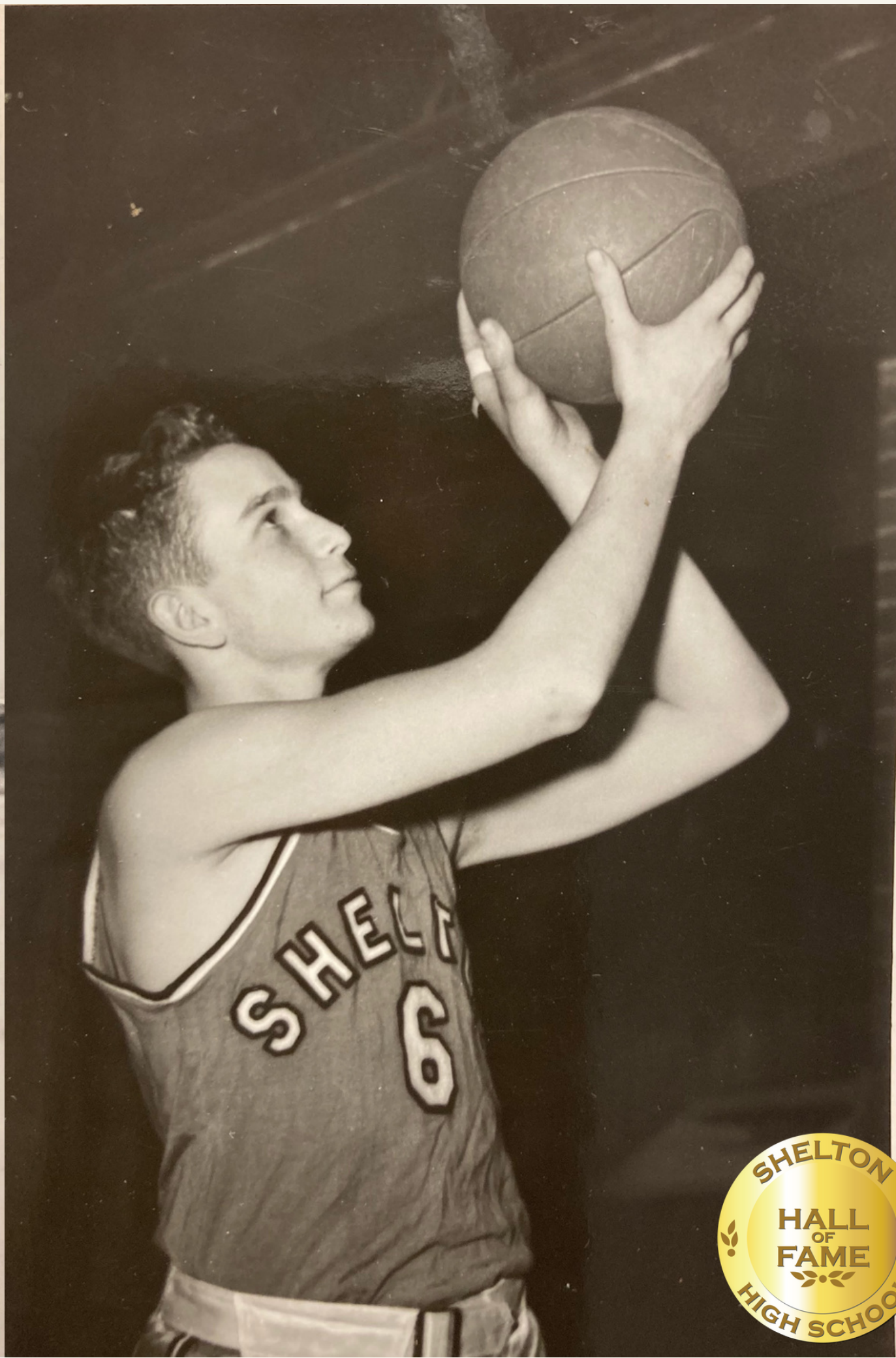
ANTHONY F. SAVIGNANO

wellbeing of students. In 1992, he was inducted into the New Haven Tap-Off Club Basketball Hall of Fame. He was named the “Unsung Hero” in the 1970 yearbook by the senior class. He was serving as a math teacher, basketball coach, and senior class advisor at this time. This was an award that made him especially proud.

Sonny always spoke very highly of two influential people in his life, his basketball coach Vincent J. Murray, and football coach Edward C. Finn. The lessons he learned from them about teamwork and personal effort, combined with an upbringing in his loving, hardworking family formed the basis of his successful work ethic and leadership approach. It is no wonder he is joining them in the hall of fame.

Throughout his career, Sonny dedicated himself to the betterment of the youth of Shelton. Whether he was coaching, teaching, developing new programs, overseeing construction projects, creating resources for students, parents, and teacher alike, everything he did was for the Shelton community. He truly had orange and black running through his veins and touched the lives of so many students, players, teachers, administrators throughout his time in Shelton.

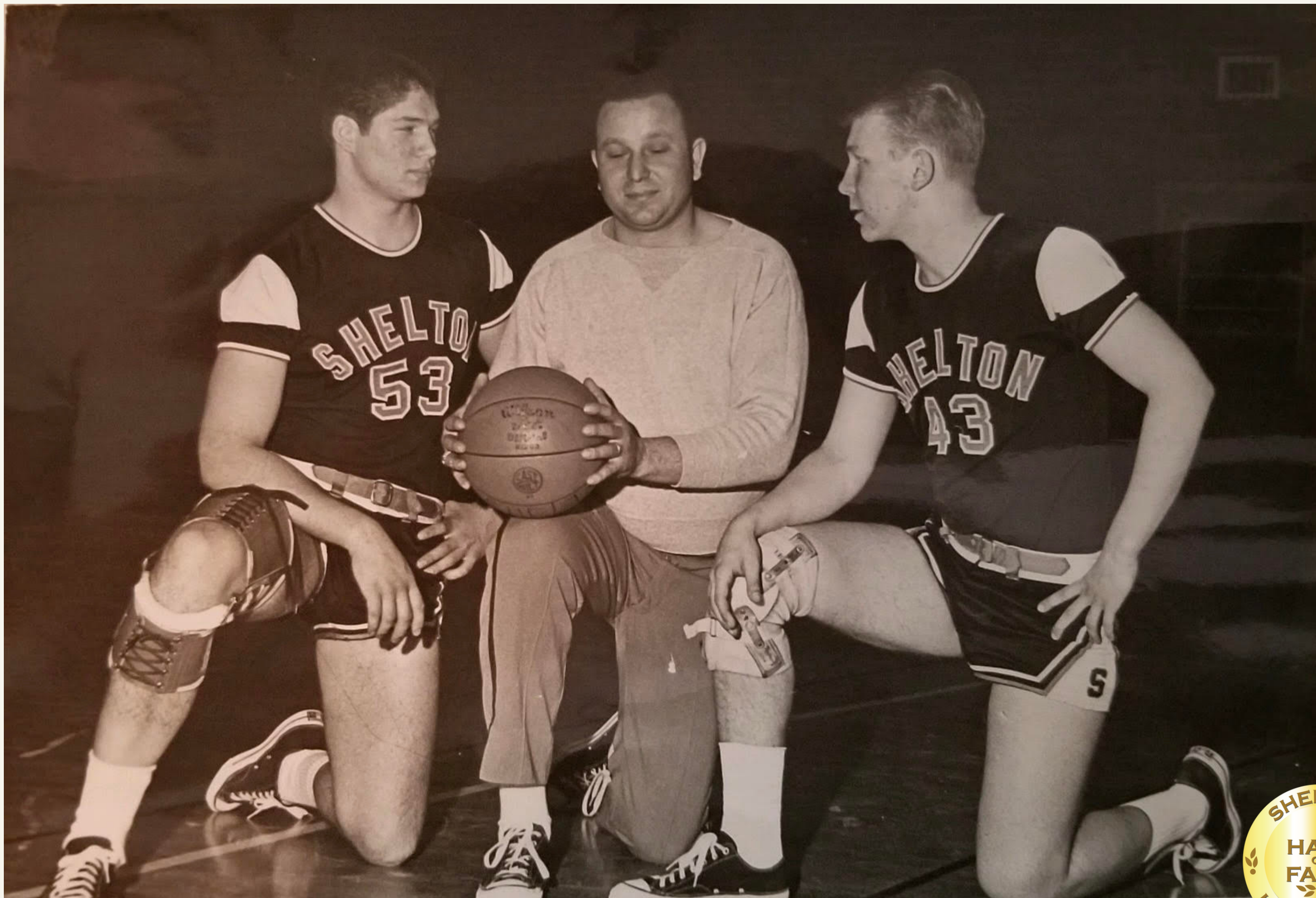
ANTHONY 20' SAVIGNANO



ANTHONY 20' SAVIGNANO



ANTHONY 20' SAVIGNANO



20' ANTHONY SAVIGNANO



ANTHONY 20' SAVIGNANO



ANTHONY 20' SAVIGNANO



ANTHONY 20' SAVIGNANO



ANTHONY 20' SAVIGNANO



A large, stylized, monochromatic portrait of Terry Jones in shades of orange and brown, serving as the background for the text.

 **HALL OF FAME 2020** 
TERRY JONES

TERRY JONES

Terry Jones is the 5th generation of the Jones family to farm their land in the White Hills of Shelton, Connecticut. Today, three generations are living and actively engaged in farm activities on their 450 acres. They are guided by the credo established 160 years ago by Philip James Jones: “Be Good to the Land and the Land Will Be Good to You.”

Terry, 75, loves the trees, but developed a special passion for strawberries, which he considers “the queen of fruits.” He graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1969 where he studied Forestry, Plant Science, and English Literature. After 60 years of harvests, he may be Connecticut’s longest, continuously producing commercial strawberry grower.

Quick to point out that while seven generations of Jones boys have been farming in Shelton, Terry credits their success, in large part, to the talented and hard-working, innovative women that each generation has married and partnered. After 53 years of marriage, Jean Crum continues to inspire him and remain his best friend.

Between the late 1980s and 2004, Terry co-chaired the Shelton Conservation Commission. He then became chairman of Connecticut’s Working Lands Alliance, a statewide coalition dedicated to preserving Connecticut’s diminishing farmlands and fostering public policy to facilitate land access for new/beginning farmers. In 2004, Governor Rell appointed Terry to serve on the Board of Control at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven, Connecticut. Terry continues to serve as Vice-President. The station is the first in the United States and since 1875 continues to “put science to work for society.”



TERRY JONES



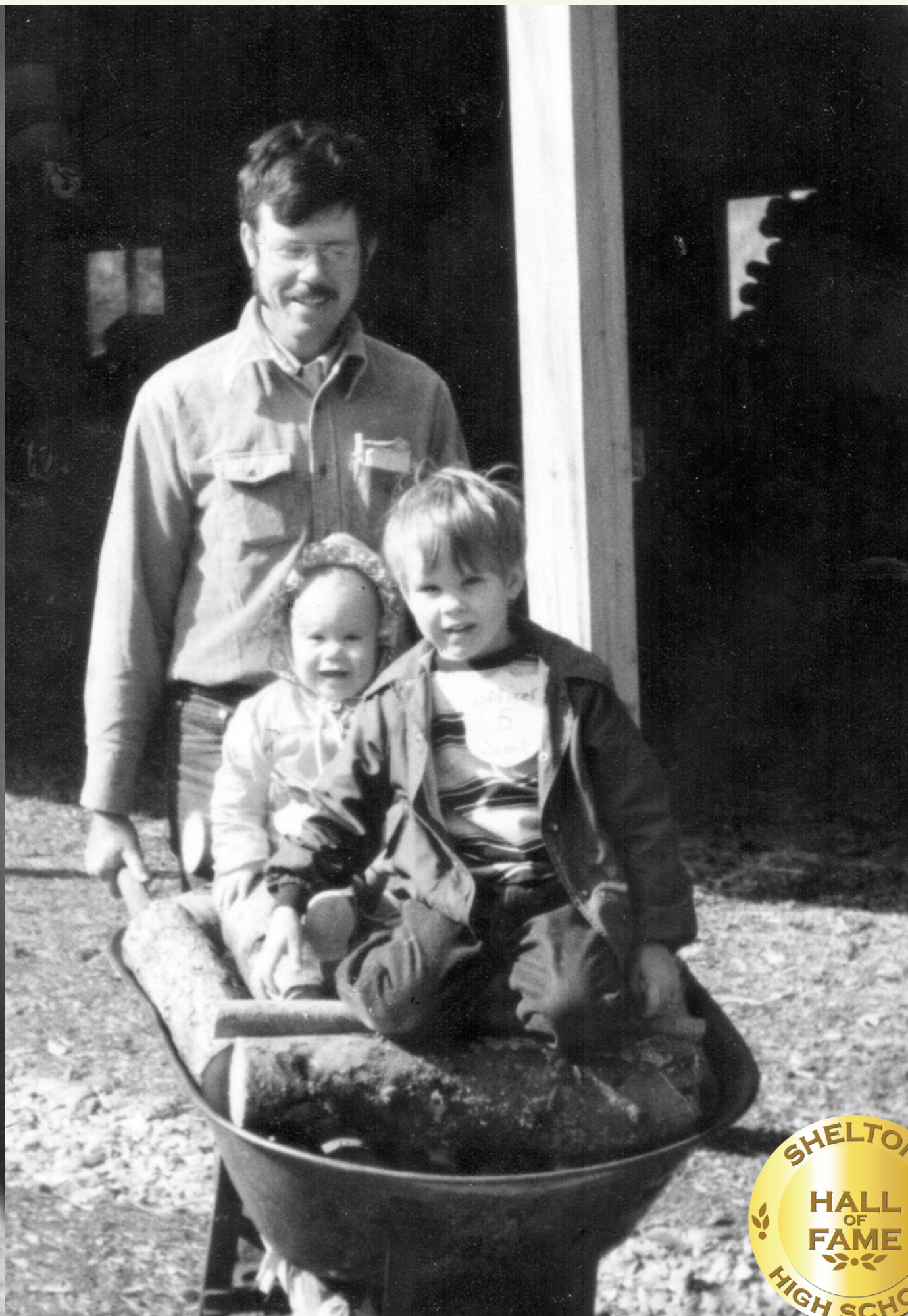
Terry is an advocate for brownfields remediation and serves on the Shelton Economic Development Commission. He believes in balanced growth and the wisdom of combining natural resource conservation and diversified economic development as a key to growing successful communities.

In 2011, Governor Malloy appointed Terry to the State Board of Education, where he served for eight years. He also serves on the Dean's Advisory Board at the UCONN College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Since 2019, he has served on the boards of the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven and the Valley Community Foundation. In September 2021, he and Jean were honored at the "Big E" as recipients of the Eastern States Exposition Agricultural Adventurer's Award.

TERRY
JONES

20'



TERRY JONES 20'



Terry and Paige, photography co-editors, caught their own cameras . . .

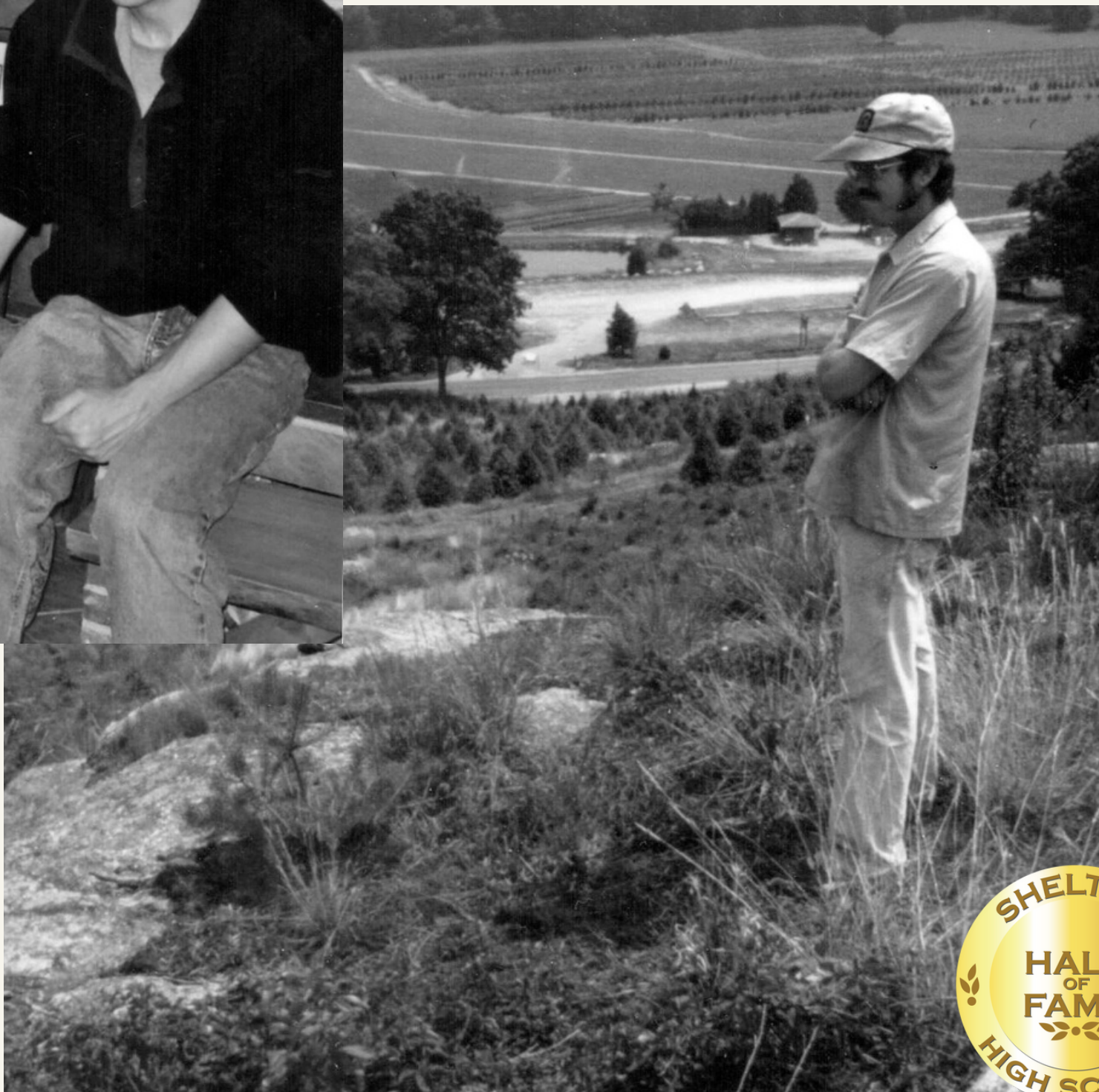


TERRY JONES 20'



TERRY JONES

20'



TERRY JONES 20'



TERRY JONES 20'



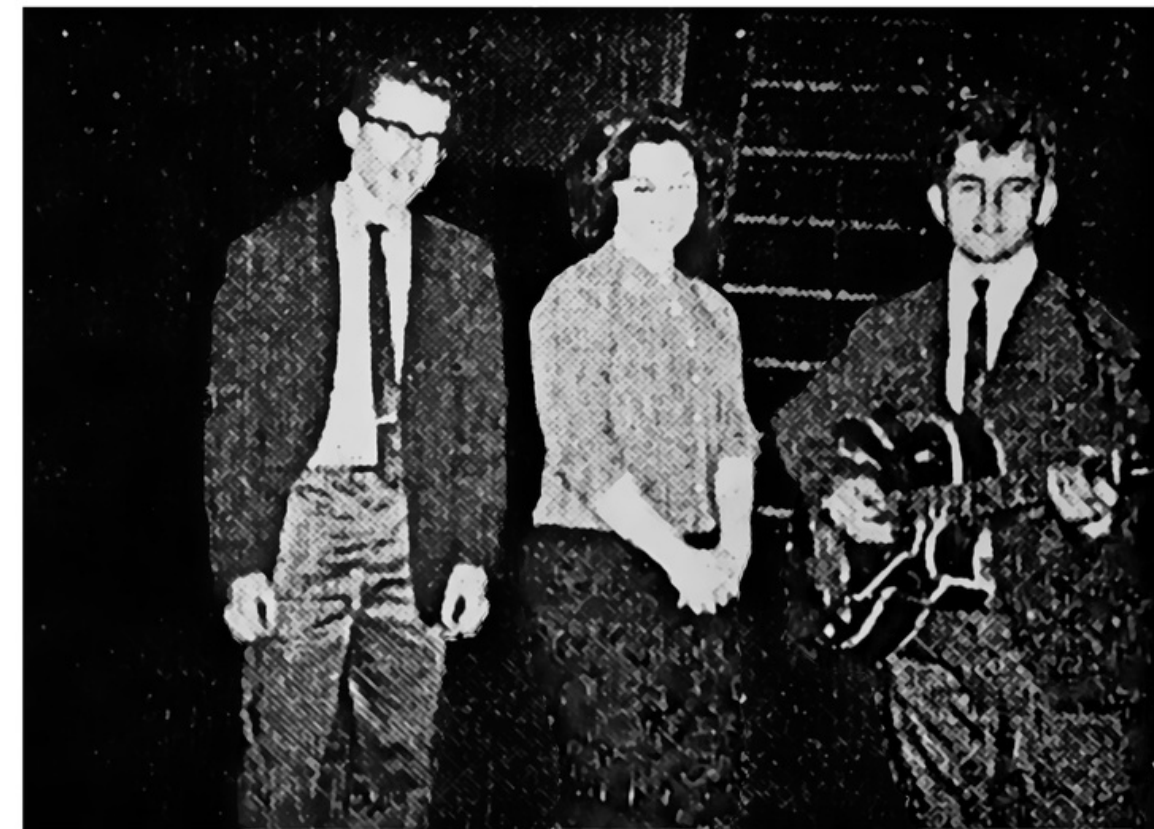
HOOTENANNY!

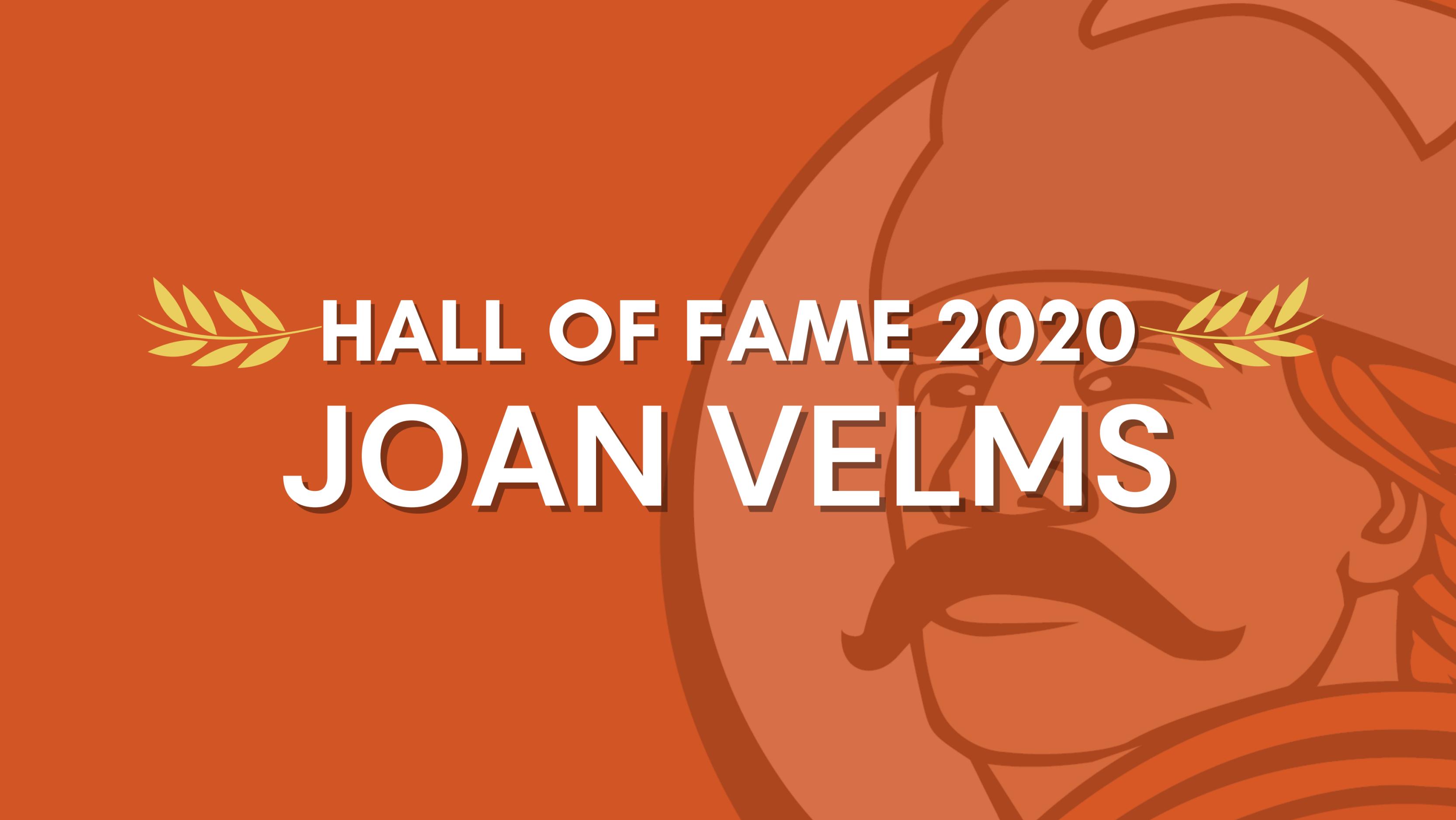
Hoot...hoot...hootenanny—that was the cry of Shelton High School students. The mood was set, the arrangement planned, everything was ready—that was, except for the students.

For one time, Shelton High School students were really “up” on the times. The students presented a rip-roaring, rocking hootenanny. Derick Helberg, with his faithful guitar, swung high and low to many familiar tunes. The smashing group including Nancy Potenza, Dorothy Skurat, Terry Jones, and George Filia attempted—and I do mean attempted—to amuse the student body.

Friday morning the climaxing event fell upon the students. The shock, the surprise, the unbelievable rocked this school. Each performer faced the crowd and listened to the roar. Knees knocked, voices cracked, and guitars and pianos screeched out their tune. Brian Miller and Falk Ernston cheered along the performers and were quite an enthusiastic sight. Although many mistakes were made, everyone had a good time.

The stimulating hootenanny set an unusual atmosphere for the vacation time. So what if the music wasn't the best, S.H.S. students never claimed to be as professional as Peter, Paul and Mary. We still had a hootenanny-of-a-time!





HALL OF FAME 2020
JOAN VELMS

JOAN VELMS

Joan Velms was born in New Haven on November 22, 1936. She married William A. Velms and they resided in Ansonia. Joan chaired the English department at Shelton High School and taught English for 37 years. Joan was a gifted classroom teacher. She was Shelton's first Teacher of the Year. She developed programs in speed reading, public speaking, and American Studies (interdisciplinary course in English/US History). One of Joan's most admired accomplishments was developing the journalism program of the award-winning Gael Winds.

Joan was a communicant of the Church of the Assumption and a member of the Charters Hose Ladies Auxiliary. She was a deeply spiritual person and loved teaching the Transcendental writers, Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Self-resilience was one of Joan's most dominant characteristics and one that she instilled into many of her students. She demanded the most from her students and lived by a philosophy of respect. Her goal was to prepare her students for college and she certainly achieved that goal over the years.

Joan was a member of the Retired State Teachers Association and the Greater Bridgeport Retired Teachers Association. She was also the founder of the Valley chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma and the International Society of Female Teachers. Joan served as Publicity Chairperson and secured grants for local high school students to attend Girls State.

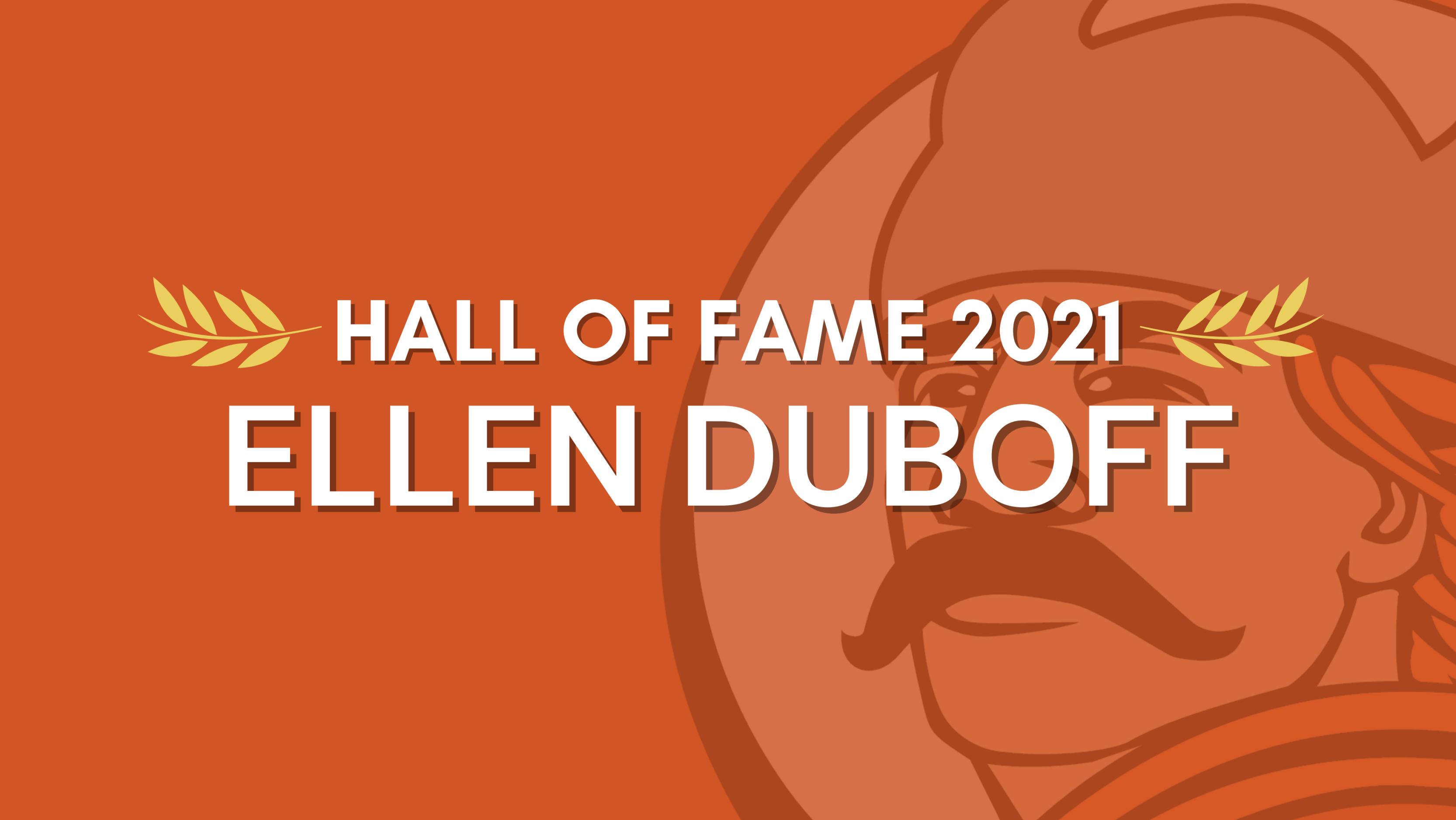
Joan loved the arts. Prior to her retirement, she attended most, if not all of the plays at Shelton High School. She had a passion for music and dance. She enjoyed an active retirement with her husband dancing and singing. She was an inspiration to many.

JOAN'S VELMS 20'



JOAN'S 20' VEILMS





 **HALL OF FAME 2021** 
ELLEN DUBOFF

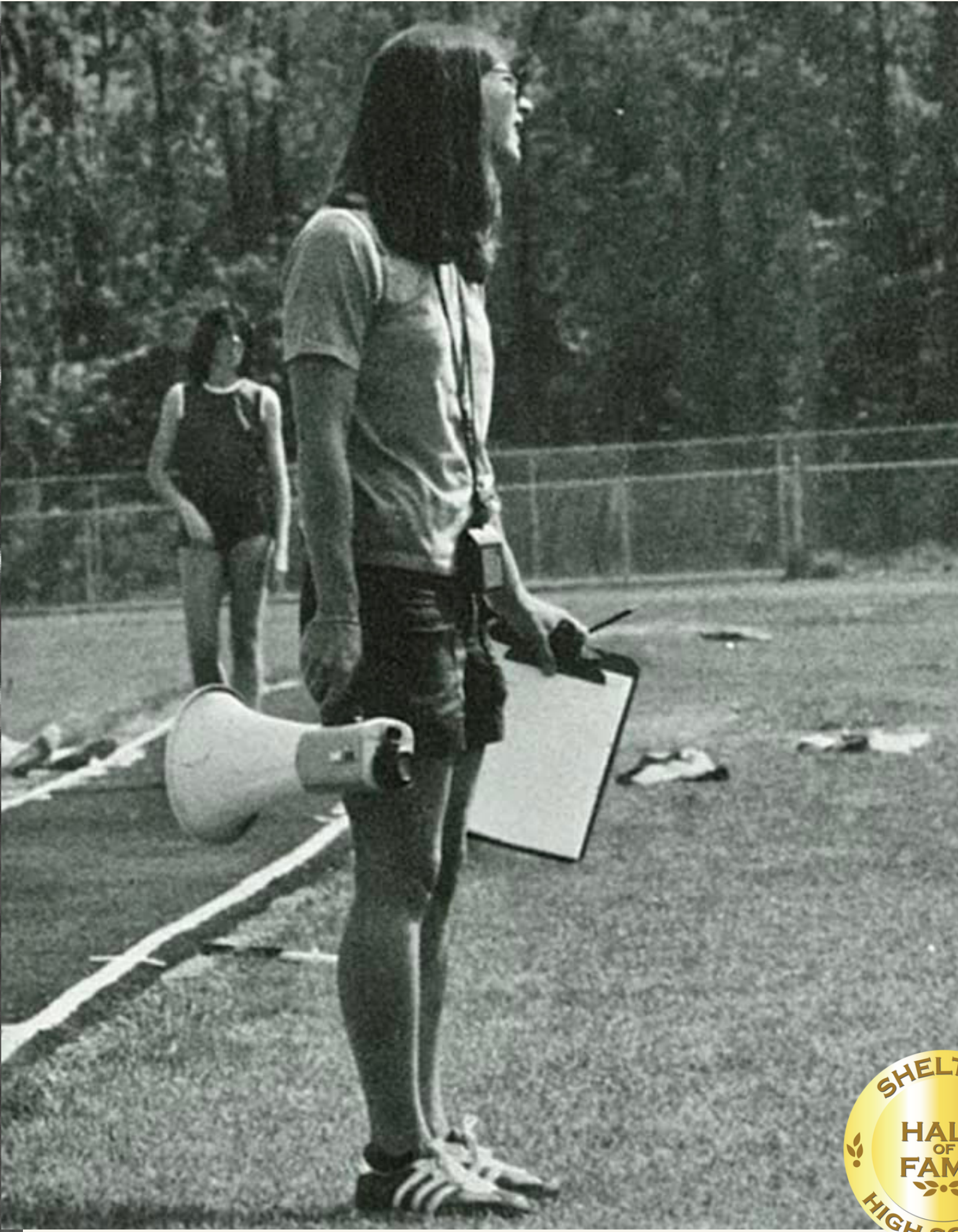
21' ELLEN DUBOFF



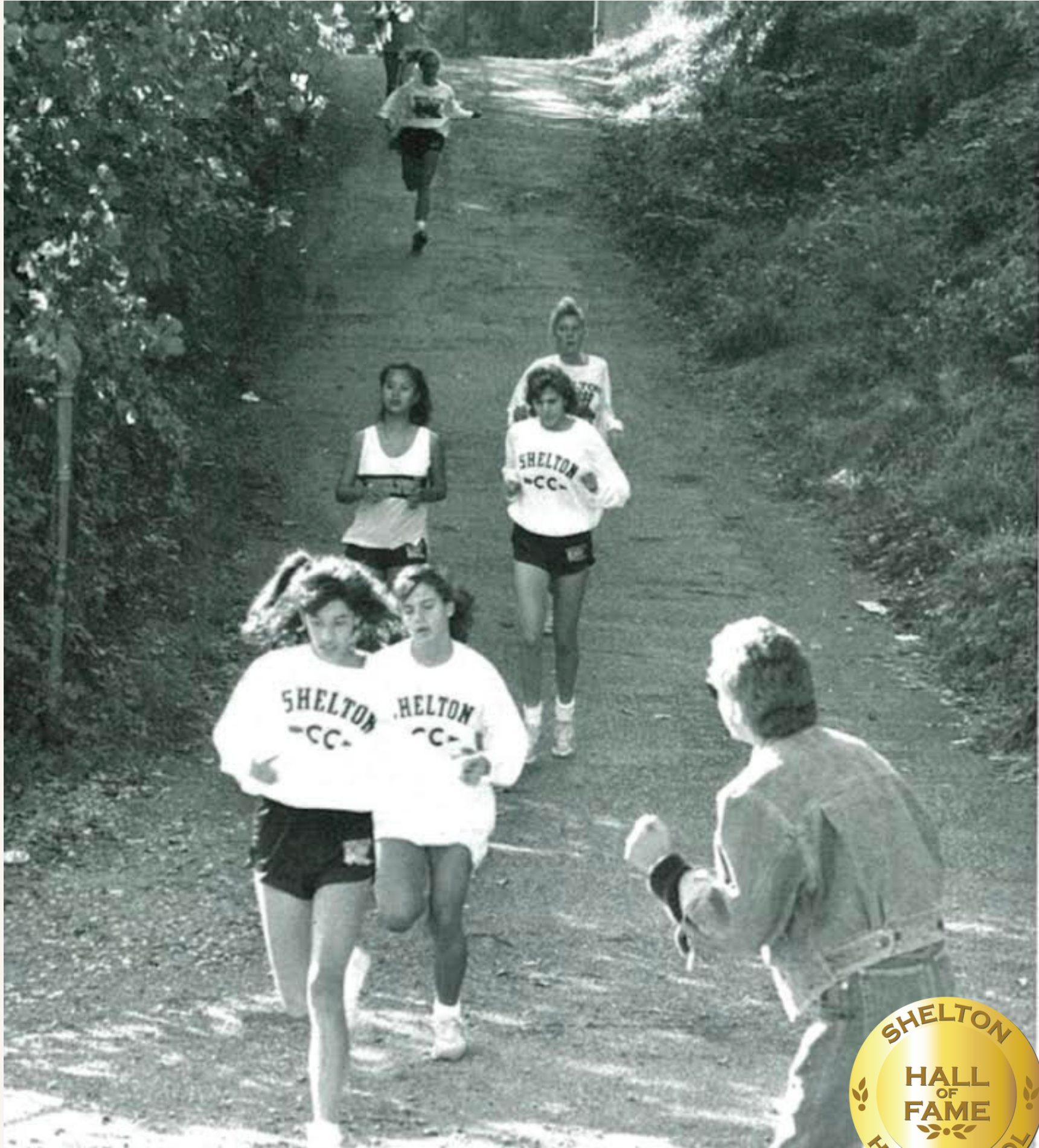
ELLEN DUBOFF '21



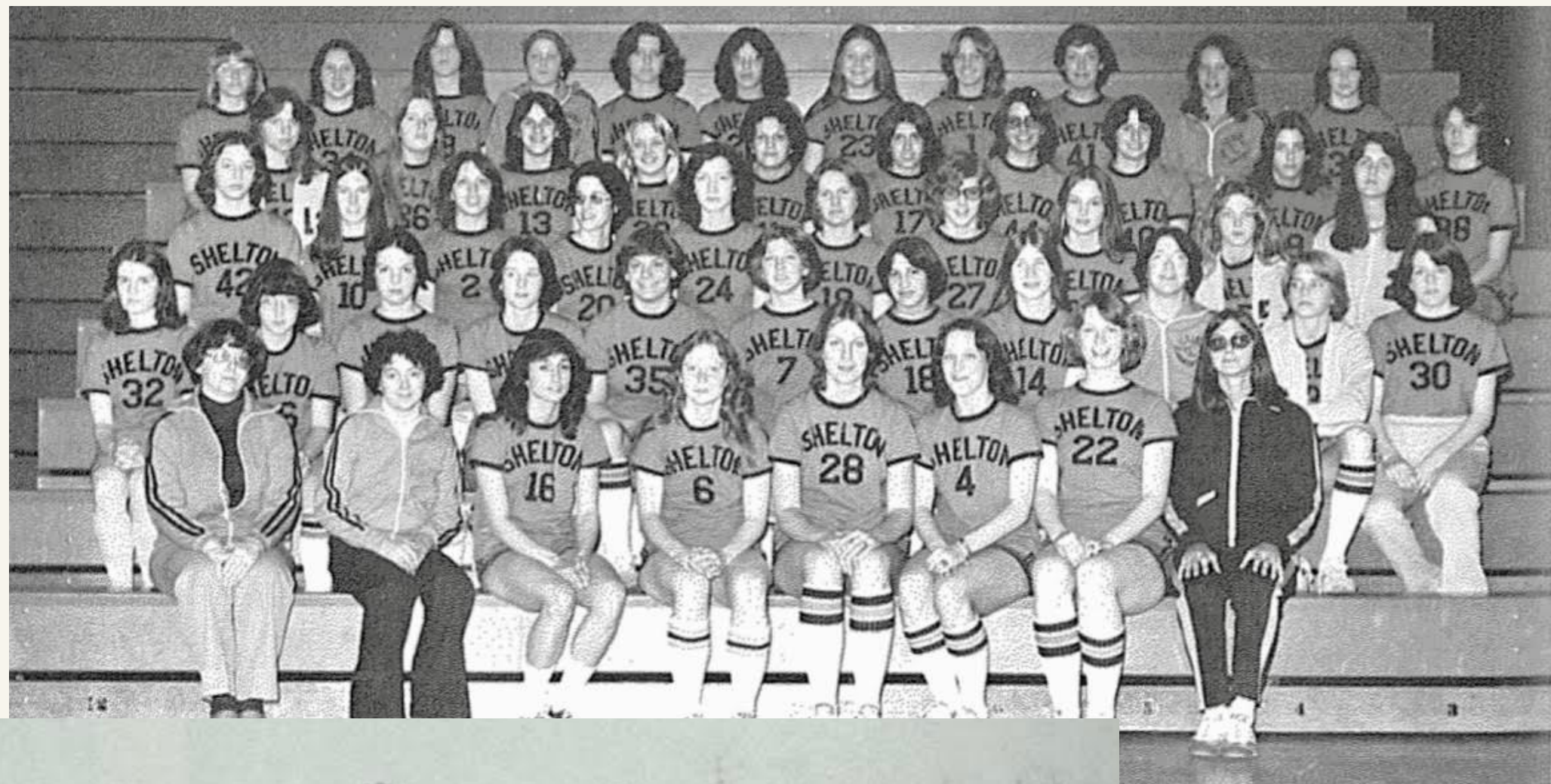
21' ELLEN DUBOFF



ELLEN DUBOFF 21'



21' ELLEN DUBOFF FOR THE



ELLEN DUBOFF '21



21' ELLEN DUBOFF



ELLEN DUBOFF '21





HALL OF FAME 2021



VINCENT J. MURRAY

VINCENT J. MURRAY

Vincent J. Murray was born in New Haven on July 25, 1914. He was a son of the late Dennis and Gertrude (McCarthy) Murray. Family, community, and education were central to his life.

Vincent was educated in the New Haven school system and graduated from Arnold College in 1936 with a bachelor's of science degree. His accomplishments include extensive graduate work at Providence College, New York University and Bridgeport University. He received his M.S. Degree in Guidance and Administration, and obtained degrees and certifications in Physical Education and Supervision in Science.

During World War II, he volunteered for service in the U.S. Navy. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant and served on the aircraft carrier, the U.S.S. Hornet. During his service in the Southwest Pacific, he received several commendations.

Vincent Murray was very much respected by colleagues, and admired and loved by his students and players. Known as a legendary basketball coach at Shelton High School in the 1940s and 1950s, he led his teams to win several Housatonic League Championships and the Connecticut State Title in 1952. In honor of Vincent's outstanding service, the "Vincent J. Murray Gymnasium" was dedicated by Shelton High School in 1993.

Vincent served as Director of Guidance at Jonathan Law High School in Milford, CT with distinction from 1961 until his retirement in 1974. He donated his time as a member in the U.S.S. Hornet Club, the American Legion Post 127, the Knights of St. Patrick, the Connecticut State Coach's Association, the Connecticut Retired Teachers Association and the Connecticut State Football Officials Association.

VINCENT J. MURRAY

He married a Shelton High graduate, Geraldine Donovan Murray, and they were married for 67 years. Together they had two daughters, Kerry Ann Hunter and Dennise Murray Boyle.

VINCENT J. MURRAY 21'



VINCENT J. MURRAY 21'





 **HALL OF FAME 2021** 
DAN PISACANE

DAN PISACANE

Daniel Pisacane graduated from Shelton High School as a standout member of the class of 1952. He served as a class officer and was a member of the Student Council. He played varsity football for Coach Ed Finn. He started as an end and later became quarterback during his senior year. However, it was as a four-year varsity player for the basketball team under Coach Vincent Murray that Dan truly excelled. He was named captain for his senior year and had a career-scoring average of 22 points per game. He set the single-game scoring record of 39 points, which would stand for nearly 20 years.

During his senior year, Dan and his teammates captured the 1952 Class B State Championship, held at Yale University's Payne Whitney Gymnasium. This is the first and only state basketball championship ever won by the Gaels! True to form, Dan led the way for the Gaels as the top scorer in the quarter and semifinal games. In the championship game, he scored 23 points on the way to a 67-47 win over Wethersfield. The 67 points scored by the Gaels in the finals were the most in the 30-year history of the tournament.

After his tremendous senior season, Dan received numerous, well-deserving, individual honors. He was named to the All-Valley, All-Housatonic, and All-Tournament teams. The crowning achievement was being named First Team All-State. To many, Dan is considered to be one of the best players to ever wear orange and black.

After graduating from Shelton High School, Dan attended Fairfield University on a basketball scholarship. Unfortunately, he had to give up his scholarship after two years of college. Balancing school, part-time work, and relying on rides to and from campus was a challenge that eventually became too demanding.

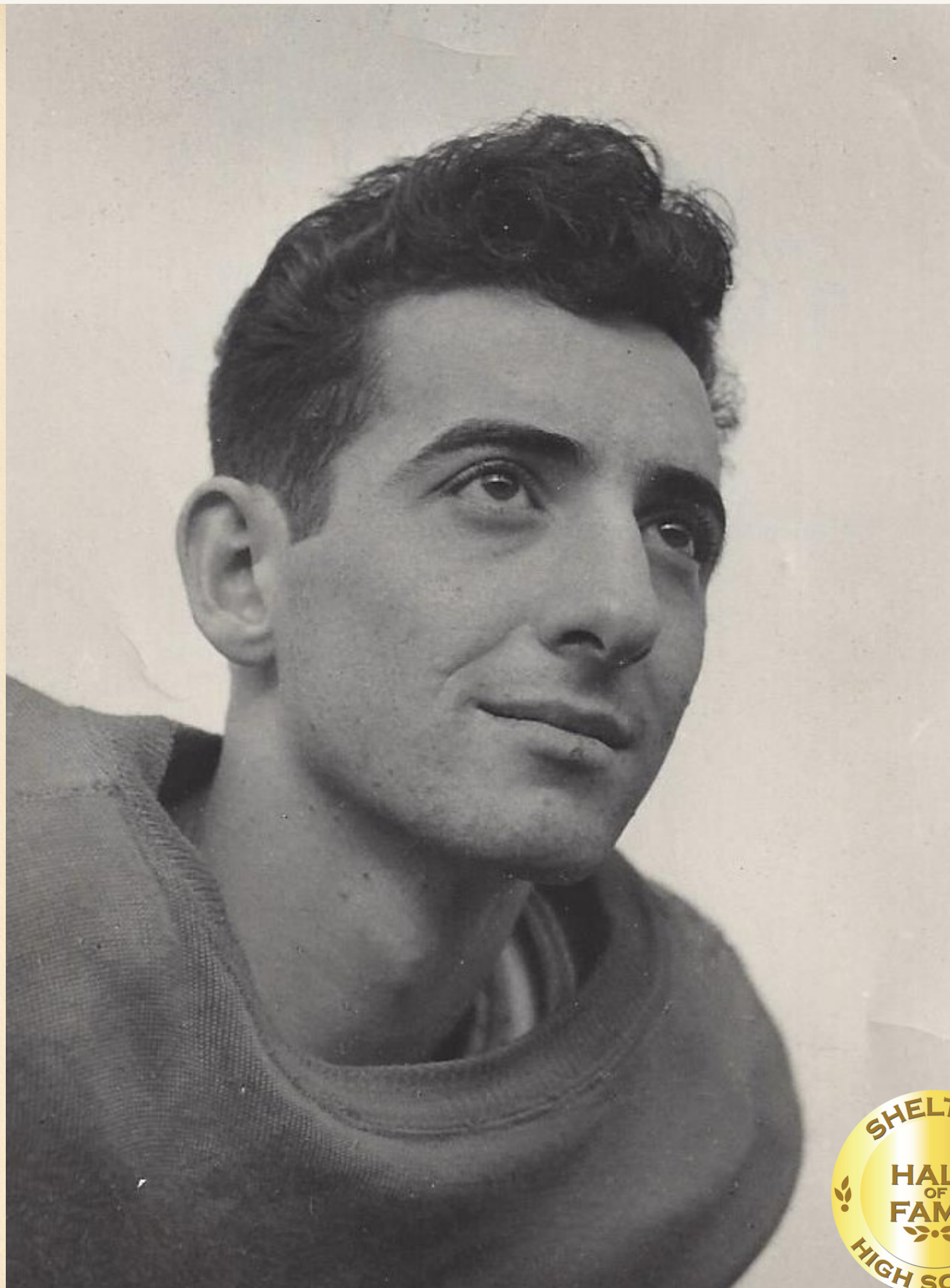
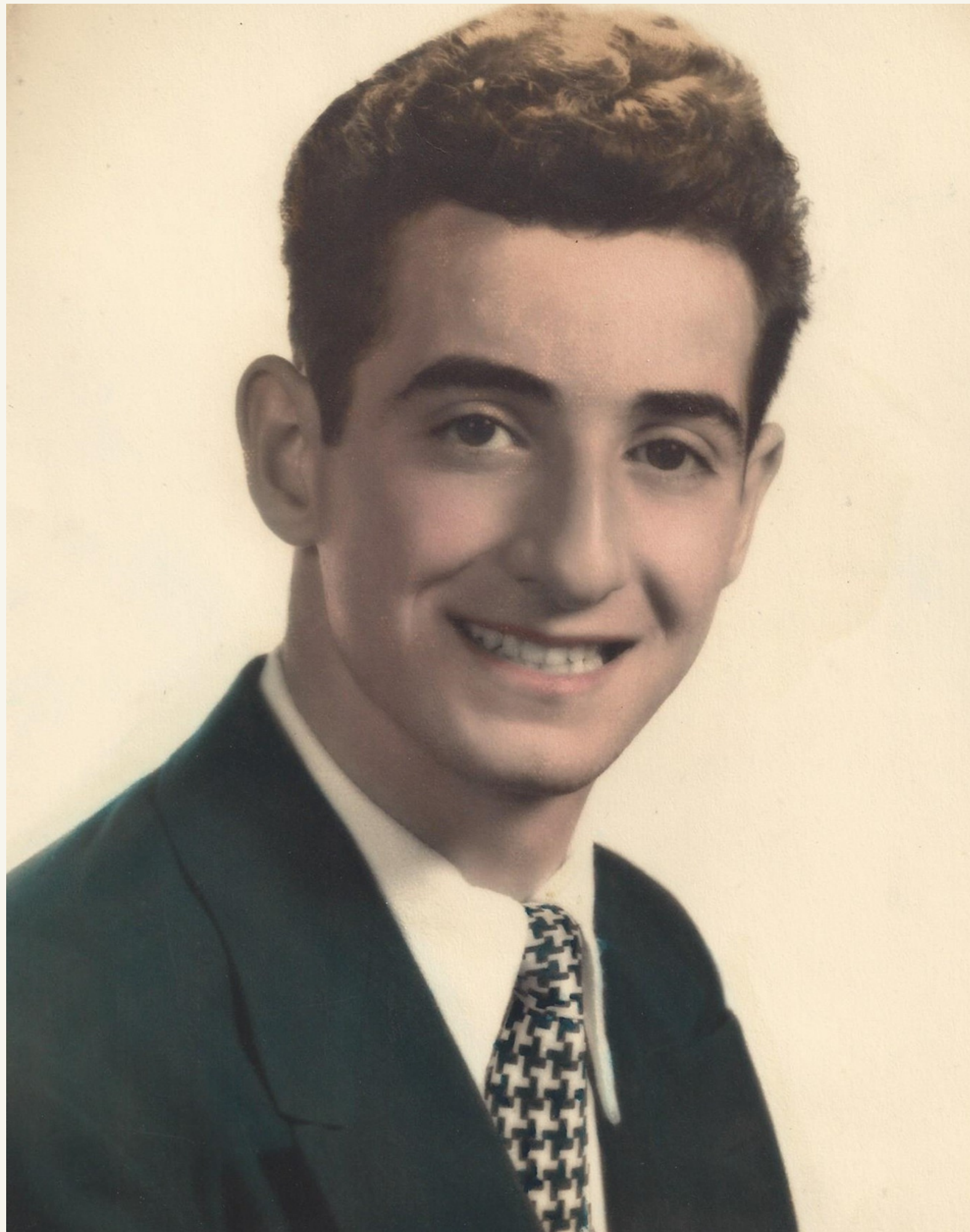
DAN PISACANE

He graduated from Fairfield University in 1956 and went on to marry his high school sweetheart, Joan D. Sheehy, and served his country in the United States Army.

Upon returning to Shelton, he began a family and a career in accounting at B.F. Goodrich. For many years, Dan continued to excel as a bowler on the company's bowling team. Dan and Joan later moved to Seymour and raised two daughters, Joan Fazo and Jane Herrick, and one son, Daniel A. Pisacane. Dan retired from full-time work as a comptroller in Waterbury in 1999. However, Dan remained active. He volunteered as a CYO basketball coach for St. Augustine Church in Seymour. He was able to coach the team to championships. He was a member of the Waterbury Kiwanis Club and became an avid golfer later in life.

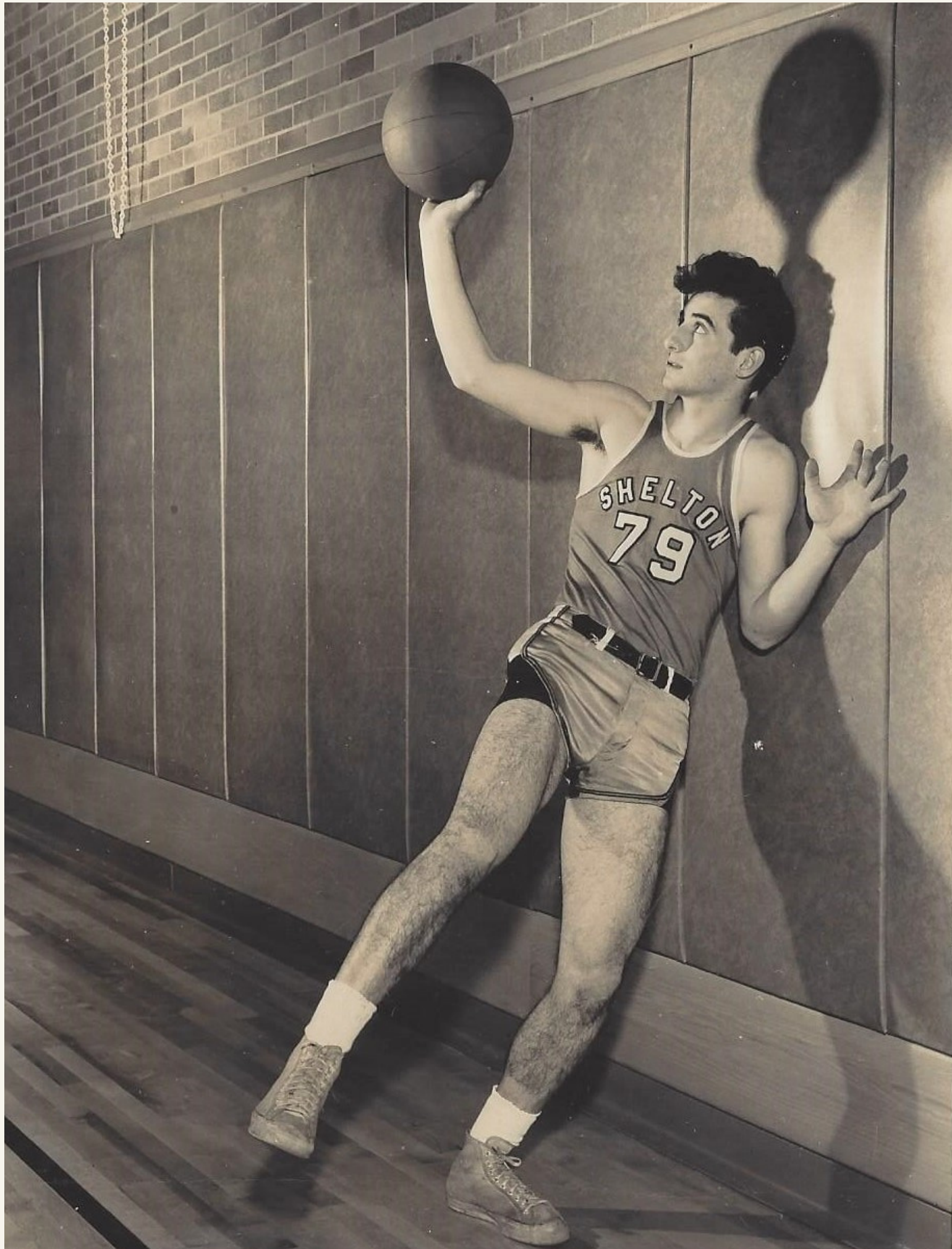
Dan's character and life are a testament to his upbringing in Shelton. He had a very humble upbringing as one of seven children living in a small apartment in downtown Shelton. He and two of his brothers shared one bed. When Dan was only 7 years old, his father suffered an injury that left him an invalid for the rest of his life, leaving him and his siblings to help their mother support the family. To do his part, Dan took on jobs delivering papers, shining shoes and setting bowling pins. The academic and athletic accomplishments he attained, in spite of the challenges and hardships he faced in his youth, serve as inspiration to Shelton High School students. He is a fitting role model for what can be accomplished with hard work, perseverance, and belief in oneself.

DAN PISACANE 21'



21'

DAN PISACANE



Thirtieth Annual

C.I.A.C. BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

FINAL ROUND

CLASS M

Yale Gymnasium, Thursday, March 13, 1952

8 P.M.

WETHERSFIELD		vs.	SHELTON	
3 William Adams	F		78 Jack Skibo	
6 George Roane	F		66 Pete DeAngelo	
12 Lyman Tibbils	C		79 Dan Pisacane	
10 Philip Stiles	G		98 Ronnie Matusovich	
5 Ronald Kozuch	G		88 Billy Moore	

Wethersfield Reserves: 9 Douglas Raynard, 4 Robert St. Amand, 8 Gerald Fain, 7 Francis Duggan, 14 John Gworek, 13 Paul Woodhouse, 11 William Brew, Theodore Anthony, Carl Giordano, Wallace Willard.

Shelton Reserves: 76 Moe Martin, 99 Vic Cook, 77 George Lucas, 89 Ed Durk, 68 Tom Smarz, 87 Anthony Savignano.

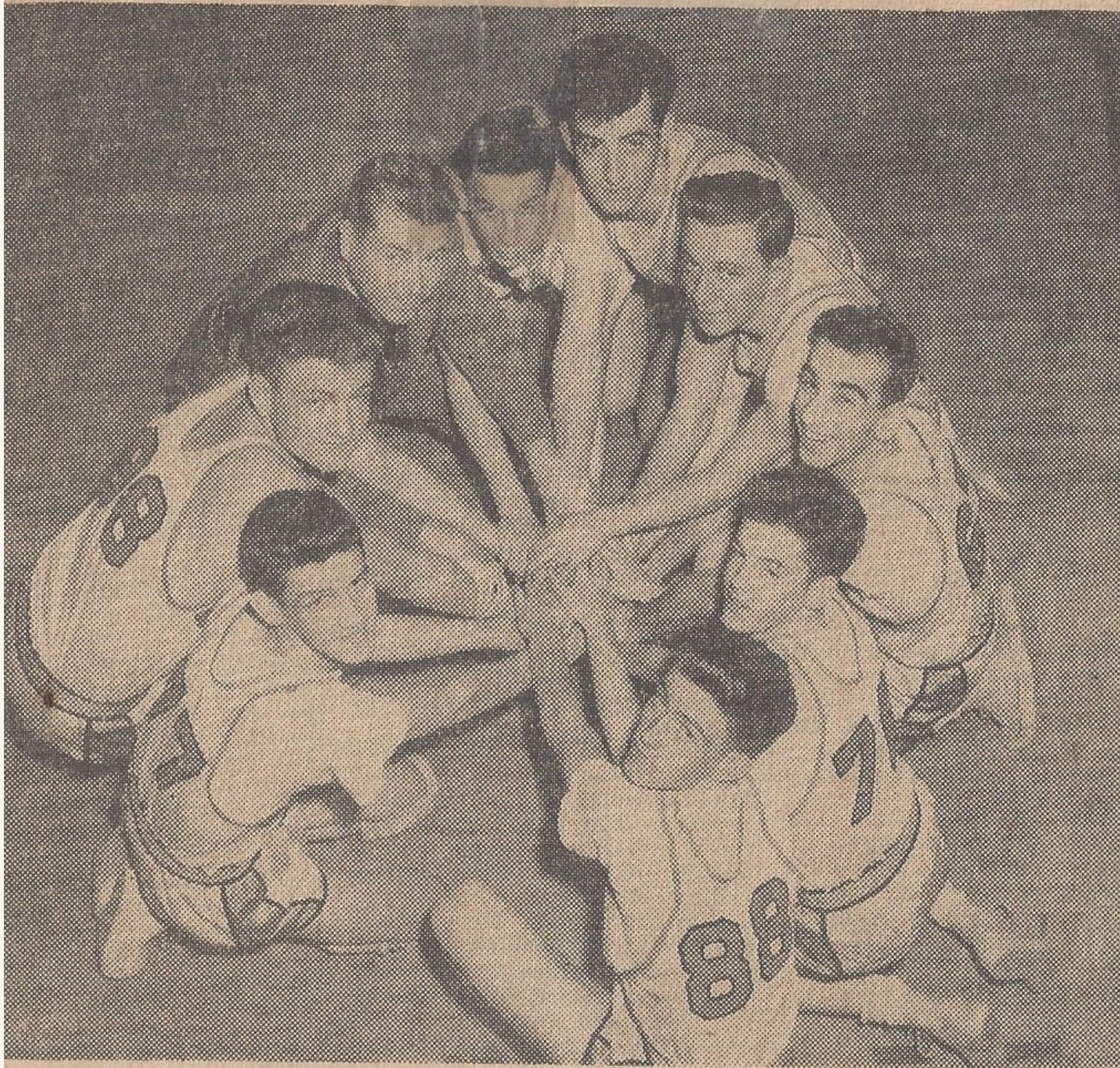


DAN PISCANE 21'



DAN PISACANE 21'

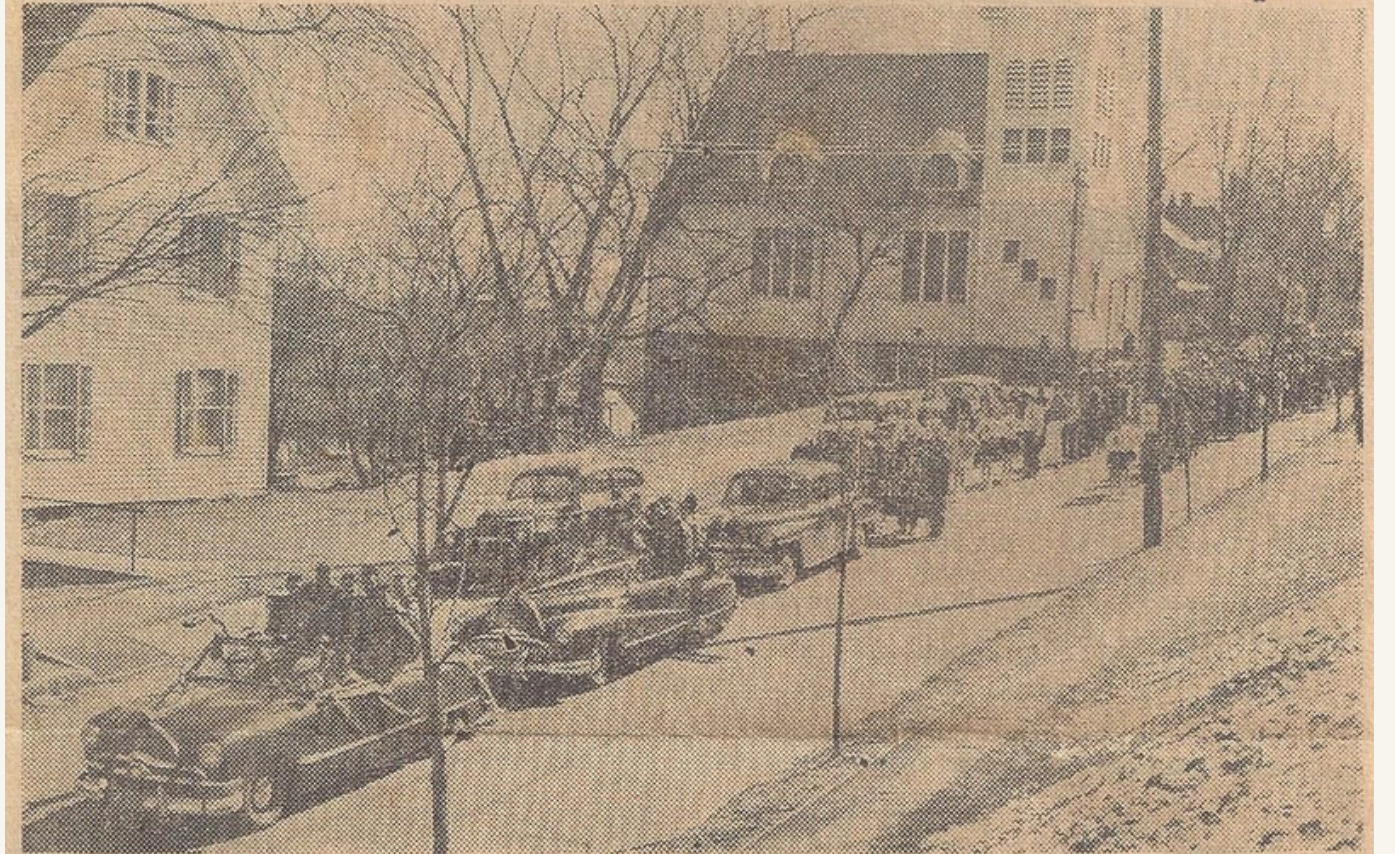
BOSTON TRIP REWARD FOR GAELS



Shelton High School basketball team, winners of the Housatonic League championship and Class M title, is shown above with Coach Vincent J. Murray in a typical pre-game pose. Standing with Coach Murray, left to right, are Jack Skibo, Capt. Danny Pisacane, Al DesJardin, Pete DesJardin, Bill Moore, George Lucas and Ronnie Matusovich. The Gaels leave Friday for Boston to take in the New England Scholastic tournament as a reward for their winning the first Championship in the school's history.

(Stock Photo)

Shelton Accords Heroes' Welcome To Its First Court Champions



General view (top photo) of the motorcade and parade Friday morning celebrating victory in history in the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference. Students were escorted by Policeman George F. Regan, Supt. of Schools Percy Kingsley, Principal Karl K. B. Brickett, chairman of the Board of Education; Mayor Malachi J. LeMay, Coach Vincent J. Murray and the entire basketball squad.

Shown in the lower photo in an open car as they prepare to receive a tremendous victory over Wethersfield are members of Shelton High School's Class B championship team. In the car are Coach Vincent Murray, Mayor LeMay, Miss E. Elinor Smith, and from the team are Ronnie Matusovich, Moe Martin, Capt. Dan Pisacane, Al Desjardin and William Moore.



DAN PISACANE 21'



DAN PISACANE 21'



DAN PISACANE 21'



21' DAN PISACANE

Where Are They Now?

Shelton Gaels' Dan Pisacane

By **BILL PUCCI**
Sports Editor

Shelton's 1951-52 boys basketball team are the only Gaels team to ever win a state championship in the boy's division.

But prior to the season, the Shelton squad wasn't rated as a very good team. In fact, the Gaels started out 0-3 then proceeded to win 13 in a row and were peaking as they prepared for the State Class M tournament.

The catalyst of this championship team was All-Stater Dan Pisacane who still rates as one of the best basketball players to ever wear the orange and black.

"We were the surprise of the tournament," Pisacane said. "The previous year we were ranked number one in the tournament but ended up losing to Derby who had Bill Duggan, Ron Karlins and a number of other good players."

That team was called the "shooting circus" because they scored so many points. The following season, Pisacane was the only returning veteran but somehow, the Gaels put together a formidable unit.

"We had six players who were the mainstays of our team," Pisacane said as he went on to give each former team member a plug.

"Mo" Martin wasn't very big but he could really shoot. Pete D'Angelo was a

rugged rebounder and a heck of a football player too. Ron Matusovich was our center and could shoot and was really tough off the

this era of basketball. As a junior, he scored 39 points against Lyman Hall of Wallingford.

In the state tournament,

upstate team 67-47 for the state crown.

Matusovich led the way with 25 points followed by Pisacane who poured in 23 markers. Pisacane was named to the All-Tournament team.

In the weeks to follow, the City of Shelton honored the state champs by hosting a parade in their honor and presenting each member of the team with watches.

"The parade was great," Pisacane said. "They had us sit in open-top convertibles and a lot of fans turned out to cheer us. The city also gave us tickets to attend the New England High School Basketball tournament in Boston."

After high school, Pisacane was awarded a basketball scholarship to Fairfield University. He played two seasons with the Stags before giving up the sport. He graduated from the university in 1956.

He is currently associated with State Lead Inc. of Cheshire as a financial controller.

For the past 31 years, he's been married to the former Joan Sheehy of Shelton. They now make their home in Seymour. They are the proud parents of two daughters and a son.

boards. Jack Skibo was our playmaker. He steadied our team and ran the offense and Bill Moore was important coming off the bench."

But what about Pisacane? He starred for two seasons and averaged over 20 points points his senior year. At 6'1", he had a good size for a forward in

the Gaels beat Housatonic League foes East Haven and Branford en route to the finals against Wethersfield who was the number one rated team in the tournament.

It was close until the last period but then the Gaels took control and beat the



Photo by BILL TRELOAR

DAN PISACANE

Page 20

THE SUBURBAN NEWS; Shelton, Connecticut

Thursday, March 16, 1972



JACK SKIBO



DAN PISACANE



"MOE" MARTIN



PETE D'ANGELO



RON MATUSOVICH

Triumph For State Crown Hits 20th Anniversary

It was 20 years ago on Monday, March 13, when Shelton High School's basketball Gaels went all the way to the Connecticut Class B championship at Yale's Payne Whitney Gymnasium with a rousing victory in the finals over Wethersfield under Head Coach Vin Murray.

The Orange and Black hoopers dropped their first three regular season contests in the '51-'52 season and never lost again en route to the title--a career highlight in that facet of Shelton scholastic sports.

Seniors Daniel Pisacane, Ronald Matusovich, Jack Skibo and Maurice Martin, along with sophomore Peter D'Angelo comprised the starting lineup for that Gael edition. Reserves Al Desjardin, Billy Moore, George Lucas, Tony Savignano and Victor Cook supplied the bench strength.

It was basically a green Gael five with only Pisacane, one of the all-time top cagers ever from this area, returning among the previous years' starters.

On the Friday following the ultimate win, the city paid tribute

a motorcade attended by such noteworthy officials as Mayor Malachi J. Lemay, Supt. of Schools Percy Kinney and SHS Principal Karl K. Tarbell.

Truly a classic in the annals of sporting achievement in Shelton, the Gaels' victory should long be remembered as an asset to those who were intimately connected with it.

Matusovich, who didn't reach stardom until his senior year, was the big man off the boards while Skibo and D'Angelo were the backcourt sparkplugs with the former excelling as play-

maker and the latter exceptional as a defensive ball hawk. Pisacane was the veritable

scoring machine for Shelton that season and was named to the All-State squad. Martin complemented the team as an all-around ace to mold a championship unit.





HALL OF FAME 2021



GEORGE QUADRETTI



GEORGE QUADRETTI

George Quadretti attended Shelton schools and graduated from Shelton High School as a member of the class of 1959. He played varsity football for legendary Coach Ed Finn. As a member of the 1958 team, George played offensive guard for the Gaels. His senior season was one of many hard fought battles for Shelton, culminating with a 22-8 victory over cross town rival Derby on Thanksgiving Day at a frosty Lafayette Field. George was named to the All-Valley Team and the Nutmeg Bowl East-West All Star Game for his efforts on the football field.

During his senior year, George was involved with other extracurricular activities at Shelton High School. He served as the senior class treasurer and was on the committees that planned the Senior Dance and Banquet. He was also a member of the French and key clubs at school and was involved with theater.

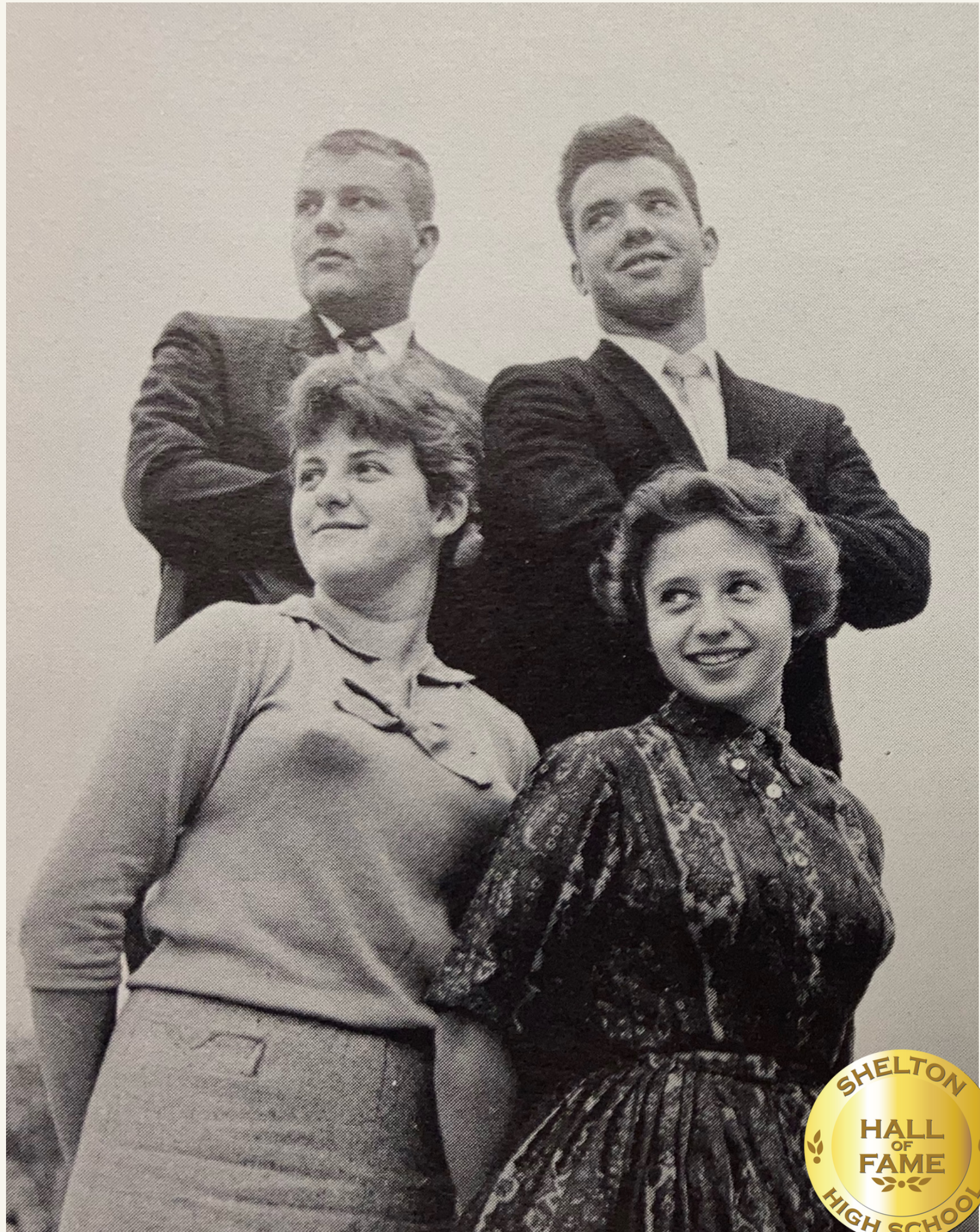
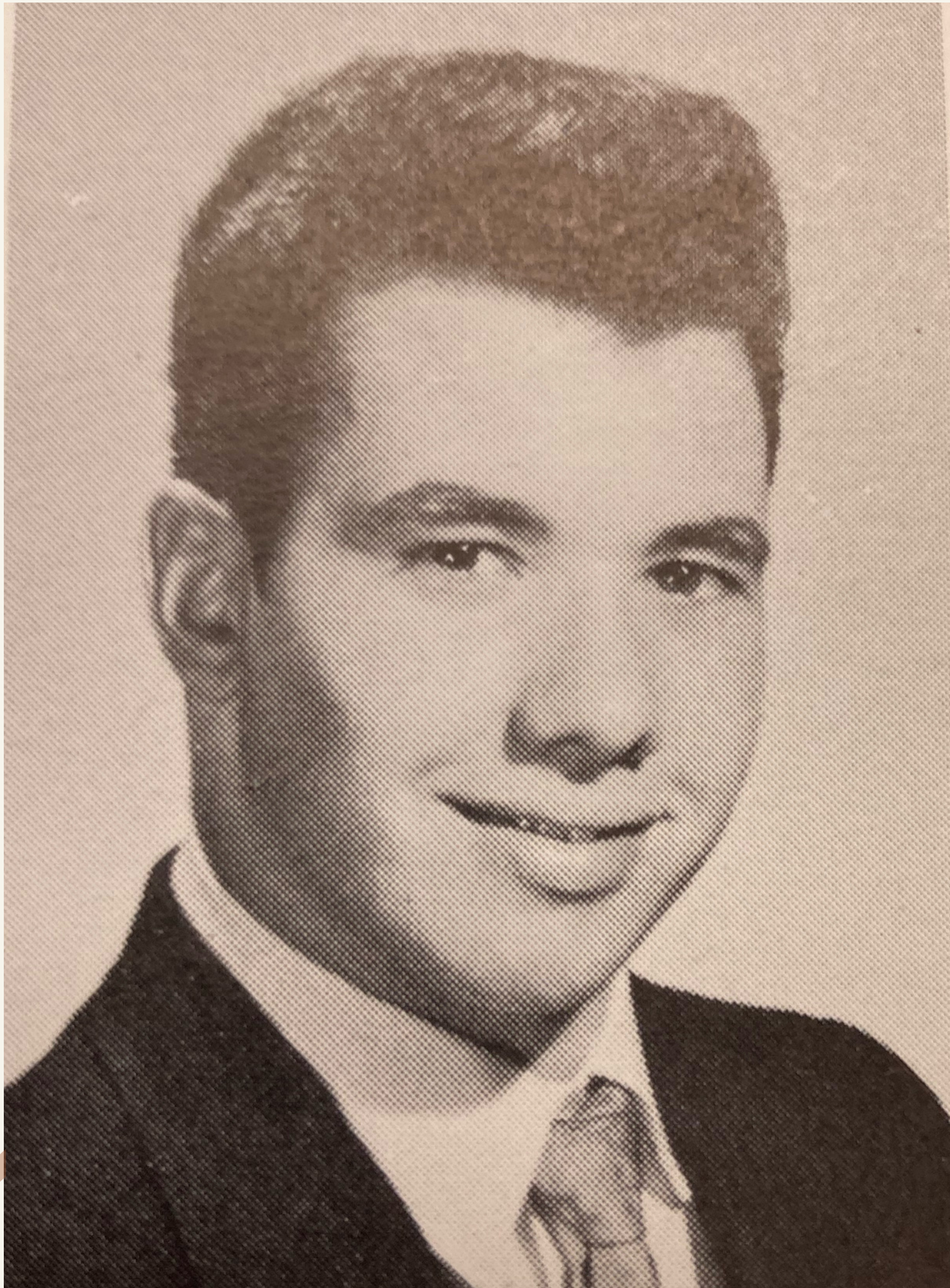
After Shelton High School, George attended Fairfield University and graduated in 1963. After graduating, George went on to serve his country by enlisting in the United States Army. He was a sports editor/columnist for the Suburban News (now the Shelton Herald). George currently works as a senior custodian for the City of Shelton. George has continued to show his dedication to Shelton by writing a book called The Legends of Lafayette Field. He is also secretary and a charter member of the Shelton Football Alumni Association. His book chronicles the Ed Finn Era of Shelton Football from 1946-1961. The alumni group brings together players of all generations in an effort to keep the brotherhood of Shelton Football alive. Additionally, the group has raised thousands of dollars in support of the current teams, mainly in the form of annual scholarships given to senior members of the football team.

GEORGE QUADRETTI

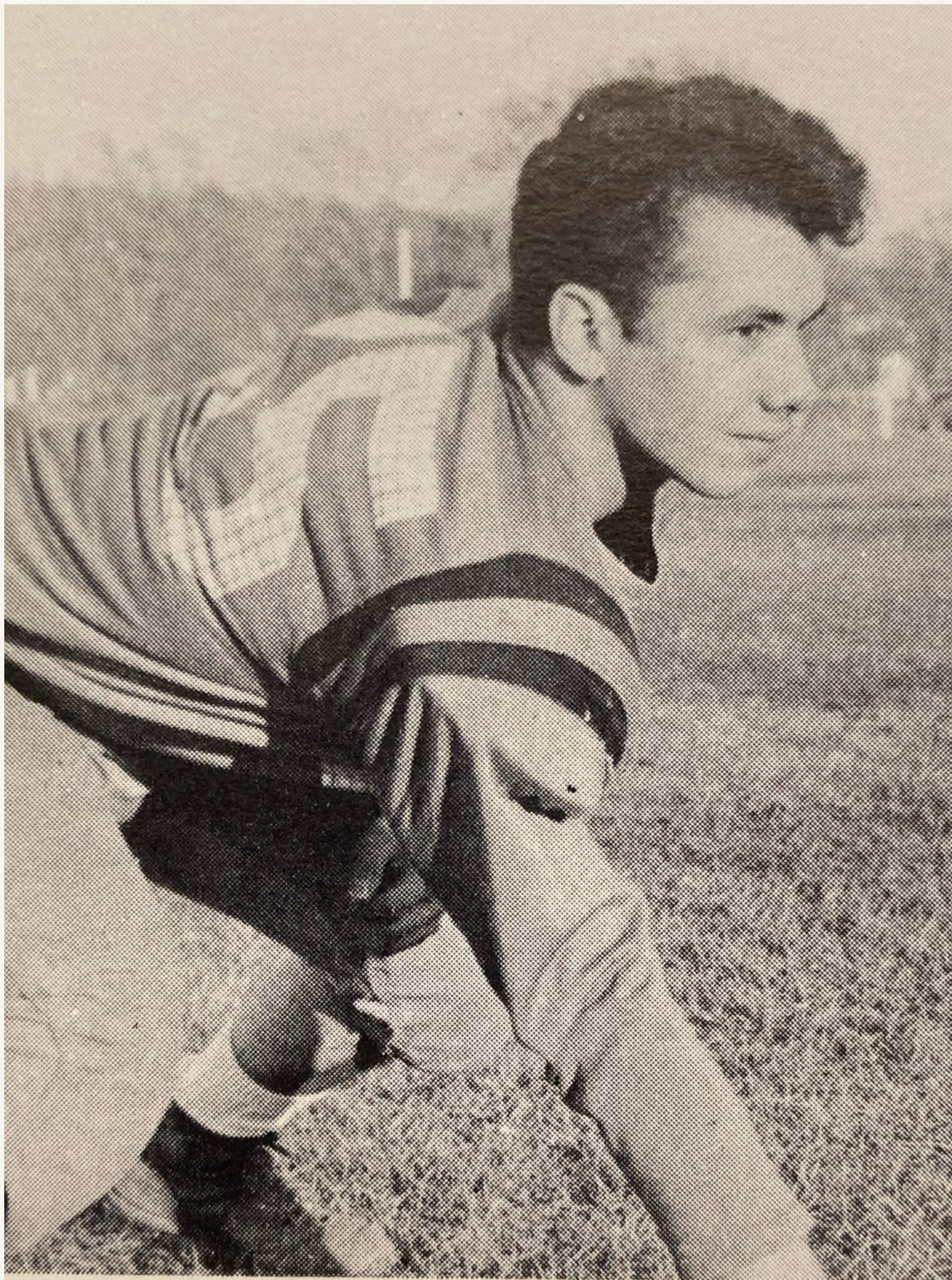
Published in 2007, The Legends of Lafayette breaks down year by year each team that played for legendary coach Ed Finn. In the book, George shows the rise of the Shelton Football Program through game by game analysis. In each chapter/year, he not only tells the story of the team, but of individual players that had a huge impact. Many of these men not only had tremendous careers on the gridiron, but would later go on to serve the city of Shelton in one capacity or another. Many of them are hall of famers themselves!

Throughout his life, George recognized many people that had a big influence on him. At Shelton High School, Coach Ed Finn, Vincent Murray, Henry Domurad, Walt Zeilinski and others helped in many ways to guide and shape him. He currently resides in Beacon Falls with his wife Cheryl. They have raised two daughters, Dawn and Debbie. George would like to thank and acknowledge all the head football coaches in Shelton that have allowed him to stay connected to Shelton Football. Whether it is by supporting the team or getting Hudl access to watch film, George truly bleeds orange and black.

GEORGE GUADRETTI 21'



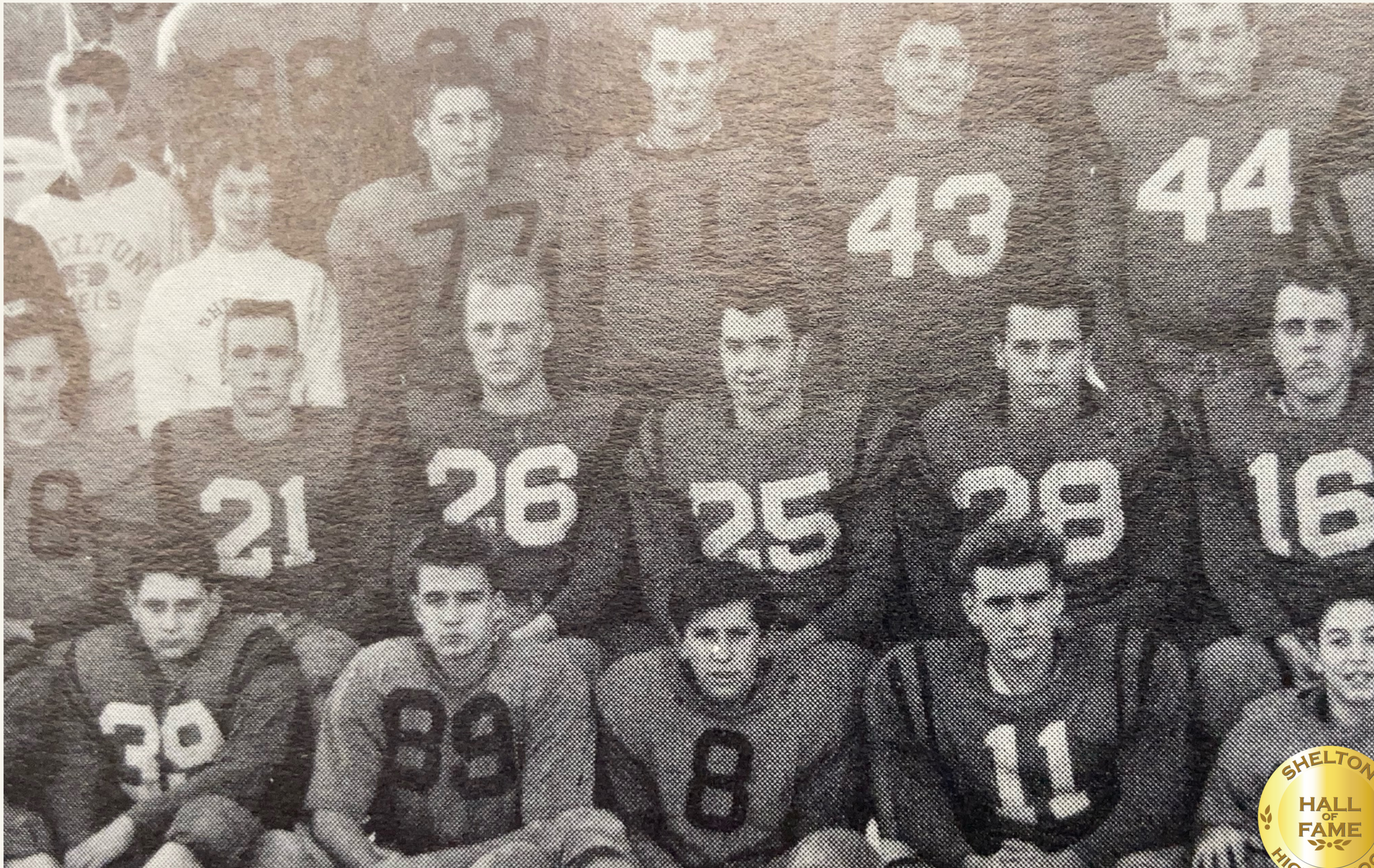
GEORGE QUADRETTI 21'

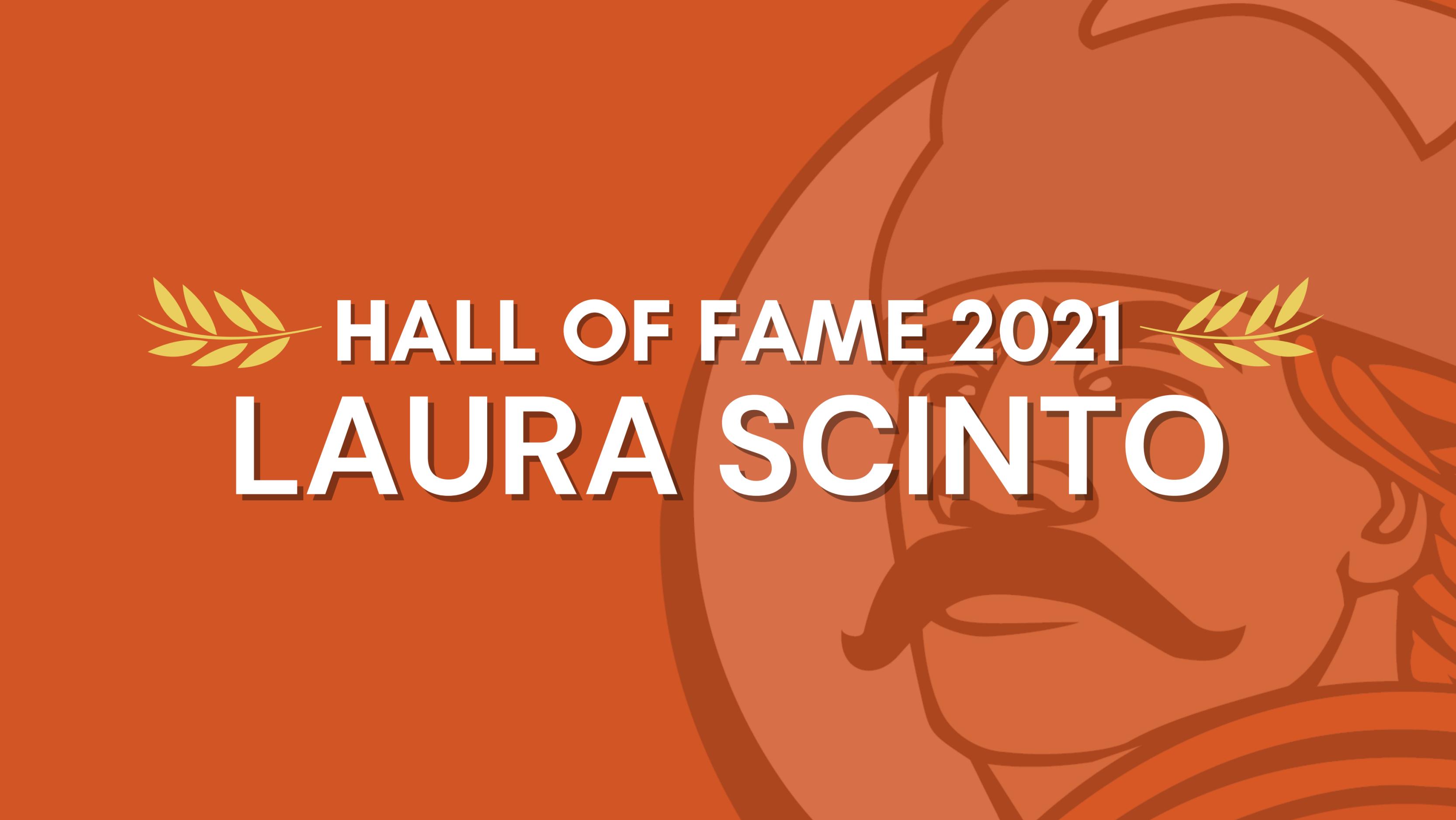


G. Quadretti, Guard '59



GEORGETTI 21' QUADRETTI





HALL OF FAME 2021
LAURA SCINTO

LAURA SCINTO

Laura showed a commitment to basketball in Shelton and graduated from SHS in 1985. She assisted under Howard Gura, the girl's basketball coach from 1989 to 1996. Coaches Howard Gura and Ken Bobowick served as mentors and positive influences for Laura. Laura supervised and directed the Shelton Parks & Recreation Girls Basketball League from 1990 to 1993.

This year, Laura Scinto assisted Joe Frager in Division I Fairfield University women's basketball. The team earned its first NCAA berth in 21 years, by winning the MAAC title. In 2007, Laura Scinto assisted Joe Frager in coaching the Southern CT State University Owls to a Division II National Title, which highlighted their fourth NCAA Tournament appearance. At Seymour High School, Scinto and Frager led the Wildcats to back-to-back state titles, which was part of a 52-game winning streak.

Scinto got into the coaching ranks after a successful four-year playing career at Bryant College. She eclipsed 1,000 career points and led the Bulldogs to three NCAA Tournament appearances. Scinto graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration from Bryant College and went on to earn A.S. and R.N. degrees from St. Vincent's College of Nursing.

Laura played high school basketball at Shelton High School, where she scored a total of 1,338 points, the second most in the Gaelettes' history. As a player, she led the team to the 1985 State Class LL and Housatonic League Championships. She became the most decorated Shelton athlete with multiple All-League, All-Valley, and All-State selections. She was the first to graduate with 12 varsity letters while playing basketball, soccer, and softball. Laura was also inducted into the New Haven Tap Off Club Hall of Fame in 2008.

LAURA SCINTO

21'



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LAURA
SCINTO



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LAURA SCINTO

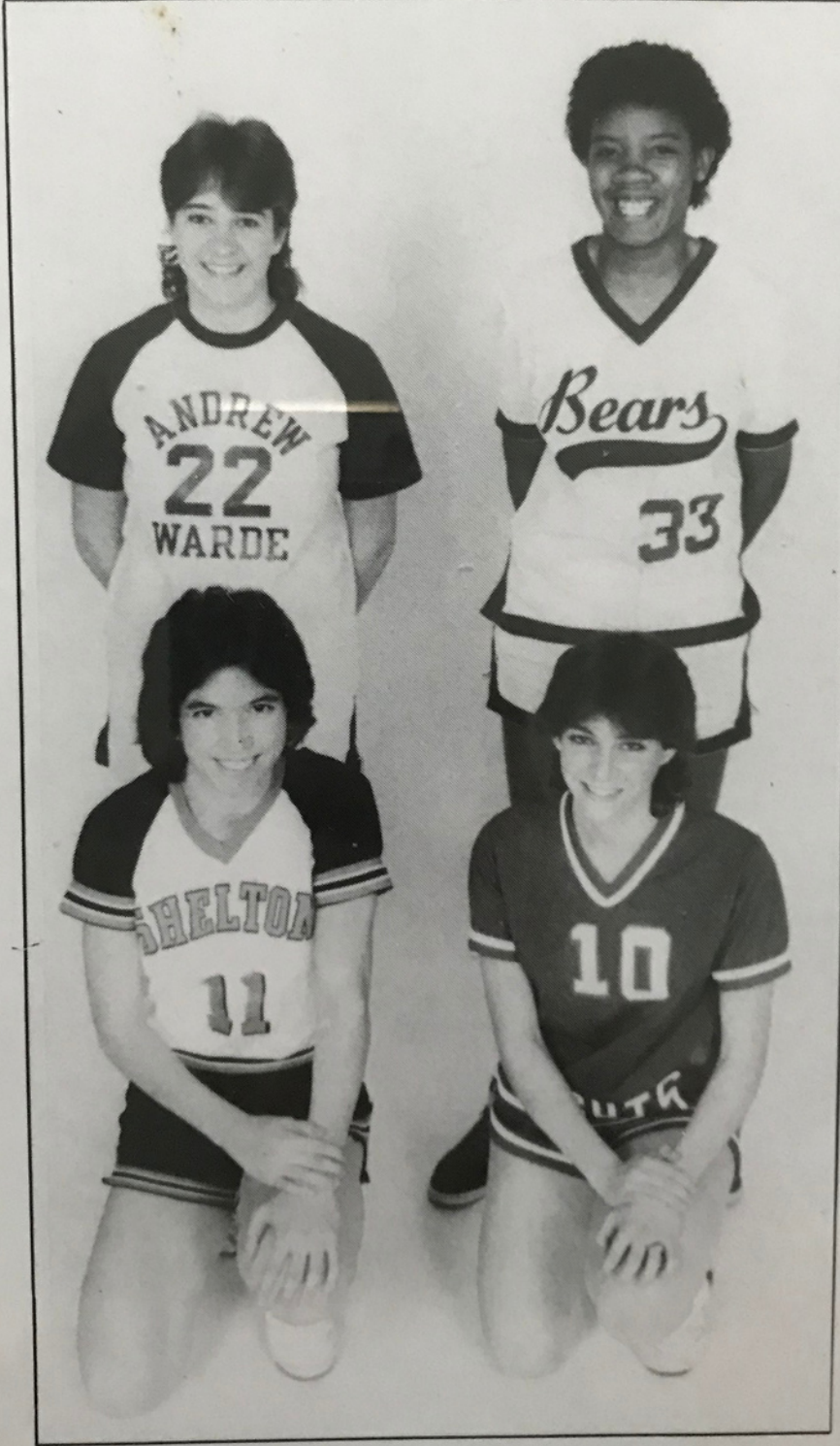


21' LAURA SCINTO

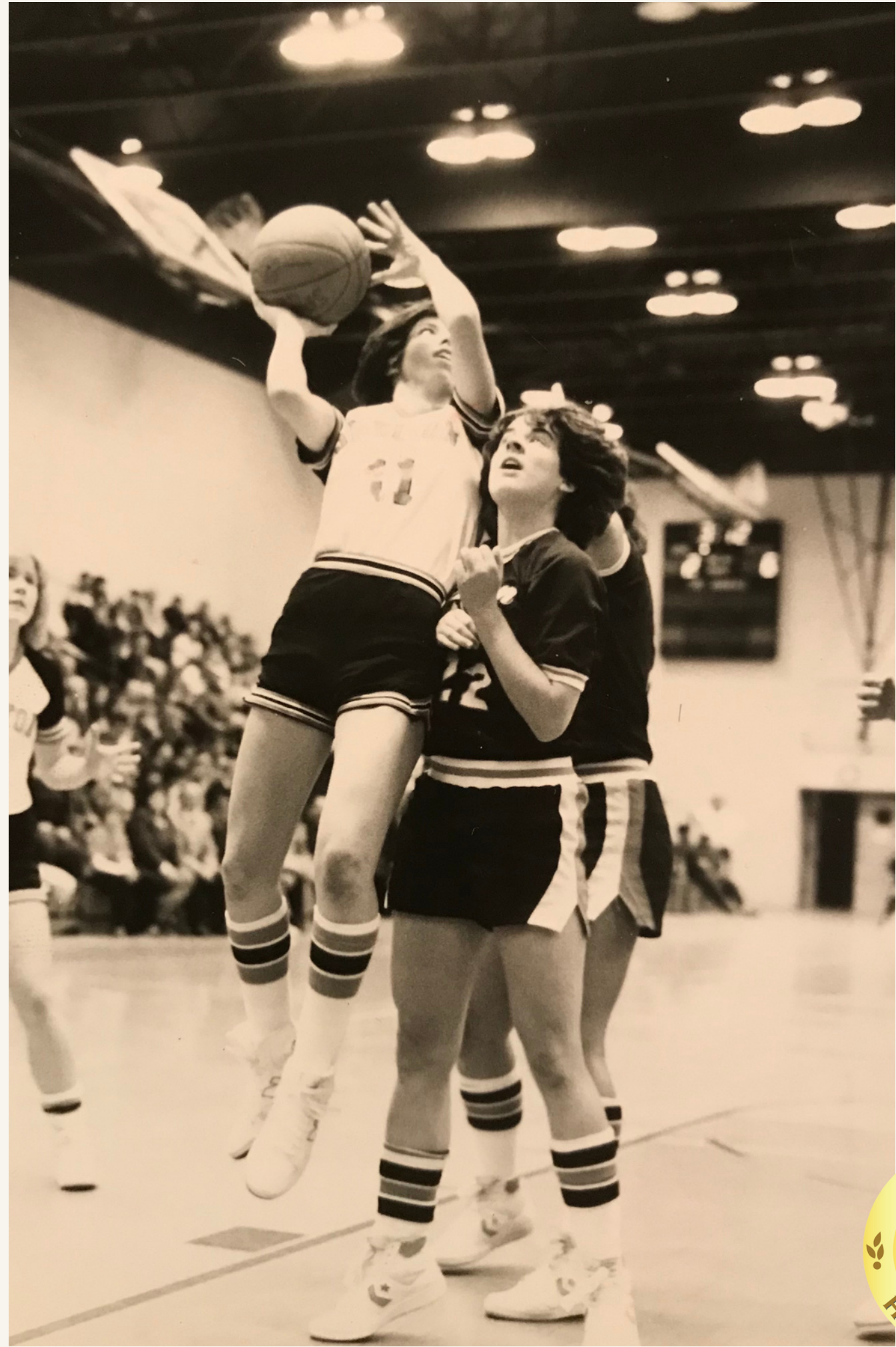


1985 All-State
Class LL girls basketball

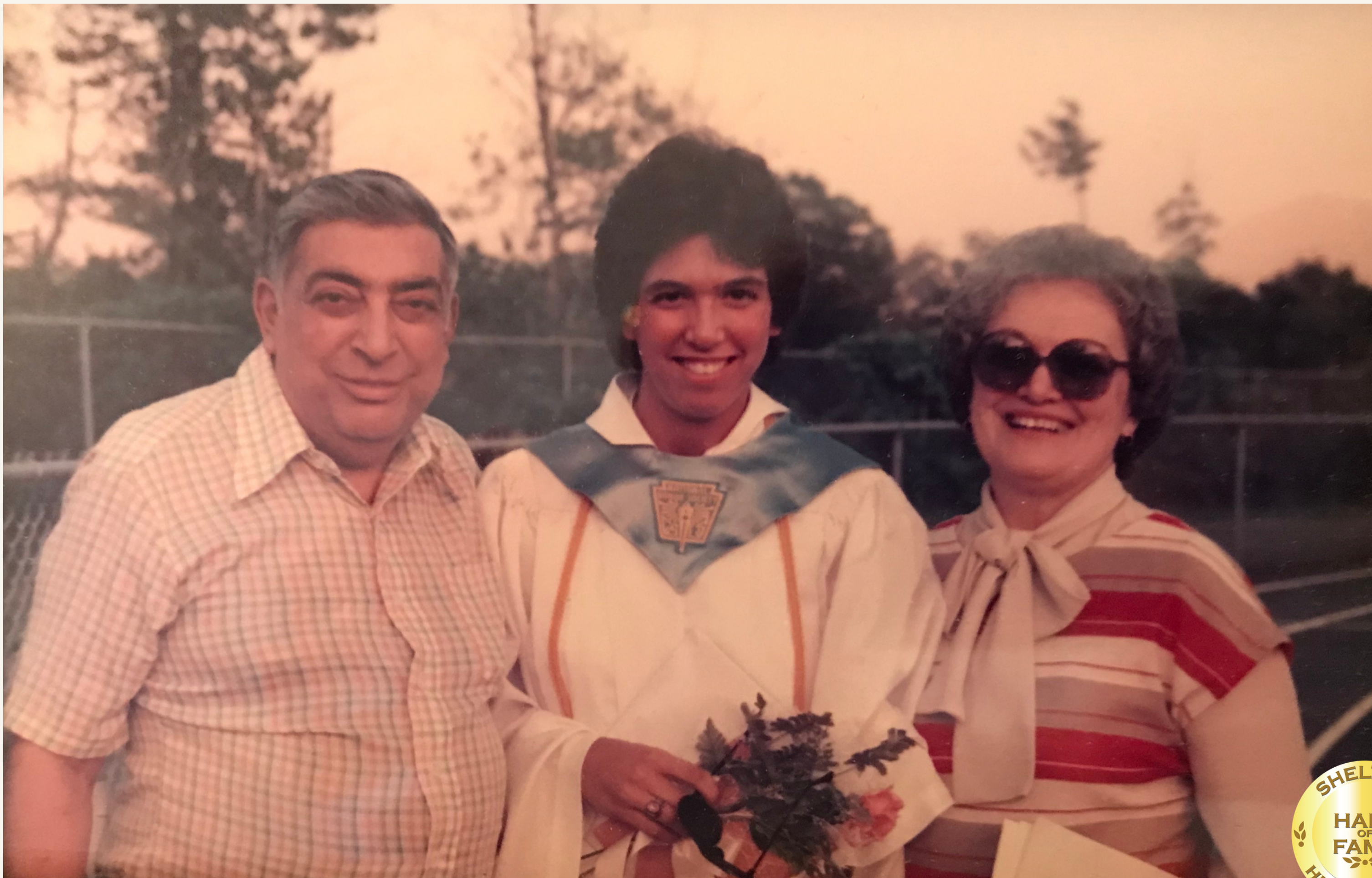
Costa Edwards
Warde Norwalk



Scinto Lee
Shelton Southington



LAURA SCINTO '21



LAURA
SCINTO

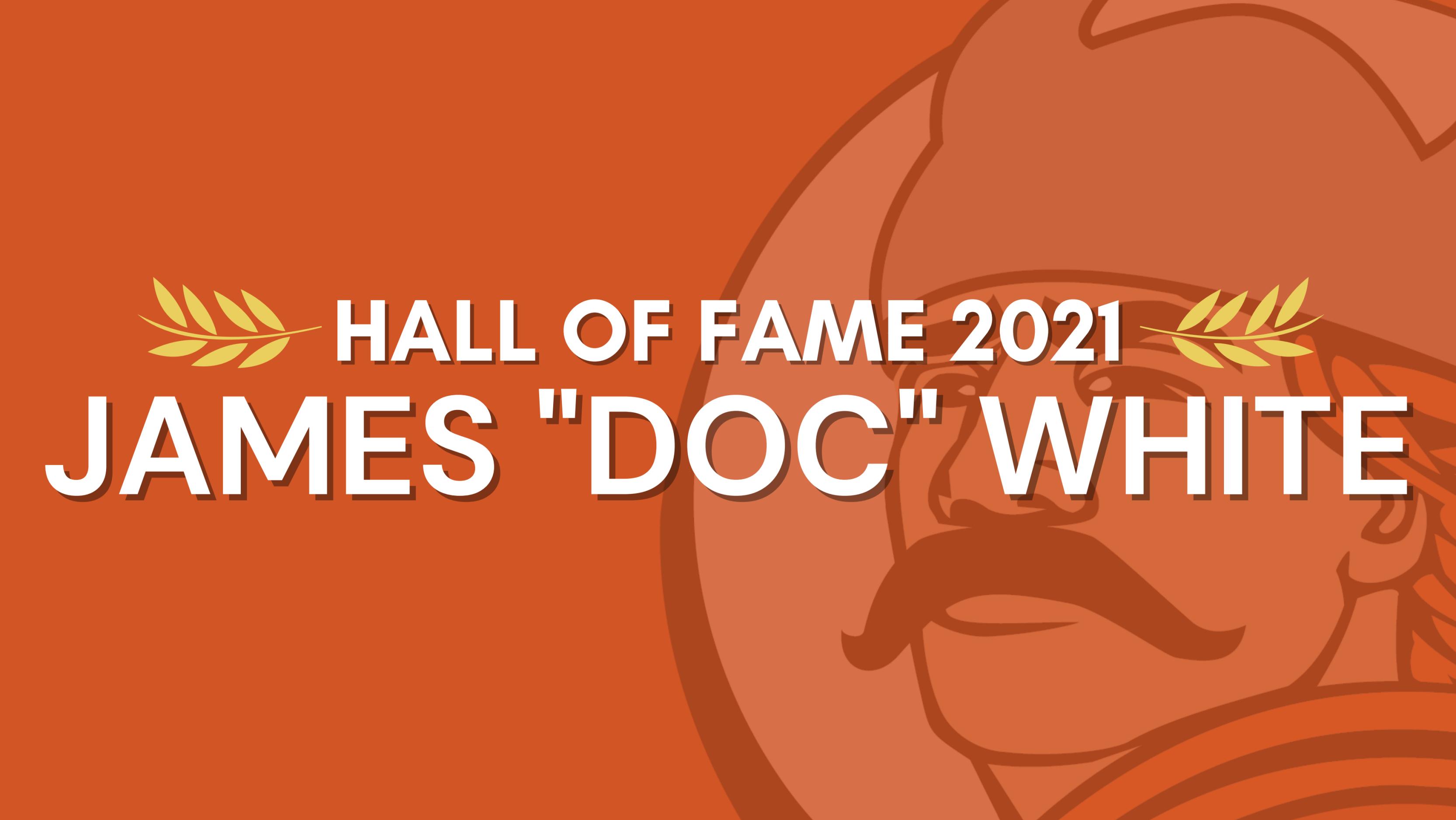
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LAURA SCINTO

21'





 HALL OF FAME 2021 
JAMES "DOC" WHITE

JAMES "DOC" WHITE

James White, known to many as “Doc,” attended Shelton schools and graduated from Shelton High School as a member of the class of 1969. He played varsity football for coaches John Sherin and John Dougherty. Sporting number 00, he played middle linebacker for the Gaels on defense. As a freshman, Jim was called up to practice and play with the Junior Varsity squad. This served him well in his development on the field. Jim was named captain his senior year, capping off a great four years for the Gaels. In his Senior year, the Gaels beat rivals Ansonia and East Haven. Jim was named to the All Housatonic Team and Second Team All State.

After graduating from Shelton High School, Jim attended Southern Connecticut State University in pursuit of a teaching degree in science. He graduated from Southern in 1973 and began teaching that same fall at his alma mater, Shelton High School. While teaching, he completed his master’s degree at the University of Bridgeport. Doc devoted himself to teaching the students of Shelton many concepts and ideas that were very foreign to them for 35 years. For many students, things like the periodic table, balancing equations, atomic numbers, and solutions seemed impossible to learn. However, Doc truly had a knack for making complex ideas seem simple. With Doc’s processes and methods, these concepts all became clear.

Starting in 1984, Doc took on the role that would earn him his nickname. He became Shelton’s first ever athletic trainer. While he was available to help for all sports, the one that was closest to his heart was football. His tenure began under Head Coach Bob Riggio. He then worked with Head Coach Tony Branca. This segment of his career was highlighted by a Class L State Championship in 1988. This was a first for the Gaels. In the 1990’s, Joe Benanto was the head football coach. The Gaels won three more state titles,

JAMES "DOC" WHITE

Class LL in 1995 and 2000 and Class L in 2003. Doc is the only person associated with Shelton Football who has been involved with all four State Championship teams. Doc continues to be a part-time trainer, and will hopefully bring good luck for another state title.

Throughout his teaching career at SHS, Jim has made many lifelong friends and has copious fond memories. Many people have helped and mentored him along the way, such as Leon Sylvester, Joan Velms, Ken Bobowick, Bernice Nicolari, Howie Gura, Tony Piccolo, Don Ramia, and John Niski. Outside of school, Doc has three amazing children. His son Jamie is a graduate of Shelton High School's class of 1994. His daughter Amanda graduated with the class of 1996, and his daughter Sara was a graduate of the class of 1998. Although orange and black runs through Doc's veins, these days you can find him sporting the blue and yellow of Seymour while cheering on his grandkids, and possibly tending to a bump or bruise along the way.

21

JAMES WHITE



JAMES WHITE '21

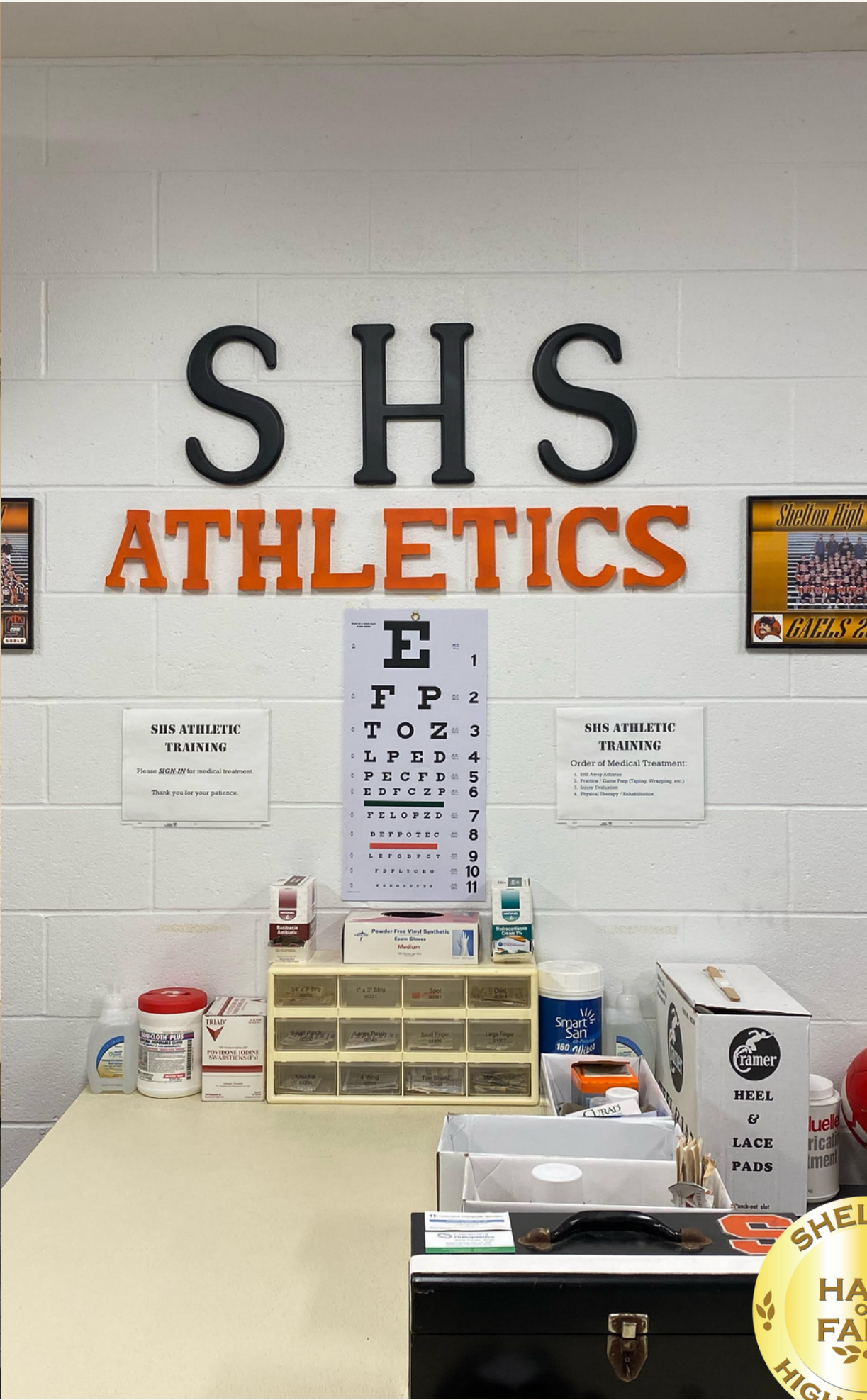


21'

JAMES
WHITE



21' JAMES WHITE



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