**

PRESS RELEASE**
Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame
One Hall of Fame Court
New Castle, IN 47362
765-529-1891

**DO NOT RELEASE THIS INFORMATION UNTIL AFTER 4:00 A.M. ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019**

The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Board of Directors announces
the 2020 Men’s Induction Class to be honored on Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

Name                High School                Graduation
Bill Berberian Thornton (IL) 1942
Wally Cox Broad Ripple 1954
Alan Darner \* West Lafayette (OH) 1964
Ted Guzek \* Hammond Morton 1954
Mark James Martinsville 1973
Lyndon Jones Marion 1987
John Lee New Castle 1960
Davage Minor \* Gary Froebel 1941
Dick Nyers Indianapolis Manual 1952
Kirby Overman Carthage 1958
Bob Purkhiser \* Bluffton 1961
Jerry Reynolds Springs Valley 1962
Ray Roesner \* Holland 1953
Mark Siegel \* Pike 1977
Terry Stotts Bloomington North 1976
Joe Sutter Marion 1969
Steve Yoder Plymouth 1958

Indiana Pacers Silver Medal
Jim Kessler Northwest (MO) 1966

Centennial Award
Paul White \* Franklin 1920

\* indicates deceased

**Indiana Basketball HOF announces 59th induction class**

(New Castle) – Encompassing success on the Indiana basketball landscape including high school state championship players and coaches, an Mr. Basketball, Indiana All-Stars, All-Americans, professional careers, more than 2,800 coaching wins and outstanding contributions to the sport and our state, the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame proudly announces their 59th men’s induction class.

**Bill Berberian**’s name is so synonymous with West Lafayette High School basketball that the Red Devils play in Berberian Gymnasium. Spending 28 of his 31-year head coaching career at West Lafayette, from 1953-1980 his West Lafayette teams won 374 games, four Hoosier conference titles and a 1979 regional title – the first regional win in school history and their first sectional championship in 43 years. He won a sectional title and South Central Conference championship in his first season at Greensburg, where he coached the first three seasons of his career, bringing his career total to over 400 wins. Berberian was a standout in Illinois high school basketball, setting the Thorton H.S. (Harvey, IL) career scoring record on a 28-1 squad his senior year, earning all-state honors as a junior and senior and earning induction in the Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame. Following military service – he earned the Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman Badge and Presidential Unit Citation for his role as an artillery forward observer during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II – he was a team captain and team MVP at Purdue University. The 95-year-old resides in West Lafayette.

**Wally Cox** set scoring records at Broad Ripple High School, followed by more scoring records at Butler University. Setting the Broad Ripple career mark for scoring (750) and single-season points (429), he was the leading scorer in Indianapolis as a senior, earned 1st team all-city honors and was a 1954 Indiana All-Star. Setting the Butler University record for freshman varsity scoring (254 points), he would total 999 career points while playing alongside four other Indiana Basketball Hall of Famers (fellow 2020 HOF inductee Ted Guzek, as well as Keith Greve, Bobby Plump and Ray Craft). Noted for scoring 19 points in Butler’s 1958 N.I.T. win over St. John’s in Madison Square Garden and 19 points in a win over Indiana in the 1957 Hoosier Classic, Cox was named to Butler’s five-man 1950’s all-decade team and to the Butler Athletics Hall of Fame. Continuing to play competitive basketball until age 75, he was a member of two National Senior Championship & AAU National Senior Championship teams (1991 & 1996). Retired from a career in education and insurance, he resides in Pittsboro.

The late **Alan Darner** led Pike teams to two IHSAA championships in his successful head coaching career. A native of Ohio, where he won 167 games in 15 seasons, his Indiana coaching career was launched at Anderson Highland. From 1986-1995, Darner’s Highland teams were 142-59 (.706), winning four Olympic Conference championships, 1991 sectional and regional championships and a 1991 Hall of Fame Classic title. Taking over at Pike in 1995, his teams would accumulate a 109-37 record (.747) in six seasons including three conference championships, one Marion County championship, three sectionals, two regionals, two semi-state titles and 1998 and 2001 IHSAA 4A championships. His record as an Indiana high school head coach was 251-96 (.723) and he won 418 games in Ohio and Indiana high school basketball in 30 seasons. In his 15 seasons in Indiana high school basketball, he coached 10 Indiana All-Stars - including sons Linc (1990) and Tige (1994) - and two Indiana Mr. Basketballs. Darner died September 22, 2019.

The late **Ted Guzek** was a Hoosier native who made a name as a standout at Butler University. A 1954 graduate of Hammond Morton High where he averaged 18.5 points per game as a senior for the 18-5 sectional runners-up, he joined a talented group of players under Tony Hinkle at Butler (fellow Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame inductees Keith Greve, Bobby Plump, Ray Craft and Wally Cox). A three-year starter at Butler, Guzek twice set the Bulldogs’ single-game scoring record with 37 points against Notre Dame as a sophomore and then 38 his junior year at Notre Dame, set the single-season scoring record of 531 points his junior year and graduated 3rd in school history with 1,311 career points despite missing time his senior year with a broken ankle. He set a Butler and NCAA record with a 13-13 shooting performance from the field at Michigan as a junior, was a three-time all-conference pick and a 1957 Helms All-American after averaging 21.2 points and 8.2 rebounds his junior season. Named to Butler’s five-man all-1950’s team and a member of the inaugural Butler Athletics HOF induction class, he was one of ten players named in 1998 to the All-Time Butler Men’s Basketball Team. An educator, he and his wife Peggy were tragically killed in an auto accident in 1974.

**Mark James** entered the 2019-20 season among the 20 winningest head coaches in Indiana high school basketball history. Currently in his 2nd season leading the Perry Meridian program, the 1973 Martinsville graduate began his head coaching career with three seasons at Covington. From 1985-2010, he was a fixture as the head coach at Franklin Central, followed by seven seasons leading Ben Davis to successes including the 2017 4A IHSAA championship. In all, James entered this season with 568 career wins, 13 sectional championships, two regional titles, six conference championships, five Marion County Coach of the Year awards, two Marion County championships, and numerous holiday tournament titles, including winning the 2009 Hall of Fame Classic. He resides in Indianapolis.

**Lyndon Jones** earns accolades as one of the best players from one of Indiana’s most successful high school basketball programs. The 1987 co-Mr. Basketball after helping the Marion Giants to three consecutive state titles in 1985, 1986 and 1987, he was a 1987 McDonald’s All-American and *Parade* Magazine All-American, leading the Giants to an 84-4 record over his final three seasons, a 21-0 record in the esteemed North Central Conference, 40 consecutive wins his sophomore and junior seasons and a #1 national ranking by *USA Today* in his senior season. Further cementing his place in Indiana high school basketball history, Jones was one of three men ever to start on three consecutive one-class state championship teams. A four-year letterman at Indiana University, he played in 117 games for the Hoosiers, playing in every game his sophomore and senior years for two Big Ten champion and two NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 teams and serving as a 1991 team captain. He played in the Continental Basketball Association from 1991 through 1993 before entering the workforce. Has been employed at Cummins, Inc. since 2005. He resides in Fishers.

**John Lee** set scoring records at New Castle Chrysler High School and continued with All-American honors at Ball State University. His senior year coinciding with the opening of the New Castle Fieldhouse set single-season Trojan records of 575 points, 23.9 points per game, 217 field goals, 141 free throws, a single-season FT% mark of .821, a single-game record of 18 made free throws, his 52 points scored vs. Lewisville in the 1960 sectional remains the highest point total in the venue’s history and his career scoring average of 19.1 points per game remained the best in program history for 23 years. At Ball State, he scored 1,134 points in 65 game, equating to a career average of 17.4 points per game, averaging no less than 16.7 ppg in each of his three seasons of varsity eligibility. As a senior, he earned all-Indiana Collegiate Conference and UPI Small College All-American recognitions. Making a living in education, he worked at Marion, Shenandoah and New Castle schools before retirement in 1999. He resides in New Castle.

The late **Davage Minor** is noted for multiple basketball firsts. A 1941 graduate of Gary Froebel, Minor had gained notice as the first player in Northwest Indiana to develop a jump shot before, as a senior captain, he led Froebel to their first and only state finals appearance, earning himself all-state honors. Enrolling at the University of Toledo, he averaged 16 points per game and gained 2nd team All-American recognition by *Sporting News* in 1943 before World War II service in the U.S. Army. He resumed his college career at UCLA, where he was 1947 and 1948 1st team PCC all-conference. A member of the 1949 Oakland Bittners AAU National Champions, a participant in the Pan-American Games in Buenos Aires and playing briefly with the Harlem Globetrotters, he made further history in 1951 when he joined the Baltimore Bullets, becoming the first African-American to play for an NBA team south of the Mason-Dixon line, the 1st African-American from Indiana to play in the NBA and one of the first five African-Americans ever to play in the NBA. In two seasons with Baltimore and the Milwaukee Hawks, he totaled 877 points and 527 rebounds in 116 games. He became a business owner before retiring to Orlando, Florida. He died in 1998.

**Dick Nyers** made his mark as a standout in 1950’s Indianapolis high school and college basketball. A three-time 1st team all-city player at Manual High School, he set the school single-season scoring record three times, totaling 262 points as a sophomore, 331 as a junior and 385 as a senior. He was the leading scorer in Indianapolis as a junior at 17.4 points per game, and was the 2nd leading scorer in the city as a senior at 18.9 points per game. He also set school single-game scoring records with 30 in his junior season and a game of 34 as a senior. At Indiana Central College (now UIndy), he is among program greats, graduating 2nd in career scoring with 1,754 points, 2nd in career scoring average (16.5 ppg), 1st in career FG attempts (1,971), 2nd in career FT made (494) and FT attempts (654) and 2nd in games played (106). He still holds the school record for single-season FT made (180). He was a starter for the 1955-56 Greyhounds squad that went 23-6, setting the school record in scoring (2,625 points; 90.5 ppg) and wins, winning the Hoosier College Conference title and NAIA District Championship. Playing professional football for one season with the Baltimore Colts, his place in football history is as the receiver of Johnny Unitas’ first NFL touchdown pass. Coaching football at Carmel and Edinburgh high schools, as well as Ball State University and the University of Indianapolis, he retired from business ownership in 2016. He resides in Columbus.

**Kirby Overman** is noted as the head coach of the New Albany 1973 state championship team, among a lengthy coaching career. Leading the programs at Otterbein, Benton Central, North Dearborn, Batesville, New Albany, Hamilton Heights, Bluffton and Cloverdale high schools, he earned 230 wins at Indiana high schools, 173 wins at high schools in Florida and Virginia and 36 wins as the head coach at IUPUI. Reaching the pinnacle of Indiana high school basketball success, he coached the New Albany Bulldogs to a 21-7 season and won the 63rd Indiana state championship with wins over Franklin and South Bend Adams on March 17, 1973 at Assembly Hall in Bloomington. Overman was the first high school coach to be tabbed to lead the Indiana All-Star team, leading the Hoosier squad to two wins over Kentucky in 1974 and a win against the Russian Junior National team. Throughout his career, he was a five-time Conference Coach of the Year and won six statewide Coach of the Year awards, including 1973 Indiana Sportswriters and Sportscasters, Indiana Basketball Coaches Association, Bloomington Herald-Telephone and Ball State Alumni Coach of the Year. Retired, he resides in Lancaster, Kentucky.

The late **Bob Purkhiser** took Hoosier hardwood success to additional fame overseas. A 1961 Indiana All-Star and four-sport letterman, he was a member of Bluffton’s 21-6 1960 semi-state finalist team as a junior and 18-7 regional finalists his senior season. A three-sport athlete at Purdue University, he was the 6th Boilermaker to surpass 1,000 career points, graduating 5th in program history with 1,060 points in three seasons after averaging 20.0 points per game as a senior and earning all-Big Ten honors. Also starring for the Boilermaker baseball program, he had a Big Ten-best 0.76 ERA as a senior and was drafted by the Minnesota Twins. Serving in the United States Army, where he was an accomplished player in Army leagues, he became a standout player and coach in French professional leagues gaining national recognition and status as a basketball icon as a multiple-time All-Star and league MVP and referenced in the *New York Times* in 1972 as “about the best player in France.” He was coaching in France when he was killed in an automobile accident in Le Mans in 1982 at the age of 39.

**Jerry Reynolds** has led a notable career in high school, college and professional basketball. A two-time honorable mention all-state player at Springs Valley High School, he was a member of teams at Vincennes University that were 51-14 over two seasons. His coaching career began at Vincennes, were he was an assistant from 1966-1971, including their 1970 NJCAA National Championship season and where he recruited future NBA players Bob McAdoo, “Foots” Walker and Ricky Green. As an assistant at West Georgia College, he was a member of their 1974 NAIA National Championship coaching staff. 10 years as the head coach at Rockhurst University and Pittsburg State University produced 192 wins and four District Coach of the Year honors. The longest tenured employee in Sacramento Kings history, his now 35-year career began as the franchise relocated from Kansas City in 1985 and has included the roles of head coach, assistant coach, scout, director of player personnel, general manager and television analyst. His influence is also noted as the first general manager of the WNBA Sacramento Monarchs, earning his name in the rafters for his impact on that franchise. He was also a member of the 2004 U.S. Women’s Olympic Team Selection Committee that won the gold medal. He resides in Roseville, California.

The late **Ray Roesner** earned accolades as a high school and college player as well as notable coach and administrator roles. A 1953 graduate of Holland High School, he set school records in single-game points (41), season scoring (617) and career points (830). He averaged 23.7 points per game his senior season, leading Holland to their first sectional championship and was the state’s leading scorer in the 1953 regionals, totaling 62 points in two games. His college career included 858 points in two seasons at Oakland City College (21.5 ppg), setting the school’s season scoring record (541). His senior year 25.8 point per game average was 2nd best in Indiana, trailing only Hall of Famer Bailey Robertson. He coached 18 seasons at Chrisney, Orleans, Princeton, Holland and Southridge high schools, totaling 201 wins and five sectional championships and was an assistant coach for the Southridge 1998 IHSAA 2A girls champion squad. Also serving 15 years as the last Principal of Holland High School and first Principal of Southridge High School, he served two terms on the IHSAA Board of Control. He died in 2018.

The late **Mark Siegel** set numerous records at Pike High School before his life was tragically cut short. A 1976 and 1977 honorable mention all-state player and 1st team academic all-state selection, he earned 1st team all-Marion County honors twice and 1st team all-conference honors twice, averaging nearly 14 points per game as a junior and 19.5 points his senior season. Along the way he set six school records including 13 assists in one game, 180 assists in one season and 271 career assists, along with 11 steals in one game, 103 steals in one season and 184 career steals. Siegel had played in the first four games of his freshman year at the University of Evansville when he was among the 29 people killed in the December 13, 1977 plane crash that claimed the lives of all 14 UE players and their coaching staff.

**Terry Stotts** has had notable success as a high school and college player and professional coach.A 1976 Indiana All-Star and all-state selection after averaging 24.4 points and 13.6 rebounds per game as a senior, he led the Cougars to the first sectional championship in school history and was the first Bloomington North player to be named an Indiana All-Star. He holds high school career averages of 21.2 points and 12.2 rebounds per game. A four-year player at the University of Oklahoma, he totaled 1,104 points and 414 rebounds in 91 games, earning 1st team all-Big Eight Conference honors as a team captain his senior year in addition to recognition as an Academic All-American. A 2nd round pick in the 1980 NBA Draft, he played 10 seasons professionally in Italy, Spain, France and the United States’ CBA before embarking on a professional coaching career now in its 30th year. An assistant for two seasons in the CBA and 16 in the NBA, he is in his 12th season as an NBA head coach. After two-year stints as head coach of the Atlanta Hawks and Milwaukee Bucks, Stotts is in his 8th season leading the Portland Trailblazers, where he has led them to six consecutive NBA Playoffs appearances – including a 2019 Western Conference Finals appearance – and is the 2nd winningest coach in franchise history. He began this season with 345 wins in Portland and 440 as an NBA head coach. He resides in Lake Oswego, Oregon.

**Joe Sutter** led one of Indiana’s storied programs to state tournament success. A three-year starter, he led Marion to a 70-13 record, three regional championships and two state finals appearances in his prep career. After his undefeated and #2 ranked Giants fell to eventual state champ Indianapolis Washington in a 61-60 loss in the state semifinal game, he was named the 1969 Trester Award winner for mental attitude. Averaging 14.6 points and 9.8 rebounds per game as a senior, he was a starter for the 1969 Indiana All-Star squad that beat Kentucky twice. In two seasons at Davidson College, he totaled 820 points (15.8 ppg) and 392 rebounds (7.5 rpg), twice earning 1st team all-Southern Conference honors and 1971 AP honorable mention All-American selection while his team won two conference championships. Playing professionally for three seasons in Belgium, Switzerland and Italy, he averaged over 20 points and 10 rebounds per game. After earning a masters degree in physical therapy, he founded and was President of Tuckahoe Physical Therapy, which grew to be the largest private provider of outpatient physical therapy services in the central Virginia area for two decades. Retired, he resides in Boulder, Colorado.

**Steve Yoder** netted success at Indiana high schools and an Indiana college. A 1958 graduate of Plymouth High School, his lengthy coaching career includes notable success in his native state. The head coach of his alma mater, Plymouth, from 1967-73, his teams there won three conference titles, three sectionals, two regional championships and twice ended the season ranked in the top 10 in the state. Including one season at Penn High School, he led teams to a 115-49 (.701) record in seven seasons in Indiana high school basketball. Briefly an assistant coach at Furman University and Ball State University, he was head coach at Ball State from 1977-82, leading teams to 77 wins, including two Mid-American Conference championships, a 1981 MAC Tournament title, 1981 NCAA Tournament appearance and twice earning MAC Coach of the Year honors. From 1982-1992, he was the head coach at the University of Wisconsin, totaling 128 wins and leading the Badgers to their first postseason appearances in over 40 years with 1989 and 1991 NIT Tournament berths. In 1989 he earned NABC Kodak District Coach of the Year and *Basketball Times* Midwest Coach of the Year recognition. From 2000 – 2011, he was a scout for the NBA Indiana Pacers and New York Knicks and from 2014-2017 was director of operations for the University of Houston men’s basketball. Retired, he resides in Sarasota, Florida.

**Paul White** is recognized with the Centennial Award, created to recognize those who contributed to Indiana high school basketball at least 100 years ago, which includes induction. White was a 1920 graduate of Franklin High School, where he was a starter for their state championship team his senior year, the first of three consecutive state titles for the “Wonder Five.” White scored 10 points in the 1920 state championship win, nearly as many as Lafayette’s team total of 13 points. Named the captain of the 1920 high school all-state team, he was a four-year Indiana college all-state team selection at DePauw University, where he was team captain and called “the most versatile man in the state” in 1924 by the *Indianapolis News*. He played professionally for one season with the Fort Wayne Hoosiers and coached 14 seasons at Fairmount and New Haven high schools. He died in 1952.

The recipient of this year’s Indiana Pacers Silver Medal award, which includes Hall of Fame induction, is former Grace College head coach **Jim Kessler**. The head men’s basketball coach at Grace for 42 years, his teams won 788 games, making him the 28th winningest men’s college basketball coach in America. His teams had eighteen 20-win seasons, three 30-win seasons, won ten conference championships, made nine NAIA National Tournament appearances, won the 1992 NAIA Division II National Championship and four times finished as NCCAA National runners-up. Kessler was named the 1992 NAIA National Coach of the Year, 1983 and 1992 NCCAA National Coach of the Year and received numerous Conference Coach of the Year honors. He is an inductee of the NAIA Hall of Fame, NCCAA Hall of Fame and an inaugural inductee in the Grace College Athletic Hall of Fame. He has served as a court coach for USA Basketball, hosted a coaches clinic at the NCAA Final Four, led Grace on international missions trips to at least eight countries and has directed over 20,000 campers at the annual Lancer Basketball Camp. He is a 1966 graduate of Northwest H.S. in Hughesville, Missouri. He resides in Winona Lake, Indiana.

The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame’s 59th Annual Men’s Awards Banquet will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2020. The day’s events will include a reception at the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame museum in New Castle that afternoon with a banquet that evening at the Primo Banquet Hall in Indianapolis.

Reservations are available online now or through mail order in early 2020. Call the Hall at 765-529-1891, visit www.hoopshall.com or email info@hoopshall.com for more information.

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MEDIA: For further information or assistance on inductees, contact Indiana Basketball HOF staff (info@hoopshall.com) or Executive Director Chris May (chris@hoopshall.com) at (765) 529-1891.