

May 23, 2017 - For immediate release

The Nomination Committee for the Abington High School Athletic Hall of Fame is tasked with the annual duty to select and induct former Abington High School teams, players, coaches, administrators and community members who, by their demonstrated excellence on or off the field, have contributed to the growth and/or success of the athletic program at Abington High School.

The Committee is proud to announce that the following players and contributors were nominated by the AHS community and selected to be honored in the fall of 2017 by being inducted into the Abington High School Athletic Hall of Fame:

1. **Billy Carey (AHS '05)**, a talented Abington athlete who led the Green Wave on the basketball court as a 3-year starter. Known for his jump shot's deadly accuracy, Billy became the first male basketball player to eclipse the 1,000 point career scoring mark at Abington High.
2. **Kenny MacDonald (AHS '63)**, an outstanding football player for Abington High known for his speed and hard-hitting style of running as a fullback. As a 3-sport athlete for the Green Wave, he is best known for having scored five touchdowns in one game against Whitman-Hanson in the annual Thanksgiving Day football game.
3. **Donald Whitman (AHS '72)**, the most loyal and mathematically-accurate supporter of Green Wave basketball for almost 50 years. Since his sophomore year at Abington High School, Don has been the official scorekeeper and statistician for Green Wave basketball, and he continues to do so to this day. His reputation for accuracy is only surpassed by his allegiance and lifelong support of Green Wave athletics.
4. **Brittany Cheney (AHS '02)**, an outstanding all-around student-athlete who excelled in soccer, basketball and softball for Abington High. Brittany was a 1,000 point scorer in basketball, set the school record for 20 shutouts in single season by a soccer goalie, and was one of the best shortstops to ever play softball for the Green Wave. Brittany was also named as a South Shore League All-Star 10 times, was a 2-time EMass Soccer All-Star, and was named by the Boston Globe as their "Athlete of the Year" in 2001-2002.
5. **Undefeated 1956 AHS Football Team**, led by AHS Hall of Fame Coach Walter Paster, this team won the Class C Championship with a tremendous offensive line, talented backfield, and a tenacious team defense. Of the many quality players on this team, three of its members are also being individually inducted into the Hall of Fame:
 - a. **Ricky Brown (AHS '57)**, one of the best and most elusive halfbacks
 - b. **Dave Corcoran (AHS '57)**, the epitome of a hard-nosed fullback
 - c. **John "Jack" Reilly (AHS '57)**, an outstanding quarterback, who also became an Abington High coach, Athletic Director and a long-time Booster of the Green Wave.

The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony for this 2017 class of inductees will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, October 22, 2017 in the auditorium of the new Abington Middle/High School. Tickets (\$20) for family members, classmates and fans will be available after June 15th; the event will include a brief tour of the new school building at 1pm, a pre-ceremony social hour with passed hors d'oeuvres, and the 3pm induction ceremony.

We congratulate this slate of honorees, who truly represent some of the finest athletes and contributors to the long history of sports at Abington High School, and we encourage community members to submit their nominations of additional athletes and coaches to be considered for future induction into the AHS Athletic Hall of Fame. To obtain a nomination form, or to purchase tickets to the 2017 Induction Ceremony, please call (617) 435-3531 or send an email to KateCasey@AbingtonPS.org.