

2022 GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NOMINEE BIOS

ALAN BALCOMB

Baseball, 1980-1983

2018/2026

Holds school career records for at bats (952), runs scored (248), games played (251) and walks (219) . . . Is fifth all-time in hits (302) and third in stolen bases (83) . . . Selected to the All-Trans America Athletic Conference Team in 1981 while making TAAC All-Tournament Team in 1983 . . . Went on to play professional baseball with Bradenton Dodgers (1983, Gulf Coast League) and Vero Beach Dodgers (1984, Florida State League) and St. Petersburg Cardinals (1985, Florida State League) . . . Academic achievements at GSC includes a B.B.A. in economics in 1983 (GPA 3.03) and an M.S. in sport management in 1987 (GPA 3.7).

SCOTT BARNARD

Men's Soccer, 1980-83

2020/2028

Scott (Barney) as he was called by teammates and was the first player recruited to play for the new program in 1980 . . . He was a four-year starter and captain of the team . . . Was a first-team All-TAAC conference player and all TAAC tournament player . . . Was known for his leadership, defensive and midfield skills and fierce competitiveness . . . After college, he was involved with the national team and played semi-pro indoor soccer . . . His passion for the game is still evident today, playing for his club even after five major knee surgeries and the doctors telling him to quit . . . During the off seasons at school, Scott coached youth clinics and later on in life, he coached with the young girls clubs with the YMCA.

TONY BELSER

Football, 1985-88

2018/2026

Member of 1985 and 1986 National Championship teams . . . Played in the 1988 National Championship game . . . Four-year letterwinner . . . Currently ranks fourth all-time in receptions (80) and yardage (1,472), fourth in touchdowns (10) and seventh in yards per catch (18.4 ypg) . . . Helped Eagles to a 47-11 record during that four-year span . . . Responsible for several critical plays in the history of the program including the crucial fourth down catch to keep the historic drive alive, paving the way toward the school's first national championship in 1985 . . . Led the team in receptions and receiving yards in the 1987 and 1988 seasons.

TOM BIGWOOD

Baseball, 1972-73

2018/2026

A major contributor to Georgia Southern baseball during his two-year tenure at Georgia Southern . . . Was a pitcher on the Georgia Southern baseball team that went to the College World Series during the tenure of Coach Ron Polk . . . Joined the Eagles in 1972 as a transfer from Broward Junior College to complete his final two seasons of eligibility . . . Posted a 2.44 ERA with a 10-4 record and 80 strikeouts in his two years . . . Threw a complete game, two-hit shutout in the Eagles' 8-0 win over Harvard in Georgia Southern's first elimination game at the 1973 College World Series.

TIM BLOM

Men's Soccer, 1996-1999

2018/2026

Three-year letterman as a midfielder . . . Started 54 matches during his career . . . Georgia Southern Scholar Athlete of the Year in 1997 and 1998 . . . All-SoCon Tournament Team Selection in 1996 . . . Earned 37 career points (15 goals, 7 assists) . . . Helped lead the team to fourth in the SoCon in team scoring during his senior year.

LOGAN BLONDELL

Men's Golf, 2008-2011

2022/2030

The SoCon Player of the Year in 2009, SoCon Freshman of the Year in 2008 and All-SoCon in both 2009 and 2011 . . . Led the Eagles to the 2011 SoCon team title . . . Ranks 11th on the program's career scoring average list (73.23), and his 72.42 scoring average in 2008-09 ranks 21st . . . A Golf Coaches Association of America All-America Scholar in 2010 and 2011 . . . Earned medalist honors twice . . . Took second at the 2010 NCAA Southeast Regional and led the Eagles to a tie for fourth to advance to the NCAA Championship round . . . Recorded nine top-5 finishes, two of which came in the Southern Conference Championship . . . Led the Eagles to two NCAA Regional appearances.

RAY BOYER

Baseball, 1975-1976

2018/2026

NCAA Coaches and Independent All-America selection in 1976 . . . Named to the NCAA Coaches All-Region and All-South Independent teams in 1976 as an outfielder . . . Sixth on all-time season batting list with .415 average in 1976, hitting safely in 49 of 55 games leading the Eagles to 37 wins . . . Fifth all-time in on-base percentage for one season with a .515 average in 1976 . . . Walked 41 times to 16 strikeouts that year and stole 22 of 26 bases . . . Committed just one error in two years . . . Played professionally with the Atlanta Braves and Boston Red Sox . . . Volunteer coach with The Walker School in Marietta, GA.

J. STEPHEN BUCKLER**Men's Basketball, 1967-71****2018/2026**

A four-year letterman in basketball from under Frank Radovich and JE Rowe . . . Lettered on the varsity team his freshman year . . . Played in 91 games, scoring 1,393 points with 15.3 average per game . . . Became the 18th player in school history to score 1,000 career points . . . Was a member of the team that set up the transition for Georgia Southern from the NAIA to NCAA affiliation . . . In the 1970-71 season, was the leading scorer, averaging 19 points per game . . . Was named MVP for the Mercer Invitational Tournament, to the all-tournament team for the Roanoke Invitational and was invited to try out with the Miami Floridians ABA pro basketball team after graduation . . . A founding member of Kappa Alpha Order fraternity and served as president his junior and senior years . . . Officiated Georgia High School football for 25 years . . . Has been a dentist for 42 years and still continues in that practice today.

PAUL CARROLL**Football, 1991-94****2020/2028**

An honorable mention All-America selection at linebacker in 1994 by Sporting News . . . Lettered four seasons from 1991-94 . . . The all-time leading tackler in Georgia Southern football history with 375 . . . Was credited with 205 solo tackles in his career and 170 assisted stops . . . Was the leading tackler for the Eagles in 1992 (107), 1993 (102) and 1994 (127) . . . His 127 stops in 1994 still stand as the third-highest single-season total in program history.

JAMES CARTER**Football, 1983-86****2018/2026**

Nicknamed "Peanut" . . . Second-team All-America selection at offensive guard in 1986 by Football News . . . Lettered four seasons from 1983-86 . . . Started on the 1986 team that was second in the nation in both rushing offense and scoring offense . . . Helped lead Eagles to a pair of National Championships (1985, 1986).

CHRIS CHAMBERS**Football, 1996-1999****2018/2026**

Four-year letterman who handled placekicking duties for the 1998 and 1999 seasons . . . Converted 14 of 17 field goal attempts during the 15-game 1998 season where he earned three All-America selections (Third-Team AP, Second-Team Sports Network and Football Gazette Honorable Mention) and both Coaches and Media First-Team All-SoCon selections . . . Was third on the team with total points scored with 116 points in 1999, when he also set single season records in extra points made (69), extra points attempted (72), and most extra points converted in a game (10).

KEVIN CHAMBERS**Men's Soccer, 1988-91****2018/2026**

Four-year letterwinner for the Eagles . . . Former head coach (1996-2006) . . . Earned SoCon coach of the year in 1997 . . . Served as assistant coach in 1992 and 1994-95 . . . Second-team All-Trans America Athletic Conference during his senior year . . . Helped the Eagles to a 15-5 record and TAAC East Division Championship in 1990 . . . Still holds the all-time record for saves (312) and ranks second in shutouts (11) and third in goals against average (1.80) . . . Recorded the fourth- and fifth-best goals against average in a season, 0.98 in 1990 and 1.10 in 1988, respectively . . . Tied for fourth among season leaders registering four shutouts in 1990 and 1988.

CARRIE COLLINS**Softball, 1991-94****2018/2026**

Four-year letterwinner . . . Holds career records for most complete games (97) . . . Second all-time in games started (103), innings pitched (711.1), third in victories (53) and shutouts (18) . . . Fifth among career leaders in games appeared (118), fourth in saves (6) and fifth in strikeouts (426) . . . Named to the Southern Conference All-Tournament Team in 1994.

DAVID COOL**Football, 1988-91****2018/2026**

All-America standout in 1991 as recognized by the Associated Press, Football Gazette and The Sports Network . . . Four-year letterman as a placekicker . . . Led the 1991 Eagles in scoring with 67 points . . . Hit eight consecutive field goals as a senior, including kicks of 52 and 53 yards . . . First freshman in NCAA history to kick a 60-yard field goal . . . Also booted a freshman-record 55-yarder in the 1988 Division I-AA National Championship game versus Furman . . . Enjoyed stellar professional career in the Arena Football League upon graduation, winning a pair of titles with the Orlando Predators.

TEDDY CRAFT**Football, 2003-05****2018/2026**

A three-year letterwinner, Craft was a second-team All-Southern Conference pick twice as a return specialist (2004) and wide receiver (2005) . . . Led the Eagles in reception yards (319) and touchdowns (5) in 2005 . . . Caught four of his five touchdown passes during the final two games of the 2005 campaign . . . Is still tied for second all-time at Georgia Southern with 13 career touchdown receptions . . . Averaged 24.2 yards per catch throughout his career, which is still an Eagle record . . . Has the second-longest reception in school history, an 82-yard touchdown play at Elon . . . Died from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident in July of 2006 before his senior season.

ERIC DAVIS **Football, 1997-98** **2020/2028**
An All-American defensive lineman for the Eagles ... Two-time letterwinner ... During the 1997 and 1998 football seasons, was selected second-team all-conference by the coaches ... Named second-team All-SoCon in 1997 and first team by media ... In 1998, was nominated as a team captain by his peers ... A first-team All-American in 1998 by The Walter Camp Football Foundation ... Also named second-team All-American by Sporting News, third team by the Associated Press and honorable mention by Football Gazette ...

TAZ DIXON **Football, 1986-89** **2018/2026**
A 1989 All-American who lettered four times as a safety for the Eagles ... A major part of the defense that led the nation in scoring defense (12.1 ppg) as the Eagles went 15-0 and won the national title ... Left GS holding six school records: passes intercepted in a game (2), most career interceptions (12), most interception return yards in a career (182), most interception return scores in a game (1), most interception return scores in a season (2) and most interception return scores in a career (3) ... Had 233 career tackles, 23 pass breakups, 12 interceptions and had 19 solo tackles in a playoff game against Appalachian State in 1987. *****2020 HOF FINALIST*****

JIM DOBSON **Baseball, 1966-1968** **2018/2026**
NAIA All-America choice in 1968 ... Finished 1966 season at 4-4 with 41 strikeouts and an earned run average of 3.10 ... Led the Eagles in pitching in 1967 with an 8-3 record, 78 strikeouts and an ERA of 1.65 which ranks him eighth among the season's top 10 ... Ninth on the single-season list for innings pitched (130) and tied for 10th in strikeouts (118), both coming in the 1968 season.

MATT EASTERDAY **Baseball, 1997-2000** **2018/2026**
The Southern Conference Player of the Year in 2000 ... The 2000 SoCon Tournament MVP ... Member of All-SoCon first team that year ... Drafted by Florida and signed after his junior season ... Played both infield and outfield for the Eagles ... Batted .371 for his career (ranks fifth in Eagles' records) ... Hit .440 in his final season (ranks third on single-season list) ... Holds the Georgia Southern record for longest hitting streak at 28 games ... His 107 total hits during 2000 season ranks second all-time ... Tied for seventh on the Eagles career list with eight triples ... Played four seasons in the minor leagues ... Named to Louisville Slugger All-America team as a second baseman in 2000 ... Baseball Coaches Association All-Region selection that same season ... College Sports Southeast All-Region pick as designated hitter. *****2020 HOF FINALIST*****

DAVE ESMONDE **Baseball, 1955-1958** **2018/2026**
Starting right fielder for Georgia Teachers College from 1955-1958 ... Started all but one game for the Professors, missing only the second game of a doubleheader ... Batted third in the lineup for much of his career ... Hit .300 for the 25+ game seasons ... Named to the 1957 NCAA All-District Team (district included Duke, Florida State and George Washington Univ.).

JACK EVANS **Men's Soccer, 1980-82** **2018/2026**
A three-time All-Trans America Athletic Conference selection (1980, '81 and '82) ... Established single-game GSU records for most points (11) and goals (five) scored against Armstrong State on October 4, 1980 ... Also holds the program standard for points (eight) and goals (four) in a half, which was accomplished in the same contests ... Equaled mark a little over a month later with four goals in a half against Centenary on November 7, 1980 ... Stands sixth all-time in career goals scored (23) ... Is among the season leaders for goals with 12 in 1980, ranking him tied for sixth, and points with 26 in 1980, ranking him tied for 10th.

BO FENNELL **Men's Golf, 1987-91** **2018/2026**
Honorable Mention All-America in 1990 ... Member of two Trans America Athletic Championships (1987, 1991) ... Two-time All-TAAC ... Led the 1989 team to a 14th-place finish at the NCAA Regionals ... In 1990, finished 15th at the NCAA Regionals (214) ... Following year advanced to the NCAA Championships after placing tied for fourth at Regionals (212) then was tied for 81st (305) nationally ... His 72.55 stroke average in 1991 still ranks in the top 25 in program history ... His career-best 65 (1991 TAAC Tournament) is tied for the 14th-best round since the Eagles went Division I ... Also shot a 66 during the 1991 Billy Hitchcock Intercollegiate and 67 in the 1989 Gator Invitational.

IAN FUDALLALLA **Men's Tennis, 1984-87** **2018/2026**
Earned TAAC All-Academic honors for tennis in 1985, 1986 and 1987 ... The 1986 TAAC Champion in No. 2 doubles and the 1987 TAAC Champion in No.2 singles.

DIANE FULLER**Women's Basketball, 1980-1981****2018/2026**

Started two seasons for the Lady Eagles after transferring from Shorter College . . . Currently ranks first on the season steals list (108), second in season free throws made (152), sixth in scoring (560 points in 1980-81) . . . Stands fourth in career rebounds (968) and ranks 22nd all-time scoring 1,020 points . . . Had 24 rebounds in a single game, good for fourth on the single-season record . . . Led the Lady Eagles in scoring and rebounding both of her seasons.

SEAN GAINEY**Football, 1986-1989****2018/2026**

A four-year letterman at offensive guard . . . Recognized as All-America by three different organizations in 1989 . . . Started 47 consecutive games from his sophomore to senior years . . . Anchored an offensive unit which helped the Eagles lead the nation in rushing offense (329.2 ypg) and stand second in scoring (36.8 ppg) during the 15-0 National Championship season in 1989.

NICOLE GOODWIN**Women's Swimming, 1994-97****2018/2026**

The first Georgia Southern swimmer in the Division I era to qualify for the NCAA Championships . . . Held Georgia Southern records in the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle set during the 1994 season . . . Shared records in the 200 medley and 400 freestyle relays in 1996 . . . Also during her career, shared two other relay records, all which have been broken.

DARRELL HENDRIX**Football, 1986-1989****2018/2026**

A three-year letterman who started his career as a walk-on . . . Two-time All-America selection (1988, 1989) at linebacker who led squad in tackles junior (139) and senior (126) seasons . . . Anchored a defensive unit which finished second nationally in scoring defense (12.1 ppg) and third in total defense (255.9 ydg.) . . . Helped guide GSU to four consecutive playoff appearances, three overall NCAA I-AA National Championship Game showings (1986, '88, '89) and a pair of national titles (1986, '89) . . . Part of college football's first-ever perfect 15-0 season (1989).

SCOTT HENLEY**Baseball, 1998-2001****2018/2026**

Four-year letterman . . . Led SoCon in hits (99) and RBIs (84) in 2001 . . . Ranks sixth all-time in at-bats (904), 11th in games played (226), tied for ninth all-time in highest batting average (.361), tied for fourth in most doubles (61), tied for fourth in most HRs (50), second in total bases (539) and is second all-time in RBIs (236) . . . Is second on the all-time hits list (326) . . . Baseball Coaches Association All-American in 2001 and All-Region Team in both 2000 and 2001 . . . All-SoCon in 2001 . . . Earned SoCon Player of the Week four times . . . Ninth overall in the nation in RBIs in 2001. *****2020 HOF FINALIST*****

MATT HERRING**Baseball, 2000-2002****2018/2026**

Three-year letterman . . . Led team in batting average (.380), HRs (14), RBIs (77) and total bases (148) in 2002 . . . Tied for 10th all-time in RBIs in a single season in 2002 . . . Also during the 2002 season, led the SoCon in RBIs, fourth in the SoCon in batting average and slugging percentage, tied for second most hits in SoCon with Jemel Spearman, and hit the second most HRs in the conference . . . Two-time All-SoCon selection (second-team in 2001 and first-team in 2002) . . . Earned All-SoCon Tournament player in 2002 . . . Two-time SoCon 'Player of the Week' . . . Drafted in the 11th round (330 overall) by the Chicago White Sox.

DARRYL HOPKINS**Football, 1987-1991****2018/2026**

A four-year letterman of the Eagle football program who helped lead Georgia Southern to an overall record of 55-14 (.797), four playoff appearances, three title game showings and two NCAA I-AA National Championships (1989, '90) . . . Rushed for 868 yards (8.4 ypc) on 103 carries and scored nine TDs . . . Caught 41 passes out of his slotback position for 519 yards (12.7 ypr) and three scores . . . Top season was 422-yard rushing effort as a junior in 1990 . . . Played key role in recording college football's first perfect 15-0 season ('89) . . . Played in a total of 55 games, starting every contest in 1990 . . . Key part of GSU's win over Nevada-Reno in 1990 title game (5-86, 2 TDs) . . . Also served as a member of the Eagle coaching staff for three seasons (1993-95), . . . Currently works as head of intramural sports for the Statesboro/Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Department . . . Present member of Omicron Delta Kappa, leadership honor society for Georgia Southern . . . Member of the Eagle Football Alumni Association since 2003 and served as president . . . Received the First District Leadership Award from the Georgia Recreation and Park Association in 2008 . . . Awarded the Southern Eagle Football Officials Association "George D. Lynch Award" for dedicated sportsmanship and commitment to officiating high school football in 2015.

HERB HUTSON**Baseball, 1968-70****2018/2026**

In his collegiate career, he was a four-year letterman . . . In the NAIA National Tournament, he posted a 0.75 ERA, won two games in relief by pitching 11 innings of shutout ball, fanning 13 batters and allowing only three hits . . . The Baltimore Orioles signed Hutson in his junior year at GSC . . . He successfully worked up the Orioles' ladder at Bluefield, Miami – which won the Class A Florida State League . . . He then signed with the Chicago Cubs, who drafted him out of the Orioles' camp . . . Hutson's W-L record with the team was 12-5 . . . An arm injury shortened his winning career, forcing him to retire in 1976 while with Mexico City . . . Member of the Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame.

KELLIE MITCHELL JOHNS**Track and Field, 2001-2004****2018/2026**

Earned All-Southern Conference honors 16 times (top-3 finishers) . . . Five-time SoCon champion and part of three league records . . . Indoor pentathlon record still stands today . . . Named Most Valuable Field Event Performer at 2004 SoCon Indoor Championships . . . Georgia Southern's first athlete to meet the national meet qualifying standard . . . Cornerstone of the track and field program's rise through the SoCon ranks . . . Was part of the second recruiting class for the new program and graduated. ******2020 HOF FINALIST******

JANICE JOHNSON**Women's Basketball, 1992-95****2018/2026**

Named All-Southern Conference in 1994 . . . Twice named to the SoCon All-Tournament team, including a Most Valuable Player effort in 1993 . . . Helped Georgia Southern to consecutive SoCon Tournament championships and NCAA Tournament appearances . . . Ranks 15th all-time in scoring with 1,196 points . . . Ninth all-time with 305 free throws made and seventh in free throws attempted (424).

COREY JOYNER**Football, 1996-1998****2018/2026**

Three-year letterman from 1996-1998 . . . Led team in receiving during '97 and '98 seasons . . . Accumulated 39 catches, 790 receiving yards, 1,533 all-purpose yards (third on team) and seven touchdowns in 15 games during 1998 season . . . Earned First-Team Media All-SoCon Selection as a return specialist, Second-Team Coaches and Media All-SoCon selection for offense and Football Gazette Honorable Mention following 1998 season . . . Ranks fifth all-time in career most receiving yards in a season (595), career receptions (71), career receiving yards (1,332) and career yards-per-catch (18.8) at Georgia Southern . . . Currently tied for second-most receiving TDs in a single season (7) and holds school records for most receiving TDs in a game (3) and longest kickoff return (100 yards).

JACLYN KAYLOR**Softball, 1997-2000****2018/2026**

Four-year letterwinner . . . 1999 All-SoCon Team Selection . . . 2000 All-SoCon Tournament Team Selection . . . Played in 215 career games . . . Currently third all-time in most stolen bases in a season (28) and all-time (61) . . . Tied for sixth place with eight career triples.

PAUL KILIMONIS**Baseball, 1978-1981****2018/2026**

Third all-time in career wins with 31 . . . Tied for fourth on the all-time Georgia Southern record books by recording nine consecutive wins during the 1980 season . . . Tied for a team-best seven complete games as a sophomore in 1979 . . . Ranks seventh all-time with 19 complete games . . . Shared the team-lead winning 10 games in 1980.

ANDREAS KOTH**Men's Tennis, 1976-77, 1979-80****2018/2026**

Posted a 53-22 record during his time at Georgia Southern . . . Played at Georgia Southern from 1976-77 and again from 1979-80 . . . Posted a 19-2 record in singles play during the 1979 season with a winning percentage of 90.5 percent . . . Currently sits in sixth place overall for doubles wins at 57, while also posting the third best overall record for doubles dual match at 57-16 . . . In singles play, sits eighth posting a 53-22 record, while posting 26-5 record from the No. 4 position . . . Served as head coach of the Armstrong men's and women's tennis teams from 1992-99 . . . Led the Pirates to a 1996 NCAA Division II Women's Tennis National Championship and runner-up finishes in 1997, 1998 and 1999 . . . Directed the men's team to a NCAA Division II National Semifinals finish in 1999 . . . Overall career head coaching record at Armstrong: 129-25 (.838) Women, 110-62 (.640) Men. ******2020 HOF FINALIST******

BRETT LEWIS**Baseball, 1999-2002****2018/2026**

Four-year letterman as a pitcher . . . Currently GSU's all-time leader in games started (71), wins (36), innings pitched (480.2), runs allowed (291), hits allowed (527) and strikeouts (429) . . . Also seventh all-time in pitching appearances (79) . . . First-Team All-SoCon selection in 2001 . . . Earned SoCon Player of the Week twice . . . Earned SoCon Freshman of the Year in 1999 . . . SoCon Tournament MVP in 2002 . . . Louisville Slugger winner in 1999 . . . Drafted in 29th round (873 overall) by the Chicago Cubs. ******2020 HOF FINALIST******

ALEX MASH**Football, 1990-93****2018/2026**

A four-year letterman who earned First-Team All-Southern Conference honors in 1993 and was chosen as the league's Defensive Player of the Year by both coaches and media association . . . A two-time All-America selection, earning first-team honors from five different agencies (Associated Press, Football Gazette, Kodak, Sports Network and Walter Camp) as a senior . . . Also chosen to the first unit of the Kodak All-America squad as a junior in 1992 . . . Still ranks second on GSU's career sack list (25) and third on the fumble recovery list with five . . . His 10.5 sacks in 1993 were the fourth-most ever produced in a season . . . Played in 47 games while helping GSU to a pair of NCAA Division I-AA playoff appearances (1990, '93) and one national title (1990) . . . Credited with 210 total tackles (133 solo), 25.0 sacks, 42.0 tackles for loss and four forced fumbles . . . Scored a pair of touchdowns, returning an interception 15 yards for score versus Nevada in 1990 I-AA National Championship game before bringing back a fumble 28 yards to account for GSU's only points against the Miami Hurricanes in 1993 . . . Top season came as senior with 77 stops (52 as junior, 60 as sophomore). ******2020 HOF FINALIST******

FLINT MATTHEWS**Football, 1985-87****2018/2026**

Earned First Team All-America Honors in 1987 from Associated Press as a linebacker . . . Lettered three seasons from 1985 to 1987 . . . Led the Eagles in tackles in 1987 with 116 . . . Helped guide Georgia Southern to a pair of NCAA I-AA National Championships (1985, '86) and three overall playoff appearances.

RICH McGRATH**Football, 1996-1999****2018/2026**

A four-year letterman and mainstay offensive tackle who started 52 total games throughout his career . . . Helped Georgia Southern's vaunted triple option offense lead the nation in total offense, scoring offense, and rushing offense during the 1999 National Championship season and was also second in the nation in the same categories during the 1998 season . . . Earned Third-Team Football Gazette All-America selection in 1999, as well as First-Team Coaches and Media All-SoCon selections.

BENJIE MOORE**Baseball, 1975-1976****2018/2026**

Selected to the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) All-Region and All-America squads in 1976 as a second baseman . . . Also chosen to the All-Independent All-America team as a senior after earning All-South Independent (region) honors in 1975 and 1976 . . . Picked by the Chicago Cubs in the 1976 Major League Baseball Draft and signed with the organization upon the completion of his collegiate career . . . Enjoyed a strong initial season in Georgia Southern program in 1975, topping the Eagles in at-bats (228), runs scored (52), hits (75), total bases (105) and stolen bases (26) . . . Led 1976 squad with 241 at-bats and six triples . . . Batted .329 (75-of-228) as a junior in 1975 and .349 (84-of-241) as a senior in 1976 . . . Played in a total of 107 games during his career, hit .339 (159-of-469) with 19 doubles, 12 triples and seven homers while scoring 101 runs and stealing 42 bases . . . Shares the Eagles' career record for triples (12) . . . Earned spot on Academic All-America second team in 1976.

EARTHWIND MORELAND**Football, 1996-1999****2018/2026**

Four-year letterman and standout as a cornerback out of Grady High School in Atlanta, GA . . . Started 42 total games throughout his career and was a key defensive player for the 1999 National Championship team . . . Tallied 105 career tackles and four interceptions . . . Earned three All-America selections in 1999 (Third-Team Associated Press, Football Gazette and SportsNetwork) . . . Also named First-Team All-SoCon by the coaches in 1998 and 1999 . . . Holds school record for most interception return yards in one game (102 yards) . . . Played for four NFL teams (Cleveland Browns, Jacksonville Jaguars, New England Patriots and the New York Jets).

BRIAN NEWTON**Men's Basketball, 1985-1987****2018/2026**

Trans America Athletic Conference 'Player of the Year' and First Team selection in 1986-87 . . . Second Team All-TAAC choice in 1985-86 . . . Led the Eagles in scoring twice in 1986-87 and 1985-86 with 14.7 points per game . . . Named to the Budweiser Bayou Classic All-Tournament squad in 1985-86 . . . Played a key role on GSU squad which advanced to the NCAA Tournament at the Carrier Dome versus Syracuse.

ELIZABETH NIETO SEARL**Women's Tennis, 1993-1996****2022/2030**

The most decorated player in Georgia Southern women's tennis history who won six Southern Conference titles . . . Compiled 68-4 singles record during her time with the Eagles . . . A three-time Southern Conference Player of the Year . . . Was named the Southern Conference Tournament and Georgia Southern University MVP four times . . . Earned seven all-conference singles and doubles honors . . . Won four consecutive conference Number 1 singles championships, the only player in SoCon history to accomplish that feat . . . Also won a pair of doubles titles . . . Was ranked as high as 35th in the Rolex Collegiate rankings . . . Was ranked 37th by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) in her senior year . . . Led the Eagles to back-to-back SoCon Championships in 1995 and 1996 . . . Served as an assistant for the team following her graduation . . . Served as the head tennis coach for Clayton State University from 1999-2006, winning the 2001 Peach Belt Conference Championship . . . As a junior player in Venezuela, ranked 13th in the world in singles and 14th in doubles . . . Competed in several tournaments around the world as a junior player, including such high-profile events as the United States Open, Wimbledon and the French Open.

EUGENE PHILLIPS**Football, 1996-1999****2018/2026**

Four-Year letterman with 19 career starts at the defensive tackle position . . . Recorded 74 total tackles (45 solo), 17 tackles for loss, and 6.0 sacks in 15 games as another key member for the 1999 National Championship team . . . Earned Second-Team Football Gazette and Third-Team Associated Press All-American Honors in 1999 . . . Also was First-Team All-SoCon Selection by both the Coaches and the Media.

J.R. REVERE**Football, 1998-2001****2018/2026**

Four-year letterman from Lagrange, GA . . . Spent two years as starting quarterback for the Eagles and led the team to a National Championship in 2000 and a semifinals appearance in 2001 . . . Was second on the team in rushing yards and rushing TDs during those seasons . . . Tenth all-time in passing yards in a season (1,247) and fourth all-time in passing TDs in a season (11) during the 2000 season . . . Currently 10th in career passing yards (2,335) and is tied for sixth-most career passing TDs (18) . . . Earned First-Team All-SoCon Coaches and Media Selections . . . Was also a Sports Network All-American Honorable Mention in 2001.

KEITH RICHARDSON**Baseball, 1986-88****2018/2026**

In 1988 named All-Region by the Baseball Coaches Association . . . Two-time All-TAAC honors . . . Ranks third all-time with 23 complete games . . . Still ranks 10th all-time recording 24 victories and 317.2 innings pitched . . . Among the season leaders in several categories . . . Holds the school's season record with 13 complete games in 1987 . . . Stands fourth in innings pitched (142 in 1987), tied for third in victories (12 in 1987) . . . drafted in 1988 by Pittsburgh Pirates.

BRENT RUSSELL**Football, 2009-2012****2022/2030**

Named to 14 different All-America squads, including 12 first-team nods, during a record-breaking career as a defensive tackle . . . Helped lead the Eagles to three straight NCAA FCS semifinal appearances . . . Finished his career tied as the all-time leader in career sacks with 24 . . . Is still second in program history with 54.5 tackles for loss . . . The three-time All-American finished the 2012 season with 44 tackles, including 4.5 sacks and 8.5 tackles for loss . . . Also had four blocked kicks, one interception, three forced fumbles and a fumble recovery . . . Won the 2012 Elite Defensive Tackle Award from the College Football Performance Awards . . . Four-time All-Southern Conference honoree.

JASON RUSSELL**Men's Soccer, 1995-1998****2018/2026**

Four-year letterman as a midfielder . . . Ranks second in career points (90), third in career goals (30) and second in career assists (30) . . . Is also fifth in career shots (163) . . . Twice led the team in points and goals during his career . . . An All-SoCon Team selection in 1996 and 1997 . . . An All-SoCon Tournament Team selection in 1995 . . . Named a Second-Team All-South Region selection in 1997 . . . Played professionally with the New Orleans Storm.

MIKE SHEPHERD**Baseball, 1985-87****2018/2026**

Is the only individual player in Georgia Southern baseball history to achieve all of the following: first-team all-conference three consecutive years (1985, 1986, 1987); team won regular season conference championship three consecutive years (1985, 1986, 1987); conference all-tournament team three consecutive years (1985, 1986, 1987); and team won conference tournament three consecutive years (1985, 1986, 1987) . . . Was the MVP of the conference tournament in 1986 and helped lead the Eagles to the semifinals of the NCAA Southeast Regional tournament in 1987 . . . Was recognized as a member of the Division-I All-Atlantic Region first team in 1986 Named to the Preseason All-America Team by Collegiate Baseball prior to the 1987 season . . . Is still ranked in the top 10 in a number of offensive categories including: No. 7 in single-season doubles; No. 8 in single-season slugging percentage; and No. 7 in career slugging percentage . . . Had a 20-game hitting streak at one point during his final season . . . Selected in the 32nd Round by the Cincinnati Reds. ****2020 HOF FINALIST****

DANNA SIMPSON **Women's Basketball, 1998-2022** **2018/2026**
Played in 109 games for the Eagles over four seasons . . . Scored 1,077 career points, an average of 9.9 points per game . . . Grabbed 379 rebounds (3.5 rpg), had 419 assists (3.8 apg) and 243 steals (2.2 spg) . . . Ranks 21st on the Georgia Southern career scoring list, second on the career assist list and second on the career steals list . . . Her career 3.84 assists per game average is still tops in school history . . . Her career 2.23 steals per game average is fourth in school history . . . A two-time All-Southern Conference honoree, making the second team in both 2001 and 2002 . . . Was named the SoCon Player of the Week on January 21, 2002.

JAMEL SPEARMAN **Baseball, 2000-2002** **2018/2026**
Three-year letterman . . . Led the team in runs scored (51) and doubles (17) in 2001 . . . In 2002, led the SoCon in at bats, was second in the SoCon in total plate appearances, third in SoCon in runs scored, and tied for second in most hits with Matt Herring . . . Was named second-team All-SoCon in both 2001 and 2002 . . . Drafted in 16th round (483 overall) by the Chicago Cubs.

SCOTT SUTTON **Men's Soccer, 1988-91** **2018/2026**
The program's first two-time winner of the Georgia Southern Male Scholar Athlete of the Year Award in 1991 and 1992 . . . An All-TAAC performer in 1991 who won the Southern Conference Male-Scholar Athlete of the Year Award in 1992 while also garnering the TAAC Male Scholar-Athlete Award plaudits . . . Lettered four seasons and was a team tri-captain as a senior . . . Starred as a defender and midfielder but played every position except goalkeeper during career which spanned 56 games and 37 starts . . . Credited with 42 shots on goal and seven assists while scoring four goals to accumulate 15 total points . . . Scored a pair of goals each during freshman and sophomore campaigns and added a career-best four assists as a senior.

KEN SZOTKIEWICZ **Baseball, 1967-68** **2018/2026**
Second-Team All-America pick as a shortstop in 1967 . . . Selected to NAIA College World Series All-Tournament Team in 1967 as a freshman . . . Played with the 1970 Detroit Tigers, hitting three home runs and driving in nine runs . . . Inducted into the Delaware Sports Hall of Fame in 2003 for American Legion accomplishments.

JOHN TAMARGO **Baseball, 1972-73** **2018/2026**
Led the 1973 College World Series team with a .382 batting average . . . Hit 15 doubles, six home runs and had 57 runs batted in during the season . . . Named to the NCAA Coaches All-America Team, NCAA Coaches All-Region Team, and All-District team . . . Played professionally with St. Louis (1976-78), San Francisco (1978-79) and Montreal (1979-80).

EDWARD THOMAS **Football, 1993-96** **2018/2026**
Second-Team Academic All-America in 1995 . . . First-Team All-America by Football Gazette during the 1996 season . . . Two-time All-Southern Conference, including first-team honors in 1996 . . . Is tied for the school's career sacks record (24.0) and currently ranks fourth all-time in tackles (308) . . . Stands second among the season leaders in tackles (130 in 1996) and sacks (15.0) . . . Helped the Eagles win their first Southern Conference championship in 1993.

KIWAUKEE THOMAS **Football, 1996-1999** **2018/2026**
Two-year starter at the cornerback position out of Perry, GA . . . Was a key defensive member for the 1999 team that helped lead the Southern Conference in total defense, scoring defense and defensive passing efficiency, and was fifth in the nation in scoring defense . . . Recorded 71 total tackles, an interception, five pass breakups and a fumble recovery in 15 games . . . Became a First-Team Coaches All-SoCon, Second-Team All-SoCon Media Selection and Football Gazette All-American Honorable Mention . . . Started a total of 29 games and tallied 137 tackles throughout his career.

KATE VAN DYKE **Volleyball, 2009-2012** **2022/2030**
The only player in Southern Conference history to earn first-team all-league honors all four years and was named the league's Player of the Year in 2012 . . . Was the first Eagle to be named Player of the Year since GS Athletics Hall of Famer Martina Veiglova in 2003 . . . Finished her career with a school record 5,348 assists to go along with 1,240 digs, 464 kills, 208 blocks and 106 service aces . . . As a senior, ranked 26th in the country in assists per set in 2012, averaging 11.24 . . . Earned SoCon tourney MVP honors after leading the Eagles to the 2010 SoCon Tournament title and subsequent NCAA Tournament appearance . . . Helped Georgia Southern win the SoCon South Division regular-season title in 2012 . . . Was also a three-time SoCon All-Academic selection and four-year member of the league's academic honor roll.

ERNIE VENET**Baseball, 1971-73****2018/2026**

Selected to the NCAA Coaches All-Region Team in 1973 . . . Holds GSU season record for highest winning percentage (.923, 12-1) and tied for consecutive wins (12), setting both marks in 1973 . . . Topped the 1972 squad with 18 appearances and led the 1973 College World Series club in complete games (six), innings pitched (110) and strikeouts (89).

CHRIS WALKER**Baseball, 1999-2002****2018/2026**

Four-Year letterman as an outfielder . . . Is second all-time for most runs scored (79) and stolen bases (48) in a season in 2002 . . . Also led the SoCon in runs scored, stolen bases and total plate appearances in 2002 . . . Led the SoCon in stolen bases in 2001 . . . Two-time Second-Team All-SoCon in 2001 and 2002 . . . Drafted in the 6th round (183 overall) by the Chicago Cubs.

RONALD WARNOCK**Football, 1984-87****2018/2026**

A three-year letterman (1985-87) who was an All-America selection at the offensive tackle position by the Associated Press as a senior in 1987 . . . Helped the program to a four-year record of 43-11 (.796), three postseason appearances and two NCAA Division I-AA National Championships (1985, '86) . . . Played key role in guiding GSU's 1986 offensive unit to a No. 2 national rank in total offense (480.6 ypg), rushing offense (307.7 ypg) and scoring offense (37.8 ppg) . . . Member of I-AA's fourth-best rushing attack in 1984 (264.9 ypg) and eighth-best ground offense (243.3 ypg) in 1985 . . . Helped define and establish Georgia Southern's early "over-achieving" status as a 5-foot-9, 215-pound offensive lineman.

DARRYL WATSON**Men's Soccer, 1986-89****2018/2026**

Three-time All-TAAC First Team (1986, 1987, 1988) . . . Tied for the single-season goal record (15, 1987) and is first in points scored (38, 1987) . . . Ranks third all-time in points (88), second all-time in goals (32) and tied for third all-time in assists (30).

MIKE WEST**Football, 1987-90****2022/2030**

An All-American linebacker for the Eagle football team . . . Still holds the single-season record for tackles with 133, coming in 11 regular season games in 1990 . . . Totaled 167 tackles in 15 games when including the NCAA Playoffs . . . A two-year starter for the Eagles in 1989 and 1990 . . . A four-year letterman . . . Finished his career with 261 tackles . . . Had 18 tackles in a game against James Madison in 1989 . . . Spent 31 years as a high school football coach in South Georgia, winning a state championship, while leading his teams to several state runners-up in over 25 years in the playoffs.

KEVIN WHITLEY**Football, 1988-91****2018/2026**

Named Honorable Mention All-America in 1991 by the Football Gazette . . . Lettered four seasons from 1988 to 1991 . . . Member of two National Championship teams (1989 and 1990) while playing in three title games (1988) . . . Four-year starter as a cornerback . . . Made 48 stops (34 solo) as a senior and led the Eagles in pass breakups with six in addition to his two interceptions . . . Served as the interim head coach for the Eagles in 2021 and currently is the cornerbacks coach for the team.

ANT WILLIAMS**Football, 1999-02****2022/2030**

One of the great kick return men in program history . . . Earned first-team All-Southern Conference honors from the media in 2002 . . . Named to the second team that year by the coaches . . . Holds the school record with four punt returns for touchdowns in his career . . . Scored touchdowns three different ways: on an 84-yard touchdown run against Johnson C. Smith in 2000, a 93-yard kickoff return against App State in 2002 and the four punt returns . . . Has three of the 10 longest punt returns in program history, including an 87-yarder against VMI in 2002 . . . Holds the school record with 118 career punt returns and 1,126 career punt return yards . . . Had a school-record 143 punt return yards against Chattanooga in 2001 . . . Also had 43 kickoff returns for 890 yards in his career . . . Tied for the school record with five non-offensive touchdowns.

STEVE WILSON**Baseball, 1995-96****2018/2026**

An All-Southern Conference selection . . . Named to the 1995 Smith Super Team . . . An all-region selection by the Baseball Coaches Association . . . 1995 Southern Conference Player of the Year . . . Team-leading .367 batting average, 61 RBI and 19 home runs in 1995 . . . Earned SoCon All-Tournament team accolades in 1996, helping the Eagles advance to the NCAA Regionals.

TRACY WILSON**Women's Basketball, 1988-91****2018/2026**

Sparked Georgia Southern to three New South Women's Athletic Conference championship game appearances and two championships . . . Earned back-to-back first-team All-NSWAC honors (1990, '91) . . . 1990 NSWAC Tournament MVP and a 1989 All-NSWAC selection . . . Currently stands fourth all-time with 1,710 career points . . . Ranks second at 22.6 points per game in 1990-91 and third with a career 18.40 scoring average . . . Ranked tied for sixth all-time in career rebounds (762) . . . Nine career 30-point games, the third-highest total by any Georgia Southern player . . . Stands first in field goals made in a single game (17) against Florida (12/18/89) and Florida A&M (1/5/91).

TONY WINDLESS**Men's Basketball, 1990-1992****2018/2026**

A two-year starter for the Eagles after transferring . . . Led the team in steals during his first season . . . Led team in points and scoring average in both seasons . . . Helped lead Georgia Southern to a Trans America Conference championship and a No. 15 NCAA Tournament seed in 1992 . . . 1992 TAAC Player of the Year . . . All-Tournament Selection in 1992 . . . First-Team All-TAAC Selection in 1992 and Second-Team selection in 1991 . . . First-team choice of Basketball Times' All-Transfer Team . . . Still stands eighth in career scoring average (16.6).

GREGG WOLFF**Men's Golf, 1974-1976****2018/2026**

Three-year letterwinner . . . Member of the nationally ranked men's golf team . . . Won his first professional golf tournament, the Mary Calder Invitational in Savannah, in 1978 . . . Won the Mary Calder Invitational six more times . . . One of only two players to have captured all four of the Georgia PGA major championships: the 1984, 2003 Georgia PGA Match Play Championship; the 1990 Atlanta Open; the 1991 Georgia Open; and the 1985, 1987, 1988 Georgia PGA Championship. . . Qualified for the 2004 U.S. Senior Open, won the 2005 Georgia PGA Senior Division Championship, the 2005 Georgia PGA Senior Championship, and the 2005 Georgia PGA an unprecedented seven times . . . Received the 1996 Georgia PGA Junior Golf Leader Award . . . Was honored in 1998 as the Georgia PGA Golf Professional of the Year . . . Head golf professional at Willow Lake Golf Club in Metter, Georgia, since 1981 . . . Selected for the Georgia Golf Hall of Fame in 1999, at the time, was the youngest-ever inductee.

DAVID YOUNG**Football, 1999-2002****2020/2030**

A four-year letterman and a four-year starter at strong safety . . . Played in 57 games with 39 career starts and 33 consecutive starts . . . Selected to three All-America teams as a senior and one All-America team as a junior (Associated Press (third team), Sports Network (third team), and Football Gazette (honorable mention) honors in 2002 and Football Gazette (honorable mention) honors in 2001 . . . Helped Georgia Southern to four Southern Conference Championships, four NCAA Division I-AA semi-finals playoff appearances and two NCAA Division I-AA National Championships . . . A two-time Southern Conference All-Conference selection (first-team Coaches and Media for 2001 and 2002), a three-time Southern Conference "Player of the Week" and two-time All-American "Freshman of the Week" . . . Ranked first in school history for most tackles by a safety with 289 and second for blocked kicks in a career with six, tied for first in school history for most blocked kicks in a season with three, tied for sixth in interceptions with 10 and tied for sixth pass break-ups 20 . . . Career totals include 289 tackles (177 solo), 10 interceptions, 20 pass breakups, six blocked kicks, six forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries and three touchdowns . . . Eagles went 49-9 (.845) during his four-year career, compiled a 31-3 (.912) record when playing at Allen E. Paulson Stadium and helped program establish a 39-game (1999-2001) home winning streak . . . Shined in post-season play, recording 89 career playoff tackles . . . Graduated with a Bachelor of Science in sport management and drafted in sixth round in 2003 to Jacksonville Jaguars. ******2020 HOF FINALIST******

COACHES/ADMINISTRATORS/DONORS/SUPPORTERS**JEFF ALLEN****Trainer****2018/2026**

Earned a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Georgia Southern University in 1993 . . . Served as a student trainer with GS Athletics . . . Additional sports medicine posts include tenures at Valdosta State, University of Kentucky, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, served under George O'Leary at the University of Central Florida . . . Joined the University of Alabama in 2007 to serve as the Director of Sports Medicine and Head Athletic Trainer of football under Nick Saban, where he has been a part of four national championships.

MIKE BACKUS**Coach/Admin****2020/2028**

Has been an instrumental part in changing lives coaching his teams at Georgia Southern and Armstrong . . . An assistant coach for the Eagles from 1980-1993 as the program played in three NCAA Tournaments and won four SoCon regular season championships . . . Also coached at Hampton, Savannah State and Armstrong State . . . Continues to keep in touch with his players through life-long relationships . . . Supported athletics while coaching and continued to support after retirement . . . Has been a champion to bring former student-athletes back to campus in support of our current men's basketball program . . . Continues to support the men's basketball program through financial commitments and his time as volunteer as a board member of the Roundball Club.

SAM BAKER**Administrator, 1996-2012****2022-2030**

Served as Georgia Southern's Director of Athletics from 1996 to 2012 . . . During his 17 years as athletics director, Georgia Southern's athletic programs won 34 Southern Conference championships and made 31 appearances in NCAA Championships . . . Eagle football won nine SoCon titles, appeared in the NCAA FCS football playoffs on 11 occasions and captured the 1999 and 2000 NCAA FCS Football National Championships under his watch . . . Georgia Southern's men's programs finished 28th in the 2011-12 Capital One Cup standings, the highest finish for a Southern Conference member institution . . . Was named the FCS Athletics Director of the Year, Southeast Region, by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) in 2009.

JOE BLANKENBAKER**Men's and Women's Tennis Coach, 1975-96****2018/2026**

A highly successful tennis coach for nearly two decades . . . Compiled a 332-140 record . . . The 1982 TAAC Coach of the Year . . . Won the Southern Conference Men's Coach of the Year in 1994 . . . Coached the women to the 1996 Southern Conference Championship . . . Took three teams to the National Invitational Tournament, placing third in 1985 . . . Coached two-time SoCon Player of the Year in Anita Buggins. . . Buggins and Britta Wilms finished their respective careers undefeated in league play . . . Coached 1983 Player of the Year Uli Wilms and 1993 SoCon Freshman of the year John Buckley . . . Had seven all-conference singles players (TAAC/SoCon), six all-conference doubles teams (TAAC/SoCon) . . . Was also a professor at Georgia Southern University during his time as the tennis coach. ****2020 HOF FINALIST***

DR. PAT COBB**Men's Soccer Coach, 1980-82****2020/2028**

Dr. Cobb started the men's soccer program and was the first coach, serving for three seasons . . . He led the team to 10-8 in his first season as coach and was the conference runner-up . . . Won 22 matches in three seasons at the helm . . . Dr. Cobb was also a faculty rep on the athletic committee for many years after coaching while teaching and serving as the health and physical education department chair.

DR. DANIEL CZECH**Supporter****2018/2026**

Has supported the Georgia Southern Athletics Department as a sport psychology consultant for 15 years . . . Has significantly helped student-athletes and coaches perform better . . . Given various coaching presentations and put together a coaching education seminar program to all of the coaching staffs within the department . . . Created a program that connected GS graduate sport psychology students with various GS teams . . . His significant contributions throughout the years have helped teams get back on track and helped athletes overcome issues to perform to their best level . . . Has over 60 peer-reviewed articles, 80 academic conference presentations, and three books to his name . . . Was named College Researcher of the Year and First Year Student Professor of the Year at GS.

THE DIRTY DOZEN**Football Supporters****2018/2026**

The Dirty Dozen organized as a group of 15 men in the early 1980s and were the leadership group that helped organize and establish Southern Boosters Inc. . . . The group is now known as the Georgia Southern Athletic Foundation . . . The group was instrumental in bringing football back to Georgia Southern, the building of Paulson Stadium and the bringing of Erk Russell to the program . . . These men gave an enormous amount of their personal time to make this dream a reality, but all of them made personal financial donations to help jump start the program.

EDWIN ECKLES**Supporter****2022/2030**

Long-time supporter of Georgia Southern . . . Served on the committee to bring Erk Russell to Georgia Southern . . . Served as Chairman of the Booster Club . . . Served as Chairman for A Day For Southern . . . Was the supervising architect for the construction of Paulson Stadium . . . Was very active in the Chris Schenkel Golf Tournament.

SCOTT FARMER**Swimming/Swim Head Coach/Administrator, 1986-96****2018/2028**

Following a stellar swimming career at Georgia Southern, where he was named Scholar-Athlete of the Year, he started working in the Athletic Department . . . Helped in the creation of the Southern States Conference for swimming . . . Four-time Southern States Conference Coach of the Year (1993-96) . . . Won eight conference titles with only two scholarships for his program . . . Coached the women's team to an undefeated 9-0 record during the 1990-91 season, the first undefeated season by a women's sport in Georgia Southern history . . . Worked two years as an assistant director for Southern Boosters (1986-88) . . . Two years as the assistant AD in charge of compliance and staff development . . . From 1990 until 1996, was in charge of sport programs, student-athlete services and event management . . . Game manager for home football, basketball and baseball games . . . Served as tournament director for the conference championships held at Georgia Southern . . . In charge of game management for the 1989, 1990 and 1991 I-AA National Championship games.

MARK GARNO**Supporter****2020/2028**

An avid supporter of Georgia Southern Athletics . . . Known by Eagle Nation as “The Dancing Guy” for his crazy and beloved antics when Turn Down for What comes across the speakers . . . Season ticket holders to multiple sports . . . An inspiration to many in Eagle Nation, using his own road to recovery as a guiding light for others who are on similar paths . . . Recently celebrated his 38th sobriety anniversary . . . Continues to work in the field through retirement and serves in many capacities to local organizations helping with substance use and addictions.

DOUG GORDIN**Head Golf Coach, 1981-1994****2018/2026**

Built the Georgia Southern golf program into a Division I championship contender . . . Led the Eagles to one NCAA National Championships appearance (14th in 1988) and one other NCAA Regional showing (1989) . . . Also guided two individuals to NCAA Tournament play (Steve Ford in 1987 and Bo Fennell in 1991) . . . Won four Trans America Athletic Conference titles (1982, '83, '87, '91) and coached individuals to the league title on four other occasions (1983, '86, '87, '89) . . . Tutored four players to six Academic All-America selections (Marion Dantzler, Fred Benton twice, Rick Bash twice and Mitch Marchman) . . . Earned NCAA District III Coach of the Year honors in 1988 and was chosen as the TAAC Coach of the Year in 1990 and 1991 . . . Developed a total of three All-America performers in four years (Steve Ford in 1987, Richie Bryant in 1989 and Bo Fennell in 1990) . . . Guided GSU to six overall regular season or postseason tournament wins . . . Two of the Top 10 rounds in school history came under his direction (278, 280).

FRANK INMAN**Radio Broadcaster, 1983-2005****2018/2026**

Served as color commentary voice on the Georgia Southern football broadcasts from the program’s rebirth until 2005 . . . Worked all six National Championships and two other title games . . . Missed only one game in the 20-plus years, spanning 301 broadcasts . . . His football coaching background (former assistant coach at the University of Georgia from 1962-79) gave great insight to the broadcasts . . . Became head coach of the ARC Musketeers in 1956 as well as Athletic Director . . . As athletic director of ARC, his athletic teams in the 1956-57 school year won the State Championships in football, baseball, golf, and track and the tennis team was runner-up . . . During his time as head coach of the football program, Inman sent 22 players to Division I-A colleges on scholarships with nine players on the 1961 team receiving full grant-in-aids—a Georgia record at the time . . . Served as executive director of the Sea Island Company Golden Isles Bowl Classic and has the Offensive and Defensive Player of the Game award named after him . . . Passed away in November 2008.

KEVIN “CATFISH” JACKSON**Donor****2018/2026**

Nominated by Frank Hook in 2014 . . . Co-sponsoring the Erk Russell Plaza . . . Played for Erk at Georgia in the late 1970s, early 80s.

CAROL LANE**Coach, Administrator****2018/2026**

Initiated the Georgia Southern’s women’s basketball program in the mid-1930s as the head of women’s physical education . . . Through her efforts, leadership and direction, a women’s swimming program was added to the curriculum . . . Also credited with the start-up of the student health services program . . . Generous benefactor to many students who otherwise couldn’t have been able to afford a college education.

SEAN McCORMACK**Cross Country Coach, 1985-1986****2018/2026**

The men’s and women’s cross country in 1985-86 season . . . Coached both squad to a third-place finish at the TAAC meet despite not having any scholarships . . . Upon graduation, was accepted into the U.S. Navy Aviation Program where he graduated No. 1 out of 42 aviators, receiving the “Commodore’s List With Distinction” . . . Retired in 2006 as a full Commander after leading 30 combat missions in Desert Storm . . . Won the U.S. Navy Marathon Championship three years in a row.

NELSON FAMILY**Donors****2018/2026**

The Nelson Family (Rotary Corporation, Glennville, Ga.) has pledged nearly \$2 million dollars to the Athletic Foundation . . . The group, which includes Ed and Jeannie Nelson, Don and Tara Nelson Martin, and Traci Nelson Heilman, gave the full amount to fund the Field of Dreams at Allen E. Paulson Stadium . . . The group pledged \$1 million to name the Hall of Fame in the Ted Smith Family Football Center, which is named in memory of their late father, Bill W. Nelson . . . Several members of the group are part of The Transition 20 . . . The family pledged a significant amount for Hanner Fieldhouse and J.I. Clements Baseball stadium projects . . . The Rotary Corporation has leased a VIP Suite at Paulson Stadium since 1984.

2020 HOF FINALIST

FRED MCDUGALD PAGE JR.**Supporter****2020/2028**

A member of the original three-man chain crew at Georgia Southern where he served for 20 years . . . Retired Director of Field Experiences and associate dean of the College of Education at Georgia Southern . . . Had two on-field injuries that left him unable to work the chains . . . Part of the very beginnings of the program.

HANK SCHOMBER**Administrator, 1976-2004****2018/2026**

Joined the athletics department as an assistant to the athletic director in 1976 before being named Sports Information Director in 1979 . . . After three years, he was appointed Athletic Business Manager . . . Additional responsibilities for athletics operations were added . . . Named Associate Athletic Director for Operations in 1985 and then assumed position as Director of Compliance 1990 . . . Prior to joining Georgia Southern Athletics Department, spent 10 years as an assistant sports information director at Florida State University . . . A member of the College Sports Information Directors of America, the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) and U.S. Basketball Writers Association . . . Past president of the NCBWA and received the Wilbur Snyppe Award in 1979 . . . Retired from Georgia Southern in December 2004.

GEORGE SHRIVER**Women's Tennis Coach, 1975-86****2018/2026**

Head coach of the Georgia Southern women's team . . . Made three consecutive trips to the AIAW Division II National Championships (1980-82) . . . In 1982, the final year of competition in the league, recorded a 17-2 record . . . Won state and regional titles as four players earned All-America honors . . . Team finished the year with the program's highest AIAW rankings at fourth . . . Coached the doubles team of Raegan McCurry and Marsha Fountain (both 1994 inductees into the Georgia Southern Athletics Department Hall of Fame) who went a perfect 22-0, winning state, regional and a national championship.

BILL SPIETH**Softball Coach, 1986-94****2018/2026**

The first head coach in program history . . . At the end of his GSU coaching career, was the all-time winningest coach with 201 wins (201-206-1) . . . Coached 16 All-New South's Women's Athletic Conference performers . . . 1991 team placed second in the New South Women's Athletic Conference Tournament . . . Won nine straight games during the 1990 season . . . Won at least 20 games in his final seven years in charge . . . Started the team as a slow-pitch program in 1978, the second-oldest softball program in the state . . . Eagles won the state slow pitch championship five of seven years . . . Acting head baseball coach for the 1967 season, guiding the Eagles to a then-record 31 wins and sectional championship . . . Eagles won the NAIA regional, winning three games on the last day to advance to the College World Series (finished fourth) . . . Served as assistant coach in 1968 . . . Worked with the Boy Scouts of America council . . . Supervised and coached volleyball for the Amputee Sports Association . . . Passed away in December of 2016.