

## Luther College Hall of Fame Head Coaches

### **Sigurd S. Reque - 1903 - Inducted - 1964**

- Returned to Luther in 1906 as a teacher
- In 1913 he became teacher and principal at Luther Academy, Albert Lea, Minn.
- Elected to the Luther College faculty as a teacher and baseball coach in 1919
- He was the head baseball coach until 1946
- Also served the college as Athletic Director
- Luther Distinguished Service Award - 1961

### **Hamlet E. "Coach Pete" Peterson - 1922 - Inducted - 1964**

- Following his graduation from Luther in 1922 "Coach Pete" joined the faculty and taught in the college program and coached in the Preparatory Department
- Three years later he assumed coaching responsibilities in the college, a career that would span 45 years
- He coached more than 100 teams as head coach of football, basketball, baseball and track
- Following his retirement, the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference awarded him the 45-year Meritorious Service Award
- NAIA Helms Hall of Fame Citation from the Football Writers Association of America
- Quarter-Century Leadership and Devotion Award from the American Association of College Baseball Coaches
- Hall of Fame of the Iowa High School Coaches Association

### **Wilhem "Bill" Kristian Janson - Coach - Inducted - 1975**

- Born and educated in Norway
- Member of Stord Turning Club
- Coached gymnastics (turning) at Luther for 40 years, starting in 1924
- His Luther teams won the Northwest Meet - Class C titles in 1929, 1931 and 1937 and finished second in 1956
- Honored by the NCAA with a memorial resolution for distinguished service to athletics - 1971

### **Edsel Schweizer - Coach - Inducted - 1984**

- Loyal, dedicated and faithful servant of Luther College for 34 years
- Hired as Dean of students, assistant football and basketball coach at Luther in 1950
- Head football coach from 1952-1977 posting a record of 150-79-6
- Led Norsemen to six Iowa Conference championships
- Led Norsemen to Corn Bowl Championship
- Coached 53 All-American/All-Lutheran players
- Head coach of Luther track teams that won schools first and second league titles in 1957 and 1958
- Director of Athletics at Luther College, 1966-1982
- Professor Emeritus in 1984
- Twice served in the U.S. Marine Corps

### **Gretchen A. Brockmeyer - Coach - Inducted - 1990**

- Luther professor and coach, 1968-79
- Coached Luther field hockey, basketball, and swimming
- Associate athletic director - 1976-78
- Softball assistant coach, Springfield College - 1980-87
- Named "Outstanding College/University Teacher", Eastern District Association, 1990

### **Kenton E. Finanger - Coach - Inducted - 1997**

- Head coach for 93 seasons of sports at Luther (head coach: track and field, basketball, cross country; assistant coach: football, basketball, baseball)
- Coached NCAA III National Championship cross country team - 1985
- Coached NCAA College Division National Track and Field team to a second place finish - 1965
- Led 17 teams to the NCAA National Cross Country Championships finishing in the top-10 10 times

### **Davis W. Johnson - Coach - Inducted - 2001**

- Head Coach of wrestling from 1984-96
- Also Head Coach of women's golf
- Four-year letter winner in wrestling
- Member of four Iowa Conference championship teams - 1963-66
- Iowa Conference champion (1964 and 1966 - 123) (1965 - 130)
- 1963 Iowa Conference runner up - 123
- Three-time All-Lutheran Tournament champion
- Individual record of 33-0 in dual meets
- 1966 NCAA College Division All-American - 123

### **Paul Solberg - Coach - Inducted - 2001**

- Professor of Health and Physical Education - 1966-2001
- During his tenure he coached five sports over 35 years that included 35 years as assistant football coach and 23 years as head baseball coach
- Led Norse to three Iowa Conference baseball titles and three NCAA III national tournament appearances - 1983-85
- Coached three Iowa Conference championship wrestling teams - 1967, 1975, 1979
- Coached three NCAA Division III individual national champions and 14 all-America wrestlers
- Named Iowa Conference Coach of the Year in baseball (three times), wrestling (three times), and tennis
- Recognized nationally as an innovator and leader in the field of adaptive physical education for young people

**Jay McGrew - Coach - Inducted - 2003**

- Swim coach for Luther College - 1969-2001
- Career coaching record (158-86-2)
- Coached four NCAA Division III All-American swimmers and divers
- Coached 12 NCAA Division III national meet qualifiers
- Team won nine consecutive Iowa Small College Meet Championships - 1993-2001
- 1982-83 team broke every school record; qualified 6 swimmers for national meet
- Five undefeated seasons - 1974, 1992, 1993, 1995, 2000
- Team won dual and invitational meets including Liberal Arts Invitational (precursor to the IIAC) - 1999-2000
- Liberal Arts Invitational Champions - 2001
- Iowa Small College Swim Coach of the Year - 2001

**Betty Hoff - Coach - Inducted - 2004**

- Professor, coach, and athletic trainer, Luther College, 1961-2004
- Head coach, Luther softball, 1969-2001
- Coached Luther softball to four Iowa AIAW state softball championships - 1972, 1974, 1978, 1981
- Led Luther to fifth place finishes at AIAW National Softball Championships - 1971, 1974, 1981, 1982
- NCAA III Softball Championships fifth place - 1991
- West Region National Softball Coaches Association Hall of Fame inductee - 1992
- Career record 544-343-1
- Iowa Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Honor Award - 1975
- Internationally known for her achievements as athletic trainer
- Served on numerous NCAA softball committees
- Athletic trainer for Goodwill Games, Moscow - 1986
- Named Luther's first Nena Amundson Distinguished Professor - 2001-04
- Holds 13 records in track and field for Iowa Senior Games
- 2001 Senior Olympics, Baton Rouge, La., gold medal winner in 400-meter and 800-meter runs, silver medal in the 1500-meter run
- 2003 Senior Olympics, Hampton Roads, Va., bronze medal in 400-meter and 800-meter runs

**Susan Oertel - Coach - Inducted - 2006**

- Associate professor of health and physical education
- Coached women's basketball - 1975-84
- Coached women's tennis - 1975-2006
- Developed one of the best women's tennis programs in the nation, posting a career dual-meet record of 383-189
- Led the Norse to four AIAW Iowa state championships
- From 1983-2006, her teams captured 23 of 24 Iowa Conference championships
- Named Iowa Conference Coach of the Year 12 times
- ITA National Coach of the Year - 1992
- Inducted into Missouri Valley Tennis Hall of Fame in 2004 and the Iowa Tennis Hall of Fame in 2005
- Named as one of the Top-10 Iowa Coaches of the Century

**Robert Naslund - Coach - Inducted - 2008**

- Served as head coach of track and field - 1967-79
- Led Norse to 11 consecutive conference championships earning Coach of the Year honors eight times
- Coached 81 individual conference champions, 13 conference relay champions, 168 all-conference athletes, five conference MVP's, 41 NCAA national qualifiers, eight all-Americans, and four NCAA Postgraduate Scholars
- Served as head Luther football coach - 1978-95
- Led Norse to 1978 conference title
- 1978 named Iowa Conference Coach of the Year
- At end of career ranked second for all-time wins at Luther - 88-83
- Coached 90 all-conference players, two conference MVP's, eight CoSIDA Academic All-Americans, four NCAA Postgraduate Scholars, and three All-Americans

**Ellen Drewes-Stoen - Coach - Inducted - 2018**

- Professor emerita of health and physical education, Luther College, 1979-2018
- Head volleyball coach, 1979-2003
- Posted a career record of 451-366 that ranked 12th for Best Overall Win-Loss Record of Active NCAA III Volleyball Coaches in 2003
- Led Luther to nine 20-plus win seasons including a single season record of 28 wins in 1987
- Coached two three-time; six two-time; and 12 one-time all-Iowa Conference performers; one Iowa Conference MVP
- Inducted into the Augustana University, Sioux Falls, S.D. Hall of Fame as the Ole Odney Award Winner

### **Jane (Greene) Hildebrand - Coach - Inducted - 2019**

- Head women's basketball coach - 1985-2011
- Named Iowa Conference Coach of the Year six times - 1988, 1989, 1991, 2000, 2007, 2011
- Led Luther to an overall record of 438-260 and is Luther's all-time leader for career wins
- Led Luther to an Iowa Conference overall record of 293-155
- Her teams won seven Iowa Conference championships - 1988, 1989, 1991, 1995, 1998, 2002, 2007
- Led Luther to nine appearances in the NCAA III National Tournament
- Her teams advanced to the Elite 8 three times - 1988, 1989, 1992
- In 1992 Luther place third in the national championship
- Coached 33 players that earned 48 all-conference honors
- Coached 6 All-Americans
- Coached 3 conference MVPs

### **Jeff Wettach - Coach - Inducted - 2019**

- Distinguished coaching career (1985-2019) that included head men's track & field coach (1987-2018); head women's track & field coach (2006-18); assistant football coach (2981-2006); head men's cross country coach (1997-2006);director of Luther Distance Runner Camp (1997-2018)
- He coached 532 all-conference performers
- He coached 106 conference champions
- He coached 48 All-Americans
- He coached the national champions indoor distance medley relay - 2001
- He was a first-team all-conference defensive back on Luther's 1978 conference championship team
- He was a member of IIAC championship track & field teams - 1976, 1977, 1978
- Iowa Conference champion in the long jump - 1979
- All-conference in the triple jump - 1979
- Luther College Alumni Coach of the Year Award was named in his honor - 2018
- Presented the NCAA Bob Fredrick Sportsmanship Award, presented to one collegiate coach who was selected from all three divisions of the NCAA - 2019

### **Doug Mello - Coach - Inducted - 2023**

#### **Men's Soccer (1990-2007)**

- Overall record: 241-121-14
- Iowa Conference record: 80-19-2
- Six-time regular season and conference tournament champions - 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002
- Four-time IIAC Coach of the Year - 1996, 1998, 1999, 2001
- Five NCAA III national tournament appearances - 1996 (Elite 8), 1998, 1999, 2001 (Elite 8)

#### **Women's Soccer (1990-2007)**

- Overall record: 219-120-26
- Iowa Conference record: 76-19-4
- Three-time regular season and conference tournament champions - 1996, 1998, 2004

