

2023-24
PNW
PRIDE
ILLUSTRATED



A HISTORIC YEAR

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Dear PNW Pride Alumni, Friends, and Fans,

I am delighted to share with you the inaugural edition of PNW Pride Illustrated, highlighting the remarkable achievements and stories of the Pride students, coaches, staff, and alumni. This first edition reviews the 2023-24 campaign, a historic year for the Pride of Purdue Northwest. I invite you to enjoy the photos, achievements, and milestones of this extraordinary season.

The Pride were History Makers during the 2023-24 academic year! I am so proud of the work ethic, teamwork and resiliency demonstrated by the student-athletes and coaches, which allowed the Pride to rewrite the record books. Over 450 student-athletes, an all-time high, competed for the Black and Gold. Academically, the Pride excelled in the classroom, recording the 16th and 17th consecutive semesters with a GPA above 3.0. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our faculty and staff for creating exceptional learning experiences in the classroom, resulting in a 96% student-athlete retention rate.

The success in the classroom carried over to historic performances in competition. I am pleased to share that Men's Soccer made history by winning the first GLIAC team championship for Purdue Northwest! I will never forget the moment as the final horn sounded and students and fans rushed the field at Dowling Park to congratulate the GLIAC Champs! With championship momentum spreading throughout the athletics program, Ice Hockey, Track & Field and Esports etched their names in the record book with multiple championships! There were so many amazing individual and team performances throughout the year it seemed that every time the Pride competed in 2023-24, history was being made.

Thank you to Joey Scott, Assistant AD for Communications, for his wonderful efforts to capture these historical moments in PNW Pride Illustrated. I hope you enjoy this e-publication and I look forward to cheering on the Pride with you and creating more PNW Pride history!

Enjoy the summer and Go Pride!

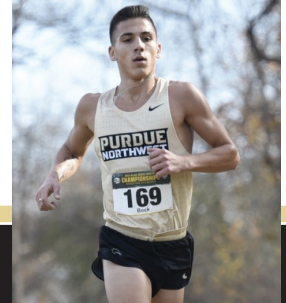
Rick Costello
Director of Athletics



The 2023 Purdue Northwest Men's Soccer team made history during the Fall 2023 season winning the GLIAC Men's Soccer Tournament becoming the first PNW team to win a conference championship as an NCAA DII institution. Under the leadership of first year Head Coach Luke Dunn, the Pride clinched a berth in the NCAA Division II Men's Soccer Tournament and culminated the season with Hugo Lorenzo earning All-American honors. Lorenzo is the first PNW men's soccer player to receive All-American since entering NCAA DII. He recorded more postseason honors being named GLIAC Offensive Player of the Year and CSC Midwest Player of the Year. Eligh Williams also earned GLIAC Goalkeeper of the Year after his stellar play in net.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

- **Volleyball** - most wins in a season as an NCAA DII program
- **Volleyball** - clinched berth in GLIAC Tournament (*first time in program history*)
- **Anika Huelskamp & Arra Cottrell (Volleyball)** - earned 2nd Team All-GLIAC accolades (*program first*)
- **Kaci Pampreen (Women's Soccer)** - 13 points in a season and 7 career goals (*program records*)
- **Brinley Hefty (Women's Soccer)** - 69 career starts (*program record*)
- **Meta Fischer (Women's Soccer)** - 3 shutouts (*program single-season record*)
- **Christinia Shaginaw (Cross Country)** - set new women's 6k school record



**2023 MEN'S SOCCER GLIAC
TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS**

**Hugo Lorenzo
All-American**

STUDENTS FIRST, ATHLETES SECOND



PNW ATHLETICS 
**ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE**
FALL 2023

3.25

CUMULATIVE FALL
SEMESTER GPA

16

STRAIGHT SEMESTERS
ABOVE 3.0 GPA

30

STUDENTS EARNED A GPA OF 4.0

112

STUDENTS EARNED A GPA OF 3.5 +

65%

WITH 3.0
GPA OR
HIGHER

96%

RETENTION RATE

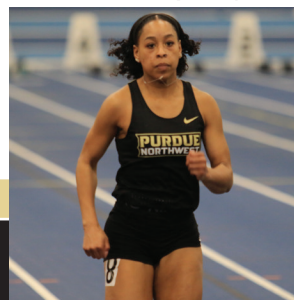
**TOP
FIVE
TEAMS**

1. VOLLEYBALL: 3.66
2. WOMEN'S SOCCER: 3.56
3. SOFTBALL: 3.49
4. ICE HOCKEY: 3.44
5. WOMEN'S TENNIS: 3.40

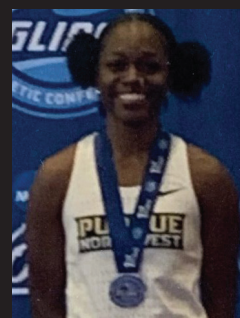
The 2023-24 Purdue Northwest DI Hockey team finished the season making history claiming the 2024 GLCHL Tournament Championship defeating #2 Adrian in a thrilling 5-3 game. This was Ice Hockey's first conference championship in their short five-year history and with the win the Pride clinched a spot in the ACHA DI National Tournament. In the programs first ever national tournament appearance, the Pride went on an amazing run to reach the Elite 8 and earn their highest ranking ever coming in at #7 to finish the record breaking 31-win season. To culminate the incredible campaign, junior Sam Bourdages was tapped as the ACHA DI National Player of the Year. He is the first Pride athlete to earn this postseason honor regardless of sport and affiliation.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

- **Men's and Women's Basketball** - most wins in a season as NCAA DII programs
- **Dash Shaw (Women's Basketball)** - first 1,000 point scorer, career record holder in points, field goals made, and free throws made as an NCAA DII program
- **Mercedes Simmons (Women's Basketball)** - Career record-holder in blocks and rebounds
GLIAC All-Defensive Team - *(first player to receive this honor)*
- **Brendan Temple (Men's Basketball)** - First Team All-GLIAC
- **Anthony Irvin (Men's Basketball)** - All GLIAC Defensive Team
- **JC Ramirez (Men's Track & Field)** - 2024 GLIAC Indoor Track & Field Triple Jump Champion
(second straight indoor title)
- **Kiara Spates (Women's Indoor Track & Field)** - 2024 GLIAC Indoor Track & Field Triple Jump Champion
(first female athlete at PNW to win a GLIAC Championship regardless of sport)



JC RAMIREZ
2024 GLIAC INDOOR
TRIPLE JUMP
CHAMPION



KIARA SPATES
2024 GLIAC INDOOR
TRIPLE JUMP
CHAMPION



GLCHL **2024 GLCHL TOURNAMENT**
CHAMPIONS



SAM BOURDAGES
ACHA DI
NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

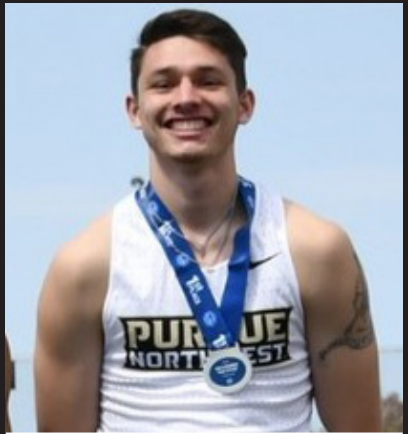
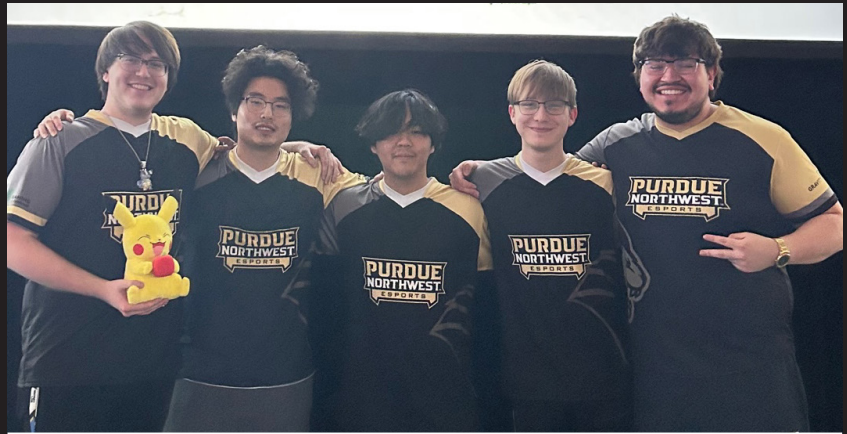
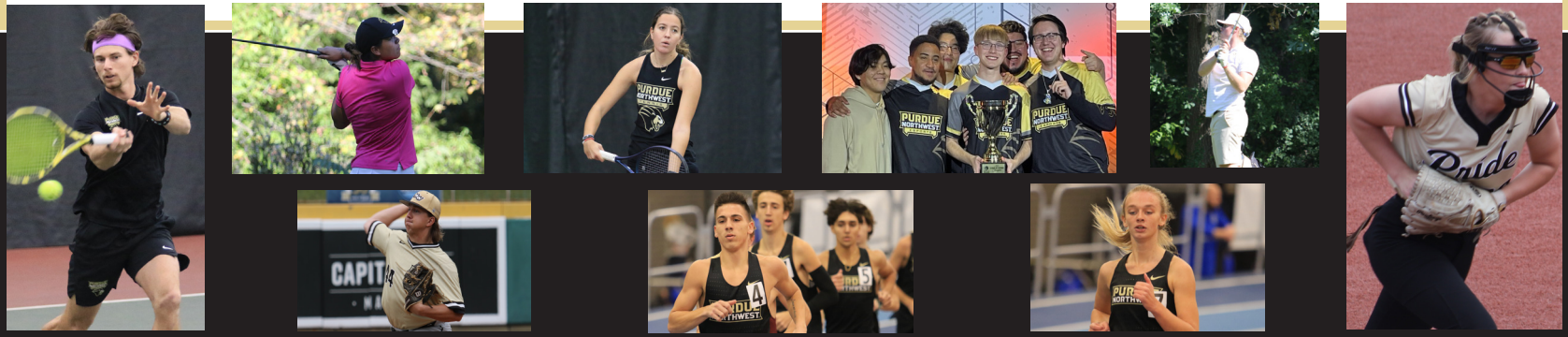
SPRING

The 2024 spring season saw more history made and records fall for the Purdue Northwest Pride. JC Ramirez of Men's Track & Field won the 2024 GLIAC Outdoor Triple Jump Championship recording his fourth GLIAC title in his career. Ramirez, along with D'Shawn Dorsey, became history makers as they qualified for the 2024 NCAA DII Outdoor Men's Track & Field National Championships. They were officially the first Pride athletes in the history of Purdue Northwest to make it to their respective National Championships regardless of sport and affiliation. With his ninth place finish in the nationals, D'Shawn Dorsey received Second Team All-American honors, becoming the first PNW Track & Field athlete earn this honor.

The Purdue Northwest Esports League of Legends team had a historic year bringing home four championships and winning a record 31 matches. In the fall, the Pride took home the Battle For Indiana title for the second time in three years and in the spring they won the GLIAC Tournament Championship, MEC Regular Season Championship and MEC Tournament Championship. They went on to clinch a berth in the national tournament where they reached the Sweet 16.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

- **Softball** - 33 wins (*second straight 33 win season*) & clinched third in GLIAC Regular Season and GLIAC Tournament
- **Gabby Paliska (Softball)** - Pitched first ever PERFECT GAME in win vs. Bentley
- **Selena Michko (Softball)** - Broke record for all-time homeruns and RBIs
- **Maddison Roop (Softball)** - Became the all-time leader in wins, strikeouts, innings pitched, appearances, and games started
- **Kylie Dugan (Softball)** - Broke single-season record for hits and stolen bases
- **Aubrey Shroyer (Softball)** - All-time leader in hits, doubles, and runs scored
- **Andrew Petsche (Baseball)** - Broke the single-season and career record for saves
- **Men's Tennis** - program record 13 wins
- **Sam Dickson & Alex Van Lumich (Men's Tennis)** - Second Team All-GLIAC
- **Sienna Lopez (Women's Tennis)** - First Team All-GLIAC



2024 ESPORTS LEAGUE OF LEGENDS TEAM

**JC RAMIREZ
2024 GLIAC OUTDOOR
TRIPLE JUMP CHAMPION**

**D'SHAWN DORSEY
2024 NCAA DII OUTDOOR
HIGH JUMP ALL-AMERICAN**

3.20

CUMULATIVE SPRING SEMESTER GPA

96%

Retention Rate



PNW ATHLETICS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

SPRING 2024

17

STRAIGHT SEMESTERS ABOVE 3.0 GPA

30

Students Earned A GPA OF 4.0

104

Students Earned A GPA OF 3.5+

65%

Students Earned A GPA OF 3.0

TOP 5 TEAMS

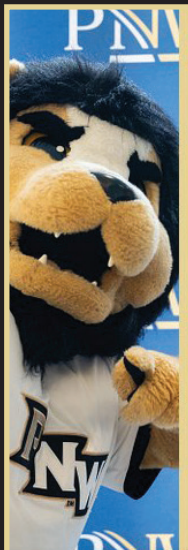
- 1. VOLLEYBALL: 3.73
- 2. MEN'S SOCCER: 3.55
- 3. SOFTBALL: 3.51
- 4. WOMEN'S GOLF: 3.50
- 5. WOMEN'S SOCCER: 3.47



THE LEO AWARDS

Purdue University Northwest Athletics revealed its 2023-24 academic year award winners at the 6th Annual Leo Awards on Monday, April 23, hosted at the Dworkin Student Services & Activities Complex on the PNW Westville Campus.

Highlighting the night of celebration were several major awards as the Pride produced another historic year in the classroom, in competition, and in the community by setting records across all sports as well as bringing home 12 championships over the past year.



JOHN FRIEND LEADERSHIP AWARD
ALLISON ARNOLD



JOHN FRIEND LEADERSHIP AWARD
KENNEDY JACKSON



FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
MERCEDES SIMMONS



FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
MADDISON ROOP



MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
HUGO LORENZO



MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
SAM BOURDAGES



2024 LEO AWARD WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S AWARD WINNERS!

AWARD WINNERS

JOHN FRIEND LEADERSHIP AWARD

Allison Arnold, Senior, Softball
Kennedy Jackson, Graduate Student, Women's Basketball

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Hugo Lorenzo, Senior, Men's Soccer
Sam Bourdages, Junior, DI Hockey

FEMALE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

Kylie Dugan, Freshman, Softball

MOST SPIRITED TEAM

DI Hockey

MALE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

RJ Swaw, Freshman, DI Hockey

FEMALE MOST-IMPROVED ATHLETE

Salma Raslan, Sophomore, Women's Tennis

MALE MOST-IMPROVED ATHLETE

Eli Baumann, Sophomore, Men's Track & Field

FEMALE PRIDE-HUSTLE-DESIRE AWARD

Kiara Spates, Sophomore, Women's Track & Field

MALE PRIDE-HUSTLE-DESIRE AWARD

Cooper Olson, Sophomore, DI Hockey

MOST OUTSTANDING SPIRIT ATHLETE

Erica Gillespie, Senior, Cheer & Dance Team

TYLER HOFFMAN COURAGE & PERSEVERANCE AWARD (FEMALE)

Kennedy Jackson, Senior, Women's Basketball

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Maddison Roop, Senior, Softball
Mercedes Simmons, Senior, Women's Basketball

FEMALE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Lauren Sanders, Senior, Volleyball

MALE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Patrick Hays, Sophomore, DI HockeyY

MOST IMPROVED TEAM

Men's Soccer

CHANCELLOR'S CUP TEAM GPA AWARD

Volleyball

FEMALE SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Allison Arnold, Senior, Softball

MALE SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Samuel Dickson, Junior, Men's Tennis

FEMALE BEST BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMANCE

Gabby Paliska, Senior, Softball

MALE BEST BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMANCE

Hugo Lorenzo, Senior, Men's Soccer

TYLER HOFFMAN COURAGE & PERSEVERANCE AWARD (MALE)

Lucas Bass, Sophomore, Men's Track & Field

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Pride hosted several campus events to engage the community and promote Purdue University Northwest.

As we embark on an exciting future, we invite you to join the Pride at our family-friendly events featuring NCAA Division II intercollegiate athletics competition.



2023 Fall Sports Fest

2024 Leo Awards



2024 Play4Kay Game

2024 The MANE Event



2023 Late Night Madness

2024 SAAC Staff Basketball Game



Purdue Northwest DI Hockey Isaac Hyde and Nick were voted 2024 TEAM Impact Teammates of the Year. Team IMPACT matches children facing serious illness and disability with college sports teams, creating a long-term, life-changing experience for everyone involved. Nick has been part of the PNW Hockey program for the past two seasons and officially became a member by signing his Team IMPACT Letter of Intent this past fall!



2023-2024 PNW ATHLETICS INSIDE THE NUMBERS

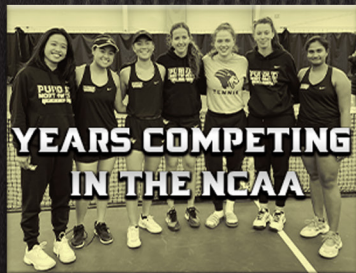
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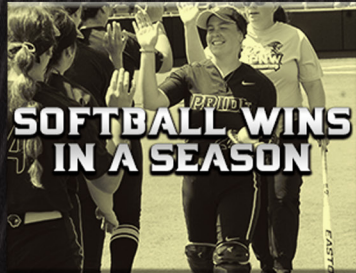
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17



33



96



898





2013-14 Women's Basketball Team to be inducted into the PNW Athletics Hall of Fame

The Purdue University Northwest Athletics Department inducted the 2013-14 Women's Basketball team into the Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday, February 3, 2024.

"I would like to congratulate the 13-14 Women's Basketball student-athletes and coaches on being inducted into the Hall of Fame," said Director of Athletics Rick Costello. "I am pleased to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the 13-14 Women's Basketball Regular Season and Tournament Champions and induct this amazing team into the Hall of Fame. It is only fitting to honor this group of student-athletes and coaches that created so many special memories for the students, faculty, staff, university, alumni and Northwest Indiana community."

The 2013-14 women's basketball team finished the season with an overall record of 25-7 and 15-2 in CCAC play. Led by head coach Tom Megyesi, the Purdue Calumet Peregrines, at the time, finished the season winning the CCAC Regular Season Conference Title and the CCAC Tournament Championship defeating Olivet Nazarene, 87-77. The team then earned an automatic bid to the NAIA National Women's Basketball Tournament where they achieved an opening round victory versus Oregon Tech, 83-75, to garner the first national tournament victory in school history and reach the NAIA Sweet Sixteen. The Peregrines finished the season averaging 80.5 points per game, 14.5 assists per game, 8.5 steals per game, and 41.2 rebounds per game. They ended the campaign shooting 41% from the field, 37.1% from the three-point line, and 79% from the free-throw line.

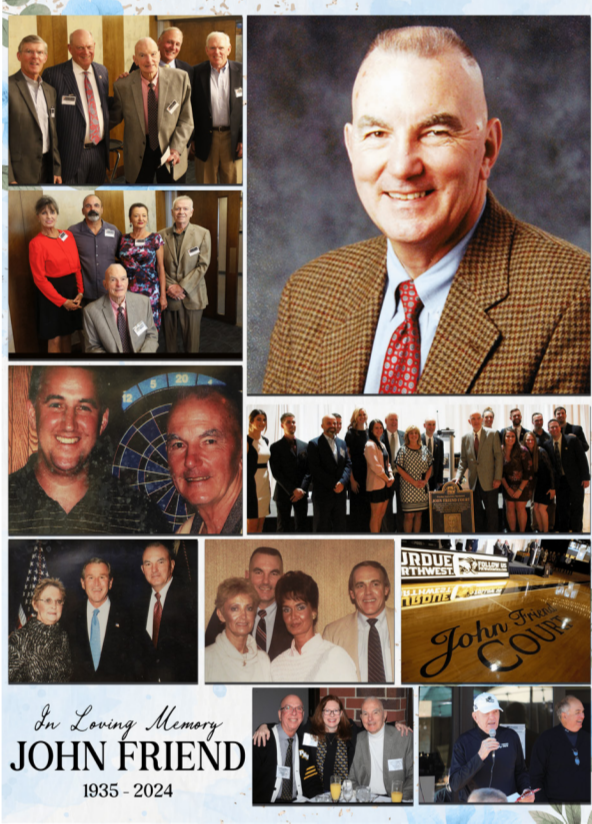
Megyesi ended the regular season as CCAC Coach of the Year while Cassidy Deno garnered CCAC Freshman of the Year honors. Deno also received Second Team All-CCAC honors along with Brooklyn Short. Kami Graber and Tierra Turner garnered Honorable Mention All-CCAC accolades. The team reached as high as 12th in the NAIA National Rankings.

The 2013-14 Women's Basketball Roster

#4 Brooklyn Short	#22 Quinci Eller	#41 Patrice McBee
#10 Darien Thompson	#23 Cassidy Deno	#44 Stephanie Balon
#11 Ellie Rawski	#24 Tierra Turner	Head Coach: Tom Megyesi
#12 Kami Graber	#31 Katie Wampler	Assistant Coach: Stephanie Beck
#13 Dariyelle Ricks	#33 Madison Gervais	Team Manager: Sarah Lawson
#21 Staci Groom	#40 Katie Domiguez	

If Purdue Northwest Pride Alumni would like to share updates and career accomplishments for the next issue of the PNW Pride Illustrated, please email Joey Scott, Assistant AD for Communications, at scott691@pnw.edu.

IN LOVING MEMORY JOHN FRIEND



With great sadness, Purdue University Northwest (PNW) Athletics shares news of the death of John Friend, our Director of Athletics Emeritus and longtime champion of PNW student-athletes and youth athletics in Northwest Indiana. John passed away on June 7, 2024, at the age of 89.

Friend served as the Director of Athletics at the former Purdue University Calumet for 20 years prior to his retirement in 2001, and held interim AD titles in both 2007 and 2011. He continued to serve as a fundraiser and pivotal figure in the growth of Purdue Northwest's athletics program long after his retirement. He was named Director of Athletics Emeritus at PNW in 2017. The basketball court in PNW's Fitness and Recreation Center on the Hammond campus has been named the "John Friend Court" in his honor since November 2017.

Prior to joining the university, Friend served as a football coach, basketball coach, athletic director at Hammond High School and at Munster High School. For decades he was a leader in youth athletics as well as the local community.

"John was a championship coach, a graceful leader, and a wonderful ambassador. Most importantly, he was a mentor to countless student-athletes and coaches," PNW Director of Athletics Rick Costello said. "I will deeply miss him and the cherished conversations we shared about our love of sports. My thoughts and prayers are with the Friend family during this difficult time. John will forever be a source of inspiration for the Purdue Northwest Pride!"

Friend led the annual Powers-Purdue Northwest Golf Outing to raise funds for the PNW athletic scholarship fund, an event he began with area business leader Don Powers in 1980 and that continues in 2024. He played an important role in the groundbreaking agreement with the City of Hammond to develop a comprehensive outdoor athletic facility at Dowling Park, while helping with key fundraising and planning efforts for the facility. In recent years three of his former student-athletes, Bob Grand, Larry Johnson and Glenn Scolnik, generously created the John & Betty Friend Scholarship Fund at Purdue Northwest to extend Coach Friend's impact for generations to come and provide annual scholarships for PNW student-athletes. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Parkinson's Research or the John and Betty Friend Endowed Athletics Scholarship.

"John Friend's incredible work as a coach, administrator, and fundraiser transformed the lives of many and will leave a lasting impact on Pride Athletics," PNW Chancellor Kenneth C. Holford said. "We are deeply appreciative of his longtime connection to the university and support that helped us to become an NCAA Division II home of championship teams."

Among Friend's extensive list of accomplishments and awards, he was inducted into the Purdue Northwest Athletics Hall of Fame and received numerous Administrator of the Year awards as selected by colleagues at the former Purdue Calumet. During his tenure as Purdue Calumet AD, he served as district chair of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) District 21 for multiple years, the top administrative position in the 22-member association of small colleges in Indiana.

Friend also was inducted into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame and the halls of fame of the NAIA, Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC), Hammond, Munster, and David Lipscomb College. He was known nationwide as one of the top youth football minds, serving as a keynote speaker at dozens of clinics from coast to coast and in Canada. Several of his articles have been featured in football publications and his textbook entitled "Coaching Youth Football" was adopted as the National Pop Warner coaches' manual in 1977.

Friend was married to the late Betty Friend for more than 62 years. Their three children, Tracy, Jerri and Doug, all have served in leadership roles at various high schools in Northwest Indiana. Friend was a longtime member of the Munster School Board, the Lake Heritage Parks Foundation, and served on several hall of fame and sportsmanship boards.

2024-25 YEAR AHEAD

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

2024 PNW FALL ATHLETICS SEASONS BEGINS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

2024 FALL SPORTS FEST

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

2024 CHANCELLORS INVITATIONAL GOLF OUTING

COMING SOON

OCTOBER 2024

LATE NIGHT MADNESS

FEBRUARY 2025

THE MANE EVENT

APRIL 2025

PNW DAY OF GIVING

APRIL 2025

THE LEO AWARDS

JUNE 16, 2025

POWERS-PNW GOLF OUTING

GET YOUR PNW PRIDE MERCH NOW!

Go to the [TEAM SHOP](https://pnwathletics.com) at pnwathletics.com and get your PNW gear today to cheer on the Pride!



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PNWathletics.com

Follow the Pride on all socials!



EDITOR - JOEY SCOTT
ASSISTANT AD FOR COMMUNICATIONS