

2004 ROCK FALLS HIGH SCHOOL
"HALL OF FAME" INDUCTEES

Lyle Bogott

A 1947 graduate of RFHS, Lyle earned nine varsity letters in track, football and basketball. He was a 3-time first team All-Conference selection in basketball and a first team All-Conference selection in football his senior year. Lyle was the leading scorer on the 1947 basketball team that went 25-1 and lost in the sectional finals. Upon graduation he was the single season scoring leader with 441 points. Lyle continued to play baseball, basketball and football at Monmouth College where he earned nine varsity letters. After graduating from Monmouth, Lyle spent the next 33 years teaching and coaching in Byron and Dixon.

Danny Bogott

A 1952 graduate of RFHS, Danny earned 12 varsity letters in the sports of basketball, football, baseball and track. He was an All-NCIC first team member in basketball his senior year leading the Rockets in scoring and rebounding. His team, that year, were NCIC champs, regional champs and compiled a 21-5 record. Danny still holds school records with 20 field goals made in one game and a total of 41 points scored by a Rocket on their home floor. After graduation he attended the University of Tennessee where he lettered twice; averaging 13 points per game his sophomore year.

Fred Bogott

A 1953 graduate of RFHS, Fred earned 10 varsity letters in the sports of baseball, football, basketball and track. During his senior season he earned All-NCIC honors in baseball and basketball. After graduation Fred was a student athlete at the University of Houston and played basketball. He then went on to coach and teach for over 30 years in the Houston area.

Richard Jenkins

Mr. Jenkins spent 38 years as an educator and a coach on the high school level. Eleven of those years being at RFHS. While at RFHS, Rich coached football, track and wrestling. As the head wrestling coach Rich compiled a 129-52-5 dual meet record, with one sectional championship. Rich coached 17 NCIC champs 12 state qualifiers and had six state place winners.

Jim King

This 1973 RFHS grad finished 3rd in the state track and field meet in the pole-vault his senior year. Jim, better know as "Butch", qualified for the state meet in the vault as a junior as well. He also earned seven varsity letters at RFHS in football as well as track. Upon graduation Jim held the school record in the pole vault at 14' 3".

Bill Ebenezer

A 1947 graduate of RFHS, Bill earned eight varsity letters in the sports of football, basketball, track and baseball. He was an All-Conference performer in both football and basketball and was a member of the 1947, 25-1 basketball squad. Upon graduation Bill held the football record for touchdowns in a single game with 5. He then attended Monmouth College and Northern Illinois University where his desire to coach basketball became evident. Bill compiled a 318-275 record as a head coach with stops at Elburn, Vernon, Kaneland and Stevenson high school in the Chicago-land area. He also was an assistant at Proviso East for eight years. In 1989 he was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame.

Don Nehr Korn

A 1955 graduate of RFHS, Don earned 13 varsity letters in the sports of baseball, football, basketball and track. He earned All-Conference honors in football and basketball, and surely would have in baseball had it not been a summer sport. During his senior year Don was the MVP in both baseball and basketball. Upon graduation Don held the career assist record in basketball.

Thom Sigel

A 1985 graduate of RFHS, Thom made his mark in two different ways. As an athlete he earned varsity letters in basketball and golf. He was a two-time NCIC selection and an All-Twin Cities pick. Thom also received All-State mention his senior year as his team finished 21-8 and reached the sectional finals. Upon graduation he held the career assists record. He then attended Knox College where he again earned varsity letters in both basketball and golf.

Thom came back to RFHS in 1995 as the head boy's basketball coach. In six seasons at the helm he compiled a 127-52 record and 3 NCIC crowns. His teams won four consecutive regionals and sectionals, went to the elite 8 twice and won the 1999 State Championship—the first team title in school history. Along the way Thom was a 4-time District 11 Coach of the Year and in 1999 was named the Class A Coach of the Year. His 127 wins and the regional and sectional titles are the most of any basketball coach in RFHS history.

Mark Porter

A 1980 graduate of RFHS, Mark earned varsity letters in basketball and cross-country. He was an All-NCIC selection in basketball his senior year, while also receiving All-Twin Cities, All-Area and All-State recognition. Upon graduation Mark held season and career free-throws percentage records and game field goal and free-throw percentage records. Mark then continued his career at Iowa Wesleyan University where he earned three varsity letters and was the leading scorer, rebounder and MVP in 1983.

Angie Persico

This 1993 graduate of RFHS was the first female athlete to be named to three First Team NCIC squads in one year. In 1993 Angie received those honors in volleyball, basketball and softball. She earned seven varsity letters in her career while earning MVP honors in all three sports. In volleyball she was the Daily Gazette Player of the Year 1992. Angie was the most outstanding player of the New-Mor-Roc-Ster basketball tournament in 1993. Angie still holds records for home runs in a season (7), home runs in a career (8) and runs scored in a career with 92. After graduation, Angie played basketball at Sauk Valley College where she earned All-Conference honors.

Ted Nehrkorn

A 1980 graduate of RFHS, Ted was a two-time place winner at the state track meet. Finishing 7th in the 100 as a freshman in 1977 and 7th in the 200 as a senior in 1980. He qualified all four years for the state meet. He was an All-NCIC performer all four years winning titles in both the 100 and 200 sprints. Ted also earned letters in football where he was the leading rusher and earned All-Conference honors his senior year. After graduation Ted continued his track career at Monmouth College where he was a four-time All-Conference performer.

Dave Mammosser

This 1984 graduate of RFHS earned 10 varsity letters in baseball, football, track and basketball. Dave was a 3-time first team All-NCIC performer in baseball and a 2-time All-NCIC pick in football. Upon graduation Dave held RFHS records for homeruns, hits, runs scored, pitching victories and pitching strikeouts. He still holds the home run record of 13 in a season and 22 for a career. Dave also held the single season tackle record in football with 126 and the career mark with 308, operating from his linebacker position. He also received All-State recognition in 1983 for football as well as being named to the Daily Gazette's team of the 80's decade team. After high school Dave played football and baseball at Augustana College where he was a member of the Viking's 1985 National Championship football team.

Erika Nailor

A 1995 graduate of RFHS, Erika earned seven varsity letters in the sports of volleyball, basketball and softball. She was a two-time All-NCIC selection in basketball and softball during her junior and senior years. As a basketball player Erika also earned MVP of the New-Mor-Roc-Ster tournament, Twin City Player of the Year and Honorable Mention All-State her senior season as she helped lead the Rockets to a school best 24-3 record, NCIC and Regional Championships. She also held the single season scoring record of 435 points upon graduation. In softball Erika still holds RFHS season records in batting average (.482), hits (54) and runs scored (36) as well as pitching victories with 17. She also holds the career batting average record at .468. Erika then continued her athletic career at Illinois State University and Sauk Valley College.

Jason Sands

A 1995 graduate of RFHS, Jason earned a total of eight varsity letters in the sports of football, basketball and baseball. He earned All-NCIC honors in basketball three times and in his senior year was a first team Conference selection in both football and baseball. In fact Jason was the first male athlete in RFHS history to be named to three first team All-NCIC squads in the same year, a feat he accomplished in 1995. Jason finished his career at RFHS with the career baseball RBI record of 103 and is also only one of seven players to ever average 20 points per game in a season when he averaged 20.6 his senior year. In college, Jason earned four varsity letters in baseball at Illinois State University, where he finished in the schools top 10 in at bats, hits, triples, runs scored and games played for his career. Jason was a two-time Academic All-Conference and was a member of the GTE Academic All-American district team 97-98

Tom Rucker

A 1975 graduate of RFHS, Tom has been “the Voice of the Rockets” for the past 24 years. He has done the PA announcing at boy’s basketball, girl’s basketball and football games during that time. He has also done some announcing for baseball and wrestling as well. Tom also was a member of the RFHS Athletic Booster Club Board of Directors for 11 years, including two years as the president. He also chaired committees for the State recognition banners that hang in Tabor Gym, the installation of the all-weather track at Hinders Field in 1993, and for the purchase of a new sound system for Tabor Gym. Tom has researched many of the schools athletic records, especially boy’s basketball, and along with AD Rich Montgomery helped to reinstate the Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002. In 2003 Tom received one of the state’s highest honors as he was named the Class A “Friends of Athletics” award winner by the Illinois High School Athletic Directors Association.

Mike Healy

Mr. Healy spent 33 years at RFHS as a teacher and a coach of wrestling, football and track. While he coached many fine athletes in football and track, it was wrestling where Mike made his mark. During his 10 years as the head coach, the Rockets had a dual meet record of 100-56-2. But more importantly his Rockets won two NCIC titles, 2 Regional crowns and one Sectional championship. His 1976 team finished 3rd in the state. Mike had 26 NCIC individual champs, 19 state qualifiers with seven place winners and two State Champs, the Fiorini brothers Dan and Tim.

Chad Williamson

This 1998 graduate of RFHS capped off an outstanding wrestling career by winning the 189lb State wrestling title in 1998. Chad finished his senior year with a perfect 34-0 and ended his Rocket career with 98 wins against 18 losses. He earned a total of two varsity letters in football and three more in wrestling. He was a two-time All-NCIC performer as well as a Regional and Sectional champion. After graduation Chad wrestled at both the University of Dubuque (IA) and Mt. St. Claire College (Clinton IA).

Monica Siperly

This 1983 graduate of RFHS earned a total of eight varsity letters, four in volleyball and four in basketball. She was named first-team All-NCIC in both sports her senior year. Monica also was the captain of the 1983 volleyball team that reached the "Sweet 16". Monica received All-Conference, All State Honorable Mention, All Area and MVP honors in volleyball. Upon graduation she held records for career and season kills in volleyball and career and season rebounds in basketball. She then continued her volleyball career by earning varsity letters at Northern Illinois University.

1960 Football

Under the direction of "Hall of Fame" athletic director and coach Bruce McDonald, the Rocket squad finished the season undefeated at 9-0. Along the way the Rockets outscored their opponents 132-40. They shutout four teams including Sterling, Geneseo, Princeton and Hall. With the NCIC title that year, it gave the Rockets their third conference championship in five years.

1932 Boys Basketball

This team is still considered one of the best teams in Illinois in the pre-modern era. The team won the Rock River Conference going undefeated. They compiled an overall mark of 23-3, which is still the third best record by percentage in Rocket history. They captured the District tournament by defeating Prophetstown, Walnut and Sterling. Then in the Sectional, defeated Rock Island before falling to Kewanee in the finals.

1979 Girls Track

Led by a contingent of five state qualifiers the girls track team finished fifth at the state meet. Vicky Walters placed fifth in the shot put. Cathi Frank finished fifth in the 880 yd run and eighth in the mile. Conni Frank took 3rd in the two-mile run and placed 4th in the mile. Lisa Pope and Julia Moreno were the other state qualifiers participating in the 220-yd dash and shot put respectfully. Ms. Kathy Eckhart and Ms. Linda Blades coached the team.

1974-75 & 1975-76 Girls Volleyball

With the state holding championships for the first time in volleyball, these Rocket squads did themselves proud by advancing to the Elite Eight in both seasons. The 74-75 squad had a season record of 18-2 and captured the first NCIC volleyball conference title. They won the District title with victories over Prophetstown, Geneseo and Sterling. The Sectional title was won by defeating Rock Island and Abingdon. They advanced to the State with a victory over Lewistown in the Super Sectional. In the first round at state they lost a tough match to Rich East. Ms Ginny Brohaugh coached the team.

The 1975-76 team finished the year 18-4 with three of the losses coming to NCIC rival Mendota, including the quarterfinal match at state. The girls finished 2nd in the NCIC, defeated Fulton, Lanark and Morrison to win the District. They beat Moline and Woodhull at Sectionals and stopped Rockford West at the Super Sectionals. Ms Kathy Eckhardt coached the squad

1975 Wrestling

If there was ever a wrestling team that was a tournament team the 1975 RFHS squad was it. Under the guidance of Coach Mike Healy, the Rockets won the Princeton Invitational, the NCIC, District and Sectional titles. In the NCIC meet they crowned 8 individual champs out of 12 weight classes. The eight champs were: Jeff Fitts at 103, Jorge Cervantes at 112, Bryan Berogan at 120, Tim Fiorini at 127, Tom Licocci at 138, Rory Fullmer at 145, Dan Fiorini at 155 and Pat McDonald at HWY. Three wrestlers, Dan Fiorini, Jorge Cervantes and Tom Licocci qualified for the state meet. Fiorini won the first Rocket State title at 155lbs.

1947 Boys Basketball

This Rocket team, led by "Hall of Fame" coach Lloyd Hinders, has the longest winning streak in RFHS history, as they ripped off 25 consecutive wins before losing their last game in the sectional finals. The Rockets had breezed through the NCIC and the Districts before dropping a tough 44-36 contest to Rockford East on the E-RABS home floor in the sectional finals.