Distinguished Alumni Awards & Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees
Welcome
Robin Lake '90
Alumni Association President

Presentation of Awards

Athletic Hall of Fame

Jeff Gorton '00
presented by Bob Kent
Seth Denawetz '94
presented by George Acker
Michelle Krisfalusi '92
presented by Kim Paterson '90
Edwin Lauermann '64
presented by Rolla Anderson

Distinguished Achievement Award
Dr. Peter S. Tippett '75
presented by David Smith '75

Distinguished Service Award
David Kessler '70
presented by Robin Lake '90

Weimer K. Hicks Award
Conrad Hilberry
presented by Jim VanSweden '73

Closing Remarks
Dr. Eileen Wilson-Oyelaran
President, Kalamazoo College
The most decorated Hornet athlete in school history, **Jeff Gorton '00**, left no record unbroken during his time at Kalamazoo College. Although he competed one year on the varsity soccer team it was in the pool where he left his biggest splash. Jeff won five total NCAA National Diving Championships. As a freshman, Jeff won the NCAA three-meter national title and finished fourth on one-meter. His sophomore year, Jeff won the one-meter NCAA title setting a new NCAA national record and finished second on the three-meter. Jeff once again won the one-meter national championship his junior year, and finished fourth in the three-meter competition. As a senior, Jeff won both the one-meter and three-meter competitions, completing his time at Kalamazoo College in grand fashion, setting another NCAA national record in the three-meter event, which he still holds today. With this success came 8 All-American honors, the most a diver can achieve. He was also All-MIAA each year as he swept both the one and three-meter MIAA championships four years in a row finishing with a 73-1 dual meet record. He also broke all Kalamazoo College school and pool records, MIAA league records and won the 2000 MIAA MVP award, the first diver in league history to earn this honor. Jeff was twice elected team captain, and as a senior he received the NCAA Division III Diver of the Year award and the Opie Davis Award, which honors the outstanding male senior athlete in the senior class.

Following graduation, Jeff continued diving with the Ft. Lauderdale Diving Team. Working under 2000 U.S. Olympic Coach, Tim O'Brien, Jeff achieved two top-12 finishes at the U.S. Diving Senior Nationals, was a finalist in the 2004 America’s Cup competition, and placed 15th at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in 2004. He continues to work as a diving coach with the Ft. Lauderdale Diving Team.

Jeff graduated with honors in Art from Kalamazoo, also receiving honors on his Senior Individualized Project. He achieved GTE Academic All-Regional Honors, was awarded the 2000 Knoechel Family Award and the Brian Gougeon Price Award in Art. He minored in Business, and now works as Marketing Manager for Offerdahl’s Eat Fresh, Inc., in South Florida, which was recently named by Nation’s Restaurant News as one of America’s Top 5 Hottest Concepts. Jeff, his wife Megan, and their one-year-old daughter Kaitlyn live in Davie, Florida.
Seth Denawetz '94 played tennis at Kalamazoo College during what was arguably the most successful era in Division III men's tennis history. Seth was an integral part of teams that won the NCAA Division III national championship in 1991, 1992 and 1993. In 1994, Seth won the NCAA national singles championship. Seth achieved All-American status four times, twice in singles and twice in doubles, with partners Adam Afridi and Pat Noud. During his time at Kalamazoo, Seth compiled a singles record of 92-14 and a doubles record of 76-14.

He was named Most Valuable Player of the MIAA in 1994, and was a first-team All-MIAA selection in 1993 and 1994.

After graduating from Kalamazoo in 1994, Seth moved to Japan with his future wife, Kelly Roberts (K '94), returning to the country where he studied abroad as a junior and ‘SIP’d as a Senior. They returned to the Detroit area in 1997 and Seth began work as a manager of Japanese accounts at CalsonicKansei, an automotive supplier. After marrying Kelly in 1998, the couple returned to Tokyo when Seth was transferred to CalsonicKansei’s Japanese headquarters to work with Nissan. In 2004, Seth became the account manager for all Japanese automakers for ZF Sachs Automotive of America. All told, Seth and Kelly spent seven years in Tokyo, which allowed them the opportunity to immerse themselves in Japanese culture, and to explore the vast reaches of Asia and Australia.

In October 2004, Kelly and Seth celebrated the birth of their son, Ryan (see summer issue of LuxEsto for a photo). Now an avid golfer, Seth focuses his tennis energies on maintaining contact with a core group of friends from the teams on which he played and enjoyed so much success.
Michelle (Shelly) Krisfalusi '92

Women's soccer at Kalamazoo College has a long history of success, and within this impressive past, **Michelle (Shelly) Krisfalusi '92** truly stands out. During Shelly's tenure at Kalamazoo, the women's soccer team compiled a record of 58-14-3 and a 24-0 MIAA record; the team won four consecutive MIAA championships and qualified for NCAA post-season play three times, advancing twice to second-round play. In her first two seasons, Shelly's goals against average was less than one; her junior year she led the team to fifteen shutouts in nineteen games, allowing five goals in nineteen games for a .26 goals against average. In her last year, Shelly suffered a broken wrist, but returned to play in 11.5 of eighteen games, allowing only eight goals for a .69 goals against average, and achieving 7.5 shutouts.

Shelly led the team as an All-MIAA first-team selection in 1989 and 1990 and a second-team All-MIAA selection in 1991; she was MIAA MVP in 1989. Named a first-team All-American in 1990, Shelly was recognized as the best Division III goalie in the country that year. She was named team captain her senior year, and received the Mary Long Burch award in 1992, given annually to the outstanding female athlete in the senior class.

Shelly's accomplishments following her graduation from Kalamazoo are equally impressive. She received her PhD in Zoology from the University of Idaho in 1999, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in reproductive physiology and toxicology at the University of Idaho from 1999 to 2000. She continued work as a postdoctoral fellow at The National Institutes for Environmental Health Sciences in North Carolina, focusing her work on cellular and molecular reproductive physiology. In 2003, Shelly joined the faculty at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Research Assistant Professor specializing in molecular reproductive physiology. She worked at University of North Carolina until 2005, when she opted for full-time motherhood with her two children Alexa and Will. Shelly and her husband Dave now live in West Chester, Ohio.
Ed Lauermann '64

When Edwin Lauermann '64 dominated the gridiron in the early 1960s, he became a reluctant star on teams that saw some of the greatest success in Kalamazoo College football history. The undefeated 1962 team won the MIAA championship, defeating not just its conference opponents, but also Eastern Michigan University, Ferris State, and Augustana (Ill.) along the way. In 1963, the Hornets once again won the MIAA championship, and Ed set two team records that still stand today, rushing 916 yards for the season, and 271 yards in a single game, against Kenyon College. That year, Ed averaged more than 120 yards of rushing per game. Ed remains third in the College record book for total yards in a career, with 1,904.

In the minds of his former coaches and teammates, Ed was a quiet leader, a selfless, disciplined player who maximized each rushing opportunity, frequently turning what looked like minimal gains into long yardage runs. In one game, Ed rushed for five long yardage touchdowns. Against Olivet in 1962, Ed scored four touchdowns and provided a spark for his team in a game that capped its MIAA championship. Ed did not seek personal glory, instead focusing on the success of his team. In the words of teammate Bob Peters, Ed “was the top running back in the MIAA with no pretense.”

He received numerous accolades for his achievements: Ed was named to the All-MIAA football team in 1962 and 1963; he was named to the All State first team in 1962; Ed earned honorable mention “Little All-American” honors in 1963; and he earned four varsity letters in football as starting halfback.

Following graduation from Kalamazoo College, Ed earned his M.B.A. from Michigan State University. He also was a member of the U.S. Air Force. Ed now lives in Illinois with his wife, Rita.
Dr. Peter Tippett graduated from Kalamazoo College in 1975, and, in his words, “never looked back.” For his senior thesis, and again during the year after graduation Peter worked under two separate Nobel Prize laureates in chemistry. There, he added computer automation to protein synthesis, and synthesized the first active immunoglobulin component. Peter later entered an M.D./PhD. program at Case Western Reserve University, focusing on computer modeling of glucose regulation and internal / emergency medicine. Long shifts at the hospital allowed Peter time to write computer programs, and by the time he finished his residency and internship in 1985, Peter’s merging interests had led him to found a non-profit organization focused on the study of Pacific Island diseases, and FoundationWare, a software business. They say that timing is everything, and in 1987, the Lehigh virus, the world’s first major computer virus, emerged. Peter recognized the massive threat posed by a computer virus, and FoundationWare developed the first antivirus product, “Vaccine.” “Vaccine” meant great success for FoundationWare, and the company grew. In 1992, the Symantec company approached Peter and offered to buy FoundationWare. Peter agreed to the sale, and his antivirus product became Norton AntiVirus. After leading Symantec’s Norton Group to great success, Peter became CEO of a small, nascent computer company in 1995. Eleven years later, the company, now called Cybertrust, has 1,000 employees, 30 offices worldwide, works with thousands of government and corporate customers and the majority of the Fortune 50 companies with revenue of $200 Million. In 1998, Peter was named Entrepreneur of the Year, and in 2002 was named to the list of “25 Most Influential CTOs” (Chief Technology Officer) by InfoWorld Media Group. The White House frequently seeks Peter’s expertise, and Cybertrust tracking of hackers assists the Department of Justice, leading most notably to the arrest of the writer of the Melissa Virus.

Peter’s approach to security focuses on reducing risk by predicting and modeling it, a more effective and affordable way to secure computer systems. In the world of computer security, Peter is a visionary, eager to think outside of conventions and pursue his own ideas—ideas that work.

Peter currently lives in northern Virginia with his wife and two children.
David Kessler '70

David Kessler, born in Brooklyn, came to Kalamazoo College after graduating from Hartford Public High School in Connecticut. He majored in History with a minor in English and graduated in 1970. His Foreign Study Center was Strasbourg. He studied European and American History at UC Berkeley, but embarked on a career in the University Library rather than finishing his degree. He and his wife Nancy recently celebrated their 25th anniversary. They lost their home and entire neighborhood in the 1991 Oakland Hills fire. They rebuilt and moved back to their home in 1994. Since then, David has been a community leader, serving as President of the North Hills Phoenix Association. His passions include swimming, bread baking, cycling, baseball, and people. David has been class agent for the Class of 1970 since making the mistake of attending his 25th reunion in 1995. He served as Chair of the Kalamazoo College Annual Fund Drive in 1997 and 1998.

David’s work as Class Agent is marked by his passionate commitment to the mission of the College and his ability to articulate the value of the “K” experience. In the words of former Kalamazoo College President Jones, David's yearly letters are “the most splendidly crafted I have ever seen.” As a result, the Class of 1970 has achieved the highest class giving percentage* three times in the ten years that David has acted as Class Agent. David works diligently as Class Agent, never missing an opportunity to craft his own message, and expanding his communications with his class beyond the annual fundraising letter; David's holiday letter to his class is a consistently enlightening year-end reminder of the importance of humility and mindfulness.

Perhaps the best way to describe the value of David’s work is to highlight it: “I deeply believe that our collective experience at the college has made us appreciate its continuing virtues and rugged intellectual challenges. I am proud to encourage thoughtful support for its mission and growth. The struggle for a better world goes on, and Kalamazoo College shapes leaders who help the side of the angels. We may disagree among ourselves about exactly what that entails, but I think we share the essential belief.”

*The Paul Lamont Thompson Award honors the highest giving percentages within fifteen-year class ranges
Conrad Hilberry grew up in Ferndale, Michigan and studied at Oberlin College and University of Wisconsin, where he met his wife, Marion. They have three daughters, Marilyn, Jane, and Ann. Con and his family came to the College in 1962, just as the K Plan came into its own, shaping the calendar and emphasizing study abroad. At first Con taught early English literature, especially the 17th century, but gradually his interest shifted to modern poetry and creative writing. He retired in 1998 but is still teaching a Stryker Center course in contemporary poetry.

Con is beloved by students and faculty alike. Fellow English professor Gail Griffin credits Con with instilling the Department’s philosophy “that the practices of writing poetry or fiction or nonfiction and of reading it critically reinforce each other.” Griffin also captures the unique encouragement that Con gives to writers by noting that Con “couldn’t understand why anyone would think that she or he couldn’t write a poem.” Finally, she comments on his lasting effect on the department: “Con embodied ... the spirit that haunts the House: one of warmth, good humor, respect for others’ talents and abilities, acceptance, encouragement, and collaboration. It’s for these reasons that, when we conceived of our senior SIP symposium five years ago, we instantly christened it after Con.”

Con has received numerous writing and teaching awards, including the Florence J. Lucasse Fellowship (1979), a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship (1974, 1984), and the Iowa Prize from the University of Iowa Press (1989).

Con has published five books of poems, most recently Player Piano (1999) and Sorting the Smoke: New and Selected Poems (1990), and five chapbooks, most recently The Fingernail of Luck (2005) and Taking Notes on Nature’s Wild Inventions (1999). He published a psychological case study, Luke Karamazov, in 1987, and that same year the College’s Festival Playhouse performed Beggar Moon, a musical that Con wrote with “K” graduate Merwin Lewis.
George Acker
Rene "Kip" Adrian '97
Rolla Anderson
Karla Lutz Atkinson '66
Jacqueline Aurelia '94
Chester S. Barnard
Laura L. Behling '89
Dennis Bishop '75
Robert T. Black '26
Victor K. Braden Jr. '51
Henry "Hank" Brown '36
James R. Burda '87
Christopher G. Burns '82
Christopher P. Bussert '78
Derek S. Bylsma '91
Miles W. Casteel '22
Jeremy P. Cole '96
Timon Corwin '86
David Dame '79
Albert L. Deal '37
Rosemary Luther DeHoog '60
Phillip Dillman '53
Susie (Anderson) Dubek '98
Donald Flesche
Manny Glaser '54
Rebecca (Rifenberg) Green '92
Tiffany G. Greenman '92
Charles C. Hall '01
E. James Harkema '64
Milton "Bud" Hinga '23
Joseph L. Howard '38
Richard P. Howrey '87
Richard Johnson '66
Merry Lu Jordan '82
Erin Killian '99
Mary (Siwajek) Klahorst '92
Donald J. Knoechel '80
Sara Musser Kreckman '96
John P. Lamboy '37
John Latham '99
Richard A. Lemmer '41
Mary Rosso Lewis '43

A. Letitia Loveless
Bertram "Scotty" MacGregor '19
Gregory W. McDonald '97
Joel J. Menges '80
Brian J.S. Miller '96
Lewis Miller '93
William J. Oberholtzer '83
Lynn Achterberg Offerdahl '83
Alex G. Palladino '87
Kim E. Paterson '90
Claire Wight Payne '16
John C. Persons '64
Lawrence A. Pfaff '73
Harley R. Pierce '51
Mary Westerville Prange '67
J. Gordon Rodwan '62
David J. Rowley '74
Jennifer Russell '94
John A. Schelske '82
Kathleen Dombos Schlukebir '72
Marion "Buck" Shane '40
Daniel J. Slattery '79
Marjorie Snyder '75
Donald D. Spalsbury '39
Charles T. Stanski '50
James Stefof '53
Allen B. Stowe '20
Jack W. Sunderland '50
William S. Taylor '18
Marc S. Tirikian '88
Robert Urschallitz '59
Kevin E. VandenBerg '89
James VanSweden '73
Jeffrey W. Walker '93
Robert S. Warren '39
Joseph B. Westnedge 1899
Jeffrey A. Wilson '91
G. Daniel Wood '40
Don Young '80
Ralph H. Young
Mei Zhang '92
Steven R. Zuhl '76
Past Recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Award

Glenn S. Allen, Jr. '36 (1986) jurist, public official
Harold B. Allen '24 (1980) linguist, educator, author
Renee Askins '81 (1999) wildlife biologist, environmental activist
George C. Baldwin '39 (1987) physicist, educator
H. Lewis Batts, Jr. '43 (1978) naturalist, environmentalist, educator
Bruce Benton '64 (1988) economist
Louis F. Brakeman '54 (1992) political scientist, educator
Roger E. Brinner '69 (1993) economist
Garry Brown '51 (1994) congressman, attorney
Harold W. Brown '24 (1982) physician, educator, author
David G. Campbell '71 (1995) biologist, educator, author
Italo Carl Candoli '50 (1986) educator, school system administrator
Frances Clark '28 (1987) music educator
Scott C. Cleland '82 (2000) political scientist, business executive
Alma Smith Crawford '27 (1983) civic leader, volunteer
Mildred Doster '30 (1976) physician, school health administrator
Paul B. Eads '73 (1997) production designer, art director
Eva M. Eicher '61 (1992) biologist, educator
Kenneth G. Elzinga '63 (1983) economist, educator, author
Elsie Herbold Froeschner '35 (1988) biological illustrator
Harry T. Garland '68 (1983) computer scientist, businessman
Walter A. Good '37 (1977) scientist, inventor
William E. Good '37 (1977) scientist, inventor
Richard D. Haas '65 (1993) economist
Donald L. Hafner '66 (1987) political scientist
E. James Harkema '64 (1992) educator, coach
Richard C. Hudson '69 (1991) television producer
Cynthia Earl Kerman '44 (1979) educator, author
Lisa Kron '83 (2003) actress, director, playwright
Vincent G. Liff '73 (1995) casting director
Jacqueline Buck Mallinson '48 (1989) science educator, author
G. Mark McDonald '73 (1996) journalist
Ralph W. McKeel '34 (1981) scientist, educator
Genna Rae McNeil '69 (1986) historian, author, educator
David Mesenbring '73 (2003) activist, clergyman
John D. Montgomery '41 (1988) political scientist, educator
Gilbert F. Otto '26 (1989) zoologist, educator
Harley R. Pierce '51 (1993) coach, educator
Fred O. Pinkham '42 (1989) educator, management consultant
Jack P. Ragotzy '48 (1993) director, actor, writer
William R. Rogers '54 (1985) educator, author
Daniel M. Ryan '42 (1975) journalist, newspaper publisher
Myra C. Selby '77 (1998) associate justice
Donald Sharp '67 (2002) educator
P. Ronald Spann '66 (1999) clergyman, housing activist
Laurence E. Strong '36 (1984) scientist, educator
Gene Tidrick '64 (2004) teacher, researcher, practitioner
Frank S. Tomkins '37 (1990) research scientist
Margaret E. Waid '40 (1987) pathologist
John W. Warner '66 (1990) scientist, businessman
Craig S. Wells '75 (1989) photographer
Kathleen M. West '77 (2001) Director Drug Endangered Children Resource Center
Owen W. Williams '48 (1986) geodesist
Marcia J. Wood '55 (1986) sculptor, artist, educator
Past Recipients of the Distinguished Service Award

Harold B. Allen '21 (1983)
Hugh V. Anderson '43 (1976)
Larry B. Barrett '64 (1988)
Elinore Hoven Basnett '43 (1982)
Marie S. Burbidge (1989)
Stanley J. Chalmers '51 (1984)
Wen Chao Chen (1990)
Ruth Scott Chenery '24 (1978)
Joyce Kirk Coleman '66 (1996)
Gene R. Conrad (1987)
Maynard M. Conrad '36 (1979)
Helen I. Coover '33 (1985)
Joan Story Copeland '50 (1991)
Albert Deal '37 (1999)
Eleanor Hootman Dewey '45 (1987)
Robert D. Dewey '47 (1987)
Mary Joslin Discher '50 (1991)
Gordon L. Dolbee '50 (1991)
Donald C. Flesche (1991)
Samuel Folz '47 (1987)
Marlene Crandell Francis '58 (1976)
Susan (Kilborn) Francois '68 (2003)
Charles E. Garrett, Jr. '42 (1988)
Alfred J. Gemrich '60 (1980)
Caroline Richardson Ham '48 (1988)
I. Frank Harlow '39 (1982)

Lois Stutzman Harvey '29 (1977)
Marilyn Hinkle '44 (1979)
Marian Monteith Hudson '18 (1975)
Joanne Lent Hyames '60 (1983)
Jane Schaafsman Iannelli '58 (1981)
James H. Ingersoll (1993)
Thomas W. Lambert '63 (1985)
William J. Lawrence, Jr. '41 (1988)
Delbert D. Long '34 (1987)
David R. Markin (1997)
Elizabeth Upjohn Mason (1979)
Ralph W. McKee '34 (1985)
Gary L. Miller '61 (1992)
James W. Morrell '53 (1990)
Jon R. Muth '67 (1991)
Louise Barrows Northam '36 (1994)
Preston S. Parish (1998)
Burke E. Porter (1993)
Jane Meyer Rapley '37 (1983)
W. Harry Rapley '38 (1983)
Marion Johnston Schmiege '45 (1984)
Luel P. Simmons, Jr. '42 (1977)
Marian Wilson Simmons '42 (1977)
Stuart H. Simpson (1985)
B. Thomas Smith, Jr. '55 (2001)
Mary Lou Schofield Smith '55 (2001)
Charles E. Starbuck '48 (1982)
Marian Hall Starbuck '45 (1982)
Virginia Johnson Stone '47 (1978)

Betty Heystek Thompson '44 (1985)
Edward P. Thompson '43 (1985)
Royena Hornbeck Tice '26 (1993)
Paul H. Todd, Jr. '42 (1992)
Charles J. Venema '33 (1980)
Marilyn Barton Wilhelm '39 (1975)
J. Rodney Wilson '60 (1989)
Mary K. Woolever '70 (2000)
Nancy Southard Young '67 (1975)
Past Recipients of the
Weimer K. Hicks Award

George Acker (1999)
Rolla L. Anderson (1997)
Laurence N. Barrett (1997)
Wen Chao Chen (1994)
Ruth L. Collins (1996)
Donald C. Flesche (2001)
Joe Fugate (1998)
Marilyn Hinkle '44 (1995)
Marilyn J. LaPlante (2004)
Letitia “Tish” Loveless (2002)
John R. McFarland (1994)
George M. Nielsen (1995)
Eleanor Humphrey Pinkham ‘48 (1993)
Marcia Price (2000)
Richard T. Stavig (1993)
Kathryn N. Stratton (1993)
Babette Trader (2003)
Ruth Ziegelmaier (1994)
Nominations for Alumni Association awards are judged on the basis of the information provided in the nominating statements, which should present a concise justification of the nomination and as much supporting information as possible. All nominations are judged without regard to the nominee's race, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, or physical disability. Nominations may be made at any time and should be sent to the Office of Alumni Relations, Kalamazoo College, 1200 Academy Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 49006.
ABOUT THE AWARDS

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME inductees must have attained distinction at Kalamazoo College as athletes, coaches, or individuals closely associated with athletics. Athletes must have been students in good standing while at the College, but graduation is not a requirement. No one may be inducted fewer than five years following graduation or departure from the College. Individuals may be inducted posthumously.

THE DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD is presented to alumni based upon national or international peer recognition of their excellence and achievement in their professional field.

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD is presented to alumni or friends of the College who have made exceptional personal contributions to the College and have performed effectively in leadership positions for the Alumni Association and/or the College.

THE WEIMER K. HICKS AWARD honors a current or retired employee of the College who has provided long-term support to College programs or activities beyond the call of duty, or who has provided excellent service in the performance of his or her job, making a significant contribution to the College in ways that have advanced the goals of the Alumni Association.

Office of Alumni Relations
1200 Academy Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49006