

JWCC WILL HOST THE 9th ANNUAL INDUCTION CEREMONY FOR THE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017

John Wood Community College's Athletic Department will host the 9th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony **Saturday, February 11, 2017**. The public is invited to attend. Three former student-athletes will be inducted, as well as the introduction of a Blazer Pride award, recognizing a former volunteer, administrator, and supporter. The program will be held at approximately 5 p.m. in the Mary Ellen Orr Auditorium of the Paul Heath Center on the campus at 48th and Harrison, Quincy. It will follow a doubleheader basketball game against Lincoln College, with the women playing at 1:00 pm and the men at 3:00 pm. Inductees include:

- **Mrs. Megan (Shirey) Carlisle**, Women's Basketball (2004-2006)
- **Mr. Ryan Neisen**, Men's Basketball (1994-1996)
- **Mr. Josh Tols**, Men's Baseball (2008-2010)

Introduction of the Dr. John Letts Blazer Pride Award

- **2017 Recipient: John & Beverly Landis and Family (Brock and Nicole)**

Brad Hoyt, Director of Athletics, will serve as the master of ceremonies. Along with Coach Hoyt, JWCC President Michael Elbe will provide a welcome and will present commemorative plaques to the inductees.

Plaques honoring the inductees will be displayed on the Hall of Fame wall in the Student Activity Center. The purpose of the Athletic Hall of Fame is to recognize individuals who have distinguished themselves by their outstanding performance, work, support, and/or contributions to John Wood Trail Blazer athletics. In addition to having demonstrated outstanding ability and/or contributing to a sport or the athletic department, the inductees must possess such personal qualities as sportsmanship, character and integrity.

Megan (Shirey) Carlisle, a graduate of Carthage (IL) High School, was a member of the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 Lady Blazer women's basketball team, helping leading them to an overall record of 43-22. She was a two-time All-Conference and All-Region selection, including a First Team All-Region nod and Second Team All-Conference selection following her sophomore campaign. Megan's statistical career is still recognized as one of the best to wear a Lady Blazer uniform, as her name is a mainstay on many of the all-time leader categories (4th in total rebounds, 4th field goals made, 5th in points scored, 6th is block shots, and 7th in made free throws). After her time as a Trail Blazer, she continued an incredible career at Cardinal Stritch University. She was a two-time All-Conference performer, an NAIA All American as a senior, and helped lead her team to two consecutive NAIA national tournaments. Upon graduation, Megan moved back to Carthage, IL and began working as a nurse at Memorial Hospital in Carthage, IL. Megan is married to Tyler Carlisle and they are the proud parents of Adelyn (5) and Luke (3).

Josh Tols, a native Australian, was a member of the 2009 and 2010 Blazer baseball teams. He was a part of one of the best two year winning percentages in the program's history. Josh continues to be a mainstay on many all-time statistical categories, including 1st in single season saves, 2nd in career saves, 4th in single season strikeouts, 4th in career strikeouts, 5th in single season appearances, and 7th in career appearances. After his time at John Wood, he went on to be a two-time All-Great Lakes Valley Conference performer at Rockhurst University. Tols graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology major) in 2014. Josh is continuing his baseball career, playing professionally for the Kansas City T-Bones of the Independent League and for a professional team in his home country of Australia, the Melbourne Aces. Tols has been selected to play in the Australian All-Star game and continues to make

an impact on the field. He currently resides in both Melbourne, Australia and Kansas City, MO.

Ryan Neisen, a graduate of Payson-Seymour (IL) High School, was a member of the 1994-95 and 1995-96 Trail Blazer men's basketball teams. Neisen was well known for his end of game heroics and gritty style of play, but helping lead his team to an overall two year record of 57-15 and two National Tournament appearances highlight his career. He is still Top 10 in career assists and is one of only two players (joining fellow Hall of Famer Wayne Walker) to play in 72 career games as a Trail Blazer. He was an All-Region selection as a sophomore after helping lead his team to the NJCAA National Semi-Final game. Both of Neisen's John Wood teams have been inducted into the John Wood Athletic Hall of Fame. After graduation, Neisen continued his academic and athletic career at Columbia College, where he helped lead two teams to NAIA National Tournament appearances, garnering First Team All-Conference honors his senior season. He is currently a captain in the Fire Department in Hannibal, MO where he resides with his wife, Sheri, and their three boys, Cameron (13), Clayton (10), Christian (7).

Introduction of the Dr. John Letts Blazer Pride Award

The Dr. John Letts Blazer Pride Award was created in 2017 for individuals that have demonstrated a support for John Wood athletics through voluntarism, service, and leadership as exemplified by its namesake. This award will be presented to those contributors that were not coaches, athletes or members of a team that, through time, have exceeded expectations in their support of a particular athletic program or the totality of the John Wood athletic department. Dr. John Letts played an integral role in the development of athletics at JWCC when the first athletic staff member was hired in 1990. His fingerprint is throughout the college, including the development and additions of athletic facilities and programs. He was a constant presence at athletic contests and served as a volunteer at the scorer's table for many years. Letts was the Dean of Student Services when the athletic department was established then later served as the Vice President of Student Services until being named the fifth President of John Wood Community College in January 2012. After more than 25 years in key leadership roles at the college, Dr. Letts retired in 2014 and this award is in recognition of his service and contributions.

The Landis Family (John, Beverly, Nicole, and Brock) have been integral parts of the athletic department and basketball game days for over 20 years. John, Nicole and Brock started "working" for the college when basketball games were still begin played at the CYO! Brock started helping the men's team in 1995 and Nicole started with the women's team in 2001 and when Brock decided he needed more time for "high school" activities, she took over the men's team water needs also! Nicole continues to assist both the men's and the women's program at nearly every home game. John has been on shot clock "duty" for many years, including the current season, and was "given" the "head music man" title when he made some off hand comment about the National Anthem that was being played! Bev has been a constant influence on coaches and student-athletes not only as a byproduct of her position in the Dean of Student's Office, but by constantly providing influence both during and after a work day. We are excited to recognize this terrific Trail Blazer family as the 1st recipient of the Dr. John Letts Blazer Pride Award.