



**2016**  
**Hall of Fame**  
**Induction Ceremony**

**November 5, 2016**

**Devens Inn & Conference Center**  
**Devens, MA**

# ASRHS Athletic Hall of Fame

Induction Dinner & Ceremony – November 5, 2016

6:00PM – 7:00PM

Cocktail Hour

7:00PM – 8:00PM

Buffet Dinner

8:00PM – 9:30PM

Induction Ceremony

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Dr. Mary Malone

Introductions

Jon Sweeney

Raffle & Silent Auction

**2015 – 2017**

## **ASRHS Athletic Hall of Fame Board**

EST. 2015

Jon Sweeney

Chair

Tony Casavecchia

Vice Chair

Dan Gleason

Secretary

Jamie Lamoreaux

Member

Joe Leone

Member

Sue Copeland

Member

Pat Kelly

Member

# ASRHS Athletic Hall of Fame

## Class of 2016

### Athletes

Lorna Briggs

Roderick "Roddy" Brooks

Shirley Woods

Larry Morris

Mike Morris

Neal Connor

### Benefactor

Ken Blanchette

### Coach

Jane Steinberg

### Team

1979 Boys Track &  
Field Team

## Class of 2015

### Athletes

Rita Briggs

Dr. Charles S. Brown

George Scullane

Joe Morris

Sue Heuman Nelsen

Shawn Murphy

### Benefactor

Justin Lamoreaux

### Coach

Joe Hickey

### Team

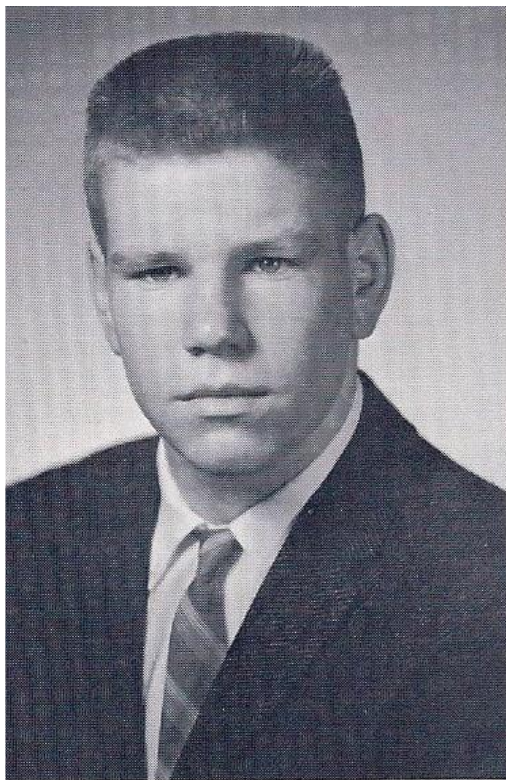
1980 Football Team



# Roderick "Roddy" Brooks



Class of 1962

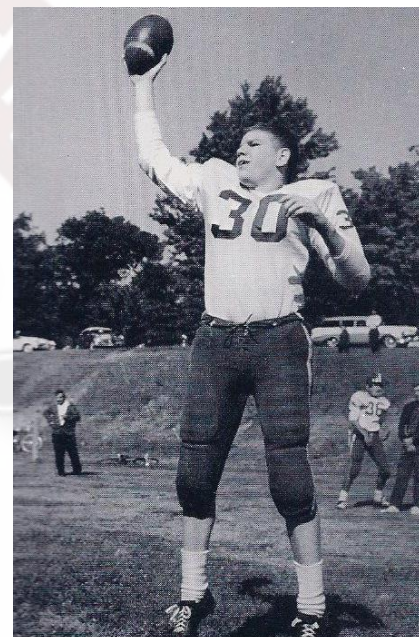


RODERICK M. BROOKS  
"Roddy"

## BOYS' VARSITY BASEBALL



From left to right: ROW 1: Christopher Abernathy, Christopher Katrilas, Thomas O'Malley, Robert Panza, Jim Gardner, ROW 2: Edward Crovo, Jonathan Moore, James Thompson, James Wood, George Faz, Gerald Quigley, Arthur Ballis, ROW 3; Mr. Erickson (Coach), Francis Callahan, Peter Schlück, William Hurley, Stephen Hamel, Roderick Brooks, Michael Whalen, Richard Stone, Mr. Milleson (Head Coach).



Roderick Brooks  
Tackle

Three sport starter

Senior year co-captain football, baseball, basketball

Outstanding Lineman Award - Junior and Senior

Class President – Junior and Senior

University of Massachusetts

Athletic scholarship for football

Three year letterman 1963, 1965, 1966

Was co-captain of 1966 Yankee Conference Champion Team

First Team All Yankee Conference in 1966 as a Linebacker

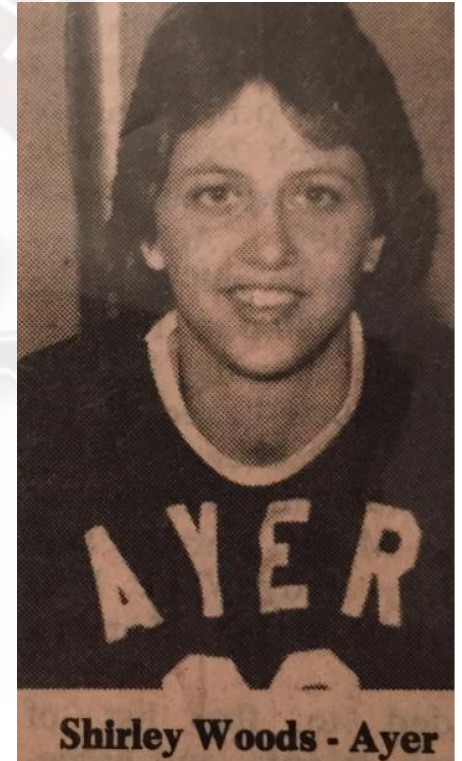
Drafted by the NFL Detroit Lions.



# Shirley Woods



Class of 1981



Three sport starter – Field Hockey, Softball, Basketball  
Co-Captain Basketball Team – 1980 & 1981  
Score 782 points averaging 14 points and 10 rebounds/game  
Lowell Sun All Star Basketball 1980 & 1981  
Wachusett League All Star Basketball 1980 & 1981  
1981 Undefeated League Championship Basketball Team  
1980 & 1981 Division II Central Mass  
Sectional Championship Basketball Teams  
1980 & 1981 State Finalist Runner-up Basketball

# Lorna Briggs

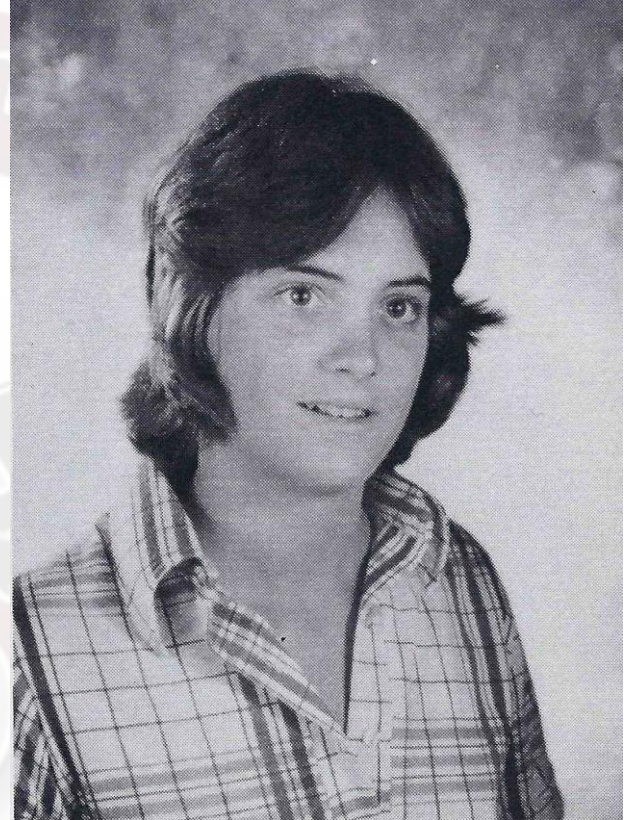


Class of 1978

## *GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL*



Top row (L to R) R. Dowey, A. Briggs, M. Labowicz, B. Knittel, D. Day, S. Heuman, P. Creamer, Coach J. Steinberg. Middle row (L to R) Tri-Captains V. Williams, C. Gaudet, L. Briggs. Bottom row Janine Deforge.



Lorna was the Senior Captain of Field Hockey, Basketball and Softball Teams

All Star in Field Hockey and Basketball

Voted Most Valuable Player as a senior

Basketball

Averaged 17 points per game as a senior

Wachusett League Champions in 1980 with an undefeated 14-0 record

Central Massachusetts Champions 1980

Runner-up State Finals in Division II 1980



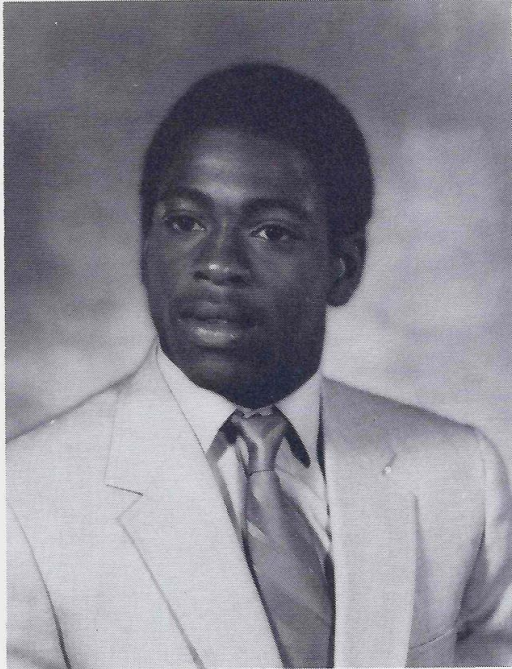
# Neal Connor



Class of 1981

Neal Connor  
"Player"

Football 1,2,3,4 . . . Winter Carnival . . . Basketball 1,4 . . . Track 1,2,3,4 . . . Chorus 2,4 . . . All State Track 2,3,4 . . . All New England Track 2,3,4 . . . All Central Mass. Track 2,3,4



FORT DEVENS — Neal Connor completes the triple jump at a previous meet this year. [Kevin McCauley]



AYER — Proud parents were among the many people who gathered at the school parking lot to greet Chicago International Invitational Prep meet winner shown [l to r] are Neal Connor, his mother, Mrs. William E. Connor; Mrs. Morris, Mike Morris and Earl Morris, parents of Mike.



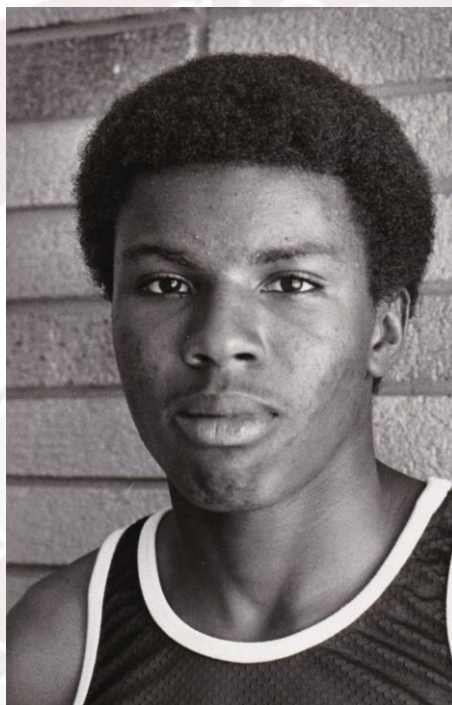
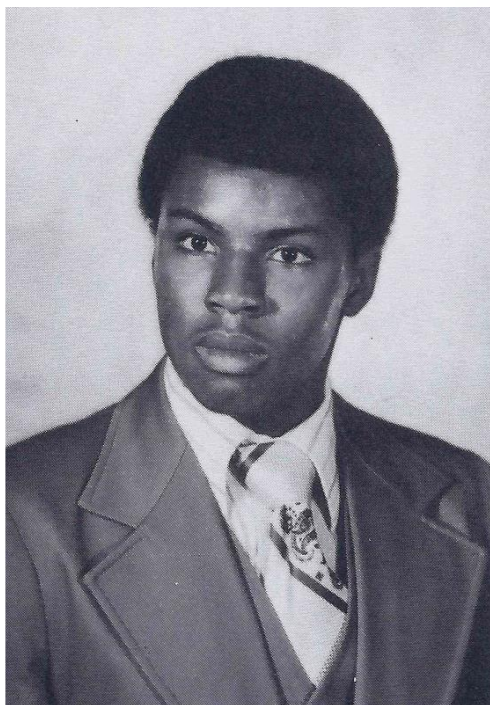
Member of the 1980 Super Bowl Champion Football Team  
Member of 1979 and 1981 State Champion Track & Field Teams  
Holds the MA State Record for Triple Jump distance at 50'4"  
Inducted into the MA State Track Coaches Association Hall of Fame  
for the Triple Jump in 2016

Member of 1981 Ayer 4X100 Relay Team (with Mike, Larry and Jamie Morris) that holds the MA and New England record at 41 seconds  
In 1981, in Triple Jump Competition, Neal was the League Champion, District Champion, State Champion and New England Champion  
He participated in the 1981 Outdoor National Meet in Chicago and won the Silver Medal with a Triple Jump of 50'4"

# Mike Morris



Class of 1981



Member of the 1980 Super Bowl Champion Football Team  
Member of 1979 and 1981 State Champion Track & Field Teams  
He was voted All Central Mass., All State, and All New England in  
Track 1981

Holds the MA State Record for 100m at 10.4s

Holds the NE Championship Record for 100m at 10.36s

Inducted into the MA State Track Coaches Association Hall of Fame  
for Sprinting in 2016

Member of 1981 Ayer 4X100 Relay Team (with Larry and Jamie  
Morris Neal Connor) that holds the MA and New England record at  
41.2 seconds

Holds the Syracuse records for the 100m (10.32) and 200m (20.52)  
Was an All-American in the 55 yard dash



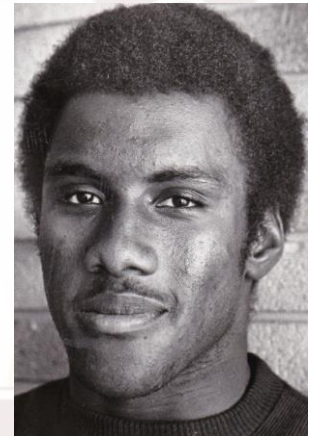
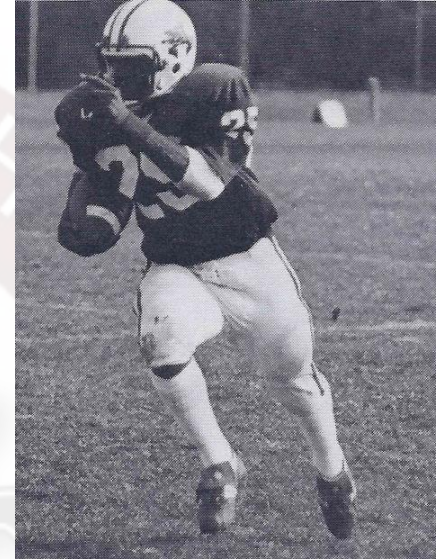
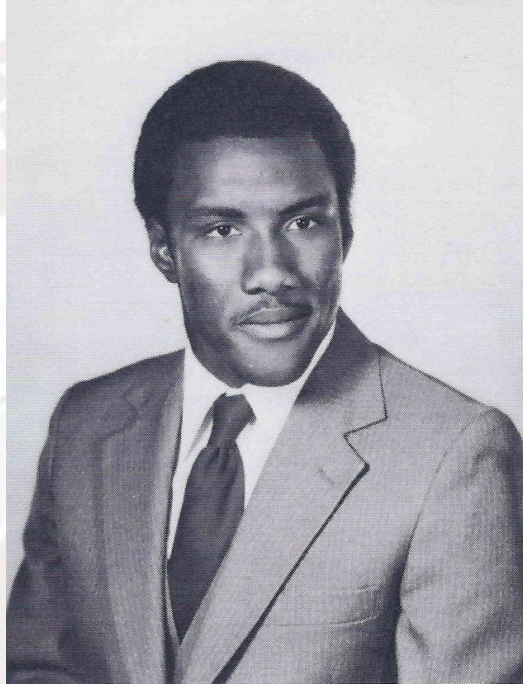
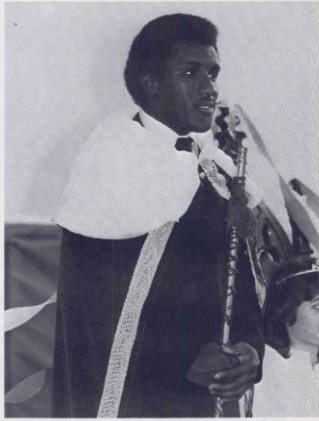
# Larry Morris



Class of 1981

## LARRY MORRIS HOMECOMING KING 1980

Here's a hand to the boy who has courage to do what he knows to be right.  
When he falls in the way of temptation  
He has a hard battle to fight.  
Who strives against self and his comrades  
Will find a most powerful foe.  
All honor to him if he conquers  
A cheer for the boy who says "NO."



Captain of the 1980 Super Bowl Champion Football Team

Member of 1981 State Champion Track & Field Teams

Member of 1981 Ayer 4X100 Relay Team (with Mike and Jamie Morris and Neal Connor) that holds the MA and New England record at 41 seconds

Rushed for 1939 yards and 33 Touchdowns in 1980 breaking Joe's records

# Ken “Froggy” Blanchette

**Benefactor**



**Class of 1967**



...during the game...The Representative, Bob Hargraves, the Chief, Jay Rider, the sports editor, Ken Blanchette and the lumberman, Calvin Moore during the Ayer-Littleton Thanksgiving Day football game. [Love photo]



Member of the inaugural class at Ayer High School, graduating in 1967. He lettered in basketball, under fellow Hall of Fame inductee Joe Hickey. 1985 to 2012 - Ken wrote full time for Nashoba Publishing in the sports department.

Ken was committed to ensuring that the accomplishments of those in Ayer athletics would be known and devoted his life to lauding local athletes for their accomplishments on the field, floor, ice and diamond.

Ken began holding an annual event called “Sports Night”, where student-athletes from local high schools received a variety of awards. The theme of the night wasn’t that you had to be good at sports, but that you had to be a good person.

Ken used his time and his work to model for student athletes what it means to have sportsmanship.



# Jane S Steinberg

## Coach



## Ayer's Jane Steinberg Voted Coach Of Year

Having compiled some spectacular numbers in her seven-year tenure as Ayer girls' varsity basketball coach, Jane Steinberg is no stranger to post-season coaching honors.

But this one meant something special, she said.

"I'm pleased. I've gotten it from The Lowell Sun the last three years, but I wanted it more for the Wachusett League, because it's from the coaches' point of view," said Steinberg, named 1979-80 Wachusett League Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year by her peers.

"With The Lowell Sun the sportswriters do it, but it's a good feeling when the coaches vote you in. That means a great deal to me," Steinberg said.

The prevailing sentiment among the coaches seemed to be that Steinberg got the most out of her material — perhaps more than anyone should have expected. In voting for her, the coaches made the following comments:

"If I couldn't coach my team in a big game, I'd want Jane Steinberg to do it. Her team's always so well-prepared. They're always so in control of themselves. She works them hard and instills in them a sense of what to do. They don't make mistakes. Her kids are very confident, very sure of themselves, and I think that comes from the coach."

"I think with the type of kids she has at Ayer, she's in a little bit different situation from a high school coach. She's managed to null the kids in-

## Steinberg takes 150th win at Ayer

AYER — Ayer High girls' basketball coach Jane Steinberg notched her 150th career win at the helm of the Panther varsity Friday when her team walloped Lunenburg, 49-37, in Wachusett League action.

In Steinberg's 10 years as head varsity coach, she has accumulated an impressive 150-47 mark.

Last night, outstanding performances by Donna Lambert and Dawn Roy, who pumped through 10 points each, and cap-

tain Ann Callahan and Michelle Brouner, who chipped in 8 each paved the way for number 150.

Callahan, who is almost a foot shorter than Lunenburg's 6'4" center Cora Gustason, literally rose to the challenge, as the talented Panther leaper tore down 19 rebounds.

In the JV game, Ayer was again victorious, as Lori Peuro and Carla Buscemi hooped 12 points each en route to a 51-33 triumph.

Panther Coaching Career spanned 4 decades 1971- 2006.  
Coached Field Hockey, Softball, Basketball, Volleyball, Cross  
Country, Tennis and Track.

Central Mass Division III Basketball Championships in 1980 - 1981  
State Finalist in Basketball 1980 -1981

Voted Lowell Sun Basketball Coach of the Year 3 times  
Final record as Ayer Girl's Basketball Coach 160-62  
Coach of the Year for Softball in 2000

Central Mass Division III Championship in Softball 2000  
Named Ayer High School Athletic Director 1991  
Fought for equal pay for men and women in 1970's

# 1979 Boys Track & Field



*Athletic*

League, District & State Champion Track & Field Team  
Neal Connor voted All Central Mass, All State, and All New England



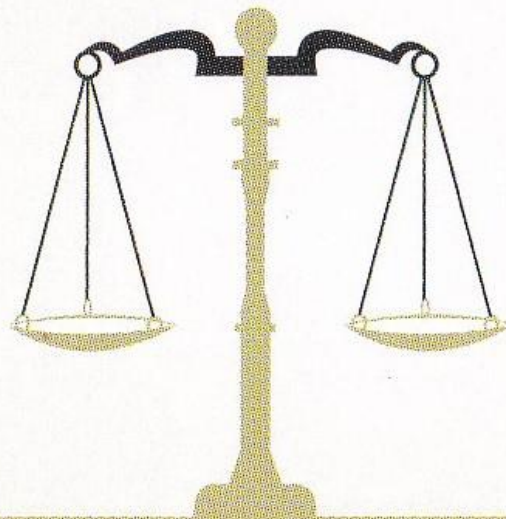
# Thank You

The Ayer Shirley High School Athletic Hall of Fame Board wishes to thank the following people for their support and generosity.

Superintendent Dr. Mary Malone, Mr. Copeland, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Gleason, Mrs. Casavecchia, Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Lamoreaux, Justin Lamoreaux, Don Parker, Lowell Sun, Nashoba Publishing, Calvin Moore and Billiard's Café, The Vineyard, Mitrano Removal Service, The Law Office of Thomas A. Gibbons, DJ Wiz and all the Ayer High School Alumni that have helped us put this program and evening together.

THE LAW OFFICE OF THOMAS A. GIBBONS, P.C.

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THOMAS A. GIBBONS  
Attorney-at-Law

*Congratulations  
Panther  
Hall of Fame  
Inductees!*

