



November 24, 2008

Ross Hall selects 1994 cross country team

Little Giants' booster Lease to be inducted posthumously

News-Messenger reports

FREMONT -- A state runner-up cross country team highlights the 2009 selections for the induction into the Fremont Ross Sports Hall of Fame.

The 20th induction class will be at Ole Zim's on May 16. The Hall of Fame Golf Tournament will be played May 15 at Sycamore Hills Golf Club in Fremont.

Joining the 1994 Little Giants' boys cross country team will be longtime Ross athletic booster Daniel H. Lease, Robert "Bob" Atkins, David E. Liggins, Katie Marritt Lusvardi and Jody Kusmer.

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee selected the inductees Sunday.

Jeremiah Wagner, Jeremiah Smith, Dane Snyder, Doug Jibilian, Kurt Snyder, Clint Hill and Jake Smith comprised the team that finished second in the 1994 Ohio High School State Cross County Meet to Cleveland St. Ignatius in the Division I title race. The team was coached by John Elder.

Lease, a swim official for more than 50 years, gave his time and financial support to Ross athletic teams. A former Ross School Board member, Lease died in the early fall and will be inducted posthumously.

Atkins was a standout athlete in the late 1950s. He won four letters in track and two more in cross country. Highlighting his track career was a school-record 48.6 seconds run in the 440-yard dash.

Liggins won five letters at Ross, two in football and three in track. A standout defensive back, the 1976 graduate led the Little Giants in interceptions his junior and senior seasons and was named to the All-Ohio team.

Marritt won nine letters for Ross -- three in basketball and tennis, two in track and one in softball. She played first singles in tennis for three years and was the starting point guard for three years on the basketball squad.

Kusmer was a three-year letter winner in softball, pitching three no-hitters while compiling a 40-7 record, 17 shutouts and a career earned run average of 0.72.

Ticket information for the induction ceremonies will be announced at a later date.