

# ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



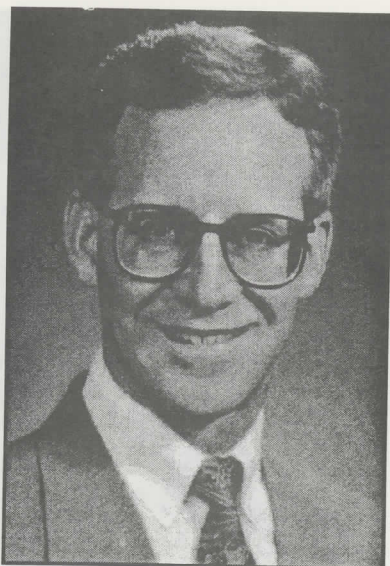
BERNARD ARKEBAUER

ATHLETE: 1931-34

(To Be Honored Posthumously)

“**A**rkie” played the lead role in Concordia’s undefeated championship football season of 1931, scoring 19 touchdowns and 118 of the team’s 206 points. He also started at the center position on the 1931 championship basketball team.

After leaving Concordia, Arkebauer graduated from Concordia-River Forest in 1935. From 1935 until his retirement in 1976, he served as a teacher, principal, director of music, director of youth, director of Christian education, choir director and organist in various schools and churches of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. He also served the church at large with distinction as a member of the LCMS Committee on Religious Education of the Mentally Retarded and as secretary of the International Walther League.



DAN CLOETER

ATHLETE: 1970-74

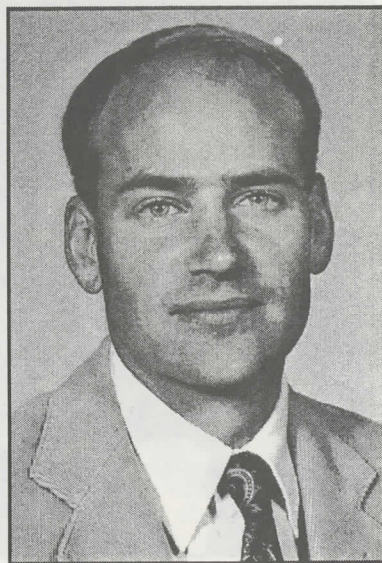
**C**loeter was Concordia’s first great distance runner, setting records in the 1 mile, 2-mile, and 6-mile track events. He was the team MVP for four years in cross country and two years in track, and a five-time NAIA All-American in cross country and track.

After graduating from Concordia, Cloeter became an LCMS pastor and has served in various congregations from 1978 to the present time. He also continued his long-distance running, winning the Chicago Marathon twice and the St. Louis and Lincoln Marathons once each. In 1976 and 1980 he qualified for the Olympic Marathon Trials.

## KREGG EINSPAHR ATHLETE: 1978-82

At the time of his induction, Einspahr was the most accomplished male athlete in Concordia's history. In track and cross country, he won six NAIA National Championships, set three NAIA national records, was the Lincoln-Journal Star and Omaha World Herald Nebraska State College Athlete of the Year, won the NAIA Duer Award as the Outstanding National Scholar-Athlete and was inducted into the NAIA Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1992.

Since graduating from Concordia and after obtaining his master's and doctorate degrees in biological sciences, Einspahr has served as a faculty lecturer at the University of Texas, a senior research fellow at the Mayo Clinic and (presently) an associate professor and track and cross country coach at Concordia-Seward. He qualified three times for the Olympic Trials (twice a finalist) and was ranked in the top 10 in the U.S. in the steeplechase.



## WALTER HELLWEGE COACH, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: 1919-40 (To Be Honored Posthumously)

Hellwege is considered the most significant figure in the early years of men's intercollegiate athletics at Concordia. He served as athletic director and coached virtually all men's sports — football, basketball, baseball and track — during all or most of the time between 1919 and 1940. He coached many outstanding teams, including the 1931 undefeated championship football team and the 1931 championship basketball team.

After retiring from coaching in 1940, Hellwege continued teaching at Concordia until he retired in 1972. He remained a resident of Seward and a member of the college community until his death in 1977, spending his entire career at Concordia.







PENNY JACOBSEN  
ATHLETE: 1982-86

Jacobsen is regarded as one of the finest softball players in Concordia's history, and also enjoyed a stellar basketball career. In softball, she set four school records, was NIAC All-Conference for one year, NAIA All-District for four years, an NAIA Scholar-Athlete for one year and an NAIA All-American for two years. In basketball she set seven school records and was the team MVP and captain for three years.

Since graduating from Concordia, Jacobsen has served as a teacher and coach in LCMS Christian day schools in Missouri, Florida and (presently) Nebraska.



JUDITH KRETZSCHMAR  
COACH: 1963-68

During the time she served at Concordia, Kretzschmar was responsible for expanding the women's sports program from the intramural level to the extramural level and finally to the intercollegiate level. Field hockey, volleyball, swimming, track, softball and tennis were added as women's intercollegiate sports offered during these five years.

Upon leaving Concordia, Kretzschmar became a teacher at Concordia-River Forest, and has served there ever since. She is presently an associate professor of physical education.

HERBERT "BULLDOG" MEYER  
ATHLETE, COACH, ATHLETIC  
DIRECTOR: 1929-32, 1940-54

(To Be Honored Posthumously)

**M**eyer was an outstanding football player and quarterback for the undefeated 1931 football team. From 1940 to 1954 he was athletic director and coached all sports during most of those years. His career record in football was 62-34-7 and his 1941-42 basketball team had a record of 12-4. He was instrumental in organizing the Central Church College Conference in 1951, and won the conference title three of the next four years in both football and track. He spearheaded construction of the present football-track stadium.

After retiring from coaching in 1954, Meyer obtained his doctorate from the University of Nebraska and continued to serve as a chemistry professor at Concordia until he retired from teaching in 1980. He continued working at Concordia in the areas of development and sports records, and continued to be one of the strongest supporters of Concordia's athletic programs.



EUGENE OETTING  
ATHLETE: 1950-54

**A** multisport athlete, Oetting powered the Bulldogs to conference titles in three of his four years as a lineman for the football team. In football he was All-Conference for three years, a member of the Omaha World Herald All-State College Team and Little College All-American Honorable Mention. In track he was the conference medal winner for four years in three different events and a member of three conference championship teams. He also lettered two years in basketball and baseball. In 1954 he was the Omaha World Herald Nebraska College Athlete of the Year.

After graduating from Concordia Oetting taught, coached and served as principal at Lutheran high schools in Houston and Los Angeles before returning to Concordia in 1967. At Concordia he has served as a professor and has held various administrative positions. He received his doctorate from the University of Nebraska and has served the church at large in a variety of positions.







**TOM RAABE**  
**ATHLETE: 1967-71**

**D**uring his career, Raabe set nine Concordia records in basketball, including total career points (2,016) and career average points per game (20.0). He started every varsity game during his four years (101 consecutive games) and was All-Conference for three years, All-District for one year, a member of the Lincoln Journal-Star and Omaha World Herald All State College Teams, and an NAIA Honorable Mention All-American.

After graduating from Concordia, Raabe played one year for "Athletes in Action" before teaching for several years in both Lutheran and public schools. Since 1978 he has worked for various newspapers and publishing companies, and is currently working as an independent author, writer and editor.



**MICHELLE REED**  
**ATHLETE: 1985-88**

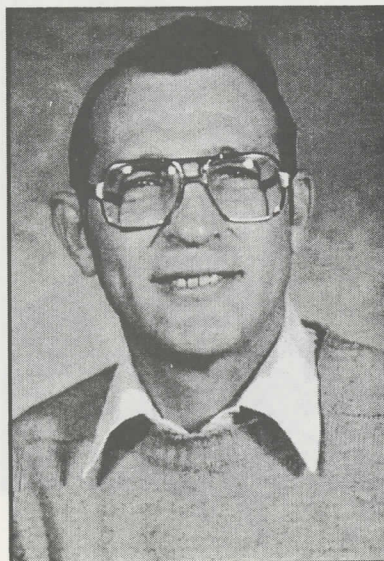
**A**t the time of her induction, Reed held every women's golf record (11) in existence at Concordia. She was the team MVP all four years, and won two NIAC individual championships and three NAIA District individual championships. During her career, the women's golf team compiled a dual-meet record of 13-4, and won the NIAC and NAIA District tournaments twice each. As a senior in 1988, she competed in the number three position on the men's golf team.

After graduating from Concordia, Reed received her medical degree in 1993 and is presently in the first year of a three-year residency program. She plans to eventually practice medicine in her home town of Glenwood Springs, Colo.

GARY SEEVERS  
ATHLETE: 1953-57

In football, Seevers set four school records, including total career yardage and total career yardage per game — records that stood for nearly 30 years. In four years of varsity football, he started every game but one (due to an injury) and was All-Conference for four years, Lincoln Journal-Star College Athlete of the Year (1957), and Little All-American Honorable Mention for two years. He also lettered four years in baseball and three years in track.

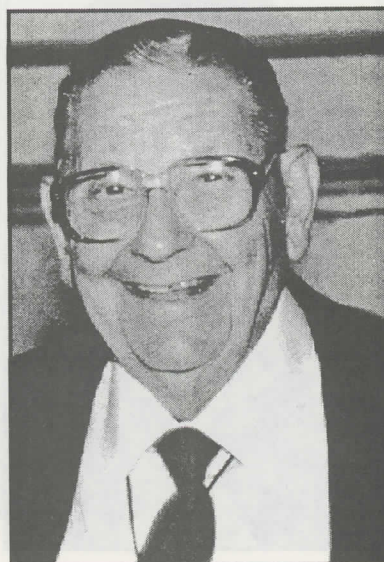
Since graduating from Concordia, Seevers has taught and coached for 17 years in three LCMS schools, five years at Dana College, and since 1979 at Blair (Neb.) Junior-Senior High School.



HERBERT TOENSING  
ATHLETE: 1930-33

Toensing dominated Concordia's basketball opponents for three years with his deadly long shots. He was the leading scorer and captain of the 1931 conference championship team and the leading scorer in the conference. He also played tennis and was a member of the 1930 championship tennis team.

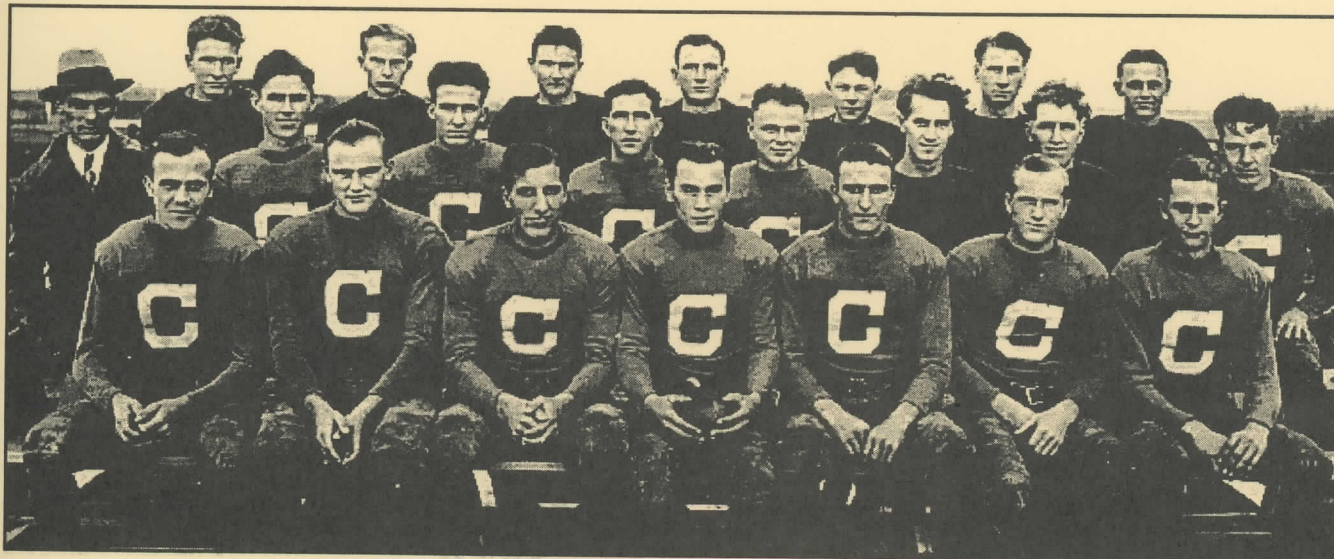
After graduating from Concordia, Toensing served as a teacher, principal, organist and choir director for 42 years in LCMS schools before retiring in St. Louis in 1975. He also founded the St. Louis Lutheran Children's Choir and directed it for 17 years.





## THE 1931 FOOTBALL TEAM

The 1931 football team was one of the finest teams ever to play at Concordia. The team was conference champion and undefeated (7-0), out-scoring its opponents 206-19.



1st row (L-R): Ray Maag, Herbert Einspahr, Bernard Arkebauer, Herb Meyer (captain), Emil Petsch, Bill Zobel, Gilbert Kufahl. 2nd row: Coach Walter Hellwege, Herb Lase, Elmer Bauder, John Tucker, Chester Platt, Fred Kauffeld, Elmer Kueker, Adolf Hellbusch. 3rd row: Vern Ronnekamp, Ernst Brandt, Herb Harms, Otto Meyerhoff, Paul Stohlman, Leroy Blank, Bruno Neben