

# Mineral Area College

## St. Francois County Rotary Club/MAC Athletic Hall of Fame

[Nomination Form](#)

### **St. Francois County Rotary Teams with MAC Athletics to Create Hall of Fame**

(PARK HILLS, Mo.)— As longtime boosters of Mineral Area College Athletics, St. Francois County Rotary Club is teaming up with the MAC Athletic Department to form the St. Francois County Rotary Club/MAC Athletic Hall of Fame.

The 16x20 portraits of coaches, teams and players will be located in the MAC Private Dining Room, adjacent to the Field House and cafeteria. The inductees will be chosen by a committee spearheaded by Rotary members.

So that the public can suggest additions, a form has been created that will help the committee review the nominees. Members will consider whether the nominee has:

- Brought distinction to the athletic program
- Displayed outstanding character and leadership
- Demonstrated good sportsmanship and integrity
- Made positive contributions to the support, popularity and/or community acceptance of the athletic program.

# Bob Sechrest



**Men's Basketball Coach/Athletic Director**

Robert "Bob" Sechrest's coaching career began with four years at Van Buren High School and a record of 81-41. After a 26-5 year at Thayer, Sechrest coached at Flat River High School for six years before spending 24 years at MAC, where he compiled a 465-273 record. Sechrest was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in 1990.

During halftime ceremonies of the January 2002 Mineral Area-Three Rivers basketball game, the former basketball coach returned to center court to be recognized for his commitment to the community college. Chip Peterson, president of MAC's board of trustees at the time, honored Sechrest and his family by announcing the MAC Field House would be renamed the Robert E. Sechrest Sr. Field House, noting special tribute to Coach Sechrest for his leadership and accomplishments on and off the basketball court.

Sechrest's list of achievements include seven nationally-ranked teams, four NBA players and numerous four-year transfers, three-time NJCAA Region 16 Coach of the Year, Director of Region 16 for 16 years, NCAA Basketball Rules Committee, Player Selection Committee for Pan American Games and Olympics, assistant coach of the U. S. gold medal team in the 1979 Mexico City Games, and named to the NJCAA Hall of Fame. He also was an assistant basketball coach with the NJCAA all-star team in Brazil and Argentina.

His life came to an end on June 19, 2008, after a brief battle with lung cancer, but Coach Sech's tie to Mineral Area College was still strong— his funeral was held at center court in the House that "Sech" Built, where his friends, family and admirers paid their respects and remembered the life of the man who spent some of his finest hours under the very basketball goals under which they were sitting.

# Hal Loughary



Longtime Baseball Coach

Coach Hal Loughary started up the MAC Baseball program in 1967, and remained head coach until 1987. Loughary's 1981 team holds the college's "wins" record by winning 40 games and only losing 10 games. The Mineral Area College Baseball Field was dedicated to Loughary in 2004, and bears the name Hal Loughary Field.

Loughary recently reminisced about his years as a Cardinal coach.

"I have absolutely no regrets about my two decades at MAC," Loughary said. "They were the best years of my life and I met a lot of great people, many of them are young men who played for me. Many outstanding young men who were affiliated with MAC baseball went on to successful careers. I enjoyed and respected them all. We remember our kids who made it to the major leagues as Tim Lollar, Scott Little, Steve Bieser. We also remember those who share the game by teaching and coaching like Mark Hogan, head baseball coach at SEMO and Keith Guten who coached at Southwest Missouri State for many years."

Loughary lettered in both baseball and basketball at Murray State University in Murray, Ky., where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame for both sports. The St. Louis Cardinals signed him to play in their Class D team when he graduated in 1950. He played for the Paducah Chiefs only a year when they planned to move him up to a Class C team.

# Bill Bradley



**Women's Basketball Coach**

Coach Bradley married his wife Doris Ann Crouch in 1955 and they had two children, Vicki and Bo.

Coach Bradley played basketball at Hannibal-LaGrange College, University of Louisiana Monroe, and McNeese State University and obtained a master's in Education from Ole Miss. He won many honors and awards in basketball including NJCAA All American at Hannibal-LaGrange in 1954, All-Southern AAU Basketball Team in 1957, and All-Gulf States Conference in 1955 and 1956. His team placed third both years in the National Tournament. He set a conference scoring record of 690 points and still holds the school record of 473 rebounds in one season. He was inducted into the University of Louisiana Monroe Hall of Fame in 1981. Bradley was inducted into the Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1997 as a player and the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in 1994 as a coach. He is one of the four players to have his basketball jersey retired at Hannibal LaGrange on its Wall of Fame.

Bradley taught in public schools for 30 years in the Bismarck, Valley, Esther and Central school district. He coached varsity boys' basketball for 19 years with a record of 326-170. His best record was 29 and 1 in 1976 when his team finished 3rd in the state in Class 3A. The softball field at Bismarck High School was named the Bradley Field and dedicated to Fran, Max, Fred, Syd and Bill Bradley. He is also a member of that school's Hall of Fame.

Coach Bradley coached the Mineral Area College women's basketball team for 19 seasons from 1981-1999, and finished with a record of 307 to 127. His teams won 7 MCCAC Conference titles and 5 East Division Region 16 Championships. His overall coaching record for boys and girls was 633-297 in 38 years.

**Tim Gray**



**Men's Basketball Coach/Athletic Director**

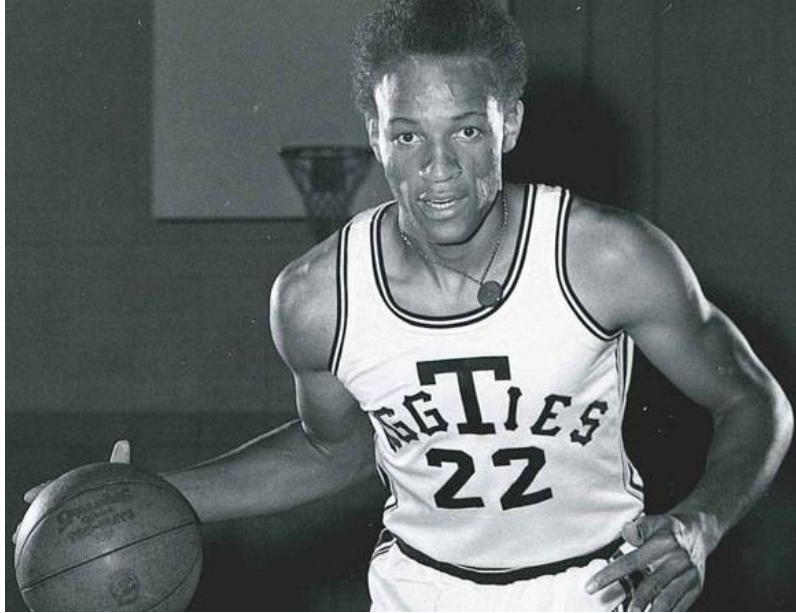
Tim Gray was a successful collegiate athlete, basketball coach and administrator in NJCAA Region 16. Gray's college basketball playing career began in NJCAA Region 16 as he was a starter for Jefferson College in Hillsboro, MO. Tim transferred to Friends University in Wichita, Kansas. Where he was twice named the KCAC Player of the Year as well as collecting honors as the Most Valuable Player on Friends University men's basketball team in 1981 and 1982.

Upon completion of his bachelor's degree, Gray took over as varsity assistant coach at Friends University for the next two seasons. After winning back to back junior varsity KCAC conference champions and having a record of 36-8, he joined the coaching staff at Mineral Area College in 1984 under legendary coach Bob Sechrest. When Sechrest retired from basketball in 1985, Tim became the second head basketball coach in Mineral Area College history and the youngest collegiate head coach in the country at that time.

After leading the Cardinals to five MCCAC Championships and one Region 16 title, Gray retired from coaching in 2004 with a head coaching record of 421-196 (385-188 at MAC). Gray served as athletic director at Mineral Area College from 2004-2011.

## **Robert "Sonny" Parker**





**Men's Basketball Player**

Growing up in Chicago, Sonny Parker was named to All-City, All-State and All-Public League while playing for Farragut High School. Recruited by Mineral Area College's legendary Coach Bob Sechrest, Sonny blossomed at the NJCAA level for the Cardinals. He was twice named to the NJCAA All-American team while he also garnered honors as Midwest Junior College Athletic Conference and NJCAA Region 16 Player of the year in 1973-74. Parker is the all-time leading scorer for Mineral Area College and was named the NJCAA Hall of Fame.

After his tenure at Mineral Area College, Parker continued his collegiate playing career at Texas A & M University. During his career at Texas A&M, Parker was a star, leading the Aggies to two Southwest Conference titles. He was named 1st Team All-Southwest Conference during the two years and the team reached the NCAA Tournament his junior year. Parker was the Southwestern Conference Player of the Year in 1975 and the team MVP. He was also inducted into the Texas A&M Athletics Hall of Fame.

Parker was drafted 17th overall by the Golden State Warriors in 1976. His best season was in 1978-1979 when he hit .519 field goal percentage and averaged 15 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists per game with 144 steals and 33 blocks. He had a six year career in the NBA, with averages of 9.9 points per game, 4.1 rebounds and 2.1 assists per game.

Parker and his wife have seven children. Their youngest son, Jabari, plays professionally in the NBA for the Milwaukee Bucks.

**Steve Bieser**



**Men's Baseball Player**

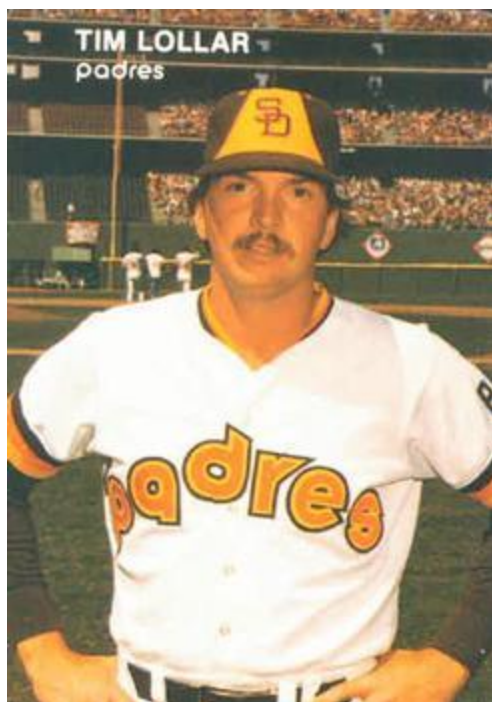
Steve Bieser, a native of Perryville, Missouri, attended Mineral Area College and played baseball for Coach Hal Loughary in 1987. He then transferred to Southeast Missouri State University to complete his collegiate playing experience and graduated in 1989.

Bieser was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in the 32nd round and made it to the majors after eight years in the minor leagues as primarily a utility player. He made his major league debut with the New York Mets in 1997. Bieser played 47 games with the Mets that year. The following year in 1998, he signed with Pittsburgh Pirates and played 13 more major league games. Bieser continued his career in the minors and finished with the Memphis Redbirds in 2001. During his professional playing career, Bieser played every defensive position on the field at least one time.

After his playing career ended, he coached at St. John Vianney High School in St. Louis where he led the team to 137-51 record and won two Missouri State Championships in 2004 and 2006 with the Golden Griffins.

Steve served as the head coach at Southeast Missouri State University from 2013-2016. While at SEMO, Coach Bieser won 3 outright Ohio Valley Conference Championships, one Ohio Valley Conference Tournament Championship, and appeared in one NCAA Regional (2016). In June of 2016, Steve was named the head baseball coach at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Steve is also a member of the NJCAA Region 16 Hall of Fame.

**Tim Lollar**



**Men's Baseball Player**

Tim Lollar graduated from Farmington High School and attended Mineral Area College from 1974-1976, where he played baseball for Coach Hal Loughary. Following a two year career at MAC, Lollar transferred to the University of Arkansas, where he was drafted by the New York Yankees in the 4th round of the 1978 MLB Draft.

Shortly after being drafted, Lollar made his major league debut in June of 1980 for the New York Yankees. In 1980, the left handed pitcher made 14 appearances for the Yankees, including one start. During spring training in 1981, Lollar was traded to the San Diego Padres. In his four seasons with San Diego, Tim won a career best 16 games(1982), was named opening day starter(1983), and started a National League Championship Series and World Series game(1984). He also played for the Chicago White Sox and Boston Red Sox before finishing his professional career in the Detroit Tiger and St. Louis Cardinal organizations. Lollar retired from baseball in 1987.

Tim Lollar currently resides in Lakewood, Colorado, where he is a PGA of America Professional and golf instructor at Lakewood Country Club. Tim is also a member of the NJCAA Region 16 Hall of Fame.

## Russ Schoene



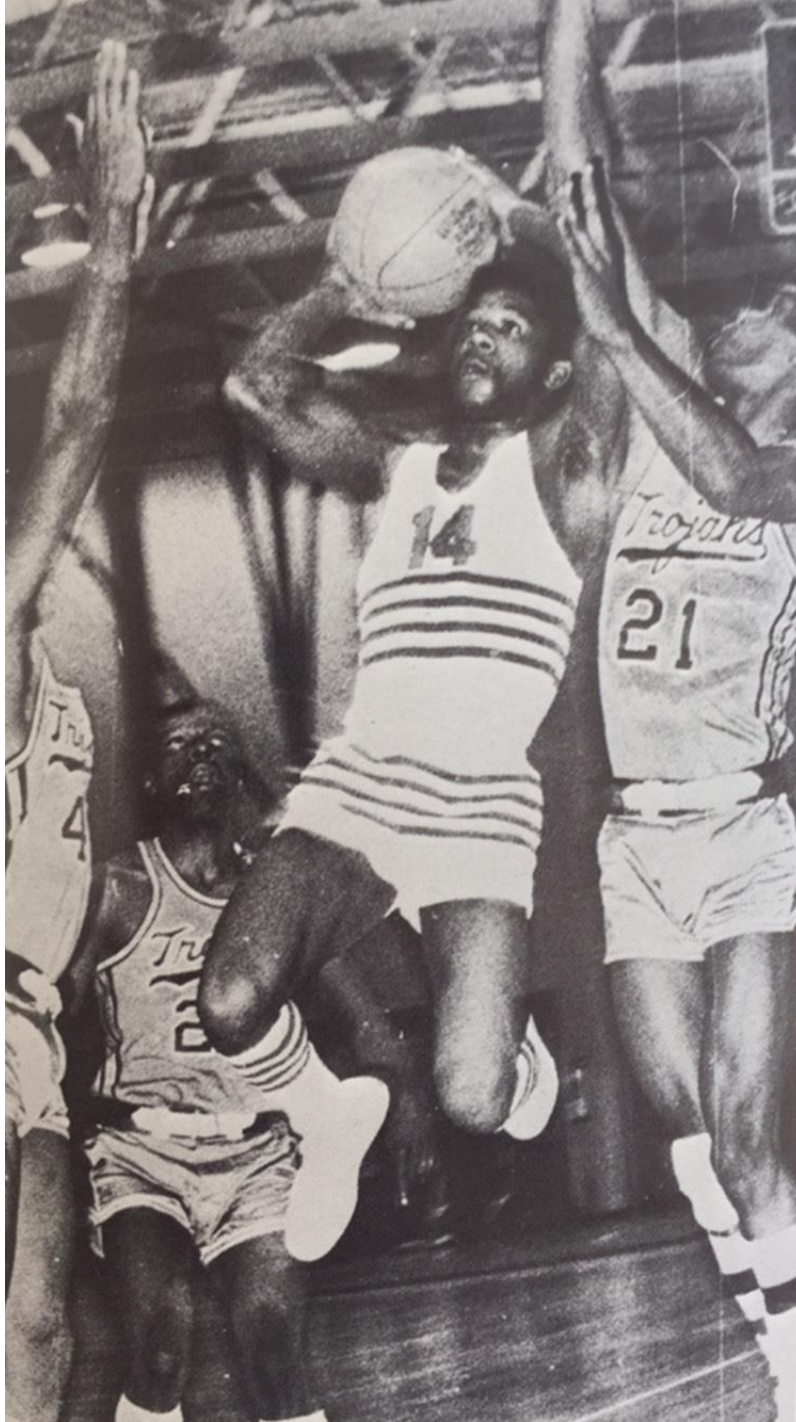


**Men's Basketball Player**

Russ Schoene, a native of Trenton, Illinois, played basketball at Mineral Area College under MAC and St. Francois Rotary Club Hall of Fame coach Bob Sechrest from 1978-1980. While at MAC, he was named an all-region player and received a basketball scholarship to attend the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. From 1980-1981, Schoene played for basketball at Tennessee-Chattanooga and averaged 13.6 points and 7 rebounds per game as a senior. His outstanding performance on the floor led to him being drafted in the 2nd round of the 1982 NBA Draft by the Philadelphia 76ers. Over the course of Schoene's professional basketball career, he played for the Philadelphia 76ers, Indiana Pacers, Seattle Supersonics and also in the Italian Professional League. In his four NBA seasons, Russ amassed 1,491 points and 735 rebounds.

In addition to his playing career, Schoene also spent time on the men's basketball coaching staffs at Bellevue Community College and the University of Washington. Russ is also in the Region XVI Hall of Fame.

## Jerome Freeman



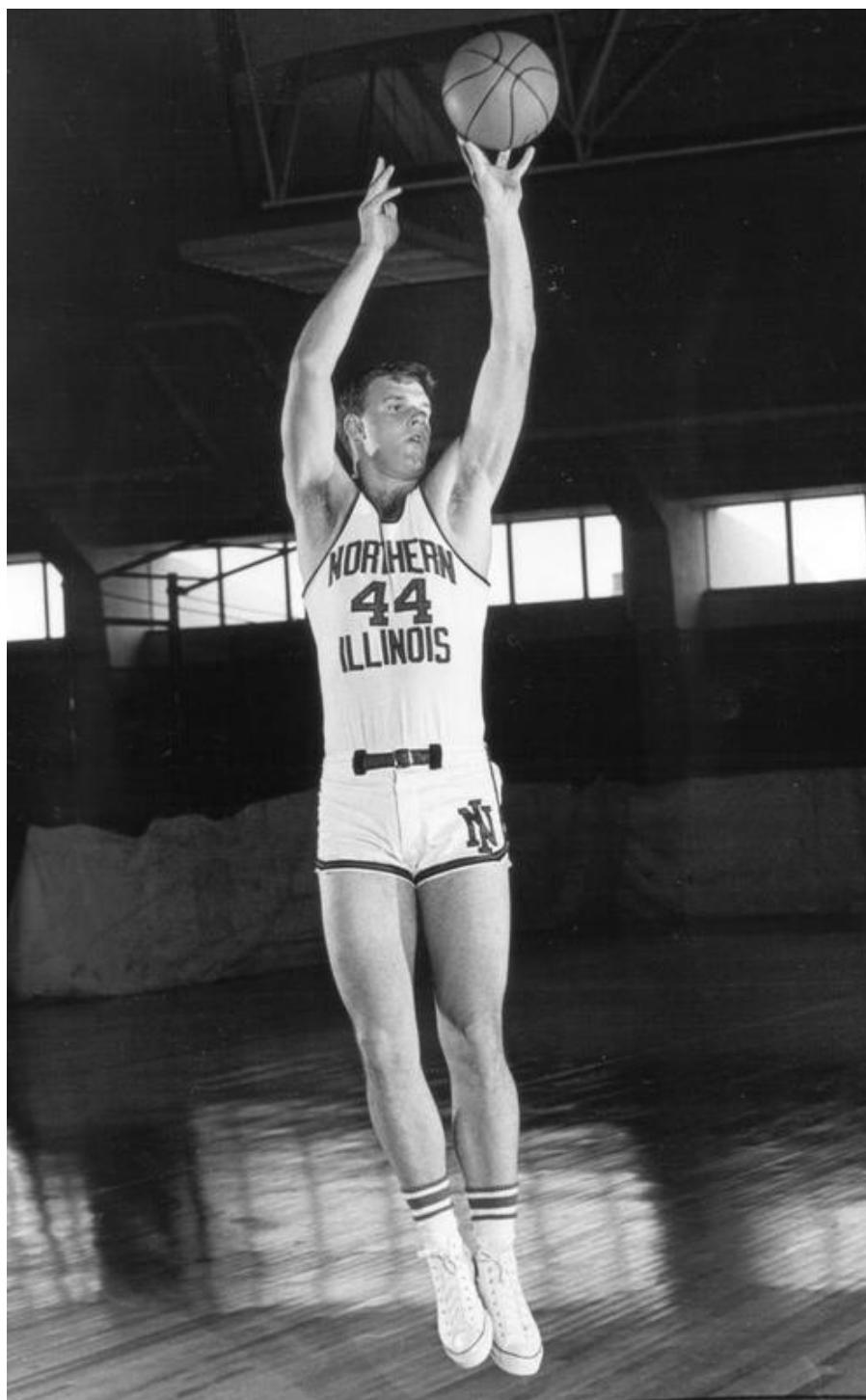
**Men's Basketball Player**

Jerome Freeman played basketball at Mineral Area College for Coach Sechrest from 1968-1970. The Chicago, Illinois native was named a NJCAA All-American during the 1969-1970 season. Following his two year playing career at MAC, Freeman transferred to the University of Hawaii.

During the 1970-1971 and 1971-1972 seasons, Freeman helped lead the Hawaii program to a 47-8 record. Freeman and his four starting teammates became known as the “Fabulous Five” after the team qualified for its first ever NIT and NCAA Tournament appearances while Freeman was with the program. The team’s success led to a fan frenzy during the two seasons. The story was documented in a film titled, *The Fabulous Five: the story of the fabulous years* (2008).

Highlighted in Freeman’s career at Hawaii was a final team ranking of #12 in 1972. Individually, Jerome still sits in 4th place for all-time assists at Hawaii. Jerome Freeman was also the first African-American student-athlete at Mineral Area College.

# Raymond James Smith JR.



**Men's Basketball Player**

Originally from Des Plaines, Ill., Smith attended Maine West High School before beginning his collegiate career at Mineral Area College in Park Hills, Mo. Upon his arrival at NIU, the 6-foot-7 center made an immediate impact, averaging 19.1 points and 14.1 rebounds, still the eighth-best single-season in program history, per game as a junior in 1967-68, as he was named team MVP. Smith recorded 20 double-doubles in 24 games

played in his first season as a Huskie and also went to the free-throw line 234 times, a mark that remains tied for the most in school history.

Jim was drafted by the Los Angeles Lakers (NBA) and the Miami Floridians (ABA) in 1969 when he signed with the Lakers. Smith became the first former MAC Cardinal to be drafted by an NBA team. During his career with the Lakers, Jim played alongside teammates Wilt Chamberlain and Jerry West.

## Scott Little



Men's Baseball Player

Scott Little, a member of the 1983-84 Cardinal Baseball Team, has been a scout for the Los Angeles Dodgers since 2009. Little also played football and baseball at the University of Missouri and entered pro baseball at Little Falls in the New York-Penn League and lead the league in stolen bases. Scott, who played eight years in the minors, made his major league debut with the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1989.

Little has spent 17 years as a minor league coach, manager and developer - the last nine with the Dodgers organization.

### Region 16 Hall of Fame

Here are our Region 16 Hall of Fame members from MAC...



**Bob Sechrest**  
**Tim Gray**  
**Sonny Parker**  
**Tim Lollar**  
**Russ Schoene**  
**Scott Little**  
**Steve Bieser**

Here is the link to the Region 16 Hall of Fame and the bios:  
<http://associations.missouristate.edu/region16/halloffame.htm>