

# **SOME INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

**(RECORDS ARE INCOMPLETE, AND IN SOME CASES INCORRECT.  
PRESENTED HERE IS A COMPENDIUM OF SOME OF THE HIGHEST  
ACHIEVERS, MEDAL WINNERS AND CHAMPIONS AS PER THE  
EXISTING RECORDS OF BUTLER HIGH GYMNASTICS HISTORY.  
OMISSIONS, UPDATES AND CORRECTIONS  
ARE WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED. SEND THEM  
TO THE COMMENT SECTION OF THE WEBSITE.)**

## **INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS;**

**IN THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF BHS GYMNASTICS, THERE WERE MANY WPIGL, WPIAL SECTION, WPIAL DISTRICT AND PA STATE MEET MEDAL WINNERS AND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS. THERE WERE ALSO MANY MEDAL WINNERS AND CHAMPIONS AT THE VARIOUS INVATIONALS HELD OVER THE YEARS AT BUTLER, CLEVELAND SWISS TURNERS, SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AND OTHERS. THE LIST IS EXTENSIVE, AND RECORDS ARE INCOMPLETE.**

**HERE ARE SOME REMEMBERED EXAMPLES:**

### **JIM CURZI:**

**OUTSTANDING ALL-AROUND GYMNAST AND PIONEER OF BUTLER HIGH GYMNASTICS. SIX-TIME WPIGL ALL-AROUND CHAMP. SEVEN-TIME WPIGL FLOOR EXERCISE, HIGH BAR, FLYING RINGS CHAMP. SEVEN-TIME LONG HORSE VAULT, PARALLEL BARS AND POMMEL HORSE CHAMP. SEVEN-TIME CLEVELAND SWISS TURNER HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AROUND CHAMP. ALL OTHER OF HIS MEDALS IN THESE MEETS WERE SECONDS, EXCEPT FOR TWO THIRDS. OUSTANDING CAREER AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY. MULTIPLE TIMES ALL-BIG TEN AND NCAA DIVISION I ALL-AMERICAN. FIRST NISSEN AWARD WINNER. INDUCTED INTO BUTLER HIGH, BUTLER COUNTY, WESTERN PA, AND MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY SPORTS HALLS OF FAME.**

**BILL ERDOS:**

**OUTSTANDING ALL-AROUND GYMNAST AND  
PIONEER OF BUTLER HIGH GYMNASTICS.**

**ONE-TIME WPIGL ALL-AROUND CHAMP; WPIGL FLYING  
RINGS CHAMP. FIVE-TIME SECOND PLACE ALL-AROUND  
IN WPIGL. SIX-TIME CLEVELAND SWISS TURNER HIGH  
SCHOOL ALL-AROUND SECOND PLACE.**

**ERDOS AND CURZI ENGAGED IN CLOSE COMPETITIONS  
YEAR AFTER YEAR, WITH ERDOS OFTEN TYING CURZI OR  
BEATING HIM ON FLYING RINGS, PARALLEL BARS, VAULT  
AND OTHERS. EXCEPT FOR THIS ONE ALL-AROUND  
CHAMPIONSHIP AND SOME FIRST-PLACE TIES WITH  
CURZI, ERDOS USUALLY TOOK THE SECOND-PLACE  
MEDALS. YOUNGSTOWN UNIVERSITY.**

**HE WENT ON TO BE AN OUTSTANDING GIRLS GYMNASTICS  
COACH AT BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL, WINNING A PIAA  
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP. INDUCTED INTO BUTLER HIGH  
SPORTS HALL OF FAME, BUTLER COUNTY SPORTS HALL  
OF FAME, AND BALDWIN HIGH SPORTS HALL OF FAME .**

**KEN MUSKO:**

**OUTSTANDING ALL-AROUND GYMNAST AND  
PIONEER OF BUTLER HIGH GYMNASTICS.**

**SIX-TIME WPIGL ALL-AROUND THIRD PLACE. ONE-TIME  
WPIGL ALL-AROUND SECOND PLACE. SIX-TIME CLEVELAND  
SWISS TURNER HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AROUND THIRD PLACE;  
ONE-TIME SECOND PLACE. MUSKO WAS THE THIRD MEMBER  
OF THE CLOSE ERDOS-CURZI-MUSKO ALL-AROUND  
COMPETITION. MUSKO HAD SEVERAL TIES FOR FIRST  
AND SECOND PLACE MEDALS ON LONG HORSE VAULT,  
POMMEL HORSE, HIGH BAR AND STILL RINGS. HE WAS THE  
SOLE FIRST PLACE WINNER ON STILL RINGS SEVERAL TIMES.  
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY. SOUTHERN COLLEGIATE POM-  
MEL HORSE CHAMP. INDUCTED INTO BUTLER COUNTY  
SPORTS HALL OF FAME.**

**JOHN FRANCHUK:**

**SEVEN-TIME WPIGL PARALLEL BARS CO-CHAMP. FIVE-TIME  
WPIGL ROPE CLIMB CHAMP. SEVEN-TIME CLEVELAND SWISS  
TURNER HIGH SCHOOL PARALLEL BARS CO-CHAMP;  
FIVE-TIME ROPE CLIMB CHAMP. UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH.  
TOP 5 EIGL PARALLEL BARS AS SENIOR.**

**GEORGE JANKOVICH:**

**SEVEN-TIME WPIGL AND CLEVELAND SWISS TURNER  
HIGH SCHOOL POMMEL HORSE CHAMP. HIS OUTSTANDING  
POMMEL HRSE WORK SET THE STANDARD FOR BUTLER  
HIGH GYMNASTS TO FOLLOW.  
PIONEER OF BUTLER HIGH GYMNASTICS.**

**RAY OKESON:**

**FIVE-TIME WPIGL TUMBLING CHAMP. RAY WAS AN  
UNBEATABLE TUMBLER WHO SET THE EARLY STANDARD  
FOR ALL BUTLER HIGH TUMBLERS AND FLOOR EXERCISE  
PERFORMERS. PIONEER OF BUTLER HIGH GYMNASTICS.**

**TOM WHARTON:**

**ONE-TIME WPIGL ROPE CLIMB CHAMP: BHS AND WPIGL  
ALL-TIME RECORD HOLDER FOR ROPE CLIMB  
TIME: 4.10 SECONDS**

**EARL HACKETT:**

**SILVER MEDALIST WPIGL ROPE CLIMB.  
TIME OF 43.11 SECONDS.  
TIED FOR SECOND ALL-TIME BHS RECORD.**

**BILL DAUBENSPECK:**

**ONE-TIME WPIGL ROPE CLIMB CHAMP.**

**TIME OF 4.11 SECONDS, SECOND ALL-TIME BHS RECORD.**

**JOHN DALLER:**

**WPIGL TRAMPOLINE CHAMP, LONG HORSE VAULTING**

**CHAMP, FLOOR EXERCISE CHAMP, ALL-AROUND,**

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, SLIPPERY ROCK**

**UNIVERSITY, ALL-AMERICAN**

**JIM SACCO:**

**WPIGL ALL-AROUND CHAMP, PARALLEL BARS AND**

**HIGH BAR CHAMP. UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH,**

**4TH EIGL ALL-AROUND**

**TOM POLANEC:**

**WPIGL STILL RINGS CHAMP. ALL-AROUND,**

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY**

**DAVE SHIDEMANTLE:**

**WPIGL AND PIAA LONG HORSE VAULT CHAMP. UNIVERSITY  
OF PITTSBURGH, EIGL VAULT CHAMP, NCAA ALL-AMERICAN.**

**STEVE SOLEY:**

**WPIGL AND STATE POMMEL HORSE MEDALIST.**

**PENN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**TOM HORNE:**

**WPIGL AND PIAA FLOOR EXERCISE CHAMP. SLIPPERY  
ROCK UNIVERSITY. ALL-AMERICAN. PH.D. AT OHIO STATE.  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AT WEST POINT.**

**DAVE CROFT:**

**WPIGL AND PIAA STILL RINGS CHAMP. MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY. THREE-TIME ALL-BIG TEN. BIG TEN RING  
CHAMP. TOP EIGHT IN NCAA.**

**CLIFF DIEHL:**

**WPIGL AND STATE PARALLEL BARS, HIGH BAR AND  
ALL-AROUND CHAMP. MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY.  
ALL BIG TEN PARALLEL BARS, HIGH BAR.**

**TOM KERR:**

**PIAA POMMEL HORSE CHAMP.  
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY. SIGL POMMEL HORSE  
CHAMP. ACADEMIC AWARDS AT BOTH HIGH SCHOOL AND  
UNIVERSITY LEVELS.**

**LARRY BYERLY:**

**ALL-AROUND GYMNAST. MANY MEDALS IN WPIAL AND  
PIAA MEETS. SLIPPERY ROCK INVITATIONAL, BUTLER  
INVITATIONAL AND WPIAL PARALLEL BAR CHAMP.  
ANNAPOLIS, SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY,  
FIG NCAA AND INTERNATIONAL JUDGE.**

**MICKEY URAM:**

**MULTIPLE TIME WPIGL AND STATE FLOOR EXERCISE,  
PARALLEL BARS, HIGH BAR AND ALL-AROUND CHAMP.  
PARTICIPATED IN ALL FOUR PENN STATE SPONSORED STATE  
MEETS (1964—FIFTH AA, 1965—THIRD AA, 1966—SECOND  
AAA AND 1967—FIRST AA). MEDAL WINNER IN MANY  
EVENTS. FINISHED IN TOP EIGHT OR BETTER IN EVERY EVENT  
ENTERED DURING THOSE FOUR STATE MEETS. MICHIGAN  
STATE UNIVERSITY. ALL-BIG TEN, NCAA MEDALIST.**

**DAN D'ANIELLO:**

**WPIGL LONG HORSE VAULT CHAMP. PIAA MEDALIST.  
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY. ALL EIGL VAULTER. MULTIPLE  
DEGREES, HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN.**

**TOM SAWHOOK:**

**WPIGL POMMEL HORSE CHAMP. MULTIPLE PIAA MEDALS.  
LEGENDARY BHS POMMEL HORSE WORKER.  
PASTOR, THEOLOGIAN.**

**VIC HOLOM:**

**WPIGL AND STATE STILL RINGS CHAMP.  
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY.**



**JOE GRACIK:**

**THREE-TIME WPIGL AND TWO-TIME STATE POMMEL  
HORSE CHAMP. 1967 EASTERN UNITED STATES HIGH  
SCHOOL POMMEL HORSE CHAMPION.  
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH. TOP FIVE EIGL.**

**JOHN GRACIK:**

**WPIAL AND PIAA POMMEL HORSE CHAMP.  
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY. FIRST PLACE POMMEL  
HORSE AGAINST WEST GERMAN NATIONAL TEAM.  
SOUTHERN COLLEGIATE POMMEL HORSE CHAMP.  
TOP TEN NCAA POMMEL HORSE.**

**JIM SANDLOOP.**

**WPIGL POMMEL HORSE CHAMP.  
NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY. TOP FIVE  
WAC CONFERENCE POMMEL HORSE.**

**BOB TOMASOVIC:**

**BUTLER INVITATIONAL, WPIAL AND PIAA STATE  
POMMEL HORSE CHAMP.**

**WENDELL TOMASOVIC:**

**WPIAL AND PIAA MEDALIST,  
JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEARS.  
MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY.**

**ERIC SWANSON:**

**WPIAL POMMEL HORSE CHAMP.**

**TWICE PIAA SECOND PLACE.**

**WENT ON TO AN OUTSTANDING CAREER AT THE US NAVAL  
ACADEMY WHERE HE WAS THREE-TIME EASTERN CHAMP,  
RECORDING THE FIRST PERFECT 10.00 IN EIGL POMMEL HORSE  
HISTORY. THREE-TIME NCAA ALL-AMERICAN WITH ONE THIRD  
AND TWO SECOND PLACES ON POMMEL HORSE.  
ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN. SECOND IN THE VOTING FOR  
THE PRESTIGIOUS NISSAN AWARD.**

**RICHARD PRIBIS:**

**WPIAL FLOOR EXERCISE CHAMP. ALL-AROUND GYMNAST.  
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH. ALL EIGL. ALL –AMERICAN.**

**DAVE ZIRNSAK:**

**PIAA STILL RINGS CHAMP.**

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY.**

**ALL SIGL. NCAA QUALIFIER.**

**JOHN SEMES:**

**WPIAL SECTION STILL RINGS CHAMP.**

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY**

**KEVIN COLLINS:**

**SLIPPERY ROCK INVITATIONAL PARALLEL BARS AND  
ALL-AROUND CHAMP; WPIAL SECTION HIGH BAR CHAMP;  
WPIAL PARALLEL BAR CHAMP. PIAA MEDALIST. NORTHERN ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY. PLACED 25TH IN USA OLYMPIC TRIALS.**

**MARC IMHOFF:**

**WPIAL SECTION POMMEL HORSE CHAMP. PIAAA MEDALIST.  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII. HAWAIIAN STATE UNIVERSITY CHAMP.**

**BEE THOMA:**

**WPIAL SECTION FLOOR EXERCISE CHAMP. MANY WPIAL AND  
PIAA MEDALS. GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, ALL-SIGL.  
NCAA QUALIFIER. HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL OWNER OF  
NEW HOPE GYMNASTICS CLUB IN SAN DIEGO.**

**JACK STALEY:**

**WPIAL SECTION STILL RINGS CHAMP. MEDALIST AT PIAA LEVEL.  
ALL-AROUND GYMNAST. ANNAPOLIS, GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY. ALL SIGL.**

**DAVE COLLINS:**

**BUTLER INVITATIONAL PARALLEL BAR CHAMP;  
WPIAL SECTION HIGH BAR AND ALL-AROUND CHAMP.  
PIAA MEDALIST.**

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY. ALL-SIGL.**

**LOU COLLINS**

**ALL-AROUND GYMNAST. MANY MEDALS IN SECTIONALS,  
WPIAL AND PIAA MEETS. SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY.**

**BOB STANLEY:**

**THREE-TIME WPIAL AND PIAA POMMEL HORSE ALL-STAR WITH FIVE SECONDS AND ONE FOURTH. KNOWN IN BHS AS WELL AS WPIAL AND PIAA HISTORY FOR THREE YEARS OF EXTREMELY COMPETITIVE RIVALRY WITH ROCHESTER'S VERY TALENTED SCOTT MCBROOM.**

**IN COLLEGIATE COMPETITION, STANLEY REVERSED THE RESULTS AND WENT ON TO BECOME A TWO-TIME NCAA ALL- AMERICAN WITH TWO CONSECUTIVE SECOND PLACE NCAA POMMEL HORSE MEDALS.**

**ALL SIGL AT GEORGIA. ALL-BIG TEN AT INDIANA. GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY. BOB'S AVERAGE SCORE HIS JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEARS WAS 98.5.**

**BILL STANLEY:**

**TWO-TIME WPIAL AND PIAA POMMEL HORSE CHAMP. OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE CAREER AT PENN STATE WHERE HE WAS THREE-TIME EIGL POMMEL HORSE CHAMP AND THREE-TIME NCAA ALL-AMERICAN WITH ONE FOURTH, ONE SECOND AND ONE CHAMPIONSHIP. DURING A PENN STATE MEET WITH THE RUSSIAN OLYMPIC TEAM, HE WAS AWARDED A PERFECT 10.00. TWO OF THE JUDGES WERE RUSSIAN. BILL'S AVERAGE SCORE HIS JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEARS WAS 98.5**

**DOUG KLEEMAN:**

**WPIAL FLOOR EXERCISE CHAMP, PIAA FLOOR EXERCISE SECOND PLACE AS SENIOR; FINISHED SECOND IN WPIAL AND THIRD IN PIAA AS JUNIOR. UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH.**

**ERIC RASELY:**

**PIAA HIGH BAR SECOND PLACE; PIAA HIGH BAR SEVENTH PLACE; WPIAL FLOOR EXERCISE THIRD PLACE; WPIAL HIGH BAR THIRD PLACE. ALL-AROUND GYMNAST. BECAME PROFESSIONAL ACROBAT AND DANCER.**

**TOM SERENA:**

**WPIAL CHAMP VAULT; WPIAL FLOOR EXERCISE SECOND PLACE; PIAA VAULT SECOND PLACE. ALL-AROUND GYMNAST. WILLIAM AND MARY UNIVERSITY. ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN. BECAME A DOCTOR.**

**TIM COLLINS:**

**PIAA STATE CHAMP HIGH BAR; PIAA ALL AROUND FOURTH PLACE; PIAA PARALLEL BARS FOURTH PLACE; PIAA POMMEL HORSE AND FLOOR EXERCISE FIFTH PLACE; WPIAL ALL AROUND SECOND PLACE. GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY. SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY.**

**JEFF COLLINS:**

**WPIAL ALL AROUND TWO CONSECUTIVE THIRD PLACES; PIAA HIGH BAR SIXTH PLACE. GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY. SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY. ALL- AMERICAN AT SRU.**

## **BEV FRY:**

**FOUR-YEAR VARSITY LETTER WINNER.**

**1980—1982 MVP.**

**1981—OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.**

**IN 1982 BEV WAS PIAA AA CHAMPION; WPIAL AA CHAMPION; MAC AA CHAMPION; PA USGF AA CHAMPION; AND ALSO KEYSTONE GAMES AA CHAMPION.**

**DURING HER FOUR-YEAR CAREER AT BHS BEV WON MANY INDIVIDUAL EVENT MEDALS IN WPIAL AND PIAA CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS.**

**BEV WENT ON TO BECOME ALL-AMERICAN AT WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY, LETTERING ALL FOUR YEARS.**

**BEV BECAME A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL COACH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.**

**IN THE SPORT OF GYMNASTICS, BEV FRY, NOW BEV PILOCKI, IS THE HIGHEST ACHIEVER TO GRADUATE FROM THE BUTLER HIGH GYMNASTICS PROGRAM.**

**BEV'S WORK AT MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY HAS PLACED HER AT THE SAME LEGENDARY STATUS AS PIONEER AND SUPER COACH NEWT LOKEN IN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY, BIG TEN, AND NCAA HISTORY.**

**VERY SOON, BEV WILL BE AN AMERICAN NATIONAL GYMNASTICS HALL OF FAMER, JOINING NOT ONLY MICHIGAN'S NEW LOKEN, BUT ALSO BUTLER'S PAUL URAM.**