

# GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## Ben Graves



Ben Graves, a 2006 graduate of Grandview Heights High School, earned 10 varsity letters in tennis, wrestling, basketball, track, and football.

In track as a senior, Ben anchored the 4x200 meter relay to a state qualification, and claimed seventh place in the 300 meter hurdles at the state meet.

For the Bobcat Football team, as a sophomore, Ben made an impact as a defensive back, leading the conference with six interceptions, earning him All-Conference honors. During his junior year, as a wide receiver, he had 46 receptions for 1,038 yards, and scored 11 touchdowns, averaging 22.6 yards per catch.

In his senior season, Ben had 68 receptions for 1,080 yards, which placed him sixth among all wide receivers in the state in 2005. His play helped the Bobcats secure a conference championship, and their first playoff appearance in more than two decades.

Ben's football accolades include: Three consecutive First Team All-MSL, two consecutive First Team All-District awards, two consecutive All-Agonis Columbus Dispatch selections, two consecutive First Team All-Ohio honors, and was named the District Player of the Year in 2005.

After high school, Ben continued his football career as a wide receiver at Middle Tennessee State University, and later at Illinois State University, where he was a consistent starter. He concluded his academic and athletic journey with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and Quantitative Methods in 2009.

Ben resides in Nashville, Tennessee, where he founded a communication software company used by collegiate and professional sports teams across the country. Ben is married to Maryann Graves, and they have three children: Nefeli, Demetri, and Gianni.

# GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## Brendan Cox



Brendan Cox, a 2012 graduate of Grandview Heights High School, was a three-sport athlete, who earned 12 varsity letters and scholar athlete awards in soccer, swimming, and track and field.

Brendan was the recipient of the 2012 Ohio High School Scholar Athlete of the Year Award, and Columbus Dispatch Scholar Athlete Award.

A two-time captain for the Bobcat Soccer team, Brendan led the team to an undefeated, 16-0 season in 2010, and led the Cats to a District Championship in 2011, Grandview's first since 2000, and Regional runner-up finish in 2010, as well. He earned multiple soccer awards, including Defensive MVP, and All-Mid State League honors in 2010 and 2011.

Brendan is a Grandview Heights High School swimming record holder as the anchor for the 200 meter medley relay, which reached the podium at the 2010 District meet. He also earned the Academic All-American title.

As a two-time captain for the Bobcat Track and Field team, Brendan led the team to a Mid-State League title in 2011, a District championship in 2012, Grandview's first since 1989, by winning the 4x800 meter relay and 800 meter run, and reached the podium in the 4x400 meter relay and high jump. He was a state qualifier in the 4x800 meter relay in 2012, and earned All-Mid State League honors in 2010, 2011, and 2012.

Brendan continued his track and field career at Missouri University of Science and Technology, competing on the indoor and outdoor teams for four years. He raced in the 400 meter and 800 meter, as well as competing in the high jump and long jump. He earned varsity letters by contributing to the Great Lakes Valley Conference Outdoor Champions in 2014 and 2014, and the indoor runner-up in 2013, 2014, and 2015.

# GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## Sali Spangler



Sali Spangler, a 1959 graduate of Grandview Heights High School, excelled in varsity basketball, volleyball, baseball, field hockey, badminton, and most notably, tennis.

She is highly renowned as being the pioneer of girls sports at Grandview Heights High School.

Sali was a tennis champion for Grandview in 1958 and 1959, and also played on the local Junior Whiteman Cup Tennis team from 1956 to 1959.

She was instrumental in the former Girls Athletic Association (G.A.A.), and served as president from 1958-1959. Girls participated and earned points throughout their careers at Grandview, and Sali earned the Thousand-point Meritorious award, which was the highest achievement girls could attain being a member of the G.A.A.

As president of G.A.A. Sali was responsible for the Homecoming decorations, the concession stand at football games, the annual hockey banquet, and helping Grandview's physical education teacher "Miss Pete," who was extremely influential to Sali in various capacities.

Sali also participated in several sports that weren't offered at Grandview. She was an avid swimmer, white-water canoeist, equestrian horseback riding, spelunking in the caves of Kentucky, and one summer, she biked through Europe.

After graduation, Sali attended Riverside White Cross School of Nursing, where she graduated in 1963 with Delta-Sigma Omicron honors. She worked at Riverside Hospital for 31 years, and managed the emergency room for 20 years.

Sali thanks God and Grandview Heights High School for making what she loved to do most possible.

# GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## Sarah Meier



Sarah Meier, a 2011 graduate of Grandview Heights High School, was a two-sport varsity athlete and honor student. In her time at Grandview, she became one of the most decorated female track athletes in school history.

Sarah set four individual records in the 100-meter dash, 100-meter hurdles, 200-meter dash, and 300-meter hurdles, as well as two relay records in the 4x200 and 4x400 meter relays. She also set the regional record for the 300-meter hurdles in 2011. She was named the MSL Track Athlete of the year in 2010 and 2011, and she qualified for the state track meet three years in a row.

Sarah was also a four-year starter on the Bobcat Varsity Soccer team. She played striker, and was consistently among the team's top scorers.

After graduation, Sarah attended The Ohio State University and graduated with a degree in Education. As a teacher, she coached Grandview Middle School Soccer for a season, and volunteered for the middle school running club.

Sarah resides in Columbus with her husband Daniel and their daughters, Eleanor and Ruby. While she did not continue to compete in organized sports after high school, she still enjoys running the occasional 5k or half-marathon, and plays in a recreational soccer league with her friends.