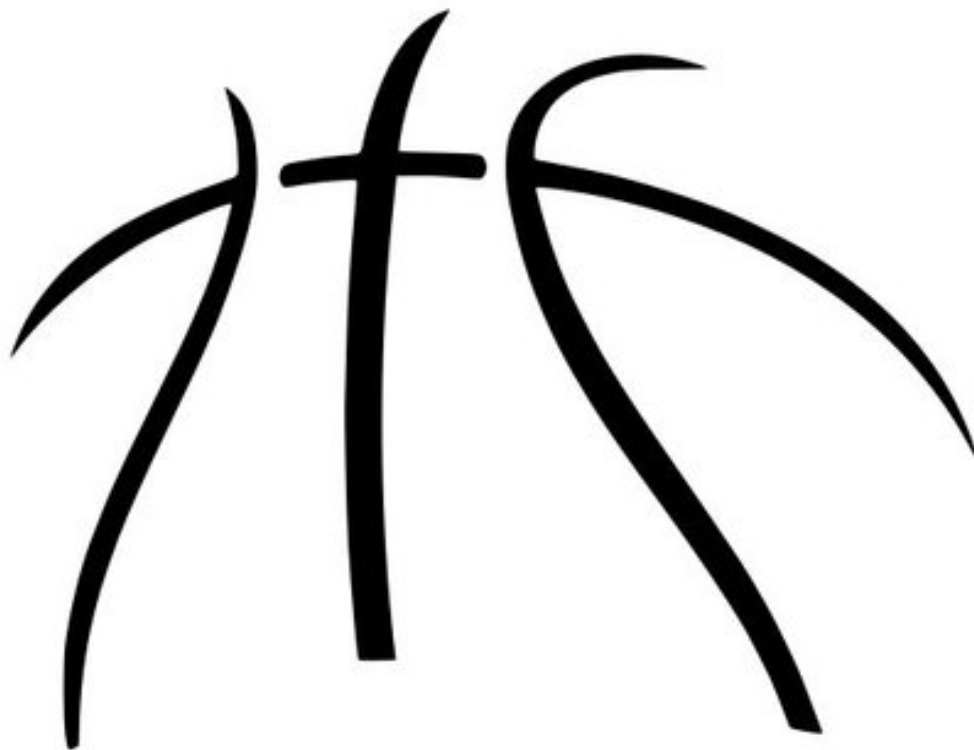


MERCER COUNTY BASKETBALL



HALL OF FAME

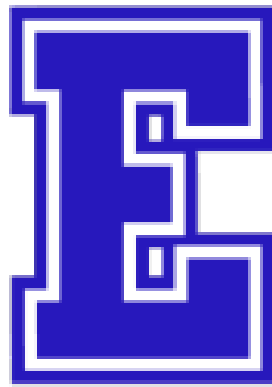


**SIXTH CLASS**

**APRIL 12, 2025**

# MERCER COUNTY BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME'S

MISSION IS ABOUT RECOGNITION





**MERCER COUNTY BASKETBALL**  
**HALL OF FAME**  
**SELECTION COMMITTEE**

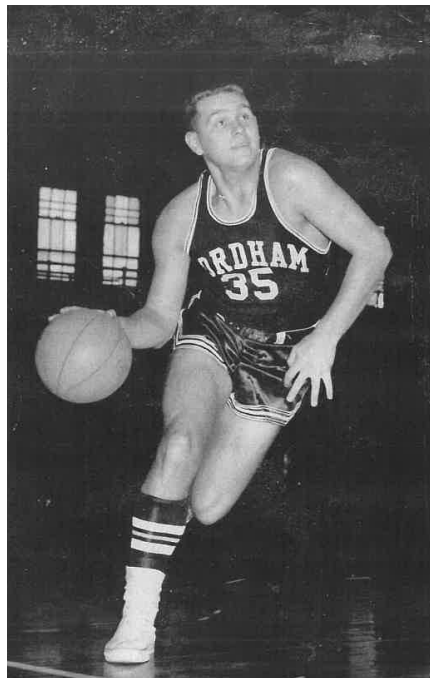
Joe O’Gorman	President	Trentonian
Linda Weise	Vice-President	Allentown
Shelly Dearden	Vice-President	Ewing
Ray Clark	Member	Hightstown
Harold Hall	Member	Trenton Catholic Boys HS
Bob Pugh	Member	IAABO#193
Bill Quirk	Member	Hun School
Kristin V Jacobs	Member	Steinert

## **WELCOME**

## **PARADE OF INDUCTEES**

## **EXPLANATION OF CEREMONY**

John Samonsky	Joe O'Gorman
Kelli Williams	Harold Hall
Fred Price	Joe O'Gorman
Marvin Trotman	Harold Hall
Vince McKelvey	Bob Pugh
Melanie Balcomb	Ray Clark
Randy Melville	Shelly Dearden
Austin Witter	Linda Weise
Kelly Williams	Shelly Dearden



## **John Samonsky**

A pioneer of CYO basketball, John Samonsky made history as a standout player in the league's inaugural 1952-53 season with St. Joe's, leading his team to an undefeated season and a Northern Division and playoff championship. He was named the first-ever CYO MVP and earned All-Star Team honors, setting the stage for an extraordinary career.

Samonsky continued his dominance at Trenton Catholic, where he led the freshman team to an undefeated season before capturing City and County championships as both a sophomore and junior. As a senior, he guided his team to a perfect 25-0 record, winning the Eastern School Catholic Invitational Tournament (ESCIT), City, County, and State Championships. That year, Trenton Catholic was named the top Catholic high school team in the nation by The Chicago World Newspaper.

A prolific scorer, Samonsky tallied over 1,000 career points—well before the introduction of the three-point line. His individual accolades were just as impressive, earning numerous County, City, and State awards from sophomore to senior year. Most notably, he was named Second Team Catholic All-American by The Catholic World, alongside New York Knicks legend Dave DeBusschere. In 1957, he was recognized as the State of New Jersey MVP by The Sportswriters of N.J., earned First-Team All-State and ESCIT honors, and was voted Trenton Catholic's Top Athlete four years in a row—a distinction he treasures most.



Beyond basketball, Samonsky was also a star baseball player, earning All-City and All-County honors while starting on the varsity team for four years. His athletic excellence earned him over 25 basketball scholarship offers and two baseball scholarships. Ultimately, he chose Fordham University for its Jesuit influence and prestigious business program. At Fordham, he played in the NIT twice, which at the time was the most prestigious postseason tournament in college basketball.

Today, "Big John" resides in Hilton Head, SC, with his wife Andrea, his partner of 64 years. Together, they built a beautiful family, raising four children—John Jr., James, Elaine, and Agnes—along with 10 grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. A true basketball legend, John Samonsky's impact on the game and his legacy as a champion, leader, and mentor will be remembered for generations.



## **Kelli Williams**

Kelli Williams, also known as #4 on the court, was born and raised in Trenton, NJ, and attended Trenton public schools from kindergarten through ninth grade.

Kelli has always had a love and great talent for sports. From an early age, Kelli was gifted at any sport that she tried. Kelli was the first girl to play Little League Baseball in Mercer County at just nine years old. Very often, growing up in West Trenton, you would see her around the neighborhood riding her bike, playing soccer, baseball and basketball. However, basketball was always her favorite.

Kelli credits that love of basketball to some of her close childhood friends, Terry, John and Billy Dearden, Lou DeMille and her cousin, Brian Downing. Kelli and this group of friends would meet up at Blessed Sacrament School gym and run full court nonstop basketball for hours. This is where she began to hone her basketball skills. Kelli was also fortunate enough to play against some of the best in the city growing up at Cadwalader Park, including Noel Powell, Greg King and Larry Cotton.

Kelli did not start playing organized team basketball until she played on the JV team in 10th grade at Notre Dame Catholic High School for Coach Billy Dearden in 1978-79. This was the start of what would develop into a beautiful basketball career. Kelli was a versatile player that could play point guard, power forward and center, if necessary for the win. Even in her first year playing organized basketball at Notre Dame, she was still selected as an alternate to the Varsity basketball team and earned Varsity playing time as a sophomore.

After a great first year at Notre Dame, Kelli was selected for the Mercer County 3rd Team All Select, as a sophomore. During that summer, Kelli played under Coach Joe Smiegocki on the 15 year and under Sports World AAU basketball team.

That team won the NJ State AAU championship and earned a trip to play in the National AAU Tournament in Kansas City, Missouri. The team did not win the championship in Kansas City, but Kelli was selected to the All-American team for the National AAU Tournament that year.

During her Junior Year in 1979-80, Kelli and her family decided to take her athletic talents to the Lady Iron Mikes at McCorristin Catholic High School. That year, Kelli played on the Varsity basketball team and was an integral part of the 1980 State Championship team. Furthermore, she helped lead the team to the Championship as the 2nd leading scorer. Kelli was named to the All State Second Team and was the only Junior selected to be on the Mercer County All Star First Team for the Trentonian and the Trenton Times.

After that stellar 1980 Championship season, Kelli, along with her teammate, Kate Larkin and Coach Kevin Gallagher, was invited to try out for the 1980 Women's Olympic Basketball team in Colorado Springs. Unfortunately, neither of the players made the Olympic team, but it was still an unforgettable experience.

During her Senior year at McCorristin, in 1981, Kelli scored her 1000th point against Ewing High School. During that senior season, Kelli was the leading scorer in Mercer County, averaging 22.3 points per game, and she made the Mercer County All Star First Team for the Trentonian and Trenton Times. Additionally, Kelli received First Team All-State Honors.

During her two years at McCorristin, Kelli was selected as a two time All Mercer County First Team member for basketball. It should also be noted that, throughout her high school career, Kelli was a talented Varsity softball player as well. Kelli is a member of the McCorristin Catholic High School Hall of Fame for Basketball, and in 2013 was honored as one of the "50 Golden Iron Mikes", honoring the school's 50 most outstanding athletes in the school's 50-year history.

Following her high school graduation, Kelli played basketball for 2 years at Mercer County Community College, where she was selected for the First Team All-Region XIX GSAC both years. Kelli ended her college basketball career with 972 points.

Kelli received her BS in Business Management and holds a Master's Degree in Elementary Education and Special Education. Kelli is employed with the Trenton Board of Education as an Elementary Parent Liaison and the Site Coordinator for the Boys and Girls Club of Mercer County.





## **Fred Price**

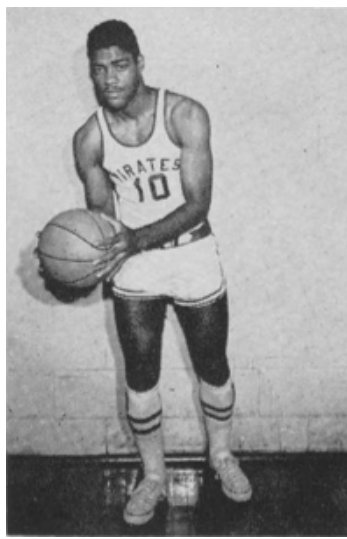
A 1942 graduate of Trenton Catholic and later Villanova University, Fred Price was a standout basketball and baseball player at both institutions. His athletic career took him to the minor leagues, but an injury cut short his professional aspirations.

Price's career was defined by leadership, service, and mentorship—both on and off the court. After serving in World War II in the Pacific, he pursued education, earning a doctorate from Southern Mississippi before returning to New Jersey, where he became a beloved coach and administrator.

As head coach of the Trenton High Tornadoes, Price amassed an impressive 246 wins, leading his teams to four state title games and securing the 1961 championship with a perfect 24-0 season, featuring legendary players George Lee and Tal Brody. He was twice named New Jersey Coach of the Year by the Associated Press. His 1962-63 and 1963-64 teams reached the Group IV title game, falling in heartbreaking fashion to Hillside, coached by a young Rollie Massimino, who would later win an NCAA championship at Villanova.

Beyond coaching, Price made a lasting impact in education. He was an English teacher at Trenton Catholic, where he was not just a coach but a mentor and lifelong friend to many. In 1972, he transitioned to Rider College as a professor, then joined the New Jersey State Department of Education, where he eventually became Director of Teacher Education and Certification (1976-1983). He later served five years as Assistant Director of the NJSIAA, helping shape high school athletics in New Jersey.

In 2012, Fred Price passed away after a long illness, survived by his wife, Vivian, and sons, Martin and Daniel. His legacy as a coach, educator, and mentor continues to live on in the countless lives he influenced.



# **Marvin Trotman**

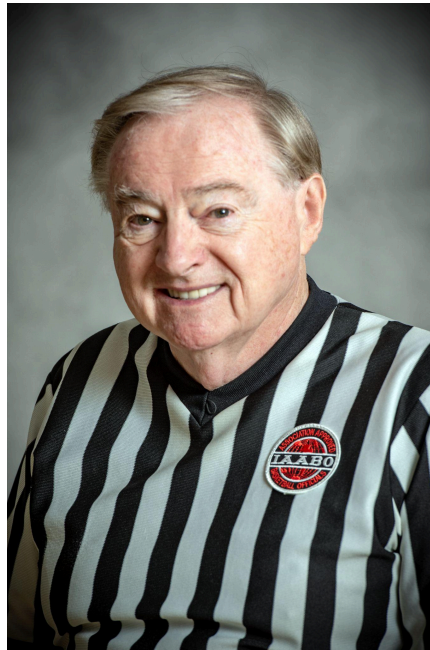
## **"Marvelous Marv"**

Marvin Trotman's flashy yet highly effective style of play earned him All-State honors at Princeton High School, where local sportswriters fittingly nicknamed him "Marvelous Marv." His brilliance on the court continued at Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) in North Carolina, where he etched his name into CIAA history.

As a freshman, he set a CIAA single-game tournament record with 45 points and was named to the All-CIAA Tournament Team in 1959. He continued his dominance, holding the CIAA tournament record for field goals in the 1959-60 season. In 1962, he was recognized as an All-CIAA selection and a First-Team NAIA All-American. His legacy was further cemented when he was named to the All-Time CIAA Tournament Team in 1970 and later inducted into the Elizabeth City State University Sports Hall of Fame in 1980.

Trotman's talent led him to the professional ranks, where he played in the NBA with the St. Louis Hawks. After his playing career, he dedicated himself to coaching, serving as Princeton High School's head coach from 1972 to 1986 before continuing his impact on the game as a volunteer assistant coach for Princeton University in 1987.

A legend on and off the court, Marvin Trotman's contributions to the game remain marvelous to this day.



## **Vince McKelvey**

Born in 1942 in the coal-mining town of Hazleton, PA, McKelvey moved to Trenton, NJ, in 1953. He attended St. Mary's Cathedral Grammar School, where he helped lead the basketball team to the diocesan quarterfinals. He continued his athletic career at the legendary Trenton Catholic Boys High School, excelling in both basketball and baseball.

After high school, he proudly served four years in the United States Air Force as a member of the 28th Bomb Wing (SAC). Upon returning home, he attended Trenton Junior College, where he played baseball and earned an Associate's degree. Vince later graduated from Rider College in 1968 with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Professionally, McKelvey worked in the insurance industry as a claims investigator before joining the Office of the New Jersey State Attorney in 1988. He retired as the Chief Investigator in the Division of Law after a distinguished career.



A Hamilton resident since 1971, Vince has been married to his wife, Catherine, for 36 years. He is an active member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division #1, serving as President for 15 years. He has also played a significant role in the community as Chairman of the Hamilton St. Patrick's Parade Committee, serving as Master of Ceremonies for 37 years.

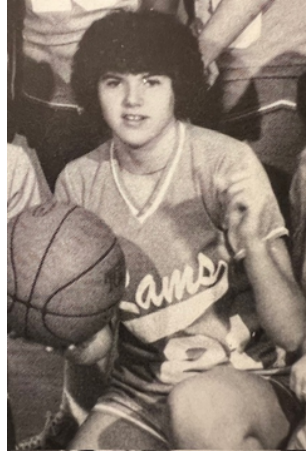
### **Basketball Officiating Career**

A member of IAABO Board #193 since 1967, McKelvey officiated for 44 years, serving on the executive committee and as board president for a decade. His officiating career included working numerous NJSIAA and state private school semifinal and final games, including the first-ever state final at Brendan Byrne Arena in the Meadowlands. He also officiated college basketball and spent 10 years working professional basketball in the Eastern Pro League and the Continental League (NBA Development Program), where he officiated league championship finals and the first games in Anchorage and Honolulu during league expansion. Additionally, he worked NBA exhibition games and officiated in the renowned Jersey Shore Pro League, where numerous NBA stars competed.

### **Baseball Officiating Career**

With 35 years as an NJSIAA umpire and 10 years at the NCAA level, he officiated multiple state finals and college regional tournaments. His contributions to the sport were recognized in 2009 when he was inducted into the Trenton Softball Hall of Fame as an umpire.

A dedicated public servant, official, and community leader, McKelvey has left an indelible mark on the world of athletics and beyond.



## **Melanie Balcomb**

Melanie grew up in Cranbury with a basketball in her hand since birth. Mel's dad, Alan, was the coach of South Brunswick's boys' team and with that Mel was no doubt going to be around basketball. Growing up going to basketball practices at an early age with her dad, Mel took to the sport that would land her in many good places including starring at Hightstown High School and Trenton State College (now TCNJ) to an illustrious college coaching career.

Balcomb came from a talented athletic family with her sister Carrie who starred in three sports including the best singles player in the state at Hightstown High, a star basketball player for the Rams, and went on to star at Auburn University. Brother Alan was a standout basketball player for his dad at South Brunswick but his best sport there was baseball where he went on to play at Georgia Southern and after that he was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals. So, Mel had some big shoes to fill coming from such a talented pair of siblings.

Mel came to Hightstown as a talented player in 1976 with more skills than most of her teammates in her freshman year. She proved herself early, earning a starting spot on the team's varsity squad alongside her sister. That was the most talented team of her four years at HHS as the team finished the season with 19 wins. Balcomb proved herself on defense plus, scored double figures and led the team in assists.

Her sophomore through her senior season Melanie was pretty much a one-player show and as a result nearly every team double teamed her or used a box and one defense attempting to shut her down. It didn't work as the crafty Balcomb went on to lead her team in points and became one of the best players and scorers in the area. Two of the marquee games in her junior and senior seasons were the battles she had with Mercer's all-time leading scorer (and Mercer County' Hall of Famer) Kate Larkin from McCorristin.

Despite the lack of offensive fire-power around her the Rams still managed to win 45 games her last three seasons and qualified for the state tournament in all four of her years at HHS. Her high school career concluded with her becoming the school's (boys and girls) All-Time leading scorer (1,772 points) and was an All CVC first team three of her four years and was an All-County performer three times and earned an All-Area First Team in the Trenton Times and the Trentonian her junior and senior years.

After high school Balcomb started her career at Georgia Southern but quickly transferred to Trenton State where she thrived playing four years for the Lions. She became a standout, setting school records for assists and steals, and she finished having scored over 1,000 points in her collegiate career and earned Academic All-American honors in her junior and senior seasons. Melanie went on to earn a Master's degree at TSC and from there she set out on a lifelong dream of becoming a college basketball head coach. The long and winding journey to becoming a head coach meant that she had to become an assistant coach first before earning her shot at being a head coach.

Her travels took her to Niagara University, the University of Ohio, then to Providence College then her chance came in 1993 when she became head coach at Ashland for two years before she made the big jump to Xavier in Cincinnati from 1995-2002 where she earned rave reviews for her coaching prowess having led the Musketeers to the NCAA tournament several times, notably once when her Xavier squad knocked off national power Tennessee coached by legendary coach Pat Summit



with her team finishing with a 31-3 earning a spot in the Elite 8 in the NCAA tournament. Following that experience she was courted by and accepted her dream job as head coach at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

She would go on to coach the Commodores for 15 highly successful seasons in the best conference for women's basketball, the Southeastern Conference. Balcomb earned a ton of accolades while coaching the 'Dores as her teams finished with a 309-142 record with 12 NCAA tournament appearances and four Sweet 16 appearances and nearly 500 wins. Also, Melanie finished with being the winningest women/men coach in Vanderbilt history. She finished out her illustrious career as an offensive assistant at South Carolina helping Dawn Staley and her Gamecocks to their first ever national title in 2017. From there she was the associate head coach at Texas Tech, senior associate head coach at Purdue University, a season as assistant coach at Ohio Dominican University and was promoted to head coach at Ohio Dominion for two seasons.

Balcomb is now living with her two children Quincy and Aleya in Columbus Ohio. Still the former HHS and TSC standout has the coaching bug should the right coaching position become available.



## **Randy Melville**

Randolph (Randy) Melville is a seasoned business leader, dedicated philanthropist, and former athlete. His journey of leadership and excellence began at Princeton Day School, where he played varsity basketball for three years, earning All-State Prep First Team honors each season. As team captain his senior year, he led his team to a state championship victory.

Continuing his academic and athletic career at Princeton University, Randy graduated with a degree in sociology. He played varsity basketball for three years, earning First Team All-Ivy honors in both his junior and senior seasons. As a senior, he was elected team captain, demonstrating his leadership both on and off the court. After graduating, Randy launched his corporate career at Procter & Gamble in sales management before transitioning to PepsiCo, where he spent 25 years as a senior executive. His tenure was marked by strategic growth and leadership excellence, culminating in his retirement in 2018.

Passionate about making a difference, Randy co-founded the Melville Family Foundation (MFF) and currently serves as Chairman of the Board. Under his leadership, MFF champions initiatives that empower underserved communities and create lasting impact. His commitment to service extends beyond MFF—he serves on the boards of Northwestern Mutual, Saia, Inc., and GMS, Inc., where his strategic expertise strengthens corporate governance and growth. Additionally, he is a board member of Grace Church, reflecting his deep faith and dedication to community service.

With a career spanning business, philanthropy, and athletics, Randy continues to leave a lasting legacy of leadership, service, and impact.



## **Austin Witter**

Austin Witter, a proud 2009 graduate of West Windsor-Plainsboro South High School, has made significant contributions to basketball both locally and internationally. Austin's journey began in Mercer County, where he honed his skills and developed a passion for the game.

Austin was a 2 year starter at WW-P South playing for Coach Bob Schurtz. This 6-foot-8 forward/center displayed his scoring, rebounding and shot blocking ability making him one of the most dominating players in Mercer County. Austin's impressive numbers included averaging a double-double with 14.9 points, 11.6 rebounds, 6.6 blocks, and 3.8 assists per game. The 2009 West Windsor-Plainsboro South Team had a school record of 24 wins (24-4), won the CVC Colonial Division Title, the Colonial Valley Conference Title and the Central Jersey Group IV State Championship.

At the end of his senior season Austin recorded nine triple-doubles as a basketball standout and still holds the WW-P South shot blocking record. He was named the Colonial Valley Conference Player of the Year by the Trentonian, The Times 2009 Player of the Year, the Trentonian and the Times All CVC First Team and All-Area First Team, and he also played in the 2009 NJ All Star Basketball game. Austin earned the high school distinction of being ranked #2 in New Jersey and #15 nationally for blocked shots.

After high school Austin's collegiate and basketball career led him to the Division I North Carolina A&T State University where he attended on full scholarship and continued to showcase his versatility and defensive prowess. During his tenure, he was a four-year starter and consistently contributed across points, rebounds, and assists, becoming a cornerstone of the Aggies' lineup. Refining his skills and basketball IQ Austin became a shot blocking and defensive powerhouse earning him the nickname of "Swat Team."

During his senior season at North Carolina A&T State University Austin averaged 6.2 points, 7 rebounds, 2.9 blocks, and 2.1 assists per game. This helped lead the Aggies to their 2013 MEAC Tournament Championship, first NCAA Tournament win in school history, and a NCAA Tournament bid (vs. National Champions Louisville). Austin's defensive skills earned him the 2013 MEAC Conference Defensive Player of the Year Award and the 2013 All MEAC Conference Selection. Austin currently holds the North Carolina A&T State University Single Season School Shot Blocking Record: 109 Blocks which ranked 5th most among NCAA Division 1 players that season. Averaging 2.95 per game was ranked #11 overall nationally in NCAA Division I blocked shots per game.

Post-college, Witter pursued professional basketball opportunities and was a 6<sup>th</sup> round draft pick in the 2014 NBA D-League and played a season for the Reno Bighorns. He was then a 2016 NBA D-League 5<sup>th</sup> round draft pick to the Long Island Nets. Austin later expanded his career internationally, playing for teams in Asia, South America, and Canada. Throughout his professional journey, Witter remained a consistent performer, known for his defensive skills, versatility, and basketball IQ.

Beyond his on-court achievements, Austin is a scholar athlete who holds a bachelor's degree from North Carolina A&T State University in Electronics Technology and a Master's Degree in Computer Science from Montclair State University. Austin has continued his impact in basketball by previously serving as Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach at Trenton Central High School and is currently an Assistant Coach at The College of New Jersey. Austin has been a proud representative of Mercer County, embodying the values of hard work, dedication, and community spirit. His journey from local public-school courts to international arenas serves as an inspiration to young athletes in the region.

Austin's accomplishments both on and off the court would not have been possible without the love and encouragement from his family, friends and coaches. Austin has been blessed by an amazing village that includes Coaches Schurtz, Thompson, Stevens, Fisher, Bollwage, Eaves and Alexander. His high school teammates and college teammates who remain some of his closest friends. Austin's siblings: Amber (Normy), Jasmine (Ira), Ryan (Deondra) and Tavian, his grandpa as well as many Aunts, Uncles and cousins would travel, watch and cheer him on throughout his journey. His Nana and Pop-Pop would also cheer him on and send their love from Florida.

Special thanks go to his mother, Hope, who was a constant presence in the stands of recreation, travel, high school and college basketball games. His father, Greg Grant, never missed Austin's first game of each college season and was the best mentor, guide and coach spending many hours in the gym with Austin to help him reach his goals and full potential. After Austin's graduation from high school his brother, Ryan, proudly also wore #34 for WW-P South.



## **Kelly Williams**

Kelly Williams has made a lasting impact on both the court and in his leadership roles, which spans 40 years representing Mercer County. Kelly first burst into the Mercer County basketball scene in the 1985-86 season, becoming the first sophomore in 25 years to start for the Ewing High School boys' basketball team under legendary Hall of Fame coach Emil Wandishin. Williams' remarkable play was pivotal in leading Ewing High to its first NJSIAA State Boys Basketball Championship in schools' history, marking the beginning of a stellar career.

Williams continued to excel in high school, earning two consecutive first-team all-county selections as a junior and senior, and was named a two-time all-state performer. His skills were so widely recognized that the 1987-88 Pre-Season NJ Sports Folio magazine named him one of the top backcourt performers in all of New Jersey, declaring, "There are some folks who think the best backcourt performer in all of New Jersey might be Ewing's Kelly Williams." By the end of his high school career, he had accumulated 1,218 points, CVC Colonial Title, and was selected to the New Jersey North/South all-star games, securing his legacy as one of the standout athletes in Ewing's history. His accolades earned him a place as a two-time Ewing High School Athletic Hall of Famer as a player in (2008), and as a member of the 1986 Ewing High Boys Basketball Team (2010).

Following his successful high school years, Williams went on to become a key player for Trenton State College/The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) men's basketball team, where he played from 1989 to 1993. At The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), Williams continued to excel, playing as a four-year starter and a three-year captain for the men's basketball team. He was an all-conference performer and showed consistent promise as one of the top players in the New Jersey Athletic Conference. Though injury cut short the early part of his senior season, preventing him from reaching the 1,000-point milestone, Williams still made an indelible impact on TCNJ basketball for his leadership and on-court performance and is recognized as one of the program's all-time greats.



His first head coaching position came at Mercer County Community College (MCCC), where he enjoyed tremendous success from 1999 to 2008. During his nine-year tenure at MCCC, Williams compiled a 154-100 record, leading the Vikings to six Garden State Athletic Conference championships. He also guided the team to three National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Region XIX Finals appearances, including one year when MCCC advanced to the District IX playoffs. In recognition of his success, Williams was honored in 2000 as the Region 19 Junior College Division II/III Coaching Staff of the Year by the New Jersey Collegiate Basketball Coaches Association.

From 2008-2015, Williams returned to his alma mater as Head Men's Basketball Coach. As head coach, Williams led his teams to multiple NJAC playoff appearances in one of the most competitive conferences in the country. In 2011-2012, Williams was honored with the Sam Schoenfeld Sportsmanship Award by the Collegiate Basketball Officials Association. In his final season, which turned into his brightest season as the head coach for the TCNJ Lions men's basketball team, leading them to a 15-11 record and securing a spot in the NJAC playoffs. His leadership earned him the title of 2014-15 NJAC John K. Adams Coach of the Year, a reflection of his hard work and success with the program.

From 2015-2020, Williams served as the Senior Associate Director of Athletics/External Affairs and Director of Community Relations at TCNJ. Throughout his career, Williams has remained committed to professional development, having participated, and graduated from the highly competitive 2018 NCAA Pathway Program, a prestigious program for top 25 emerging athletic administrators in the country.

Kelly's legacy in basketball is a testament to his dedication, leadership, perseverance, and the lasting impact he has had on every team and individual he has worked with. His journey has included his induction into the Catholic Youth Organization (C.Y.O.) Basketball Hall of Fame in 2009 and being member of the Trenton Flames of the Atlantic Basketball Association (ABA) in the mid 90's. With a rich history as a player, coach, and administrator, Kelly Williams continues to inspire athletes and students, shaping the future of collegiate athletics and encouraging the personal growth of young individuals and in 2020, President Lamont O. Repollet of Kean University named Kelly Williams Director of Athletics at Kean University, where he now oversees over 600 student-athletes and 23 NCAA sports.

# GEORGE O'GORMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



The Scholarship is named for George O'Gorman, the long-time legendary sportswriter of the Trentonian who passed away in August of 2018. He is noted and remembered for his coverage of all high school sports but most notably girls basketball, football, and soccer. He was also a broadcaster for WBCB 1040 radio.

The George O'Gorman Memorial Scholarship is presented to a deserving senior girls basketball player who is a member of a Colonial Valley Conference school or Mercer County prep school as selected by the Mercer County Basketball Hall of Fame committee. George was the type of sports writer that wanted to highlight the underdog player, the type of player that did the little things for a team that was seldom noticed by the casual fan. Someone that had a great attitude, a work horse and always found a way to contribute. We are honoring a player that may not be the star of a team, but someone it would be hard to imagine winning games without her.



## **Shaili Holden** **West Windsor Plainsboro South**

Shaili Holden's impact on the West Windsor Plainsboro South's basketball program cannot be measured by statistics. Over her four years on varsity, she has embodied selflessness, consistently prioritizing team success over individual accolades. As a junior, she shifted positions to become our primary ball handler, sacrificing scoring for play making. Defensively, she willingly guarded the opponent's best players—often faster, taller, or more athletic—always accepting the challenge with a smile.

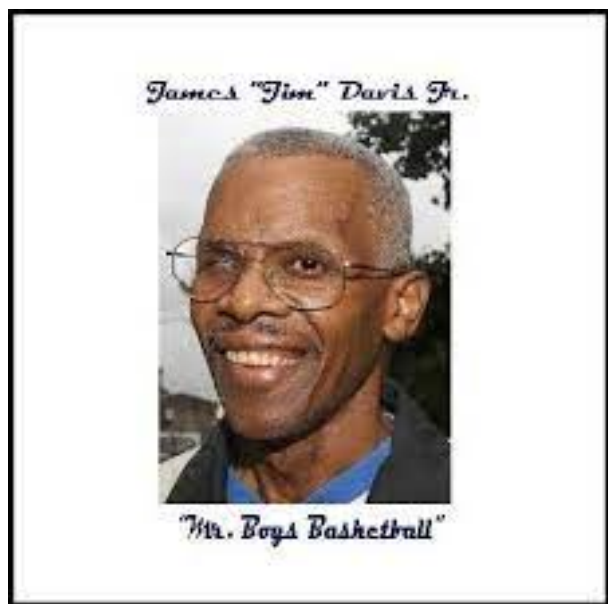
She has been the anchor of our defense and one of the best communicators I've ever coached, ensuring her teammates understood match ups and alignments. Her leadership helped us become a top-five defensive team in 2023-24 and a top-three defensive team in her senior year.

Beyond her skill, Shaili has stellar leadership ability. She connects with teammates and coaches alike, fostering unity and improvement. Her relentless effort, positivity, and ability to bring a team together have been instrumental in our program's growth. During her tenure, our win total improved each season—from 7 to 9 to 11, the most since 2014—an achievement driven by her leadership.

Shaili's selflessness extends beyond basketball. As a senior, she stepped in as the soccer team's goalie when needed, helping lead them to a division championship. She embodies the essence of the George O'Gorman Scholarship: a leader who uplifts those around her.



# JIM DAVIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



The Scholarship is named for Jim Davis, who was a sports reporter for the Trentonian for 30 years, who passed away June 2004. As a sports reporter for The Trentonian, Jim covered high school boys' basketball for decades. Although he reported on many competitive CVC, Prep, MCT, and NJSIAA games and championships involving the local teams,

The Jim Davis Memorial Scholarship is presented to a deserving senior boys basketball player who is a member of a Colonial Valley Conference school or Mercer County prep school as selected by the Mercer County Basketball Hall of Fame committee. Jim was best known for celebrating the players who weren't necessarily the stat leaders or stars of their teams. Jim's stories often detailed the efforts and contributions of players known as unsung heroes for their grit and selfless performances, who impacted the game often without accumulating impressive statistics.



## **Leslie Summiel Ewing**

Leslie Summiel is an exceptional young man whose dedication shines both on and off the basketball court. A three-year Varsity player at Ewing High School, Leslie earned the title of "Big Man" for his leadership as much as his talent. As team captain, he helped lead Ewing to the Inaugural CVC Tournament Championship and the NJSIAA Group 3 Central Jersey Sectional Final. His coachability, support for teammates, and infectious enthusiasm make him a vital presence, always uplifting those around him.

Beyond basketball, Leslie's strength of character is deeply rooted in his faith, which fuels his resilience and integrity. His commitment to excellence extends to academics, where he holds an impressive 4.22 GPA and is a National Honor Society member. He also leads the Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Symphony as a section leader while serving as Vice-President of the NAACP Club and President of Bible Study for Coffee of the Soul.

Leslie aspires to study commentating in college, using his voice and passion to influence others through media. His leadership, selflessness, and grit have earned him the prestigious Jim Davis Scholarship Award and the Joshua Scott Citizen Award, recognizing his unwavering commitment to his community.

Jim Davis would be proud to see Leslie receive this honor, as he embodies the values of faith, character, and service. Leslie's impact is undeniable, and his future is bright.



# Bigelow, Dougherty on

## Girls' All-State

Schwarz, Williams,  
Gerald also picked

★ ALL-STATE 1981

### A Letter to My Teenage Self

Dear 17-year-old Kelli,

You do not know what the future has in store for you. All you know is to be a good person, have fun, and love everyone around you. God has a plan for you.

And what God has for you, is only for you.

Don't worry about how others view or judge you because in the end there is only one judge. You do not know why people will not choose you, nor do you know why they will mistreat you. All you know is that you are here to have a good experience in this thing they call LIFE. You may be too immature to understand and to make correct decisions. However, decisions are going to be made, and you must live with them. You will do great with what you have and accomplish many things. Be proud and remember to put God first and all things are possible.

CONGRATULATIONS IN ADVANCE!



All seniors, and Kelli you are the only junior on the first team

### school sports

For Mercer County girls,  
'80-81 was season of firsts



Mercer County's best girl cagers  
The 1980-81 Trenton All-Mercer County girls basketball team. Left to right: Lisa Andrews of Notre Dame, Gwynn Trenton, Jackie Jones of Trenton and Shelly Walters of King. Kelli Williams of McCortistown was not present for the picture. Page 10.

Kelli you led the county in scoring

### 'Grand' Finale for Mercer Girls





# Congratulations!



On behalf of Dwayne Mosley,  
Delores Snow, Jocelyn Johnson,  
Valerie Hedgpeth, Anthony Bonds,  
Derek Taylor, Markita Nance,  
Ashley Catrell, Janaya Thompson, and  
Tunesha Goodwyn, we would like to  
congratulate Kelli D. Williams on her latest  
achievement on being inducted into the  
Mercer County Basketball Hall of Fame.

## Congratulations, Kelli!



Dawn, Kevin, Kyle, Cinnamon  
Shelby, Joi, Alex, Aaron, Savannah,  
Wanda, Romine, Alphonso, Royon, Zoey, Nile,  
Aunt Sarah, Jimmy,  
Geraldine Eure, Tanny Tibbs, Kiya (B.) Carmichael  
Douglas H. Palmer

*New Salem Baptist Church  
316 Union Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08611*

*609-393-7719 - church*

*609-393-3280 - fax*

*[newsalem316@comcast.net](mailto:newsalem316@comcast.net)*

*Rev. Ernest D. "Skip" Wormley, Jr.*

*Senior Pastor*



*Trustee Johnnie Richardson, Jr.  
Chairman, Trustee Ministry  
Darina Wrenn  
Church Clerk*

*"Holy Ghost Headquarters"*

***Congratulations to Kelli Williams on your Induction into the  
Mercer County Basketball Hall of Fame  
May God continue to bless you is our prayer!  
We love you and are so very proud of you!  
Pastor Ernest D." Skip" Wormley, Jr. and  
Your New Salem Baptist Church Family***





# Congratulations

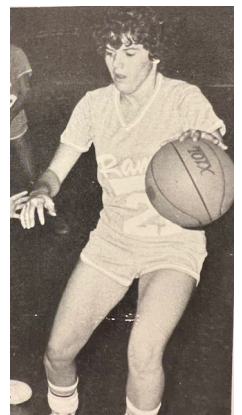
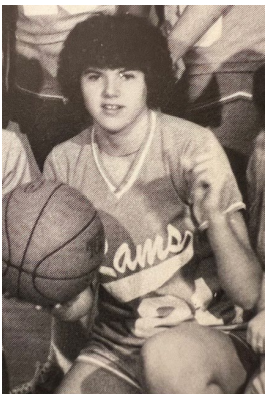
to

Hightstown High School Athletic Hall of Famer

## Melanie Balcomb

on her induction to the  
**Mercer County Basketball Hall of Fame**

*Hightstown High School  
Athletic Hall of Fame Committee*





# **Congratulations**

**Mercer County Basketball Hall of Famer**

# **Melanie Balcomb**



**and**

# **Tom Dolan**

MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
IS PROUD TO CONGRATULATE

# KELLY WILLIAMS

As he is inducted into the Mercer County Basketball Hall of Fame



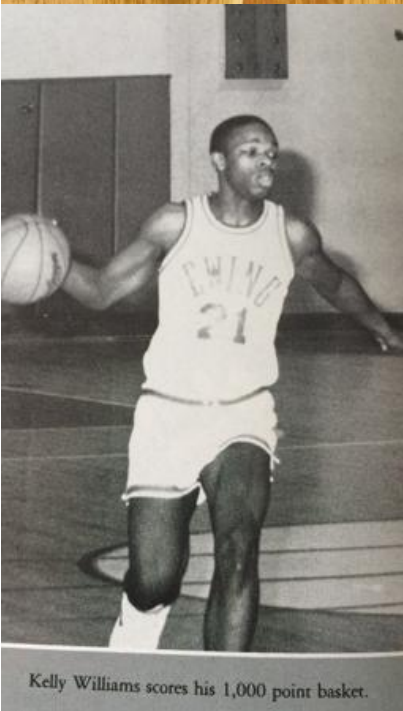
**MERCER**  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Learn more about MCCC's Academic and Athletic programs at [www.mccc.edu](http://www.mccc.edu)*



# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2025 MERCER COUNTY BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



### Kelly Williams

Ewing High School  
Boys Basketball



### Leslie Summiel

Jim Davis Scholarship winner

# The Ewing Boys Basketball Booster Club





*Congratulations*



**KELLY WILLIAMS**

Congratulations on your well  
deserved achievement!

*Cougars Climb Higher!*

*From Your Kean  
Athletics Family*



# Congratulations Kelly Williams



What an incredible achievement and a well-deserved honor! This is a testament to your hard work, dedication and talent! Heartfelt congratulations on being inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Love your friends,

Andrea, Walt, Scott, Rachel, Kim,  
Sherri, Keith, Montshu, Ennise and Rich

Congratulations  
Vince McKelvey



2025

H.O.F. Inductee

*From Your Basketball Friends and Floor partners!*

*Jeff Hermitson*

*Tom DeVito*

*Tony Celentano*

*John "Binger" Young*

*Mearl "The Pearl" Chassender*

*Chuck Farina*

*Al Offredo*

*Mike "Sal" Celentano*



# Congratulations!

*Vince McKelvey*

2025

*Mercer County*

*Basketball Hall of Fame*

*Inductee!*

*Sandy and Patrick Ryan Sr.*



*The Original*

# St. Patrick's Day Parade

*at Hamilton*

**PARADE COMMITTEE OFFICERS:**

Chairman/Treasurer – Vince McKelvey

Parade Coordinator – Mary Ann Herncane,  
Parade Co-Coordinator – Susan McNamara

Secretary - Jamine McLaughlin

Solicitor - Anthony Radice, Esq.

**PARADE COMMITTEE TRUSTEES:**

Mary Jauss - Chair of Trustees

Cathy McKelvey

Jamine McLaughlin

Sue McNamara

Patrick Ryan

**Extends It's Best Wishes and Cheers to . . .**

**Basketball Official**

**Vince McKelvey**

**For his Induction Into The**

**Mercer County Basketball Hall Of Fame**

**2025**



**The Monsignor Crean Division I  
Trenton, New Jersey  
Ancient Order of Hibernians  
*Officers . . .***

*Congratulates*

**2025 Mercer County**



**Hall Of Fame Inductee**

*Vince McKelvey*

**Division Officers:**

<b>President</b>	<b>Kenneth Adam</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>James Keenan</b>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Sean Carter.</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dave Adam</b>
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	<b>Ed McCarthy</b>	<b>Marshal</b>	<b>Michael Glass</b>
<b>Standing Committee</b>	<b>Tom Carr (Chair)</b>	<b>Sentinel</b>	<b>Sean Mack</b>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	<b>Vince McKelvey</b>		

**Trustees:**

<b>Mike DiLiberto</b>	<b>Bob Dill</b>	<b>Tom Dolan</b>
<b>Kevin Toal</b>	<b>Joe DiPaolo</b>	<b>Ken Szczeck</b>

**Respect Life**

**Check out our website @ [trentonaoh.com](http://trentonaoh.com)**



# The McKelvey Family . . .

**Don & Maryann, Bob & Connie, Shawn & Kim, Don Jr. & Andrea,  
Robert Jr. and Casey & Austin**

## Congratulates

***Vince McKelvey***

**for Induction into the**

**2025**

**Mercer County Basketball H.O.F.**



*To My Best Friend and Husband . .  
Congratulations and Best wishes  
on Your Induction into the  
2025  
Mercer County Basketball  
Hall of Fame!*



*Love Cathy*





**The International Association of  
Approved Basketball Officials  
New Jersey Board #193**

**Congratulates  
VINCE MCKELVEY**

**As he joins previously inducted officials:**

Norm VanArsdalen  
Fred Dumont  
Bob Pugh  
John "Mincey" Manczak  
Rich Giallella

***Interested in becoming a certified basketball official?***

Visit [iaaboboard193.com](http://iaaboboard193.com) for details

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