**Kimera Bartee, Omaha Central (1990):** Was the first Central graduate to play major league baseball. A speedy outfielder/second baseman, he batted .455 and stole 24 bases while making the All-Nebraska team as a senior. He played as a freshman on Creighton’s 1991 CWS team, was Missouri Valley second team as a sophomore and spent six years in the majors.

**Casey Beran, Sargent (1995):** A three-sport star who was all-state in football, he averaged a double-double in basketball and set the program record in the shot put. At Chadron State, Beran was a two-time Division II All-America defensive end and conference defensive player of the year.

**Jackie Brandt, Omaha Benson (1952):** Before winning a Gold Glove playing outfield for the San Francisco Giants, he was second in Intercity League scoring for the Bunnies’ football team, a four-year basketball and baseball letterman, making the All-Intercity team in baseball and was a hurdler. His 12-year career in the majors included a spot on the 1961 American League all-star team.

**Reshea Bristol, Omaha Bryan (1996):** Twice All-Nebraska, she led Bryan to three state basketball tournaments and a runner-up finish. Also lettered in soccer and track. She was All-Pac 10 at Arizona, setting the program record for steals and finished fifth in scoring (1,260). She had an 11-year pro career in seven countries.

**K.K. Houser, Lincoln Southeast (2009):** After a career that included a state title and two All-Nebraska basketball selections, three gold medals in track and Class A second-team honors in softball, she was an All-Big Ten guard whose career totals surpassed 1,000 points, 400 assists and 200 steals. She played seven years of pro basketball overseas.

**Susan Johnson Hood, North Platte (1987):** DII All-America pitcher at UNK, she was a three-sport standout at North Platte before softball was a sanctioned sport in high school. She was a three-year starter in volleyball and basketball and a state qualifier in track.

**Jennifer Kocsis Frees, Omaha Marian (2006):** One of Nebraska’s most decorated swimmers won seven individual golds and seven relay golds out of a possible 16 on four state champion teams and set the state record in the 500-yard freestyle. In college, she earned All-Big Ten honors at Northwestern.

**Gina Mancuso-Prososki, Papillion-La Vista (2009):** The World-Herald’s girls athlete of the year, a three-time All-Nebraska pick, was the 2008 Gatorade national player of the year in volleyball and led the Monarchs to the 2008 state championship. She was an All-American in volleyball at NU and her pro career continues with the Omaha Supernovas.

**Quentin Neujahr, Centennial (1989):** The four-year letterman in football, wrestling and track won two state wrestling titles and was All-Nebraska in football. At Kansas State, he started 45 consecutive games at center, earning All-Big Eight and All-America honors before a six-year NFL career.

**Dale Ribble, Millard South (1989):** The three-year starter led the Patriots to back-to-back state basketball championships as a junior and a senior and was a two-year starting first baseman. In four years and 107 games at Southwest Missouri State, the Bears made two NCAA tournament and two NIT appearances.

**Mark Traynowicz, Bellevue West (1980):** The All-Nebraska lineman was a state heavyweight champion and three-year qualifier for state track. He was an All-America center at NU and received the NCAA’s top five student-athlete award. After being the first pick of the second round of the 1984 NFL draft, he played six years, mostly with Buffalo.

**Tim Wurth, Omaha Burke (1976):** The first World-Herald athlete of the year from Burke set Metro Conference scoring records in an All-Nebraska senior season in football and was Metro batting champion as a junior, when Burke won the state baseball title. At NU, he broke the freshman rushing record before earning three varsity letters at I-back.

Coaches

**Doug Goltz, Falls City Sacred Heart:** Since 1987, his teams in football, boys basketball and boys and girls track have produced 30 state championships. The only coach in boys basketball with more than 700 wins, including an 11-0 record in state finals, has 341 in football. He was the 1991 World-Herald coach of the year.

**Dave Oman, Grand Island:** In a 51-year basketball coaching career that took him to seven public schools, the 2002 World-Herald coach of the year racked up 598 wins and Class A state championships at Grand Island and Norfolk — the last two title teams not from Lincoln or the Metro Conference.

**Fred Petito, Millard North:** In 41 years coaching football at Millard North and two at Omaha Cathedral, he amassed 285 victories and five Class A championships. The 2011 World-Herald coach of the year devised a run-oriented offense that became his signature and produced Heisman Trophy winner Eric Crouch.

**Mimi Ramsbottom, Elkhorn South:** In a career that includes 27 top-10 state meet finishes, she steered the Elkhorn South girls golf team to 15 consecutive conference championships from 2003 to 2017 with four state championships and two runner-up finishes in that run.

**Mark Watt, Lincoln Southwest:** Starting the school’s softball program, he coached the Silver Hawks to 15 state tournaments, four state championships and four runner-up trophies. He retired with a Nebraska-best 579 victories.

Contributor

**Bill Fitzgerald, Fremont:** A coach and athletic director at Louisville and Fremont, Fitzgerald was active in the national and Nebraska School Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, the Nebraska School Activities Association, the Nebraska Coaches Association and their governing boards.

Official

**Jeff Wolf, Kearney:** A basketball official for 39 years and a football referee for 26 seasons, he was selected to work the finals in all 20 state basketball tournaments he officiated. He refereed five state football finals. After retiring, he continues to work as an evaluator and mentor.

Special awards

**Great Moment:** Blair Dixon, Wauneta-Palisade, 2008 state track meet Class D team runner-up by herself.

**Dominant Dynasty:** Scottsbluff cross country (1995-2014, 11 state championships, four runners-up; Millard North girls gymnastics (1987-99, seven state titles, two runners-up).

**Ron Gustafson Inspirational Award:** Max Parker, former Ashland-Greenwood basketball player.

**Fischer Family Award:** Larry and Sharon Graver, Arlington.

**Golden Anniversary Team:** 1974 Lincoln East mythical state football champion (10-0).

**Silver Anniversary Team:** 1999 Omaha Gross Class B volleyball champion (31-0).