

**PETE METZELAARS CLASS OF 1978**, is one of Portage Central's most athletically distinguished



alumni. During his senior year, Pete Metzelaars led the Mustangs to the State Finals in football, and their first basketball conference championship in over 40 years. Pete earned All-State, All-Conference honors, and was named team captain in both. Pete continued his two sport excellence in college where he earned All-American honors in football & basketball and won a National championship in basketball at Wabash. After being drafted by the NFL, Pete enjoyed a long pro-career and played in 4 Super bowls with the Buffalo Bills.

**BERNIE MEYER CLASS OF 1933**, is regarded as one of Portage Township High's first sport legends. An



all-round athlete, Bernie led Portage to its first ever state title, as starter on 1932 state championship basketball team. He helped the track team to a 2<sup>nd</sup> place state finish, while setting two state records. On the baseball field, Meyer's recorded one of Portage's greatest high school days in athletics: setting a school record by striking out 19 batters in the county championship game in the morning. And in the afternoon, he won the 100 yard dash at the county championships, in a school record time of 10.0 (a record which stood for 52 years).

**CARRIE SCHONVELD RODAS CLASS OF 1996**, was Portage Central's first volleyball All-



American. She was selected to the Detroit News Dream Team in 1995 and 1996, along with being named as the 1996 Michigan Gatorade Player of the Year. Carrie also stood out in basketball and track where she still holds school records in both sports. At Penn State, Carrie was a four year starter on a team that competed in three consecutive NCAA Division 1 Championship games, finally winning it all in 1999. She was named to the Final Four All-Tournament Team in both her sophomore and senior years. During Carrie's last five years of playing competitive volleyball, her teams accumulated a record of 205 wins and 9 losses.

**JEAN SMITH COACH 1954-1977**, taught Physical Education 24 years at PCHS. She helped many young



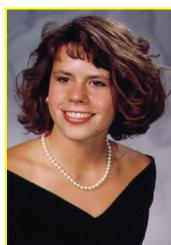
girls, during their teenage 'awkward' years, into becoming fine young women. 'Smitty' loved different sports and helped many young women have a chance to participate and compete. So finally, with Title IX passing in 1972, Jean Smith was named our first varsity softball coach and had nothing but success on the diamond with her teams. After winning several conference championships she took the Mustangs to the State Softball Finals in 1975. In 1974, the Portage Central High School recognized Jean's hard work and determination by honoring her with the Jean Smith Award, which is given to the best female athlete each spring.

**B.J. SNOW CLASS OF 1995**, was Portage Central's first soccer All-American. B.J. helped the Mustang's to



three soccer conference championships and was named to the Michigan HS Soccer dream team his Junior and Senior year. Also a great leader on the basketball court, B.J. led the team in assists. B.J. was known for his work ethic and leadership, but more importantly, he was a class act on and off the field. At Indiana University, B.J. continued his soccer career as a four year starter and was on Indiana's back to back NCAA championship teams. After IU, B.J. coached the Mustang's Men's soccer from 2002-2005 to a national ranking (#18) in 2005.

**BETH THOMPSON CLASS OF 1990**, is one of Portage Central's first female three sport stand outs.



Competing in swimming, volleyball, and soccer, Beth earned All-State honors, team MVP, team captain in all three sports during her senior year. In swimming, she earned three All-State and one All-American honor. In college, Beth took her swimming to Ball State where she set a school record and earned All-Conference honors three times.