

Indiana Football Hall of Fame

The Indiana Football Hall of Fame was founded in 1973 to recognize the efforts of those who have made prominent and lasting impacts on football in the state of Indiana. The Hall of Fame works alongside the Indiana Football Coaches Association and is located in Richmond, Indiana.

Five athletes who played for the John Adams Eagles and two coaches who coached the team at one point in their careers have been recognized and inducted into the Hall of Fame.

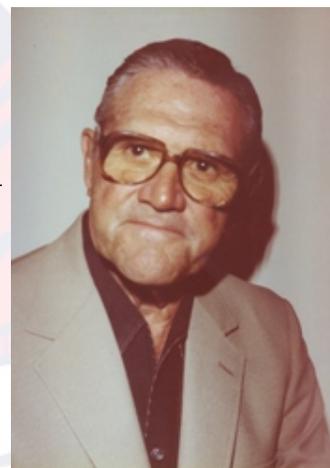
The John Adams Athletic Department and South Bend Community are proud to recognize the accomplishments of these men and their work at the prep, collegiate, and professional level.

John Murphy **Inducted 1982**

Coach Murphy was a 1934 graduate of South Bend Central High School and was later a Monogram winner at the University of Notre Dame in 1937 and 1938. After graduating from Notre Dame Coach Murphy had various coaching jobs throughout the country before returning to South Bend. Murphy was the head coach at John Adams from 1951 – 1958 where he had a record of 46-25-3. While coach, Murphy led the Eagles to two Northern Indiana Conference titles in 1955 and 1956.

Following his tenure at John Adams, Murphy went on to be an assistant coach at Notre Dame from 1959 – 1977. He worked under three head coaches and was part of the National Championship teams in 1966 and 1973.

Coach Murphy passed away in 1994.

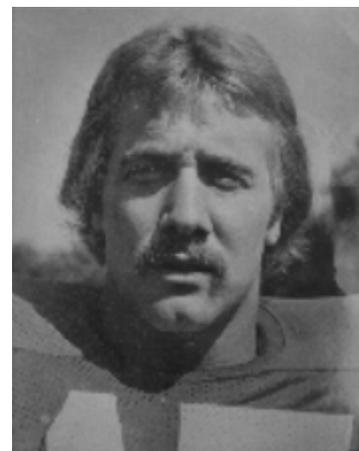


Tom Ehlers **Inducted 1988**

Tom Ehlers graduated from John Adams in 1970 after a very successful athletic career as an Eagle. Ehlers played football, basketball and ran track and was Second Team All Conference as a Quarterback.

After graduating Ehlers went on to play football at the University of Kentucky as an All Conference player and still holds the school record for most tackles in a game.

Following his collegiate career he was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles and later played for the Buffalo Bills before retiring from football in 1990.



John Goldsberry

Inducted 1991

John Goldsberry might have been the most well rounded athlete to come out of John Adams High School. Goldsberry, wearing leg braces as a child, went on to earn 10 varsity letter in football, basketball, and track and field. Goldsberry was so popular amongst his classmates that he was elected the president of the student council as a freshman. At the height of this prep career in football he was nominated as the South Bend Tribune Conference MVP. His awards include being named captain of the football team in 1944, Kiwanis Award winner, Most Valuable Lineman, Most Outstanding Athlete at John Adams, and First Team All Conference,

In basketball Goldsberry was the starting center of the 1944 Sectional championship team. As a track and field athlete, Goldsberry was the shot put state champion in 1944 and 1945 and briefly held the state record in the event. Goldsberry went on to play football at Indiana University where he was a four year letterman in football and a two year letterman in track and field. At IU was part of the 1945 Big Ten Championship team and also earned all conference and all American honors. His senior year he was named captain and often played 60 minutes a game on both sides of the ball. He briefly played professionally with the Chicago Cardinals between 1949 and 1950. Goldsberry passed away in 1972.



Elmer Britton

Inducted 2000

Coach Britton was the head coach of John Adams in 2006 and 2007 where he finished his head coaching career. Britton was a graduate of Marion (IN) High School where he was a star in both baseball and football. Britton graduated from Franklin College in 1966 where he was an All-District 21 NAIA tight end. Britton's coaching experience took him around the state including head coaching positions at Hammond Clark, South Bend Clay, Hamilton Southeastern, Lake Central, Logansport, and John Adams. Coach Britton retired with a record of 244-162-2.

As coach at SB Clay at one point his teams won 21 of 22 games. In 1982 his Hamilton Southeastern team was undefeated and ranked #1 in Class A. As coach at Lake Central Britton won 5 Lake Suburban Conference Championships, 5 Sectionals, 2 Regionals and 1 Semi State. In 1994 he was named the North All Star Coach.

Coach Britton still resides in South Bend.



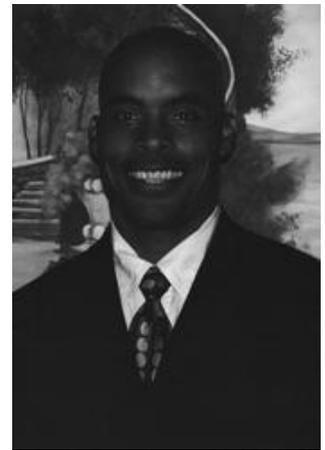
Anthony Johnson

Inducted 2008

Anthony Johnson was a 1986 graduate of John Adams High School where he was named the MVP of the Northern Indiana Conference in 1986, an All Conference Running Back, linebacker, and kicker, named to the North State All Star team and won the North MVP his senior year and was also an All State Honorable Mention honoree. Besides his accomplishments on the football field he was also All State as a soccer player in 1985 and 1986.

Johnson went on to play football at the University of Notre Dame where he was named an All American Honorable Mention several times and was the Nick Petrosanti Award winner in 1988.

Johnson had an 11 year career in the National Football League where he played for the Indianapolis Colts, New York Jets, Chicago Bears, Carolina Panthers, and Jacksonville Jaguars. During the 1996 and 1997 seasons he won the NFL's Unsung Hero Award.

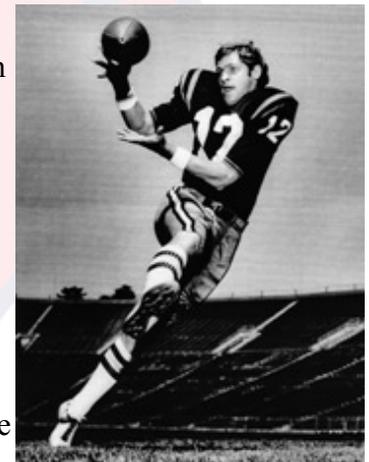


Richard Sayers II

Inducted 2014

Richard Sayers graduated from John Adams in 1969. During his senior season in 1968 he was named All Conference as a quarterback and was an All State quarterback as well where he helped lead the North team to a victory with two touchdown passes.

Sayers went on to play collegiately at Purdue University where he was named Second Team All Big Ten Wide Receiver in 1971, led Purdue in receiving in 1971 and 1972, selected a College All Star in 1972, and was a member of the victorious North team in the North South Shiner game that same year as well. Sayers played one season with the Baltimore Colts in the 1973 season before an injury ended his career. Sayers went on to enjoy a successful career in the private sector.



Willard James "Chubby" Phillips

Inducted 2018

Chubby Phillips enjoyed a successful career at John Adams and was a two year letterman his junior and senior years. During his junior season Phillips was an All Conference player, was listed on the AP, UPI, and Indiana Football Coaches All State Polls, selected as one of the 100 best backs in the country, and a *Sunkist* All American. Unfortunately Phillips was injured his senior year and was only able to play three games but was named Honorary All Conference, Honorable Mention Prep All American and was selected to the North All Star team. Phillips was also a member of the Adams wrestling and track teams.

Phillips went on to enjoy a successful career at the University of Illinois where he was a four year letterman, was four time Big Ten back of the Week, Most Valuable Back during the 1974 and 1976 seasons, played in the Blue Grey College All Star Game and the Lions American All Star Game, and received the 1977 Michael Rabord Distinguished Player Award.

Phillips is retired and lives in Campaign, Illinois.

