



**JOHN HENNESSY**  
**Class of 1950**

John was part of the starting five on what, arguably, is the greatest boys' basketball team in school history. That 1949-50 team compiled a school-best record of 25-0 that was never duplicated or bettered through the remainder of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century or through the present time and revolved around a six-player nucleus. Bart Leach was the main "go-to" guy with Hennessy, Lou Shurtleff, Dick Norman, George Graves and Norris Drew rounding out the sextet that helped carry the Mel Entin-coached team to the first of back-to-back Class B State Championships. Next to the talented Leach, Hennessy probably was the best pure basketball player on the roster, and both were named to the Class B Eastern Massachusetts All-Tournament Team. Hennessy was a senior and the acknowledged leader of four of the six players who did not return for the 1950-51 championship season, and it was his all-around efforts that played a key role in the team's first state title.

John was the swing player, who could play the forward and guard positions with equal proficiency, averaged 8.2 points through the '49-'50 season with his 165 points ranking third on the team behind Leach's 437 points and Shurtleff's 216. Hennessy easily was the team's fastest player (he ran :10.3 in the 100-yard dash) and most of his points came off driving layups and from the free throw line. He also was the acknowledged best ball-handler, passer, and defensive player on the roster. In the eyes of his head coach Mel Entin, Hennessy was all those things and more. "John was some kind player," Entin was quoted as saying in a Standard-Times interview when discussing his first state championship team. "He was a driver on offense with a two-handed underhand shot that was tough to stop (and) he was a scrapper, a great competitor who was all over the court diving for loose balls and playing tough defense." How tough was Hennessy? "Let me tell you what kind of competitor he was," Entin continued. "He suffered a

badly sprained ankle in one of the tourney games and the Boston Garden doctor told me John wouldn't play basketball for a month the ankle was so bad. He (John) insisted on playing and that night produced his biggest point effort of the season."

Three of the six players on the first state championship team (Leach, Graves, and Drew) have been inducted into the Fairhaven Hall of Fame and only two of the remaining three (Hennessy and Norman) have not. Shurtleff did not graduate from Fairhaven High School and is not eligible for induction.

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**MARK D. SYLVIA**  
**Class of 1992**  
**LIFETIME ACHIEVER**

For the past 37 years, since Mark Sylvia entered Fairhaven High School in 1988, he has displayed tremendous leadership skills beginning with his four years as the President of the Class of 1992 and serving as the Student Representative to the School Committee. In every stage of his life Mark has demonstrated a natural ability to make a difference by seeking out positions whereby he could promote change and make a difference. In his five years at American University in Washington, D.C. (1992-1997) he was involved in student government and in 1993 served as an intern in the Office of Congressman Barney Frank. By his senior year at American Mark was elected to the campus wide position of Student Confederation President.

The next phase of Mark's life was his post collegiate work life in municipal government, specifically his time in the largest town in Massachusetts: Plymouth, where Mark worked his way up to being selected in 2005 as the youngest Town Manager in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the age of 30. From 2005 – 2009 Town Manager Mark Sylvia was responsible for managing a town budget of \$141,000,000 for a town of 57,000 residents. While working his way up in Plymouth town government from 1998 – 2004 Mark was elected to two terms on the Fairhaven School Committee which was the beginning of his lengthy time of community service in the town of Fairhaven.

The second phase of Mark's professional career involved leadership positions on the state wide level, serving as a senior energy official in the Administration of Governor Deval Patrick, including as the first Green Communities Division Director, Department of Energy Resources Commissioner and the Undersecretary of Energy. During his tenure, he and his team implemented nation-leading clean energy policies resulting in a number one ranking in energy efficiency for four consecutive years, surpassing the Governor's solar energy goals four years early, and designating 155 cities and towns as Green Communities. During this period of his professional life Mark also became the elected Town Meeting Moderator in Fairhaven, a position that he continues to hold sixteen years later.

The next phase of Mark's professional life involved leadership within the private energy sector where Mark worked to expand the solar development portfolio of BlueWave, a pioneering solar developer that has received national recognition for its work in protecting the planet through its efforts in developing renewable energy. In 2015 Mark was hired as Managing Director of BlueWave and then in 2018 was promoted to the Chief of Staff position where he oversaw the Policy and Government Affairs, People, and Marketing teams.

Mark's current phase of his professional life started on November 5, 2024 when he won election for the 10<sup>th</sup> Bristol District's seat in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. From the time that Mark visited the State House on a high school field trip, he envisioned himself someday sitting in that historic chamber representing his home district.



**COACH KAREN ARSENAULT**  
**CLASS OF 1988**

Influential, empathic, motivating, supportive, intense, dedicated and highly competitive are just some of the words used to describe Karen Arsenault as she coached her Fairhaven High School's girls' volleyball teams for 18 seasons. In her career, Karen was very successful, holding a record of 280-88, and leading Fairhaven to 15-straight postseason appearances. From 2010 – 2013, Fairhaven won four straight sectional titles, and her teams have been the Southcoast conference champs three times. They also reached the state championship match twice in both 2010 and 2013 and the state semi-finals twice in 2011 and 2012.

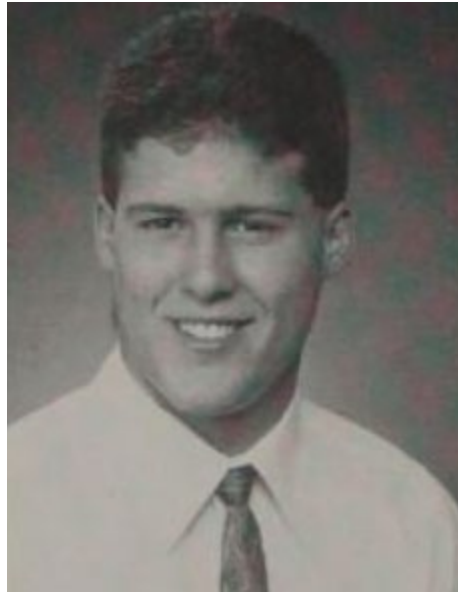
Karen started her coaching career at FHS in 1993. She started as the junior varsity coach and took over as the head coach in 2001. She stepped down from coaching in 2018 and in her 17 seasons she coached over 400 girls. Some of these girls had never picked up a volleyball, but they became interested due to Karen's involvement in the sport, and many felt motivated by Karen's own love of the game.

In 2013 Karen was named the Standard Times Fairhaven Woman of the Year for her passion and dedication to the town's youth. She was said to be nominated by several community members and several Standard Times staff. Karen's assistant coach for 17 seasons, Lisa Carvalho, was quoted as saying, "Not only did the players learn from her, but I learned from her too. She's an all-around amazing person: a great coach, a great friend and a great mother. She always worked so hard for everyone else, that they wanted to work hard for her too".

Karen grew up in Fairhaven and played for the Blue Devils when she was in high school from 1985-1988. In 1995, she was hired as a science teacher at Hastings Middle School and remained in that position until her retirement in 2019. Karen and her husband Dennis currently live in Mattapoisett, and they have two sons, Rudy (20) who is heading into his junior year at WPI and

Alec (18) who just graduated from Old Colony and will be headed into the workforce as a machinist. Karen still currently plays beach volleyball once a week with former players and other area coaches during the winter months, and she does CrossFit daily in Dartmouth.

Karen has the distinction of being the first person to be inducted into the Fairhaven High School Hall of Fame as both an athlete and as a coach.



**FERNANDO DaSILVA**  
**CLASS OF 1994**

Fernando played wherever he was needed. Filling a void with his all-around skills or filling the net with soccer balls from either foot, Fernando DaSilva was coach Sam Galvam's "go-to guy" on the soccer pitch. With graduation having taken several battle-tested veterans from a very good 1991 team, DaSilva was Coach Galvam's choice to lead a young Blue Devils' team into what he hoped would be at least a .500 season. Thanks to their junior stud, the '92 team finished second to champion Greater New Bedford Regional Voc-Tech in a competitive South Coast Conference race and advanced to the Division Sectional semifinal round of the postseason tournament before being eliminated by undefeated and heavily-favored Medway, 6-1. Plagued by injuries throughout the season, DaSilva appeared in just 13 games but still managed to score 24 goals and add 14 assists, justifying the praise of his coach who called him "the heart and soul of this young team."

After guiding the Blue Devils through a stronger-than-expected regular season, DaSilva put

on a show in the first round of the Division 2 South Sectional Tournament by figuring in all three goals of a 3-0 victory. His pin-point pass to a streaking Dave Simmons turned into a 1-0 lead when the latter's low, hard shot bounded off the goalie's leg and into the left corner of the net for a 1-0 lead at the 5:15 mark of the first half. DaSilva then put the game out of reach with a pair of goals less than three minutes apart early in the second half to send his team into the second round for the second year in a row. And for the second consecutive postseason the game was played at neutral Apponequet High School when Fairhaven's home field was deemed unplayable. Following a scoreless first half Sharon scored twice in the second half to end Fairhaven's season, 2-0.

In his senior year, DaSilva was asked to play a couple of positions and, not surprisingly, his performance at both was near perfection resulting in a return trip to the postseason tournament. After a comfortable win over Cape Cod Tech in the opening round, the next performance of the "Fernando Magic Show" came in the quarterfinal round when the Blue Devils edged Medfield, 3-2, in overtime. Fairhaven had to come from behind twice, tying the score at 1-1 on DaSilva's penalty kick in the first half and winning the game on his bullet-like blast at 3:57 of the overtime period. In between, Simmons tied the game at 2 when he converted a DaSilva pass into a goal at 35:19 of the second half.

DaSilva figured in Fairhaven's only goal in a 6-1 loss to Medway in the semifinals when his indirect kick ricocheted to Kevin Lincoln who it into the net. DaSilva finished the season with 28 goals and 18 assists and was, again, named to The Standard-Times All-Star Team.

In addition to soccer, DaSilva also earned all-star honors in track. He won the 50-yard hurdles event at the South Coast Conference Championships (:6.7), the GNB Voc-Tech Invitational (:6.6) and was a consistent point-getter in the high jump events.



**KAYLI MONIZ**  
**CLASS OF 2012**

Growing up as a soccer player and having never played volleyball before high school, Kayli went on to be one of the strongest volleyball players in her high school era. Coach Karen Arsenault describes Kayli as a “gritty, fierce competitor who would do anything to win and who never went down without a fight”. Kayli was enticed to play volleyball by coach Arsenault, and she started on the JV team but quickly moved up to varsity. She was the team’s libero for all 4 years and is described as coach Arsenault’s “best libero I ever coached”. Kayli finished her high school career by setting a school record with the most digs (1,542) and in 2011, she was ranked third as a dig leader in Massachusetts Division 2. Kayli also had 77 aces, 243 service attempts and 159 points, and in her senior season, her team finished with an impressive record of 20-5. Kayli also excelled at softball and declared it her “best sport”, starting all four seasons as the team’s shortstop. In her freshman season she batted leadoff and over her four seasons, her batting averages were .458 (freshman), .430 (sophomore) and .474 (junior) and .488 (senior). In her junior year, she led the team with the highest batting average and had 37 hits and 15 RBI. She was a softball two-time SCC Conference all-star in 2011 and 2012, and her softball team claimed the 2012 SCC Championship and advanced to the D2 South Sectional Final. She was also a two-time selection to the *Standard Times* softball "Super Team" in 2011 and 2012.

Kayli played varsity basketball for three years and she was described as a “very unselfish player, a skilled passer and an outstanding defender who could guard multiple positions”. In her senior year, her team went 18-0 and claimed the 2012 SCC Championship South Sectional championship in an epic win over then powerhouse Archbishop Williams.

After graduating high school, Kayli went on to play softball at Assumption College in Worcester. She was the starting shortstop all four years of college and was team captain for her senior year. She also was named to the All-Conference team.

Kayli currently resides in California and works as a behavior analyst working with autistic children ages 3-18. She stays active by playing in a slow pitch softball league and by playing beach volleyball when she can.



**KELSEY-KORIN SOVIK**  
**CLASS OF 2012**

Kelsey was often referred to as the “quarterback” of her teams due to her leadership skills in the different sports that she played at FHS. Volleyball coach Karen Arsenault referred to Kelsey as “a quiet leader who led by example on and off the court and as a dependable, consistent player who took charge of the offense”. Kelsey was a three-sport athlete, playing volleyball, softball and basketball and was the captain of each of those sports in her senior year.

Kelsey was the starting center fielder for her varsity softball team, batting over .400 in all four seasons. She was selected as a South Coast Conference all-star all four years. She also started on the varsity basketball team all four years and finished her high school career with 951 points. She was a South Coast Conference all-star all four years and a Standard Times all-star for three seasons. When asked what stood out for Kelsey during her high school athletic career, she stated, “it was great that Kayli (Moniz), Kara (Charette) and I had all played CYO basketball together since we were 8 or 9, so we had a lot of experience working together. We all also played softball together growing up which helped us really gel as teammates”.

In her freshman year of high school, Kelsey decided to try volleyball. Her only previous experience was that her mom played and had taught her some skills. Kelsey quickly became a setter and was a 4-year starter. She ended her career with 1,060 assists (6<sup>th</sup> in the state assists leader), 161 aces (ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the state Division 2 aces leader), 1,345 digs (ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in the state Division 2 digs leader), 190 kills and 108 blocks. She finished her senior season with a 20-5 record. She was named as a South Coast Conference all-star and Standard Times all-star for 2 seasons.

After graduation, Kelsey went to Eastern Connecticut State University and played softball for one fall season. She transferred to UMass Dartmouth after one semester and her athletic career



ended there. She studied mathematics and currently works as a staff accountant at Harvard University. She lives in Watertown, MA with her wife who is expecting their first child in July.



**KROSS NEGALHA**  
**CLASS OF 2015**

His presence was felt in three different sports and when he graduated in 2015, Kross Negalha was justifiably recognized as one of the best all-around athletes to wear the blue and white battle garb of Fairhaven High School. Negalha participated in just one season of track but in that freshman winter campaign he threw the shot well enough to be the only Fairhaven freshman to be invited to compete in the state competition.

But his athletic focus at Fairhaven was trained on two other sports and on the lacrosse and football fields he repeatedly played his way into the spotlight. In three of his four seasons of lacrosse he was among the area's most solid defenders who specialized in shutting down the opposition's top scoring threat ... despite being hampered by nagging injuries of his own. In his senior year Negalha was moved to the long stick middle position where he enjoyed another banner season.

His favorite and most impactful sport was football and over his three seasons of varsity competition he battled through pain and frustration to become an all-star running back and free safety and was Fairhaven's nominee for the Otto Graham Award as the area's outstanding senior football player.

As a sophomore he suffered a shoulder injury that would require surgery following the season. Experiencing pain throughout the rehabilitation period, Negalha's only goal was to be ready for his junior year and he appeared to be on track until he suffered a blow to his surgically repaired shoulder early in that 2013 season. More damage had been done and a more

complicated surgery was prescribed. But since the damage had already been done, Kross was told he could finish the season if he was willing and able to play through the pain. For Kross, that was the best news he'd had in his two seasons on the gridiron. And with the addition of a shoulder brace, he played through pain for the balance of the 11-game schedule, finishing with a co-leading seven touchdowns ... including three in a 40-28 victory over Bourne. He also led the Blue Devils in tackles from his safety position and was named the team's Defensive Player of the Year while earning a spot on The Standard-Times All-Defensive Second Team.

Following a second operation in the off-season, he began prepping for his final year of high school football and for the first time in his schoolboy gridiron career he wasn't disappointed. In that unforgettable senior season Kross remained healthy and went on to set a school single-season record for touchdowns with 17 and was named the team's Most Valuable Player, a Standard-Times and South Coast Conference All-Star and a nominee for the Otto Graham Award.