



Belmont Abbey
COLLEGE
*That in all things God
may be glorified*

For Immediate Release

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Belmont Abbey College Announces 2026 Inductees to the Dr. Michael P. Reidy Athletics Hall of Fame

Belmont, N.C. (April 9, 2026) — Belmont Abbey College is pleased to announce the Dr. Michael P. Reidy Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2026 on the 150th anniversary year of Belmont Abbey College. Nominated by members of the Belmont Abbey College community and selected by all living members of the Hall of Fame and coaches past and present, this incoming class includes four distinguished alumni and one team. The ceremony will take place on Thursday, October 1, 2026, honoring individuals and a team whose achievements embody the Abbey way and the college's tradition of excellence and virtue.

This year's inductees include:

- **1987–88 Men's Basketball Team** – A historic season featuring a perfect 10–0 February run, a District 26 championship, and the program's first NAIA National Tournament appearance since the Al McGuire era of 1962. This was the last team to reach the NAIA National Tournament prior to its move to NCAA Division II.
- **Hannah Schellenberg '15 (Volleyball)** – The most decorated volleyball player in Abbey history, earning multiple All-Conference, All-Region, and All-American honors. Renowned for her leadership and humility.
- **Tristan Keas '10 (Men's Lacrosse)** – A defensive cornerstone who helped lead the team to its first Conference Carolinas title and earned multiple All-Conference and All-Tournament selections.
- **Chris Neidermeier '09 (Wrestling)** – The first Abbey wrestler to be inducted, the program's first NCAA All-American, and a foundational leader whose legacy continues as a mentor to current athletes.
- **Tim "TJ" Reilly '78 (Tennis)** – A standout player regarded as one of the best in program history, known for his elite forehand and success both during and after his Abbey career. TJ was also a decorated junior player, earning national recognition for his performance.

Interim Director of Athletics Paul Lyon emphasizes the significance of the event, noting that each inductee reflects the character, achievement, and Benedictine values that define Belmont Abbey Athletics.

"This Hall of Fame class represents the very best of Belmont Abbey Athletics," said Lyon. "Each inductee has not only achieved excellence in competition, but has also demonstrated the integrity, leadership, and commitment to community that defines the Abbey way. We are proud to honor their lasting impact on our college community."

Belmont Abbey has long been committed to an athletic program rooted in excellence and virtue, dedicated to forming young men and women into blessings in the lives of others. The Hall of Fame stands as a testament to this mission, honoring those who exemplify these ideals and inspiring future Abbey Crusaders to follow in their footsteps.

The Hall of Fame ceremony celebrates not only records and championships but also the personal excellence, leadership, and service demonstrated by these honorees—hallmarks of the holistic education Belmont Abbey College has provided since its founding in 1876.

About Belmont Abbey College: Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is a private, Catholic baccalaureate and liberal arts institution. Our mission is to educate students in the liberal arts and sciences so that in all things God may be glorified. Guided by the Catholic intellectual tradition and the Benedictine spirit of prayer and learning, we welcome a diverse body of students and provide them with an education that will enable them to lead lives of integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to be a blessing to themselves and to others. Our beautiful and historic campus is conveniently located just 10 miles west of Charlotte, N.C., and is currently home to more than 1500 students. For more information, visit <https://belmontabbeycollege.edu/>.