

# East Aurora inducts 2020 Athletic Hall of Fame class



Four East Aurora High School former athletes were inducted into the Tomcat Sports Hall of Fame Friday, Jan. 31.

They were Lou Hernandez, Plainfield, Class of 1989; Andy Toma, Sheridan, Class of 1985; Chuck Mennecke, Marblehead, OH, Class of 1973; and April Nelson, Temecula, CA, Class of 1993.

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony took place before the boys' varsity basketball game against Glenbard East. Before the ceremony, a 4:30 p.m. reception was held in the school cafeteria. East Aurora won 69-67 in double overtime.

**Lou Hernandez** was an outstanding football and baseball player at East High. He earned two varsity letters in football and was team captain his senior year. He was selected Honorable Mention Upstate-8 All-Conference Quarterback. A highlight of his senior season was the comeback victory over West High which knocked West out of the playoffs. Lou ran for one touchdown and passed for three.

**Andy Toma** was an outstanding track and field athlete at East High. He transferred to East from Oswego High School his sophomore year and made an immediate impact helping the Tomcats win the Upstate 8, Kane County and IHSA Sectional championships as a sophomore high jumper.

**Chuck Mennecke** was represented by his twin brother Jim of Aurora. As a junior and senior, Chuck was a member of the varsity basketball and track teams at East High.

**April Nelson** attended Oak Park Elementary, Waldo Middle School, and graduated from East Aurora High School in 1993. During her four years at East High, April was a three-sport athlete, excelling in cross country, basketball and track & field.

**PHOTO:** 2020 East Aurora Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Friday, Jan. 31, from left are Jim Mennecke of Aurora, representing twin brother Chuck Mennecke, Marblehead, OH; Andy Toma, Sheridan; Lou Hernandez, Plainfield; and April Nelson, Temecula, Calif. (Al Benson photo)