**Kelly Jones-Thiel**

Kelly Jones-Thiel graduated from Defiance in 1998 after earning nine varsity letters, three in basketball and softball, two in cross country and one in track.

Kelly also garnered numerous Western Buckeye League accolades including honorable mention in cross country as a freshman, special mention in softball as a sophomore and senior, and special mention in basketball as a senior.

In softball, Kelly helped Defiance to the WBL championship as well as a district championship as a junior. Her senior year she was team captain.

Kelly, whose sister Kara was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2016, was also team captain as a senior in basketball. That season Jones was District 8 honorable mention, Clinic Classic Tournament MVP, the leading scorer in the District 8 All-Star game and was also selected to play in the Bryan All-Star game.

Awarded the senior booster scholarship and the Lenhart-Peacock Award, Kelly attended St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Ind. for two years where she played basketball scoring 10.1 points per game while leading the team in rebounding at 6.3 and blocked shots at 2.0. Kelly earned MIAA honorable mention honors both seasons and was voted team MVP as a sophomore.

She then attended Defiance College where she helped the basketball team to the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference regular-season and tournament championships. The team went on to reach the second round of the Division III NCAA Tournament.

Kelly graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics and went on to get a Master’s Degree in Administration from Bowling Green.

She was the girls basketball varsity assistant as well as junior varsity softball coach at Napoleon from 2002-2004. She also coached at Edgerton where she was the head softball coach from 2004-05, junior varsity basketball coach from 2004-06, varsity assistant basketball coach from 2006-07 and head varsity basketball from 2007-14.

Kelly teaches seventh and eighth grade math and algebra 1 at Bryan and also coaches seventh-grade girls basketball. She is married to Jeremie Thiel and they have two children, Kailee 13 and Kelsie 10.