District 3: Dave Benter, Brownstown Central

Dave Benter is the IBCA District 3 Coach of the Year after leading Brownstown Central to a 28-4 season that included the Class 2A state championship. In the process, his Braves won the Mid-Southern Conference, Southwestern (Hanover) Sectional, Washington Regional and Southport Semi-State.

In 26 seasons at Browntown, his alma mater, Benter has a 477-166 record with 12 sectional titles (2003, 2004, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2017, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024), four regional crowns (2004, 2009, 2023, 2024), three semi-state trophies (2004, 2009, 2024), two Class 2A state runner-up finishes (2004, 2009) and the 2024 Class 2A state crown.

Benter is a 1992 graduate of Brownstown Central, where he played four years of basketball and baseball and was an IBCA honorable mention All-State player as a senior. He matriculated to Hanover College, where he stands fourth in school annals with 1,934 career points, was a three-time team MVP, was the 1996 NCAA Division III Player of the Year and earned a bachelor's degree in biology and physical education in 1996.

He later earned a master's degree in education from Olivet Nazarene University in 2002. Benter started his coaching career as the freshman team coach at Southport from 1996-98. He then became the Brownstown Central varsity coach starting in the 1998-99 season.

He previously was an IBCA District 3 Coach of the Year in 2004 and 2010, his teams have won 14 Mid-Southern Conference championships, and he is a six-time HBCA District 4 Coach of the Year (2003, 2004, 2010, 2013, 2022, 2024). He also was a Junior All-Star assistant coach in 2004, the Junior All-Star head coach in 2010 and the Indiana All-Star head coach in 2014.

A teacher for 28 years, including the last 26 at Brownstown Central, Benter currently teaches health and is the School-to-Work coordinator at Brownstown.

Benter and his wife, Kristy, have two children – Katherine, a junior on the women's team at Hanover, and Jack, a senior on the current Brownstown Central team.