Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

September 27, 2017

Crest Hollow Country Club
THE Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame is organized as a means of recognizing, preserving and promoting the heritage of interscholastic sports in Nassau County. The Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame honors the contributions and accomplishments of individuals who are worthy of county-wide recognition. Nominees must exemplify the high standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and moral character.

The categories of nomination include: Administrator, Official, Contributor, Athlete and coach. All candidates for the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame must be at least 35 years of age prior to December 1st of the applicable year in order to be considered for induction.

Nominees for the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame will go through a two-step process before being selected for induction. The ten (10) member Screening Committee will determine which candidates are worthy of consideration. The five (5) anonymous members of the Selection Committee vote independently to determine the candidates who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Applications can be found on the Section VIII website at www.nassauboces.org/athletics. All nominations for the 2018 Hall of Fame are due on February 1, 2018.
PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION OF THE CLASS OF 2017
MASTER OF CEREMONIES — CARL REUTER

HONOR AMERICA
STAR SPANGLED BANNER
TOMMY BARONE

OPENING REMARKS
DOMINICK VULPIS
SECTION VIII ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

INVOCATION
FATHER FRANCIS PIZZARELLI, S.M.M.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
CARL REUTER

CLOSING REMARKS
PATRICK PIZZARELLI
SECTION VIII EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Dr. Santo Barbarino was the pulse of the Lynbrook community! He epitomized what a hardworking and gentle professional was all about.

The long time High School Principal and Superintendent of the Lynbrook Public Schools, Barbarino was very much a part of the athletic landscape of Nassau County. In fact, at one time he was the Athletic Director at Lynbrook High School. Other athletic endeavors for Barbarino were his roles as President of the Section VIII Athletic Council, a contributing member of the Section VIII Ethics Committee, and a member of the Superintendents Committee to Section VIII Athletics.

Known as “Dr. B”, Barbarino was all about doing everything for children first. He was a positive presence for children, parents and coaches. Coaches and administrators in Section VIII worked with him, loved him, and admired him for his passion for athletics. As a member of the New York State Government Relations Committee, Barbarino made sure that Nassau County athletics always had a voice in the ears of the state government. Name the sport and the season at any level, and Dr. Barbarino would be in attendance. He absolutely bled green and gold!

When it came down to getting the job done, Barbarino took a very active stand, aimed at improving education and athletics. He was driven and caring. His support was valued by all of the administrators in the Lynbrook Schools, and shared willingly with all of the school administrators of the county. His genuine smile, loving nature, and belief in the value of sports were inspirational and invaluable. Barbarino was always proud of Lynbrook’s victories, perhaps best witnessed by his joy as Lynbrook High School was the first recipient of the Nassau County Sportsmanship Award.

Barbarino was honored with many awards of his own, including “New York State High School Principal of the Year”, Village of Lynbrook “Man of the Year” and Lynbrook Moms and Dads Club “Man of the Year.”

Dr. Santo Barbarino passed away five years ago, and the community lost its biggest advocate and fan. The love for him was shown when the student-athletes of Lynbrook lined up in their uniforms for blocks outside the church for his funeral and to say one last good-bye to their "Super Fan."

An instrumental figure in Section VIII athletics, tonight we thank and honor Dr. Santo Barbarino posthumously with his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame. His memory will forever be a blessing.
Simply put, John Kickham was known as the “Father of Section VIII.” His contributions and dedication to Nassau County athletics are a rich part of our history and growth as an organization.

He was the model administrator. John was the first President of Section VIII. He served an unprecedented 10 years in that role. Kickham was respected and admired by athletic directors, school administrators, coaches, and above all—the athletes of the schools in Nassau County.

Kickham had a distinguished career. He was President of the North Shore Athletic Association from 1958-1960, and Vice President of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) from 1967-1969. He followed those roles by becoming President of NYSPHSAA from 1969-1971.

Kickham was awarded many certificates of merit and distinguished service awards, including the Certificate of Recognition from the New York State Coaches Association for his 33 years of selfless service. John taught mathematics and coached at Westbury High School from 1933 through 1951. He became the principal of Westbury High School, a role he held for 18 years. In 1968, he was named the Westbury Public School District Assistant Superintendent, a position he held until 1973.

Kickham’s children all recount his pride in all things related to his service as President of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. A great family man, John was married for 59 years to his wife Agnes. He was the father of seven children, grandfather to 17, and presently has 23 great-grandchildren. John resided in Westbury for 64 years. He loved his family, his church, the field of education, athletics, and all the students he helped over his 43 years in education.

Tonight, we posthumously honor John Kickham’s outstanding educational career with his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Alfred Kumerow was a true pioneer of Nassau County athletics. He had a vision of the future of our organization.

Kumerow was a charter member of the Sewanhaka High School faculty when it opened in 1930. He was the Athletic Director for 29 years of his tenure. He coached basketball and football for 15 years, and in 1938 led the football team to an undefeated season. That distinction stood for 42 years, until finally matched in 1980.

"Al was outstanding in the coaching profession," Herbert B. Jones, one of Kumerow's former players, wrote in a 1986 letter to Newsday. "Aside from being a stickler for fundamentals, he was always inventing new ways to improve the performance of his teams. He took great personal interest in his players."

Kumerow also initiated and coached the wrestling team. His vision took high school athletics to another level when he created the position we know today as the Section VIII Executive Director. He was invited by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association to attend one of its meetings and to describe the leadership position to all of the sections of New York State. The organization of the NYS association is still based on his model of governance of high school sports.

Alfred Kumerow also organized the Nassau County Approved Umpires Association and chaired a committee to hear baseball, football, golf, softball and ethics protests.

Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Famer Marc Martone was hired by Kumerow in 1949 as a member of the Sewanhaka High School Physical Education staff. Martone said, "I can truly state for the record that I learned more about athletic administration from Mr. Kumerow than through any other source."

It is with great pleasure tonight that we honor a visionary, inducting Alfred Kumerow posthumously into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
What hasn't Patrick Pizzarelli done when it comes to education and athletics in Nassau County? His name is synonymous with quality in athletics!

A 1973 graduate of Massapequa High School, Patrick has been a veteran physical educator, coach and athletics administrator in Section VIII. In 1987, after teaching and coaching in Connecticut and coaching football at Wagner College, Pizzarelli was hired as the Supervisor of Physical Education, Health and Athletics for the Hicksville Public Schools. Five years later, he became the Director of Physical Education and Health for the Lawrence Public Schools system, a position he held until 2015.

During his tenure at Lawrence, the Lawrence football team won five Long Island Championships in three different conferences with three different coaches. Pat served as the Section VIII football coordinator for 18 years, retiring from that role only last season. His consistent and tireless efforts to promote, safeguard, and monitor the safety, prestige, and growth of the sport at the modified and high school levels was invaluable to the county's athletic directors, coaches and school administrators.

Pizzarelli is the only person to have been President of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) and the New York State Athletic Administrators Association (NYSAAA). He has been President of the Nassau Zone of the NYSAHPERD twice. Over his forty-year career in education, the awards he has won are countless. He has earned the NYSAAA Apple Award, the NYSSA Outstanding Administrator Award, and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) State Award of Merit. In 2016, he was inducted into the NYSAAA Hall of Fame, and in 2017, inducted into the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame. Patrick’s proudest moment, among his many, was when he received the National Federation of High Schools Citation in California. He was elated to have his mother, son, daughter and brother present.

This past July 1st, Pizzarelli was named as the new Executive Director of Section VIII Athletics. He is a dynamic and trusted leader, whose first priority always was and always will be his compassion for all student-athletes.

Tonight, with admiration and gratitude, we honor Patrick Pizzarelli with yet another milestone. Congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame!
Dr. Frank Saracino is one of the most diligent and dedicated education and athletics leaders that Nassau County ever had. Saracino served his entire professional career in the East Meadow School District, where he made significant contributions to the recognition and support of the student athletes and athletic programs of Section VIII.

Frank served Section VIII for two consecutive terms (1987-1990) on its Athletic Council. He was also part of the NYSPHSAA Central and Competition committees. He served as a lobbyist to the New York State Legislature to protect curriculum inclusion of Health Education, Physical Education, and Interscholastic Athletics during budget crunch years. When he talked, people listened.

In 1990, Saracino was the keynote speaker at the annual New York State Bar Association’s annual conference, where he spoke of austerity and athletics. While a member of Section VIII's Athletic Council, Frank headed the legal committee's successful defense of the "level playing field" concept. Many of Saracino's honors over his career were among the most prestigious that school administrators can achieve. He was named “New York State Educator of the Year” three times, and twice named "Humanitarian of the Year." Another significant honor for him was the naming of the W. Tresper Clark gymnasium, outdoor track, football and soccer fields as the "Frank J. Saracino Sports Complex."

There have been many proud moments in the illustrious life of Frank Saracino. He received the New York State Liberty Medal for organizing and filling eight trailers with children's medical and health supplies from New York State, delivered to the victims of Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana. In 1996, Saracino was named "Alumnus of the Year" by St. John's University, one of three colleges he attended while earning four degrees. In 1984, the East Meadow Chamber of Commerce named Frank Saracino as its "Man of the Year."

Before his life in education began, Frank was a tremendous athlete from Stuyvesant High School in New York City, where he was a catcher on the baseball team. While at Queens College, his catching duties continued, as well as his membership on the Queens College bowling team. Saracino was a born leader, earning seven varsity letters while captaining seven athletic squads. Frank also played two years of minor league baseball in the New York Yankees organization. The importance of athletics in his life made him a strong advocate for protecting and promoting Physical Education and athletic experiences for the student-athletes of our county.

What a career for one of the finest people you will ever come across! It is with great pride that we honor Dr. Frank Saracino tonight with his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
From 1971-2008, if you attended a basketball, soccer, softball, or boys’ and girls’ volleyball event, chances are you got to see one of the greatest officials that ever worked a game. Ginny Gandolfo’s career spanned 37 years; she was on the floor, the court, and the diamond for all the right reasons! Her motto was always “It’s about the kids, not the official.”

Gandolfo officiated basketball for 27 years, and soccer for over 10. She was the first female soccer official in Nassau County. Ginny was on the diamond for 20+ years, officiated over 35 seasons of volleyball, and was chosen to officiate numerous play-off games in each sport.

In 1999, Gandolfo received the Crown Trophy Award in honor of her outstanding contributions to girls’ and women’s sports. She represented the Nassau County Volleyball Board of Officials at New York State meetings. She was also the Ethics Committee Chairperson for basketball, softball and volleyball.

She volunteered at officials’ clinics, rating sessions, and welcomed any role where she could contribute her talents. Ginny was also the assigner for the Nassau/Suffolk Catholic Volleyball League for both boys and girls.

Susan DiMonda, former girls’ lacrosse and basketball official said, "Ginny not only taught me the proper mechanics, but more important, emphasized the significance of good sportsmanship and ethical behavior as an official." Ginny did all of this while raising four children, including daughter Laurie, who has been a varsity volleyball official for over 25 years. Mom and daughter worked together at many tournaments and playoff games. Ginny fondly remembers her grandchildren showing up at her play-off games to support her with posters that they made.

Ginny Gandolfo’s genuine love for Nassau County athletics, her dedication to student-athletes, and her embodiment of the spirit of fair play makes her unique. She is a highly-respected model of the vital role that sports officials play. We congratulate and thank Ginny Gandolfo with her induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Roger Glazer is truly one of the most respected and skilled officials that Nassau County has ever had. A 1963 graduate of Syosset High School, Roger was a three-sport athlete himself who captained his basketball, tennis and baseball teams as a senior athlete.

Glazer has been officiating high school varsity basketball in Nassau County since 1969. He was rated as the top basketball official 11 times. He has officiated 216 Nassau County play-off games, including 47 Nassau County finals. In addition, Roger officiated 12 New York State Regional games, 14 semi-finals and eight New York State finals. In addition, he officiated eight State Federation Games, including four semi-finals and four finals.

Roger also blows the whistle for the Nassau-Suffolk Catholic League. He has officiated their finals five times since starting with the organization in 1972. Roger has been selected as the Basketball Coaches Association “Official of the Year” for Section VIII on four occasions. Roger has served as an elected member of Board 41 of the Nassau County Basketball Referees Association.

Roger has experienced some great moments, including his first NYS basketball final in 1978. In 1987, he was chosen to attend the NBA Referee Camp in Los Angeles.

Glazer also refereed college basketball at the Division I, II and III levels. He was also a boys’ soccer official from 1972 -1982, and a boys’ lacrosse official from 1975-1978. Since 2001, Roger was selected as one of the top girls’ soccer officials in Nassau County; he has officiated the girls’ soccer county finals 11 times.

Former Locust Valley basketball coach Roger Montanaro said it best, "Roger's best attribute is that he referees every game as if it’s the New York State championship. No team, no matter how weak or inexperienced, receives anything but Roger's best efforts." He is admired for his dedication to our county athletes and coaches, his professionalism, and his strong sense of fair play.

Roger Glazer, congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame!
MICHAEL CANDEL
CONTRIBUTOR

If you weren’t lucky enough to be at the game, all you had to do was read Mike Candel’s game story; that’s how detailed it was. Mike made you feel like you were sitting in the bleachers. From 1973-1976, Candel wrote for the Long Island Press, and from 1977-2001, we read his game stories and columns in Newsday. Covering the landscape of high school sports was one of his two full-time jobs.

Mike was a professor of Physical Education and a coach at Nassau Community College from 1965-2008. He started and coached the lacrosse team at Nassau, and coached the basketball team. His basketball coaching record was 100-41; in lacrosse, it was an admirable 60-4.

Mike covered over 3,000 high school events, from regular season games to championships. He featured stories for virtually all of the island’s boys’ and girls’ athletic teams.

Candel was a poignant, honest, and sensitive journalist whose writings were clipped, shared and saved in family scrapbooks. They lined the bulletin boards of our schools and gymnasiums. His opinions challenged us, congratulated us, and supported our athletic programs. We are grateful. Newsday’s Gregg Sarra said, “Mike had the ability to impart his knowledge and guidance to younger writers like me. He had a masterful set of teaching skills.”

Mike said he owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to his wife of 53 years, Mary, who is a 35-year survivor of breast cancer. She was the backbone of the family while he worked two jobs. He thanks his sons Lou and Matt, his daughter-in-law Sherri, and his five grandchildren: Ryan, Jesse, Marti, Ella and Benny.

Mike Candel, congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame. Tonight, you deserve the publicity!
Derrick Adkins was a two-time United States national champion in 1994 and 1995, as well as the World Champion in the 400 meter hurdles in 1995. But his success did not stop there. At the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, Derrick Adkins won the gold medal in the 400 meter hurdles, with a winning time of 47.54. During his athletic career, the former Malverne Mule broke the esteemed 48-second barrier a total of 20 times. He is one of the few hurdlers to win back-to-back gold medals in the World Championships and the Olympic games.

In 1996, following his Olympic gold medals, local authorities at his hometown in Lakeview lobbied to change the name of the street where he was raised from Seneca Avenue to Derrick Adkins Lane.

Derrick became the director of the Armory Track and Field Center from 2006-2011, and was an avid supporter of the Friendship Games from 1989-2016. He has been a promoter of the annual Derrick Adkins Classic since 1999. Since 1989, he has served as a member of the Lakeview Youth Federation. He coached track at Columbia University and served as an outreach representative and manager of training for the New York Road Runners. Derrick is currently pursuing a master’s degree in urban ministry counseling.

His local, national and world stage success as an athlete and athletics advocate is a source of pride to Malverne and to Nassau County. Congratulations, Derrick Adkins, on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame!
A 1968 graduate of North Shore High School, Hank Bjorklund was truly a gifted athlete. He starred in football, basketball, and baseball, helping to lead the Vikings to league titles in three sports.

Hank was named an All Division football player as a sophomore, was the youngest member of the All County team as a junior, and was a member of the Newsday All Long Island team as a senior. In 1986, Newsday named Bjorklund to the “Silver Anniversary All Long Island Squad”, one of only six players chosen from the 1960’s.

In his senior football season, Hank missed two games but still managed to rush for 754 yards while scoring 11 touchdowns. In basketball, Bjorklund was named All Division in both his junior and senior years. In 1967-1968, Hank set the North Shore scoring record when he poured in 34 points against undefeated Roslyn High School, helping the Vikings to a five-point victory. Later that season, he set a new scoring record, with 36 points scored against the Farmingdale High School squad.

In baseball, Hank started as a freshman, and earned All Division honors as a sophomore. He captured All County honors in his junior and senior years. He was named North Shore High School “Viking of the Year” when he graduated in 1968.

Bjorklund then took his athletic talents to Princeton University, where he played both football and baseball. He was the first Tiger to rush for over 1,000 yards, averaging 135 yards per game. He was a first team All Ivy selection. In 1969, he rushed for over 100 yards and scored three touchdowns in a 35-7 win over previously undefeated and nationally ranked Dartmouth College, helping Princeton clinch the Ivy title.

The New York Jets drafted Bjorklund in 1972. Bjorklund played with them until 1975, when he left to attend Hofstra University Law School.

Hank is grateful to his North Shore High School coaches Phil Bergovoy, John Reardon, George Meyer, Ray Conlin, Carmen Girolamo, current Athletic Director Don Lang, and his beloved wife of 45 years, Victoria.

Tonight we congratulate and celebrate the stunning career of Hank Bjorklund with his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Crystal Boyd was simply “dominant.” The 1990 graduate of East Meadow High School was a five-time All County performer in two sports. She played for three years on the volleyball team, garnering All County honors in 1987 and 1988. But it was on the softball diamond where Crystal put up numbers that no one else could.

A varsity softball star for four years, Boyd had a career average of over .600. In the 1989 season, Boyd knocked in 52 runs in only 19 games, and 29 of her 41 hits went for extra bases. She hit .621 that year, but it paled in comparison to her 1990 .796 average. Crystal also slugged 14 homeruns in her senior year. She was the 1990 Nassau County Softball “Most Valuable Player”. In fact, her greatness lives on; the Crystal Boyd Award is given annually to the top softball player in Nassau County. Boyd was also the first Nassau County inductee into the New York State Softball Hall of Fame.

Boyd’s game continued at the next level, where she put Hofstra University softball on the map. She was a two-time All American shortstop, the first player in Hofstra history to earn that honor. Boyd holds significant season records at Hofstra: highest batting average (.514), most hits (80), most doubles (21), and most triples (10). She was also a three-time Academic All American. She had a career batting average of .431, including an NCAA best batting average of .514 in 1993. She was the first female athlete to be inducted into the Hofstra University Athletics Hall of Fame, and the first female athlete to have her number retired.

Professional softball came next, where Boyd was a three-time All Star and the batting and homerun champion of 1998 with the Georgia Pride team.

Crystal has been a Physical Education teacher at Garden City for 20 years. She is grateful to former Garden City Athletic Director Nancy Kalafus for believing in and hiring her. Crystal is happily married to her wife Wendy, who she met while playing professional softball. They have a nine-year-old daughter, Peyton.

Tonight, we celebrate the induction of Crystal Boyd into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame. It’s one more home run!
Grit, determination, and tenacity would best describe Stephen Boyd. The 1990 graduate of Valley Stream Central High School was a terrific athlete, playing lacrosse from eighth grade through his junior year, when he was named team captain. But Stephen made his name on the gridiron. Boyd was a three-year starter in football, and was the team captain in both his junior and senior years. A running back and linebacker, Boyd scored 34 touchdowns while accruing 274 career tackles. He won the Thorp Award in 1989, given to the most outstanding football player in Nassau County. In that season, he helped lead Valley Stream Central to a 12-6 victory over Garden City in the Nassau County Conference II championship game. Boyd also earned All Long Island and All State lacrosse honors and was the Daily News "Metro Player of the Year."

From there, Stephen attended Boston College. In 1994, he was selected as the Eastern College Athletic Conference “Player of the Year.” While at Boston College, Boyd captured All Big East honors in 1993 and 1994, and helped lead the Eagles to three straight bowl games.

Boyd’s football game only picked up steam upon his college graduation. The Detroit Lions drafted him; Boyd played seven years for Detroit and was named NFL “All Pro” in 2000. He led the Lions in tackles for four straight years, and earned 575 tackles for his career with 6.5 sacks and three interceptions per season. He collected awards such as the National Football Conference “Player of the Month” and “All Madden Team” distinction.

Stephen was an assistant football coach at Chaminade High School from 2004-2008. He took over as head coach in 2009 and led the team until 2015. In 2012, Boyd led the Flyers to the Triple A championship, ending a 13-year drought for the school. He was named MSG Varsity “Tri-State Coach of the Year”, as well as the Catholic League “Coach of the Year” award.

In 2013, the newly updated weight room at Valley Stream Central High School was renamed after Stephen Boyd. Congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame!
John DeTommaso began his playing days at Farmingdale High School. The 1982 graduate starred on the football and lacrosse fields. DeTommaso was a three-year starter in football at the linebacker position. He earned All County honors in both 1980 and 1981, and All Long Island and All State football distinction in his senior year.

In lacrosse, John played for four years and was voted to the All County team in both his sophomore and junior years. During his senior campaign, DeTommaso was a high school All American, and won the Howdy Myers Award given to Nassau County's top defenseman. He played for three Hall of Fame coaches at Farmingdale High School—Don Snyder, Bob Hartranft and Buddy Krumenacker.

Following his graduation from Farmingdale State College, DeTommaso attended Johns Hopkins University and became an elite player. He was a four-year starter for the Blue Jays, and was a four-time All American. He helped to lead Johns Hopkins to two national championships in 1984 and 1985. In 1985, he won the Schmeisser Award, given to the nation’s top defenseman.

DeTommaso played on four United States Lacrosse teams that won four world championships—in 1986, 1990, 1994, and 1998. He was elected to the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 2001. Simultaneously, DeTommaso served as head lacrosse coach at Mepham High School and was named the Nassau County “Coach of the Year” in 1992. He later coached the Long Island Lizards to the inaugural Major League Lacrosse Championship in 2001. He was the first-ever Major League Lacrosse Coach of the Year.

DeTommaso started his career in education as a social studies teacher at Mepham High School. He was an assistant principal and athletic director at Calhoun High School, and later worked as the Bethpage School District’s Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Technology. He returned to Bellmore-Merrick in 2013 to assume the position of Superintendent of Schools.

Proud moments in his career included greeting his parents after every game he played in high school and college, as well as playing in front of his wife and children while representing Team USA in 1998. DeTommaso thanks his entire family for their love and support, starting with his parents and brothers, Frank and James. His wife Heather and children Brendan, Briar Rose and Ailes are the core of his happy life. Tonight, they all have another reason to be proud of his athletic and academic accomplishments.

Congratulations, John DeTommaso, on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Warren Koegel graduated from Seaford High School in 1967, and made quite a statement there! Koegel was a three-sport star. On the gridiron, Koegel, known as "Moose," anchored both the offensive and defensive lines. He played center and defensive tackle and co-captained the 1966 Vikings team. Koegel earned All Conference, All County and All American honors, and was the recipient of the 1966 Thorp Award, given to the most outstanding football player in Nassau County.

Koegel also played forward on the basketball team, and was a catcher and first baseman on the baseball diamond. He earned All Conference distinction in baseball, and was a unanimous pick for Newsday's Silver Anniversary baseball team that covered athletes who played from 1962-1986.

Following his graduation from Seaford High School, Koegel attended Pennsylvania State University. He played for coach Joe Paterno on the Penn State Nittany Lions football team for two straight undefeated teams in 1968 and 1969, and helped Penn State become the #2 football team in the nation. Just as he did at Seaford High School, Koegel co-captained the Nittany Lions, winning two Orange Bowls. Koegel also played in the East/West Shrine game, as well as the Hula Bowl.

Koegel then took his game to the National Football League. He was a third-round pick in the 1971 draft of the Oakland Raiders, spending two seasons there before moving on to the St. Louis Cardinals and New York Jets.

Koegel became Director of Athletics on the collegiate level at Coastal Carolina University from 2000-2011, where he started the football program. He took over the athletics program at Jacksonville State University in Alabama. Jackson State enjoyed much athletic success and numerous facility upgrades under his tenure from 2011-2014.

Koegel says that he has had some proud moments over the years because of some great people that helped to pave his way. He credits Harry Curtis, his coach at Seaford; Joe Paterno, who guided Moose through his days at Penn State; his mother, Dorothy Alice Van Etten Koegel for her dedication and love as she raised three sons; his brothers Pete and Rich, and his loving wife Elaine and daughter Kathryn.

What a career and what a life! Tonight we honor Warren "Moose" Koegel with his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Danielle Gallagher, Manhasset High School Class of 1985, is a household name within the lacrosse world. But she has excelled in so many athletic venues. She was a four-sport star in high school basketball, cross country, field hockey, and lacrosse. She earned All Conference honors in cross country, All County distinction in field hockey, and was twice named All Long Island in basketball, helping Manhasset High School win two county championships.

As talented as Gallagher was at cross country, field hockey, and basketball, there was no one better than her on the lacrosse field. Danielle became Long Island’s first United States All American girls’ lacrosse player in 1984 and 1985, and helped lead her team to the New York State championship title in 1985. In that NYS championship season, Danielle scored 65 goals and added 45 assists, including the game-winning goal. During her career, she notched 165 goals while also tallying 93 assists.

Danielle took her game to the next level, starring at the College of William and Mary, where she was a two-time All American player in 1988 and 1989. Following college, Danielle played for 18 years on the United States National Team, participating in four World Cups and winning three of them. She has coached at the collegiate level, but since 2006 has been the head girls’ lacrosse coach of her alma mater, Manhasset High School. She led Manhasset to the Nassau County Championships from 2006 through 2010, and again in 2013 and 2014. In both of those years, Manhasset won the Long Island Championship, adding the New York State title in 2014.

Gallagher was inducted into the lacrosse halls of fame of Manhasset High School, the College of William and Mary, and the Long Island Metro Lacrosse Foundation. She was also a member of the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. Gallagher is also the Director of Black Diamond and Long Island Liberty Lacrosse.

It is an absolute pleasure to celebrate Danielle Gallagher’s induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
SCOTTIE GRAHAM
ATHLETE

Scottie Graham simply set himself apart from all the rest. What a banner career the 1987 graduate of Long Beach High School has had! Graham starred in football, wrestling and lacrosse, and captained all three of his sports. In his junior year, after carrying the ball only three times during his entire sophomore season, Scottie rushed for over 900 yards in eight games. As a senior, he set the New York State record by rushing 200 yards in seven games to help lead the Marines to the Nassau County Conference I finals, for the first time in 33 years. Graham was recognized as an All Long Island and All American athlete.

On the wrestling mat, there was no one better than Scottie. He won the 1987 New York State wrestling championship at 215 pounds while weighing in at only 190 pounds. Graham was named All State and All American for his accomplishments. In lacrosse, Graham was a tough middy and an All County selection, leading Long Beach to the playoffs.

Upon graduation from Long Beach, Scottie took his game to Ohio State University. After a game against rival University of Michigan, captain Scottie ran for 133 yards. The late, great and legendary Michigan coach Bo Schembechler sought Scottie out and said, "If I had 11 guys like you on my team, we'd win the national championship."

Scottie played NFL football from 1992-1997 with the Jets, Vikings and Bengals. In 1993, he led Minnesota in rushing. But Scottie Graham’s biggest statistics did not occur on the athletic fields. From kindergarten through high school graduation, Scottie did not miss one day of school. "I can honestly say that Scottie Graham is the greatest example of athletic ability, character and work ethic that I have not only coached, but have witnessed," said Jim Bernhardt, Scottie’s football coach at Long Beach High School. Scottie is now the Senior Associate Athletic Director at Arizona State University.

Congratulations, Scottie Graham, on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame!
Steven Hunte, a member of the John F. Kennedy Bellmore High School Class of 1973, is now a retired officer of the United States Army. Colonel Hunte served our nation for 32 years. He also just might be one of the most accomplished wrestlers that Nassau County has ever seen. Hunte was a four-year varsity wrestler whose overall record was 101-4-1, and three of those four losses came in ninth grade. During his junior and senior years, Hunte went 58-0 with 43 pins.

He was the New York State champion in both 1972 and 1973, and was the Section VIII champion in 1970, 1972, and 1973. His lone loss in 1971 came in the county finals. Following his second NYS title, Hunte was named an All American by USA Wrestling, one of only three New York State students to earn that honor, and the only Long Islander. During his time with the Cougars, Hunte helped lead the way to two team championships for his school.

A top college recruit, Hunte chose to wrestle at the University of Iowa under the legendary coach Dan Gable, and was a part of three NCAA championship teams. Steve was a two-time Big Ten champion.

In the 1980’s, Newsday's John Hanc and Gregg Sarra wrote an article entitled “Long Island's Top Ten Most Feared Wrestlers.” Steven was included on that list. He earned accolades because of his hard work and dedication to excellence. His dad Ken was a wrestling coach, and instilled a great work ethic in his son. Every night before kissing his dad good night, his father would ask, "Have you done your 50 (as in push-ups)? To which Steve would say "Yes." Then his father would ask, "Did you do an extra one for good luck, in case your opponent is doing only 50?.” To which Steven said, “Yes!”

Steven Hunte retired out of the Pentagon in 2011. Did he win on the mat? Absolutely. But he is a very decorated retired colonel. He has been awarded two Legion of Merit Medals, six Meritorious Service Medals, and two US Army Commendation Medals, among other service awards.

Tonight, we are truly honored to bestow another crowning achievement to Colonel Steven Hunte's unbelievable life. Congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
He revolutionized the position of tight end, and it all began right here in Nassau County. John Mackey was an incredible three-sport athlete at Hempstead High School, class of 1959. He played end on both offense and defense. As a two-year starter in football, Mackey earned All County honors in both seasons. He was also named All State, capping off his football career by winning the Thorp Award in 1958.

In basketball, Mackey was a three-year starter and an All County selection in 1959. His coach, John Mills, said Mackey was the best rebounder he ever had. John also dominated in track and field as a Hempstead Tiger. His pole vault best was 12 feet, 6 inches, and he ran a 10 second flat in the 100 yard dash. He was also part of the 4x100 meter relay team.

Upon graduation from Hempstead High School, Mackey attended Syracuse University. In his football career, he caught 27 passes for 481 yards and scored five touchdowns. He rushed for an additional 259 yards and four more scores.

His next calling was the NFL and an awesome 10-year career. He spent nine years with the Baltimore Colts, and a season with the San Diego Chargers. He had 331 catches for over 5,200 yards, averaging almost 16 yards a catch. He hauled in 38 touchdowns, with six of those scores over 50 yards. One of those touchdowns occurred on November 22, 1966 against the Lions, arguably the greatest catch and run in NFL history. John punished every Lion on his way to a 64-yard scamper.

Mackey was named to the NFL's All Decade team of the 1960's and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1992. In 2007, Syracuse University retired John Mackey's number 88 jersey.

John Mackey passed away in 2011, but will never, ever be forgotten. Tonight, we induct the former Hempstead Tiger posthumously into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
There is a long, and storied history when it comes to Garden City High School athletics. Part of that rich tradition is Don McCauley, an outstanding two-sport star in the 1960's.

McCauley was a three-year varsity football and baseball player with the Trojans. He was a North Shore League and All County selection in both sports. In baseball, McCauley caught and batted clean-up. He was the first All North Shore football defensive back in 1966. On the offensive side of the ball, Don scored 14 touchdowns while rushing for almost 1,000 yards.

His football talent earned him a scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was recruited by Bill Dooley as a defensive back, but was given the opportunity to play running back where he became a two-time Atlantic Coast Conference “Player of the Year.” In 1971, McCauley was the ACC “Outstanding Athlete of the Year.” The versatile McCauley contributed to the team as a receiver, rusher, kick returner and punter, leading the team in most categories. In 1970, he led the nation in rushing with 1,720 yards and in all-purpose running with 2,021 yards. His 1,720 yards rushing broke the NCAA record and continues to withstand the test of time, ranking as the second highest total in ACC history and the highest at North Carolina. A consensus All American in 1970 and senior team captain, he continues to hold numerous school records. His number 23 jersey is honored and hangs in North Carolina’s Kenan Stadium.

McCauley was drafted in the first round by the National Football League’s Baltimore Colts in 1971. He played 11 years in Baltimore, appearing in 162 games, and gaining over 5,600 yards while scoring 58 touchdowns.

When McCauley looks back on his career, he said, "I feel very fortunate to have attended Garden City High School, where so many gave of their time and efforts for the betterment of the youth in the community. The game of football has provided me with an education and a career. It made me the person I am today."

In 2001, McCauley was inducted into both the College Football Hall of Fame and the Garden City High School Hall of Fame. In 2010, he was enshrined into the University of North Carolina Hall of Fame.

Tonight, Don McCauley comes home for his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
A 1983 graduate of West Hempstead High School, Don McPherson put up some of the best numbers from the quarterback position that we have ever seen. In his junior season at West Hempstead, he was the runner-up for the Thorp Award by completing 152 passes, running over 1,100 yards and throwing for nine touchdowns. He added another 700 yards rushing. In his senior year, he won the Thorp Award, given to the most outstanding football player in Nassau County. McPherson completed 75 of 135 passes, ran 1,165 yards, and scored 10 touchdowns. He rushed for 1,055 yards, and picked off 10 passes on defense.

Those accolades followed at Syracuse University, where he was a dominant quarterback, and a consensus All American. McPherson completed over 53% of his passes at Syracuse and ran for 5,812 yards; he threw 46 touchdowns, including 22 in his senior season. He won the Maxwell Award for “College Football Player of the Year” in 1987, the Davey O’Brien National Quarterback Award in 1987, the Sammy Baugh Trophy for “Most Outstanding Player” in 1987, and the 1987 Johnny Unitas “Golden Arm Award”, given to the outstanding senior quarterback in college football. He finished second in the 1987 Heisman Trophy voting. His accomplishments during his tenure at Syracuse propelled him to be inducted into the NCAA College Football Hall of Fame in 2008. Syracuse University honored McPherson by retiring his number 9 jersey, only the fourth number to be retired in the storied football history of the university. Don also received the George Arents Award for Social Activism in 2009, Syracuse University's highest alumni honor, created to recognize alumni who are pioneers and leaders in their fields.

McPherson was an NFL draft pick in 1988, and spent seven seasons in the NFL and Canadian Football League. He played for the Houston Oilers, the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, and the Ottawa Rough Riders. After retiring from football in 1994, McPherson became the first executive director of the Sports Leadership Institute at Adelphi University. He worked with the Long Island based “Athletes Helping Athletes” Student Athlete Leadership Team Program, training and mobilizing high school student-athlete leaders in addressing issues such as sportsmanship, civility, bullying, substance abuse, and life skills developed through sports participation. As a feminist and social activist, he has founded several outreach and mentoring programs, and regularly speaks at college campuses as a critic of gender roles and violence on campuses. McPherson is also a cable television college football commentator for Big East football.

In addition to his personal excellence in high school, college, and professional athletics, Don McPherson has proven to be all about giving back. He has used the power and appeal of sport to address complex social justice issues. We are proud to honor Don McPherson with his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Billy Wilson starred in five sports for Lawrence High School. The 1945 graduate was an all-around threat. He boxed, ran track, and played baseball, basketball and football. Talented and successful, Wilson won the 1943 Thorp Award given to the most outstanding football player in Nassau County, the first black athlete to do so. He could throw, run, tackle and even kick. He was the first African-American to play football at Lawrence. There was no match for his youthful athleticism and explosiveness.

Wilson was named All-Scholastic in 1942, 1943 and 1944 on the gridiron, while also earning All-Scholastic honors in baseball, basketball, track and boxing. Wilson earned a total of 16 varsity letters.

Billy never got the opportunity to attend college. The black athlete in the 1940’s just did not have opportunities; there were no major-league athletes for Wilson to consider as role models until a year after he left Lawrence HS. Black college football stars were few and far between. Many wonder what could have been had Billy gone to college. Long-time East Islip football coach Sal Ciampi, Sr. remembered the day Wilson became the first black athlete to win the Thorp unanimously in 1943. “Billy Wilson just came up at the wrong time. If he had come up in the 60’s, he would have been a major college athlete: big-time major-major.”

Some say he was the most gifted football back to come out of Long Island. When Jim Brown was asked who he considered to be the best athlete he had ever seen, the Manhasset High School graduate, fellow Thorp Award Winner, and Hall of Famer, said, "Billy Wilson."

Wilson passed away in 1982 at the young age of 55. At that time, his football coach Nicholas Farina said, "I found him to be one of the greatest high school players I have ever seen. He had exceptional ability. You name it, he could do it. He was a real gentleman. His character was beyond reproach and he was loved by all of the kids in the school."

Wilson's proudest moments included winning the Thorp Award and serving in the Marines. Wilson had the love and support of a great family: his wife Helen and his children Lorraine, Aloysius, Sandra, Kenneth, Gwyn, Randy, Dempsey, and Matthew. He was a humble man and never talked about himself; his children had no idea he was such a lauded athlete in high school. His wife talked about how much he loved watching sports on television.

Tonight, William “Billy” Wilson is remembered as one of the all-time greatest athletes in our county as he is inducted posthumously into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
When speaking about Freeport High School’s football coach Russ Cellan, Newsday’s sports columnist Gregg Sarra said, simply but eloquently, “There are few coaches who pass our way who are willing to put their life’s work into their school system.” Russ Cellan, a Lindenhurst High School 1975 graduate, is a dedicated and tireless worker, respected by his peers and loved by his players.

Cellan’s head coaching career began at St. Dominic High school, where he spent three years before taking over the Freeport High School football program in 1986. The rest, as they say, is history. Cellan has a career record of 213-98. His teams have made the play-offs 22 times, winning the county title seven times and the Long Island Class I Championships five times. Included among his accolades are five Rutgers Cups, given annually to Nassau County’s most outstanding football team. Cellan’s personal honors include seven Nassau County Conference I “Football Coach of the Year” awards. In 2003, Cellan was the National Football Foundation All Metropolitan “Coach of the Year.” He designed running the spread offense, used now by more than 50 schools on Long Island.

Mike Stanley, now in his 11th year as head football coach at Carey High School, said “Russ is one of the few coaches on Long Island who has set a standard of success that we all try to chase and emulate.”

Cellan has also spent 35 years as an assistant wrestling coach at Island Trees and Freeport High Schools. He proposed and initiated the seeding system for the New York State championships. Ironically, Russ started his wrestling coaching career under the late, great Ted Peterson, a 2015 inductee into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame. Ted Peterson became Cellan’s father-in-law after Russ married Peterson’s daughter, Sharon. Russ and Sharon have been married for 35 years and have two sons, Michael and Matthew, who are also football and wrestling coaches in Nassau County. Daughter-in-law Michelle and grandson Ryan are also proud members of Russ Cellan’s fan club.

Former Oceanside football coach Frank Luisi said he learned an important life lesson from Russ Cellan, “It’s not ‘look at me.’ It’s ‘look at us.’” Tonight, we are looking at you, Russ. Congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
When you think about Nassau County girls’ basketball coaches, Farmingdale High School’s Pete Cerrone’s name always comes to mind.

The 1974 Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School graduate has been patrolling the sidelines of Farmingdale High School’s gymnasium since 1980. Pete Cerrone has earned 547 wins, the most in Nassau County Girls’ High School Basketball. He has amassed a .760 winning percentage, with 17 conference championships, five county titles, and two Long Island crowns.

Under Cerrone’s tutelage, the Farmingdale girls reeled off two incredible winning streaks: 50 straight wins from 1984-1988, and 42 straight wins from 1992-1995. Cerrone was named “Girls’ Basketball Coach of the Year” a dozen times. One of his proudest moments was when Farmingdale High School won its first Nassau County Girls’ Basketball Championship in 1987. Pete Cerrone was inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame in 2004. His impact as a coach and mentor is significant; 34 of his former student-athletes went on to play basketball in college, and six of them are coaching basketball at the high school and collegiate level.

Farmingdale’s assistant girls’ basketball coach Dave Stein said, “Whether it is staying after practice or giving up his time during the summer, Coach Cerrone has always made himself available for the needs of his athletes.” Cerrone is also the assistant football coach at Farmingdale High School. This will be his 38th year of teaching Health Education at his school.

A member of the Farmingdale High School Hall of Fame, Cerrone says, “The success of any coach depends upon the total sum of tremendous support from the people around them: great assistants, supportive athletic directors, parents, and decades of talented athletes who brought the ‘Daler Way’ - doing it hard, and doing it the right way.”

Well, Pete Cerrone, you’ve done it the right way for a long time. Welcome to the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame!
What a career George Craig had! But more important, what an impact he made on Nassau County athletics! From 1929-1964, Craig was the Director of Athletics for Baldwin Schools. He also taught Physical Education. He coached baseball, basketball, football, swimming, track and field, and wrestling. Over his 30 years of coaching Baldwin High School football, his teams went 131-75-22, a winning percentage of .623. Under his leadership, Baldwin High School won a football championship in each decade, including five county titles, the Rutgers Cup, and the Bacon Trophy, precedent to the Rutgers Cup. During a three-year stretch from 1934-1936, Baldwin Football had an 18-0-3 record.

Craig coached more than 75 All-Scholastic players, as well as two Thorp Award winners: Bob Casey in 1944 and Bob Reifsnyder in 1954. “He knew how to coach football and how to handle kids. But he was more concerned about how we lived our lives. He was a second father to many of us,” said Reifsnyder.

In baseball, Craig led his teams to two South Shore Class “A” championships. In basketball, Baldwin was crowned South Shore “A” champions three times. Craig was a member of the football, basketball, and baseball coaches’ associations, and served as President for football and basketball.

Craig was one of the first coaches to organize and play in an alumni game in 1945 to raise money for the soldiers coming home from World War II. The game raised over $3,600. In 1948, the town of Baldwin held a “George Craig Day”, where he was honored by the community and presented with a new car. The field at Baldwin High School is named in his honor: the “George A. Craig Memorial Field.” At his retirement party, over 300 people attended to honor and celebrate his legacy. Craig remained an avid golfer, shooting an 87 at the age of 87, with a hole in one!

“We all search for heroes. I lived with one. Dad exemplified and surpassed the qualifications,” said his daughter, Sharon Shaknis. Tonight, we honor the memory of a great man as we posthumously induct George Craig into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Becky Crawford was the National High School Coaches Association “Regional Coach of the Year” three times, in three different sports, for two school districts.

From 1971-1980, Becky coached track and field at West Hempstead High School, and led her teams to an overall 83-12 record, including six division championships, one county championship, and the 1974 New York State title. Simultaneously, Crawford was coaching girls’ volleyball. From 1971-2003, West Hempstead High School’s volleyball record was 461-87, as Crawford coached her athletes to nine division, three league, five conference, two county, and two Long Island championships.

Becky also coached girls’ basketball in the Massapequa Schools. At both Berner and Massapequa high schools, her teams dominated the court. At then-Berner High School from 1976-1984 and at Massapequa High School from 1985-1993, her teams went 202-58, earning five division and three conference championships. She was certainly proud of her winning teams, but considered the recognition they earned as true athletes even more important. Crawford’s volleyball teams won the Nassau County Sportsmanship Award six times. Crawford herself was named “Nassau County Coach of the Year” four times.

Crawford served on the Section VIII Safety Committee, was a representative to the Section VIII Athletic Council, and served as Vice-President for Officials. She was the Section VIII sport coordinator for both volleyball and track and field during her tenure. Her professional contributions included her role as President of the Nassau Zone of the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Berner High School graduate Ginger Eichon Lee, one of Crawford’s student-athletes, said this about her coach, “Becky was a role model and a mentor in my life. I became a teacher and a coach, and modeled myself in both roles after Becky.”

Becky Crawford, we thank you for your many contributions to Nassau County athletics, and congratulate you on your induction to the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
ANGELO GIUGLIANO
COACH

From 1969-1983, the New Hyde Park High School football team had tremendous success under the direction of its head coach Angelo Giugliano. During his 15-year tenure, Giugliano's teams had a 97-25-1 record. The Gladiators won seven league titles and three Nassau County championships.

Giugliano coached two Thorp Award winners, Herbert Butzke in 1978, and Tony Cappellino in 1984. He led them to New Hyde Park’s only two Rutgers Cups, taking home the awards in 1977 and 1983. The 1983 squad was a dominant one on defense, giving up only 14 points that season.

During the 1977 and 1978 seasons, New Hyde Park ran off 19 straight victories, and was voted "Team of the Decade" by Newsday. Giugliano also coached Bob Avellini, arguably the greatest Gladiator of them all. Avellini spent 10 years in the National Football League as quarterback of the Chicago Bears and New York Jets.

Giugliano transformed New Hyde Park High School into a football powerhouse. But more than that, Angelo had a tremendous impact on hundreds of young men. Gary Charles Lynch, a member of the New Hyde Park Class of 1971, said this about his former coach: "He is fondly remembered as a caring man of character, who loved his players regardless of their ability to play the game."

Giugliano won “Coach of the Year” awards from Newsday, The Daily News and the New York Post. He is also a member of the New Hyde Park Coaches Hall of Fame.

Tonight we bestow another honor on Angelo Giugliano, his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Carol Ann Habeeb-Kiel has put up staggering numbers as head coach of the girls’ volleyball coach at Massapequa High School. It all started when she was still a college student! Her coaching career began in 1988, while she was completing her degree and playing for St. John's University.

For 29 years, Habeeb-Kiel’s teams have won, and won some more. She has totaled over 500 wins in volleyball, and has a league record of 367-88, including 13 straight years of undefeated conference play-218 wins and zero losses. Carol Ann's teams have won 17 consecutive Nassau County Championships, three Long Island titles, and the New York State Title in 2007. Habeeb-Kiel was Newsday’s “Long Island Coach of the Year” five times, and the Nassau County “Conference Coach of the Year” 20 times.

An elementary school teacher in the Massapequa Public Schools since 1990, Carol Ann Habeeb-Kiel coached outstanding student-athletes. On three occasions, her teams won the New York State Sportsmanship Award; her Massapequa High School girls’ volleyball teams have won the Nassau County Sportsmanship Award nine times. Massapequa’s Director of Physical Education and Athletics John Piropato said this about his teacher and coach, “Carol Ann is a leader among the many great coaches in our district. She sets the bar high for a standard of excellence for herself, her students, her athletes, and her programs. She is just so knowledgeable, and so respected by everyone in our school community, as well as the volleyball community.”

But there is more to Carol Ann and her volleyball program than winning on the court. In volleyball, “side-out” means regaining control of the ball. Similarly, “The Side-Out Foundation” helps people with breast cancer regain control of their lives. “Dig Pink” is an event that brings together volleyball players across the nation to raise funds for breast cancer research, to demonstrate the power of teamwork, and to show support for people with the disease. Over a nine-year period, Habeeb-Kiel and her volleyball teams have raised $84,000 for the “Dig Pink” and The Side-Out Foundation. In 2016, Massapequa was the number one school in the nation when it raised $14,000 for “Dig Pink.”

Carol Ann Habeeb-Kiel has had a glorious career as one of the most elite coaches in any Nassau County sport. She is also an amazing leader, possessing the highest attributes of character and dedication to her profession. Tonight, we honor her with her induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
BERNARD HINTZ

He was the best at his craft! From 1972-2006, Bernard Hintz led his boys’ soccer teams at The Wheatley School to 326 wins, the best record of any boys’ soccer coach in the history of Nassau County. In his time with the Wildcats, Hintz coached the team to the New York State title in 1983 and 2004, winning the title in two classes: both 'B' and 'C'. Along with the state championships, Hintz' teams captured seven Nassau County Championships, three Long Island titles, and four Regional championships.

Over the years, Hintz was a two-time winner of the Paul LeSueur Trophy as Nassau County Boys’ Soccer “Coach of the Year.” At one time, he was the Vice-President of the Nassau County Boys Soccer Coaches Association.

Hintz also coached fencing and wrestling at Wheatley. After two years of coaching golf at North Shore High School, Hintz took over the golf program at Wheatley, where his teams had over 120 wins and earned six conference championships. Hintz had six golfers in his career qualify for the NYS individual golf championships, and was named “Conference Golf Coach of the Year” four times.

Hintz' commitment was so much more than X's and O's. He taught life lessons along with skills and strategies, making him a true educator, mentor and friend to thousands of student-athletes. Hintz was inducted into The Wheatley School Hall of Fame, as well as the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame.

Ironically, Bernie’s proudest moment in a storied coaching career came with a loss. In a non-league game against Great Neck South High School, his son David scored the only goal in a 1-0 Great Neck South win over Wheatley.

Hintz is grateful to his wife of 43 years, Betty, and to his children Ali and David for their love and support during his 43 years of coaching.

Tonight we honor the all-time most winning coach in Nassau County boys’ soccer history, Bernard Hintz. Congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
From 1973-2006, Fran Nocella was a teacher, coach and athletic director in the Wantagh School District. She made a positive impact in every aspect of education. Fran coached both girls’ volleyball and softball at Wantagh High School from 1973-1992. Overall, Nocella’s volleyball teams were 278-59 with a division championship, nine conference titles, two county finalist titles, and four Nassau County championships. Her softball coaching accolades are equally significant; her overall 19-year record from 1973-1992 is 321-86-1, including five division titles, four conference titles, two county finalist titles, a Long Island Girls Association championship title, a Long Island Girls Association championship title, five Nassau County championships, a Long Island championship, a Southeast Regional title, and a NYS finalist title. Nocella was named “Coach of the Year” in both sports multiple times. On one occasion, great Yankees fan that she is, Nocella accepted the Daily News “Softball Coach of the Year Award” at home plate at Yankee Stadium. She also earned many county and state coaching awards from the NYS Coaches Association, NYS AHPERD, the American Volleyball Coaches Association, and the National Federation of State HS Associations.

Fran was the founder and President of the Nassau County Volleyball Coaches Association, as well as the Section VIII volleyball coordinator for four years. She instituted and hosted annual officials rating sessions, directed volleyball development camps, and coached the Exceptional Seniors competition.

In 1992, Nocella was the National Federation of State High School Association “Volleyball Coach of the Year.” She loved coaching and the individuals and teams she worked with. Kathy DelGais-Butler, inducted last year as an athlete into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame, said, "Fran was a magician who had this wonderful ability to take individuals with many different strengths and weaknesses and make each one of us shine and glitter in our own way."

Following her years as a teacher and coach, Fran Nocella became the Director of Athletics and Physical Education for the Wantagh School District in 1992, and served in that role for 14 years until her retirement in 2006. Her administrative service to Physical Education and athletics was equally significant and valued. She taught county coaching courses and led college recruiting programs. Fran chaired two NYS AAA conferences and the Nassau County Physical Education Consortium. She received numerous awards for her professional contributions from NYS AHPERD, NYSAAA, and the Council of Administrators. Fran was an activist for the enrichment and growth of girls’ athletics across Nassau County and New York State.

Tonight, we honor Francine Nocella for her strength, leadership, advocacy and compassion with her induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
The numbers are staggering for one of the all-time greatest wrestling coaches that Nassau County and New York State has ever seen. From 1968-2003, Steve Shippos taught Physical Education and coached at Baldwin High School. His record speaks for itself. He earned 355 total victories for his school, including four dual meet county championships in the 1980's.

In 1984, Baldwin captured the New York State Cup title. Over his career, Shippos coached 28 Nassau County champions, 16 All State wrestlers, four NYS champions, and one National Champion. Overall, Shippos coached 109 All County place winners.

Shippos was named Nassau County “Coach of the Year” in both 1980 and 1986. But his proudest accomplishments included seeing young men who worked hard to reach their personal goals. He smiles when he saw many of his former athletes become teachers and coaches; they are now giving back what they learned through the sport of wrestling.

Shippos' name is synonymous with the sport of wrestling. In 2005, he was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He has also been given the Lifetime Service Award by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the Baldwin High School Hall of Fame. A graduate of Ithaca High School in 1961, he also has the honor of membership in the Ithaca High School Hall of Fame, and the Section IV Athletics Hall of Fame.

Steve wrestled at Iowa State University, where he was a three-time NCAA qualifier, a Big Eight Champion, and an All American in 1966. A banner career continues tonight for Steve Shippos with his induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
Ken Sicoli was the head coach of East Meadow baseball for 33 years. He had a sparkling career record of 501-281-10. “I have as much respect, gratitude and admiration for Ken Sicoli as I have for any person that I have ever come across in my lifetime,” said long-time East Meadow football and assistant baseball coach Vinny Mascia.

Over the course of his career, Sicoli was a business teacher, department chairperson, athletic director, and football, track and baseball coach. He excelled at it all, especially during his time spent on the diamond. Under Sicoli’s leadership, the East Meadow Jets flew high, winning the conference title 14 times, and the county championship three times. The big year was 1997, when East Meadow won the Long Island and New York State title.

Sicoli was named “Coach of the Year” 15 times. Because of his hard work and dedication, the baseball diamond at East Meadow High School is named “Ken Sicoli Field.” He was so liked and respected that on numerous occasions, Sicoli won the Baseball Officials Association Sportsmanship Award. Sicoli was heavily involved in Nassau County baseball, serving as President of the Baseball Coaches Association for five years, as well as holding the position of Section VIII baseball coordinator for over 20 years. He had an impact on so many of his former players that 18 of them are coaching baseball. That is one of his most proud achievements, equal to winning the NYS Championship.

“During my tenure in the East Meadow School District, I have been very fortunate to have been surrounded by wonderful people. Ken Sicoli remains my most positive early influence,” said Richard Howard, Principal of East Meadow High School and one of Sicoli’s former baseball players.

Sicoli expressed special thanks to his family for their support and understanding. He said that all of his honors, awards and special moments were made possible by talented players, an excellent staff, and supportive administrators, parents and fans. “Without them, I would not be here.”

Ken Sicoli, congratulations on your induction into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
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