



Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame

December 2009

Class of 2010 Inductees Announced

The Board of Directors of the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame has announced the members of the Class of 2010 who will be inducted at the CSHoF annual banquet to be held February 15, 2010 at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club.

ART ASQUITH – An inductee of the Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame in recognition of his outstanding amateur career, the Cassadaga resident has coached multiple sports for over 50 years at Cassadaga Valley Central School.

RAY CALDWELL – A one-time resident of the Frewsburg area and inductee of the defunct Jamestown Sports Hall of Fame, the noted spitballer pitched for New York, Boston and Cleveland from 1910-1921.

DAVE CRISCIONE – Dunkirk's outstanding baseball player and SUNY Fredonia coach who made it to the major leagues with the Baltimore Orioles.

PATRICK DAMORE – Named the first commissioner of the State University of New York Athletic Conference, the Fredonia resident was an outstanding coach and Athletic Director at SUNY Fredonia for 30 years.

TARA VANDERVEER – The head coach of the Stanford University women’s basketball team and summer resident of Chautauqua Institution for nearly 40 years has won over 700 NCAA games, has led The Cardinal to two national championships and was the head coach for the 1996 gold medal USA Olympic team.



Shawn Higbee, a 2007 inductee of the CSHoF, is featured in the CSHoF display case in the lobby of the Jamestown Savings Bank Ice Arena. Higbee, a native of the Town of Busti, is a 1988 graduate of Southwestern Central High School. He is a professional motorcycle racer in the AMA PRO roadracing series aboard the #11 Buell 1125R in the Daytona Sportbike class and the American Superbike class. He also races MotoGT and competes with the Willow Springs Motorcycle Club (Rosamond, CA). For additional information about Shawn, please visit his personal website www.higbee-racing.com and the CSHoF site www.chautauquasportshalloffame.org/shawnhigbee.php.

Each month one of the past inductees of the Hall of Fame is selected to appear on the home page of the CSHoF website. December’s honoree is “Mr. Speed Skating”, **Bob Hanson**. To learn about Bob’s important contributions to the development of the sport of flashing blades, go to www.chautauquasportshalloffame.org. Bob is also the father of 1991 inductee Sonya Hanson, a gifted athlete in her own right.





The Board of Directors of the CSHoF was saddened to learn of the November 16, 2009 passing of inductee **Tom Cusimano**. “Coach” was a physical education teacher in the Jamestown Public Schools for 32 years, retiring in 1986. He coached the track team from 1971-86 and the junior varsity football squad from 1959-86. In addition, he was certified basketball referee for over 25 years. Heartfelt condolences go out to his sons, Russ of Jamestown, Tom Jr. of Binghamton, and daughter Priscilla Watters of Brocton.

The **Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame**, located at 15 West Third Street in Jamestown, displays photographs and artifacts from the rich history of sports in Chautauqua County. The hall is manned by volunteers and is open weekdays from 12-3 pm. Tours for groups can be arranged by calling **Bill Rollinger** at 716-763-8229.

SOUTHWESTERN

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Congratulations are extended the **Southwestern Trojans** for capturing their second consecutive New York State Class C football championship. Members of the squad and head coach **Jay Sirianni** will be honored at the CSHoF induction banquet.

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