
Preserving the Sports History of Chautauqua County



Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame

15 West Third Street - Jamestown, NY 14701

December 2012

Class of 2013 Inductees



The Board of Directors of the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame is proud to announce the six inductees who will comprise the Class of 2013. They are **Ron Blackmer, Cal Cederquist, Jim Foti, Dan Palmer, Walt Thurnau and Jim Young.**

These individuals will be formally inducted at the CSHOF's 32nd Annual Banquet, Monday, February 18, 2013, at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club.

The six new honorees will bring the total number of CSHOF inductees to 145.

Tickets for the induction dinner are priced at \$50.

Reservations for the 2013 banquet can be made by calling chairman Chip Johnson at 716-485-6991.

Ron Blackmer

- Born 1941 in Jamestown – also lived in Chautauqua County 1991-2011
- Stock car racing career 1960-1978
- Won 133 sportsman division races at Stateline (NY) and Eriez (PA) Speedways, three times more than anyone else
- Won 4 Stateline sportsman championships and 6 Eriez sportsman championships, and 4 S/E Circuit championships
- Won 27 late model division feature races at Stateline and Eriez. At the time of his retirement, only two drivers had won more

- Won 2 Stateline late model championships, 3 Eriez late model championships, and 2 S/E Circuit late model championships. At the time of his retirement, only one driver had won more
- Won races at Olean (NY), Wattsburg (PA), Warren (PA), Smethport (PA) ad Roll-O-Bowl (NY) Speedways
- Won track championships at Wattsburg and Smethport raceways
- Also competed at Coon Road (NY), Tri-City (PA), Lernerville (PA), Eldora (OH), Raceway 7 (OH), Bradford (PA), Clearfield (PA), Mansfield (OH), Parkersburg (WV), Marion Center (PA), Port Royal (PA), Arkwright (NY) and Mercer (PA)
- Inducted into Warren County Sports Hall of Fame in 2000

Cal Cederquist

- Born 1948 in Jamestown – lived in Chautauqua County entire life
- 1967 graduate Southwestern Central - 2-time CCIAC long jump champion
- Taught industrial arts at Chautauqua Central and Chautauqua Lake 1972-2005
- Coached track and cross country for 27 years – 1972-1981 and 1990-2008
- 1972 began coaching at Chautauqua Central, a school without a track and which hadn't won a dual meet in 40 years
- Developed teams that regularly competed for and won league titles – trained many sectional and state qualifiers
- After a 9-year hiatus got back into coaching to organize a combined boys and girls track program at Chautauqua Central – won 5 league titles
- His 1600 m relay team won a NYS title in the final athletic contest held in history of Chautauqua Central
- Continued coaching after the merger that formed Chautauqua Lake Central - developed state finalists and a state champion
- Cross country teams were 4-time county champs, 3- time sectional champs and 3 state final teams
- Inductee Grape Belt Sports Hall of Fame, 4-time Post-Journal Coach of the Year Award, Joe Paterniti Coach of the Year Award, NYS Cross Country Coaches Century Award

Jim Foti

- Born 1910 in Jamestown – died 2004 in Wheeling, WV
- 1931 graduate Jamestown High School - captain 1930 football team
- Played football, basketball and hockey at John Carroll University - named to John Carroll all-time football team
- Coached at Erie Prep (PA), Wheeling Central Catholic (WV), Bellaire (OH), and Warwood (WV)
- Basketball coach 38 years – 466 wins - 7 appearances in WV public high school state tourney – won 1967 state championship - 5 WV Catholic schools state titles
- Football coach 20 years – 124 wins - also coached baseball, track, cross-country and golf
- Coached semi-pro Wheeling Puritans basketball 1947-48
- John Carroll University Hall of Fame - Upper Ohio Valley Dapper Dan Club's Sports Hall of Fame - Wheeling WV Hall of Fame - West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame – Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Hall of Fame

Dan Palmer

- ❖ Born 1948 in Dunkirk – lived in Chautauqua County his entire life
- ❖ 37 years as broadcaster and sports director at WDOE
- ❖ Has called play-by-play on well over 2000 youth, high school and college sports broadcasts
- ❖ Has covered football, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer and volleyball games
- ❖ Has broadcast Little League, Babe Ruth League, and Girls' Softball All-Star games - has traveled to and broadcast from high school Section 6 playoffs, Far West playoff games and NY state tournaments
- ❖ Established a variety of awards at WDOE to recognize those involved in sports: WDOE Player of the Game, WDOE High School Athlete of the Day, WDOE High School Player of the Week, WDOE Leadership Award, WDOE Community Sports Service Award
- ❖ Fredonia High School Wall of Fame 2005 - Grape Belt Sports Hall of Fame 2001 - Dunkirk Chamber of Commerce 2002 Person of the Year
- ❖ Emceed 2009 CSHOF Induction Dinner when Michael Heary and Jenn Stucznski, two players he covered when they were in high school, were inducted

Walt Thurnau

- Born 1942 in the Philippines - graduated from Lock Haven State College in 1966
- Taught history at Southwestern Central for 36 years, retiring in 2002
- Assistant wrestling coach at SWCS coach under Flash Olson 1966-74
- Head coach at SWCS 1975-2002 - 297 wins – 2 Section 6 championships -17 wrestlers to state tourney - 2 state champs – Ed Pawlak '99 & Jim Nelson '02
- Ran USA Kids Wrestling program at SWCS for 25 years
- Head coach at Jamestown Community College 2002-2007 - 19 wrestlers to NJCAA tourney
- Assistant coach at JCC 2008-1011
- Among Thurnau's pupils are Craig Swanson, the coach of Jamestown, P.J. Wendel of Falconer, Todd Conley of Randolph and Chris Fairbanks of JCC.
- SWCS Wall of Fame - National Wrestling Coaches Association 2004 NJCAA Man of the Year - WNY Wrestling Coaches Association Hall of Fame - Upstate New York Chapter National Wrestling Hall of Fame

Jim Young

- ✓ Born 1954 – lived in Jamestown from ages 4-22
- ✓ Chiropractor living in Comptche, CA - coaches basketball at Mendocino High School (CA)
- ✓ 1972 JHS grad – played on JHS '72 Section 6 basketball championship team
- ✓ Attended St. Lawrence University – played on varsity basketball team 4 years – captain in senior year
- ✓ 21 points per game as junior - 24 points per game as senior - set SLU single game point record - 48 points
- ✓ 1233 career points - second all-time at SLU - 241 career assists - established SLU records for field goal percentage (.564) and free throw pct. (86%)
- ✓ Two time all-conference and All-East selection
- ✓ Played one season of professional basketball for Division One Loughborough in the English National Basketball League – set scoring record with 54 and averaged over 30 ppg.
- ✓ St. Lawrence University Athletic Hall of Fame