

30TH ANNUAL INDUCTION DINNER SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 3, 2003

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Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Welcome to the 30th annual induction ceremony of the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. This anniversary affords us an opportunity to salute past enshrinees even as we roll out the red carpet for a new class of Hall of Famers. We've assembled a commemorative 30th anniversary program to help rekindle your memories of the standouts of yore, in addition to the regular program for this year's inductees.

The Class of 2003 continues the tradition of excellence that has epitomized the Rockland Hall of Fame. Included among this year's headliners are NCAA wrestling champion David Hirsch of Clarkstown South; state scholastic and national collegiate swimming champion Genny Mulderig Allard of Suffern; basketball career scoring leader Bill Kurisko of Nanuet; basketball referee extraordinaire Jeff Bryant, a Tappan Zee alumnus; and premier bowler Peter Hackett of Nyack, in the Old-Timers category.

Two new awards have also been unveiled this year. The Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award, named after the founder of this organization, is being presented to Joe Grasso of Suffern, a fixture on the Rockland athletic scene for more than 60 years. The Old-Timers Special Award, given posthumously to an early-era athlete of distinction, recognizes the exploits of wrestler Charles "Jumbo" Strack of Spring Valley, a two-time Olympian and an NCAA and AAU national champion.

The Hall of Fame also uses this forum to provide an annual update on recent developments. Renovation of the County Office Building in New City has prompted the removal of the Hall of Fame plaques from their longtime home in the building's lobby. The plaques will now be housed in the respective high schools attended by the inductees. In addition, the Hall of Fame is developing a web site that will serve as a rich repository of Hall of Fame information, including bios and photos on all 163 inductees.

The Hall of Fame is always seeking high-quality candidates to consider for induction. We applaud the continuing efforts of local high school halls of fame to honor their past stars and to assist us in obtaining the resumes of top candidates from the respective schools.

Sadly, we are compelled to report the passing of several Rockland Hall of Famers in the past year: former major league ballplayer Chuck Aleno, a Nanuet resident who attended Pearl River High; sportswriter and multi-sport athlete Steve Drummond of Clarkstown; Ed Greene, coach and athletic director at Suffern and RCC; Ken Harniman, a track star and all-round athlete from Nyack; and Clarkstown baseball coach Tony Gemma.

We also wish to thank those people who keep our organization a vital force in the community: Kathy Dapolito, vice chair; Ethel Doller, secretary; Pete Castellano, treasurer; Dan White, ticket chairman and master of ceremonies; Jamie Kempton, screening committee chair and program editor; Gibby Sweet, dinner arrangements; and Bruce Schweizer of Quality Graphics.

Regards,

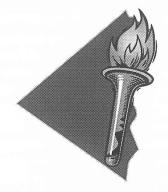
Pete Scheibner, Chairman

Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame List of Inductees

INDUCTEE	PLAQUE SPONSOR	INTRODUCED BY
GENNY MULDERIG ALLARD	Sponsor Needed	Peter Birmingham
JEFF BRYANT	Sponsor Needed	Thomas O'Brien
PETER HACKETT	Sponsor Needed	Thomas Hackett
DAVID HIRSCH	Sponsor Needed	John Laurenzi
BILL KURISKO	Sponsor Needed	Dale Abeling
JOE GRASSO Joseph Holland Award	Sponsor Needed	Bob Veltidi
CHARLES STRACK Old-Timers Special Award	Sponsor Needed	Jamie Kempton

The Hall of Famers social hour (6 p.m. to 7 p.m.) is being sponsored by Gibby Sweet, Gene Erickson and George Dalzell..

The regular cocktail hour (7 p.m. to 8 p.m.) is being sponsored by Paul Miller Toyota.



Dinner Program

Call to Order and Welcome	Chairman Peter Scheibner
Pledge of Allegiance	Joe Holland
Master of Ceremonies	Dan White
Vocalist	To Be Announced

Committees

Dinner	Gibby Sweet
Program Book	Peter Scheibner
Screening/Editor	
Shrine	Kathy Dapolito
Tickets	Dan White

2003 Inductees

GENNY MULDERIG ALLARD JEFF BRYANT PETER HACKETT DAVID HIRSCH BILL KURISKO

Concluding Remarks and ThanksPeter Scheibner

ENSHRINEMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame was established to honor outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen, living and deceased, who have gained prominence while residing or competing in, or have brought recognition to, Rockland County. To be considered for nomination to the Hall of Fame, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- A. Attain prominence in sports as an athlete, coach, manager, official, owner, writer, broadcaster or supporter.
- B. Reside or have resided in Rockland County, competed here at the time of their prominence, or brought fame to Rockland County as a result of their accomplishments.
- C. Be a person of integrity and good character.
- D. Candidates cannot be considered until 10 years after their high school class graduation, except in special cases.

Our committee encourages the public to send athletic resumes/nominations of prospective candidates to Screening Committee chairman Jamie Kempton: 55 Prospect St., Nanuet, NY 10954. Nominees are reviewed by this committee and, if accepted, voted upon for enshrinement by the committee as a whole.

The Hall of Fame Committee holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of the month from October to May. Anyone wishing to join the organization should write to Chairman Pete Scheibner: 1 Captain McGovern Drive, Stony Point, N.Y. 10980, or e-mail him at scheibner@erols.com.

Each inductee in the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame receives a commemorative trophy and is further honored with an individual plaque, which is given to the unductee's high school for public display.

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame is more than awards and trophies and dinners, however. It is really about people – Rockland County people who have had an impact in the world of sports. A total of 163 such individuals have been honored since the Hall's inception in 1974.

The Hall of Fame has evolved from those early beginnings to become a recognized presence in Rockland County athletics. In addition to its annual dinner, where it honors new inductees, the Hall makes sizable donations to worthwhile local organizations and charities. Included among these donations have been cash gifts to:

- · ARC · Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse · Salvation Army
- · Haverstraw Little League Save the Fields Fund · American Cancer Society
- · Special Olympics · Venture · Big Brothers-Big Sisters · Challenger Little League

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (OFFICERS)

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Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Nominee:			
(Last)		(First)	(M)
Current			
Address:			
Phone Number:		Date Submitted:	
		and phone number of famil	
H.S. and Year of Gradu	ation :		
College and Year of Gra	nduation:		
nominee, both as a Roo as possible. Include va- earned, honors	ckland County res rsity sports played won, records set,	of the significant accomplish ident and otherwise. Please I in high school and college post-collegiate achievemen hite or color photo of the r	e be as specific , dates, letters ats, etc.
	Nomination	ng Person:	
Last name:		First:	
Address:			
Phone Number:			
Please Submit to:	Rockland 55 Prosp	n, Selection Committee I County Sports Hall of Fan	1e

The Rockland County
Sports Hall of Fame
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Rockland County Hall of Fame Inductees

	,	
1974	1979	1983
Chuck Aleno*	Bob Bacheller*	Warren Austin*
Henry "Peck" Artopee*	Frank Cosentino	Jim Brechbiel
Dr. Daniel "Danny" Fortmann*	Harry "Dee" Dembnicki	Frank Dawson
Joseph "JoJo" Mackey	Jerry Hollahan*	Jeanette Paddock
Howard "Howie" Pierson	Bob Grossman* E.J. Maurer*	Walter Sickles*
1975	Bruno Ablondi*	1984
Roger Brown		Jim Ashcroft
Joe D'Auria	1980	Marvin Branche
Bill Drescher*	Dr. Jeffrey Munson	Ralph Cordisco
Billy Hogan*	Art Orlando*	Bryan Hassett
Donald "Pop" Sherwood*	Brit Paterson*	Bob Tierney*
1976	Nick Ryder	40.0 €
Howard Parker Talman*	Horace Tyrus Emil Willis*	1985
		Wil Arietta*
John Koster*	Mickey Wittman	Joseph "Josh" Bolack*
Jim Ridlon	40.04	Gene Erickson
Pete D'Auria*	1981	Tony Gemma*
Gloria Callan Jones	Art Hopper* Frank Horan	Joe St. Lawrence*
1977	Howard Johnson	1986
Augusta Bradley Chapman*	Lester Lepori*	Joe Alleva
Nick Gamboli*	Walter Ostrom	John Jemison
Ed Greene*	Victor Shankey*	Harold Lederman
Harry Jackson*	Bill Yuda*	Bob Mathias*
Paul Toscano		Sylvester "Molly" McGee*
Richard "Gus" Shankey*	1982	
	Frank DePatto*	1987
1978	Tony Gamboli, Jr.	Fred Hahn*
Jim Brown	Bill Perry*	Charles Holbrook
Harold "Hale" DeChelfin*	George Jakowenko	Chuck Scarpulla
Jim Faulk*	Ed McGrath	Jim Stamos
Ira Shuttleworth*		Bob Strack
Jim Schnaars		
Nick Mottola*		

* Denotes Deceased

Rockland County Hall of Fame Past Recipients (Continued)

	(Continued)	
1988	1993	1998
Ron Becraft	Jim Kane	Kevin Kane
Darryl Brown	Kathy Miller Dapolito	Lou Kliewe
Tom Canty	Jay Bohnel	Rocco Marano
Pat D'Auria	Mike Deane	Howie McNiff
James "Sham" Feeney*	Don Driscoll	Blaise Winter
1989	1994	1999
Ralph Consiglio	Hubert Nealy	Jim Cann
Patty Dillon Solliday	Martin "Hawk" Jacobs	Joe Casarella
Vincent "Dugan" Kovalsky	Joe Goldsmith	Ervan Levine*
Frank Nelson*	Tom Collins	Gibby Sweet
Bob Wolff	Ron Tellefsen	Dick Yerg
4000	4005	2000
1990	1995 Ron Edwards	2000 Rich Conklin
Denise McGuire		Kich Conklin Kevin Houston
Guy Guccione	Walter "Red" Levy Max Talaska*	
Abe Schuster		Dawn Royster Sarah Will
Robert "Red" Schassler*	Joe Klopchin* Joe McDowell*	Alex Zilko*
Don Clancy*	Paul Urban*	Alex Liiko
1991	Paul Oldaii	2001
Steve Drummond*	1996	George Dalzell
Lew Brundage	Harry Babcock*	Gerald D'Auria
Johnny Burns*	Gerald Kapusinsky	Seth Joyner
Pete Haubner	John Orlando	Tod Giles
Ethel Doller	Al Simonds	Debbie Grant
Dominic Gamboli	George Garrecht	Bill White
	Marty Springstead	
1992	,	2002
Murray Olderman	1997	Ken Harniman*
Jerome Bonomolo	Mike Hagon	Derrick Lassic
Joseph "Biscuit" Picarello	Hank Kapusinsky	Norinne Powers
Dale Lydecker	Tom Mounkhall	Kris Snider ·
John Mercurio	Dennis Pozsar	Dick Teetsel

* Denotes Deceased

Walt Weiss

Steve Wanamaker

GENNY MULDERIG ALLARD

Female swimmers, like figure skaters and gymnasts, are the wunderkinds of the sports world. They seem to blossom into dynamos well before other athletes. So it was with Genny Mulderig Allard. She swam her first competitive race at the tender age of 5, as a member of coach John Culhane's Cedar Hollow Swim Club in Suffern, and went on to perfect her stroke at Marty Silverberg's Rockland Swim School at the old Bader's Hotel pool in Spring Valley.

"I loved going to his swim school because his son Andy and I would giggle and laugh and have ridiculous fun during practice," Mulderig Allard says. " This often did not make Marty very pleased but it was this sense of fun that kept me coming back for more."



She must have been having a ball by the time she reached eighth grade, when she made the Suffern High School varsity. She continued her promising progression through her senior year, when she set a New York State scholastic record en route to winning the state 100-yard backstroke title in the fall of 1980. Mulderig Allard also gained All-America recognition in that event.

Mulderig Allard earned a full athletic scholarship to Villanova and proceeded to capture a national title as a freshman. In the spring 1982 AIAW Division II national championships, she won the 200-yard individual medley—which consists of consecutive backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle legs—and was runner-up in the 200-yard backstroke and 400-yard individual medley. The AIAW—Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women—was the collegiate governing body for women's sports until 1983, when the NCAA expanded its scope to include women's athletics in addition to men's.

Mulderig Allard was a four-time Division II All-America at Villanova, a Big East finalist in 1983, 1984 and 1985, and was the school record-holder in the 200 backstroke from 1982 to 1991. She was inducted into the Villanova Varsity Sports Club's Hall of Fame in November 2000.

"There's nothing like being part of a team," Mulderig Allard said in a Journal News article after her Villanova Hall of Fame induction. "People ask me what my best event was but I don't even remember that. I do remember everyone I swam with."

While at Suffern, swimming under the programs of Mountie coaches Pete Birmingham (for her first three years) and Mike Korotkow (for her junior and senior years), the then-Genny Mulderig enjoyed a stellar five-year varsity career in which she placed in the top four at the state championships four times. Besides her 100-backstroke triumph, she placed third in that event in 1979, fin-

ished fourth in the 500-yard freestyle in 1977, and fourth in the 200-yard individual medley in 1980.

Mulderig Allard also racked up three gold medals in Section 9 competition, winning the 1977 500-yard freestyle and the 1979 and 1980 100 backstroke events, in addition to posting three runner-up finishes. (Rockland, Orange, Ulster and Sullivan counties constituted Section 9 before Rockland realigned into Section 1, with Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess, in 1983-84.)

Of course, most swimmers compete not only during the high school season but also for their club teams out of season, and Mulderig Allard was no exception. She swam with coach Frank McElroy's Paramus Red Wave seven days a week, sometimes logging 1 _-hour sessions at 5:30 a.m. before returning for a three-hour regular practice after school.

Mulderig Allard qualified for the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Junior Nationals in the 200 backstroke in 1979 and 1980, and placed in the top 16 in three relays—the 400 medley, 400 freestyle and 800 freestyle—in the AAU Senior National Relay Qualifier in the summer of 1980.

Swimming records tend to be broken regularly because of continual advances in training methods, but Mulderig Allard's name is still etched in the Suffern record book in the 100 backstroke and 200 individual medley—23 years after she set those marks.

After college, Mulderig Allard earned a law degree from Seton Hall University and married Andy Allard, Suffern class of 1979, who was a Suffern lacrosse, soccer and football player and who also played lacrosse for Princeton. Genny and Andy competed together in half-marathons and triathlons, and Genny even completed a marathon—she ran the 2001 Philadelphia Marathon in 4 hours 53 minutes with her training partner, Linda McGovern Walters, a summer age-group league swimmer who attended Albertus Magnus. Mulderig Allard also coached the Ridgewood, N.J., YMCA Masters swim team from 1989 to 1999, and competed in the Masters YMCA Nationals in the early 1990s.

Besides working part-time for the Village of Ridgewood as the public defender, Mulderig Allard, who is 39, now devotes the majority of her time to her two children, Jack, 9, and Katie, 5. Jack is a lacrosse, soccer and baseball player who also placed fourth in his age group in diving in Bergen County in 2000 and 2002. When Genny asked her son why he didn't try out for the summer swim team, he replied that "swimmers work too hard" and he wanted to be on the diving team, "where the kids always had fun." "I couldn't argue with that logic," Genny says. Katie, on the other hand, loves to swim, plays soccer and lacrosse, and is "a very good Irish step dancer," says her proud mom.



JEFF BRYANT

After refereeing more than 2,500 basket-ball games over a span of three decades, Jeff Bryant still has a passion for his avocation. After officiating in six NCAA Division I leagues, the NCAA Division III final four, the NIT, the New York State scholastic finals (five times) and many other college and high school divisions, Bryant still loves to don the basketball official's striped shirt and black pants and spend an afternoon or evening making calls to ensure a fair and equitable contest.

"For me, probably one of the most relaxing parts of my day is the two hours I spend refereeing a game, because my mind is on nothing else," says Bryant, a 1971 Tappan Zee High School graduate.

And during those two hours on the court,

Bryant—or any official, for that matter—cannot afford to let his mind wander. "The main thing is concentration; if you lose concentration, that's always when something happens," he says. "It's like when you're driving a car and you don't pay attention. It's amazing how many things go through a referee's mind: the situations in a game, what happened in the last play, the foul situation, the score, the time, so many things that become second nature. For that 40 minutes or 32 minutes, you have to really be focused on what you're doing."

Bryant began his officiating career by refereeing youth games as a high school junior at the Saturday morning recreation program at Tappan Zee, run by one of his teachers and early mentors, Dan Dinan. Bryant furthered his officiating interest at Wagner College, where he refereed intramurals and assigned officials for the school's intramural program. While still an undergraduate at Wagner, Bryant passed the officials' certification test and began to referee high school basketball games.

And so began a 30-year (and counting) odyssey that has taken him as far west as Chicago, as far south as South Carolina and as far north as Maine. During the season from November to March, he works an average of five to six games a week. That's a lot of gymnasiums, a lot of cities and towns, and a lot of lasting friendships.

"It's almost like a subculture," says Bryant, who officiates college men's and high school boys' games. "You sit down after a week of games and you say, 'This week I was there, I was there, and I was there.' You do enjoy it; you meet a lot of great people. My [basketball] brethren are generally the nicest people in the world. You meet a lot of fine officials,

coaches, kids, administrators. It is very rewarding."

Along the way, many people have influenced Bryant's officiating career, including Dinan; Ken Wallace, an official and friend of Bryant's father who "helped me get involved"; former official Fred Rosen; Dixie Reilly, a longtime and well-known Rockland referee; and, not least, Jim Kane, the former assigner of officials for the Rockland Public School Athletic League and "the guy who helped every official in Rockland County."

There have been many memorable games in Bryant's officiating career, such as his first assignments at Madison Square Garden and the Palestra in Philadelphia. His greatest local memory is officiating the last Rockland County championship game in the early 1980s, before Rockland moved to Section 1. The game, played at Clarkstown South, pitted Albertus Magnus against Spring Valley, coached respectively by Rockland Hall of Famers Tom Collins and Lou Kliewe. "I worked the game with Mickey Germain, and the place was packed," Bryant recalls. "Spring Valley won by a couple of points; it was a very memorable game."

Bryant was a four-sport athlete at Tappan Zee who was the school's co-athlete of the year in 1971. He made second-team All-County in baseball two years and honorable mention All-County as a 6-foot-3 forward in basketball, trying to match up with the likes of frontcourt stars like Clarkstown's Bob Mathias and Gary Custick and Nanuet's Darryl Brown.

At Wagner, from which he graduated in 1976 with a degree in business and economics, Bryant was the Seahawks' football offensive player of the year in 1975 as a punter, kicker and split end. He also was a pitcher and outfielder in baseball and played basketball as well.

After graduating from Wagner, Bryant developed a strong competitive golf game. He won several local club championships, including Rockland Country Club's title six times from 1979 to 1992, and twice qualified for the U.S.G.A. Public Links tournament.

Bryant's involvement in basketball officiating extends beyond the parameters of the court. For 11 years—from 1991 to last September—he was the Rockland County rules interpreter and a classroom instructor for new officials.

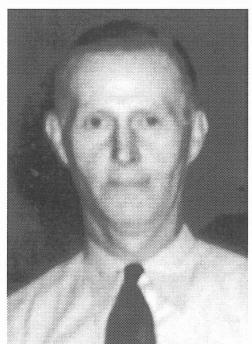
Bryant, who is 49, has been an Allstate insurance agent for six years after 17 years as an independent agent. Raised in Tappan, he now lives in Pearl River with his wife, Susan; son Gregory, who turned 13 on May 2; and daughter Jennifer, 11.

DUTCHMEN

PETER HACKETT

He was tabbed by a colleague as "the most feared money bowler in Rockland County." When the all-time greats in Rockland bowling are mentioned, Pete Hackett's name is always included. It's no secret why. "Pistol Pete" established numerous records in alleys throughout the county and, although he would never say so himself, set a standard over five decades that few others could equal.

"He was very humble. You would have to drag it out of him," says Hackett's son Tom, a Harrington Park, N.J., resident, who often accompanied his dad to the various alleys in the region. "I spent a lot of time with him in bowling alleys. He dragged me around to different alleys for opening nights. It was a big part of his life."



Pete Hackett was the first person to average higher than 200 in the Rockland County Major League—his precise average was 20139, over 72 games in the 1945-46 season—and he did it bowling on all the different alleys in the county. The following year, 1947, he rolled the first 700 series (for three games) in the Rockland County Bowling Association Tournament.

Among his many other distinctions, Hackett compiled a record three-game total of 722 in the Rockland County Major League; broke a 29-year record at DeJong's Lanes in Nyack in 1946 with a 299; bowled a 289 game in 1948; and posted a 740 series in one of New Jersey's top leagues in 1950. In an article by Roger Cornell, who was a longtime bowling columnist for The Journal-News, Cornell stated that Hackett had "a habit of winning high average honors in just about every league in which he has bowled."

While Hackett's long right arm brought him unvarnished success on the alleys, he also had a large hand in the formation of organized bowling in the county. Would you believe the Rockland County Bowling Association was conceived right in Hackett's living room in South Nyack? That mid-194Os meeting included Hackett, Cornell, Ed Maurer and Sal Mayo, all of whom had a major impact on bowling in Rockland County. Maurer and Hackett also were co-founders of the popular Golden Pins Tournament in 1947.

Hackett got his start in bowling at age 18. A native of Guttenberg, N.J., whose father died at an early age, Hackett spent several months living at the St. Agnes School, an orphanage in Sparkill. However, a relative from Ireland, a monsignor, sent money to Hackett's cousin, Al Coneys of Nyack, to enable Pete (who was 14 at the time) and his two sisters to live with Coneys, who just happened to be a champion bowler in his own right.

Coneys introduced Hackett to bowling at the Fort Comfort Lanes in Piermont. Hackett was fond of reminiscing about the old two-lane setup. In the cold-weather months, after rolling your

ball you hustled back to the pot-bellied stove to try to stay warm. And when the tide was high and the wind was blowing off the Hudson, the pits filled with river water and games had to be postponed.

In those days most alleys were two-lane houses, such as the Garnerville YMCA, the 76 House in Tappan and Zink's in West Nyack. The Pleasure Palace in Haverstraw ushered in the era of the four-lane house, followed by the YMCA in Nyack and the Congers Hotel lanes.

Hackett was proud to have bowled with and against such national bowling Hall of Famers as John Koster of West Nyack—Rockland's only national Hall of Famer and a mentor of Hackett's—Junie McMahon, Lou Campi and Teata Semiz. Hackett also bowled with local standouts like Maurer, Wally Gerken, Al Turk and Tommy Probert, to name a few.

Such was the esteem in which Hackett was held that he received, in 1951, the John Koster Memorial Trophy as the person who had done the most for bowling in Rockland County. He also served as president of most of the high average leagues in Rockland.

After serving for 31 years as superintendent of public works for the Village of South Nyack, Hackett retired and moved in 1970 to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he continued to bowl in a senior league. He died in 1981 at age 78.

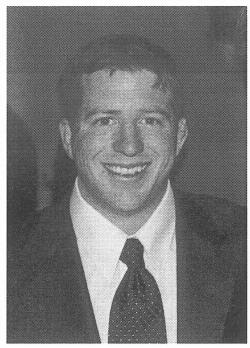


DAVID HIRSCH

Clarkstown South's lion-hearted little big man found his niche early and parlayed an uncommon competitive drive into a blue-ribbon wrestling career.

"David was a ferocious competitor who hated to lose," says John Laurenzi, Hirsch's coach his senior year, 1990. "Whether it was playing whiffle ball or wrestling for the state title or performing in the classroom, that fueled him more than anything else. He was a driven guy, and he raised the bar for everybody on the team."

Hirsch chose wrestling in eight grade because "I needed some sport I could equalize myself in," he says. "I liked the fact it was an individual sport and the only person I depended on was myself."



At 5-foot-5, Hirsch is not physically imposing. But he imposed his will on his wrestling opponents. That was never more evident than in his senior year at Cornell. Wrestling at 126 pounds, he had absorbed three losses in the regular season. In the 1994 NCAA tournament, however, payback time was at hand for Seth Harrison of Oklahoma State, Sanshiro Abe of Penn State and Jody Staylor of Old Dominion, all of whom succumbed to Hirsch after having beaten him previously. Hirsch culminated a 41-3 senior season with a one-point decision over Staylor for the NCAA championship.

In his sterling collegiate career, Hirsch:

- Won the NCAA title as a senior and placed fifth as a junior, earning All-America accolades both times;
- · Was a three-time Eastern, Ivy League and New York State champion;
- Was chosen as Ivy League Wrestler of the Year and as Cornell's athlete of the year in 1994, beating out two football players who went on to the NFL;
- · Posted a career mark of 116 victories and 17 losses.

In his senior year, "my goal was to win the NCAA championships," says Hirsch, who sweated through three workouts a day for four months—weight training, cardiovascular/aerobic conditioning and regular wrestling practice—to achieve that goal. "I had wrestled every guy who would be in my weight class in the year prior. I knew if I had a good year, I had the potential to win. I knew what it took to take that next step, to get to that level."

As a freckle-faced schoolboy at South, Hirsch showed glimpses of that later promise by cap-

turing the New York State championship at 105 pounds; placing fourth in the high school national tournament to earn All-America honors; and finishing runner-up at 114 _ pounds in the Espoir national championships, for wrestlers 18 to 21 years old, when he was only 17. "It's a tournament for freshmen and sophomores in college, but they accepted graduating seniors," says Hirsch, who competed in the tournament along with Emilio Collins of Tappan Zee.

In his four-year varsity career for the Vikings, Hirsch was a three-time All-County and All-Section performer and amassed more than 100 victories. He was coached by Greg Smith his freshman year, Duncan Innis his sophomore and junior years, and Laurenzi his senior year.

Hirsch was inducted into the Clarkstown South Sports Hall of Fame in 2002.

After a one-year stint as an assistant wrestling coach at Cornell, Hirsch earned a graduate dental degree from New York University, entered a residency program for oral and maxillo-facial surgery for one year, then switched to medical school, also at NYU. He has two years left in residency training and hopes to fulfill a goal of becoming an oral surgeon, specializing in cleft lip and palates.

"After dental school, I wanted to do more with surgery and helping people," says Hirsch, who has a trip planned at the end of this month to help underprivileged Mexican children with cleft lip and palates. "I wanted to do what I felt was exciting, and I like working with children."

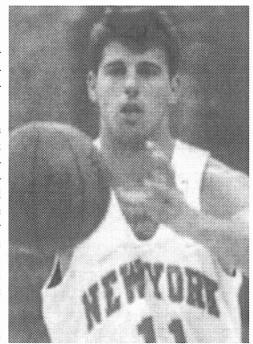
Hirsch, who is 30, lives in New York City with his wife, Elena, and 1½ year-old daughter, Kaitlyn.



BILL KURISKO

When asked several years ago by a reporter how he would like to be remembered as an athlete, Bill Kurisko replied: "Just as a good, allaround player."

When Rockland County fans let their minds drift back to Kurisko's heyday with the Nanuet Golden Knights, they remember a great all-around player. Whether he was swishing long-range jumpers for Ralph Rogo's basketball team; rifling home goals from impossible angles for Dale Abeling's lacrosse team; or scoring touchdowns in almost every fashion imaginable for Rich Conklin's football team, Kurisko established a record of overall achievement that compares favorably with just about any scholastic athlete in Rockland.



When The Journal-News asked readers in 1988 to vote on the top athletes ever at each Rockland high school, Kurisko received the most votes among Nanuet male athletes. Granted, it was only a year after he had graduated and his exploits were still fresh in people's minds, but a convincing case can be made for Bill, the youngest of the nine Kurisko children.

Consider:

- In basketball, Kurisko is the all-time Rockland County scoring leader with 1,444 points over three varsity seasons (1985-87) and part of another (1984). He is also the Rockland record-holder for seasonal scoring average, pouring in 30.1 points per game in the 1986-87 season.
- In lacrosse, during his junior year in 1986, he set Rockland records for points in a game, 11 (which he accomplished twice) and points in a season, 108. As a senior, he scored 75 goals in 12 games before an ankle injury ended his season, and wound up with career totals of 238 goals and 65 assists. He earned high school All-America honors as a midfielder his senior year, and gained All-Section accolades three straight years.
- In football, he made second-team All-New York State as a safety his senior year, and set the school record for career interceptions with 17. On offense, he was switched from running back to quarterback midway through his junior year and became a feared double threat as a sprint-out and option quarterback. He scored touchdowns in almost every conceivable way—kickoff and punt returns, and running, catching and throwing the ball.

Helping his teams win was always Kurisko's top priority, and more often than not they did. Drive and determination are intangibles that cannot be taught, and those instincts took over for Kurisko when a game was in the balance.

Examples abound to illustrate his take-charge capabilities. For instance, in a lacrosse game

against North Rockland his senior year, Nanuet was trailing by a goal with just three seconds left in regulation. But Kurisko fired in a shot from about 40 feet out while lying on his side to send the game into overtime. "When we needed a goal under pressure, he would get it," Abeling once said. "He never quit ... he'd find some way to pull it out."

In basketball, his favorite sport, the 6-foot-3 shooting guard led the 1986-87 Nanuet squad to an 11-game winning streak and a share of the League 7 championship, the Golden Knights' first league title since the 1970s. That season included a 43-point game against Byram Hills and a 39-point game against Eastchester during which he was removed midway through the third quarter because Nanuet was well ahead. Rogo, Nanuet's coach at that time, believed Kurisko could have broken the then-county record of 60 points had he been allowed to remain in the game.

After graduating from Nanuet in 1987, Kurisko enjoyed a successful four-year career at Wagner College, a Division I school. He was a two-time, first-team All-Northeast Conference selection and a New York All-Metropolitan second-team selection as a senior, when he averaged 19.6 points, 6 rebounds and 6.5 assists per game. Kurisko totaled 1,554 points and 455 assists as a four-year starter for the Seahawks.

He then embarked on a 10-year pro basketball odyssey that included stops in Georgia, North Carolina, Canada, Germany, Sweden and Saudi Arabia. From 1991 to 1993, he averaged 16 points, 5 assists and 2.5 steals per game for the Atlanta Eagles of the U.S. Basketball League. After being drafted in the first round by the Raleigh Bull Frogs of the Global Basketball Association, Kurisko played one year for Raleigh, averaging 13 points and 5 rebounds a game.

He then had a tryout with the New York Knicks, playing six preseason games before being cut. Kurisko then decided to export his game to non-U.S. outposts, starting with the Halifax (Nova Scotia) Windjammers in the National Basketball League of Canada, where he averaged 15 points and 3.5 assists a game in the 1994 season. That was followed by one season with Stuttgart-based BG Ludwigburg in the German Bundesliga's first division. Kurisko averaged 17 points a game and made the All-Star team.

In 1996, Kurisko's European travels took him to Sweden, where his one-season stint with the Uppsala Gators resulted in a league-leading total in steals and 20.5 points per game. The most recent stop in Kurisko's round-the-world roundball adventures was Saudi Arabia. In four highly successful seasons there, he was player of the year twice; the league's high scorer and best foreign player once each; averaged 25, 32, 251 and 27.2 points per game in four seasons; and helped lead his teams to the national and Persian Gulf championships in three out of four years.

Heady stuff for a kid from Nanuet. These days Kurisko, who is 33, lives in Congers and works in the sales industry. He and his wife, MaryKnoll, have a 3-year-old son, William Jr.



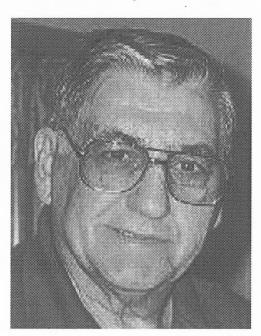
Nanuet Golden Knights

JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Presented to

Joe Grasso

a founding Committee Member of the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame, for his 60 - plus years of meritorious service to the athletic community of Rockland County.



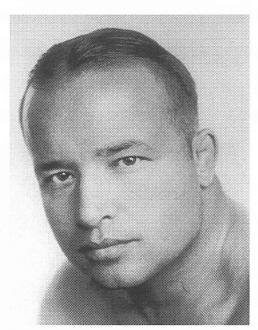
Thanks, Joe!

OLD-TIMERS SPECIAL AWARD

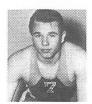
Presented posthumously in recognition of

Charles "Jumbo" Strack

of Spring Valley



U.S. Olympic Team, Wrestling, 1924, 1928
NCAA Division I Wrestling Champion,
Oklahoma A&M, 1926
National AAU Wrestling Champion, 1924, 1926
NFL Pro Football Player, Chicago Cardinals



Bruno Ablondi (1979)

Pearl River, 1947; All-County football, basketball, baseball



Chuck Aleno (1974)

Pearl River, 1936; pro baseball player, Cincinnati Reds



Joe Alleva (1986)

Suffern, 1971; All-State quarterback, All-County baseball



Wil Arietta: (1985)

Nyack, 1941; top bowler; All-County football, basketball, baseball



Henry (Peck) Artopee (1974)

Nyack, 1930; 11 letters in four sports; early superstar



Jim Ashcroft (1984)

Spring Valley, 1964; track sprinter, State 100-yard dash champ



Warren Austin (1983)

Congers, late 1930s; youth sports advocate, bowling, football



Harry Babcock (1996)

Pearl River, 1949; first player chosen, 1953 NFL draft, by 49ers



Bob Bacheller (1979)

Congers,1929; 16 letters in four sports; tennis legend in Rockland



Ron Becraft (1988)

Suffern, 1949; basketball; once scored 56 points in amateur game



Jay Bohnel (1993)

Pearl River, 1959; All-County halfback; 13 letters in 5 sports



Josh Bolack (1985)

Haverstraw, 1942; All-County 3 sports; minor-league short-stop



Jerry Bonomolo (1992)

Pearl River, 1951; 3-sport All-County; Nanuet basketball coach



Marvin Branche (1984)

Spring Valley, 1950; held County discus record for 25 years



Jim Brechbiel (1983)

North Rockland, 1972; state football player of the year, 1971



Darryl Brown (1988)

Nanuet, 1971; basketball scoring leader; track champion jumper



Jim Brown (1978)

Nyack, 1952; rec softball star, All-County in three sports



Roger Brown

(1975)

Nyack, 1956; 6-time Pro Bowl lineman in NFL (Lions, Rams)



Lew Brundage (1991)

Pearl River, 1951; twice All-County halfback; clutch performer



Johnny Burns (1991)

Haverstraw; organizer & promoter, Letchworth Big 5 basketball



Jim Cann (1999)

Clarkstown South, 1986; record-setting rusher; NYS co-player of year



Tom Canty (1988)

Suffern, 1957; champion wrestling coach, Ramapo and Pearl River



Joe Casarella (1999)

No.Rockland football coach, AD; won 1993 NYS title; 190+ wins



Augusta Bradley Chapman (1977)

Nyack; national tennis champion in early 1900s



Don Clancy (1990)

Nyack, 1963; track sprinter, former County record-holder, 100/220



Tom Collins (1994)

Albertus Magnus, 1964; AM hoops coach, 400 wins; No.2 all-time



Rich Conklin (2000)

Nanuet, 1967; winningest wrestling coach, No. 2 in football



Ralph Consiglio (1989)

Suffern, 1949; All-County football; Suffern coach, 1965-84



Ralph Cordisco (1984)

Haverstraw, 1937; Haverstraw/NR football coach, 1956-79



Frank Cosentino (1979)

Tappan Zee, 1951; 3-sport All-County; Section 9 golf champ



George Dalzell (2001)

New City; prolific basketball scorer; NBA draftee; Colgate star



Kathy (Miller) Dapolito (1993)

Ramapo, 1978; All-County basketball, softball, tennis



Gerald D'Auria (2001)

Nyack, 1939: 4-year All-County shortstop; one year of pro ball



Joe D'Auria (1975)

Tappan Zee, 1955; 17 letters in 5 sports; amateur golf champion



Pat D'Auria (1988)

Nyack, 1936; All-County baseball, football; batted .681 as a junior



Pete D'Auria (1976)

Nyack, 1932; six-time All-County in 3 sports; semi-pro shortstop



Frank Dawson (1983)

Pearl River, 1953; All-County football punter; rec softball great



Mike Deane

(1993)

No. Rockland, 1970; basketball All-America, Div. I head coach



"Hale" DeChelfin (1978)

Haverstraw, 1930; 6-sport athlete, ex-Hall of Fame chairman



Harry Dembnicki (1979)

Suffern, 1942; was one of top golf instructors in the country



Frank DePatto (1982)

Suffern, early 1940s; 3-sport All-County; local semipro star



Ethel Dollar (1991)

Nyack, 1944; women's bowling president; Hall of Fame secretary



Bill Drescher (1975)

Congers, 1939; played for both NY Yankees and NY Knicks



Don Driscoll (1993)

Blauvelt; TZ swim coach; won 24 County titles, 19 Section crowns



Steve Drummond (1991)

Clarkstown, 1961; multi-sport athlete, famed sports writer



Ron Edwards (1995)

Nyack, 1963; first County 1,000-pt. scorer; state high-jump champ



Gene Erickson (1985)

Spring Valley, 1949; alternate goalie for 1956 Olympic hockey



Jim Faulk (1978)

Sparkill; successful athletic director at St. Agnes School, 1934-1958



"Sham" Feeney (1988)

Haverstraw, 1945; set County basketball scoring records



Dan Fortmann (1974)

Pearl River, 1932; NFL Hall of Fame lineman, Chicago Bears



"Babe" *Gamboli* (1991)

Haverstraw, 1935; Little League founder and administrator



Nick Gamboli (1977)

Haverstraw; nationally renowned boxing judge, official



Tony Gamboli Jr. (1982)

Spring Valley, 1956; threw back-to-back no-hitters



George Garrecht (1996)

Haverstraw, 1942; softball pitching ace; sailing world champ



Tony Gemma (1985)

Valley Cottage; Clarkstown baseball coach; won 9 PSAL titles



Tod Giles (2001)

Ramapo, 1980; Greco-Roman wrestling; 3rd, 4th in Olympic Trials



Joe Goldsmith (1994)

Ramapo, 1972; won 2 state wrestling titles; sixth, NCAA Div. I



Debbie Grant (2001)

Trials

Ramapo, 1983; 5-time NYS track champ; 4th, 5th Olympic



Ed Greene (1977)

Suffern, 1931; 3-sport All-County, coach; 1st RCC athletic director



Bob Grossman (1979)

Upper Grand View; 3-time national race-car champ



Guy Guccione (1990)

Suffern, wrestling coach, won 6 County titles, 4 Section 9 crowns



Mike Hagon (1997)

Suffern, 1974; state mile champ, Rockland record-holder (4:07.8)



Fred Hahn (1987)

Nyack, mid-1940s; pitched in one game for St. Louis Cardinals



Ken Harniman (2002)

Nyack, 1933: multi-sport star; County mile, cross country champ



Bryan Hassett (1984)

Clarkstown, 1966; 3-sport star; tryout with Yanks; softball whiz



Pete Haubner (1991)

Spring Valley, 1967; basketball Player of Year, All-County QB



Billy Hogan (1975)

"Pride of Piermont"; boxing legend; AAU jr. lightweight champ



Charles Holbrook (1987)

Clarkstown, 1966; soccer, basketball, baseball standout



Jerry Hollohan (1979)

Pearl River, 1929; 9 letters in football, basketball, baseball



Art Hopper (1981)

Pearl River, mid-1920s; Little League/youth sports supporter



Frank Horan (1981)

Haverstraw, 1953; All-County pitcher; hockey coach at St. Joe's



Kevin Houston (2000)

Pearl River, 1982; Army basketball, led NCAA in scoring



Harry Jackson (1977)

Spring Valley, 1931-33; champion runner; just missed Olympics



"Hawk" Jacobs (1994)

Haverstraw, 1944; basketball scoring champ, semipro star



George Jakowenko (1982)

Nyack, 1968; NFL kicker with Oakland, four other teams



John Jemison (1986)

Nyack/Congers; dominant softball pitcher; 2,146 wins, 145 losses



Howard Johnson (1981)

Suffern, 1940; 4-sport athlete, teams won 9 County titles



Gloria Callen Jones (1976)

Nyack, 1942; national swim champ; AP Athlete of Year



Seth Joyner (2001)

SV, 1982; 13-year NFL linebacker; 3-time Pro Bowl, Phila. Eagles



Jim Kane (1993)

Nyack, 1945; top official; 20year RCPSAL coordinator of officials



Kevin Kane (1998)

Nyack, 1976; 4-sport All-County; top soccer goalie, North Carolina



Gerald Kapusinsky (1996)

Haverstraw, 1963; 4-sport athlete; football, lacrosse official



Hank Kapusinsky (1997)

Haverstraw, 1959; record-setting running back; 26 TDs



Lou Kliewe (1998)

Pearl River, 1950s; winningest boys' hoop coach (Sp. Valley, AM)



Joe Klopchin (1995)

Congers, 1948; baseball ironman; record-breaking soccer scorer



John Koster (1976)

West Nyack; won 4 national bowling titles; 19 perfect games



"Dugan" Kovalsky (1989)

Haverstraw, 1951-54; prolific basketball scorer



Derrick Lassic (2002)

N.Rockland 1988; top rusher; NYS Player of Year; Alabama star



Harold Lederman (1986)

Orangeburg; boxing judge; judged over 50 world-title fights



Lester Lepori (1981)

Spring Valley, 1932; 16 letters in 4 years; held shot-put record



Ervan Levine (1999)

Suffern, 1937; champion sprinter; undefeated 3 years in 100, 220



"Red" Levy (1995)

Spring Valley, 1950; football halfback, track sprinter, center fielder



Dale Lydecker (1992)

Nyack, 1970; pro baseball draftee, top punter, had NFL tryouts



Jo Jo Mackey (1974)

Haverstraw, 1963; 8-time All-County in 3 sports; 8 County titles



Bob Mathias (1986)

Clarkstown, 1972; vaunted basketball center; So. Carolina star



E.J. Maurer (1979)

Nyack; organizer, first president of Rockland bowling association



Joe McDowell

(1995)

Nyack; track, cross-country coach; won 6 PSAL, 8 Section titles



"Molly" McGee

(1986)

North Rockland, 1970; NFL & CFL running back, kick returner



Ed McGrath

(1982)

Clarkstown; basketball coach, won 10 PSAL titles



Denise McGuire

(1990)

Pearl River, 1979; hoops star; first County girl to score 1,000



Howie McNiff (1998)

Albertus Magnus, 1973; 3-time state champ, track, cross country



John Mercurio (1992)

Tappan Zee; pro softball player; author, local sports records



Rocco Marano (1998)

Haverstraw, 1945; All-County basketball forward; grid lineman



Nick Mottola (1978)

Tappan Zee 3-sport coach, won 6 PSAL titles; Suffern coach/AD



Tom Mounkhall (1997)

Albertus Magnus, 1962; basketball ace; S.V. tennis coach



Jeffrey Munson (1980)

Tappan Zee, 1956; champion trapshooter



Hubert Nealy (1994)

Tappan Zee, 1954; 7-time All-County, 3 sports; deaf since youth



Frank Nelson (1989)

Nyack, boys' soccer coach; won 12 league titles, 1956-73



Murray Olderman (1992)

Spring Valley, 1938; nationally syndicated sportswriter



Art Orlando (1980)

Clarkstown, 1956; All-County soccer (goalie), basketball, baseball



John Orlando (1996)

Suffern, winningest hockey coach, 2nd among lacrosse coaches



Walter Ostrom (1981)

Orangeburg; expert trapshooter, won 4 North American titles



Jeanette Paddock (1983)

Spring Valley, 1959; multisport star; tennis champion



Brit Patterson (1980)

Pearl River, 1936; 7-time All-County, 4 sports; 5 PSAL titles



Bill Perry (1982)

Nyack, 1931; one of premier basketball players of his era



"Biscuit" Picarello (1992)

Haverstraw, 1952; baseball, football, basketball standout



Howie Pierson (1974)

TZ, 1954; 4-sport star; pro baseball; golf champion; RCC AD



Dennis Pozsar

(1997)

Clarkstown, 1959; winningest boys' soccer coach; 6 Section titles



Norinne Powers (2002)

Nanuet 1989; NYS hoops Player of Year; Holy Cross star; pro



Jim Ridlon (1976)

Nyack, 1952; NFL defensive back for 8 years, 49ers and Cowboys



Dawn Royster (2000)

Nyack, 1983; All-State hoops, track; starred at UNC; Europe pro



Nick Ryder (1980)

Haverstraw, late 1950s; NFL fullback, Detroit Lions, 1963-64



Chuck Scarpulla (1987)

Pearl River, 1959; 2-sport All-County; Ramapo coach, AD



"Red" Schassler (1990)

Haverstraw, 1952; pitched in Brooklyn Dodgers organization



Jim Schnaars (1978)

Congers; nationally ranked amateur and pro lawn tennis standout



Abe Schuster (1990)

SV, 1947; wrestling athlete, coach, official, administrator, 50 yrs



"Gus" Shankey (1977)

Haverstraw, 1917; pro & semipro baseball; Fordham 2-sport star



Victor Shankey (1981)

Haverstraw, circa 1900; pro baseball; pitcher, home run hitter



"Pop" Sherwood (1975)

Spring Valley, 1915; popular official, newspaper editor, writer



Ira Shuttleworth (1978)

Pearl River coach, 1927-56; AD, 1927-60; 23 titles won/shared



Walt Sickles (1983)

Pearl River, 1936; All-County running back, pitcher; Cornell star



Al Simonds (1996)

Nyack, 1956; 5-time All-County, 3 sports; county's top athlete, 1956



Kris Snider (2002)

Suffern, 1974; lacrosse recordsetter; 3-time All-America at Virginia



Patty Dillon Solliday (1989)

Clarkstown South, 1974; state & national champ swimmer



Marty Springstead (1996)

Garnerville; Major League Baseball umpire for 20 years



Jim Stamos (1987)

Spring Valley, 1956; 4-time All-County, 3 sports; Hofstra grid star



Joe St. Lawrence (1985)

Pioneering Suffern track/XC/football coach; 9 PSAL titles



Bob Strack

(1987)

Haverstraw, 1952; football Player of Year, 1950, 1951; top scorer



Gibby Sweet (1999)

Pearl River, 1968: NYS wrestling champ; All-America at RCC



Max Talaska (1995)

Pearl River coach/AD; key figure in girls' sports, realignment



Howard Parker Talman (1976)

SV, 1912; 3-time grid All-America; champion sprinter



Dick Teetsel (2002)

Albertus Magnus track/cross country coach; trailblazer; top official



Ron Tellefsen (1994)

Congers, 1954; national president, Babe Ruth League; top umpire



Bob Tierney (1984)

Pearl River, 1936; 3-sport All-County; Princeton football captain



Paul Toscano (1977)

Clarkstown, 1963; 3-sport ace; nationally ranked QB, Wyoming



Horace Tyrus (1980)

Nyack, 1933; 6-time All-County; pitcher, halfback, QB; 5 titles



Paul Urban (1995)

Haverstraw, 1948; 5-sport star; captain 3 sports; tossed 6 one-hitters



Steve Wanamaker (1997)

Nyack, 1973; All-State mid.linebacker; All-County outfielder



Walt Weiss (2002)

Suffern, 1982; shortstop; 13-year MLB career; 1988 Rookie of Year



Bill White (2001)

Suffern, 1958; Suffern wrestling coach; 8 County, 5 sectional titles



Emil Willis (1980)

SV, 1932; record-setting end, punter; County track champ, 440, 880



Blaise Winter (1998)

TZ, 1980; 11-year NFL def. lineman; Syracuse MVP, All-East



Mickey Wittman (1980)

Nanuet, 1962; 6'7" hoops All-America; Miami scoring leader



Sarah Will (2000)

Nyack, 1983; multiple gold medalist, Paralympic/World mono-skiing



Bob Wolff (1989)

South Nyack; sports announcer; broadcast World Series, Super Bowl



Dick Yerg (1999)

Nyack, 1957; 32-year local sports writer, editor; top pro hockey writer



Bill Yuda (1981)

Pearl River, 1927; NFL guard, Phila. Eagles, 1933-34; All-County



Alex Zilko (2000)

Pearl River, 1939; 3-sport All-County, twice as football halfback

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to the

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especially our own

David Hirsch



To my Daddy
Billy Kurisko,
Congratulations!



From my Mommy and Me - William James

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For his many years
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Haverstraw, 59 Westside Ave., (Across from cemetary on Rte. 9W): 942-1492

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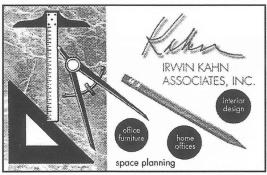
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BEST WISHES ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Congratulations 2003 Inductees:



Genny Mulderig Allard
Jeff Bryant
Peter Hackett
David Hirsch
Bill Kurisko

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient Joe Grasso

> Deceased Old-Timers Award Charles Strack

C. SCOTT VANDERHOEF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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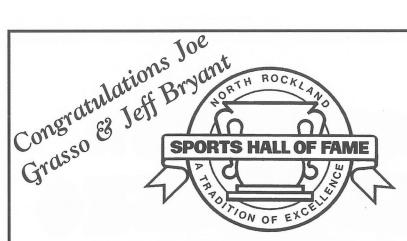


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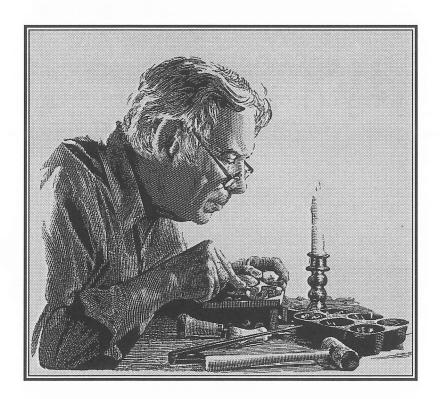
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Congratuations to the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Inductees of the Year 2003.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL INDUCTEES



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Congratulations to

Genny Mulderig Allard – Suffern
Jeff Bryant – Tappan Zee
Peter Hackett – Nyack
David Hirsch – Clarkstown South
Bill Kurisko – Nanuet

On You Induction Into

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Compliments of Rockland County Athletic Directors



The Nanuet High School Sports Hall of Fame

wishes to congratulate

Bill Kurisko, Class of 1987
David Hirsch
Genny Mulderig Allard
Jeff Bryant
and Peter Hackett

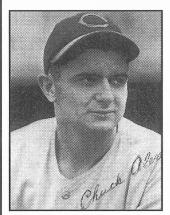
on their induction into the 2003 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Nanuet - Home of the Golden Knights



Nanuet Golden Knights

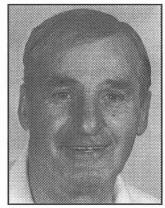
We honor their memory



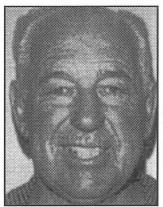
Chuck Aleno
Rockland County Hall of Fame



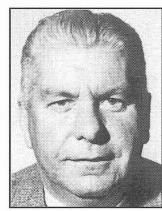
Steve Drummond
Rockland County Hall of Fame



Tony Gemma
Rockland County Hall of Fame



Ed Greene Rockland County Hall of Fame

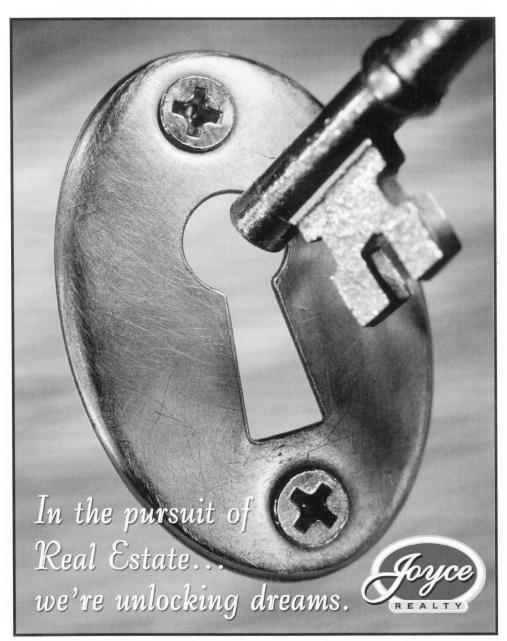


Ken Harniman
Rockland County Hall of Fame

The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Congratulations to all inductees past, present and future.



The Pearl River Sports Hall of Fame



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