



31ST ANNUAL INDUCTION DINNER
SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 24, 2004

PEARL RIVER ELKS CLUB
ELKS DRIVE, NANUET, NY

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME 2004
INDUCTEES

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AND
THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW ELECTED OFFICIALS



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Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Welcome to the 31st 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.

The Class of 2004 continues the tradition of excellence that has epitomized the Rockland Hall of Fame. Included among this year's headliners are Frank Samoylo of Albertus Magnus, a Rockland Player of the Year in basketball; Dave Hanson, the highly successful track and cross country coach from Nanuet; Ed Rubbert, a record-setting quarterback from Clarkstown North who played briefly in the NFL; Nancy Rosenfeld Lewis, a state-champion middle-distance runner for Suffern; Joan Neuendorf, who excelled as a swimmer at Tappan Zee and as a swimming coach at Suffern; and all-round athlete Jim Gallo of Haverstraw, in the Old-Timers category.

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 are now housed in the respective high schools attended by the inductees. In addition, the Hall of Fame has developed a Web site that serves as a rich repository of Hall of Fame information, including bios and photos on all 170 inductees. Visit the Web site at www.rcshf.org.

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.

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

<u>INDUCTEE</u>	<u>PLAQUE SPONSOR</u>	<u>INTRODUCED BY</u>
JIM GALLO	Sponsor Needed	Gail Seifert (<i>daughter</i>) Barbara Pedri (<i>niece</i>)
DAVE HANSON	Sponsor Needed	Larry Beckerle
JOAN NEUENDORF	Sponsor Needed	Joe Biddy
NANCY ROSENFELD LEWIS	Sponsor Needed	Joe Biddy
ED RUBBERT	Sponsor Needed	Bill Rubbert
FRANK SAMOYLO	Sponsor Needed	John Samoylo

*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
InvocationReverend David Billings
Pledge of AllegianceJoe Holland
Master of CeremoniesDan White

Committees

DinnerGibby Sweet
Program Book.....Peter Scheibner
Screening/Editor.....Jamie Kempton
TicketsPete Castellano

2004 Inductees

JIM GALLO

NANCY ROSENFELD LEWIS

DAVE HANSON

ED RUBBERT

JOAN NEUENDORF

FRANK SAMOYLO

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 interim Screening Committee chairman Pete Scheibner: 1 Captain McGovern Drive, Stony Point, N.Y. 10980. 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 inductee'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 170 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)

Peter Scheibner	<i>Chairman</i>
Kathy Dapolito	<i>Vice Chairman</i>
Ethel Doller	<i>Secretary</i>
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Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Nominee: _____
(Last) (First) (M)

Current
Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date Submitted: _____

* If deceased, please give name, address and phone number of family member.

H.S. and Year of Graduation : _____

College and Year of Graduation: _____

On a separate typewritten page, list all of the significant accomplishments of the nominee, both as a Rockland County resident and otherwise. Please be as specific as possible. Include varsity sports played in high school and college, dates, letters earned, honors won, records set, post-collegiate achievements, etc.

* Please submit a clear black-and-white or color photo of the nominee.

Nominating Person:

Last name: _____ First: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please Submit to: Pete Scheibner
Interim Chairman, Selection Committee
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame
1 Captain McGovern Drive
Stony Point, NY 10980

The Rockland County
Sports Hall of Fame
wishes to thank the
following businesses for their
generous support of our organization:

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Rockland County Hall of Fame Inductees

1974

Chuck Aleno*
Henry "Peck" Artopee*
Dr. Daniel "Danny" Fortmann*
Joseph "JoJo" Mackey
Howard "Howie" Pierson

1975

Roger Brown
Joe D'Auria
Bill Drescher*
Billy Hogan*
Donald "Pop" Sherwood*

1976

Howard Parker Talman*
John Koster*
Jim Ridlon
Pete D'Auria*
Gloria Callan Jones

1977

Augusta Bradley Chapman*
Nick Gamboli*
Ed Greene*
Harry Jackson*
Paul Toscano
Richard "Gus" Shankey*

1978

Jim Brown
Harold "Hale" DeChelfin*
Jim Faulk*
Ira Shuttleworth*
Jim Schnaars
Nick Mottola*

1979

Bob Bacheller*
Frank Cosentino

Harry "Dee" Dembnicki

Jerry Hollahan*
Bob Grossman*
E.J. Maurer*
Bruno Ablondi*

1980

Dr. Jeffrey Munson
Art Orlando*
Brit Paterson*
Nick Ryder
Horace Tyrus
Emil Willis*
Mickey Wittman

1981

Art Hopper*
Frank Horan
Howard Johnson
Lester Lepori*
Walter Ostrom
Victor Shankey*
Bill Yuda*

1982

Frank DePatto*
Tony Gamboli, Jr.
Bill Perry*
George Jakowenko
Ed McGrath

1983

Warren Austin*
Jim Brechbiel
Frank Dawson
Jeanette Paddock
Walter Sickles*

1984

Jim Ashcroft
Marvin Branche
Ralph Cordisco
Bryan Hassett
Bob Tierney*

1985

Wil Arietta*
Joseph "Josh" Bolack*
Gene Erickson
Tony Gemma*
Joe St. Lawrence*

1986

Joe Alleva
John Jemison
Harold Lederman
Bob Mathias*
Sylvester "Molly" McGee*

1987

Fred Hahn*
Charles Holbrook
Chuck Scarpulla
Jim Stamos
Bob Strack

1988

Ron Becraft
Darryl Brown
Tom Canty
Pat D'Auria
James "Sham" Feeney*

* Denotes Deceased

Rockland County Hall of Fame Past Recipients

(Continued)

1989

Ralph Consiglio*
 Patty Dillon Solliday
 Vincent "Dugan" Kovalsky
 Frank Nelson*
 Bob Wolff

1994

Hubert Nealy
 Martin "Hawk" Jacobs
 Joe Goldsmith
 Tom Collins
 Ron Tellefsen

1999

Jim Cann
 Joe Casarella
 Ervan Levine*
 Gibby Sweet
 Dick Yerg

1990

Denise McGuire
 Guy Guccione
 Abe Schuster
 Robert "Red" Schassler*
 Don Clancy*

1995

Ron Edwards
 Walter "Red" Levy
 Max Talaska*
 Joe Klopchin*
 Joe McDowell*
 Paul Urban*

2000

Rich Conklin
 Kevin Houston
 Dawn Royster
 Sarah Will
 Alex Zilko*

1991

Steve Drummond*
 Lew Brundage
 Johnny Burns*
 Pete Haubner
 Ethel Doller
 Dominic Gamboli

1996

Harry Babcock*
 Gerald Kapusinsky
 John Orlando
 Al Simonds
 George Garrecht
 Marty Springstead

2001

George Dalzell
 Gerald D'Auria
 Seth Joyner
 Tod Giles
 Debbie Grant
 Bill White

1992

Murray Olderman
 Jerome Bonomolo
 Joseph "Biscuit" Picarello
 Dale Lydecker
 John Mercurio

1997

Mike Hagon
 Hank Kapusinsky
 Tom Mounkhall
 Dennis Pozsar
 Steve Wanamaker

2002

Ken Harniman*
 Derrick Lassic
 Norinne Powers
 Kris Snider
 Dick Teetsel
 Walt Weiss

1993

Jim Kane
 Kathy Miller Dapolito
 Jay Bohnel
 Mike Deane
 Don Driscoll

1998

Kevin Kane
 Lou Kliewe
 Rocco Marano
 Howie McNiff
 Blaise Winter

2003

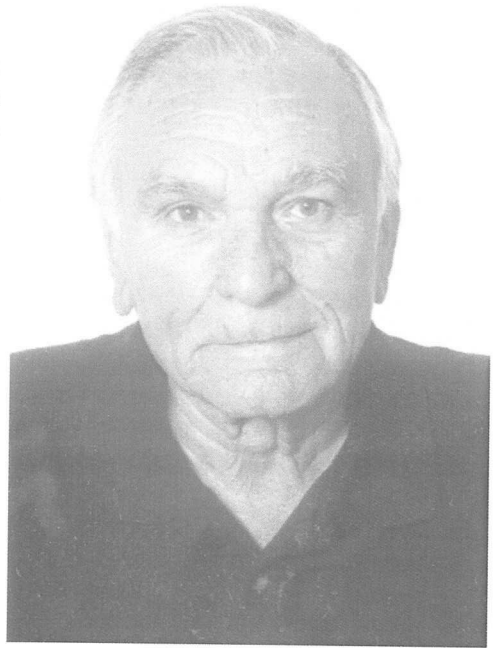
Genny Mulderig Allard
 Jeff Bryant
 Peter Hackett
 David Hirsch
 Bill Kurisko

** Denotes Deceased*

JIM GALLO

Jim Gallo was the quintessential athlete in the early years of the Rockland County Public School Athletic League (RCPSAL). A 1938 graduate of Haverstraw High School, Gallo earned a total of 14 varsity letters in his celebrated schoolboy career.

A three-time All-County football selection, Jimmy was a two-way performer, playing end, quarterback and linebacker over his four varsity seasons. He scored the first touchdown in the history of Markham Field in Haverstraw, and played a notable role in bringing the 1936 RCPSAL football championship to Haverstraw. Contemporaries recall the 6-foot-3, 200-pound Gallo as an athlete of outstanding physical condition. Fleet-footed, he was a quality runner, a crisp blocker and arguably the most renowned tackler in the county.



He earned All-County basketball honors three times. Gallo was a tenacious defender and a strong rebounder. He served as captain and led his team in scoring in his senior season. Jim was a key contributor to the Haverstraw High School's dominance of RCPSAL basketball over an eight-year span that saw the Red Raiders win seven league titles. Gallo also was a member of the storied Letchworth Village Big "5" basketball team.

As a four-time All-RCPSAL baseball player, Jim played a different position in each of his four years. He was seen as a team's strength in any position he played. He topped the Haverstraw nine in 1938 with a .409 batting average.

Jimmy also participated in track & field with marks in the high jump, discus and shot put that would be considered competitive when compared to the schoolboy standards of today.

Gallo received an athletic scholarship to Colgate University, where he played offensive and defensive end in football, and was a forward on the basketball team. Jim graduated from Colgate in 1942 with a B.S. in education.

Like most young men and women of his era he joined the military at a time of war. A Marine, Gallo served in the Pacific Theater as a second lieutenant during the island sieges of Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Guam, and Bougainville.

The Haverstraw native also served in the combat areas of Korea and Vietnam.

Jim's 31-year career in the United States Marine Corps ended with his retirement as a full colonel in 1973. He was the recipient of four Campaign Ribbons, Silver Star, Purple Heart,

Legion of Merit, White Rose of Finland, Navy Cross, and the Vietnam Medal. He was additionally awarded Presidential and Navy Unit Citations.

Following his discharge, Jim continued serving his country with honor. He was appointed to the nation's diplomatic staff as Naval Attache to Finland, and later to the diplomatic staff to Lebanon.

Gallo has taught military science at East Carolina University and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

From his early days as a student and athlete at Saint Peter's Elementary School in Haverstraw, Gallo was highly respected. He possessed a unique ability to get his team to play at a high level. Not the most boisterous of leaders, he would rather fire up his teammates by setting an example. On the court or field he would sink an outside shot against the opponent's best defender, or force the right-handed guard to use his left hand. Jim taught his teammates to stick to the team's goals, even in tough times.

He will be remembered as a player who enjoyed the camaraderie and competition that enriches the experience of playing scholastic sports.

He is a charter member of the North Rockland Sports Hall of Fame.

It can be said that James Gallo is the cornerstone of North Rockland High School's "Tradition of Excellence" as well as one of the premier athletes enshrined in the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame.

Jim now resides in Scottsdale, Ariz., with his wife, Jean. He has three daughters: Cristine lives in San Francisco, Gail lives in Nanuet, and Wendy is from Lake Tahoe.

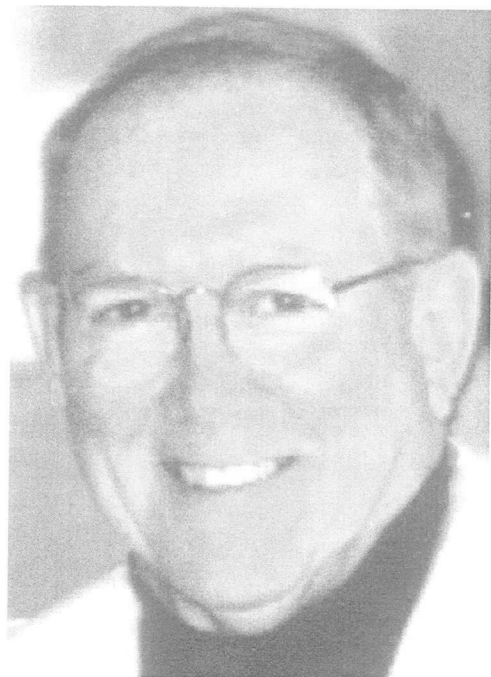


DAVE HANSON

"You're only as good as the people you compete against. We had to work harder because we were the smallest school in the county."

Dave Hanson parlayed that common-sense philosophy into an ultra-successful 32-year coaching and administrative career at Nanuet. After graduating from Ithaca College, Hanson joined the Nanuet athletic staff in the fall of 1962 and proceeded to build a track and field dynasty during his 20-year coaching reign (1963-1982) in that sport.

Treating the school's modest enrollment—and consequently its smaller pool of athletes—as an opportunity rather than an obstacle, Hanson laid a foundation of organization, structure and well-rounded balance that underpinned all of his teams' later prosperity.



In his third season as varsity spring track coach—1965—Nanuet captured the Rockland County Public School Athletic League championship. It would be the first of eight such titles under his watch: four Rockland County meet crowns (1973, 1975, 1976, 1978) and four Rockland PSAL dual-meet titles (1965, 1968, 1969, 1970). The County meet became an officially scored meet in 1972.

Along the way Hanson guided the Golden Knights to eight Section 9 Class B banners (1969 through 1975, 1978) as well as a 29-meet unbeaten streak from 1967 to 1969.

Buoyed by the same exacting degree of organization and structure that was his trademark, the winter track and cross country programs enjoyed a similar level of success. Hanson served as the program's first winter track coach, from 1967 to 1982. During that period, he steered Nanuet to eight Rockland County championships—four County meet titles (1974 through 1976, 1978) and four Rockland PSAL flags (1968-69, 1972-73). The County meet in winter track was begun in 1974. He also piloted the Golden Knights to seven Section 9 Class B championships: 1965, 1970 through 1973, 1975 and 1978.

In cross country, for which he was head coach from 1974 to 1982 and again in 1993-94, his 1974 team won the inaugural New York State Federation championship and also finished third in the Eastern States championships.

His 1994 girls' team won the Section 1 Class C title and the League III-A title, and finished fourth in the New York State meet. His 1994 boys' team won the Section 1 Class C crown and the League III-A banner, and his 1993 girls' team won the League III-A title.

Aside from winning the state Federation championship in cross country, two accomplishments

stand out in Hanson's bulging portfolio of success:

- In the 1974-75 school year, his cross country, winter track and spring track teams earned a collective No. 1 ranking in New York State for combined three-season achievement. The cross country team was ranked No. 3 statewide, the winter track team was rated No. 2, and the spring track team was ranked No. 5. That spring track squad, incidentally, was chosen as one of the top five Rockland scholastic teams from 1960 to 1985 in a vote of Journal-News readers.

- He coached 13 New York State champions in spring track, winter track and cross country: Paul Nowicki, 880-yard run, 1970; two-mile relay, 1973 (Mike Borghard, John Hammeran, Jim O'Rourke, Mike Nowicki); Federation cross country team, 1974; Don Berich, 55-meter hurdles, 1975; Bret Watzka, Class B cross country, 1975; Tony Harlin, shot put, 1976; Rick Carey, high jump, winter 1977, winter 1978 and spring 1978; Stan Thomas, pole vault, 1979; Greg Mooney, Intersectional medley relay, 1979; 3,200-meter relay, 1980 (Bill Possidento, Brad Klock, Gene Sostre, Mike Unterkofler); Erin Haugh, Class C cross country, 1994.

Hanson never kept track of his dual-meet wins and losses, but he estimates that his teams won about 75 percent of their meets, roughly 170 to 180 wins and 70 to 75 losses. His career was not, however, about only victories and defeats. He played a major role in the development of track and field in Rockland County and Section 9. Hanson was co-founder and longtime meet director of the Nanuet Relays, which was begun in 1968 and is one of the oldest invitationals in the New York metropolitan area.

As Nanuet athletic director from 1983 to 1986, Hanson oversaw an athletic program that collectively won eight league titles, two Sectional crowns, one County title and one state Regional championship. He also launched the girls' lacrosse program in 1986; served as varsity golf coach for several years in the late 1980s/early 1990s; and was assistant cross country coach from 1990 to 1992. The 1990 girls' cross country team (head-coached by Larry Beckerle and assisted by Hanson) won the New York State Class C title and finished second in the state Federation championship.

Hanson has been a certified track official since 1965, and a USA Track & Field (USATF) certified official since 1978. He has worked many local, regional, national and international events, including the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta; three World Association of Veteran Athletes championships—1993 in Buffalo, 1999 in Gateshead, England, and 2001 in Brisbane, Australia; the 1999 Goodwill Games in Uniondale, Long Island; the New York City Marathon three times in the mid-1970s; and many NCAA and USATF championship events.

Hanson, a 65-year-old native of Norwich, N.Y., is a charter member of the Nanuet High School Hall of Fame, having been inducted in 2002. He currently resides in Murrells Inlet, S.C., with his wife of 40 years, Sandy. The Hansons have two married daughters: Kim Hanson Smith, 34, and Erika Hanson, 31, both of whom were standout field-hockey goalies for Nanuet.



Nanuet Golden Knights

JOAN NEUENDORF

Joan Neuendorf straddled two distinct eras in Rockland County athletics. She swam for Tappan Zee High School in the late 1970s, when Rockland schools competed amongst themselves in the Rockland County Public School Athletic League and represented Section 9 along with Orange, Ulster and Sullivan counties. During her 18-year tenure as swimming coach at Suffern, she experienced the Rockland schools' realignment and full-fledged membership in Section 1, joining Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties.

There is little doubt, however, where her allegiances lie. "Rockland County is very tight-knit," says Neuendorf, a 1979 Tappan Zee alumna. "I'm honored and gratified I had the opportunity to play sports in the county and work with some great coaches here," she says. "I learned a lot from them. They're a special group."



Neuendorf's days at Tappan Zee were filled with athletic involvement. She remembers taking part in AAU club swimming workouts in the morning – her father would drive her and her younger brother, Robert, to Westchester for the sessions – then practicing with the Tappan Zee basketball team in the afternoon. She also remembers the TZ girls' swimmers training with the boys' team – "I'd be swimming with guys in my lane" – and she especially relishes the memory of the close and exciting rivalry with Suffern.

"We had to sell tickets for the meet," says Neuendorf, whose older brother, Billy, and older sister, Diane, also swam for TZ. "They were sold out. The boys' and girls' meets would be held at the same time, and we would alternate boys' and girls' events. I remember we [Tappan Zee] won both meets by a very close score."

Neuendorf played a major role in the Dutchies' success. Over a sterling four-year varsity swim career, she won seven Rockland County and seven Section 9 titles, in individual or relay events; was undefeated for three straight years in the 100-yard backstroke, setting a school record that lasted 15 years; set school records in the 50 freestyle and 100 breaststroke, and as a member of the 400 freestyle relay and 200 medley relay; and twice swam on 200 medley relay units that finished second in the New York State championship meet. She made All-County and All-Section all four years.

Spearheaded by Neuendorf and a solid nucleus of versatile swimmers, Coach Sarah DeZago's Tappan Zee squad swept the Rockland County title all four years and won the Section 9 title in 1976, 1978 and 1979.

Swimming was Neuendorf's best sport but not her only one. In softball, she was the first-team

All-County center fielder in her junior and senior years, and batted .513 as a junior. Tappan Zee shared the County title that year with three other teams, and lost the Section 9 championship game to Suffern by one run. Neuendorf also played three years of varsity basketball, earning honorable mention All-County her senior year and serving as team captain.

At the State University of New York at Cortland, Neuendorf spanned the transition from the AIAW to the NCAA as the governing body for collegiate women's athletics. In her four years at Cortland, Neuendorf earned All-America honors each year, in a total of 11 events. She competed in the last AIAW national championships and the first NCAA Division III championships; held eight school records, two of which still stand, the 100 individual medley and 800 free relay; earned SUNY athletic conference gold medals in the 100, 200 and 400 individual medley and in various relays; captained the team her junior and senior years; and helped lead Cortland to three SUNYAC team championships.

After graduating from Cortland in 1983, Neuendorf embarked on an 18-year coaching career at Suffern. Her girls' swimming teams established themselves as a perennial power. Under Neuendorf's guidance, the Mounties won the Rockland County championship eight consecutive years, 1985 to 1992; captured three Section 1 crowns, and five Divisional and League titles each; compiled an overall dual-meet record of 122 wins and 34 losses; and ended the 1992 season with a No. 2 state ranking, the highest ever attained by a Rockland girls' swim team. Neuendorf was tabbed as Coach of the Year in Rockland County eight times and in Section 1 twice.

In boys' swimming, Neuendorf led the Mounties to an overall dual-meet record of 75 wins and 28 losses; five Divisional titles; and 11 consecutive runner-up finishes (behind Tappan Zee) in the Rockland County championships. She also coached Tate Blahnik, a national high school champion and record holder in the backstroke.

Neuendorf continued her own athletic pursuits beyond college, channeling her energies into a successful recreation softball career. She was a slugging center fielder on the Avon teams that won Ramapo Women's Softball league championships each year from 1984 to 1990, and also starred in the Bergen County and Hoboken women's leagues. Her swimming background helped prepare her for the endurance challenge of finishing a marathon, which she did, in the 1995 New York City Marathon. She's also completed a few triathlons, and still plays golf with many of her longtime friends from the Rockland County athletic community.

Neuendorf, who is 43, is currently director of physical education at Suffern High School. She was named to the Who's Who of America's Teachers in 2000 and was also named to the Wall of Tolerance national campaign for teachers in 2001. In addition, she is the incoming president of the Rockland County Coaches Association.

Neuendorf lives in Valley Cottage with her partner, Dawn Sugrue, and their three children: Aedan, age 2; and twins Hunter and Jack, 5 months.

DUTCHMEN

NANCY ROSENFELD LEWIS

Nancy Rosenfeld Lewis recalls being “so scared” when, as a sophomore at Suffern, she won the 600-meter run at the New York State indoor championships. She also remembers being “petrified” at the 1982 U.S. Junior Nationals outdoors in Los Angeles, where she finished fifth in the 800 meters in a still-standing Rockland County record time (2:09.22) and the ninth-fastest clocking in the country that year among schoolgirls.

Amazing what a little adrenaline can do, isn't it? Of course, Lewis had more going for her than pre-race jitters. Her winter track coach, Joe Biddy, said she “demonstrated greater range than any individual that I have ever coached” – male or female. Any distance from 200 meters to the mile was fair game for Lewis, who enjoyed her greatest success in the middle distance events of 600 yards/meters, 800 meters and 1,000 yards/meters.



Judged by her numbers, Lewis, a 1983 Suffern graduate, ranks as one of the pre-eminent track athletes in the annals of Rockland track and field. Among her top accomplishments are the following:

- Three-time individual state champion, twice in the winter at 600 meters and once in the spring at 800 meters.
- A member of two state championship relays, one each in the winter and spring.
- Eight-time Rockland County champion, four each in the winter and spring.
- Five-time champion in Section 9 (Rockland, Orange, Ulster, Sullivan counties), twice in the winter and three times in the spring.
- Holds six Rockland County records: the outdoor 800 meters (2:09.22), and the indoor 600 meters (1:33.22), 800 meters (2:10.3), 1,000 yards (2:33.92), 1,000 meters (2:56.3), and 1,500 meters (4:40.6). She also shares the record in the 500 meters (1:15.9) with former archrival Debbie Grant of Ramapo.

Lewis – then known as Nancy Rosenfeld – and Grant waged many spirited duels and helped push each other to national-caliber performances. Although both were quiet and unassuming, on the track they were “fierce competitors,” Lewis remembers.

“I truly want her to know how much she helped me during my high school running career,” Lewis says of Grant. “She was an amazing competitor and a true inspiration to me. She motivated me and pushed me to achieve things that I never imagined.”

Although her highlight reel is brimming with gold-plated moments, Lewis considers two races the most memorable for her. The first was her 600-meter triumph at the 1981 indoor state meet,

as a “naïve and inexperienced” sophomore. Running in racing flats borrowed from a friend – a common practice for her throughout her high school career – Lewis remembers being boxed in on the inside lane in the final lap. When Coach Biddy bellowed, “Get to the outside!” she made a sudden move, practically bowling over runners outside of her. She dropped to the back, then surged past one runner after another on the outside.

“I ended up winning the race, but was surprised I wasn’t disqualified,” Lewis says. When she returned to school the following week, the Suffern high school principal recounted the weekend’s athletic highlights among the morning announcements. When he got to the state meet results, Lewis recalls, his final comment was, “Who is Nancy Rosenfeld?”

She shed her anonymity quickly. Her other memorable moment came in the 1982 U.S. Junior National championship at UCLA, where she traveled by plane for the first time and shared the experience with Tom McTaggart, Suffern’s girls’ spring track coach, and Grant and her coach, Matt Mulligan. After the race, she became very homesick. “I actually bypassed a trip to Disneyland and returned home to my family and friends. What was I thinking?”

There were many other outstanding performances, such as her triple victories in the 300-, 600- and 1,000-meter runs in the Section 9 Class A championships her junior year. “In all the years that I have coached,” Biddy says, “I have never seen anyone even attempt that combination of events.” She also ran a 2:11.4, 800-meter anchor leg on Suffern’s winning indoor sprint medley relay at the Record Assault Invitational at Yale in 1983. The relay set a state record (4:06.41) that stood for seven years.

After graduating from Suffern, Lewis earned a full track scholarship to the University of Virginia, but a serious illness sidetracked her running career. However, she earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Virginia in 1988 and a master’s degree in occupational therapy from New York University in 1992. She married Jim Lewis in 1992 and the Lewises have two children, Matthew, 10, and Jonathan, 6, who play soccer, baseball and basketball. The Lewises live in Moorestown, N.J.

Lewis, who is 39, is an occupational therapist and has worked in many settings including rehabilitation centers, acute care hospitals and nursing homes. She currently works part-time at Kingsway Learning center, a private special education school in Haddonfield, N.J. She works with elementary and middle school children with learning disabilities.

Lewis looks back fondly on her years at Suffern. “I was extremely fortunate to have several wonderful coaches who took an honest interest in me both as a runner and as an individual,” she says, citing Biddy, McTaggart and Pete Wendrychowicz. “They differed tremendously in their personalities and training styles, but made my running career both interesting and exciting. They taught me what hard work, dedication and determination can lead to.

“I was also surrounded by many amazing teammates,” she adds. “I have nothing but awesome memories of our times together training, traveling, competing and just having fun. The Suffern High School track team was like a family. We took care of each other and really cared for one another. My time on the team will hold a special place in my heart forever.”

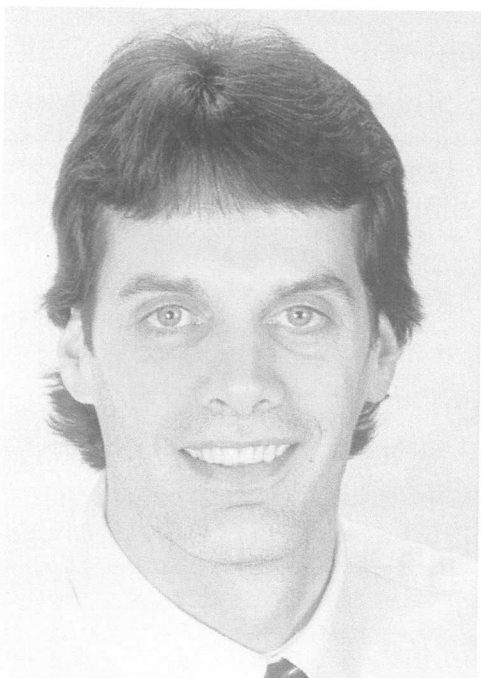


ED RUBBERT

Wherever he played, fans would notice and appreciate the smooth and graceful athletic skills of the recordsetting Ed Rubbert.

While at Clarkstown North High School in both his junior and senior years, he garnered All-County honors in football and basketball.

In 1982 as a senior quarterback, he was selected as Rockland's co-offensive player of the year, sharing honors with his favorite receiver Mike Looney, who established new records for pass receptions. Ed set three major county records that year-single game 318 passing yards; 5 touchdown passes thrown in one game; and 1497 yards for a season. He fell shy of breaking the county career passing record held by Andy Cowan of Nyack by 180 yards. He was named to the New York State fourth team.



In Ed's junior year on the basketball court, he was instrumental in leading Clarkstown North (scoring 20 points) to a one-point upset late in the season over Spring Valley, eventual State champions. He was the foremost rebounder and MVP of the Rams for 2 years, finishing fourth in the county as an 11th team All-State selection in his senior year.

An imposing figure at 6'5" and 210 pounds, he received a full scholarship to play football at The University of Louisville. It was expected that Rubbert would be red-shirted as a freshman, but in the tenth game of a losing season, the coaches turned to Ed in the second half against Temple, and he responded well with 107 yards and his first collegiate TD pass.

In his first game as a starter to open the 1984 season, he proceeded to break into the Louisville record books with 29 completions in 55 attempts for 393 yards.

After Louisville had lost 10 straight games over a two-year period, Rubbert led the Cardinals from a 28-7 deficit to their first win of 1984, beating Houston 30-28, with a field goal in the final 20 seconds of the contest.

Ed finished the 1984 season (sophomore) ranked 14th in the nation with 2465 yards total offense (2353 yards passing) and threw for 18 touchdowns. He was named to The Associated Press's All-Southern Independent 2nd Team.

When he graduated from Louisville in 1987, he had broken more than 10 records (some set by one of the greatest quarterbacks to ever play in The National Football League - Johnny Unitas).

Rubbert signed as a free-agent quarterback with the Washington Redskins in 1987, and was one of the last players released from the pre-season roster. The quarterbacks ahead of him that made

the team were future Super Bowl stars Doug Williams, Jay Schroeder, and another rookie Mark Rypien.

Less than 2 months later, the football players' union called for a strike to begin with the games on the first Sunday in October. Rubbert received a "hurry-up" call from Coach Joe Gibbs, who asked him to be his quarterback for the duration of the strike. In his first professional start against the powerful St. Louis Cardinals, Ed passed for a day-leading 334 yards (which included 3 TD's), as the Redskins upset the Redbirds 28-21. The Cardinals, incidentally, had 13 regulars in uniform including 7 starters.

The next week, Rubbert led Washington to a resounding 38-12 triumph over the Giants in The Meadowlands. He started his third game with Dallas as the opponent, but left early with an injured shoulder, as Washington won 13-7.

In his 3 games as a Washington Redskin, Ed completed 26 of 49 passes for 532 yards and 4 TD's, suffering only 1 interception.

It had been decided by the NFL at the onset of the strike that all games would count in the final standings. With the 3 straight wins, Washington was poised to contest for the Super Bowl of 1988, which they won 42-10 coming from behind Denver and racking up 5 straight touchdowns in the second quarter.

Ed Rubbert's NFL career was short-lived, just playing in those 3 games and finishing the season on the Injured Reserve list with his shoulder injury. His efforts in helping to get Washington to The Big Game were rewarded with receiving a share of the winners' earnings.

Ed currently works as a substitute physical education teacher (hoping for a full-time position) in the Clarkstown school system and assists Joe Casarella with the North Rockland football program.

He credits his oldest brother Bill (9 years his senior) as being the guiding force in his athletic career.



FRANK SAMOYLO

Frank Samoylo personified the type of student that Albertus Magnus prides itself on developing – conscientious, dedicated, self-effacing and continually striving for betterment in all aspects of his life. Now a Roman Catholic priest at St. Augustine's Parish in New City, Samoylo, a 1968 Albertus graduate, can look back on his basketball-playing days with the Falcons and recall an era of togetherness and team success that helped shape the selfless person he was to become.

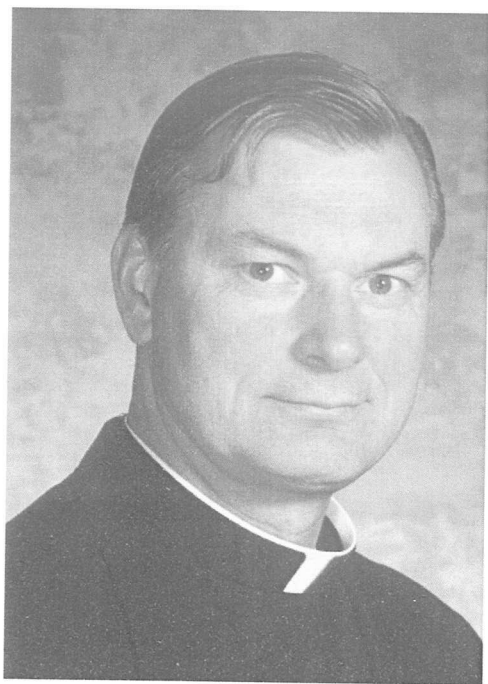
"Playing for Albertus was a good experience," says Samoylo, who is 53 and grew up in Valley Cottage. "We played together very well and all got along well. We didn't look to one guy" to lead the team.

That may be so, but Samoylo was unquestionably the brightest star in the Falcon galaxy. A 6-foot-1¼-inch forward, he fulfilled many roles for Albertus: shooter, rebounder, ball-handler, tenacious defender. Sure, he had a great supporting cast, with guys like Bob Ahrens, a three-time All-County selection, and fellow All-County players Drew Leale and Pete Reilly. But Samoylo was the axis around which the Falcons revolved. In the memorable 1968 season, he was named Player of the Year in Rockland County; All-New York State and one of the top 100 scholastic basketball players in the country (as was Ahrens); and also was a New York Daily News All-Star.

In the era before Albertus joined the Rockland Public School Athletic League (PSAL), the Falcons traveled all over the metropolitan region to play quality opponents. Despite a demanding schedule, the 1968 team posted a 16-2 record, with both losses coming by two points. It was also was the first Class B team ever to play in the Large School Eastern New York Catholic Tournament (the Big Eight Classic). With Samoylo leading the way, that '68 squad also defeated Clarkstown, at that time the cream of the crop among Rockland public schools. Coincidentally, the 1968 Falcon team was recently inducted into the Albertus Magnus High School Hall of Fame.

The 1967 team was no slouch either, charting a 14-4 record including a victory over PSAL champion Spring Valley. Samoylo made first-team All-County that season as well, and averaged between 15 and 20 points per game both his junior and senior years.

Samoylo then went on to play for Georgia Tech, an NCAA Division I program. In his freshman year, at a tournament in Florida, he scored 50 points for the Yellow Jackets' freshman team, a school record that still stands. By midway through his junior year, he was the starting guard on the varsity, thanks to the confidence entrusted in him by new coach Butch Clifton. Samoylo averaged 7½ points a game for a team that went 23-9 and advanced to the championship game of the National Invitation Tournament before bowing to North Carolina. In those days, a berth in the



NIT was highly coveted because only 16 to 20 teams qualified for the NCAA Tournament.

Although Georgia Tech was not nearly as successful the following year, Samoylo made a name for himself by averaging a team-leading 15.4 points per game, which included a 26-point effort against archrival Georgia. He also led the team in assists and was team captain and MVP.

After graduating from Georgia Tech with a degree in management, Samoylo worked for a year at a textile firm in Columbus, Ga., before obtaining a master's degree in education from Iona College. He then pursued a religious calling by entering the Benedictine Monastery in the Worcester, Mass., archdiocese and spending six years there. However, he left before final vows.

Samoylo's career path then took him to the educational field, where he spent the next 14 years. He served as an in-school suspension counselor at Clarkstown North High School for almost 14 years, and coached junior high school basketball in the Clarkstown Central School District for about nine years. Concurrent with that role, he also assisted Tom Collins with the Albertus Magnus varsity basketball team for about seven years before serving a four-year stint as the Falcons' junior varsity basketball coach. He also had a turn as varsity golf coach at Albertus.

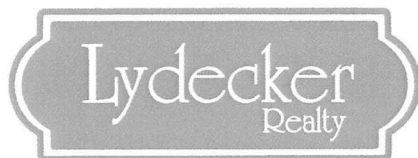
In the fall of 1994, Samoylo followed a strong religious conviction and entered the seminary. He spent the next seven years training to enter the priesthood – two years of “pre-theology,” or philosophy; one year of “spirituality,” or novitiate period; and four years of theology at St. Joseph's Seminary-Dunwoodie in Yonkers. Samoylo was ordained a diocesan priest in May 2001 and currently serves the large, 2,700-family St. Augustine's Parish in New City.

“As a priest, it's very fulfilling,” Samoylo says of serving in the area where he grew up. “It's not like I walked into a strange situation. It was familiar right away. I have parishioners who I worked with at Clarkstown North – teachers, retired teachers, secretaries, custodians, former students. It's a really nice situation.”

Samoylo is a charter member of the Albertus Magnus High School Hall of Fame, having been inducted in 1994.

ALBERTUS MAGNUS

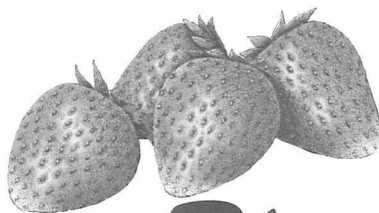
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FRANK SAMOYLO – ALBERTUS MAGNUS**

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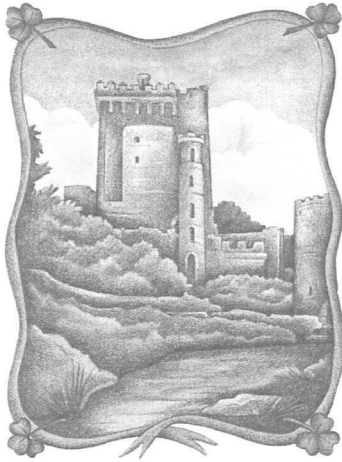
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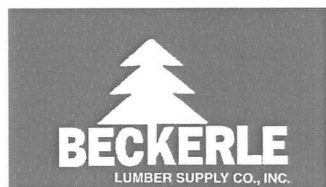


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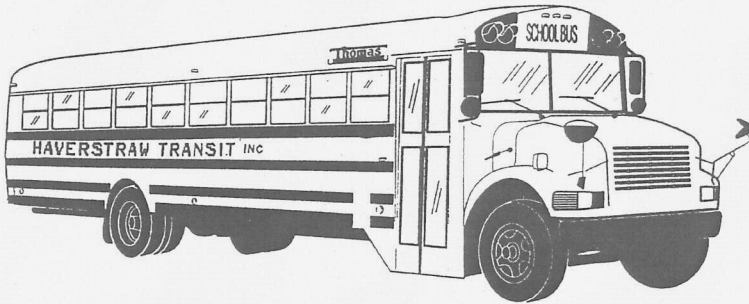
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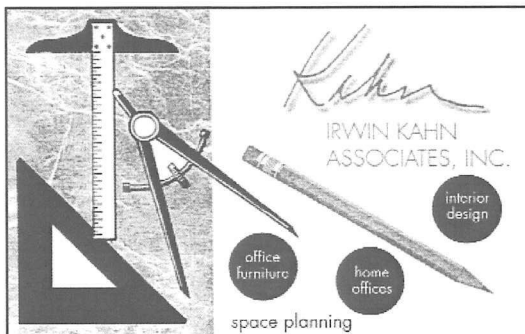


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Dave Hanson – Nanuet

Nancy Rosenfeld Lewis – Suffern

Ed Rubbert – Clarkstown North

Frank Samoylo - Albertus Magnus

Joan Neuendorf – Tappan Zee



C. SCOTT VANDERHOEF
County Executive

Congratulations to
Father Frank Samoylo!

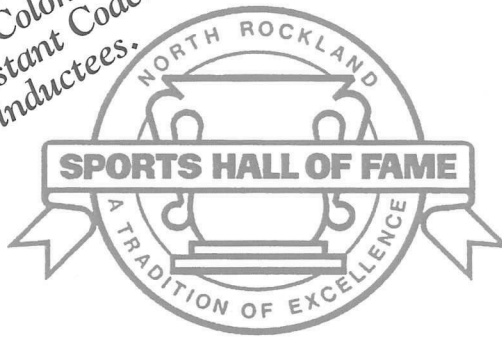
It is an honor to join in his tribute!

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Jim Gallo, retired Colonel &
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and

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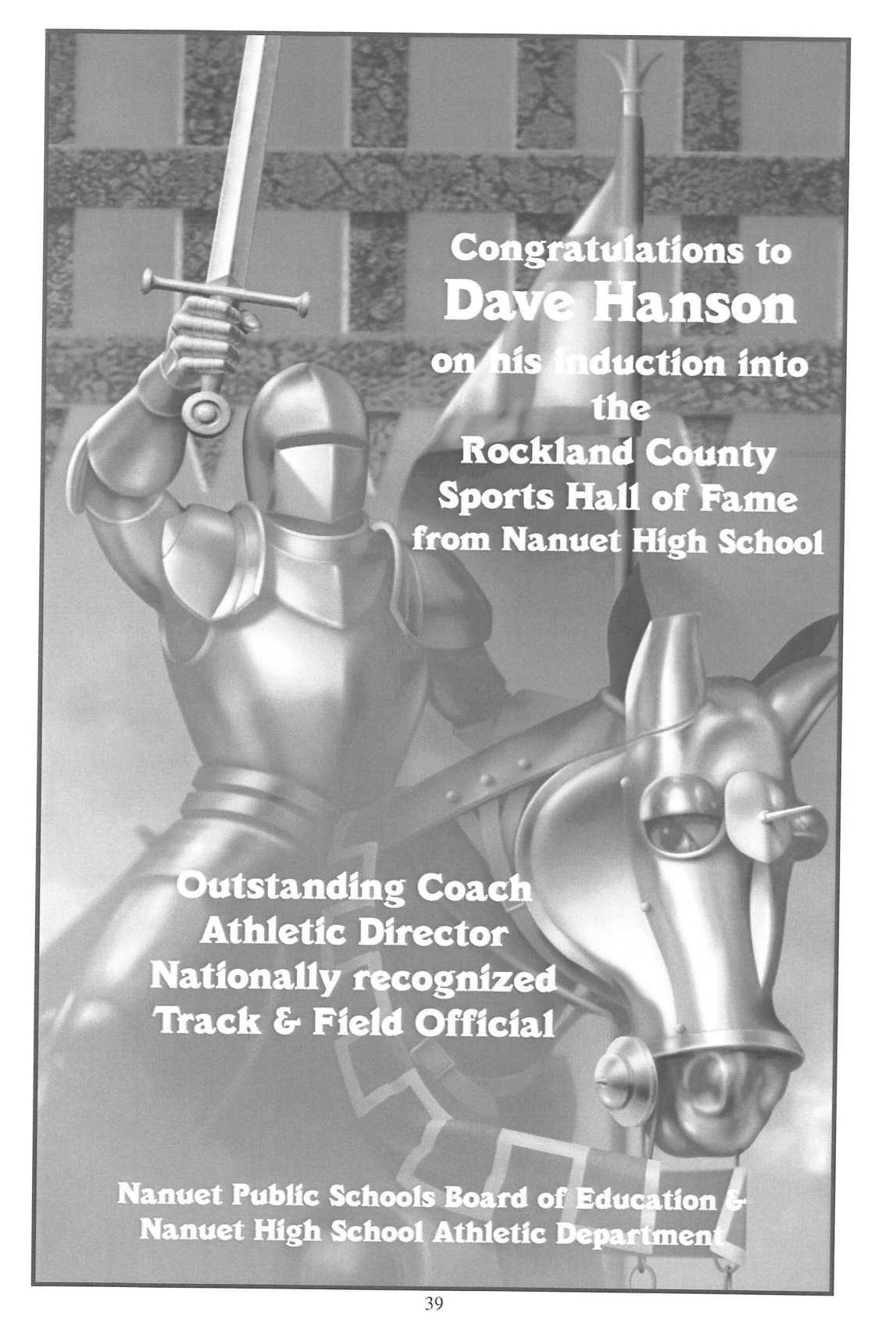
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The Rubbert Family

Congratulations to
Father Frank Samoylo

Thanks for the
wonderful memories
Tom and Sandy Collins

A black and white illustration of a knight in full plate armor, holding a sword aloft in his right hand. In the foreground, the head of a horse, also in armor, is visible. The background features a stone wall and a flag.

**Congratulations to
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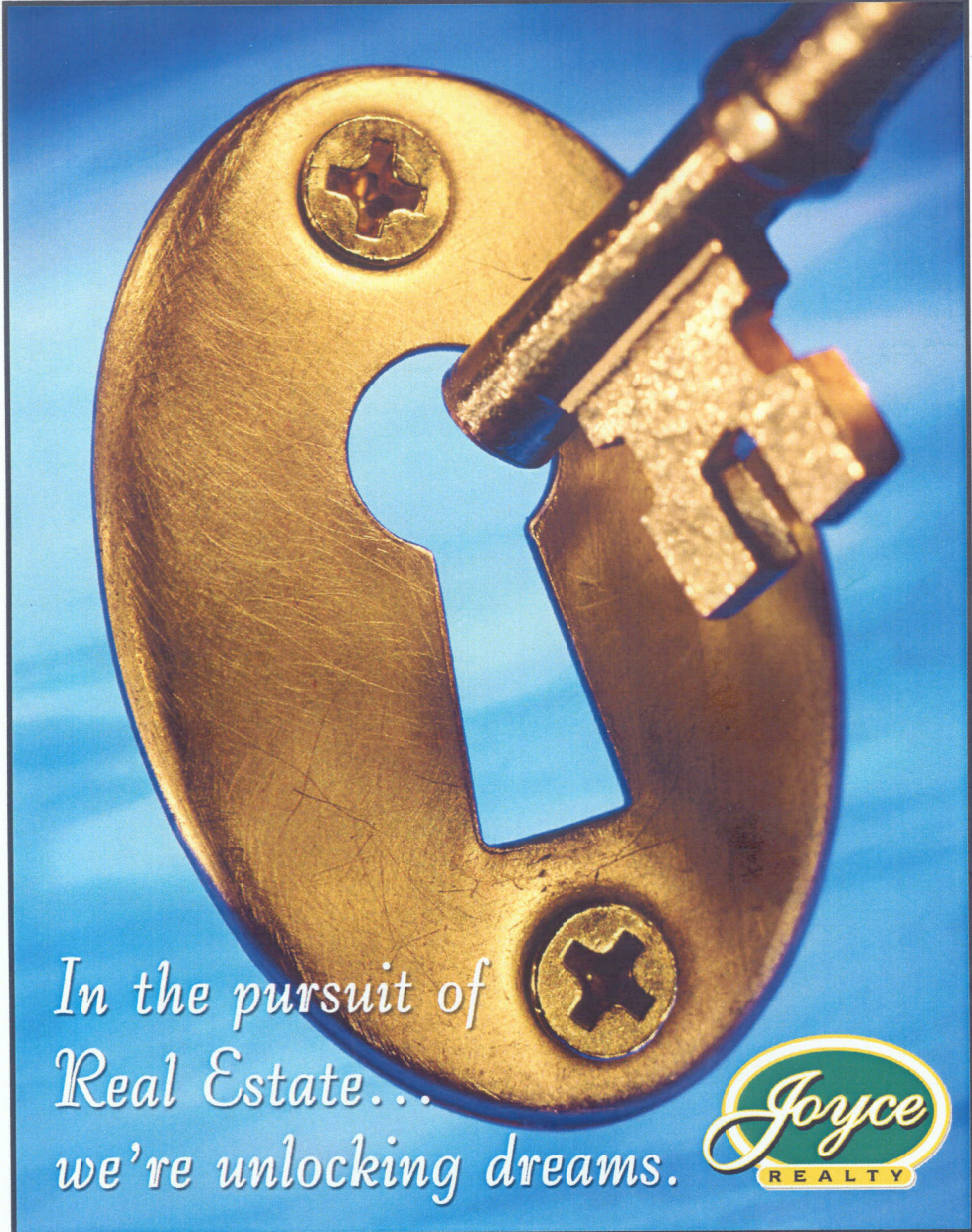
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