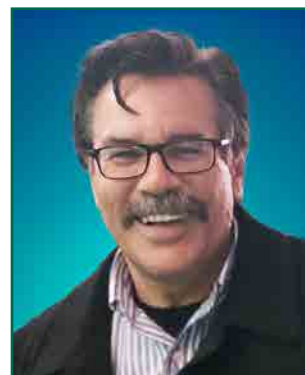
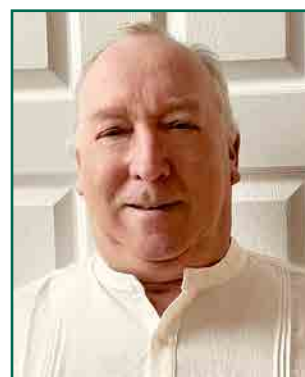
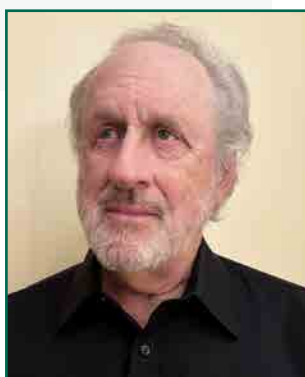


# ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

A History of Sports Excellence

Founded in 1974

# 2024



## 2024 HONOREES

JEAN CARY | JIM ESCHEN | SCOTT FINLAY

KURT LUNDGREN | MIKE SCHROER

KELVIN SMITH JR. | DANA WILLIAMS

PETE SCHEIBNER

JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

APRIL 14, 2024

PARAMOUNT COUNTRY CLUB



*ALL THE BEST TO THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
ON YOUR 51<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION*

*&*

*CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUR 2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES*

***JEAN CARY – PEARL RIVER COACH***

***JIM ESCHEN – SUFFERN CLASS OF 1967***

***SCOTT FINLAY – NYACK CLASS OF 1974***

***KURT LUNDGREN – NANUET CLASS OF 1979***

***PETE SCHEIBNER – JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT***

***MIKE SCHROER – CLARKSTOWN SOUTH CLASS OF 1992***

***KELVIN SMITH – NORTH ROCKLAND CLASS OF 2002***

***DANA WILLIAMS – SPRING VALLEY CLASS OF 1993***



**The Honorable**

**HOWARD T. PHILLIPS, JR., SUPERVISOR**

**AND**

**THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW ELECTED OFFICIALS**

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**COUNCILMAN**

**VINCENT J. GAMBOLI**

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**TOWN JUSTICE**

**IVONNE S. SANTOS**

**TOWN JUSTICE**

**- HAVERSTRAW-**

**HOME OF**

**THE BRICKS THAT BUILT NEW YORK**

**THREE MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS**

**WHERE HENRY HUDSON DOCKED THE HALF MOON**

**GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON'S TROOP ENCAMPMENTS**

**THE 95<sup>TH</sup> CIVIL WAR REGIMENT FLAG CARRIED AT GETTYSBURG**

## *Chairman's Message – Pete Scheibner*



*We* celebrate our 51<sup>st</sup> annual Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame induction with a star-studded group of athletes who excelled in multiple sports. The talented lineup includes an All-America lacrosse player; a trailblazing high school, college and four-year NFL player; a multi-sport Suffern basketball and baseball player who along with a top Nanuet pitcher left their mark on pro baseball teams; a track and field star who set records as the fastest Rocklander at 800 meters; a top girls' basketball and track star, coach and mentor; an outstanding coach who retired as the winningest girls' soccer and softball coach in Rockland up to that time; and myself as the longest-serving Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Chairman and Rockland Community College Hall of Famer. Rockland County continues to produce outstanding athletes and coaches year after year, so there is no shortage of qualified candidates for future years.

The Hall of Fame has a website that serves as a rich repository of Hall of Fame information, including bios and photos on all 309 inductees and 9 teams. Visit our website at [www.rcshf.org](http://www.rcshf.org)

Sadly, this past year we lost three distinguished members of our RCSHOF inductee roster. Emil Willis Jr., class of 2021, was a 1952 Spring Valley H.S. athletic standout and RCC coach and educator. Al Simonds was a 1996 inductee who excelled in three sports at Nyack and was voted Rockland's top athlete in 1956. Dan White, the 2007 Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, was a dear friend and colleague for the past 30 years, from when we first met at the RCSHOF. Dan loved being a member of our organization and was instrumental in getting so many great athletes inducted through his well-written nominations. He made my job as Chairman so much easier when he stepped up to be master of ceremonies, led the charge in selling tickets and enthusiastically promoted our events. Dan will clearly be missed by us all. We are honored that he was such a friend and contributor to RCSHOF all these many years.

We also lost Art Hyman, a longtime Nyack soccer and lacrosse referee and 20-year RCSHOF board member, and Jarrad Monroe, a 2005 North Rockland High School graduate and stepson of ex-NRHS star Ben Beamon. Jarrad was the recipient of the 2023 Boulders game proceeds due to his extensive medical needs,

On August 3, RCSHOF will hold its annual outing at a New York Boulders baseball game during which we will honor an individual and three teams. The individual is Ryan Dall, North Rockland class of 1994, a national-champion pole vaulter and current head coach at Texas A&M-Kingsville. The teams to be honored are the 1953-54 Tappan Zee High School boys' basketball team, RCPSAL co-champions; the 1999 North Rockland High School girls' soccer team, the New York State Class A champs with a 23-0 record; and the 2008-09 Nanuet High School girls' basketball team, the New York State and Federation champion.

I wish to thank the people who keep our organization a vital force in the community: Jamie Kempton, secretary and program editor; Pete Castellano, treasurer and ticket chairman; Bill Rubbert, screening committee chair; Vince Sciortino, vice chairman and fund-raising; Chuck Maze, for community relations; Russell Grant, master of ceremonies; Karen Leitner for her opening remarks; Bruce and Phyllis Schweizer of Quality Graphics, who do an outstanding job with graphic design, print and journal production; and to the entire Board of Directors for their contributions to our organization throughout the year.



Peter J. Scheibner  
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Chairman



VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [WWW.RCSHF.ORG](http://WWW.RCSHF.ORG)

CELEBRATING OUR 51<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SPORTS EXCELLENCE

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## The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

*wishes to thank the following businesses for  
their generous support of our organization:*

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**Congrats to Chairman Pete, Scott Finlay and all  
of the Class of 2024 Inductees!!**



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## ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME 2024 LIST OF INDUCTEES

### JEAN CARY, PEARL RIVER COACH

Nominated By: Tom Doherty  
Introduced By: Steve Dugandzic  
Trophy Sponsor: Pearl River Sports Hall of Fame Committee  
Plaque Sponsor: Tom & Katie Doherty

### JIM ESCHEN, SUFFERN CLASS OF 1967

Nominated By: Rich Eschen  
Introduced By: Steve Dugandzic  
Trophy Sponsor: Rich & Tom Eschen  
Plaque Sponsor: Rich & Tom Eschen

### SCOTT FINLAY, NYACK CLASS OF 1974

Nominated By: Ken Gray  
Introduced By: Russell Grant  
Trophy Sponsor: With love from his family Veronica, Kristin, Michelle, Valerie, and Keith  
Plaque Sponsor: Kristin Henry, Michelle Finlay, Valerie Claggett and Keith Finlay

### KURT LUNDGREN, NANUET CLASS OF 1979

Nominated By: Vin Sciortino  
Introduced By: Vin Sciortino  
Trophy Sponsor: Thwaites, Lundgren & D'Arcy  
Plaque Sponsor: Thwaites, Lundgren & D'Arcy

### PETE SCHEIBNER

#### JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Nominated By: Chuck Maze and Jamie Kempton  
Introduced By: Chuck Maze  
Trophy Sponsor: The Athletic Directors of Rockland County  
Plaque Sponsor: Matthew & Sitora Scheibner

### MIKE SCHROER, CLARKSTOWN SOUTH CLASS OF 1992

Nominated By: Jamie Kempton  
Introduced By: Giulia Adler  
Trophy Sponsor: Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame  
Plaque Sponsor: Clarkstown South Boys' & Girls' Track Team, Girls' XC Team 2023-24

### KELVIN SMITH JR., NORTH ROCKLAND CLASS OF 2002

Nominated By: David Crispino  
Introduced By: Chuck Maze  
Trophy Sponsor: Town of Haverstraw  
Plaque Sponsor: North Rockland Sports Hall of Fame

### DANA WILLIAMS, SPRING VALLEY CLASS OF 1993

Nominated By: Sid McCready  
Introduced By: Sid McCready  
Trophy Sponsor: Hilltop School Family  
Plaque Sponsor: Spring Valley High School Student Government



### DINNER PROGRAM

Pledge of Allegiance .....Pat Dizzine

### INVOCATION

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Russell Grant

### COMMITTEES

Dinner ..... Gibby Sweet

Program Book ..... Peter Scheibner

Screening..... Bill Rubbert

Tickets .....Pete Castellano

## 2024 INDUCTEES

**Jim Eschen**

Suffern Class of 1967

**Jean Cary**

Pearl River Coach

**Pete Scheibner**

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

**Dana Williams**

Spring Valley Class of 1993

**Mike Schroer**

Clarkstown South Class of 1992

**Kurt Lundgren**

Nanuet Class of 1979

**Kelvin Smith Jr.**

North Rockland Class of 2002

**Scott Finlay**

Nyack Class of 1974

### 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 Bill Rubbert, 189 Ridge Road, Valley Cottage, New York 10989. 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 September to May. Anyone wishing to join the organization should write to Chairman Pete Scheibner, 1 Captain McGovern Drive, Stony Point, NY 10980, or e-mail him at [scheibnp@msn.com](mailto:scheibnp@msn.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 303 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:

- Haverstraw Little League Save the Fields Fund • Special Olympics
- Venture • Challenger Little League • YMCA Youth Programs
- Homes for Heroes • Will McCue, a New City volunteer firefighter with disabilities
- Suffern Mat Club • Touching Bases Baseball of Rockland • BRIDGES
- Liam Frawley, former Tappan Zee High School Athletic Director who suffered devastating stroke

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS (OFFICERS)

Peter Scheibner..... Chairmain  
 Vincent Sciortino .....Vice Chairman  
 Jamie Kempton ..... Secretary  
 Peter Castellano ..... Treasurer

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Bob Baird	Russell Grant	Kristen Sullivan
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Pat D'Auria	Chuck Maze	Dan White
Pat Dizzine	Sid McCready	Robbie Woods
Phil Donnelly	Bill Rubbert	



## ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (M)

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ 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:

Bill Rubbert  
Chairman of the Selection Committee  
189 Ridge Road  
Valley Cottage, New York 10989  
billrubbert@gmail.com



## Rockland County Hall of Fame Inductees

<b>1974</b> Chuck Aleno* Henry "Peck" Artopee* Dr. Daniel "Danny" Fortmann* Joseph "JoJo" Mackey Howard "Howie" Pierson	<b>1985</b> Wil Arietta* Joseph "Josh" Bolack* Gene Erickson* Tony Gemma* Joe St. Lawrence*	<b>1997</b> Mike Hagon Hank Kapusinsky Tom Mounkhal Dennis Pozsar Steve Wanamaker*	<b>2008</b> Noreen Annunziata Apicella Charles Dittmer* Reid Hoffer Randy Nelson Paul Pietropaolo Tim St. Lawrence † Elizabeth "Pat" Ryan*	<b>2017</b> John Castellano Tom Mulroy Al Taylor* Jerome Whidbee* Phil Donnelly †† Fred Adler
<b>1975</b> Roger Brown* Joe D'Auria Bill Drescher* Billy Hogan* Donald "Pop" Sherwood*	<b>1986</b> Joe Alleva John Jemison Harold Lederman* Bob Mathias* Sylvester "Molly" McGee*	<b>1998</b> Kevin Kane Lou Kliewe* Rocco Marano* Howie McNiff Blaise Winter	<b>2009</b> Joe Biddy Jeff Brown Jim Horvath Mike Longuil* Janice Olszewski John Sottile	<b>2018</b> Thomas Dickson* Bobby Lawson Chuck Maze Jackie McCracken Houck Thomas Sanders Willie Worsley 1989 Nanuet High School Football Team †† Tom O'Brien
<b>1976</b> Howard Parker Talman* John Koster* Jim Ridlon Pete D'Auria* Gloria Callan Jones*	<b>1987</b> Fred Hahn* Charles Holbrook Chuck Scarpulla Jim Stamos Bob Strack*	<b>1999</b> Jim Cann Joe Casarella Ervin Levine* Gibby Sweet Dick Yerg*	<b>2010</b> Joe Conace* T. J. Ford Sol "Spike" Israel* Barbara Mellen-Speerin Margie Sahlstrom-Jaxel Mike Sparago Robbie Woods	<b>2019</b> Phil Bogle George Coates Kristen McGarvey Miedreich Sherry Murphy McGill Tommy Rowe Todd Sinclair Gene Dall 1990-91 Albertus Magnus High School Girls' Basketball Team 1981-82 Spring Valley High School Boys' Basketball Team †† Bob Veltidi*
<b>1977</b> Augusta Bradley Chapman* Nick Gamboli* Ed Greene* Harry Jackson* Paul Toscano Richard "Gus" Shankey*	<b>1988</b> Ron Becraft* Darryl Brown Tom Canty Pat D'Auria* James "Sham" Feeney*	<b>2000</b> Rich Conklin* Kevin Houston Dawn Royster Sarah Will Alex Zilko*	<b>2011</b> Jeff Becker Dan Keeley Gene Martin Kristen Conklin-Sullivan Shulton Whitley † Wilbur "Web" Wanamaker*	<b>2021</b> Emil Willis Jr.* Bob Willis Tom Lawson 1971 North Rockland High School Football Team
<b>1978</b> Jim Brown* Harold "Hale" DeChelfin* Jim Faulk* Ira Shuttleworth* Jim Schnaars Nick Mottola*	<b>1989</b> Ralph Consiglio* Patty Dillon Solliday Vincent "Dugan" Kovalsky* Frank Nelson* Bob Wolff*	<b>2001</b> George Dalzell Gerald D'Auria* Seth Joyner Tod Giles* Debbie Grant Bill White	<b>2012</b> Marcel Cooper John Diffley Tom McTaggart Dennis O'Sullivan Dawn Sugrue Victor Veltidi Dan Sullivan*	<b>2022</b> Phil Consiglio Will Cunnane Wilbur Eschen George "Doc" Leitner Jose Saint-Victor Charlie White †† Margaret "Babs" Stead 1954 Tappan Zee High School Cross Country Team 1972 New City Little League 1991-1992 Suffern High School Hockey Team
<b>1979</b> Bob Bacheller* Frank Cosentino* Harry "Dee" Dembnicki Jerry Hollahan* Bob Grossman* E.J. Maurer* Bruno Albondi*	<b>1990</b> Denise McGuire Guy Guccione Abe Schuster Robert "Red" Schassler* Don Clancy*	<b>2002</b> Ken Harniman* Derrick Lassic Norinne Powers Kris Snider Dick Teetsel* Walt Weiss	<b>2013</b> Keith Bulluck Khyl Farrison Gary Gray Bud Kast* Mike Rotundo* Jodi Schlesinger Salsberg Ed Wanamaker †† Vic Alfieri Sr.* Ernie Capobianco* Vic Alfieri Jr. Deer Head Inn & Softball Tournament	<b>2023</b> Lance Arietta* Dave Billings Mary Brechbiel-Agnetti Heidi Higgins-Sermabekian Shawn Kapusinsky Kimberly McDole-Gordon Jim Scaringe †† Joseph M. Famellette 1969 -70 Clarkstown High School Boys' Basketball Team 1993 North Rockland High School Football Team
<b>1980</b> Dr. Jeffrey Munson Art Orlando* Brit Paterson* Nick Ryder Horace Tyrus Emil Willis* Mickey Wittman*	<b>1991</b> Steve Drummond* Lew Brundage* Johnny Burns* Pete Haubner Ethel Doller* Dominic Gamboli*	<b>2003</b> Genny Mulderig Allard Jeff Bryant Peter Hackett* David Hirsch Bill Kurisko †† Joe Grasso* † Charles "Jumbo" Strack*	<b>2014</b> Rick Carey Tom DePatto* Don Fischer Ed Kolakowski* Lorraine Moylan Richard Schumacher* Thaddeus Wilson †† Al Witt*	
<b>1981</b> Art Hopper* Frank Horan Howard Johnson Lester Lepori* Walter Ostrom Victor Shankey* Bill Yuda*	<b>1992</b> Murray Olderman* Jerome Bonomolo Joseph "Biscuit" Picarello* Dale Lydecker John Mercurio	<b>2004</b> Jim Gallo Dave Hanson Joan Neuendorf Nancy Rosenfeld Lewis Ed Rubbert Frank Samoylo	<b>2015</b> Joe Clinton Bob Corvino Jennifer Feeney Lovell Ed Matott* Bob Nadal* Lintz Rivera Adams Homer Wanamaker †† Nick Picarello*	
<b>1982</b> Frank DePatto* Tony Gamboli, Jr.. Bill Perry* George Jakowenko Ed McGrath*	<b>1993</b> Jim Kane* Kathy Miller Dapolito Jay Bohnel Mike Deane Don Driscoll	<b>2005</b> Jane Ronner-Beckley Mike Carroll* Tom Doherty Jamie Kempton Lee Klepper †† Leon Pesner* Rudolph Rejholec*	<b>2016</b> Virgilio Hernandez Buster Keyes, Jr. Joe McGuinness* Ron Morgan* Katherine Nowell Steve Silverberg Linda Soto John Stephens †† Michael Coffey*	
<b>1983</b> Warren Austin* Jim Brechbiel Frank Dawson* Jeanette Paddock Walter Sickles*	<b>1994</b> Hubert Nealy* Martin "Hawk" Jacobs* Joe Goldsmith Tom Collins Ron Tellefsen*	<b>2006</b> Tony Harlin Jon Hess Jim Pollard John Scanlan Jeff Van Wie John Van Wyck*		
<b>1984</b> Jim Ashcroft Marvin Branche* Ralph Cordisco* Bryan Hassett Bob Tierney*	<b>1995</b> Ron Edwards* Walter "Red" Levy Max Talaska* Joe Klopchin* Joe McDowell* Paul Urban*	<b>2007</b> Julius D'Agostino* John Flaherty Barbara Hebel Robert Neuendorf Richard "Dixie" Reilly* †† Dan White*		

\* Denotes Deceased

† Old-Timers' Special Award

†† Joe Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

# Jean CARY

## PEARL RIVER HIGH SCHOOL Coach

Jean Cary arrived at Pearl River High School in 1969 after a four-year stint teaching physical education at her alma mater, River Dell High School in Oradell, N.J. When Title IX was passed in 1972, prohibiting gender discrimination at institutions receiving federal funding, a new era dawned in women's athletics on the high school and college levels. Jean Cary was in the right place at the right time, building programs in softball and girls' soccer that would make Pearl River a perennial contender for more than two decades.

Serving as head coach of both sports for 22 seasons, Jean retired in 1996 with the Rockland County record for most career coaching victories in both girls' soccer (224) and softball (293). Her soccer teams won Rockland County Public School Athletic League (RCPSAL) titles in 1973, 1975 and 1979, and six sectional Class B crowns – two in Section 9 (1979, 1980) and four in Section 1 (1985, 1988, 1991, 1994). In softball, her teams won three Section 9 Class B championships (1977, 1979, 1980), one Rockland PSAL flag (1980), and two league titles (1989, 1994). As a point of reference, RCPSAL championships were eliminated in team sports in 1983.

### Pioneer, Champion of Women's Sports

Formal interscholastic competition in girls' sports was still a dream when Jean began coaching at Pearl River in the mid-1970s. Extramurals and "play days" were the norm, in which a few neighboring schools got together informally to play exhibition games and enjoy social activities. Jean was a leading advocate for giving girls "equal opportunity to play against other schools, like the boys did," she says. Those play days were the steppingstone to the organized and sanctioned league competition that scholastic athletes take for granted today.

"There is no question in my mind," wrote Tom Doherty, the former Pearl River coach and athletic director, "that Pearl River High School now enjoys unparalleled success in girls' sports through the efforts of Jean and Athletic Director Max Talaska," who was a 1995 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame inductee.

### A Natural in Softball, Quick Learner in Soccer

Softball was the sport that Jean first fell in love with. As a 9-year-old, she learned to pitch from her dad, who instructed her in the fundamentals. He would come home from his job in New York City each evening and, on the dirt road where the family lived in Oradell, allow Jean to pitch a simulated



game, with him calling balls and strikes. Jean developed into an exceptional right-handed windmill pitcher, playing at River Dell, Montclair State College (where she also captained the basketball team) and as an adult, primarily in a league sponsored by the Town of Orangetown Recreation Department, directed by Joe Emmert. For her outstanding play, Jean was inducted into the Rockland County Softball Hall of Fame in 1996.

Jean had not been a soccer player but was familiar with the sport. When Pearl River's first girls' soccer coach, Barbara Cole, opted to leave coaching to join the U.S. Marine Corps, Jean applied for the position and was hired by Max Talaska. She learned soccer tactics and strategies from Pearl River boys' coaches Gus Filter and Larry Ruderman, and began to assemble the makings of a successful program. Jean cultivated a crop of talented players throughout her 22-year tenure in both soccer and softball, and recalls with fondness integral players such as Dawn Galvin, Denise Murphy, Jamie Renella, Christine Grommisch, Noreen Annunziata, Cathy Pearn, Kelly Gorman, and pitcher Cathy Marsico.

### Trusted Aides, Fellowship of Coaches

Coaches cannot succeed without the help of their valued coaching staff, and Jean was no exception. Her trusted confidants on the sidelines included Mary Mulderig, the JV softball coach; Alisa Ehrenman, the JV soccer coach; Marilyn Falt, the middle school soccer coach; Eleni Kousoulas, assistant coach; and scorekeeper Jo Mosella.

The camaraderie of the Rockland coaching fraternity is something Jean cherished greatly. She paid tribute to coaches such as Dave Powers of Nanuet, Pauline

Capobianco of Clarkstown North and South, and Tony Boffa of Nyack, among others. “Everything changed when we went across the river,” she says, referring to Rockland’s mid-1980s athletic realignment from Section 9 to Section 1, grouped with schools based east of the Hudson. “We were very close-knit all together in Rockland.”

#### **Outside the Lines, Making an Impact**

Jean, a 1963 Montclair State College graduate, taught physical education at Pearl River from 1969 to 1996. Aside from her coaching duties, which included cheerleading in the winter, Jean played integral roles in other supporting activities. She was founder of Pearl River High School’s annual Girls and Women in Sports Day, which was celebrated in a ceremony at halftime of a home girls’ basketball game. Carmen Roberts, the former longtime athletic secretary, was the first recipient to be honored. The tradition that Jean started is still going strong, as the Girls and Women in Sports Day continues each year at Pearl River.

Jean was chairperson and a longtime member of the Section 1 Girls’ Fall Soccer Committee, as well as a longtime member of the Section 9 soccer and softball committees and the Section 1 softball committee. She also was the area representative for the selection of the New York State Physical Education and Athletics Award, known as the Dorothea Dietz Memorial Scholarship.

#### **Retirement: Touring the Country, Settling in Tucson**

Upon retirement in 1996, Jean and her husband Fred purchased a fifth wheel camper and traveled around the country “meeting wonderful people” at RV campgrounds

and throughout their travels. Fred, her husband of 42 years, died in 2008 at age 69. The following year, Jean purchased a house in Tucson, Arizona, adjacent to the RV campground where she and Fred had spent winters since retirement. She continues to live there, taking advantage of the campground complex’s wealth of amenities and activities, playing tennis, enjoying its restaurants and theater, and attending church services.

Jean, who is 82, has become an ardent fan of the athletics program at the University of Arizona, which is based in Tucson. She has season tickets to the softball, women’s basketball and men’s basketball teams, and doesn’t mind telling you about the Wildcats’ softball team’s championship at the final Pac-12 tournament, and what a shame it is that the Pac-12 Conference is disbanding.

Jean has one son – Sean, 56, an Albertus Magnus graduate. Sean and his wife, Rachell, live in Jennings, Florida. They have two adult children, Jean’s grandkids – William and Georgia.

Fun fact: One of Jean’s classmates at River Dell H.S. was Bill Parcells, the ex-Giants coach, with whom she still stays in touch. Fun fact No. 2: Jean’s uncles were card-playing buddies with Vince Lombardi, who coached at St. Cecilia’s High School in nearby Englewood, NJ.

Jean is a charter member of the Rockland County Coaches Association’s Century Club – signifying 100 victories or more – in both softball and soccer. She was inducted into the Pearl River High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2003.

Congratulations to one of the finest coaches in Pearl River and Rockland sports annals, Mrs. Jean Cary.



*Congratulations, Jean!*

# Jim ESCHEN

## SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1967

Coming from a family that produced two major league baseball players, Jim Eschen had large shoes to fill but certainly gilded the family legacy with a solid 10-year pro baseball career reaching the Triple-A level and starring at Double-A. A standout two-sport athlete at Suffern High School and All-ACC shortstop at Wake Forest, Jim returned to pro ball almost a decade after his last game as a player to manage, coach and scout in the Mets minor-league farm system.

Jim enters the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame just two years after his father, Wil Eschen – his baseball coach at Suffern – was inducted posthumously into the Hall. Jim’s grandfather, James “Jimbo” Eschen, played in 15 games for the Cleveland Indians in the 1915 season, and his uncle, Larry Eschen, played briefly for the Philadelphia Athletics in the 1942 season.

Jim (also known as Jimmy) played for seven years in the Detroit Tigers organization and three years in the Kansas City Royals system. A switch-hitting middle infielder, Jim thrived during his five seasons in AA ball. He played his final three years with Kansas City Double-A affiliate Jacksonville in the Southern League. His best year was the 1979 campaign when, batting in the No. 3 spot in the lineup, he was among the league leaders in batting (.290), hit 8 home runs and drove in 70 runs in just 370 at-bats, and was team MVP. During that season Jim was called upon to play six different positions – second base, shortstop, third base and all three outfield positions. “I thought I would be a utility infielder that year,” Jim recalls. “I was 28 and there were quite a few young prospects coming up. But we were hit with a lot of injuries, so I became a ‘regular irregular’ and played all those positions.”

As a scrappy leadoff hitter, Jim earned MVP honors in the 1975 Southern League playoffs, leading the Tigers’ AA affiliate Montgomery to the league championship. The following season he was promoted to AAA Evansville and played in 132 games as the team’s starting second baseman. At the highest rung in the minor-league ladder, one step below the majors, Jim acquitted himself well, stealing 21 bases, drawing 81 walks, striking out just 29 times in 547 plate appearances, and finishing with a .366 on-base percentage. He played for Evansville during the 1976 and 1977 seasons, and finished his last three years at Jacksonville. Among the many highlights of his minor league career was playing two seasons for future MLB Hall



of Fame manager Jim Leyland (“a great guy to play for”), at Class A Clinton in 1973 and Class AA Montgomery in 1974.

### Budding Star at Suffern

Jim developed his athletic skills on the playing fields of his native Suffern. He was a three-year starter for his dad on the baseball team, playing second base as a sophomore and shortstop his last two years. Jim batted over .300 during his varsity tenure, helped lead the Mounties to the RCPSAL co-championship (with Clarkstown) in 1966, and made All-County shortstop both years, second team as a junior and first team as a senior. He also served as Suffern’s team captain in ‘67. The championship team of ‘66 rode the strong right arm of senior Clyde “Rocky” Powell, who pitched every game against the Rockland teams, posting a 10-4 record. The following season, “without Rocky Powell we fell back to 8-6 and were losing some close, high-scoring games,” Jim remembers.

In basketball, Jim’s scoring wizardry came to full fruition. A 5-foot-11 shooting guard, he attained his ambitious goal of leading the RCPSAL in scoring his senior year, averaging 20.4 points per game. The highlight for Jim was pouring in 31 points in back-to-back games against Pearl River and County co-champ Spring Valley. He sank 18 straight free throws in the Pearl River game and sported an 87.5% shooting percentage (112 of 128) at the charity stripe. Jim was duly recognized for his hoops mastery as a unanimous first-team All-County selection and being named to The Daily News All-Star team for metropolitan New York.



Having been a two-year starter and captain his senior season, Jim helped engineer a turnaround from a 4-10 team in 1965-66 to a competitive 8-6 club in 1966-67, Suffern's first winning record in several years. The Mounties went 6-1 at home, bowing only to powerful Clarkstown. "Teams didn't like coming to Suffern to play," he says. "We had a small gym and it was always packed with full crowds. It was a fun atmosphere to play in." Jim noted that a bevy of juniors from that 1966-67 squad came back the following season to lead Suffern to the RCPSAL title. Bobby Short, Randy Vilord and Dave Shuart were among those returning juniors who carried the momentum of the previous year forward.

#### **Diamond Dandy for the Demon Deacons**

After graduating from Suffern, Jim headed south to attend Wake Forest University and get a taste of the high-octane competition in the Atlantic Coast Conference against the likes of Duke, North Carolina and North Carolina State, among others. Although he wasn't offered a scholarship upon enrollment, Jim earned one with his notable two-way play, excelling at third base as a sophomore and junior and making All-ACC shortstop as a senior, when he was also the Demon Deacons team captain. Jim got his opportunity at short when his predecessor, future major leaguer Craig Robinson, was drafted by the Phillies. The Eschen connection at Wake Forest expanded in Jim's senior year, 1971, when his younger brother Richie made the team as a freshman. Like Jim, Rich later received All-ACC acclaim, as a third baseman.

Jim's basketball career at Wake Forest was short-lived but he did get to play briefly with a pair of future NBA players in Charlie Davis and Gilbert McGregor. Jim's freshman season was cut short after just four games due to an emergency appendectomy. He then decided to concentrate his athletic pursuits on baseball.

While attending Wake Forest, Jim spent two summers playing for the Yarmouth (Mass.) Red Sox in the Cape Cod Baseball League for collegians. The highlight of his stint there was making the 1970 all-star team and playing against the Atlantic Collegiate Baseball League (ACBL) all-stars at Yankee Stadium. "We played before the Yankee game that night," Jim recalls. "We went into the locker room, the dressing room. Playing in Yankee Stadium was a thrill."

#### **Teaching and Coaching in Jacksonville**

Jim graduated from Wake Forest with a bachelor's degree in history, with a minor in mathematics. After retiring from baseball, he put his undergraduate degree to good use, teaching geography and world history (along with some math) for close to 30 years at a pair of high schools in Jacksonville, Fla. – Wolfson and Mandarin. At Wolfson, Jim coached numerous sports, including baseball, girls' basketball and boys' basketball. His baseball teams went 163-89 over nine seasons, including the district and conference championship team of 1985, when Jim was named district, conference and city Coach of the Year. During his six-year run as girls' basketball coach, his teams went 84-46, and won two district titles and one regional crown.

#### **Meet the Mets, Meet the Mets...**

After teaching and coaching for nine years at Wolfson, Jim took a break from academia to accept a managing position in the Mets' minor-league system. He compiled a 78-71 record over two seasons, the first year (1989) at Kingsport, Tenn., in the summer collegiate Appalachian League, and the second at Pittsfield, Mass., in the Class A New York-Penn League. He led Pittsfield to a second-place finish that season. Jim managed future major leaguers Jeromy Burnitz, Alberto Castillo, Kyle Washington, and Pete Walker. Jim followed up his two-year managerial stint with a one-year assignment as third base coach for future major league manager Clint Hurdle at Williamsport in the AA Eastern League. He completed his tenure with the Mets as a scout in the AA Southern League, scouting all 10 teams in that circuit.

Jim, who is 74, moved to Jacksonville with his wife, Nancy, when he began his pro baseball career some 52 years ago. They loved the area so much that they never left. Nancy continues to work as a math professor at Florida State College at Jacksonville, while Jim enjoys playing golf – including with several of his former baseball players at Wolfson who live in town – and works part-time at a local country club. The Eschens have two children – Brian, 42, and Stephanie, 40 – along with three granddaughters and one grandson, ages 11, 9, 9 and 7.

A Suffern High School Hall of Fame recipient in 2010, Jim Eschen joins the Class of 2024 in the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. Bravo, Jim!



*Congratulations, Jim!*

# Scott FINLAY

## NYACK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1974

Few Rocklanders have wielded a lacrosse stick as artfully as Scott Finlay. Winning face-offs, beating goalies from every conceivable angle, setting up teammates with precision passes – Scott exerted his dominance on the field at Nyack High School and Army West Point en route to a record-setting, Hall of Fame career.

Scott is just the third athlete whose primary sport is lacrosse to be enshrined in the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. He was preceded by 2002 inductee Kris Snider, Suffern class of 1974, who dueled with Scott multiple times during some epic Nyack-Suffern clashes from 1972 to '74; and Jon Hess, Nyack class of 1994, who was inducted in 2006.

In the fall Scott toiled on the gridiron as a middle linebacker and kicker for Nyack's football team, meriting honorable mention All-Rockland County notice in his senior season. The winter found him zipping up and down local hockey rinks for three years on the Nyack varsity. He was a major contributor to the Indians' 1973-74 Hudson Valley Hockey League championship team and filled in admirably as goalie the last three games of his junior year, posting two shutouts.

### Lighting It Up in Lacrosse

The springtime heralded the arrival of lacrosse season, when Scott's talents shone brightest. He was a three-time All-County midfielder (center middle) who attained high school All-America status his senior year, when he led Nyack to the RCPSAL co-championship with archrival Suffern. During that season, Scott, a tri-captain, won more than 80 percent of his faceoffs and set a league record with 29 goals. His long-distance goal, reportedly shot from 40 yards downfield, sealed Nyack's 7-5 victory over Suffern and helped clinch the PSAL co-championship. Nyack finished the season at 15-2.

Scott established a Rockland County record for career goals with 109, a mark since broken, and wound up with 141 points (goals plus assists). In the All-County article in *The Journal-News* at that time, Nyack Coach John Whisker lauded him for his leadership and scoring capabilities: "He has great moves out front and the best shot in the league. He made our offense go."

Believe it or not, Scott originally intended to spend his spring seasons with a pole-vaulter's pole in his hands rather than a lacrosse stick. But when classmate Russ Frazier introduced him to the wooden stick with cat-gut side walls and a lacrosse



ball during a study hall in the old Nyack H.S. auditorium their freshman year, Scott was hooked. "Just messing with that stick for a few minutes changed everything," says Scott, who showed up with Russ for lacrosse practice that day at Nyack's Hilltop Junior High.

### Harking Back to a Golden Era

The memories of his high school lacrosse days are vivid and plentiful. He savors the bonds forged on the playing fields, some that carry forth to this day, with teammates such as Ken Gray, Bill Sterns, Brian Perry, Paul Matrafalio, Nestor Nestoros, and future brother-in-law John Sommi. He recalls the first game his then-girlfriend and future wife Veronica saw him play: opening game, senior year, under the lights at Nyack's MacCalman Field. All he did was torch the nets for eights goals against an All-America goalie in a 13-4 victory over Sleepy Hollow.

Scott also remembers the keen competition with Suffern, the perennial County PSAL and Section 9 champion piloted by Hall of Fame coach John Orlando and powered by attackman Kris Snider, who later starred at the University of Virginia. At Nyack, Scott was the beneficiary of first-rate mentorship from head coach John Whisker and assistant Alan Pesner. "Coach Whisker encouraged me to impose my will on the game," says Scott, who stands 5-foot-11 and weighed 185 to 190 pounds in high school. "As I entered my senior year he said he needed me to shoot the ball more. He gave me the green light. He also encouraged me to play at the next level."

### Bound For Greatness at West Point

That next level turned out to be the United States Military Academy at West Point, which fielded a highly competitive Division I lacrosse program. Coach Orlando had coached at Army and proved influential with the Army coaching staff during Scott's recruitment. Scott led the Black Knights in scoring all four years, was never held scoreless, and finished his career as West Point's all-time leader in goals and total points. He rifled in 140 goals and amassed 186 points in 46 games, an average of more than 4 points a game. His career goal-scoring record stood for 35 years, not toppled until 2013.

As an attackman for Army lacrosse, Scott made third team All-America in both his junior and senior years. He was honored to receive the 1978 Richard Seth Award, as the player designated by a vote of the U.S. Naval Academy's lacrosse squad to be its most outstanding opponent. Scott was also named MVP of the 1978 North-South All-Star Game, scoring four goals and three assists, to become the only Army player ever to earn that distinction. Another source of pride was his selection as a starter in the 1979 Superstars of Lacrosse Game at Johns Hopkins' Homewood Field, a contest that pitted all-star units from college and club circuits. He tallied three goals and two assists and scored the first goal of the game on a fast break off the opening faceoff.

Scott and his class of '78 teammates were instrumental in reversing Army's lagging fortunes after the Black Knights captured the national championship in 1970 and made the national semifinals in '71. When Dick Edell assumed head coaching duties in 1977, Army re-established itself among the nation's elite programs. The team finished with a No. 9 national ranking that season, just missing the eight-team NCAA tournament despite edging Princeton 9-7 in the last game of the season, sparked by Scott's 5 goals and 1 assist. He racked up 43 goals and 17 assists in 11 games to lead the attack. The following year Army rose to No. 5 nationally and made the NCAA tournament, losing in the quarterfinals to No. 4 Navy, 16-13. Scott poured in 49 goals and had 21 assists in 13 games in the '78 campaign. [Edell later retired from the coaching ranks as No. 5 in career victories in Division I lacrosse and a two-time Div. I Coach of the Year. He died in 2018.]

### Honoring A Military Commitment & Transitioning to Private Industry

In his fifth year at the academy, Scott took advantage of an opportunity to serve as an assistant coach to Coach Edell. However, the administration would not approve his early return from a European assignment to resume coaching until he completed his initial five-year obligation. He had already been accepted into the Army Flight School Program, so he left coaching behind and attended the Rotary Wing Flight Training Program. Stationed in Fulda, West Germany, Scott commanded two aviation companies as part of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment's Combat Aviation Squadron. The squad's mission was to perform daily aerial reconnaissance of about 230 miles of the border between East and West Germany.

Scott, who earned a Bachelor of Science, General Engineering degree from West Point, resigned his commission in 1986 and accepted a position with Lehman Brothers Investment Bank. At Lehman he eventually rose to Managing Director responsible for all risk equity trading for U.S. markets. Concurrent with that role, he ran a proprietary trading business committing the firm's capital in publicly traded companies, and later operated another proprietary trading business at CIBC Capital Markets. After retiring from the financial markets in 2001, he founded a business in 2003 that is now a healthcare information technology company focused on creating inter-operability between proprietary systems.

Scott, who is 67, lives in Bridgewater, NJ, with his wife of almost 44 years, Veronica. The Finlay family has four children – Kristin, 41; Michelle, 39; Valerie, 34; and Keith, 32 – and five grandchildren. Scott has sincere words of endearment for his high school sweetheart: "My wife Veronica is the best thing that has ever happened to me. She is an amazing woman, a phenomenal wife, friend, sister, mother and grandmother." He noted Veronica has been named Somerset County Woman of the Year and been recognized by several organizations for her contributions to the community.

The acclaim from the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame comes on the heels of Scott's induction into the Nyack High School Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017 and his prior enshrinement into the Hudson Valley Lacrosse Hall of Fame. Welcome to the RCSHOF Class of 2024, Scott Finlay!



*Congratulations, Scott!*

CELEBRATING OUR 51<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SPORTS EXCELLENCE

# Kurt LUNDGREN

## **NANUET HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1979**

Other than a three-year break for law school, Kurt Lundgren pitched from the time he was an 11-year-old Nanuet Little Leaguer until 2006 when, at age 45, a recurring arm injury shut down his sturdy right arm for good.

That means Kurt pitched competitively for more than 30 years, through a banner career at Nanuet, Columbia University, the Mets minor-league system and various semi-pro leagues. It means tens of thousands of darting fastballs and dancing knuckle-curves. It also reflects an unbridled passion for the game that never was extinguished.

"I always loved playing baseball," Kurt says simply. "I never wanted to stop."

### **Golden Reign as a Golden Knight**

Success followed every stop along the Lundgren express. The slender right-hander with the curly blond locks fashioned a reputation as arguably the premier pitcher in Golden Knights history. He was Rockland Player of the Year in 1979, when he went 11-1 with a minuscule 0.89 ERA, losing only to Ramapo – a loss that still stings to this day. He also pitched the Section 9 championship-clinching victories for the Knights in 1977 and '79, and was the staff ace in 1978, going 9-2 to help lead Nanuet to a share of the County championship. He won 26 and lost only 4 in his three years on varsity, and was a two-time Daily News All-Star and first-team All-County honoree.

"Kurt was the best pitcher I ever had, and I had some good ones," said Rich Loughlin, Nanuet's head coach from 1969 to 1982. "He had a sneaky fastball and a knuckle-curve that dropped off the table. He was smart and had a great temperament. He was unflappable."

### **Roaring for the Columbia Lions**

At Columbia, playing for sub-.500 teams, Kurt won more than one-third of the team's games over four years, set school records for strikeouts in a season (90) and career (270), was Ivy League and Eastern Collegiate Baseball League (ECBL) Pitcher of the Year in 1983, and first-team All-ECBL for two years. He also was the starting pitcher in an all-star game at Yankee Stadium pitting the best Division I collegians from New York against New Jersey. Kurt pitched three perfect innings and caught the eye of a gaggle of scouts.

### **Pro Career with the Mets**

After two seasons of playing in the Cape Cod Summer Baseball League, the top-regarded league of its kind in



the country, Kurt signed with the Mets as a free agent upon graduation from Columbia (with a degree in English literature) in 1983.

He spent five years in the Mets organization, the last three for Class AA Jackson in Mississippi. His best year was 1985, when he went 8-4 with a 3.21 ERA to earn Pitcher of the Year honors for the Jackson Mets.

"My time in the minors was awesome. Most of the stars on the Mets roster through the '80s came up with me, or I with them," Kurt says, citing players like Darryl Strawberry, Dwight Gooden, Lenny Dykstra, Dave Magadan, Kevin Elster, Randy Myers and Rick Aguilera, the latter two being his roommates at various times.

Pitch counts were non-existent in high school and college in Kurt's day, and the accumulation of innings finally took their toll. Kurt underwent rotator cuff surgery in 1986 and saw the speed of his fastball plummet from the low 90-mile-per-hour range to the low 80s. Unable to perform at his best, Kurt retired from pro ball after the 1987 season and, after working for a year, enrolled in the Mississippi College School of Law in Jackson.

### **Getting Back in the Game**

When he opted to come back to New York to take the bar exam after graduating from law school in 1992, a friend contacted him about playing in a league in Connecticut for players 28 or older. While testing out his arm, Kurt made a



surprising discovery: “I thought, ‘I can throw again without pain.’ Suddenly I was back to normal and I could have fun again.”

Given a new lease on his baseball life, Kurt re-indulged his passion, playing in several semi-pro leagues at once, some of them age-restricted and others unlimited. He counts among his baseball highlights the 1997 national championship and 1998 national runner-up finish in the Over-28 league, playing on a squad with former Rockland players including ex-Nanuet teammates.

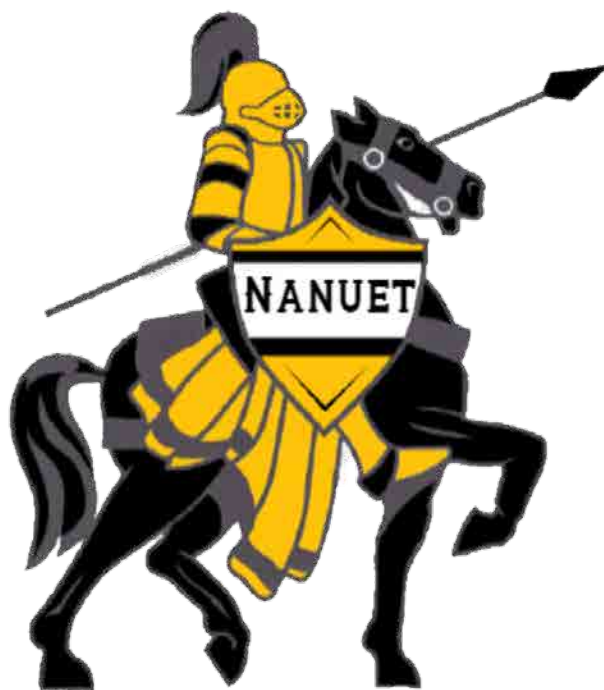
#### **Fond Recollections of Nanuet**

When he unwinds the memory reel to his days in a Nanuet uniform, Kurt remembers his double duty pitching on the freshman team and playing shortstop for the JV at the same time – “I had a game every day that season, I never had to practice. It was wonderful.” He remembers being brought up to the varsity during his sophomore year and spending the next three seasons in the privileged company of many fine players: shortstop John Panaro (“the best high school player I ever saw”), fellow pitching ace Lou Klass (“he claims responsibility for teaching me the knuckle-curve”), the Rodish twins – Tom in centerfield and Bill behind the plate – left-hander Jim Kavakis, outfielder/catcher Gary Bonomolo, first baseman Tony Bloise, outfielder Steve Pizzuti, and many others.

Kurt abundantly praises the Nanuet system and coaches who nurtured him along and cultivated his talent, from the late Rich Conklin, his freshman coach (“an outstanding athlete himself at Nanuet and a tremendous coach”) to JV coach Jerry Bonomolo (“a father figure who gave me a lot of confidence”) to varsity coach Loughlin. “Coach Loughlin instilled in me a sense of discipline and toughness. He made us believe in ourselves, that as a small school we could stand up to the big boys.”

Kurt, who’s 63, stayed connected to baseball as a volunteer pitching coach for Clarkstown North under head coach and longtime friend Mike Pisano, for a period of seven or eight years ending in 2011. Kurt has also achieved professional success as an attorney and has been a partner for 20 years in Thwaites Lundgren & D’Arcy (formerly Thwaites & Lundgren), a commercial litigation firm in Harrison, N.Y. He lives in New City with his wife of almost 28 years, Teresa. They have two sons, Christopher, 26, and Alec, 21. Chris expects to graduate this spring from the Nursing program at RCC, and Alec is completing his senior year at SUNY Binghamton.

Kurt was enshrined in the Nanuet High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2008. Today we recognize him along with the other Class of 2024 inductees into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. Congratulations, Kurt!



*Congratulations, Kurt!*

# Mike SCHROER

## CLARKSTOWN SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1992

Rockland County has been home to a rich vein of 800-meter champions, from Paul Nowicki and Mike Hagon to Jeff Van Wie, Paul Joyce and others. In the early 1990s, that royal line of succession passed through the portals of Clarkstown South, where Mike Schroer earned and proudly wore the vestments of two-lap greatness. His high school exploits were but the first step in a career marked by collegiate and open success that brought him farther than any other Rockland half-miler to date.

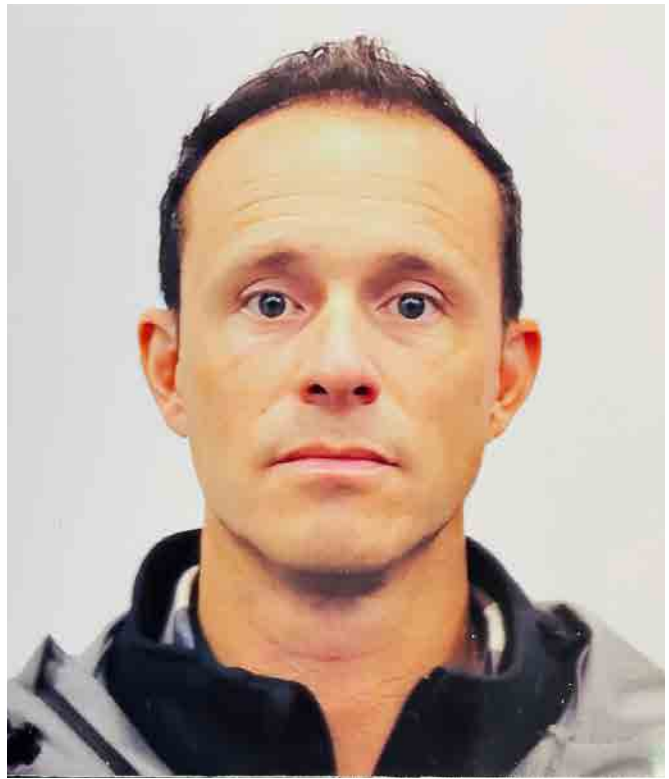
At South, Mike was dubbed “the wild mongoose” by Coach Ray Kondracki for his wiry 6-foot-1, 150-pound frame, ground-eating strides and untamed racing style. He eventually refined the rough edges and catapulted to national prominence, winning the 1992 national indoor scholastic 800 title in 1:52.55, at the time the second-fastest clocking ever in New York State. He also was the national outdoor bronze medalist in 1:51.78, a six-time State runner-up in the 800, 1,000 and 4x400 relay, and the fastest U.S. schoolboy in 1992 indoors in the 600 (then-County record 1:21.09), 800 (1:52.55) and 1,000 (2:29.8).

Moving on to Georgetown, Mike claimed Division I All-American status no less than eight times. Keynoting a powerful Hoyas squad that swept an unprecedented four straight IC4A indoor crowns and six Big East titles, Mike ran on the 1997 Penn Relays-winning 4x800 and the school record 4x400 (3:04.96). He also advanced to the quarterfinals of the 1996 U.S. Olympic Trials in the 800 and clocked a personal best of 1:47.86, fastest by a Rockland collegian outdoors.

### A Run to Glory as Pro & Masters Racer

Act Three of the Schroer athletic story played out over the ensuing four years, when he chased times and records as a professional runner. How good was Mike as a pro? Good enough to make the 800 semifinals of the 2000 Olympic Trials, arguably the world’s best track meet outside of the Olympics themselves. Good enough to author a 1:46.54 outdoor 800 in 1999, faster than any Rocklander has ever run. And good enough to place fifth in the 2000 U.S. indoor nationals and run a 1:48.23 split on the second-fastest indoor 4x800, 7:14.78, as a member of the Reebok Enclave track club.

After a nine-year hiatus, Mike returned to the track world with a flourish in 2010. Competing in the age 35-to-39 Sub-Masters category, he won the 2011 U.S. indoor and World outdoor championships and sheared his 800-meter time down to 1:53.1 on a relay leg – just missing his goal of running as fast as he



did at 17 years old. “I was extremely happy that I only slowed down four-tenths of a second in 20 years,” he quips. He also sped a 1:54.7 split on a 4x800 unit that set a world record, 7:55.67, for the 35-39 age group, and turned the quarter-mile in 50.4, not all that far from his all-time best split of 46.3.

### Initiation Into Track, Good Vibes at South

Mike’s initiation into running was humbling, to say the least. He joined the cross country team at Felix Festa Middle School and consistently finished last in his races, “but I loved being outdoors,” he says. Then he and friend Jason Shanahan signed up for the spring track team at South and “the rest is history.” Mike was imbued with a hardy work ethic from his dad, Richard, and positively influenced by varsity teammates such as Melvin Keyes, Tom Sullivan, Mark Davis and others. “I saw the ‘perks’ that went with being good so I wanted to become better. Those guys really showed me when to have fun and when to work and that you could be successful doing both in the right time. I really got on board when I found out that I had a chance to go to Penn Relays my sophomore year and I really got going.”

Mike’s memories of his track experience at South are fondly recalled, accented by the inseparable bond he developed with teammates. “They made track so much fun that it was by far the best part of the day,” he says. “I could not wait for the bell to ring so I could get changed and out on the track.” The recollections of that era are many: the Friday night pasta parties before big meets; the non-stop card games with his best buddies; the on-the-track successes like the 4x800 team “coming out of nowhere” to place fourth at the ’91 spring States; the three runner-up finishes at the ’91 indoor States and South’s

4x400 dominance his junior and senior years; and, of course, the continual support of his mom, Trish, who attended all his races.

But two accomplishments stand out above all others: his indoor national 800 crown as a senior at South; and South's 1991 spring County championship, the team's first under Coach Kondracki, then in his fifth year at the helm. "He deserved it because I feel at that time that was the highest award for a coach to show what a tremendous team [he] had built," Mike says. "Being able to put aside individual glory for a team effort was developed by Kondracki and has served me tremendously all these years."

#### **Applying Lessons Learned to Coaching Assignments**

That notion of sacrificing for the greater good and other values learned under Coach Kondracki were put to use when Mike decided to enter the coaching ranks himself after completing his collegiate and pro careers. At the Potomac School in McLean, Va., he turned an underachieving track team into the dominant program in the league, winning five outdoor league titles in seven years (2001-2008), one girls' state team championship and two runner-up finishes, and earning 2007 Coach of the Year honors for boys' spring track. In cross country, he coached a male and female individual state champ and a girls' All-America performer, and in indoor track piloted a girls' state team champion and runner-up. In addition to "building programs out of nothing," Mike considers his proudest achievement to be instilling "that love of running into anybody that walked onto my track."

He followed up his Potomac tenure with a successful two-year stint as assistant coach at the Seoul American High School in South Korea, where his then-wife, Amy Ross-Schroer, an Army medical doctor, was first stationed after her residency. [They are no longer married.] Mike became the first assistant coach to win Far East Coach of the Year honors in cross country.

Mike and his family returned stateside in June 2010, settling in Columbia, SC. By that time he was five months into his

rejuvenated career as a track athlete, this time on the Sub-Masters level. "I always made sure to stay in decent shape so I could rabbit workouts for my athletes that I coached," he says. "Plus, I always wanted to be able to show them what an 'old' man could do." While in Korea he received a call from a friend who was assembling a 4x800 squad at the Colonial Relays in Virginia that April. Since he had planned a house-hunting trip in the southeastern U.S. the same week, he agreed to get into racing shape and wound up snapping off a 1:54.7 relay carry, far faster than the 2:01 he was asked to run.

#### **Heading West to California**

After a three-year stay in South Carolina, Mike lived in Alabama for six months, then moved to northern California, where he currently resides in the town of Arcata. Mike serves as senior risk analyst (a fiscal officer position) in the Human Resources department for the County of Humboldt. He earned an MBA from Humboldt State University (now Cal Poly Humboldt) in 2016. Prior to that, Mike received a master's degree in teaching, with a focus on secondary education, from American University in 1999, and a bachelor's degree in history and government from Georgetown.

Mike has dabbled in Masters track events over the past 10 years, competing mostly in relays like the 4x200 and 4x400, and performing in high-profile meets such as the Penn Relays and the indoor and outdoor Masters nationals. He is looking forward to his 50th birthday on April 29, when he'll be eligible for the next age category. If he resumes competition he would likely run the 400 and 4x400, hoping to latch on with his former club team, the Dallas-based Southwest Sprinters.

Mike has two children, Elizabeth, 19, and Sebastian, 14. His mom, Trish, moved to California from Rockland a few years ago and lives just minutes away from Mike. His father, Richard, lives in North Carolina.

Now a member of both the Clarkstown South and Rockland County sports halls of fame, Mike Schroer takes his place among the all-time greats in Rockland track and Rockland athletics. Congratulations, Mike!



**CLARKSTOWN SOUTH  
VIKINGS**

*Congratulations, Mike!*

# Kelvin SMITH JR.

**NORTH ROCKLAND HIGH SCHOOL  
CLASS OF 2002**

From North Rockland High School to Syracuse University to the National Football League, Kelvin Smith Jr. represented his school and county with distinction and showed that the brand of football played in the small community of Rockland can stack up favorably with more highly touted hotbeds. Kelvin played four years in the NFL for Miami, Carolina and Dallas as a hard-hitting 6-foot-2, 230-pound inside linebacker.

"I was just a kid from Rockland who had a dream, and the dream came true," says Kelvin, whose dad, Kelvin Sr., also played football for North Rockland.

Although he also ran track and played basketball at North Rockland, Kelvin carved out his largest niche on the gridiron. A three-year varsity performer, he starred on both sides of the ball, most prominently as a linebacker and fullback. By his senior year, he was attracting fervent interest from several Division I college programs, including Maryland, Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Boston College and Rutgers.

As a middle linebacker in the 2001 season, Kelvin made 150 tackles, intercepted six passes, recovered three fumbles, and was known as a fearsome tackler. Offensively, he rushed for more than 700 yards and seven touchdowns. A two-year team captain, Kelvin was named first-team All-New York State and was runner-up for state Player of the Year. Anchored by Kelvin, quarterback Gregg Damon, running back Phil DeCosta (County record 29 TDs) and others, the Red Raiders advanced to the state Class AA championship game before bowing to Webster of suburban Rochester.

## **Reaping Individual and Team Success**

During Kelvin's three years on varsity, North Rockland went 29-3, won two Section 1 large-school titles and advanced to the state tournament twice. He was a two-time, first team All-County linebacker and Rockland and Section 1 Player of the Year as a senior.

Kelvin, also known as KJ, remembers playing in "a lot of big playoff games" for North Rockland, under head coach Joe Casarella and his accomplished coaching staff. Kelvin expressed gratitude for Casarella's guidance. "He really looked out for me, and treated me like family," Kelvin says. "He gave me confidence. I watched him move around with bravado and wanted to move around the same way. He expected greatness [from his players]. He was my biggest influence and supporter."



Track & field was a secondary sport for Kelvin, something he did to stay in shape for football. In his first season with the spring track team, as a junior, he set the school record in the challenging five-event pentathlon, with 3,078 points. He had great respect for Coach Gene Dall, who pushed Kelvin to exceed his limits in events that tested his speed, strength, jumping ability and endurance. Kelvin also played two seasons of basketball as a power forward for Coach Chris Roff.

## **Following the Path to Syracuse**

When it came time to decide on a college, Kelvin accepted a full athletic scholarship to attend Syracuse University, just as his uncle, Keith Bulluck, did. Bulluck starred at Clarkstown North, Syracuse, and during an 11-year NFL career as a linebacker with the Tennessee Titans (10 years) and New York Giants (one year). "He is like a big brother to me," says Kelvin, who is just seven years younger than Keith. "I wanted to follow in his footsteps. I watched him do what he did and wanted to do the same thing when I got the chance." [Bulluck was inducted into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame in 2013.]

Kelvin certainly made his uncle proud, achieving third-team freshman All-America status at linebacker, making the Big East All-Freshman team, and qualifying to travel with the team, one of the only redshirt freshmen to earn that privilege. He was thrust into the role of first-string strong side linebacker during his sophomore year, when the starter tore his ACL in the third quarter of the game against North Carolina. "I was like a deer in the headlights," Kelvin says.



“Now I’m the starter. I’m the youngest guy on the defense.” He knew he belonged when he stopped the Tar Heels’ running back on a trap play at Syracuse’s 1-yard line with a ferocious hit. “I lit him up,” he quips.

Kelvin was switched to inside linebacker when Greg Robinson, the defensive coordinator at Texas, succeeded Paul Pasqualoni as Syracuse head coach before Kelvin’s junior year. “That changed the trajectory of my career,” he says. “I flourished at that position.” As a senior Kelvin made second team All-Big East, earned team MVP honors, and served as a team captain at the East-West Shrine Bowl. In his four seasons with the Orange, Kelvin recorded 191 tackles, 129 assists and five interceptions.

### **Making the Big-Time**

A double major candidate, Kelvin graduated in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sports Management and a Bachelor of Arts in African-American Studies. Thereafter he was selected in the seventh round of the NFL draft by Miami and played two seasons for the Dolphins at inside linebacker. He was reunited with Paul Pasqualoni when the coach was hired as Miami’s defensive coordinator in Kelvin’s second year.

Kelvin played in the final four games of his rookie season, which he called a whirlwind of activity from draft day to the end of the season. Although Miami went just 1-15 that year, he was thrilled to have been drafted and playing alongside two of his football heroes, linebackers Joey Porter and Zach Thomas. “My locker was between these two guys, who I watched my whole life and looked up to.”

The 2008 season got off to a rocky start when Kelvin tore an ACL during a preseason game against Tampa Bay. He was essentially released by Bill Parcells, who was the Dolphins’ vice president of football operations. Kelvin underwent surgery in NYC and rehabbed both there and in Phoenix, Ariz., supervised by physical therapist Brett Fischer, who’s currently the director of player health and performance for the Detroit Lions. “He got my knee back in shape,” Kelvin says. After a seven-month rehab, Kelvin participated in the Giants’ rookie mini-camp in the spring but was cut from the roster before the summer.

Kelvin then latched on with the Carolina Panthers, excelled in their preseason camp and made the squad, playing in three games during the 2009 season with top linebackers such as Jon Beason, Julius Peppers and Thomas Davis.

“Carolina was my favorite team to play for,” he says. “There was a lot of camaraderie.” He also received strong counsel and support from teammate Steve Smith Sr., a wide receiver. “He took me under his wing and looked out for me,” Kelvin says. “He was my ‘brother from another mother.’ The Smiths have to stick together.”

After being released by Carolina in a roster shuffle, Kelvin had a brief stint in Chicago Bears camp, then was picked up by the Cowboys in October 2010 and remained on the practice squad for the rest of the season. He attempted to make the Panthers roster for the 2011 season but hamstring injuries put an end to that quest and effectively ended his pro career.

### **New Horizons: Performance Coaching**

These days Kelvin runs a performance coaching business in Katy, Texas. While living in Woodland Hills, Calif., and employed at Ryan Capretta’s Proactive Sports Performance group, he worked with such marquee athletes as Aaron Rodgers, Clay Matthews, Karl-Anthony Towns, D’Angelo Russell and DeMarcus Cousins. In his own enterprise he has trained a spectrum of clients from former NBA players Kenyon Martin and Al Harrington and ex-NFL star Dante Jones, to high school athletes and young and old alike. He currently also coaches his son’s Pop Warner football team.

Kelvin, who turned 40 in March, resides in Katy with his wife, Jessica; their son, Avery, 10; and daughter, Marley, 4. Kelvin grew up in Spring Valley and attended Spring Valley High School for one year – playing on varsity as a freshman at linebacker and wide receiver – before transferring to North Rockland. His mother, Felicia Avery, died in late December 2011 at age 46. His father, Kelvin Sr., was a longtime resident of Haverstraw and serves as assistant coach for the Red Raiders football team, working with wide receivers.

Kelvin was enshrined in the North Rockland Sports Hall of Fame in 2019. The Red Raiders jersey that he sometimes wears casually around home in Texas has been mistaken for a Texas Tech Red Raiders shirt by acquaintances, but Kelvin is quick to set them straight: “No, North Rockland Red Raiders!”

Now he will have to make room in his trophy case for another induction award, from the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame. Congratulations, Kelvin Smith Jr.!



# *Congratulations, Kelvin!*

CELEBRATING OUR 51<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SPORTS EXCELLENCE

# Dana WILLIAMS

## SPRING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS of 1993

Hall of Fame careers are built on many pillars. For Dana Williams, the main fulcrum was her ability to score and take charge on the basketball court. Spring Valley was fortunate to have the 5-foot-7 point guard orchestrating the hardwood ensemble of Tigers players for four illustrious years.

Dana zipped past the 1,000-point career benchmark during her final varsity season and wound up with 1,328 points, leading Rockland County in scoring during the 1992-93 campaign by averaging 25.5 points per game. She became the first and so far only Spring Valley girls' basketball player to reach the 1,000-point plateau. Dana ranked 10th on the all-time Rockland scoring chart when she accomplished the feat in 1993, and more than 30 years later still ranks in the top 20 on that elite list.

Going out with a flourish, Dana pumped in 36 points and made 20 of 24 free throws in her final regular-season game, a loss to district rival Ramapo. For the season she also averaged a solid 11 rebounds a game, and her scoring prowess made her "a threat from anywhere" on the court, so noted in the Rockland Journal-News write-up on her first-team All-County selection.

A two-time All-County and three-time All-League selection, Dana earned MVP honors in the 1993 Rockland County Senior Showcase by scoring 20 points, including 18 in the second half, to lead the large-schools Conference A team to a 54-52 triumph over Conference B. She also secured MVP honors in the 1990 Pearl River tournament and all-tourney honors in the Pearl River event three other years.

And for those who like to mix and match, here's another impressive stat: Dana is the second-leading scorer in Spring Valley basketball history, male or female, topped only by the 1,463 points scored by Rickey McGill, a 2015 graduate.

### Reaching Goals, Complete Player, Wise Guidance

Breaking the 1,000-point barrier tops Dana's list of career highlights as a Spring Valley Tiger. "That was a goal that I set as a freshman and feel elated that I was able to accomplish it," Dana says, thrilled that her family and friends were on hand to celebrate the milestone. Although scoring was her forte, Dana prided herself on being a well-rounded player who could crash the boards for rebounds, play aggressive defense, distribute the ball effectively as point guard and, most importantly, always be a team player.

Dana's coach at Spring Valley, Steve Schiffman, instilled confidence that she could attain greatness as a high school player. Another coach who had a profound impact on her



basketball career was Willie Worsley, the school's longtime boys' coach who taught Dana the fundamentals of basketball in the CYO league when she was a seventh-grader. He even proved to be somewhat of a sage, predicting from the outset that Dana would be a 1,000-point scorer. "Mr. Worsley was the very first coach that had faith in me as a basketball player," Dana says. "He helped me to build a solid foundation of skills and gain basketball knowledge. He was a phenomenal mentor."

### Track, Cheerleading 'Adventures'

While basketball was the central pillar in the framework of Dana Williams' Hall of Fame career, it was not the only one. She also excelled for the girls' spring track team in the shot put, discus, and on Spring Valley's high-quality sprint relay units such as the 4x100 meters and 4x200 meters. She garnered team MVP honors and gained honorable mention recognition in the four-county Section 1 region during her senior year.

Dana praised her track coach, Jim Pinkston, for his motivational approach in bringing out the best in her athletic ability. "My track experience was phenomenal as it gave me an opportunity to try another sport and different events," she says. "It also helped me to expand my athleticism by increasing my speed, agility and versatility."

Yet another pillar in Dana's foundation of success was her two-year participation as a girls' varsity cheerleader for the football team. Coached by Ms. Denora Harris, Dana had the distinction of serving as team captain her senior year. "It was

a great experience that helped me to improve my flexibility and mobility along with building leadership skills,” she notes.

### **Bouncing into Stardom at Bridgeport**

After graduating from Spring Valley in 1993, Dana enrolled at the University of Bridgeport, Conn., on a full athletic scholarship. A three-year starter as a shooting guard for the Div. II Purple Knights (coached by Harvey Herer), Dana led the team to a pair of league championships and accompanying berths in the NCAA Div. II national tournament. The team captain her senior year, Dana concluded her college career with 1,398 points and more than 500 rebounds. She made the Bridgeport Invitational all-tournament team for three straight years, and received the university’s Outstanding Achievement Award in 1997. For her consistently high-caliber performance on the court, Dana was inducted into the University of Bridgeport’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 1998.

Dana received a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Bridgeport in 1997, a master’s in school psychology from Mercy College in 2001, and a doctorate in counseling psychology from Capella University, an online institution. For the past 23 years she has been employed by Rockland BOCES as a school psychologist working with special education students, specializing in health and wellness therapy for staff and students.

A lifelong health and fitness devotee, Dana has maintained a physically active lifestyle. After college she played on a New York-based semi-pro women’s basketball team. She also excelled in crossfit and power-lifting competitions. In the former, she was a finalist in the 2015 Super Steel Fit

championship, while in the latter she placed first in her age and weight division twice and received the Best Lifter award in 2015. An avid runner, Dana participated in three half-marathons as well as multiple 5Ks and 10Ks, and continues to ‘thoroughly enjoy exercise’ through swimming, tennis, basketball, cycling, walking “and whatever keeps me active and healthy.”

### **Paying it Forward as Coach and Mentor**

Basketball has been a constant thread in Dana’s life. She served as girls’ varsity assistant coach at Spring Valley for three seasons, and last year completed a six-year stint as head coach of the girls’ JV team. “Coaching was a beautifully challenging task that was extremely rewarding by having the ability to give back to my community at East Ramapo and be a role model for the girls,” Dana says. Although no longer an on-court presence at games and practices, she still mentors the team’s players with guidance on meditation techniques, stretching and practicing self-care.

Dana, who is 49, lives in Teaneck, N.J. She receives the loving support of her parents, Rosemary and David Williams, siblings Duane, David, Wendi and Makayla, many nieces and nephews, as well as her cousin Linda, best friend Sabrina, “and all my wonderful friends and family who are very dear to my heart!”

Dana was elected to the Spring Valley High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2003. Now she adds the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame to her collection of honors.

Well done, Dr. Dana Williams!



*Congratulations, Dana!*



# Pete SCHEIBNER

## JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Rockland born and bred, Pete Scheibner has held a passion for Rockland County sports for as long as he can remember. That strong interest is what led him to contribute to the advancement of the County's athletic heritage by getting involved with the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame.

Not only did he get involved – he went all in. Accepting an invitation by Hall of Fame founder Joe Holland, Pete joined the Board of Directors in 1988 and, nine years later, succeeded Leon Pesner as the RCSHOF's 10th chairperson. Now in his 27th year at the helm, Pete is by far the longest-serving chair in the Hall's 51-year history.

### **Charitable Works, Assiduous Record-Keeping, Programs Expansion**

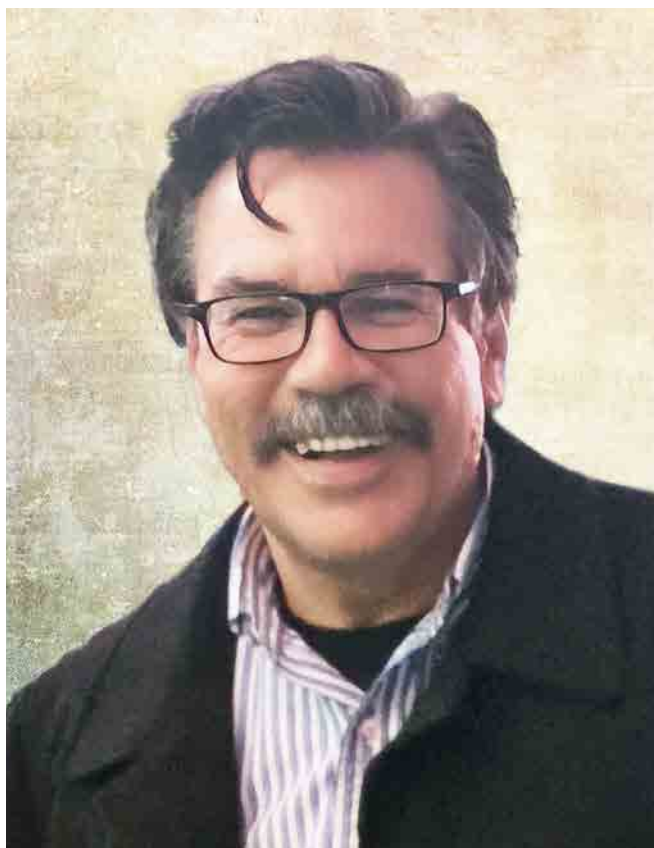
During Pete's tenure as chairman, the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame has become much more active in philanthropic endeavors. Through his leadership, the Hall has made significant donations to numerous local organizations and charities, and underwrites annual scholarships to college-bound high school seniors from Rockland who have demonstrated athletic and academic proficiency. Pete has also been instrumental in steering donations from the RCSHOF to individuals experiencing medical hardship and financial constraints.

As befitting a man who served as Rockland County's Archivist from the post's inception in 1987 (appointed by inaugural County Executive John Grant) till his retirement in 2016, Pete is a stickler for proper data and records documentation. He has greatly expanded and modernized the Hall's written and digital presence and takes pride in spearheading the production of the Hall's state-of-the-art program journals. He also has overseen the transformation of the organization's website, which he aptly describes as a "rich repository of Hall of Fame information."

On Pete's watch, categories have been added to the Hall's roster of inductees, including the Holland Award, the Old-Timers Special Award and the Coaches Award, while the pre-existing Team of Distinction Award was revitalized. He also shepherded the concept of a RCSHOF Night to fruition, whereby newly elected Team honorees are formally recognized during a summer outing at the New York Boulders ballpark. The annual event regularly draws more than 100 guests and is a highly anticipated affair, as is of course the main induction gala held in April.

### **Net Result: A Love For Tennis**

Outside of his work for the Hall of Fame, Pete was a three-sport athlete at Pearl River High School (soccer, basketball,



baseball) and later starred as an All-Mid Hudson Conference first singles player for Coach Joe Famellette's Rockland Community College tennis teams. During his two years with the team, Pete helped lead RCC to the Mid Hudson Conference team title and a berth in the qualifying round of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) tournament. For his superior play on the tennis courts, Pete was elected to the Rockland Community College Sports Hall of Fame in 2014. He extols Coach Famellette for mentoring him and developing his tennis game to a championship caliber.

The love affair with tennis that Pete initiated at RCC has continued unabated ever since. He has given back to the community by serving as a tennis instructor for RCC's Continuing Education program, and also for the Town of Orangetown and the Village of Nyack Parks and Recreation department. Pete remains an avid competitor in age-group tennis singles play, and has met with a fair measure of success.

In his early 40s, he captained the 1994 Men's 4.5 USTA Bergen County tennis team, which captured third place at the USTA nationals in Palm Springs, California. The team won the district, regional and New York State tournaments to reach the nationals. Pete recalled wistfully about that third-place nationals finish: "We had two match points on our racquets from making the finals!"

After earning an associate's degree at RCC, Pete transferred to the University of Arizona, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science in 1974. He later enrolled in the New School for Social Research in New York City and

obtained a master's degree in Urban Affairs and Policy Analysis. Pete is a 1970 graduate of Pearl River High School.

#### **Vocational Calling: Preserving, Documenting Historical Records**

In his professional career, Pete's work as an archivist and historical preservation advocate has been recognized in various forms. A certified archivist since 2002, Pete received the Wheeler B. Melius award in recognition of outstanding service to records management in New York State. That award was bestowed in 2005 by the New York Association of Local Government Records Officers.

Among his other professional honors, Pete was awarded the 2000 Cheryl Steinbach award in Local Government Records Management, and the Rockland County Executive Award from the Historical Society of Rockland County for Preservation Leadership, in 2008. Since 2004 he has served as a board member of the Rockland County Preservation Board and currently holds the position of vice chairman, serving as County Archivist designee.

Pete's twin interests in sports and historical records management intersect in his work for the International Council on Archives, Section on Sports Archives subdivision. As treasurer and executive board member of that group, he has been afforded the opportunity to travel worldwide to meetings of this global council. Just last year, for example, he made a presentation in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates on preservation and document management of sports archives. Included in his talk was a focus on the information-rich RCSHOF website spanning more than 300 inductees. One of those enshrinees, 1936 Olympian Elizabeth "Pat" Ryan, was

spotlighted by Pete as a 13-year-old swimmer at the Berlin Olympics – the youngest American athlete at the Games – who swam in the preliminary heats to help the U.S. 4x100-meter relay qualify for the final, where it earned a bronze medal for its third-place finish.

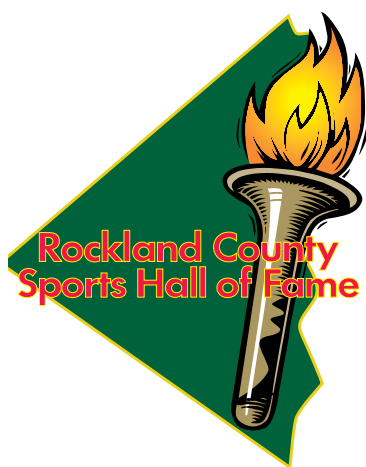
#### **Retirement Agenda: Golf, Tennis, Travel – and All Things Hall of Fame**

In retirement, Pete, who is 72, enjoys travel, tennis, golf and platform tennis. He currently chairs the Patriot Hills Golf Course Tuesday night men's 9-hole, 28-player golf league in Stony Point.

Pete and Ann, his wife of 39 years, have lived in Stony Point since 1986. The Scheibners have one son, Matthew, 34, who owns a chartered financial analyst (CFA) certification and is vice president for Invesco US in White Plains. Matt and his wife, Sitora, a human resources adviser for financial software company SAP Pioneer, reside in Stamford, Conn.

The Holland award is named after the Hall of Fame's founder and recognizes the lifelong contributions of individuals to the Rockland County athletic community. For his longstanding dedication, zeal and leadership with the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame, coupled with his active athletic participation and community service, Pete Scheibner stands out as a fitting recipient of the Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award.

"It's been an incredible honor and privilege to have been affiliated with the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame and its members for the past 36 years as a board member, 27 of which I've served as chairman," Pete says proudly. "I hope to remain a contributing member for the rest of my lifetime."



*Congratulations, Pete!*



# THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE OUR OWN

**PETE SCHEIBNER**

ON HIS ENSHRINEMENT  
AS THE  
**JOSEPH HOLLAND  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREE**

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**LONG MAY YOU REIGN!**





## THE ROCKLAND COUNTY TRACK & FIELD HALL OF FAME

*Proudly Salutes*

**Mike Schroer** – Cl. South's National Track Champ, Georgetown Star

**Kurt Lundgren** – Nanuet's Ace Hurler, Columbia Lion, Mets Prospect

**Pete Scheibner** – RCSHOF's Longest-Serving Chair, Holland Award

**Jean Cary** – Pearl River's Trail-Blazing Softball, Soccer Coach

**Scott Finlay** – Record-Setting Lacrosse Career for Nyack, Army

**Dana Williams** – Spring Valley's Hoops Scoring Chart-Topper

**Kelvin Smith Jr.** – NFL Linebacker, No. Rockland, Syracuse Whiz

**Jim Eschen** – Suffern's Diamond Dandy, N.Y. Mets Farmhand, Coach

*On your induction into the*  
***Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame***

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*Congratulations*  
to  
**Kurt Lundgren  
& Fellow Inductees**  
on their induction into the  
**ROCKLAND COUNTY  
SPORTS HALL OF FAME**



**The D'Arcy Family**

Tess, Kaleigh, Colin,  
Sheamus, Michelle & Kevin

*We are very Proud of you  
and your achievements  
both on and off the field!!*

*Save the Date*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024 – 4:30 PM**



**ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME NIGHT**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024 – 4:30 PM**

NEW YORK BOULDERS AT CLOVER STADIUM

*New York Boulders vs. Tri-City Valleycats*



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Proceeds will help to defray the medical costs of Pete Capello  
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2024 Inductees**

**Jean Cary, Pearl River Coach**

**Jim Eschen, Suffern Class of 1967**

**Scott Finlay, Nyack Class of 1974**

**Kurt Lundgren, Nanuet Class of 1979**

**Pete Scheibner**

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

**Mike Schroer, Clarkstown South Class of 1992**

**Kelvin Smith Jr., North Rockland Class of 2002**

**Dana Williams, Spring Valley Class of 1993**

Best Wishes,

**Conklin Scholarship Fund Inc.**



Big Congratulations to our Hall of Famer,

**Kurt Lundgren**

and to all of the  
2024 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

We are so incredibly proud of you on this remarkable  
and well-deserved achievement!  
You are an exceptional athlete but an even better person!



*With Much Love and Pride,*  
**Teresa, Christopher and Alec Lundgren**

*The  
St. Thomas Aquinas College  
Department of Athletics*



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The 2024 Rockland County  
Sports Hall of Fame Inductees*

*Making Success A Habit*



*22 NCAA Division II Sports Teams  
4 Varsity Sports Teams  
Club Sports & Intramurals*



## **Congratulations 2024 Inductees**

# **Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame**

**JEAN CARY**

**JIM ESCHEN**

**SCOTT FINLAY**

**KURT LUNDGREN**

**PETE SCHEIBNER**

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

**MIKE SCHROER**

**KELVIN SMITH JR.**

**DANA WILLIAMS**

*Schweizer  
& Dykstra*

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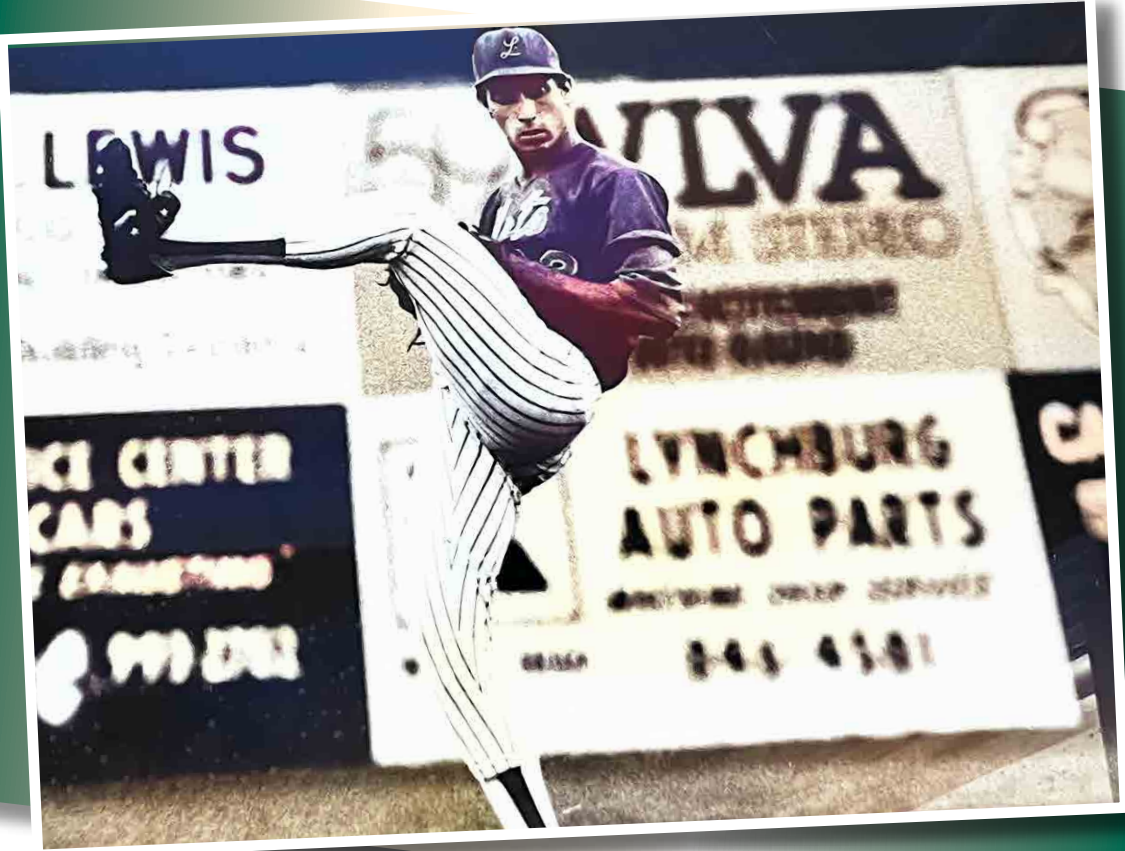


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*From*

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Benjamin, Natalie, Megan, Fred (Rip) Walnut



# NORTH ROCKLAND SPORTS HALL OF FAME

*Congratulates the*

## ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

on their 51<sup>st</sup> Celebration  
and the Class of 2024 Inductees

**JEAN CARY** PEARL RIVER COACH

**JIM ESCHEN** SUFFERN CLASS OF '67

**SCOTT FINLAY** NYACK CLASS OF '74

**KURT LUNDGREN** NANUET CLASS OF '79

**PETE SCHEIBNER** JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**MIKE SCHROER** CLARKSTOWN SOUTH CLASS OF '92

**DANA WILLIAMS** SPRING VALLEY CLASS OF '93

*and especially...*

*Kelvin Smith Jr. ~ Class of 2002*

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Haverstraw & North Rockland individuals inducted into the Hall of Fame since 1974:

Victor Shankey – 1909	Fred Adler – 1953	Chuck Maze – 1973
Gus Shankey – 1917	Frank Horan – 1953	Joe Casarella – Coach
Nick Gamboli – 1916	Richard "Dixie" Reilly – 1955	Todd Sinclair – 1980
Hale DeChelfin – 1930	Vincent "Dugan" Kovalsky – 1955	Linda Soto – 1984
Dominic "Babe" Gamboli – 1935	Nick Picarello – Lifetime Achievement	Phil Consiglio – 1985
Jim Gallo – 1938	Johnny Burns – Sports Organizer	Shawn Kapusinsky – 1986
Ralph Cordisco – Coach	Hank Kapusinsky – 1959	Derrick Lassic – 1988
Joseph "Josh" Bolack - 1942	Nick Ryder – 1959	John Stephens – 1989
George Garrecht – 1942	Marty Springstead – Umpire, MLB	John Sottile – Coach
Martin "Hawk" Jacobs – 1944	Tom DePatto – 1960	Dennis O'Sullivan – 1994
Rocco Marano – 1945	Joe "Jo Jo" Mackey – 1963	Jeff Becker – 1995
James "Sham" Feeney – 1945	Gerald Kapusinsky – 1963	Gene Dall – Coach
Paul Urban – 1948	Sylvester "Molly" McGee – 1970	Bob Nadal – Coach
Robert Strack – 1952	Mike Deane – 1970	Mike Carroll – Coach
Joseph "Biscuit" Picarello – 1952	Jim Brechbiel – 1972	Mary Bechbiel-Agnetti – Coach
Robert "Red" Schassler – 1952	Dan Keeley – 1972	"Babs" Stead – Sports Official

**2024 North Rockland Hall of Fame Golf Outing**  
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Followed by a Barbeque and Dinner at the Haverstraw Elks Club.

For more information please call 845-942-3390  
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## Every organization has four types of volunteers...

- \*\*Wishbones...**who wish someone else would do the work
- \*\*Jawbones...**who talk but do little else
- \*\*Knucklebones...**who knock what everyone else does...and
- \*\*Backbones...**who actually DO the work!

**PETER SCHEIBNER** has been the **BACKBONE** of the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame for more than 35 years... and he is so very deserving of this **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.**

**I salute you, Pete...**for all of your volunteer efforts that made this organization so strong and successful! And I also send my hearty congratulations to this year's field of outstanding athletes!

**Joe Holland**

Proud Member and Founder





CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE  
ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2024  
AND ESPECIALLY  
•P•E•T•E•

IT IS A PRESTIGIOUS HONOR TO BE THE RECIPIENT OF THE JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. WE ARE IMMENSELY PROUD OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS AND IT IS WONDERFUL TO SEE YOUR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AND APPRECIATED BY OTHERS.

THIS AWARD IS A TESTAMENT TO YOUR DEDICATION AND HARD WORK.

**BRAVO!**

HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS FOR RECEIVING THIS GREAT HONOR!

WITH MUCH LOVE AND PRIDE,

**ANN, MATTHEW, SITORA & FAMILY**



# CONGRATULATIONS

## Scott Finlay

*2024 Rockland County  
Sports Hall of Fame*

FROM THE  
NYACK ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT  
and  
NYACK ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME



## THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

... on April 14th, 2024 ... is proudly honoring ...

Jean Cary (Pearl River Coach) / Jim Eschen (Suffern 1967)

Scott Finlay (Nyack 1974) / Kurt Lundgren ( Nanuet 1979)

Pete Scheibner (Joe Holland Lifetime Achievement Award)

Kelvin Smith (No Rockland 2002) / Dana Williams (Spring Valley 1993)

&&&&& .... Clarkstown South's (1992)... Mike Schroer



~ to all the Honorees ~  
... especially our alumnus MIKE ...

Clarkstown South's 2023-2024

Boys & Girls Track Team & Girls XC Team

With our THANKS for setting such a great example!

& Coaches ... James Kiernan - Mike Scarpelli - Nick Jung - Pete Modafferi



Jeff and Darlene Bernstein  
want to congratulate  
*Kurt Lundgren*  
on his induction  
to the  
2024 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame



*Praise to all members  
of the Class of 2024*



**Congratulations to**  
**2024 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Inductee**

**Jim Eschen**  
**Suffern HS '67**

**Two Time Rockland County Shortstop**  
**Rockland County PSAL Basketball Top Scorer**



**Suffern HS Baseball Coach: Michael Cronin**  
**Suffern HS Basketball Coach: Scott Wright**



*Congratulations and Praise to*  
**THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME**  
*and the*  
**Class of 2024 Inductees**

JEAN CARY  
JIM ESCHEN  
SCOTT FINLAY  
MIKE SCHROER  
KELVIN SMITH  
DANA WILLIAMS  
PETE SCHEIBNER

*and with special recognition to*  
**KURT LUNDGREN**

**NANUET HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

**PAST NANUET INDUCTEES INTO ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

Mickey Wittman-1980	Dave Hanson-2004	Rick Carey-2014
Darryl Brown-1988	Tony Harlin-2006	Thad Wilson-2014
Jerry Bonomolo-1992	Paul Pietropaolo-2008	Jackie McCracken Houck-2018
Rich Conklin-2000	Janice Olszewski-2009	Bob Veltidi-2019
Norinne Powers-2002	T.J. Ford-2010	1989 Football Team-2018
Billy Kurisko-2003	Margie Sahlstrom Jaxel-2010	

**M**  
**THE MAHONEY**  
**GROUP**  
*of*  
**RAYMOND JAMES®**

***Congratulations 2024 Inductees!***



***Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame***

*Jim Eschen – Suffern Class of 1967*

*Jean Cary – Pearl River Coach*

*Pete Scheibner – Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award*

*Dana Williams – Spring Valley Class of 1993*

*Mike Schroer – Clarkstown South Class of 1992*

*Kurt Lundgren – Nanuet Class of 1979*

*Kelvin Smith Jr. – North Rockland Class of 2002*

*Scott Finlay – Nyack Class of 1974*

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Jerry Murtagh **Treasurer**   William Edwards **Recording Secretary**

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Jimmy Moore, Steve Neugebauer, Kenneth M. Sutton, Mark Grad

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*Serving the Hudson Valley New York and Upstate New York Since 1925*





WELL DONE, PETE!

BECAUSE OF YOUR DEDICATION  
AND COMMITMENT, YOU ARE  
BEING RECOGNIZED TODAY  
AS RECIPIENT OF THE  
JOSEPH HOLLAND  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.

KUDOS

ON REACHING THIS MILESTONE.  
MAY YOUR JOURNEY CONTINUE  
FOR THE NEXT DECADE OR TWO!

CHEERS,

PHYLLIS & BRUCE

*Congratulations*

**Kurt Lundgren**



and fellow  
**2024 Inductees to the  
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame**

**JEAN CARY**

**JIM ESCHEN**

**SCOTT FINLAY**

**PETE SCHEIBNER**

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

**MIKE SCHROER**

**KELVIN SMITH JR.**

**DANA WILLIAM**

*Best Wishes*

**Dr. Leon Reyfman**

**SALUTING THE RCSHF AS THEY ENTER THEIR  
SECOND HALF-CENTURY OF HONORING ROCKLAND COUNTY'S BEST**

*Congrats to the  
2024 Inductees*

**JIM ESCHEN**

**SCOTT FINLAY**

**KURT LUNDGREN**

**MIKE SCHROER**

**KELVIN SMITH JR.**

**DANA WILLIAMS**

*Special Praise  
to Pearl River's own:*

**COACH JEAN CARY**

*A pioneer in Girls Sports  
in Rockland County*

**PETE SCHEIBNER**

*Class of 1970*

*From our tennis courts to the RCSHF*

***We Are Pearl River Proud!***

*Go Pirates!*

*Tom & Katie*  
**DOHERTY**





## Congratulations to the 2024 SUFFERN State Championship Boys' Hockey Team



ALBERTUS MAGNUS  
FALCONS



CLARKSTOWN NORTH  
RAMS



CLARKSTOWN SOUTH  
VIKINGS



NANUET  
KNIGHTS



NORTH ROCKLAND  
RED RAIDERS



NYACK  
REDHAWKS



PEARL RIVER  
PIRATES



RAMAPO  
GRYPHONS



SPRING VALLEY  
TIGERS



SUFFERN  
MOUNTIES



TAPPAN ZEE  
DUTCHMEN



*You make us all look good!*





## Congratulations to the 2024 Albertus Magnus State Championship Girls' Basketball Team



ALBERTUS MAGNUS  
FALCONS



CLARKSTOWN NORTH  
RAMS



CLARKSTOWN SOUTH  
VIKINGS



NANUET  
KNIGHTS



NORTH ROCKLAND  
RED RAIDERS



NYACK  
REDHAWKS



PEARL RIVER  
PIRATES



RAMAPO  
GRYPHONS



SPRING VALLEY  
TIGERS



SUFFERN  
MOUNTIES



TAPPAN ZEE  
DUTCHMEN



***You make us all look good!***

## CONGRATULATIONS !!!

### *51st Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame*

Jean Cary - Pearl River Coach

Jim Eschen - Suffern

Scott Finlay - Nyack

Kurt Lundgren - Nanuet

Pete Scheibner, Lifetime Achievement Award recipient

Mike Schroer - Clarkstown South

Kelvin Smith - North Rockland

Dana Williams - Spring Valley

*Special praise to Pearl River Coach Jean Cary &  
Pearl River Class of 1970 graduate Pete Scheibner!*

### *Pearl River Sports Hall of Fame Committee*

*Douglas D'Agostino, President*

*Chris Woolgar, Vice President*

*Artie McCormack, Treasurer*

*Shannon Davis, Secretary*

*Noreen Apicella*

*Helen D'Agostino*

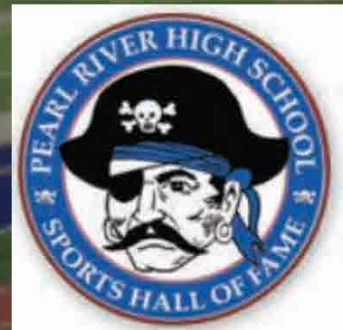
*Billy Donnelly*

*Tom Doherty*

*Brianna Kenna*

*Kara Quinn*

*Mike Santini*



## GO PIRATES!!





**~ PETE ~**  
**WE LIKE YOUR TASTE IN WALL ART.**  
**KEEP IT GOING!**

Congratulations on receiving the  
**Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award**  
*It's so well deserved.*

From your Journal Production Team:  
Phyllis & Bruce - Quality Graphics Tristate Inc.  
Drew - LaBelle Printing Co., Ltd.



**Congratulations Scott,  
on your induction into the  
Rockland County Sports  
Hall of Fame**



**Nyack Indians Forever.**



**From the Nyack Alumni Lunch Crew  
& the 1974 Lacrosse Team**





**THE  
MAN IN THE RED  
BANDANNA**



**Welles Remy Crowther**  
Charitable Trust  
SINCE 2001

**PETE SCHEIBNER**  
OUR HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS  
AS THE 2024 RECIPIENT OF THE  
**JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**  
THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
51<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL INDUCTION DINNER  
APRIL 14, 2024



*Alison Crowther*

**Congratulations  
Coach Jean Cary  
On Your Induction into  
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame**



**Thank You for Your Many Contributions  
to PRHS Athletics**

**The Dugandzic Family Pirates**

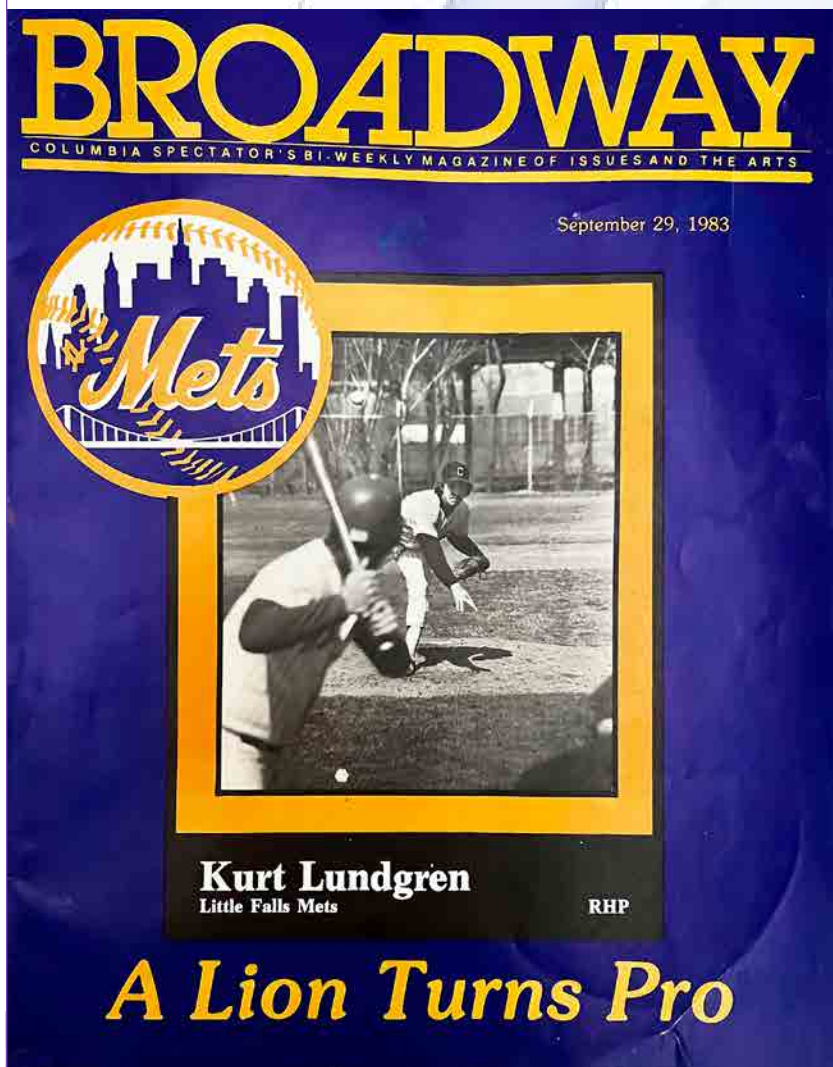
**Steve 70'  
Joe 71'  
Paul 74'  
Phil 76'**

**Anne 78'  
Irene 80'  
Mari 81'**

**Dorothy 80'  
Jim 81'  
Joe 82'**

**Mary 83'  
Barbara 86'  
Jane 89'**

Warmest  
congratulations  
Kurt Lundgren



and all  
2024  
Inductees  
to the  
Rockland  
County Sports  
Hall of Fame

From,  
Dr. Ashwin  
Malhotra

*Congratulations*

**CLASS OF 2024  
ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

JEAN CARY  
JIM ESCHEN  
SCOTT FINLAY  
KURT LUNDGREN  
MIKE SCHROER  
KELVIN SMITH JR.  
DANA WILLIAMS

*&*

SPECIAL THANKS TO

*Pete Scheibner*

**JOSEPH HOLLAND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

for his excellent leadership  
as Chairman of the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame  
over the past 27 years and for his dedicated service  
as a Member of the Board of Directors since 1988.

His exemplary service has inspired our Board of Directors,  
promoted excellence in athletics and provided significant  
charitable support for scholar athletes and the Rockland community.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE!**

*Chuck and Maureen Maze*





# CONGRATULATIONS 2024 INDUCTEES!

**AND THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
FOR 51 YEARS OF SPORTS EXCELLENCE**

*In recognition of past ALBERTUS MAGNUS  
HIGH SCHOOL Inductees to the ROCKLAND  
COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME:*

**MARY BRECHBIEL-AGNELLI '74**  
**JOE CLINTON '79**  
**TOM COLLINS '64**  
**JOHN DIFFLEY '85**  
**JAMIE KEMPTON '76**  
**HOWIE MCNIFF '73**  
**TOM MOUNKHALL '62**  
**FRANK SAMOYLO '68**  
**DAN SULLIVAN '72**  
**THE 1990-1991 GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM**  
**DICK TEETSEL (Coach, Track Official)**  
**JOE MCGUINNESS (Albertus AD, Coach)**

To learn more about our chAMPions, contact  
 Mr. Brendan Gorman '92, Director of Athletics,  
 at [bgorman@albertusmagnus.net](mailto:bgorman@albertusmagnus.net)



**Boys Baseball - 2023  
NYS Section and  
Regional Champions**



**Girls Basketball -  
2024 NYS Champions**



**Girls Soccer -  
2022 NYS Champions**



## ALBERTUS MAGNUS H.S.

A traditional, coeducational, independent college preparatory high school for grades 9-12 in Rockland County. We provide a Catholic values-centered education in the Dominican tradition of Prayer, Study, Community, Service. Since 1957



23 Varsity Teams for boys and girls



For 2023-2024 so far, AM has 3 League Championships, 1 Section Championship, 1 Region Championship, 1 State Championship, 1 High School All-American, 4 Fall Athletes All State (2 soccer, 2 track).



To date, the Class of 2024 has committed to play college athletics at Brown University, Columbia University, Villanova University, UCONN, James Madison University, St. Joseph's University, Marist College, TCNJ, Radford University and Belmont Abbey College.

**LEAD, SERVE, INSPIRE  
HOME OF THE FALCONS**



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# Congratulations

**Scott Finlay**  
and the  
Rockland County Hall of Fame Class of 2024



**From the Finlay Family**



# PETE LOVES TENNIS



## THIRD AT NATIONALS

**QUEST 2 Cardinals**, back row from left, Fred Hijus, Joe Scarmazzo, team, captain Pete Scheibner, Larry T. Restieri, Jim Gray and Pat Florence. Front row from left, Dave Miller, Dan DeRogatis, Chris Restieri, Larry C. Restieri and Thomas Baertschi.

## ETA News

### Captain Courageous

The sectional championship team captained by Pete Scheibner takes third place finish in 4.5 NTRP level national flight in Palm Springs, CA.

## UNSEEDED PAIR WINS TOURNEY

The unseeded mixed-doubles pair of Pete Scheibner and Carol Adelson upset the second-seeded duo of Cormac Ryan and Fran Treanor, 7-5, 3-6, 6-2, Saturday, to highlight action in the opening round of the Rockland County Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament at the Cherry Brook Park courts in Pearl River.

6/22/1980

## Scheibner wins singles in Orangetown tournament

ROCKLAND JOURNAL NEWS 10/22/83 (C-6)

Scheibner, Thorne doubles champs

## Singles Open Champion

(1981) RCTA Men's "B",  
(1984) Town of Orangetown,  
(1986) 4.0 USTA Orange Hollow

## 50+ Singles Champion

(2005, 2012) South Orangetown Rotary Club, Rockland County

## Doubles Runner-up & Semifinals

(1980) Riverside Tennis "A/B"  
(1986, 1989) Open and Molson,  
(1990, 1992) Town of Orangetown and (1980), (1988) Orange Hollow 4.5 and (1997) Rockland County semifinals at Dellwood Country Club

## Doubles Champion

(1983, 1984, 1987) Town of Orangetown, ((1980) Town of Ramapo "B", (1992, 1994, 1995) USTA 4.5 at Orange Hollow.



## 1971-1972 Mid-Hudson Champions, 2nd Place Region XV

Front Row L-R. Coach Joe Famelletto, Norman Appel, Jerry Goldstein, Joe Francella, Bill Vallee.  
Back Row L-R, Pete Scheibner, John Jacob, Carmen Rivera

Eighth-seeded Colin Crothers was taken to three sets by Pete Scheibner before prevailing 6-1, 4-6, 6-0 in Rockland County Singles.

# *Congratulations*

ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

## **Dr. Dana Marie Williams**



On this milestone accomplishment,  
you deserve the exciting and wonderful praise  
of this celebration!

You are a true inspiration  
and we couldn't be happier for you!

With great pride,

## *Your Hilltop Family*





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SINCE 1940  
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845 942-1492

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## THE DAN SULLIVAN FOUNDATION

(Danny Sullivan, Rockland County Sports Hall of Famer, Class of 2012)

*HERE COME THE SUN  
AND IT'S ALRIGHT*

**Congratulations to the Class of 2024**

on your induction into the

**ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME!!**

**JEAN CARY • JIM ESCHEN • SCOTT FINLAY**

**KURT LUNDGREN • MIKE SCHROER**

**KELVIN SMITH JR. • DANA WILLIAMS**

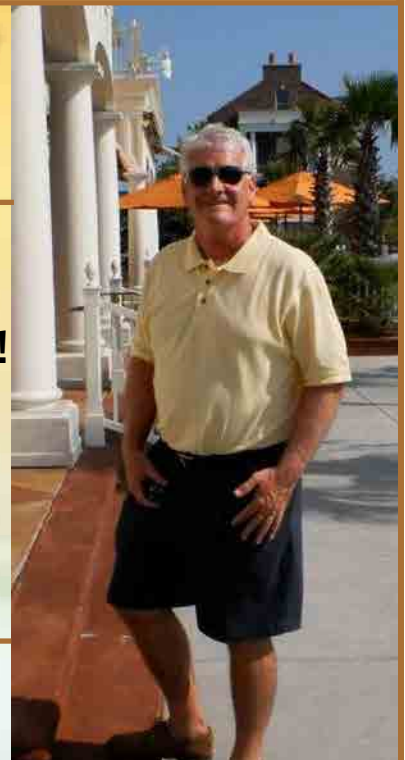
**PETE SCHEIBNER**

Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

**THE DAN SULLIVAN FOUNDATION**

47 Gair Street, Piermont, NY 10968 TEL 845-548-2040

*MAY DANNY REST IN PEACE*



Congratulations To

**Pete Scheibner**

2024 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame

Recipient of the

**Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award**

and to all the 2024 Inductees

**The Veltidi Family**

Judy, Sally, Doug, Kristen,  
Katherine & Patrick

*Congratulations*



**Dana Williams**

**Jim and Soreida Ashcroft & Betsy Evans**

# *Congratulations*

To Peter Scheibner  
on your induction into the **2024 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame**  
and being the recipient of the  
**Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award.**

Your former staff and colleagues at the  
Rockland County Archives couldn't be prouder!



## **TAPPAN Z ZEE** **ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME**

*Congratulates*

**'54 Tappan Zee Basketball Team**

AND ALL INDUCTEES TO THE  
**ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME**  
***Class of 2024***



### **DR. LIAM FRAWLEY GOLF CLASSIC**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024 - BLUE HILL GOLF COURSE**

**7:00 AM SIGN IN / CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST • 8:00 AM SHOTGUN START • BBQ FOLLOWS**

***Contact Pat Dizzine 845-367-1339, [pdizzine@optonline.net](mailto:pdizzine@optonline.net)***

*To the Recipients of the  
2024 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame!*



Jean Cary  
Jim Eschen  
Scott Finlay  
Kurt Lundgren  
Mike Schroer

Kelvin Smith Jr.  
Dana Williams  
Pete Scheibner  
Joseph Holland  
Lifetime Achievement  
Award

*We celebrate your sports achievement.  
It is a testament to your hard work, dedication and perseverance.*

*Congratulations!  
Tom & Sandy Collins*

**Congratulations**



**to**



**Mike Schroer**

**and**

**all of this year's inductees on this  
well-deserved honor!**

**From the 1992 Clarks town South Track & Field Coaching Staff**

**Ray Kondracki Ray Sussmann Giulia Adler Duitz**





**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME  
2024 INDUCTEES!**



**Stony Point Town Supervisor Jim Monaghan**



Congratulations  
to the  
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame  
Class of 2024 Inductee Recipients.

Paramount Country Club is proud to host this event.



Paramount Country Club 60 Zukor Road New City, NY 10956 Phone: (845) 634-4626

**CONGRATULATIONS,  
PETER SCHEIBNER!**

**YOU ARE AN  
EXEMPLARY SPORTSMAN.**

**IT IS AN HONOR TO BE YOUR FRIEND.**

**— MARC-YVES**

**Scott Finlay, #28 Attackman**

**CLASS  
OF 74**



Congratulations Dad on your induction into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame!

Today we celebrate our father Scott Finlay, an exemplary leader and role model. His commitment to excellence has always inspired us and today we are proud to watch you be recognized for your achievements in lacrosse. You deserve this recognition for your years of dedication and hard work and we are so lucky to have you as an example and our father.

With Love,  
Kristin, Michelle, Valerie and Keith as well as Brian, James, George, Daniel, Lee, Louise, Maddy and Miles

# CONGRATULATIONS

*To the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Inductees*

## CROWN TROPHY of PEARL RIVER, NY



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**DAVID EVANGELISTA, CPA**

*Congratulations*

*to all the 2024 RCSHOF Inductees  
and Special Recognition to*

**PETE SCHEIBNER**

*for all you've done for Rockland County sports!!!*

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Tax, Business, and ERISA/EBP Services  
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Fax: (845) 429-7468  
david@evangelista.cpa



*Congratulations,  
Papa!  
We love you.  
Love,  
the Grands*

**Best Wishes to the  
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame  
and their 2024 Inductees**

**Jean Cary, Pearl River Coach  
Jim Eschen, Suffern class of 1967  
Scott Finlay - Nyack class of 1974  
Kurt Lundgren - Nanuet class of 1979  
Pete Scheibner - Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award recipient  
Mike Schroer - Clarkstown South class of 1992  
Kelvin Smith - North Rockland class of 2002  
Dana Williams - Spring Valley class of 1993**



**ROCKLAND COUNTY CLERK  
DONNA G. SILBERMAN**



*Congratulations & Best Wishes*

2024 Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

JEAN CARY | JIM ESCHEN | SCOTT FINLAY  
MIKE SCHROER | KELVIN SMITH JR. | DANA WILLIAM  
PETE SCHEIBNER  
Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

*—*  
**John Ryan**

North Rockland High School  
Class of 1980 Track & Field and X-Country

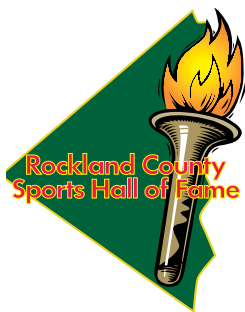
*Congratulations  
and Best Wishes  
to all  
2024 Rockland County  
Sports Hall of Fame  
Inductees*



*Bob Marino*



# RCSHF SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY.....



*The Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame (RCSHF) provides proceeds and funds to individuals who, as athletes, coaches, or contributors to Rockland*

*County sports, have suffered traumatic injury or require extensive medical treatment services that require significant expense. Over the years RCSHF has contributed to such individuals. Organizations that have made an impact on the lives of citizens throughout Rockland County in the field of sports, community service and health care have also received support.*

**Jarrad Monroe**, a 2005 graduate of North Rockland High School, was the recipient of a generous donation from the RCSHF event held at Boulders Stadium on July 29, 2023. This donation helped defray the cost of his medical expenses during a long illness. Jarrad and his family really appreciated the generous and kind support of the RCSHF. Sadly, Jarrad passed away this past February.



L-R Chuck Maze, Jarrad Monroe, Ben Beamon, Mike Greco, NY Boulders Baseball, and Pete Scheibner.  
Photo taken on 9/26/2023 at Phillip J. Rotella Golf Course



**Pete Scheibner**, RCSHF Chairman speaking on management and dissemination of Sports Archives which covered RCSHF website, directory of inductees and document preservation of 50 years of RCSHF history. The conference was held at an International Council on Archives - Section on Sports Archives on October 9, 2023, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.



**Pete Scheibner**, RCSHF Chairman presents check to **Philip Donnelly**, CEO, Chief Executive Officer of Rockland County YMCA and RCSHF board member, at the 2023 YMCA Golf Outing from RCSHF raffle funds generated at our 50th annual induction ceremony on April 1, 2023. Funds will go for supporting *Send a Kid to Camp*, Summer Camp and related community services.

# *In Memory*



**DAN WHITE**



**JARRAD MONROE**



**EMIL WILLIS, JR.**



**AL SIMONDS**



**ART HYMAN**

*rest in peace*





**LEARN  
GROW  
THRIVE**



# Rockland County YMCA

*Congratulates the 2024  
Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame Honorees*

**Jean Cary**, Pearl River Coach  
**Jim Eschen**, Suffern Class of 1967  
**Scott Finlay**, Nyack Class of 1974  
**Kurt Lundgren**, Nanuet Class of 1979

**Mike Schroer**, Clarkstown South Class of 1992  
**Kelvin Smith Jr.**, North Rockland Class of 2002  
**Dana Williams**, Spring Valley Class of 1993  
**Pete Scheibner**, Joseph Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

## There's Something for Everyone at the Rockland County YMCA



After-School Programs • Birthday Parties • Dance Classes • Family Fun Nights • Fitness Center & Exercise Classes  
Gymnasium • Holiday Fun Clubs • Karate • Personal Training • Preschool Programs • Summer Programs/Camps  
Swimming Pool & Lessons • Teen Programs • Youth & Government • Youth Sports Programs  
United Way & YMCA North Rockland Community Partnership Program  
United Way & YMCA North Rockland Community Partnership Program

- **Nyack Facility**, 35 S. Broadway, Nyack, NY 10960 (845) 358-0245
- **School Age Care Office**, 37 South Broadway, Nyack, NY 10960 (845) 727-1037
- **Suffern Preschool**, 18 Parkside Drive, Suffern, NY 10901 (845) 357-4404

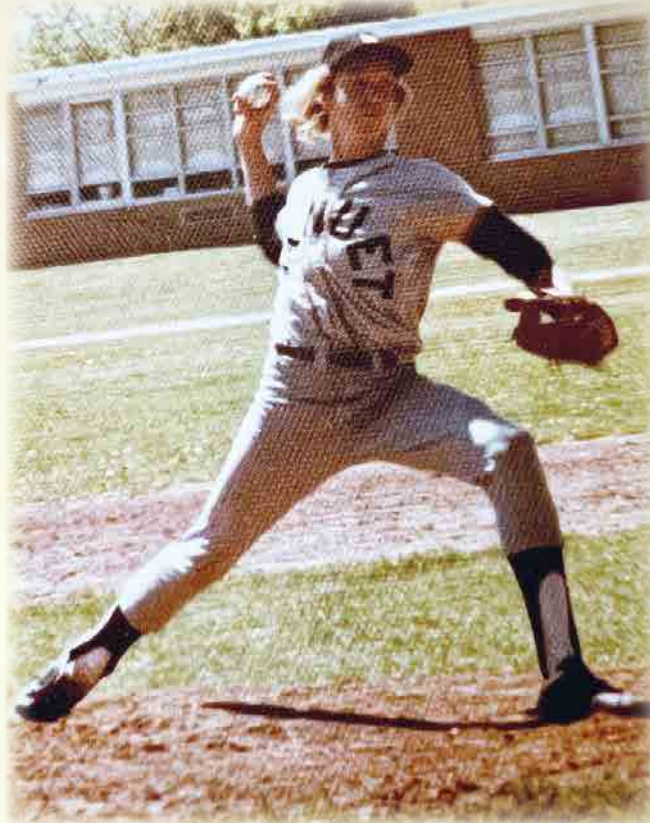
**[www.rocklandymca.org](http://www.rocklandymca.org)**

**Nyack Facility 35 S. Broadway Nyack, NY 10960 (845) 358-0245**



Congratulations to  
*Kurt Lundgren*

On his induction into the  
**2024 ROCKLAND COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME**



A teammate first, a great player second

*From*  
Nanuet High School  
Columbia University  
The Amazin Mets'

To his current team: Thwaites, Lundgren & D'Arcy

~ You will find no greater Teammate, Friend, or Business Partner ~

*Thank You Kurt Lundgren!!!!*

**Daniel Thwaites & Kevin D'Arcy**  
Melanie, Christina, Debbie, Lauren, Jodi & Jenna

*Rockland's Auto Super Center!*



**Serving the Rockland Community Since 1946!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THE 2024 HONOREES!**



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