







Hall of Fame Ceremony







October 8, 2023
The Woodbridge
Community Center

Special Guest of Honor Bob Kasko



Congratulations to all inductees to the 2023 Hall of Fame Class of the Woodbridge Township Athletic Alumni Association

John E. McCormac

Mayor, Woodbridge Township

Woodbridge Township Council

Council President Gregg Ficarra, At-Large
Council Vice President Kyle Anderson, At-Large
Sharon McAuliffe, First Ward
Howie Bauer, Second Ward
Cory S. Spillar, Third Ward
Viru N. Patel, Fourth Ward
Debbie Meehan, Fifth Ward
Lizbeth DeJesus, At-Large
Brian F. Small, At-Large

2023 Program for 19th Hall of Fame Ceremony

October 8, 2023

Group Photo - 2023 Inductees

4:45pm - 1st Photo for Individuals, 2nd Photo for Teams

Welcome

Nick Sardone, WTAAA President

Invocation

Deacon Peter Barcellona

St. Anthony of Padua, Port Reading

Opening Remarks

Mayor John E. McCormac

Special Guest of Honor

Mr. Robert Kasko, WHS, 1957

Dinner - Tables will be called

5:45pm

Awards and Proclamations

6:45pm - Summaries by Nancy Cuntala and Sharon DiLonardo

Kyle Anderson, John F. Kennedy Memorial High School, 1986

Frank Beckhorn, Woodbridge High School, 1992

Joseph Bergondo, John F. Kennedy Memorial High School, 2000

Matthew Cilento, Colonia High School, 1997

Jeffrey Michael Grose, John F. Kennedy Memorial High School, 2002

Ed Gutnik, John F. Kennedy Memorial High School, 2001

Jennifer Hoerner, Colonia High School, 1996

Guy Jensen, John F. Kennedy Memorial High School, 1985

Laurie Martelli Solomon, Woodbridge High School, 1979

Gregg McGuirl, John F. Kennedy Memorial High School, 1998

Royce Morgan, Coach, Colonia High School, 2002

Saulius Sabaliauskas, Woodbridge High School, 1965 & Coach

Michelle Spratford-Kane, Woodbridge High School, 1999

Nichole Spratford-Opsasnick, Woodbridge High School, 1996

James Sullivan, Woodbridge High School, Coach

Ives Viola Sr., Colonia High School, 1987

Frank Wagner, Colonia High School, 2000

Larry Weil, Colonia High School, 1977

Teams 1969 Colonia High School - Boys' Cross Country Team

1977 John F. Kennedy Memorial High School - Softball Team

1991-92 Woodbridge High School - Boys' Bowling Team

Benediction Deacon Peter Barcellona

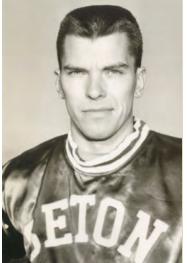
St. Anthony of Padua, Port Reading

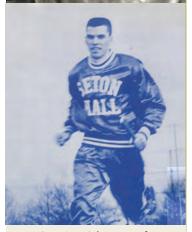
Concluding Remarks

Nick Sardone

"Try to Stay 'Forever Young'"

By Rod Stewart





Previous Special Guests of Honor Ron Osborne 1996 Lou Creekmur 1997 Samuel A. Lupo 1998 Johnnie Royle 1999 Matt Fratterolo 2000 Mayor John E. McCormac 2015 Harding William "Pete" Peterson 2016 William "Bill" Kovacs 2017 Frank & Dr. Vincent Capraro 2018 Herb Hollowell 2019 Sandra Schmidtke 2020

Special Guest of Honor

Robert "Bob" Kasko

Woodbridge High School - Class of 1957

Bob is one of the earliest Barron trackmen who helped to make the program one of the most competitive in the Central Jersey area under Coach Lou Gabriel (HoF) the "father of WHS track and field" in the 1950's. In addition to Bob, the early group included Ed Adams, Henry Chomicki, Herb Hollowell, LeRoy Alexander, Lou Hagler and Pat Cunningham. They are all WTAAA Hall of Famers.

Bob was a member of the one-mile relay team (HoF) that won a large first place plaque for WHS at the 1957 Penn Relays. His teammates were Pat Cunningham, Karl Gross and Joe Fritsche. Their time of 3:25.2 established a then New Jersey Scholastic Statewide one- mile relay record. To this day, the plaque still hangs in the hallway of WHS across from the gym. The team also won at the Iona Relays and was second at the Eastern States meet. At the Central Jersey Group IV sectional and Middlesex County outdoor track and field championships in 1957, the Barron team finished second in both meets.

Personally, Bob won the Middlesex County 440 yard dash and placed second in the 100yard and long jump at the Central Jersey Sectional Group IV meet in 1957. The team finished 6-0 during the dual meet season. His high school coaches were Lou Gabriel (HoF) and Lou Bartha (HoF).

Bob's senior year basketball team posted a winning record of 9-7 in Coach John Tomczuk's last season. Bob was the leading scorer and First Team All-County. At the end of the school year in 1957, he was awarded the school's annual American Legion "Best Athlete Award."

Following high school, Bob was awarded a full track and field scholarship to Seton Hall University under Coach John Gibson where he participated for four years. He was awarded the ECAC plaque at graduation by Seton Hall for his outstanding collegiate career. It is believed that Bob was the first NJ college athlete to appear on a Sports Illustrated cover. (See photo, Feb. 6th, 1961)

At the end of each college season, he received Seton Hall's MVP Award in 1959, 1960 and 1961 for track and field. Bob was the anchorman on their mile relay team with high school teammate Karl Gross. The Pirates won the Metropolitan Indoor Championship.

After college, Bob returned to teach and coach at WHS in the 60's and produced very successful outdoor track and field teams beginning in 1964 with County and State Champions such as Bill Novo (HoF), the New Jersey Group IV high and low hurdle outdoor and indoor 60 yards high hurdles champion in 1969. He also produced two undefeated dual meet seasons during spring track (1967-8-0 and 1969—10-0). His teams won Greater Jersey Conference Central I Division titles in 1967 and 1969. He coached another Penn Relay one-mile relay winner in 1968 for WHS behind Novo, Sam and Dave Johnson and Jay Sher (3:27). (Source-Woodbridge Leader Press, May 1, 1968, p.13). His teams were always in contention for GJ Conference, Middlesex County, and CJ Group IV Sectional Honors and he coached several individual champions and medals winners (See GMC Track Coaches Association website) until he stepped down after the 1970 season.

Professionally, Bob joined the Woodbridge School District in 1961-62 as a health education teacher at Iselin Junior High School. The next year he worked under Ernie Dubay (HoF) in the elementary physical education program. In 1963-64, he returned to WHS as a PE teacher and outdoor track and field coach. In addition to Bill Novo(HoF) and the relay teams, Bob remembered track athletes like Greg Morse, Ritchie Ryan, Steve Sexton, Jim Whalen, Ray Cipperly, Gary Morton, Kenny Goglas (HoF), Tom Ryall (HoF) and Ron Zapoticzny (HoF) during our phone interview. He stepped away after the 1970 season and became athletic director at Colonia High School. After several years, he became District Supervisor of Health, PE and Athletics. Then,







John O'Rourke, Coach John Gibson, and Bob Kasko



Coach Gabriel, Pat Cunningham, Bob Kasko



(L to R) Cary Hannah, Bob Kasko, and Henry Chomicki



1st Team All M.C.

he was promoted to vice-principal at CHS for eight years. From there, he moved over to WHS for seven years as vice- principal. He was then named principal at School #23 for five years. After considering retirement, Bob received a call from then Superintendent Dr. Fred Buonocore (HoF). He accepted the position of principal at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School for the next three years. In total, Bob Kasko devoted 35 years of his life to public school education as a teacher, coach, supervisor and school administrator at all three Woodbridge Township high schools, one JHS, and one elementary school. That is certainly an impressive record. We thank Bob for the positive straight forward impact he had on thousands of Woodbridge Township students. His influence extends far and wide to many students, staff, parents and families.

When the WTAAA re-organized in 2015 after a 15 year hiatus, Bob was a member of our committee through 2018. Again, we thank him for his service.

Bob and his late wife, Joan, raised their three children, Jeff, Greg and Nancy in Westfield, New Jersey. All three were exceptional athletes for the Westfield Blue Devils. Bob and Joan were also blessed with eight grandchildren. Currently, Bob shares his life with his children and grandchildren and with Pat Sharp Lagay, a high school friend and former Barron cheerleader.

The WTAAA was very pleased when Bob accepted the Guest of Honor role for our 2023 Hall of Fame induction dinner. He now joins a small but elite group of Woodbridge Township athletes, coaches and contributors with the distinguished Guest of Honor designation. Congratulations Bob! The WTAAA wishes Robert "Bob" Kasko the very best of happiness and good health in the future.

Voting Members

Nick Sardone

President / Trustee

Sandra Schmidtke

HOF | Coach | CHS Vice President / Trustee

Gregg Ficarra

Councilman | JFK Trustee

Ann Cyrana

HOF | Coach | JFK, CHS Secretary

> **Jim Anderson** HOF | JFK

Kyle Anderson

Councilman | JFK

Tom Chmiel

HOF | Coach | WHS, CHS

Nancy Cuntala

HOF | Coach | JFK

Sharon Couch DiLonardo HOF | Coach | CHS, JFK

Rich Duda

Robert Farrell

HOF CHS

Michael Henderson CHS | JFK

Norma Arnesen Grasso

HOF | Coach | JFK, WHS

Michael Kaelber

HOF | Coach | CHS

Ellen Baureis Pisano

HOF | Coach | CHS, WHS

Tina Sabunas

HOF | CHS

Amanda Small Scarano

Michael Yannazzo

HOF | Coach | WHS

Bobby Timinski

HOF | CHS

Non-Voting Members

Vito Cimilluca

Business Administrator Township of Woodbridge, NJ

Patrick Muller

Treasurer

NOTE: The WTAAA was active between 1989-2000. The current committee reorganized the Hall of Fame in 2015. Due to the pandemic, there were no inductions in 2020 or 2021.

Woodbridge Township Athletic Alumni Association

2023 Hall of Fame Committee

19th Induction Dinner



First row - Mike Yannazzo, Bobby Timinski, Nancy Cuntala, Sharon Couch DiLonardo, Amanda Small Scarano, Nick Sardone, Tom Chmiel Second row - Bob Farrell, Gregg Ficarra, Rich Duda, Norma Grasso, Mike Kaelber Absent from photo - Sandy Schmidtke, Ann Cyrana, Jim Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Ellen Baureis Pisano,

Tina Sabunas, Mike Henderson, Vito Cimilluca, Patrick Muller.

The WTAAA is very proud to welcome this incredible 2023 class to our Hall of Fame. The class has achieved tremendous success not only athletically, but also, academically and professionally. They represent not only the best from Woodbridge Township but many excellent colleges and universities. The new members were selected from a very strong field of nominees. Tonight, we celebrate their many accomplishments, and congratulate the 2023 Hall of Famers with gratitude for a job well done.

The WTAAA has started to organize a website. Just go to hall.maxmize.us. Here, you will see the biographies for the first six years of the seventeen previous Hall of Fame inductions. The WTAAA is producing a new website. We are working with BiggerFish Marketing, Woodbridge, towards a late fall 2023 launch.

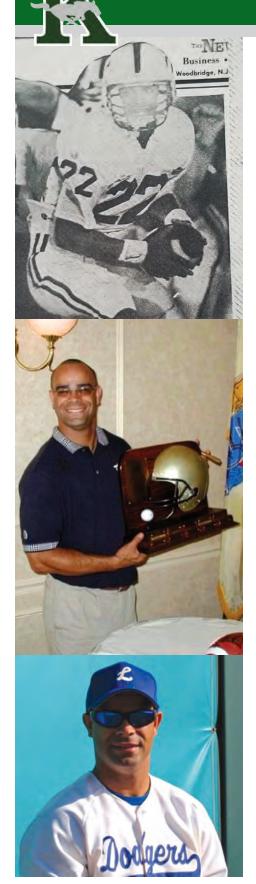
Special thanks are extended to Steven Steinberg and Steven C. Simzak at Stone Mountain Printing, Woodbridge, for printing the program, and Joe Romer Trophy **Shop** in Edison. We also wish to thank our writers and typists: namely Jim Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Tom Chmiel, Michael Kaelber, Nancy Cuntala, Nick Sardone, Amanda Small Scarano, and very special thanks to Ann Cyrana. We wish to thank the many local businesses for their advertisements in our booklet. Please support these businesses. They support the WTAAA and our senior scholarship awards.

We extend our appreciation to Mayor McCormac, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Senator Vitale, Assemblywoman Lopez, and Assemblyman Wisnewski, and Dr. Massimino and the Board of Education for their proclamations; T.V. 35/36 for taping the induction dinner; Debbie Meehan of The Corner newspaper; and Brian Molnar and his entire staff at the Woodbridge Community Center.

Finally, sincere thanks go to the entire WTAAA Hall of Fame Committee for their considerable effort and time in planning and organizing the dinner. Special thanks go to Norma Grasso for planning the table reservations. Specail thanks to Mike Kaelber for working with the Woodbridge Township offices on the proclamations, certifications, and resolutions.

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KYLE ANDERSON CLASS OF 1986



When you think of 2023 Hall of Fame Inductee Kyle Anderson the word "versatile" should come to mind. As a boy growing up in the Iselin section of town Kyle would often be found tagging along behind 2015 WTAAA Hall of Famer big brother, James Anderson, and Jimmy's best friend 2022 WTAAA Hall of Famer, Jason Sims. Kyle would often have to play any position to get on the field. He had to be versatile. Since Jimmy and Jason were usually competing against each other, Kyle would have to play "steady quarterback, right field, or steady center." He would play anywhere just to be on the field with those guys. When 2015 WTAAA Hall of Famer, Ron Allen moved to Iselin he and Kyle would become teammates and instant best friends. This group of friends Kyle grew up with was loaded with athletic talent, and you had to catch the ball when it came to you, or else it would go to somebody else. Ron and Kyle were two of the younger guys who were allowed to play with the older boys because they could keep up. As a result, Kyle would excel when he played with boys his own age. Iselin AA baseball and the Iselin Giants Pop Warner programs were where Kyle would spend his spring and fall. He would remain a versatile athlete throughout his youth, but he was known for being a dominant pitcher and home run hitter down at old

When Kyle entered JFK HS he was determined to make his mark as QB, but he had 2023 WTAAA Hall of Fame inductee Guy Jensen in front of him, so he made the switch to wide receiver and safety. In 1984 the JFK Mustangs would finish 8-1 and were 5-0 division champs and beat Woodbridge on Thanksgiving in front of 3,500 spectators. In the winter of 1985, Kyle ran Track for WTAAA Hall of Fame coach Herb Hollowell and was selected 1st Team All-County in the 400-meter run and was a member of the 1st Team All-County 4x400 relay team. In Kyle's senior football season, he would win the QB starting position and pass for over 850 yards. However, with several key injuries and the sudden transfer of a star running back, the Mustangs struggled with a 3-6 season. Looking back on the schedule 5 of the 6 teams they lost to made it to their sectional final. A tough schedule for even the healthiest of teams.

In 1987, Kyle would attend Trenton State College (now The College of NJ). He was part of a recruited group of football players that would be known as one of the greatest recruiting classes ever at TSC. Kyle was one of many freshmen that would earn varsity letters during a 4-6 campaign. In 1988, his sophomore year, he was a starting wide receiver and return specialist who had 517 all-purpose yards and averaged 10 yards every time he touched the ball. The 1988 team won the NJ Athletic Conference and Kyle was selected to the All-NJAC Team. During the 1989 season, TSC would finish 8-1-1 and conference runner-up. Kyle would again make the All-NJAC team in '89. He averaged 21.2 yards per catch and 16.4 per touch all-purpose yards. In all Kyle finished with 709 total yards and 3 TDs in 1989. Kyle's senior year

at Trenton State he was a member of the TCNJ 1990 Hall of Fame Team of Distinction. The 1990 team was the first to ever qualify for the NCAA Tournament and to win an NCAA Playoff game (24-14 over Ithaca). The final record for the 1990 team was 10-2 and still is the bar for team victories (10) 33 years later. Kyle would again be named to the All-NJAC Team and would finish his career with 1,585 all-purpose yards, 5 career TDs, and averaged 12.28 yards per touch. 1990 team finished 10-2 (NJAC Champs, 1st NCAA Qualifier, and 1st NCAA Victory)

One regret Kyle had was not playing baseball at TCNJ. Although he made the TCNJ baseball team he decided that football would be his only sport. However, a few years after college he was recruited to play semi-pro baseball. Kyle played in the USOTB league with the South Brunswick White Sox, the Livingston Dodgers, and the NJ Cardinals for 11 seasons. Kyle played 2nd base and CF batting .396 and was the team leader in stolen bases his first 7 seasons. Many of his teammates were former major leaguers like WTAAA Hall of Famer Mike Manfre (Reds), Kurt Leiter (AA Minors), Fernando Gonzalez (San Diego Padres, 8 seasons), and World Series ring holder, Dan Morogiello (Orioles). In Kyle's first meeting with the World Series ring holder, Morogiello would ask Kyle after hitting a triple "Where did you play your pro ball?" Kyle's response "I never played pro baseball, I played college football" Morogiello's response was "You chose the wrong sport."

Kyle began his coaching career at TCNJ in the late '90s, coaching the QBs and WRs under his coaching mentor Eric Hamilton. During his tenure, TCNJ qualified and won an NCAA playoff game for the second time. Kyle is credited with mentoring All-American WR Tino Russo, and WR Brendan Prophett. Prophett would later become an NFL Scout and Director of Player Development under the NY Jets' former Head Coach Rex Ryan.

At the conclusion of his college coaching career, Kyle returned to Woodbridge Township and found his calling in coaching our township youth in football, basketball, and baseball. Kyle rejoined the Iselin Giants, a youth football and cheer program. In 2005 he was elected President. Under Kyle's leadership, there have been several league and regional champions in football. The cheer program has had many National Pop Warner Champions. In 2017 the Iselin Giants merged with the Colonia Patriots to form the now Woodbridge Broncos. In all, these programs have fed hundreds of studentathletes to our Woodbridge Township high schools and their sports teams. Kyle would like to thank his wife, Denise, friends, and the many volunteers for the success of this program. Kyle resides in Colonia with his wife, Denise, daughter Nyah, and sons Derek and Bryan. Son Kyle resides in South Plainfield and daughter Olivia resides in Newark, Delaware.

The WTAAA welcomes Kyle to our Hall of Fame. Congratulations!

FRANK BECKHORN CLASS OF 1992





Frank was a two-sport athlete at Woodbridge High School. He played three years of varsity baseball for Coach Jim Lammers and three years of basketball for Coach Tom Chmiel (HoF).

Frank was an absolute star on the diamond. 1990 - Honorable Mention- The News Tribune (Batting Ave .297, Homeruns 3, RBI 18) 1991 - 3rd team Star Ledger All State (All Groups) (Batting Ave .548, HR 2, RBI 28) 1st team Star Ledger All County 1st team The News Tribune All County 1992- 3rd team The News Tribune All County (Batting Ave .444, HR 2, RBI 22)

After Frank's All County season in 1991, Coach Jim Lammers said, "He just had a super year for us. He was very consistent and he hit to all fields. We knew he was a good hitter, but we never dreamed he'd have this kind of year." "I think the classic game for him was the second time versus East Brunswick and he was 4 for 4, and defensively he was very good. He made three errors in 132 chances and two of those were throwing." (Source: The News Tribune-All County Article, June, 1991)

Following high school, Frank began his college career at Seton Hall University as a non-scholarship player. He started 3/10 games but had to leave the Pirate program in order to work. He did remain in school there. However, when he realized that he missed the sport, he enrolled at Kean University. This is when his college career really took off (1996-1998).

During his three years at Kean, Frank had a career batting average of .483, a slugging percentage of .951, with 31 homeruns and 152 RBI. In 1997 and 1998, he received the Bill Diogardi Award as NJAC Player of the Year. He was First Team New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) in 1996, 1997 and 1998. He enjoyed a 29 game hitting streak from the 1996 into 1997 seasons. This is still a school record.

Frank made three NCAA-D-3 All American teams (1996-1998), including First Team in 1998. He was twice named NJAC, ECAC and NJCBA Player of the Year and Mid-Atlantic Regional Player of the Year in 1998. He was an ABCA All Region First Team selection in 1996, 1997 and 1998. He was named to the NJCBA Division 3 All-State First Team in 1996, 1997 and 1998, and the All-Metro All Star Team in 1996-1998. He

played for Jim Casalino for two seasons and Neil Ioviero for his last season. He was a Charlie Lau award winner in 1998.

Frank's college career at Kean was so outstanding that he was inducted into the Cougar Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006. Today, he still holds the NCAA Division 3 record with a career .483 batting average and he remains second in all divisions nationally. He earned his bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education in 1999 and a master's in Health and Physical Education in 2002.(Source: Kean University Athletic Hall of Fame website)

Frank played two seasons of Independent Pro Baseball with the Nashua Pride in 1998 and 1999. He also spent time with the Somerset Patriots and Atlantic City Surfs. He graduated from Kean in 1999 and later was an assistant coach there from 2004-2008 and 2012-2016. When he was an assistant, Kean won the NCAA Division 3 National Championship in 2007.

Frank wishes to thank the WTAAA and voters for honoring him with this prestigious award. He congratulates the past winners and this year's list of great recipients from Woodbridge, Colonia and JFK. He thanks his family, friends, former teammates and former players who each played a critical role in the person he has become today. He cited a great quote that says, "Show me your friends, and I will show you your future." This could not be more true, he said.

Frank went on to share a few memories. He remembered beating perennial power Brooklawn in American Legion and being the runner up in the American Legion State Tournament under coaches Frank Notaro and Bruce Muretta .He mentioned winning the 2007 National Championship at Kean University and signing his first professional baseball contract. He ended by saying, thank you again for bestowing this great honor upon me.

Today, Frank is married to Kimberly, an elementary school teacher in Linden. The couple has two children, Jimmy and Jillian. Frank is a middle school physical education teacher in Linden. He is also the "voice of Tiger sports" as PA announcer for soccer, football and basketball games. Yes, the former Barron is now a Tiger officially.

The WTAAA welcomes Frank to our Hall of Fame. Congratulations!

JOSEPH BERGONDO CLASS OF 2000







Joe is another athletic three-sport star from John F. Kennedy Memorial High School in football, basketball and baseball and a twosport athlete at The College of New Jersey.

At JFK, Joe played football for Coach Scott Osborne during the 1997, 1998 and 1999 seasons as a quarterback, placekicker, punter and defensive back. His junior and senior year teams finished with records of 6-4 and 8-2 respectively. The senior year team won the GMC Blue Division. Personally, as a sophomore, Joe threw six touchdown passes, kicked 15 extra points and returned a 55-yard interception return. As a junior, Joe was awarded First Team Star Ledger All County and Second Team Home News Tribune honors as a placekicker/punter. (43.6 average) He threw for 667 yards and seven touchdowns. He rushed for 566 yards and eight touchdowns. As a senior, Joe was awarded First Team Star Ledger All-County and Home News Tribune All Area. He booted 22 extra points and a 37 yard field goal. He threw 25/52 passes for 550 yards and nine touchdowns. He rushed 53 times for 558 yards. At safety, he had 55 tackles and 4 interceptions. He led Mustang football to 18 varsity wins. He was named a prestigious Bill Denny/Rutgers University Scholarship award winner from JFK.

Joe played basketball (team captain) and baseball for Coach Jerry Smith, Sr. (HoF) Joe's baseball career statistics at JFK included at bats (269), runs scored (91), hits (98), doubles (22), triples (5), homeruns (6), walks (25), stolen bases (35), RBI (61) and batting average (.366) As a pitcher, Joe had a 2.28 ERA. He was 11-4. (We credit and thank Coach Jerry Smith Sr. for the batting, pitching and team records.) Joe was All-Division and All-Conference in 1999-2000. His senior year team was 20-6. They were division champions for the seventh time.

Joe continued to play two sports at The College of New Jersey. In baseball, he played for veteran coach Rick Dell for four varsity seasons at second base. His statistics included the following:

2001 - 30 games - .285 BA

2002 - 23 games - .230 BA, 14 hits, 6 RBI

2003 - 25 games - .300 BA, 9 hits, 4 RBI

2004 - 35 games - .375 BA, 8 RBI

Career: 113 games - .288 BA, 72 hits, 34 RBI

Joe received the Coaches Award in 2003. He was also a relief pitcher at TCNJ. In football, Joe played for a veteran coach Eric Hamilton. His stats included:

YEAR GMS REC YDS TD AP YDS PR YDS KR YDS

0 0 2002 1 0 12 -2 4 2003 10 8 133 0 652 264 248 2004 5 0 10 120 3 192 72 16 18 253 3 856 334 252

(Sources for both sports: TCNJ Football Website)

In 2004, Joe was named a New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) Honorable Mention Punt Returner and an NJAC Honorable Mention All-Academic selection as a TCNJ Scholar Athlete. (Biology Education major)

Joe wishes to thank all of his high school and college coaches that we mentioned previously for contributing to his athletic development and success. He also wants to thank his JFK Athletic Directors, namely the late Joe DiMario and Jared Rummage and all the athletes/teammates he had along the way; many who became lifelong friends through these sports.

Finally, Joe wants to thank four people the most. First, they are his two older brothers, Rob and Chris Bergondo. "Their support from little league through my last collegiate game and driving hours to games to watch me play was a critical part of becoming the person I am." Next, Joe thanks his mom, Sue Bergondo. "She shagged fly balls so I could get some batting practice. She took me to practice, picked me up and cheered for me. She provided comfort, love and support regardless of how I played." Finally, Joe thanks his father, Bob, for being his first and best coach. "Dad spent hours helping me work on whatever sport we were playing. After a long day of work, he would work with me on kicking a football or taking some extra swings. He loved watching his sons play. He taught me that nothing was impossible. He would remind me to use my ability and smarts. I do not remember him missing a single game including an 18-hour trip to Wisconsin for the D3 College World Series. Dad passed in 2007 but I am positive he would be proud of this honor. I'd be remiss to think I would be where I am today without dad, mom and my

For memorable games, the 1999 football win vs. Carteret stands out. After a tough first half, we stormed out and won the second half. In college at TCNJ, Joe remembers his first hit during the spring trip to Florida.

Today, Joe is a pharmacist for Optum RX. He is married to Alicia and are blessed with two children, Briella and Gianna. Joe wishes to thank his wife and daughters for having to listen to the "Glory Days" stories.

Congratulations Joseph Bergondo and welcome to the WTAAA Hall of Fame.









Matthew joins his father, Mike, as the ninth father/son duo in the WTAAA Hall of Fame. They join the Aguilas, Etzolds, Giordanos, Jagos, Marciniaks, Petersons, Tyrells and Barbatos. Matthew also joins his uncle, Steve Cilento.

Matt played three sports at Colonia High School. They included football for HoF coaches Patsy Barbato and Ben LaSala, basketball for Kenneth Pace, Sr. (HoF), and baseball for two years with Lou Urbano and two years with Frank Notaro.

In football, at quarterback, Matt's three teams finished 5-3-1 and 7-3 (playoffs) under Coach Barbato. His senior year team was 7-2 under Coach LaSala. He was awarded 2nd team Star Ledger All County honors at placekicker and 3rd team honors from The Home News Tribune at defensive back. He passed for eight touchdowns and ran for eight.

In basketball as point guard, Matt was a twoyear starter on winning teams for Coach Pace. When spring arrived, Matt turned his focus to baseball, where he played shortstop for the Patriots. His sophomore team under Coach Urbano, won the GMC White Division and included Jerry Connell (HoF) Following his junior year, Matt was named 2nd team Star Ledger. After senior year, he was named 2nd team All County by The Home News Tribune and 1st team All-County Star Ledger. He batted .408.

Following his senior year in 1997, The Home News Tribune presented Matt with the sixth annual Gene Haley Award Trophy and a \$500 scholarship as the area's best male athlete. Coach Ben LaSala later said, "I've never met a kid who's worked harder and accomplished more than Matt." He went on to say, "in every sport Matt plays, he plays the position you need to combine brains with athletic ability and guts. He's a winner...I hope my son grows up to be like him."

Coach Ken Pace, Sr. said, "Matt Cilento is just about as gutsy a kid as you'll ever find. He is a throwback kind of kid. I can't begin to tell you how many times the past two years he stayed in the pocket waiting for his receiver to make a break and got his clock cleaned from the weak side. He always got up from the type of hits that might've kept a lot of bigger kids down."

Coach Frank Notaro said, "Having Matt on the team was almost like having another assistant coach on the team. His work ethic and leadership were just outstanding. In two years, I never heard any of our Colonia players say a negative word about him." (Source: "Cilento Named Gene Haley

Award Winner", The Home News Tribune by Joseph Skrec, June 19,1997, pp. D1 and D7).

Matt received a partial baseball scholarship to Barry University in Florida, (Sunshine State Conference) where he played four years of Division 2 ball. As a freshmen in 1998, he helped the Bucs to a first ever NCAA-Div. 2-Regional World Series Tournament. He batted .320 with 25 RBI's, 23 runs scored, 6 doubles, 2 triples and 3 homeruns. For his career, he batted .279 with 107 hits, 16 doubles, 7 triples, 8 homeruns, 81 runs scored, 67 RBI, 47 walks, 14 sac flies, 153 games played, 120 starts and a .933 fielding percentage. (mostly at shortstop). Matt was also a team captain.

In 2001, he received the school's Earl Oster Leadership Award. More than fifteen years after graduating, Matt still ranks tied for 3rd in school history with career triples (7), 6th in career assists (338) and 10th in double plays turned (48). (Source: Intensity Baseball website)

Matt was asked about the greatest influences in his life. He said, "The people that have had the biggest impact on my athletic career growing up were my mother, Beverly, and father, Mike. They shaped me as a student athlete by instilling a work ethic and persistence in me." He also wants to thank all of his coaches at Colonia High School who played a role in his development; Patsy Barbato, Ben LaSala, Ken Pace, Lou Urbano and Frank Notaro. Finally, Matt said, "I have so many fond memories during my four-year athletic career at CHS. My favorite memories were just competing with my teammates in every sport. They truly were my extended family."

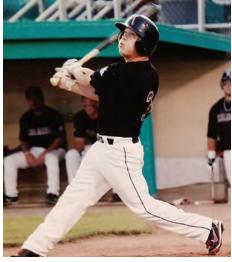
Today, Matt is a special education teacher and assistant baseball coach at Point Pleasant Boro High School. (since 2014). Formerly, he was head coach at Colonia High School and AL Johnson in Clark for two years each. He was also an assistant at NJCU for two years and head football coach at Point Pleasant Boro in 2016 and 2017. Matt is married to Kelly, a principal at Iselin Middle School. The couple has been blessed with four children, Connor, Kyleigh, Kayden and Khloey. All are involved in athletics.

The WTAAA welcomes Matthew Cilento to our Hall of Fame, where he joins his father, Mike, and his uncle, Steve. Congratulations!

JEFFREY MICHAEL GROSE CLASS OF 2002









Jeffrey joins his dad, Jeff Grose, as the tenth father/son duo in the WTAAA Hall of Fame. They join the Aquilas, Etzolds, Giordanos, Jagos, Marciniaks, Petersons, Tyrrells, Barbatos and Cilentos. Jeffrey also joins his uncle, Harry Grose.

At JFKMHS, Jeff played soccer for Ed Bobal at a high level, but it was baseball where his star was brightest. He played for veteran WTAAA Hall of Fame Coach Jerry Smith Sr. For example, during his junior season, Jeff pitched for a 9-1 record with two saves. In 64 innings, he had 65 K's. He batted .393 with 7 HR's, 10 doubles and a GMC leading 44 RBI. The team's record was 22-5. The Mustangs won the GMC White Division title. Jeff made the Associated Press First Team All-State at utility, Third Team Star Ledger All-State, All-Groups, and First Team All-Area by The Star

was the ultimate fierce competitor." Coach Smith added, "Jeff epitomized a player that loved to play the game. He was the most competitive player I have coached. He never sat on the bench. He hustled on the field and was always into the game."

Fred Hill, Sr., the legendary coach at Rutgers University, recruited Jeff to play outfield. He started on varsity as a freshman in 2003 and finished with a batting average of .269 with 28 hits, 3 doubles, 5 triples and a homerun. By the end of his junior season, Jeff was named 3rd team Big East Conference (LF). By the end of his senior season, he was named 2nd team Big East Conference (CF). During Jeff's four years at Rutgers, the team records were 37-22, 30-23, 32-21 and 29-28-1. He was a teammate of major league ballplayer Todd Frazier and his brother, Jeff.

Rutgers University Statistics (All Under Coach Fred Hill Sr.)										
Year	Games	AB	Runs	Hits	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	ВА
2003	39	104	28	28	3	5	1	19	2	.269
2004	50	186	36	62	9	1	2	30	7	.333
2005	49	189	39	60	10	2	0	21	10	.317
2006	58	235	52	79	15	2	2	30	10	.336
Totals	196	714	155	229	37	10	5	100	29	.321
Independent Professional Totals (4 years)										
Totals	283	971	172	268	33	8	11	133	37	.276
(Kalamazoo Kings 2007-2009, NJ Jackals 2010)										

Sources: The Baseball Cube (online) and Rutgers Baseball Website (online)

Ledger and The Home News/Tribune.

During senior year, Jeff pitched to a 7-0 record. In 57 innings, he had 70 K's. He batted .429 with 2 HR's, 38 RBI and 19 stolen bases. Jeff was named to the Associated Press All-State First Team as a pitcher and First Team Star Ledger All-State.

He was named The Home News Tribune Player of the Year. He left JFK as the school's all-time leader in runs scored (118), doubles (30), triples (10), RBI (116), steals (44) and walks. He was second in hits (113) and second in wins with an 18-2 career mark and a 2.18 ERA. He had 10 HR's (4th place), and a .388 career batting average (5th place). The Mustangs won the GMC White Division title for the second straight season. JFK had 57 team victories in Jeff's three varsity seasons. (We credit Coach Smith for the school's hitting and pitching records at JFKMHS)

Jeff also led the JFK soccer team to a 17-3 record, the GMC Blue Division title and to the GMC Championship game. He scored 18 goals and had 9 assists. He was a Home News Tribune All-Area First Team selection. He was also a member of the basketball team for Coach Smith.

At the end of the 2002 scholastic season, Jeff was awarded the annual Gene Haley Memorial Scholarship and trophy as the area's best male athlete by The Home News Tribune.

Recently, Coach Jerry Smith said the following, "Jeff was the first one on the field and first off the field. He never sat. He was always into the game. He

According to our research, Jeff is one of nine Woodbridge Township High School graduates to play baseball at Rutgers University (D1) beginning with Harding Peterson (HoF) in 1947.

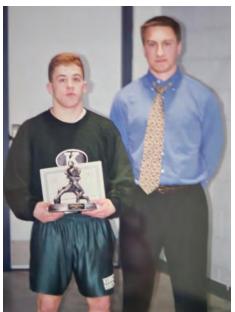
Jeff wishes to thank his parents, Joyce, Jeff, Doug and Judi for all of their support. He also thanks all of his coaches who had a role in his development and success especially Jerry Smith Sr. and Fred Hill Sr. "Eight years of my career were spent under these hardworking and dedicated leaders at JFKMHS and Rutgers University. I would not be the player or person I am today without their mentorship, and I am forever grateful."

Jeff wishes to share a very special thank you to his late grandmother, Peggy Grose. "She was one of my biggest supporters during my entire career and will forever be missed." Jeff sends a thank you to his teammates for always having his back when we went to battle. This allowed for great things to happen while we played together regardless of the sport. Finally, Jeff thanks the WTAAA HoF committee that has chosen to give him such a significant award. "I am truly honored to join such a great group of athletes and teams in the Woodbridge Township HoF."

Today, Jeff is a security manager with Fed Ex. He is married to Tracy. The couple is blessed to have three children, Jeffrey Jr., Brienna and Cameron. The WTAAA is pleased to welcome Jeff Grose Jr. to our Hall of Fame where he joins his dad, Jeff Sr., and uncle, Harry. Congratulations!

ED GUTNIK CLASS OF 2001







Ed is considered one of the greatest wrestlers in Woodbridge Township history.

For example, at the GMC Tournament, he won titles in 1999 (at 119), 2000 (at 125), and 2001 (at 130).

At the District 19 Tournament, he took First Place honors in 1998 (at 103), 2000 (at 125) and 2001 (at 130).

At the Regional Tournament, Ed won in 2000 (at 125) and 2001 (at 130). He was named outstanding wrestler. Finally, at the New Jersey Statewide Wrestling Tournament, Ed accomplished the following. In 1998, he was a 5th place state winner at 103. In 1999 and 2000, he was a 7th place state winner at 119 and 125. By the end of his senior season in 2001, Ed Gutnick realized his ultimate dream. He captured the New Jersey State Championship in a 12-2 victory at 130 before 9,987 wrestling fans at the Continental Airlines Arena. This was his favorite high school memory. Ed finished his last two years with records of 34-2 and 38-0. His total career record at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School was 138-11.

Ed's senior team won the GMC Blue Division title. His head coach, Mike Volpe, said, "Ed was now focused on the team, not just himself." When he graduated in 2001, Ed was the winningest wrestler in Middlesex County history. He was named The Star Ledger and The Home News Tribune Wrestler of the Year and first team Star Ledger All State All Groups under head coach Mike Volpe. Joe Harrington was his head coach for one season. Cesar Samaniego was a four-year assistant coach. After his New Jersey State Championship, Ed said the following, "Once I made it to the State Finals, I didn't feel any more pressure. I loved the spotlight every time I made it to a region or district final and this felt the same only bigger. When I look at the tape of the match, you see me joking with my coaches during breaks and he is on the other side looking real serious." (Source: The Star Ledger by Mike Helfgot. "Gutnick Sparkles in the Biggest Spotlight," March 26, 2001, p. 56)

Ed's high school coach Mike Volpe in a recent phone interview said the following. "Ed was the hardest working athlete I coached. He was focused and goal oriented. He always gave his medals and trophies to me to put away. When I asked him, why are you giving everything to me? Ed's response was, 'these aren't the ones I really want." When Ed won the State Title his senior year, he said, "I am not giving you this one."

After high school, Ed's wrestling journey continued when he was offered an athletic scholarship to the University of Wisconsin. (NCAA Division 1) The Badgers participate in the Big Ten conference. It is considered by many to be the strongest collegiate wrestling conference in America from top to bottom in the standings. Here is Ed's Big Ten record under coach Barry Davis.

2002—Red shirt season. He wrestled unattached 9-4.

2003-At 149 pounds-9-2, at 133 pounds - 9-13 Total 18-15, NCAA qualified, Big 10-8th.

2004—At 133 pounds - 23-12 and 5-3 in Big Ten, NCAA qualified, Big Ten—3rd (seeded

2005—At 141 pounds – 8-5 – sustained an ACL injury.

2006—At 141 pounds – 11-11 and 4-3 in Big Ten, NCAA qualified for the 3rd time

Ed's pin with 5:31 left over his Purdue opponent produced a dual meet team victory by the Badgers. He also won his final regular season match at Wisconsin Fieldhouse over his Ohio State opponent. (Source: University of Wisconsin Wrestling history website)

Ed was asked about his five-year college experience. He said that "he loved Madison, Wisconsin. The campus was amazing. He had great friends and the overall experience was cool."

From 2007-2011, Ed was an assistant wrestling coach at Brown University. However, he was still wrestling on a National level. In 2009, he took the 8^{th} place medal at the USA Senior Freestyle Nationals.

Today, Ed is involved in software technology sales and is an assistant high school wrestling coach. He is married to Rebecca and they have an eight-month-old daughter named Roxie.

Ed wishes to thank his mom and dad, Lana and Leo, for bringing him up properly and helping him with his youth wrestling development. He also wants to thank his three JFK coaches namely Mr. Joe Harrington, Mr. Mike Volpe and Mr. Cesar Samaniego. Finally, he thanks Mr. Ernie Monoco from Edge Wrestling and the entire Woodbridge Township wrestling community and friends for their personal support and encouragement.

Congratulations Ed and welcome to the WTAAA Hall of Fame!



JENNIFER HOERNER CLASS OF 1996

Jennifer became another Woodbridge Township softball player to reach the college level at NCAA Division 1 as a LaSalle University Explorer.

At Colonia High School, Jennifer enjoyed four successful season under WTAAA Hall of Fames coaches Stew Jago (1993), Ben LaSala and Ann Cyrana (1994-1996). Jennifer reached the pinnacle of success when The Star Ledger named her a Second Team All-State, All-Groups selection and a First team All-Group 3 in 1996. She was also named First Team All-County by The Star Ledger and Second Team All-Area by The Home News Tribune. During that huge senior season, she batted .437 with 4 HR's, 19 RBI and 22 runs scored. As a junior in 1995, Jennifer was named Second Team All-County by The News Tribune and The Star Ledger at the outfield position. Coach Ann Cyrana had this to say, "Jen was one of those athletes that led by example. She was focused in practice to get herself and her team better... but never lost the ability to have fun also. She was a rare talent early in my coaching career, and I have used her abilities as a measuring stick ever since."

In addition to high school softball, Jennifer played travel softball with the New Jersey Beach Girls for Coach Joseph Botti. She was recruited after her junior year at Colonia High School while playing for the NJ Beach Girls to play Division 1 Softball at LaSalle University by head Coach Ray Perri. Jennifer said that she traveled all over the United States with the Beach Girls, loved the experience and most of all, the competitive exposure to the game. The team, player friendships and bonds that were made in high school, travel and college are irreplaceable, she added.

From 1997-2000, Jennifer played for LaSalle University in Philadelphia. To this day, she is still ranked on the school's top ten milestone chart. She is tied for #6 in games started, 52, and is tied for #8 in games played, 52, in a single season 2000. In her first two seasons there, the Explorers won 50 games under Coach Ray Perri. The program competed in the Atlantic-10 Conference all four years. During her last two seasons, Jennifer played for Coach Carla Camino.

Jennifer said that competitive Division 1 softball helped to mold the successful professional she is today. Having to juggle college classes when you had morning and afternoon workouts, practices and games or due to long road trips to games via bus or plane, you are forced to become independent very quickly. She added that you have to adjust your own softball expectations, maintain your class credits and GPA and, of course, have a little fun too. College was awesome. Jennifer said, "She enjoyed every minute of the four years at LaSalle playing softball and would do it all over again. My teammates were like family to me and we did a lot together. It was a blast."

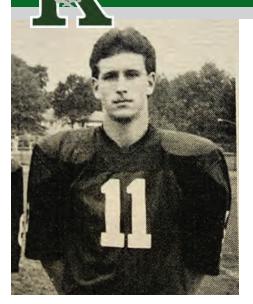
Jennifer wishes to thank her mom, Lynn, for the support, guidance and trust over the years across the portfolio of her life but also throughout her softball career. It is not cheap to play sports, especially travel. Jennifer is also truly thankful for the opportunity to play Division 1 softball. "Mom attended all the games both in high school and as much as she could traveling to LaSalle on the weekends and holidays."

Jennifer also wants to thank her coaches. "They challenged me to be a competitive softball player. They encouraged and supported me through hard practices and long days, hot or cold."

Today, Jennifer is a Senior Manager of Quality Operations for Roche Molecular Systems in Branchburg, NJ. She lives with her daughter Kylie, also a highly competitive high school varsity softball player. Kylie also plays on the NJ Finch's Aces 18U travel team. She has earned All-Area and All-Conference awards through all years of her high school career. She aspires to attend college where she can play competitive softball. Jennifer supports and encourages Kylie as mom, Lynn, did for her. The Finch's Aces travel all over the United States.

The WTAAA welcomes Jennifer Hoerner to our Hall of Fame and wishes Kylie the very best in her future college softball career. Congratulations!

GUY JENSEN CLASS OF 1985











Guy is considered one of the greatest three sport athletes in the history of John F. Kennedy Memorial High School. (JFK opened in September, 1964)

In football, for coach Cary Hamrah (HoF), Guy played guarterback and defensive back for three varsity seasons and was team captain.

1982—(6-2-1)—he threw 11 TD passes, over 1,000 yds and 2 TD runs.

1983—(4-4-1)—he threw 5 TD passes and over 1,000 yds.

1984—(8-1-0)—he threw 9 TD passes, 1,181 yds, and completed 53/89 passes.

He threw over 3,500 yards with 32 total touchdowns and completed 63% of his passes. (Source: The Star Ledger newspaper article, Sept., 1985). Guy considers his "most memorable high school team accomplishments" to be the 1984 football team victories at St. Thomas Aquinas 7-0 and home versus Metuchen 20-14. He believes both teams were undefeated at the time the Mustangs beat them. The Metuchen game was a 'pitch pass' to win the game.

Senior year, his Mustangs won the Bicentennial Athletic Conference Liberty Division. Guy was named 3rd Team All-County by The Star Ledger at quarterback and 2nd Team by The News Tribune and The Home News at defensive back and All "BAC". He was an All-State Honorable Mention and Courier News 1st team All-County.

In basketball, Guy started for two seasons under head coach Ray Newman (HoF). He was team captain during the hoops season. In baseball, he played for coach Lou "Buzzy" Estok and was named a team captain again. Senior year, Guy batted .460 with 1 HR and 15 RBI. His career batting average was .444. He was named 1st Team Metro by the Elizabeth Daily Journal and 2nd team All-County by The News Tribune, The Home News and The Star Ledger. He was 2nd Team All-State -All-Group 3. As a junior, he was named 2nd team All-County by The News Tribune and The Star Ledger. At the end of his senior seasons, Guy was selected for the GMC All Star baseball game and North/South football All Star game.

Guy began his college career at Upsala College in East Orange, NJ, under football coach Vinnie Capraro (HoF). His freshman season, he completed 57 passes for 785 yards, a frosh record there erasing records set by John Boatti in 1967. He also played baseball for coach Ed Lyons at shortstop and outfield for a Division

3 tournament team. After that first college season, he transferred to Trenton State College for the 1986-87 seasons. Guy started on defense at safety for one season as a sophomore under head coach Eric Hamilton. Unfortunately, a knee injury ended his career in 1987.

Guy started his coaching career as a baseball assistant at St. Joseph's High School under coach Lou Urbano. From 2000-2004, he was a basketball assistant there under Mark Taylor. He was also the head JV coach when his team won the GMC title in 2002. From 2004-2012, Guy was the head coach of boys basketball at Piscataway High School. He considers the program's accomplishments in 2007 and 2008 to be the most favorable coaching memories he has had. His teams won three GMC Red Division titles and were the GMC Tournament champions in 2007, after they were 4-20 in 2006. In 2008, his Piscataway team won the North Jersey Section 2 Group 4 Sectional Title and won 26 games. Guy was named Coach of the Year by several papers. In 2009, his Chiefs were GMC champs again. In 2014, he was an assistant girl's basketball coach at Metuchen when the team won Central Jersey Group 1. From 2015-2021, Guy was head boys coach at Metuchen. The team won the Haley Pod in 2021. From 2019-2021, he served as Metuchen High School head football coach. He was able to rebuild the roster from 16 to 45 players in just the first season.

Today, Guy is currently retired from coaching. His wife, Jodi, is a para professional (special education). They have two adult age children Ryan and Taylor. Ryan is engaged to Luci. Guy has worked full time as a court officer in New Brunswick for many years in the civil division. He wishes to thank the following people for helping him to develop his athletic skills. They are his mom, Eleanor; his brothers, Robert and Scott (JFK quarterback on their 1978 sectional championship team (HoF), mentor, and biggest fan); and his coaches namely Ron Osborne*, Ray Newman, Cary Hamrah*, Bob McLaughlin, Bob Lanigan, Gary Kuzniak*, Lou Urbano and Lou Estok. (*We remember In Memoriam)

Guy Jensen (#11) enjoyed a memorable athletic career at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School and at the college level for two years. He also achieved much coaching success at several locations in the area. For all these reasons, the WTAAA welcomes Guy to our Hall of Fame. Congratulations!

LAURIE MARTELLI SOLOMON

CLASS OF 1979







Laurie played and started on three of the greatest softball teams in Woodbridge High School history under head coach Joan Wataha (HoF) and assistant coach Mike Yannazzo (HoF). She also played basketball under tonight's Hall of Fame inductee coach Jim Sullivan.

In softball, Laurie was a three-year starter at third base. During the 1978 Lady Barron (HoF) season, the team reached its greatest accomplishment by winning the New Jersey State Group IV Championship in a thrilling 3-1 victory over Westfield. Laurie had this to say about the big game. "Going into the State Group 4 Championship game, we knew the best pitcher in New Jersey would be starting that game. Jackie Booth, of Westfield, came into this game with a 21-0 record, five no hitters and rumor had it the rest were one hitters. Coach Wataha knew we had to prepare our team and we only had one day to do so. Coach Joan rented a pitching machine and we practiced all afternoon into the evening changing everything from our normal batting stance and our swing in order to prepare for the 60 mph speeds we had to face. My teammates and I went into this game not cocky by really thinking if we played as a team; it would be possible to win." Coach Joan's quote in the Star Ledger after the victory said, "we heard she was fast, and we haven't faced many fast pitchers this year. We only had one day of practice to prepare for this game and worked on our hitting. We knew it would be tough to get many hits off Booth, but we figured if we could just hit the ball and get it on the ground, we would have a chance, especially if we played good defense." Laurie continued, "this turned out to be very true . We did just that , played an awesome defensive game and brought the title home to Woodbridge HS. I enjoyed playing for Coach Wataha and Coach Yannazzo during my 3-year career at Woodbridge High, third base. They were truly a wonderful example to follow and were always fair to my teammates and me."

Now, just to get to the final game, the Lady Barrons had to defeat Sayreville 3-2 on Laurie's go-ahead double in the sixth inning of the Central Jersey Group IV Sectional final and then Rancocas Valley in the State semifinal of a 5-4 comeback victory. It was a truly magical season against very strong teams.

The team repeated as Central Jersey Group IV Champions in 1979 by defeating JP Stevens 4-2, and then Shawnee in the State semifinal 3-2. Unfortunately, they lost the State final to Ridgewood 4-2. The Lady Barrons also won the old Middlesex County Athletic Conference title. Laurie was named to The Star Ledger All State All

Groups Second team. She was also named First Team All-County by The News Tribune and first team in the MCAC by the coaches. Laurie batted .349 with 15 RBI and a fielding average of 90% with 80 assists. Her three teams had records of 21-6, 24-4 and 24-4. The 1979 team finished fifth in The Star Ledger final Top 20. Overall, the Lady Barrons won back-to-back Central Jersey Group IV Sectional championships in 1978 and 1979, an outstanding accomplishment.

Laurie in her All County article said, "I've been playing third base all my life. All those years of practice were not for naught." She started playing softball at the age of nine. (Source: "Woodbridge Dominates", The Star Ledger, by Kim Norris, June 15, 1979.)

During basketball season, Laurie was a two year starter for Coach Jim Sullivan, tonight's new Hall of Fame Inductee, and assistant Coach Mike Stawicki. The Lady Barrons won the 1979 Middlesex County Athletic Conference title. Their team records were 16-7 and 17-5. Laurie said, "I have some very fond memories of Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Stawicki. They made us practice hard, every day and we knew if a game was lost based on laziness, we would pay the price in the next day's practice. It was suicide sprints for starters so we always kept that in mind and played our best. Coach Sullivan always closed our daily practice with each player shooting free throws with the almost impossible goal to make 10 in a row. He made it very clear to our team that the game is 'won and lost on the free throw line.' If you look at most final scores in any basketball game, the delta is typically missed free throws by the losing team. To this day, his comment lives on in my memory. Many of my most fondest memories were experienced while playing for both Coach Sullivan and Mr. Stawicki. I thank them for their time and commitment to our team."

Today, Laurie is co-proprietor of Synergy Sales, Inc., a manufacturing representative company that serves the electronic embedded industry. Laurie's family members include her parents Matthew and Anna Elizabeth (Betty); her children Adrian Elizabeth Solomon-Barbuto and her husband Andrew; Kimberly Solomon and boyfriend Nickolas; and brother Matthew and his wife Donna. Laurie thanks all the family members for being very important people in her life.

The WTAAA welcomes Laurie Martelli Solomon to our Hall of Fame. Congratulations!





Gregg was a multiple sport varsity athlete at JFKMHS in soccer (4 years), golf (4 years), track (2 years) and basketball (1). He earned 11 varsity letters.

The sport of soccer was Gregg's primary interest. His desire, motivation and passion for the game were obvious to coaches and observers. At JFK, he played for longtime coach Ed Bobal. He was a team captain during his junior and senior seasons and a four-year starter. His career high school statistics include 30 goals, 31 assists and 91 points. Gregg was a two-time All Division, All GMC Conference, All Middlesex County and All Area selection by local newspapers. He was a Star Ledger All State All Group 2 and All Group 3 selection. JFK won the GMC Blue Division during his sophomore season. In golf, Gregg was a three time captain.

Following high school, Gregg played four years of college soccer at NCAA Division 3 Catholic University during the 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 seasons. His college statistics included the following midfield numbers:

*Gregg was the leading team goal scorer in 1999 and the leading point scorer (goals and assists combined) all four years. He was a fouryear starter and two year captain his junior and senior seasons.

** Most total wins in a season in school history. (Source: Catholic University soccer website on line)

Gregg gives special thanks to his school coaches namely Brad Altland, Ed Bobal, Ken Pace, Sr. (HoF) and Patrick Kiernan.

At Catholic University, Gregg majored in civil engineering (BS degree) with a concentration in construction.

Today, Gregg is pre-construction director for CONSIGLI Corporation in Massachusetts. Gregg and his wife, Jennifer have three children, Alyssa, Liam and Matthew.

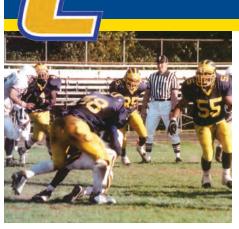
The WTAAA welcomes Gregg to our Hall of Fame. Congratulations!





Year	Goals	Assists	Points	Team Record	Conference Record
1998	7	0	14	7-13-1	4-3
1999*	7	4	18	11-7-0**	3-4
2000	3	1	7	4-13-2	2-5
2001	7	5	19	10-6-2	3-4
Totals	24	10	44	32-39-5	12-16

ROYCE MORGAN CLASS OF 2002









Royce was a varsity starter for Coach Ben LaSala (HoF) in 1999, 2000 and 2001. As a sophomore, he was a defensive line starter on a team that won the GMC White Division.

After his senior season (2001), he was named 1st team All Area by The Home News Tribune with 79 tackles, 7 sacks and one interception. He was also named to The Star Ledger All State Group 3 third team and the NJSIAA Super100 All State team. On offense, at tight end, he had 11 catches for 307 yards and two touchdowns. Coach LaSala said in the All-Area article of The Home News Tribune, "He was our leader who really came through." (source: All Area Football, Sunday, December 1,2001, pC9).

Coach LaSala said early in the season in a county preview article, "he's quick and he's in the right spot at the right time all the time. He's amazing at forcing turnovers. Royce is always making something happen." (source: "Morgan always in position to Excel", by Guy Kipp, The Star Ledger, p. 6) As the season developed, this early statement became obvious to Patriot fans. Following the high school sports season, Royce was nominated for the North-South All Star game at Rutgers University. Unfortunately, the game was cancelled due to poor field and weather conditions.

In the final game of the season on Thanksgiving Eve versus Woodbridge High School, Royce blocked the Barron kicker's 31-yard field goal attempt with 3:18 remaining and the Pats won the rivalry game 14-13. "I've never been in this type of emotional game before," said Morgan, who was also the first player in the backfield on a failed Woodbridge extra point attempt. "This was the wildest game ever." (source: "Patriots Stuff Barrons", by Keith Sargeant, The Home News Tribune, Thursday, November 23, 2000) Royce's three varsity football teams finished with records of 6-4, 7-3 and 6-5 respectively.

Royce was also a forward on the Colonia High School basketball team for Coach Ken Pace, Sr. (HoF). During his junior season, the Patriots won the GMCT championship in 2001 for the school's first county title since 1980. The team also won their third straight GMC White Division crown. In the spring, Royce participated on the Pats track and field team in the weight events.

Prior to enrolling at Lehigh University in the fall of 2002, Royce received many awards at Colonia High School in addition to his many athletic honors. For example, he scored 790 on the math portion of the SAT. He was a member of the Spanish Honor Society and was an Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar. He was a 2001 National High School Heisman Nominee. He was ranked in the Top 20 for academic achievement at CHS. He received the Kevin Evanko (HoF) Memorial Award and a South River Chapter of the National Football Foundation Scholarship (now known as the Bill Denny/Rutgers Letter winner Scholarship). He was also in the school band. For community activities, Royce was a D.A.R.E. role model, C.A.R.E., and Summer 2001 "Any Town"

camp participant. (source: "North vs. South, 24th Annual HS All Star Football Classic", Thursday, June 27, 2002, at Rutgers Stadium)

At Lehigh, Royce played four seasons of football from 2002-2006 (injured one season) on teams that finished 8-4, 8-3, 9-3, 8-3 and 6-5 respectively. The Mountain Hawks were Patriot League Co-Champions in 2004 and 2006.

They made the NCAA FCS Division Football Playoff in 2004. Royce was an All Patriot League selection in 2003 (2nd team). In 2005 and 2006, he was a first team selection under Head Coaches Pete Lembo (four seasons) and Andy Cohen (one season). Royce's career statistics at Lehigh include the following: Games played(40), total tackles(124), solo tackles(78), assists(49), tackles for loss(35.5), sacks(19.5), interceptions(1) for a touchdown, pass breakups(6) and fumbles recovered(2). (source: Lehigh University football website and record book online) On the school's milestone chart, Royce is still ranked #5 in individual tackles for loss in a career (35.5) and #4 in sacks (19.5).

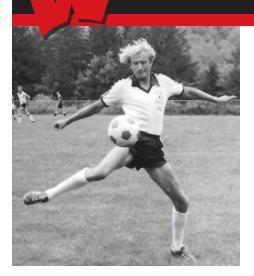
After completing his collegiate football career, Royce played three years in the Arena Fan (AF2) professional league with Mahoning Valley Thunder in 2008, Wilkes Barre-Scranton Pioneers in 2009 and Albany Panthers in 2012. In a 42-41 Thunder win over Louisville, Royce rewrote the Thunder record books in setting marks for sacks in a game (3.5) and breaking the club record of sacks in a season with 12. (source: Mahoning Valley Thunder website, June 27, 2008) Royce was named Player of the Game on defense. At the end of the 2008 season, Royce was named All-AF2 second team. He registered 34 tackles including 16.5 tackles for loss and a franchise record 15 sacks (sixth in AF2). He tallied 10 quarterback hurries, four forced fumbles, two pass break-ups, an interception and three blocked kicks. (a Thunder franchise record). In his finest performance of the season, Royce totaled three and a half sacks in the upset win over Louisville. He finished 2008 as the program's franchise leader in sacks in a season (15) in 15 games, sacks in a game (3.5), sacks yardage (88) and blocked kicks (3). (source: Mahoning Thunder website, August 6, 2008) Royce played in the AF-2 league championship game in Las Vegas.

His father, Glenn Morgan, is a former CHS quarterback in 1973, a college player at Florida A&M, and semi-pro player with the Jersey Oaks (won NY Football Conference 1978), which led to an invitation from the NY Giants as a WR. Royce's brother is Tyrone Morgan, a star basketball player at CHS (class of '95) for Coach Ken Pace Sr.(HoF) and later at Felician College, Royce's sister is Tiffany Morgan, CHS Class of 2006 and a former basketball player for Coach Tom

The WTAAA is proud to welcome Royce Morgan to our Hall of Fame. Congratulations!

SAULIUS SABALIAUSKAS

CLASS OF 1965 & COACH









The year was 1950 when three year old Saulius and his Lithuanian family arrived at Ellis Island in New York harbor from Germany with dad, mom and brother Raymond. The family later found a path to the Elizabeth/Linden area of NJ. It was here where the young boy developed his love for soccer under the tutelage of his dad. That early love for soccer would become a career destination at a time when soccer wasn't nearly as popular as other American sports in the United States.

The Woodbridge High School boys' soccer program began in 1961 under Coach William Ritchie. "Sam" played just two years of varsity soccer in 1963 and 1964 due to a split session schedule at that time. He was the leading Barron scorer on the 1964 team with nine goals. He was considered the best player on offense for those early Barron teams and a Second team All-County selection. Sam also participated in track and field. Pole vault was his best of

Following high school ,Sam enrolled at Newark State College (now Kean University) where his soccer career really took off. He was All-New Jersey State College Athletic Conference (now NJAC) all four years earning 1st team honors as a junior and senior in 1967 and 1968. He compiled a team record 35 goals in his career. When his college career ended, Sam was the program's single season and career scoring leader. As team captain in 1968, he netted a club record 21 goals including 5 goals versus Bloomfield College. He was named the team's Most Valuable Player after leading the program to its initial winning campaign. Sam was also a standout tennis player there .He was the recipient of the coaches' award following his senior season. Sam earned a bachelor's degree in industrial arts and education in 1969. (Source: Kean University Athletic Hall of Fame website) Sam was elected to the Kean University Athletic Hall of Fame in

After college, Sam played soccer in the German American League for six years. This was an ethnic oriented league featuring players from diverse ethnic groups. Sam played for the Lithuanian Soccer Club. He remembers traveling to New York City, Chicago and Toronto among other locations to play.

Believe it or not, but Sam also found time to play semiprofessional ice hockey with the Newark-Bergen Brewers. They just had a 50th reunion at the Prudential Center. They played their matches at the Ironbound Arena in Newark.

Sam returned to WHS as an industrial arts, woodshop , co-op and later printing teacher and boys' soccer coach from 1970-1989. During these still early soccer years, soccer trailed football in popularity and support. The district did not have a youth feeder program or summer camps like it has today. However, Coach Sam was a teacher and a fundamentalist. He taught skills, soccer development and competition. His dedication and hard work managed to give the program over one hundred and twenty victories. His best season was probably 1978 when his Barrons finished 13-4-1 and a third place ranking in the final The News Tribune Top Ten. His best player on that team was Don Seibert. He had 22 goals and 11 assists. "With a scorer like Seibert, we had no trouble scoring like in the past," said Coach Sam. (Source: The News Tribune All County article) We also cited players like Young Ko, Ed Simoes, Dave Nunes, Mikee Flynn, Jack Bigos, Mike Dauber, Joe Gregus, Tom Kauffman, George Wright, Paul Seyffart and Leon Schwartz and John Mazur (goalies) for the 1978 team's success. (Source: "Youth Program Nets results for Woodbridge", The News Tribune, Friday, Oct. 27,

1978, p. 21 by Lou Economopoulas)

During the 1979 season, Coach Sam's soccer team won the Kiwanis Soccer Cup—emblematic of the Township championship with players like Young Ko, Sharif Badawi, Joe Gregus and Chris Scarano. T.J. Kostecky (HoF), middle 70's and Kiho Kim (1980-1982) were other star players. Sam wishes to thank Mike Yannazzo (HoF) for being his assistant and JV coach over many fall seasons.

TJ Kostecky (HoF), a former star player for Coach Sam and at East Stroudsburg, coached soccer for 20+ years at LIU in Brooklyn. He is now at Bard College, NY. TJ said the following about his former high school coach, "Coach 'S' was way ahead of his time. He was a transformational leader who led with his heart yet challenged us to push ourselves and grind harder than we could ever imagine. He believed in all of us and saw qualities that we had not seen in ourselves. Our team was made up of first generation Americans who grew up in immigrant homes, players who had been recently introduced to the game, and inexperienced students who just wanted to be part of a team. At that time, soccer was still considered a foreign sport with little popularity, but to many of us, this was our life. Through his own passion for the game, Coach 'S' managed to convince this diverse group to work together and as a result, our teams improved every single year. According to TJ, in 1975, his Barron team qualified for the Middlesex County Tournament for the first time as the 8th seed and upset the #1 seed JP Stevens 3-1. Coach 'S' had orchestrated the biggest win in 15 plus years of WHS soccer"

Coach Sam's daughter, Stephanie, said the following about her dad. "He has gone by many names in his playing, teaching, and coaching career. For example, he was Mr. S, Coach S, Sabu or just plain 'S'. Sabaliauskas is a mouthful and apparently not an easy name to spell. Point of the story, dad never let something like that get to him. He played because he loved the game of soccer and coached because he loved teaching the game, not for the name in the paper. He is one of the most competitive people I know-but humble at the same time, one of the best qualities about

Coach Sam wishes to thank the following very important people in his life. His wife, Fran, is a retired (2013) business educator/co-op teacher. She always supported Sam's coaching career at WHS and even helped to manage his youth soccer camps for local teams and our church, St. Helena's in Edison. Fran and Sam have been married for 47 years. He thanks his son, Christopher Gargiulo, an artist and former ice hockey athlete at Kean and soccer/ hockey athlete at St. Joseph's in Metuchen. He thanks his daughter, Stephanie, a member of the athletic Hall of Fame at Montclair State for soccer and now the game operations manager there. He follows his grandson, Cooper James Fee-Gargiulo, ten years old. Cooper plays for Chesham United F.C. Youth in Amersham, England. He loves kicking around with "Poppie" and practicing volleys. Sam thanks his former teammates, players and coaches. Lastly, Sam thanks his father, mother and brother, Raymond Sabaliauskas—longtime fans of soccer and ice hockey.

The early beginning from Lithuania to Germany to the United States in 1950 has led a young boy to two athletic Halls of Fame. Wow! Quite and accomplishment.

Coach "S", Mr. S, Sabu, or Coach Sam, the WTAAA welcomes you to the WTAAA Hall of Fame. Congratulations!

MICHELLE SPRATFORD-KANE

CLASS OF 1999









Michelle became the first female bowler in school history to win the NJSIAA Individual State Championship in 1997 claiming her title as the #1 female bowler in the State of New Jersey and the Home News Tribune Bowler of the Year. She was a four year varsity letter winner in bowling at Woodbridge High School where she also was a member of the concert band, marching band, chorus, softball program and named co-student athlete in 1999 at WHS.

Michelle was named as a Captain to the program throughout her Sophomore to Senior

In 1997 and 1999, Michelle also captured the NJSIAA Individual State Sectional Championship. She helped lead her team to multiple tournament victories, four GMC Division Championships, three GMC County Championships, four NJSIAA State Sectional Championships and back to back NJSIAA State Championships in the 1998 & 1999 seasons. During her senior year in 1999, Michelle led the team at the Bishop Ahr Tournament Championship with a first place high game of 245 and first place high series of 668. That same day, the girls program became the first girls' program to ever shoot a 3,000 series for its three game set shooting 3,009. This team was later named Star Ledger Team of the Year.

Michelle placed 3rd in the GMC Individual Tournament her freshman and junior year while placing 2nd her senior year. Michelle also placed 7th in the NJSIAA State Individual Finals her senior year and was a Star Ledger First Team All-State Selection, A three-time Home News Tribune All Area First Team member as well as multiple time All Division and All Conference selection, Michelle left her mark as one of the greats at Woodbridge High School. She was also awarded the Shirlee Kutzner Star of Tomorrow Scholarship and was named in 2000 as a Star Ledger Top Ten High School Bowler of the Century along with her sister Nichole.

Favorite memories include being a member of the girls bowling program. Freshman year, she had the opportunity to bowl on the same team as her older sister for 1 year (she was a senior). Going undefeated and winning tournaments was great throughout her four years at Woodbridge High School, they were a dynasty, but winning wasn't the only thing. It was about putting on the Barrons uniform, getting pumped up on the bus rides to the bowling center, putting on your bowling shoes while the nerves and adrenaline pumped thru your veins, and having your teammates

surrounding you, cheering your name on every shot you took, while your family and friends were in the background cheering the Barrons on. It was about striving to be the best that you could be for teammates and for your school.

After graduation, Michelle attended Saint Peter's University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. She went on to bowl for Saint Peter's University where she was one of the first Women's Intercollegiate Bowling Team in 1999 which later transitioned from a club to a NCAA Division I Women's Bowling Program. Michelle was a three time first team member of the Eastern Intercollegiate Bowling Conference, earned the Most Valuable Player award twice and was named Saint Peter's College Co-Female Student Athlete in 2003. In 2002 and 2003, Michelle captured the Team USA New Jersey State Amateur Championship. Upon completion of college, Michelle was an assistant Division 1 Bowling Coach at Fairleigh Dickinson University and St. Peter's University. In 2011, Michelle was the first bowler to ever be inducted into the Saint Peter's College Hall of Fame.

A guote from Coach Yannazzo "Michelle was the anchor to our program and an Individual State Champion. She was a leader that encouraged her teammates and put the team first while having a positive outlook each match."

Michelle would like to thank "The WTAAA Hall of Fame Committee for selecting me as an inductee into the class of 2023: Coach Yannazzo for leading us Barrons throughout our high school careers, as well as WHS Principal, Mr. Warren, who cheered daily - GO BARRONS!; My youth coaches, college coaches, in-laws, friends, nephews, and Sisters - Nichole and Vicki for supporting each other to be better on and off the lanes - also known as the 'SPRAT PACK'; My husband, Adam, for being my confidant, best friend, and biggest supporter; Most importantly, my wonderful parents Adrienne and Wayne - Thank you so much for being there every step of the way, for believing in me, and all the sacrifices you endured just so I could bowl and do what I loved. I am who I am today because of you. Thank you truly for your support and for guiding the way - I love you!"

Michelle now resides in South Ambov. NJ. with her husband Adam and is an Office Manager for a retail packaging company in Union County, NJ. Congratulations, Michelle, and welcome to the WTAAA Hall of Fame.

NICHOLE SPRATFORD OPSASNICK

CLASS OF 1996







Nichole was a member of the Lady Barrons Bowling team from 1993 - 1996. Throughout high school, she participated in marching band, concert band, chorus, soccer, track & field but excelled on the lanes. During her time as a Barron, Nichole was named Captain her junior and senior years as she helped lead the program to four Undefeated seasons, four GMC Red Division Championships, two GMC County Championships, two NJSIAA State Sectional Championships and a NJSIAA State Championship in 1993.

During her Junior year, Nichole's Individual honors included 1st Place High Series with a 749 and 1st Place High Game with a 278 at the Joe Romer Tournament, which is her favorite personal memory from high school as it was her first career 700 series. Other individual honors include GMC Individual Tournament 2nd Place, NJSIAA State Sectional Tournament 3rd Place High Series with a 624, NJSIAA Individual State Finals - 3rd Place. Nichole also placed 2nd in the GMC Individual Tournament and 6th place in the NJSIAA Individual State Finals her senior year. She also led the GMC in average from 1994-1996.

In 1993, she was named as a Top 24 Semi-Finalist in "Teen Magazine 'Sports Girl of the Year'" contest for exemplary athletic and academic accomplishments. Nichole was selected to the GMC All Division team and a four time GMC All Area team. In 1996, she was the Woodbridge High School Female Scholar Athlete of the Year and Shirlee Kutzner Star of Tomorrow Award winner.

Nichole's bowling accomplishments extended outside of high school as well. In 1996, she won the NJ State Coca-Cola Champion Girls Scratch Division, was named the Star Ledger Top 10 High School Bowler of the Century in 2000. She won a tournament

against a Team USA member and Nichole was inducted into the NJ State Bowling Hall of Fame.

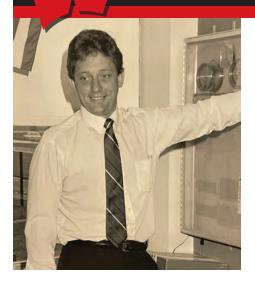
After high school, Nichole attended Rutgers University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Ceramic & Materials Science Engineering from the Rutgers School of Engineering. While attending Rutgers, Nichole was the Founder/President of the Rutgers University Bowling Club in 1997. Upon graduation, Nichole went on to become the St. Peter's Men's Bowling Team Head Coach from 2002-2005 and earned FIBC Men's Division Classic Division Coach of the Year Honors in 2005.

A quote from Coach Yannazzo "Nichole was a team leader and our anchor bowler. She was an outstanding bowler and an even better person. She encouraged her teammates and was a team oriented player."

Nichole would like to thank "The Hall of Fame Committee for selecting me as an inductee and Coach Yannazzo for his leadership and support; The 'Sprat Pack' also known as my sisters, Michelle and Vicki, for giving me my competitive spirit (and for putting up with me) as we traveled the United States competing; My husband Eugene, who I met in a bowling center, who is my biggest cheerleader and advocate. Lastly, my parents, Adrienne and Wayne, for their love, support, and guidance, for without them, I would not have been as successful as I am, as a (former) bowler or in life."

Nichole now resides in Kenvil, NJ, with her husband Eugene and two sons Eugene (9) and Henry (8) and is a quality systems Manager at Marotta Controls in Boonton, NJ. Congratulations, Nichole, and welcome to the WTAAA Hall of Fame!

JAMES "JIM" SULLIVAN COACH







When Title IX passed in 1972, it "prohibited sexbased discrimination in any school or education program that receives funding from the Federal Government." (source: Wikipedia) Many high schools and colleges took advantage of the new law and began to add interscholastic and intercollegiate athletic competition for females.

At Woodbridge High School, girls basketball was the first new sport (note: The school had girls archery and girls tennis) added for the 1971-72 season by then athletic director Mr. Nick Priscoe (HoF) even before the new law was officially passed. The team played a limited nine game schedule. The Lady Barrons got off to a blazing start during the first four seasons with

Before the 1975-76 season, the team needed a new coach. Current athletic director, Mr. Sam Lupo (HoF), hired the prior assistant coach. He was a young, energetic history teacher named Jim Sullivan, and he remained as head coach through 1986-87 with much success (twelve seasons). In his first six years, Coach Sullivan enjoyed six winning seasons including two twenty plus win seasons. During this period, his teams went 109-36. Overall, he went 167-110 (.602 winning percentage) with nine winning seasons. His best team records were 1976 (20-6) and 1980 (23-3). The latter team still remains as Woodbridge High School's winningest group. The 1980 team also reached the Central Jersey Group 4 final championship game but, unfortunately, fell to Neptune 45-52 at Red Bank High School.

Coach Sullivan also led his squads to four Middlesex County Athletic Conference Championships in 1975-76, 1978-79, 1979-80, and 1980-81 (tied). The MCAC was the forerunner to the current Greater Middlesex Conference. It was a one division, 10-12 team league and included the largest high schools in Middlesex County during that era. Each school played 18-20 division games. Jim was honored as The News Tribune Coach of the Year after the excellent 1980 season without a player over 5'8". In his Coach of the Year press article, Coach Sullivan admitted that he was a "basketball addict. He plays in recreation leagues, attends basketball camps and watches games in person or on television-men or women, boys or girls, professional or amateurs."(The News Tribune by Joe Cavone, March, 1980.) Throughout the seventies and early to mid eighties, the girls and boys basketball programs were very successful at WHS and Coach Jim Sullivan was a big part of it.

Some of his star players included WTAAA Hall of Famers Donna Koperwhats, Joann Matusz McMillan, Bonnie Dunham, Diane Matelski Edmonds, Michele Fowler, Darlene Francisco Matthews and tonight's new Hall of Fame inductee Laurie Martelli Solomon. Additional star players included Janet Lubas, Kim

Novo, Barbara and Kathy Weir, Denise Lodato, Maura DiLeo, Sue Zega, JoAnn Fleming, Fran Fazzari, Cindy Nixon, Denise Serrano and Jamie Boehmer.

For a long time, Coach Sullivan was the winningest girls' basketball coach in WHS history until Coach John Moyer surpassed him about ten seasons ago with 172 wins.

Jim played soccer in high school at St. Josephs Metuchen and in college at Montclair State University. After graduating, he played in men's soccer and basketball leagues into his fifties. Once retired from playing, Jim nurtured the love of the game for his children, Ryan and Mallory, and his local community through Hazlet United Soccer Association. There, he was a youth coach for travel teams, Vice-President of the organization, and Director of the Girl's College Showcase for several years, connecting high school players to college recruiters. While he was the biggest champion for his children's teams, Jim was also a Manchester United supporter, US Soccer fan, and an inaugural season ticket holder for Major League Soccer. He brought his family to many professional games and always had cones and a ball in the car, ready to organize a scrimmage with fellow tailgaters.

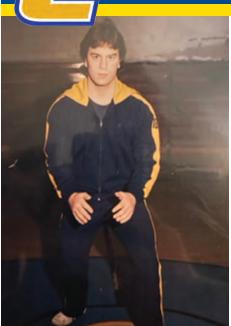
According to his wife Ann, Jim believed "that being part of a team and connected through sports provided many important life lessons. He felt it taught most qualities one needs to be successful, including confidence, discipline, compassion, teamwork and resilience. One of his favorite things to say to a player was, 'the next play is the most important', emphasizing that what you do after a mistake is much more important than the mistake itself, and that you always have the power to influence an outcome if you keep your head up."

Following his time as a teacher and coach, Jim was promoted to vice principal at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School under John Hoagland. Two years later, he was promoted to principal of Woodbridge Middle School beginning in 1989-90. Jim remained there until his retirement in 2010. In total, Jim Sullivan devoted forty-one years of his life to public school education in Woodbridge Township as a teacher, coach and administrator.

Sadly, Jim passed in 2014. He and his wife, Ann, raised two wonderful now adult aged children in Ryan and Mallory. They have three grandchildren; Grayson (7), Dean (5) and Oliver (1). Ryan and Mallory remember their dad saying often "always do your best and do the right thing. In sports, play every game like it's your last."

Ann, Ryan and Mallory will receive Jim's Hall of Fame Awards posthumously tonight. The WTAAA is pleased and honored to induct Coach Jim Sullivan into our Hall of Fame. Congratulations!









Ives was a state championship caliber wrestler at Colonia High School for Coach Ray

During his senior season of 1986-87, Ives finished with a school record 33-3 including 18 falls. He won the Greater Middlesex County Tournament and District 19 championships. The latter title was achieved three straight years. He took 2nd place at the Hunterdon Central and Region 5 tournaments and qualified for the New Jersey State Wrestling Tournament. The Home News Tribune named him a First Team selection and Middlesex County Wrestler of the Year. He had a 22-5-1 record in his junior season of 1985-86. He finished with 88 career wins. This was considered a very high number in that era because wrestlers did not compete on the mat as much as they do today.

In 1987, Ives wrestled his way to the championship round of the New Jersey State Tournament as an unseeded heavyweight at Princeton's Jadwin Gym. To get there, he had to defeat three undefeated heavyweight wrestlers and one other opponent. The championship match went to three overtimes and the score remained tied. Unfortunately, it was time by state rule, for the referees to determine the winner. Criteria is the final determiner in wrestling and Ives was deemed second best. It was as close as a wrestler could get without officially taking the title. "After the second period buzzer, I put him on his back," said Viola in a post-match article. "He was flat on his back and it should have been a pin at least two points. I was in control. That should have been the match. The buzzer rang at the end of regulation and I thought that I was the state champ. I know that he didn't beat me," continued Viola, "but they couldn't break the medal in half." (source: "Second was no Solace: losing in final match doesn't fit Viola's style", The Home News, Paul Olsvary, March 22, 1987)

The referee's decision was based on the fifth criteria. Ives' opponent took the controversial match on most escapes in overtime. "Last year, he got by on strength," said CHS wrestling coach Ray Perez. "This year, he was more of a wrestler. He relied more on moves and techniques. A lot of kids have reached their peak by now but he hasn't. He could really do something in college if he continues to work hard." (source: "Second Place an Honor for Viola", The News Tribune by

Frank Giase, March 20, 1987) "I'm proud of what I accomplished," said Viola. "Even though I didn't win the state championship I know I wrestled my best." (source: "Rise to the Final", The News Tribune, by Frank Giase, June 21, 1987)

In June, 1987, Ives was selected with another Middlesex County wrestler, Darin Farrell from Madison Central, for a United States team trip to Hungary with Syracuse University, wrestling coach Gene Mills. Ives placed 4th.in the Rogovski Cup on the trip. After high school, Ives wrestled at Middlesex County College and Kean University. In 1991, he became an NCAA Division 3 All American by taking third place in the 275 pound weight class at nationals.

After college, Ives coached the Woodbridge Township recreation wrestling program from where he coached several back to back undefeated seasons between 2000-2008.

Ives is currently a Black Belt under Shian Johny Guerrero and is a 2x NAGA World Champion and Grapplers Quest North American champion.

Ives thanks the following people for his accomplishments. Mike Grippo -in 7th grade, Mike was my lab partner in biology class. He invited me to my first Woodbridge Rec. wrestling practice ever. That is when it all started. We wrestled together for six years. The Perez family-from rec. through high school, the entire Perez family stood by me and helped me through the highs and lows of wrestling. They helped pave the way for my college career. Thank you coaches Milky, Joe, Ray, and Mike; CHS football coaches Patsy Barbato and John Picaroni; College coaches MCC HoF john Sacchi and assistant Ken Karl as well as Kean University head coach Craig Spenser and assistant Walli Muhamad; the entire class of CHS 1987 "I had the best classmates anyone could ask for. I will never forget how many friends used to cheer for me"; Teammates- "I made the best friends in the world through wrestling"; "My dad was my biggest fan and supporter. My dad came to every match and always led the Charge"; "My wife – for always supporting me and always holding it down"; the WTAAA - "I am truly honored and humbled to be welcomed and considered the Best of the Best, Thank you."

The WTAAA congratulates Ives Viola Sr. on his election to our Hall of Fame! Welcome!



FRANK WAGNER CLASS OF 2000

Frank Wagner and Laura Zollo (HoF) are a part of history in the NJSIAA. They were both individual state champions in 1998-99, they were both from Colonia High School, and now they are both in the WTAAA Hall of Fame. "According to tournament officials, it is probably the first time in NJSIAA history that both the boys and girls state titles went to bowlers from the same school." (Source: The Home News/Tribune, p. C10) However, that is only part of the story.)

Frank's high school athletic career was unlike most others. Frank lived with his father and paternal grandmother during his high school years. In October of his junior year, four months before his championship run, Frank found his grandmother, Frances, had fallen in the front yard with an arm fracture and leg injuries. Instead of a nursing home, he chose to bring her home and take care of her with his father. Two months later, he came home from bowling and found his father had died on a bed upstairs. After seeing his bowling average drop from around 200 to 140 he chose to do something about it. In an interview after the tournament Frank said, "It was like I had forgotten how to bowl. I just couldn't get my average back up. However, last week in the sectionals, it seemed to be back. Then, on a Friday night, before this tournament, I bowled here at Carolier in a league and had a 681. I felt then it would be okay today." (Source: The Home News/Tribune, by Bill Verigan "Colonia's Wagner Rolls 656 to Win Crown", Feb. 21, 1999) It certainly was. Bowling a 213-211-232-656 series. Frank was crowned the NJSIAA bovs individual bowling state champion by seven pins.

His senior year, he finished second in the Bishop Ahr Holiday Tournament and qualified for the State Sectional Championship qualifying first and finishing in fourth place. Frank's senior year also saw him win the Middlesex County Junior Masters Tournament. He also received the Russ Thomsen Memorial Sportsmanship Award and won the Junior Traveling League twice. Coach Jennifer Kirby-Jeter (HoF) had this to say, "Frank spent his high school years taking care of himself and his grandmother. There aren't many people who can do that, get a high school diploma and be the best bowler in New Jersey. I knew that no matter what, Frank was going to succeed!"

Taking a break from bowling for work, school and life, Frank graduated from Rutgers University with a BA in Criminal Justice and a minor in Political Science. His graduate work was

done at Thomas Edison State College in Public Administration. He is an EMS Supervisor for the City of Elizabeth for over 20 years, as well as a labor union consultant and negotiator for the National Association of Government Employees. (NAGE/SEIU, IAEP, IBPO,IBCO) He is currently a member of the International Association of EMT's and Paramedics (IAEP), the Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association (FMBA) and was a 9/11 first responder.

Frank says, "although I was somewhat dealt a set of cards that were not the most desirable at the time, I made the best of what I had with the help of several great people along the way. I would like to thank a lot of people for their patience and putting up with me." He continues, "my first and third grade teacher Miss Healy-Gray would dump my desk if I gave her any problems...she made me neat, organized and punctual." He also includes, "Mr. Tylicki in 7th grade geography and Mr. Brenaman in 8th grade math. At Colonia High School, I thank obviously Mrs. Kirby-Jeter (HoF) my coach, the physical education department, coaches and trainer; who found bowling more interesting in my years there." He added Mr. Lesiak, Mr. Strack and Mr. Chmiel (HoF), who worked with him in work-study and especially Principal Mr. Joe Koury were also great educators and role models for him.

He completed his list by thanking "All the Avenel Youth Coaches who would come early and practice with us before the league on Saturday mornings at Majestic Lanes. Mr. Schaffer, Mr. Werte, Mr. Dibernardo, Mr. Joe, Mr. Zollo and Mr. Russ Thomsen Sr. who would practice with us Saturday nights at Woodbridge Bowling Center and my best friend, Justin, who got me started bowling." Frank completed his thoughts saying, "Finally, my grandmother who was chauffeuring me all over until she became ill and couldn't anymore. She spoiled me as much as she could. She kept me safe as a small child and didn't allow me to be a victim of the system."

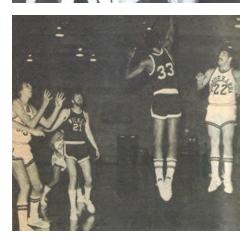
Today, Frank lives in Barnegat, NJ, (5 minutes from the water) with his Belgian Shepherd Malinois, Ri'ah. He is currently a full member of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA Regional Tour) and participates in regional tournaments throughout the year. He is looking to be more active when he retires in 2026.

Frank, congratulations on your induction in the WTAAA Hall of Fame!

LARRY WEIL CLASS OF 1977







Larry was a two-sport standout at Colonia High School in both basketball and baseball. In baseball, he was a two-year letterwinner under H.o.F. Coach Milton "Micky" Kott.

However, Larry really made his mark on the basketball court. As a three-year letter winner, Larry was captain of the team, averaged 17 points per game and 15 rebounds per game, and made All GMC Conference and All County his junior and senior years. His junior year, the team had 19 wins and made it to the semi finals of the Middlesex County Tournament before being knocked out by a last second shot by Piscataway High school who at that time was ranked number 3 in the state rankings. Larry had a game high 29 points and was elected to the All Tournament team.

Larry continued his basketball career at Susquehanna University where he was a four year letter winner. For his career, he averaged 14 points per game and 7 rebounds per game. He was captain of the basketball team and helped the Crusaders in his senior year to the school's second best record in twenty years at the time. He was known as a clutch player and during his career at Susquehanna he won two games with last second shots and forced two games into overtime by hitting last second shots. He made All Tournament teams in The Crusader Classic in both his junior and senior years and made the All Tourney team in the Bloomsburg Classic at Bloomsburg University. Larry was also awarded best offensive player for three consecutive years at S.U. He finished his college career with 977 total points. He graduated in 1981 with a B.S. in Business Management

After finishing his college career, Larry continued his career playing professionally in Ireland where he averaged 26 points per game and helped his team to the national title his first year. Midway into his second, Larry tore ligaments in his ankle ending his playing days.

After coming home, Larry acquired his alternative teaching certification and was a business teacher at Irvington Girls Catholic

School. From 1984-1990, Larry also was assistant basketball coach at Union Catholic High School 1984-85, St. Mary's High School in Elizabeth 1985-86, Elizabeth High School 1987-1989, and Colonia High School 1989-90 as assistant coach with Bob Tisdale and Jack

Larry entered the business world in 1991 and built a business with two hundred employees. He sold the business and is now retired. Larry and his wife, Mary Theresa, along with their two Golden Retrievers, Kimiko and Shannon-Rose, in 2015, formed a Ministry called "The Golden Halos". Currently, they have fourteen dogs in the Ministry and they go to Senior Citizen Homes, Convalescent Homes, Cancer Institutes and Hospices. The simple Presence of a Dog is very Powerful.

Larry owes his accomplishments and success to Bob Tisdale the H.o.F Coach from Colonia and Jack Kreiger also inducted in H.o.F. Both Coach Tisdale and Coach Kreiger took Larry under their wing and taught him not only the game of basketball, but also how sports was truly a microcosm of life's ups and

Larry would like to commemorate this ceremony to his deceased Parents Esther and Mortimer. His Mom would drive him all over the state in the off-season and both his parents went to every game in high school in both sports as well as many games in College. "I 100% owe everything to My parents." He thanks his friends and family members that were able to attend this evening's ceremonies.

"I am humbled and Honored."

Larry along with his wife of thirty five years, Mary Theresa Weil, and son, Thomas, currently reside in Robbinsville, NJ ,and also have a second home in Florida. The WTAAA welcomes Larry to our Hall of Fame. CONGRATULATIONS!

1969 CROSS COUNTRY TEAM











On November 16, 1969, the Colonia High School Cross Country team accomplished something that no athletic team in any sport had accomplished in the history of Colonia High School; it won the Central Jersey Group IV Cross Country State Championship; the first NJ state championship in school history since the school opened in 1967.

Led by WTAAA Hall of Fame coaches Harry Brett and Mike Murphy, the Patriots defeated second place Westfield 78-99, but the result was not certain until the fifth runner crossed the finish line. With four runners from each squad in, Westfield lead by a point 50-51, but Colonia's fifth runner, Don Schmitz, finished 27th while Westfield's fifth runner finished 49th.

WTAAA Hall of Fame co-captains Dennis and David Kuntz led the Patriots with Dennis finishing fourth and David finishing 10th followed by Dan Mahoney (17th), Dave Hasse (20th) and Don Schmitz (27th). Cliff Spies and Bill Heruska rounded out the CHS harrier squad that day.

Published reports indicated that Coach Brett expressed some concern with injuries going into the race and even was a bit worried with where the team was after the first mile. However, the team came through with a strong second half of the race to win its first state championship.

Coach Brett's young team had shown signs of maturing two weeks earlier by winning the Greater Central Jersey Group IV Conference meet, the first track title in CHS history, besting second place Thomas Jefferson of Elizabeth 78-107. All seven of Coach Brett's runners finished in the top 30, lead by Dennis Kuntz (4th), followed by WTAAA Hall of Famer Tom Confer (14th), Dave Kuntz (15th), Dave Hasse (22nd), Cliff Spies (23rd), Dan Mahoney (24th) and Bill Hersuka (27th). The time differential between the first and seventh Patriot runner to cross the line was only 39 seconds.

In published reports, Coach Brett explained the difference between this meet and the previous county (10th) and conference sectional (2nd) meets, attributing the prior finishes to lack of big meet competition as this was only the second year of competition for most of the runners. In what proved to be a prescient comment, Coach Brett believed that the experience gained in this meet would be a big help in the upcoming State meet, as it proved to be.

The 1969 CHS Cross Country team was consistently in the top 5 in most weekend meets including the Shore Coaches Invitational in Ocean County, The Edison Invitational in Roosevelt Park and the Turkey Trot in Warinaco Park, Elizabeth. Additional accomplishments included:

- 15-0 Dual Meet record, including wins over St. Josephs and J.P. Stevens. Participating team members included Tom Confer, Gary Criscione, Scott Edrington, Steve Felton, Dave Hasse, Bill Heruska, Dave Kuntz, Dennis Kuntz, Dan Mahoney, Joe Papernick, Don Schmitz and Cliff Spies.
- Woodbridge Township champions with wins over Woodbridge and JFK.
- · Second place finish in Greater Central Jersey Group IV Conference Sectional -JP Stevens 28 Colonia 35 - Dennis Kuntz (3rd) Dave Hasse (6th) Dave Kuntz (7th) Tom Confer (9th) Bill Heruska (10th) Cliff Spies

The WTAAA is pleased to welcome the 1969 Colonia High School Cross Country team into the WTAAA Hall of Fame. Congratulations to all team members!

1977 SOFTBALL TEAM



Kneeling L to R: Karen Korte, Robin Sylvernal, Cathy Wrabel, Diane Oldfield, Carolyn Daniele, Monica Kriston, Gwen Newman, Evelyn Clancy, Della Carlin. Standing L to R: Margie Roper, Ann Marie DiPette, Pat Lowe, Kathy Brisson, Barbara Shissia, Gail Palikowski, Carol Beckert, Janice Kimberlin, Lauren Budzinski



In 1975, three years after Title IX, Woodbridge Township fielded three varsity softball teams. In that very first season of competition, the upstart Kennedy Mustangs captured the Middlesex County Athletic Conference title. Two years later, still coached by Nancy Cuntala (Spin -HoF) and Eleanor Keating (El), and with an expanded schedule, the softball team produced a season for the ages. Flying under the radar and seemingly ignored by the press, the '77 Mustangs were 25-4 and champions in both the County Tournament and the MCAC (17-3 record). The 25 wins established a school record at that time for ALL sports at JFK and was the softball record for 31 years. The team was an offensive powerhouse... they could run, hit and hit for power. Six players had 30 or more runs scored as well as base hits, while five individuals drove in 30 or more runs. To this date, the team still holds season records for at bats (971), runs scored (382), hits (366), RBIs (319), home runs (30), walks (192), stolen bases (134), total bases (502) and batting average (.377).

With only a varsity squad, the Mustangs dressed 17 players: five seniors (Carol Beckert, Della Carlin, Carol Daniele, Monica Kriston and Diane Oldfield), four juniors (Ann Marie DiPette, Janice Kimberlin, Gail Pawlikowski and Cathy Wrabel (HoF) and eight sophomores (Kathy Brisson, Lauren Budzinski, Evelyn Clancy(HoF), Karen Korte, Gwen Newman, Margie Roper, Barbara Shissias (HoF) and Robin Sylvernal (HoF). Fran "Clip" DiGrazia was the manager/scorekeeper assisted by Diane Schmidt. Evelyn Clancy had a phenomenal rookie season



with 110 at bats, 53 runs scored, 51 hits (all still school records) along with 31 RBIs, six home runs and a .464 batting average. Fellow soph, Robin Sylvernal was the ace of a five-person staff with a 14-4 record. In the 4-game run to the County title, Rob was dominant, allowing just 3 earned runs in 28 innings for an ERA of 0.75. However, the core of the team was its five seniors: three-year starters, 3B-Carol Daniele, C-Monica Kriston and 2B-Diane "Chip" Oldfield along with CF-Carol Beckert and SS-Della Carlin. They combined for 168 runs, 163 hits and 165 runs batted in. Defensively, "Hoover" Daniele was a vacuum at third base while junior left fielder Cathy Wrabel had an eye opening season that would culminate a year later with 2nd team all-

Arguably, there were four games that set this season apart and helped put the team into the Hall of Fame. On May 23rd, heading into a conference game vs Woodbridge, the Mustangs were in the midst of an excellent year at 15-3, including two wins in the County tournament against Jamesburg (21-1) and Carteret (13-0). The Barrons at 19-0 were the toast of the county. The 10-4 Mustang victory was a turning point for both squads as Woodbridge lost twice more that week...to Sayreville in the state tournament and again to the Mustangs on May 25th in the county semis at Roosevelt Park. In that game, JFK walked off with a 3-2 win as Beckert scored on Newman's sacrifice fly. In the county final on June 2nd at East Brunswick Managers' Field, the team was down to Edison 3-0 after four innings. They scored







twice in the fifth using a walk to Newman, a triple from Carlin and a sacrifice fly from Shissias. In the home sixth, they plated two more on infield hits from Daniele and Beckert, a Kriston RBI and an Edison error. The celebration began three Eagle outs later. Often a County title ends the season... but not this year. The team would be in action for two more weeks!

1977 was a very long season and it took literally until the end of the school year to determine the conference champion. Game one was April 1st, a walk-off win vs JP Stevens...June 16th, eleven weeks later, at noon on Graduation Day, the Mustangs hosted Sayreville. A win would clinch a tie for the MCAC title. Playing at home at Merrill Park, before a large crowd, it was mission accomplished as the Mustangs held off a late Bomber rally to win 7-6. The next day (graduation was not the last day of school in those years) the team became spectators as Sayreville defeated Woodbridge. The Mustangs stood alone atop the MCAC...champions for the second time in three years.

Softball was still new... it was a time where coaches coached, players played and fans cheered. Individual accolades took a back seat in 1977 as a group of young athletes enjoyed a remarkable season. They announced with their play that JFK softball was a program to be respected. And now with their induction into the Hall of Fame, they receive well deserved respect in return...finally! Congratulations ladies!

1991-92 BOYS BOWLING TEAM



The Woodbridge High School 1991-1992 Boys Bowling team was led by Woodbridge Township Athletic Alumni Association Hall of Fame Coach Michael Yannazzo and the roster included Scott Albrecht, Michael Barbato, Mark Bendar, Steve Budd, Joe Covino, Chris Faytok, Billy Golden, David Haulenbeck, Glenn Mohr, Michael Moore and Daren Oliver.

Top row, left to right Chris Faytok, Scott Albrecht, Glen Mohr, Billy Golden, Steve Budd, Joe Covino

The 1991-1992 Boys Bowling team had recorded a banner winning season. This team went undefeated (22-0) during the regular season and GMC Tournament not dropping a single point in all 22 matches bowled. They won all 66 games they bowled and captured 88 of 88 possible points throughout the season for an NJ State record. The Barrons won the Central Jersey Winter Classic Tournament beating the second place finisher by 104 pins and finished 3rd in the Joe Romer Tournament. This program competed in the GMC Red Division and captured the programs 7th GMC Division Championship, the 9th GMC County Championship and placed 2nd in the NJSIAA State Sectional Tournament

Coach Yannazzo stated "If there ever was a year, we're going to do it, this is the one." The Barrons prevailed in the NJSIAA State Finals to

capture the 3rd State Championship in program history. "Powered by a 182-181-278-641 from Scott Albrecht, 199-234-199-632 from Steve Budd, 195-235-190-620 from Glenn Mohr and a 186-246-182-614 from Joe Covino all seniors. Woodbridge beat Lakewood by 59 pins for the title."

A quote from Edison's coach about the team: "The Woodbridge boys are simply unbelievable. Their off games are better than other teams' good games. They're so good, they should be illegal" and from South Plainfield's coach: "Woodbridge is dynamite. What they did is like impossible. You don't go 88-0. You always lose something along the way."

The Barrons had more than seven members on its roster average at least 180 pins or higher and held a team game average of 993 which was 74 pins higher than any other team in the GMC. The team was led by Captain Steve Budd who captured the GMC Individual Tournament Championship and held the highest average in the GMC with a 211. The team was also led by Captain Scott Albrecht who captured the GMC Individual Tournament Championship the previous year and averaged 210 for the 2nd

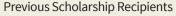
highest average in the GMC. Steve Budd, Scott Albrecht and Chris Favtok were named to the GMC All Conference team. The GMC All Red Division team consisted of Steve Budd, Scott Albrecht, Chris Faytok, Glenn Mohr and Billy Golden. Coach Yannazzo was named as the GMC Red Division Coach of the Year and GMC Boys Bowling Coach of the Year.

A quote from Coach Yannazzo: "I did not think it was possible to bowl 66 games over 22 matches and win them all. It hadn't been done before and has not been done since. I made it difficult for them by playing all 11 men at least 10 games at the expense of the starters."

Congratulations on a great season! WHS has a storied and rich historical tradition in both boys and girls bowling . The 1991-92 Barrons are literally a perfect example of that tradition. Welcome to the WTAAA Hall of Fame!

2023 Scholarship Recipients

The Woodbridge Township Athletic Alumni Association presented six awards for a total of \$2,400.00 at the Senior Graduation Awards Programs. We donated to the Marisa Tufaro Foundation for Middlesex County children in need of assistance and the Team LeGrand Fund. The athletes must represent their sport(s) in both performance and leadership. The recipients demonstrate competitive spirit, great enthusiasm, a sense of fair play, and exhibit good sportsmanship and pride in their activities. The WTAAA gives special thanks to the Woodbridge Township business community for supporting the scholarship program.



Jessica Malinchok & Jarred Ruiz CHS Maura Farley & Alexander "AJ" Moore JFK Sierra Twomey & Keshawn "Scoobie" Henry WHS

Samantha Ashton & Drew Galea CHS Jelisa Lovett & Aaron Coleman JFK **Brooke Timinski & Curtis Nesbit WHS**

2019

Casey Mulrooney & Tommy Mitch CHS Jillian Sims & Dennis Howard JFK Kaylah Davis & James Stoveken WHS

Mark Nykolyn & Tiffany Rolon-Locus CHS Emmanuel Diaz & Jenny Gordon JFK Jesus Cabrera & Trinity Eason WHS

Harrison Brindley & Alissa Pasulo CHS Michael Hein & Olivia Sims JFK Juliana Carvalho & Isaiah Williams WHS

Zoe Gotti & Matt Scherb CHS Calvin Claiborne & Melany Gomez JFK Isaiah Allen & Melanie Updale WHS



Sidney de Voogd & Mark Roche



Hubert Polchlopek (Ann Cyrana) Kara Mitch



Marc Wolter



(Mike Yannazzo) **Madison Rackett** (Tom Chmiel)

Congratulations to my Husband Larry Weil, we are so very proud of you!

> Love. Mary Theresa, Thomas, and Family



Congratulations Royce on your well-deserved Hall of Fame recognition.

Praying for your continued success always.

DuBois Family

WTAAA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

FROM 1989 - MARCH 2000



Adams, Edward Adams, Robert "Ace" Alexander, Leroy Anacker, Mel Anderson, Don Aquila, Anthony Aquila, Dominick Aquila, John "Jack" Aquila, Warren Archdeacon, Richard Barany, Ernie Barbato, Patsy Barcellona, Andrew Barcellona, Tony Sr. Barlund, Richard Basarab, Michael Beleski, Al Benkert, Heinie Benzelski, Dr. Robert Bixel Claire Boland, Bob Boland, Jim Bosze, Joseph Brey, Bill (Novo) Brodkin, Bart Brooks, Randy Buonocore, Dr. Fred Buonocore, Vinnie Burke, Jackie Cacciola, Tony Campbell, L.M. "Bud" Capraro, Frank Capraro, Dr.Vince Chaplar, Frank Christensen, Erik Christensen, Walter

Cipo, John Creekmur, Lou Cunningham, Pat D'Aprile, Nick Dalina, Pete Deryn, John DiDonna, Mark DiMock, James Drummond, Spencer Dubay, Ernie Dubay, John Dunda, James Dunfee, Al Dunham, Bonnie Dunham, Art Etzold, Edmund Max Fair, Dr. George Fair, Robert Farr, Charles Finn, Bob Finn, William J. Flaherty, Joseph Fratterolo, Matt Furdock, Don Gabriel, Lou Gerek, George Gerns, Owen Giordano, Tom Gioffre, Vince Gluchoski, Al Goglas, Kenny Gonyo, Gerry Hackett, Lee Hagler, Lou Handerhan, William

Hladik, John Hoagland, Eddie "Sully" Hollowell, Herb Houseman, Walter Howell, John Huttenberger, John Jackson, Ray Jago, Matthew Jago, Stew Johannson, George Johnson, Arthur "Buster" Johnston, Ed Jost, Frank Juhasz, Joe Karnas, Michael Kasko, Robert Kish, John Kondryk, John Konick, Dr. Emery Koperwhats, Bob Koperwhats, Donna Korczowski, John Korczowski, Tom Kostecky, T.J. Kovacs, Stephen Kirkleski, Frank Kumpa, Tom Kuzniak, Richard Lake, James Lamberti, Pat Launhardt, Walt Lawrence, Roy Leahy, Eugene Leffler, Al "Albie" Leffler, Fred "Fritz" Lockie, Tom

Luhrs, Warren Lupo, Sam Marciniak, Tom Markous, Tom Markovics, Frank Markulin, Steve Marshall, Sam Mascenik, Robert Matusz, Joann (McMillian) Mazza, Anthony McAuliffe, Tom McCallen, Howie McLaughlin, Bob Meravi, Al Miglecz, Dick Miller, Jerry Molnar, Charles Montague, Dr. Don Montecalvo, Fran Moskowitz, Jack Mueller, Dr. Fred Nagy, Joe Olah, Dr. Tim Parrott, Bob Pellegrino, Angelo Peterson, Bernard Peterson, Bernard Jr. Peterson, Hardy Petrie, Tom Pirnik, Robert Pochek, Steve Priscoe, Nick Protz, John "Jack" Rice, Orville Rothfuss, Charles

Royle, John Russo, James Russomano, Anthony Santoro, Anthony Schmidt, Peter Schundler, Peter Schundler, Russell Schwartz, Vic Scutti, Dominick Semak, Nick Smith, Earl Solecki, Kay (McAuliffe) Sparks, Bill Stanko, Steve Stillman, Walter Straube, Lee Tambour, Lincoln Thompson, Thomas "Tucker" Toth, Paul Toth, Rudy Tyrrell, Al Tyrrell, Dick Tyrrell, Ken Ulozas, Tom Wagerik, Julius Wasilek, George Wataha, Joan Webb, Richard Wieczerak, Tom Williams, Tom "Ramrod" Wukovets, Percy Zambo, Steve "Buddy" Zapoticzny, Ronald Zilai, Jimmy Zullo, John



Acquisto, Robert Arnesen, Norma (Grasso) Aromando, Tom Barnikow, Larry Bartha, Lou Burbella, George Caleca, Bob Campana, Al Campana, Tom Carbonaro, Tom Cardinale, Gary Cimaglia, James

Clancy, Elaine (Oleck)

Clancy, Evelyn (Mars) Clancy, James Clancy, Rosemary (Egan) Croasdale, Joseph Connolly, Mary P. Cuntala, Nancy Curran, Terry Duda, Joan Egan, Dennis Fairchild, Vincent Gardner, Marie Garley, Thomas "Skip" Grillo, Carl

Higgins, Joe

Handerhan, Paul Howard, John Hamrah, Cary Jorgensen, Jay Knoth, Joseph Lanigan, Bob Lyons, Mike Manfre, Donna (Geleski) Mathews, Kathy McDonald, James McIntyre, James Miller, Bill Moyer, Roy

O'Brien, Michael Osborne, Dan Osborne, Ron Petroski, Jeff Petty, Jack Pope, Al Price, Les Ricciardi, Paul Ricciardi, Steve Scarola, William Schramm, Robert Shissias, Barbara Smythe, John

Soporowski, Ray Stanley, Lori (Sustak) Stevens, Jim Sylvernal, Robin (Surma) Ullrich, Richard Volker, Mike Wahl, Kenneth Wiggins, Rich Wrabel, Cathy (Sysock) Zapotocky, Adrian



Baldante, John Barnhard, David Barnhard, Roger S. Baureis, Ellen (Pisano) Baureis, Nancy (McDonald) Blackman, Scott Boris, Paul Brett, Harry Buzzi, Charles Cilento, Michael Cilento, Steve

Comito, Frank Confer, Tom Confer, Pat Couch, Sharon (DiLonardo) Crilly, James Draina, Joseph Evanko, Kevin Evanko, Mark Fenton, Peter Frank, Craig Franken, John

Gaytas, William Grose, Harry Grose, Jeff Hannon, David Helman, Dr. Jeff Higgins, Susan F. (Lyster) Higgins, Tom Hyland, Ken Janowski, Deborah Kott, Mickey

Levandowski, Tom Loprete, Robert Lyness, Mike Martino, Joseph Mason, Glen McMahon, Dan Merkler, Ed Murphy, Mike Nardone, James Oshiro, Don Perez, Bill

Peters, Joseph Peters, Robert Prongay, Tom Ryall,Tom Sanislow, Robert Schmidtke, Sandra Siracusa, Pat Tisdale, Robert Zarsky, Cindy Zullo, Maria (Mantak)

WTAAA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

FROM 1995 - MARCH 2000

1960	Woodbridge Football Team	Coach Nick Priscoe
1962-1963	Woodbridge Boys Basketball Team	Coach James Lake
1963-1964	Woodbridge Boys Basketball Team	Coach James Lake
1967	JFK Football Team	Coach Ron Osborne
1968-1969	Colonia Boys Basketball Team	Coach Robert Sanislow
1969	Woodbridge Football Team	Coach Sam Lupo
1971	JFK Football Team	Coach Ron Osborne
1973-1974	JFK Boys Basketball Team	Coach Ray Newman
1974-1975	Woodbridge Boys Basketball Team	Coach Joseph Flaherty

Woodbridge Township Athletic Alumni Association

WTAAA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

SINCE NEW COMMITTEE 2015

1957	Woodbridge Baseball	Coach Frank Capraro
1957	Woodbridge Boys Track Mile Relay Team	Coach Lou Gabriel
1970	Colonia Boys Track Relay Team	Coaches Harry Brett & Mike Murphy
1970	JFK Track and Field (Indoor–Winter) Team	Coach Herb Hollowell
1970	Woodbridge Football Team	Coach Sam Lupo
1972-1973	Colonia Boys Basketball Team	Coach Bob Tisdale
1974	Colonia Football Team	Coach Joe Martino
1978	JFK Football Team	Coach Cary Hamrah
1978	Woodbridge Softball Team	Coach Joan Wataha
1980	Colonia Softball Team	Coach Stew Jago
1984	Woodbridge Girls Tennis Team	Coach Ellen Baureis Pisano
1988	JFK Softball Team	Coach Robert McLaughlin
1990	Colonia Softball Team	Coach Stew Jago
1990	JFK Boys Basketball Team	Coach Ken Pace
1992	JFK Baseball Team	Coach Jerry Smith, Sr.

WTAAA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

SINCE NEW COMMITTEE 2015



Edward Ackerman Randy J. Adleman Dave Aprill Dr. Patrick Barbato Danielle Barajas Dan Bertolami Michele Bressant Anthony J. Caffiero Henri Chomicki - Coach Dr. Frank Corbo John Eppensteiner

Edmund Etzold Darlene Francisco (Matthews) Michele Fowler Tom Giordano, Jr. Amy Hansen (Thacker) Jerry Harold Hall Andrèa Harris (Lust) Keith Hemmings Jr. Carrie Huzar (Brown) Eileen Jauch Leonard "Buck" Jenkins

A. Kyle Johnson Richard Kovack Theodore Kujawski Adrienne Lyman Woodhull Paul Mallas **David Marciniak** Diane Matelski (Edmonds) William Matusz, Jr. Andrew McCray Ricky Meyers Lou Mucardo

Robert Murphy John W. Novak Jr. Bill Nyers - Coach Ed Paladino John Picaroni Chris Pinter **Brian Russo** William "Bill" Schoenig Mike Yannazzo - Coach



Eric Allen Ron Allen James Anderson **Robert Bingham** Alex Bosch Chris Buglovsky Robert Burlage Courtney Burton **David Carmon** David Cassella Maureen Clancy (Harshman)

Amy Coppola (Kroner) Ann Cyrana Lisa Da Cruz Alyson Eberhardt Jennifer Egan (Bjorndahl) **David Esposito** Matt Esposito Kathleen Flanagan (Colon) James Gordon Paul J. Gretsky

Kristin Composto Slater

J. Delvin Horsford Jeff Kipila **Denise Koury** Gary Kuzniak Mike Manfre Andrew Munkacsi Michele Nelson (Masino) Ray Newman - Coach Lenny Reves Jamison Panko Frank Ruggiero

Patrick Sheehan Darran Simon Jason Sims Jerry Smith Sr. - Coach Christine Stuppi (Chih) **David Tabon** Alfonzo Thomas Robert Yesalonia Sue Williams - Coach



Vincent Abene Twana Allen Joe Armeni Al Alvarez Caesar Alvarez Gary Battle Charles Braden Larraine Bratton Lisa Chin (Stanziani) Tom Chmiel - Coach Gerald Connell

Leonard Dandridge Gene Derkack Robert Farrell Don Ferraro Kathy Flicek (Deinlein) Dr. Martine Gubernat Mike Helman Fred Herzog Michael Kaelber Jennifer Kirby-Jeter-Coach Jack Kreiger- Coach

Dennis W. Kuntz William Kuntz David Kuntz Ben La Sala Bill Lichtenstein L.T. Levine Tembwe Lukabu Judi Martino Suzanne Mergner Cheryl Olah Ken Pace Sr. - Coach Michael Payne William A. "Tony" Payne Tina Sabunas Lorraine Smakula Steve Solop Lynn Spirko Robert Timinski Robert Urbanik Karen Youngman Laura Zollo Calabrese





Absent from picture - deceased inductees - Al Alvarez; Darlene Francisco Matthews

Living inductees - Fred Herzog; A. Kyle Johnson; Bill Lichtenstein; Mike Manfre; Lynn Spirko, Amy Hansen Thacker



SEATED - FIRST ROW -Dr. Robert "Bud" Kovacs (brother of Bill Kovacs-guest of honor), Kim Franks (Bill's daughter), and Tara Fairbanks (Bill's niece)

SEATED- SECOND ROW-Barajas, Ellen Baureis Pisano, coach of 1984 WHS girls tennis team and seven members of this team, Lisa Chin Stinziani, Amy Coppola Denise Koury, Suzanne Mergner, Andrea Harris Lust, Michele Fowler, and two members of 1978 JFK football team

ard Dandridge, Mike Cilento, member of 1972-1973 CHS basketball team and assistant coach of 1978 JFK football team and ten members of 1978 JFK football team, ewman, assistant coach at JFK, L.T. Levine, and Bob Lanigan, assistant coach of 1978 JFK football team. STANDING -THIRD ROW -

STANDING - FOURTH ROW- Dave Aprill, Tom Chmiel, assistant coach of 1972-1973 CHS basketball team, four members of this team, and Jack Kreiger, assistant coach, at CHS, James Gordon, Dave Marciniak, Chris Buglovsky, Bob Yesalonia, Joe Armeni, Robert Farrell, 1978 JFK football team member, and Carl Grillo, assistant coach of 1978 JFK football team.

Absent from picture are Tom Giordano Jr., Cheryl Olah, honored posthumously, Chris Pinter, David Tabon, honored posthumously, and Alfonzo Thomas.





L to R - front row - seated- 1988 JFK softball team members- Denise Koury, Tracy Latin, Sheryl Fornoff, Stacy Latin, Amy Matisa Moyer, Karen Stuppi; Mrs. Munkacsi;

1990 Colonia softball team members - Donna Sisco - McBarron, Colleen Nersita, Tara Molloy, Claudine Caro, Michelle Ferragamo-Murtha, Tina Sabunas, Jennifer Fabbo, Jennifer Weller, Stu Jago-head coi

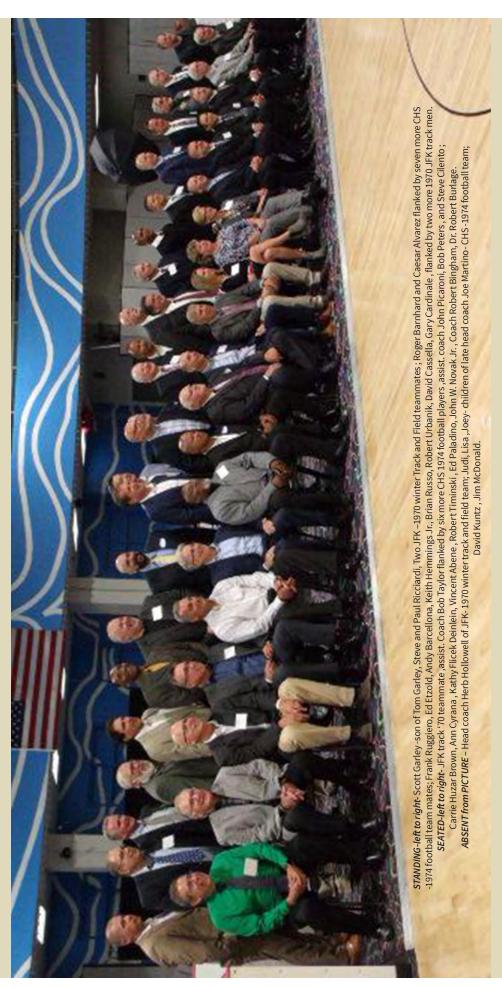
L to R - top row - standing - Gerry Gonyo- WHS- 1957 baseball team; 1988 JFK softball team members - Moira Forbes Zapata, Tina Kole Frost, Bob McLaughlin-head coach, Rita Saylor-assistant coach, Patricia Fitzgerald,

Pam Wojton Barnhard, Katy Flanagan Colon; Sgt. Charles Braden, Gene Derkack, Ed Ackerman, Eric Allen, Ted Kujawski, Patrick Sheehan, Darran Simon, Alyson Eberhardt,

and Special Guests of Honor- Dr. Vincent Capraro and Mr. Frank Capraro .

Absent from picture - deceased inductee - Richard Kovack; and living inductees- Gerald Connell, Don Ferraro, Eileen Jauch, Lou Mucardo,

Dr. Andrew Munkacsi, Lorraine Smakula, and 1957 WHS baseball team members - Ron Gasiorowski and Dave Peterson.





2022 Individual Inductees

SEATED: Dr. Patrick Barbato, Coach Bill Nyers, Mrs. Lukabu (Tembwe), Kristin Composto Slater, Sandra Schmidke (Guest of Honor), Laura Zollo Calabrese, Adrienne Lyman Woodhull, Michele Kuzniak (Gary^a), and Bill Matusz Jr. STANDING: Anthony Caffiero, David Carmon, Jamison Panko, Michael Kaelber, Pellegrino Ben La Sala, Jerry Hall, Jason Sims, William Bill Kuntz, and Dennis W. Kuntz.

ABSENT: Paul J. Gretsky



Kristen Minaides-Tencza, Laura Robinson-Quille, and Belinda Belin-Loniewski SEATED: Carol Paxton, Donna DiFabio - Jago, Cathy Paxton-Marchesani, STANDING: Assistant Coach Mike Kaelber, Lisa Martino - Hudak, 2022 Team Inductee: 1980 Colonia High School Softball Karen Youngman, and Geraldine McFadden

ABSENT: Deceased Head Coach Stew Jago*



2022 Team Inductee: 1992 John F. Kennedy Memorial High School Baseball STANDING: Steve Muretta, Alex Bosch, Dan Heimlich, Dan Tyler, Jeff Trela, ABSENT: Assistant Coach Bob Lanigan, Steve Christensen, Steven Karas, SEATED: Telly Ladoo, Don Nelson, Achal Dhruva, Pete Saniscalchi, Tom Caffrey, Coach Jerry Smith Sr., Jessica Smith, and Dana Sacco Lester Czerniak*, Tim Knodel, and manager Chris Styler Jim Gordon, Chris Corsaro, and Michele McCarthy



SEATED: Rich Kondrk, Robert Simkovich, Assistant Coach Al Meravi, 2022 Team Inductee: 1970 Woodbridge High School Football Richard Webb, Thomas Finocchio, and Dan Fenton Michele Kuzniak (Gary*) and George McGrath STANDING: Mark Demoreski, Bob Parrott,

* We remember IN MEMORIAM.



Congratulations to all of the Hall of Fame inductees!

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CONGRATULATIONS to the John F. Kennedy Memorial High School **2023 WTAAA Hall of Fame Class**









Kyle Anderson Joe Bergondo **Jeff Grose Ed Gutnik Guy Jensen Gregg McGuirl** 1977 Softball Team











Congratulations Robin, Evelyn & the 1977 JFK Iselin Softball Team!



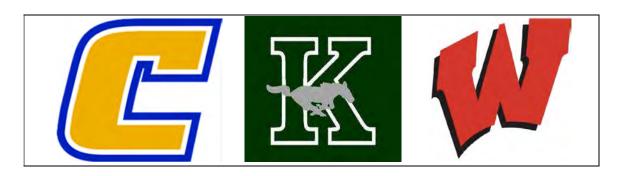
True queens of the diamond and always outstanding in your field.

We love you and we're proud of you! XOXO

Congratulations to the WTAAA **Hall of Fame Inductees** for your **Hall of Fame Honors!**





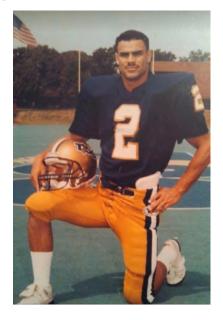


Congratulations

WTAAA Hall of Fame Inductees &

Councilman Kyle Anderson

JFK High School 1986 Football

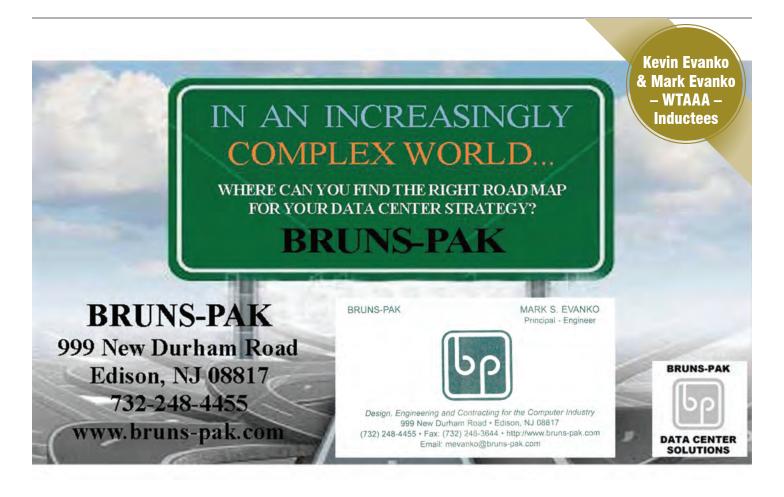


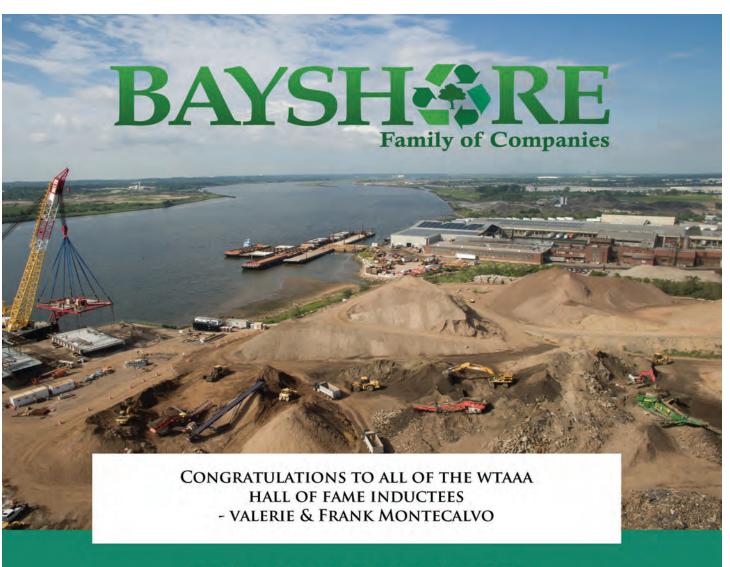
Councilman Gregg Ficarra 1 Main Street Woodbridge, NJ 07095-3352 Councilman Kyle Anderson 1 Main Street Woodbridge, NJ 07095-3352

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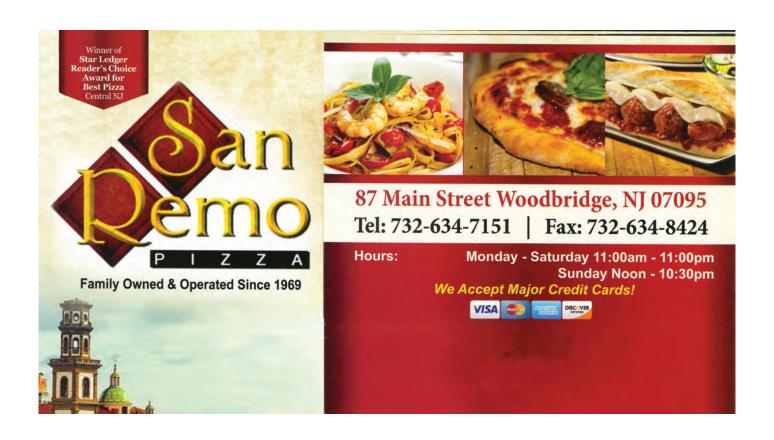
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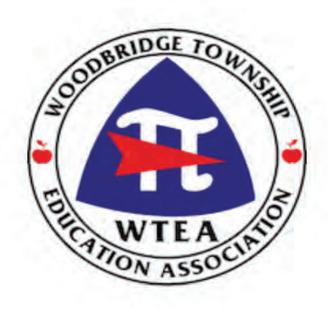
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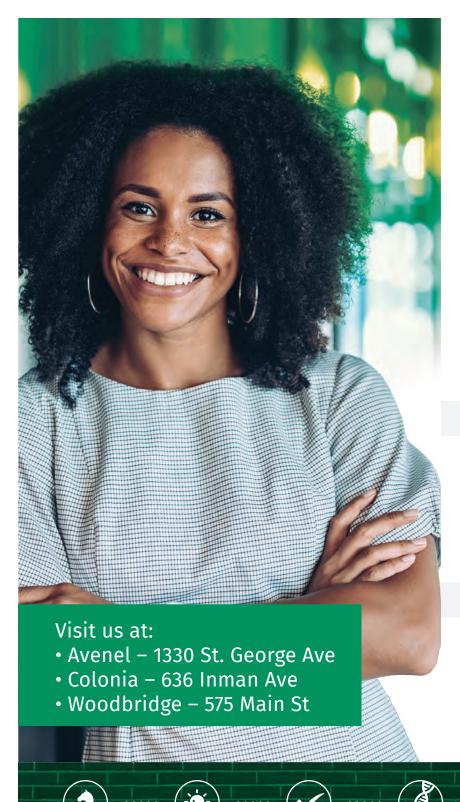
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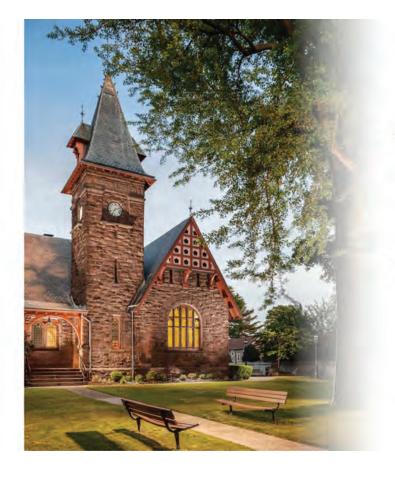
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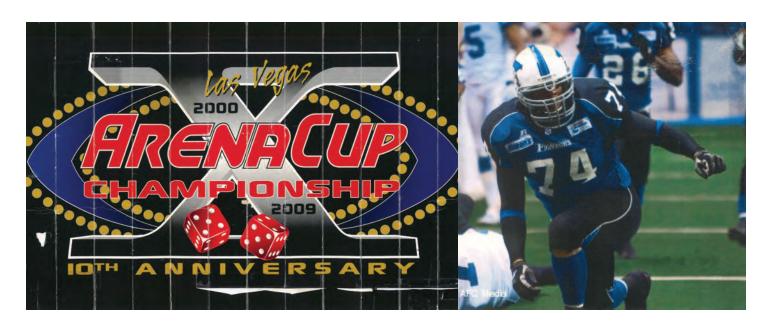


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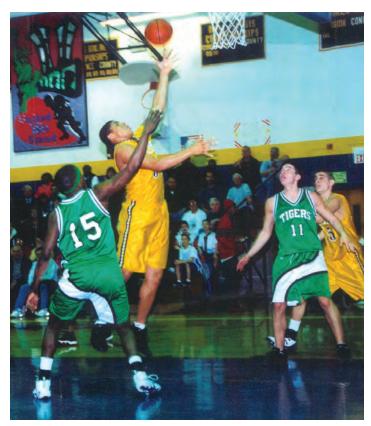








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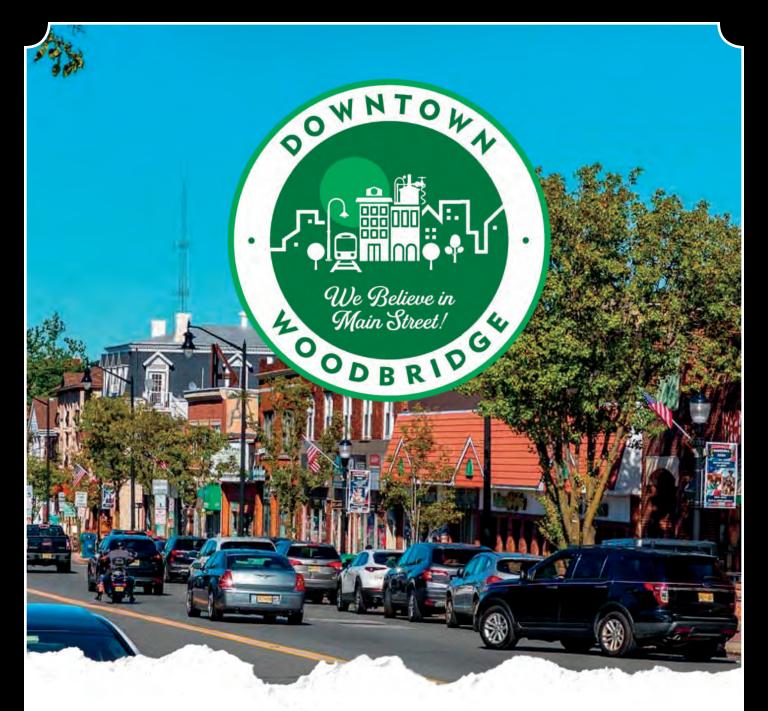




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