

Please Join Us
Monday, September 18
at the
Hall of Springs
in Saratoga Springs, NY

TICKET INFORMATION

TICKETS are \$43

For Tickets and Information

Please Call
Donna Frank
(518)668-5332
or
Bob Pezzano
(518)346-9297

GUEST SPEAKER

Assemblyman Jim Tedisco

- Played basketball at Bishop Gibbons for Don Blaha and Larry Feldman (nephew of Abe Feldman)
- Scored 55 points in a high school postseason tournament game (made Sports Illustrated's "Faces in the Crowd")
- All-American basketball player at Union College (still holds single game scoring record with 49 points)
- Received NCAA Silver Anniversary Award in 1997
- Named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches' Silver Anniversary Team in 1997
- NYS Assembly Minority Leader

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

Bill Eddy 1998
Sig Makofski 1998
Larry Mulvaney 1998
Walt Przybylo 1998
Ray Vacca 1998
Barry Kramer 1999
Bill Leonard 1999
Tony Parisi 1999
Pete Shulha 1999
Ed Catino 2000
Bill Rapavy 2000
Pat Riley 2000
Tommy Brennan 2001
Billy Connors 2001
Mack Suprunowicz 2001
Dom Denio 2002
Al DeSantis 2002
Norm Kitching 2002
Steve Szumachowski 2002
Jim Barbieri 2003
Bill Kirvin 2003
Dick Suprunowicz 2003
Walt Suprunowicz 2003
Mike Maietta 2004
1954 Schenectady Little League
World Series Champions 2004
Bob Czub 2005
Joe DeMeo 2005
Marty Servo 2005

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The purpose of the Athletic Hall of Fame is to honor those individuals who have made significant contributions to the history and tradition of sports in the Schenectady City School District.
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The 9th Annual

Schenectady
City School District

Athletic
Hall of Fame
and
Reunion Dinner

Monday
September 18, 2006



2006 INDUCTEES

• Don Blaha

• Shirley Muldowney

• Abe Feldman

• Guest Speaker
Assemblyman Jim Tedisco

2006 INDUCTEES

Don Blaha

Mont Pleasant High School Class of 1959

- Earned six varsity letters at Mont Pleasant
- Finished his senior year unbeaten in the high jump & set school record
- New York State high jump champion
- Shared the Norman Kitching Award for track
- Played basketball and baseball at M.P.H.S.
- Earned 6 varsity letters at Division I NYU in basketball & baseball
- Recorded twelve consecutive pitching victories during frosh & sophomore years
- Won both games of a doubleheader vs. Hofstra, pitching two complete games, striking out twenty
- Named the Most Valuable Pitcher of the Metropolitan Collegiate Baseball Conference in 1961
- Named MVP of NYU baseball team in 1962
- Metropolitan Collegiate Baseball Conference All-star in 1961 and 1963
- Named the MVP of the New York State Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament
- Pitched 3 no-hit, no-run games in N.Y. S. Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament
- Numerous outstanding seasons pitching in the Schenectady Twilight League, (9-0 record, ERA less than 1.00 in 1965)
- Played on 2 NYU basketball teams that reached the "Sweet Sixteen" of the NCAA Tournament ('62 & '63) - Teammates included Barry Kramer & Happy Hairston
- 2nd high scorer on the only undefeated (18-0) freshmen basketball team in NYU history
- Coached basketball at Bishop Gibbons High School where he won three Diocesan League Championships; Won the Eastern NYS Catholic High School Championship in 1964
- B.G. won a record 21 consecutive Diocesan League games from 1963—1965
- Player-coach for the Wedekind Pros basketball team during their first year—1965-1966
- Held golfing records at Willows Country Club (7 under par 66) and Stadium Golf Club (4 under par 67)
- Member of the NDBG Hall of Fame

Shirley Muldowney

Nott Terrace High School

- Began racing career in 1950's
- Broke down gender barriers in auto racing
- Became the first woman licensed by the National Hot Rod Association in 1965
- Won the International Hot Road Association Southern Nationals in 1971
- Voted first woman member of 10-person Auto Racing All-America team by American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Assoc. in '75 (made team 4 other times)
- Named "Drag News" Top Fuel Driver of the Year in 1976 and 1977
- Became the first woman to win the Winston World points championship in 1977
- "Car Craft" magazine's Person of the Year in 1977
- First Top Fuel driver to win three consecutive NHRA events (1977)
- Also won the Winston World points championship in 1980 & 1982, becoming the first professional driver to win drag racing's most prestigious title three times
- Won the American Hot Rod Association title in 1981
- Named the Top Fuel Driver of the Year by "Car Craft" magazine in 1981 and 1982
- Only woman to win the Top Fuel Eliminator Championships at the U.S. Nationals
- Career Best: 4.579 Elapsed Time
- Career Best Speed: 327 mph
- Life chronicled in the 1983 film, "Heart Like a Wheel"
- In 1997, voted to the U.S. Sports Academy's distinguished list of Top 25 professional female athletes from 1972—1997
- 2001, voted number 5 on the NHRA's list of all-time greatest drivers—only woman in top 50
- With co-author Bill Stephens, published book "Shirley Muldowney's Tales from the Track"
- U.S. House of Representatives presented her with Outstanding Achievement Award in 1977
- Recipient of U.S. Sports Academy Mildred "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias Courage Award in 1992
- Inducted into Michigan Sports Hall of Fame in 2003
- Inducted into International Motors Sports Hall of Fame in 2004

- Selected by NYS Senate in 1998 as one of "Thirty Women of Distinction"
- A & E did a biographical documentary on her life
- One of the most popular & famous drivers in drag racing history
- An icon in the field of motorsports
- First woman inducted into the Schenectady City School District Athletic Hall of Fame

Abe Feldman*

Mont Pleasant High School

- Played fullback for the old Schenectady High School and on the first Mont Pleasant High School football team
- Began his amateur boxing career while in high school
- Had a 63-5 amateur boxing record
- Turned pro in 1932—turning down an offer to attend the University of Pennsylvania
- In 1934, he fought Bob Olin to a draw in the fight before Olin won the light heavyweight world championship
- Defeated John Henry Lewis in 1935 just before Lewis won the light heavyweight world title
- The National Boxing Association ranked him the number one light heavyweight contender and the number four heavyweight challenger in the mid-1930's. Heavyweights ranked ahead of him included James Braddock, Joe Louis and Max Schmeling
- Fought James Braddock, Maxie Rosenbloom and Tony Galento during his pro career
- Nearly fought Joe Louis in Detroit
- Fought bouts in the Orange Bowl, the Olympic Auditorium, Yankee Stadium, Comiskey Park, Ebbets Field and Madison Square Garden
- Record of 14-0 in bouts at Madison Square Garden
- Lost just 14 of his 76 bouts (other sources have his record as 67-9-2)
- Retired from professional boxing in 1939
- Served in the Coast Guard during World War II
- Was named by the Mont Pleasant Athletic Club as Schenectady Co-Athlete of the Quarter Century in 1963

*Will be inducted posthumously