



Haverhill Public Schools

Office of the Athletic Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Haverhill Announces Second Hall of Fame Class

<Haverhill, MA> Haverhill High School has announced the inductees for the 2018 Hall of Fame class. Ten individuals will be inducted at the second HHS Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on June 9 at Bradford Country Club.

Inductees:

Rick A. Battistini '72.....Coach
Joe Carven.....Coach
Dan Conway '76 Football
Keri (Guertin) Ryan '92 Basketball, Cross Country, Softball
Alysson Horgan '95.....Swimming, Basketball
Gerry LaFlamme '71 Cross Country, Track
David Leonardo '92 Wrestling
Toney Pendleton '73..... Football, Basketball, Track
Tommy Quinlan '90 Basketball
Michael Walukevich '80 (posthumously) Cross Country, Track

Brown & Gold Lifetime Achievement Award

Dante Gobbi '44

The Haverhill High School Hall of Fame was established in 2017 to honor former students, coaches, and administrators who excelled in the field of athletics while attending HHS and for their accomplishments after high school. Its purpose is to perpetuate the memory of those persons who have brought distinction, honor, and excellence to Hillie athletics and familiarize the entire community and alumni with the high school's rich athletic history.

The inductees will be honored at a special ceremony to be held on June 9, 2018 at Bradford Country Club. Tickets are available by calling (978) 374-5732 or through the Haverhill High School Athletics web page (www.haverhill-ps.org click on Athletics tab).

Battistini has served as girls' swim coach for over three decades and has amassed an unbelievable record of 320 wins and 53 losses. He is a 10-time MVC Coach of the Year and was twice named Boston Globe Coach of the Year. His student-athletes have won 31 individual state titles and four have been named First Team All-America. He was inducted into the Massachusetts High School Swim Coaches Hall of Fame in 1986.

Conway is one of the best football players to wear the brown and gold in the 120-year history of the program. The running back scored 37 touchdowns and led the Hillies to a 21-8 record over his three years on the varsity team. He went on to a successful career at Boston College, rushing for over 2,000 yards and was drafted by the Buffalo Bills. He was part of the inaugural Hall of Fame class but was unable to attend the ceremonies last year.

Carven served as the head football coach at Haverhill from 1968-1982, the second longest tenure of any coach in the history of the program. He posted 81 wins and in 1972-73, he led the team to back-to-back 8-1 seasons. Carven helped fellow inductee Conway and dozens of other student-athletes earn scholarships and go on to play at the next level.

Ryan was one of the most successful three-sport athletes in school history. She was named Boston Globe Player-of-the-Year in 1992 after leading the Hillies to the MIAA Division 1 State Championship. She was a three-time All-Conference selection in basketball and two-time All-Conference selection in both softball and cross country. In addition to the basketball state title as senior, Ryan also led the cross country team to a Class A title and the softball team to an MIAA Division 1 North sectional title. She went on to a great career at Merrimack College, scoring 864 points.

Horgan won an incredible nine state swimming titles over four years. As a freshman, she was on the state champion medley relay team and won the 100 butterfly state title. Over each of the next three years, she claimed the individual state title in both the 200 free and 100 butterfly. As a senior she was part of another state championship relay team and led the Hillies to a runner-up finish at the MIAA State Finals. She went on to a record-setting career at Boston College.

LaFlamme was a key to the resurgence of the track program and set the standard for all runners since. Upon graduating in 1971, he held four indoor track records (600, 1000, mile and two-mile) and three outdoor track records (880, mile and two-mile). He went on to a successful career at the University of Maine, where he won numerous state titles. In 2013, he was inducted into the Maine Hall of Fame. LaFlamme has enjoyed a successful law practice in Haverhill.

Leonardo is one of the top wrestlers to ever come out of the Merrimack Valley area. In 1992, he posted a 46-4 record, went on to win the Division 1 State Title and placed third in New England. He was tabbed Eagle-Tribune Wrestler of the Year and named both Boston Globe and Herald All-Scholastic. As a sophomore he finished runner-up in both

State and New England tournaments. He posted 150 wins over four years and is a member of the Massachusetts Wrestling Hall of Fame. David was a 4 year starter for Division 1 Boston University Terriers, qualifying for the NCAA tournament twice and earning ECWA outstanding wrestler honors his senior.

Pendleton was a star three-sport athlete, graduating in 1973 with a long list of accomplishments. He won two state titles (100 and long jump) and won the All-State track meet with a leap of 21 feet, 11 ½ inches, setting a school record that stood for 40 years. In addition to track success, Pendleton also excelled on the basketball and football teams. He scored eight touchdowns his senior year and was co-captain of the basketball team. Pendleton went on to a successful career at UMass Amherst.

Quinlan was a standout point guard for the Hillies. He was named the Eagle-Tribune MVP in 1990 and was a two-time Merrimack Valley All-Conference selection. Quinlan went on to play at Bentley University, where he set the school all-time record for career assists with 633, a record that still stands today. He was an All-Northeast-10 selection and led the team to the NCAA Regional Semi-Finals in 1993.

A two-time New England Champion, Walukevich still holds school records in the mile and two-mile for both indoor and outdoor track. All four records have stood for 38 years. He went on to compete at the University of Mississippi and University of Rhode Island. He served the City of Haverhill as a police officer for 11 years. In 1999, he died tragically in a jet-ski accident. The mile race at the Ottaviani Track meet is named in honor of him and the Michael Walukevich Scholarship is awarded annually to deserving student-athletes.

Gobbi will be the inaugural recipient of the Brown & Gold Lifetime Achievement Award. His excellent playing career was cut short as he was drafted his senior year and served our country in World War II. After returning from the war, he spent the rest of his life dedicated to Haverhill Athletics. He was not only the long-time equipment manager, but worked tirelessly for the athletic department in so many ways.

From 1980 to 1982, the City of Haverhill held induction ceremonies for a city-wide Sports Hall of Fame. This included all athletes from the City of Haverhill regardless of where they attended school. In addition to this year's inductees, all individuals that are in thy City of Haverhill Sports Hall of Fame that attended Haverhill High School are also considered members of the HHS Athletics Hall of Fame.

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