

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

20



13

INAUGURAL INDUCTION RECEPTION / CEREMONY

**Sunday, June 16 / 1 p.m.
at Rockville High School
Rockville, Conn.**

Dr. Betsy J. Andersen McShea '87



A 12-time letterwinner, Betsy Andersen was a two-time All-State honoree in soccer, basketball and track & field and a ten-time all-conference selection. She was a two-time *USA Today* All-America honorable mention selection in basketball and graduated as the all-time basketball leader in points (1,185) and rebounds (858) and as the school record-holder in the javelin (131-2). As

a senior, she became the program's first 1,000-point scorer. A 5-foot-9 inch post player, Andersen keyed the two most successful teams in the history of the program under RHS Hall of Fame coach Jim Martello. In her final two seasons, the Rams combined on a 42-5, and reaching the 20-win plateau in each of those seasons. As a junior, Andersen

led the Rams to their first state championship final, averaging 16 points and 13 rebounds en route to becoming the program's first All-State selection. In a 55-47 semifinal-round win over Danbury, Andersen scored 21 points and grabbed 20 rebounds. As a senior tri-captain, she averaged 17.5 points per game and led RHS to 21 consecutive victories, the conference championship, and into the Class "LL" semifinals. In that semifinal loss to Danbury, three early fouls put Andersen on the bench and ignited Danbury's

comeback from 17 points down. With Andersen, the Rams qualified for the CIAC tournament every year. As a sophomore, she helped the Rams claim their first CIAC tournament win ever. As a four-time all-conference track athlete under 2013 RHS Hall of Famer Harry Geraghty, Andersen and helped the Rams to the conference title as a freshman. As a senior, she was selected to receive the RHS Academic Scholar Award. Andersen cites Martello and assistant basketball coach Art Wheelock for her development as a player and person: "They strove to develop a balance between training for competition and enjoyment of the sport and our teammates," said Andersen. "They were instrumental in helping our team develop a cohesiveness that served us well. And they encouraged me to take a leadership role." Additionally, Andersen singled out "Schragger and the Twins" for providing an "essential support system" throughout her career. Upon graduation, Andersen accepted a full basketball scholarship to Division I University of Hartford, where she averaged 8.7 points and 5.6 rebounds in a 103-game career. Andersen earned a B.S. in Mathematics from Hartford and an M.S. and Ph.D in Mathematics from American University. She is currently employed as a professor of developmental mathematics at Richard Stockton College and resides in Hainesport, NJ with husband, Matthew, and their three children.



Joseph Calaci, Jr. '70



In its first season back on the RHS athletic map in 1966, the football program did not win a game. It took the Rams only three short years to reinvent themselves, however, winning nine games and losing only one and sharing the program's first conference championship by 1969. Much of the credit for that rapid turnaround must be credited to Joe Calaci, an explosive running back on offense and a hard-hitting safety on defense. As a senior, the 5-foot-6 inch,

150-pounder set state records for points (221) and touchdowns (29), amassing 1,807 rushing yards and 2,001 all-purpose yards for a club ranked as high as No. 6 in the state. He ran for 100 yards in every game, three times totaling at least 200. That season, "Little Joe"

was named *Parade Magazine* honorable mention All-America and selected to the prestigious New Haven Register Class "A" All-State first team. Calaci was additionally named all-conference on both offense and defense that season, when he broke both the state point and touchdown records in the final game of his career with a four-touchdown, 30-point performance against Glastonbury. Calaci's 221-point senior season dwarfed the second-best mark in the conference by 115 points and the state runner-up by 39. In

addition to playing back on offense and defense, the team tri-captain also kicked field goals and returned kickoffs and punts; once as a junior returned the opening kickoff 70 yards in an eventual six-point win over Plainville. In that game, he also caught a 30-yard TD pass. In another victory over Glastonbury during his junior year, Calaci returned a punt 80 yards for a touchdown, raced 71 yards from scrimmage for a second score, ran in two two-point conversions and kicked for another PAT. In what was termed "the biggest win in program history," Calaci ran for 147 yards – including a 68-yard TD run – in a 34-6 win over Middletown in a game featuring previously unbeaten teams in 1968. Calaci was named to the all-conference team at tailback that year, when he received the team's *Ugly Man Award* for topping the Rams in tackles and was also first on the team in yards per carry (7.2), and second in rushing yards (707), points (59) and touchdowns (8). One local sportswriter described Calaci as "the most 148 lb. package of football talent this writer has ever seen sink his spikes into a gridiron," and by coach Jerry Fitzgerald as "the best broken-field runner I've ever had." As a baseball shortstop and No. 3 hitter in the order, Calaci was selected to the all-conference team as a senior. Calaci, who has been self-employed for 25 years, resides in Vernon with wife Teresa and teenage son Christopher, and has been actively involved in Vernon youth baseball for more than a decade.



John R. Canavari, Sr.



John Canavari was a member of the RHS athletic coaching staff from 1952 through 1967 and also served as Director of Physical Education and Athletics in the Town of Vernon. In his career, Canavari coached soccer, basketball and baseball – all in the same year in the mid-1950s. In his first season as basketball coach in 1952-53, he led the “Yellow Jackets” to their first berth in the Valley “B” League

Tournament in many years, fashioning an 11-3 record, and featured the program’s first All-State player in team captain Stan Pliska. The following year, RHS reached the Class “B” semifinals, dropping an 11-point decision to the Gilbert School. Canavari went on to be recognized as Connecticut’s Coach-of-the-Year in basketball later in his career. Canavari was hired in 1952 as a sixth-grade teacher at Maple Street School and succeeded Ted Ventura as PE Director – and later as baseball coach -- for K through eighth grade. Canavari was born in Hoboken, NJ and grew up in Weehawken, NJ, where he played soccer basketball and baseball, excelling as an All-State basketball player. Prior to enrolling at the Teachers’ College of Connecticut (Central Connecticut State), he served with the U.S. Army Air Force, and after the war, remained in occupied Japan to develop recreation activities for fellow servicemen. Canavari played basketball and baseball at CCSU, where he was a member of four NAIA New England championship teams. He led the team in scoring as a freshman and served as a senior captain, and was inducted into the CCSU Hall of

Fame in 1984. At Rockville, Canavari helped engineer the re-introduction of soccer to the RHS athletic program – a program which had initially been instituted in 1942 by fellow RHS charter Hall of Fame inductee Francis E. Geissler. Upon leaving Rockville at the age of 41, Canavari spent two years as an assistant professor at Buffalo State College before embarking upon a 14-year career at Greater Hartford Community College, where he was employed as Director of Student Affairs and Athletics, basketball coach, and Dean of Continuing Education and Community Services. In addition to a B.S. Degree from Central, Canavari obtained an M.A. in Education from New York University, and pursued additional coursework at Springfield College. John Canavari passed away in 2001 at the age of 75 and is survived by his wife, Patricia (Hunt) -- a retired teacher in the Vernon School System – and four grown children.



Thomas J. Dunn



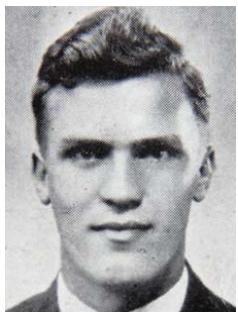
Tom Dunn is the most successful football coach in RHS history. In 26 seasons between 1979 and 2004, Dunn led the Rams to three berths in the Class “L” state title game (in a seven-year span), six conference championships, and an overall record of 148-115-8. In 1990, the Rams won the only state title in program history, and Dunn was selected Coach-of-the-Year by the Northern Connecticut

Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame for the second time. The state title in 1990 came one year after absorbing a 46-point loss to West Haven in the 1989 state championship game, as Dunn’s Rams rebounded for that 14-10 victory over Newington, which capped a second straight 10-1 finish. Trailing in that title game, RHS recovered a fumble at midfield with just under two minutes remaining. With 37 seconds left, quarterback Steve Mikulski’s “lob” found wide receiver Mike Leary all alone in the end zone for the go-ahead points. That year, Dunn’s team reeled off nine straight wins prior to the title game after losing its

season-opener. The Rams had qualified for the CIAC playoffs with a Thanksgiving victory over South Windsor, coupled with Naugatuck’s loss to Ansonia. For 20 years, Dunn and loyal assistant coaches Art Wheelock, Joe Wilchinski and Dennis Blowers formed the braintrust of the program. In his 2005 autobiography, four-time Super Bowl champion Bill Romanowski ’84 praised his high school coach even before singling out his college or pro mentors. Romanowski, a fellow 2013 RHS Hall of Fame charter

inductee, credited Dunn for “changing my life and believing in me and my dreams. Until coach Dunn came along, I didn’t have anyone else mentoring me in football, telling me that I had a special gift. I’ve always believed that coach Dunn was pivotal in helping me achieve my dreams.” Dunn identified his most memorable moments at RHS in simple terms. “Standing on the sideline every Friday night or Saturday afternoon with the band playing, the noise of the crowd and the excitement of the game, and having the honor of watching the Rams give their all were most memorable for me during my tenure.” A Waterbury native, Dunn earned his B.S. in Physical Education from the University of Notre Dame -- where he was a 1960 junior heavyweight boxing champion -- and undertook additional coursework toward a Master’s Degree from Penn State. Tom and Sandra Dunn have two grown children and reside in Manchester.

Francis E. Geissler '33



Francis E. Geissler is one of two charter inductees to teach, coach and play at RHS. Geissler played four years of basketball and three years of baseball, and after earning ten letters in three sports at New Britain Teachers College, returned to coach at RHS for six years before moving on as a coach and administrator at Willimantic State.

At RHS, Geissler started the soccer program in 1942, and coached basketball and baseball until resigning in January of 1948. As a coach, he never had a losing season at RHS, and years later in his unofficial autobiography, described his tenure at RHS as "the best years of my professional life." As he did at RHS, Geissler initiated the soccer program at Willimantic State in 1961, as well as inaugurating the baseball program a year later. Throughout his life, Geissler left an indelible impression as a man of integrity, commitment to education, sense of fair play, and single-minded devotion to his classmates, teammates, coaches, and later, to his students and players. As a senior, Geissler was voted "Best-Natured", "Best All-Around" and "Class Athlete" by a vote of his classmates. While a student, Geissler

often hitchhiked the eight miles to the high school from his home in Broad Brook, which at one time produced four of the five starters – Geissler among them – on the RHS basketball team. Geissler was hired at RHS in 1942 to teach physical education and civics, and serve as athletic director and coach, as well as fill the role as director of physical education and health for the Town of Vernon. His basketball teams qualified for several state tournaments, advancing to the quarterfinals three times and to the semifinals once.

Of his years in Rockville, Geissler later wrote that "the support of the administration, faculty, students and parents was the best – our successes were many. Many of our grads went on to become important people in industry, business and education." Today, Geissler is receiving charter Hall of Fame status for at least the third time, following his 1986 enshrinement into the Eastern Connecticut State University Hall of Fame and his 2000 induction into the Rockville Wall of Honor. Sportsmanship awards have also been named in his honor at both RHS and Eastern Connecticut. In addition to his undergraduate degree, Geissler earned a Master's Degree in Education from Springfield College and later undertook additional coursework at Yale, Penn and NYU. Throughout 67 years of marriage, the late Francis and Dorothy Geissler raised four children, among them son David who followed in his father's footsteps as a teacher and coach at RHS. Mr. Geissler passed away in 2009 at the age of 93. At his funeral, three of his former RHS players served as pallbearers.

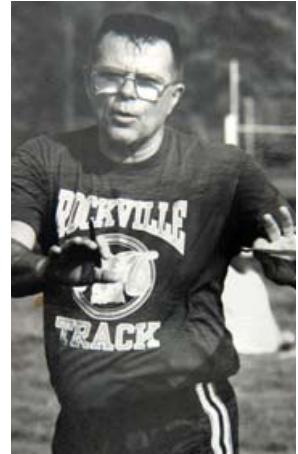
Harry M. Geraghty



Harry Geraghty coached boys' and girls' cross country, girls' track & field and boys' basketball at RHS for a total of 33 seasons between the winter of 1973 and the fall of 1995. In 14 cross country seasons, the St. Albans, NY native led the Rams to 11 boys' and girls' conference championships. In an eight-year span in cross country, Geraghty directed the RHS boys' and girls' team

to three state titles and five second-place finishes, with the boys twice taking second place in the Open. In the fall of 1990, both RHS cross country teams finished unbeaten, both claiming the prestigious Windham Invitational titles and capturing third place in their respective class meets. The boys were ninth in the New England meet, the girls 12th. In the fall of 1991, Geraghty guided the boys' cross country team to its third straight undefeated season and conference title, second place in the Class "LL" and Open championships, third place in the New England meet and the state's No. 2 ranking. The girls' team that season won its seventh conference title in a nine-year span, placed second in the "L" meet and tenth in the Open and a final record of 22-2. The long-time Ellington resident was named CHSCA girls' cross country Coach-of-the-Year after his second straight state title in 1986 and was inducted into the CHSCA Hall of Fame in 2002. In the fall of 2012, the Harry Geraghty Cross Country Invitational was created and hosted at RHS. Geraghty was appointed to the RHS faculty and named the head boys' basketball coach in the fall of 1973, maintaining that position for the next seven years.

In his first year in that position, the No. 10-seeded Rams came from 19 points down for a Class "LL" overtime playdown win over Bristol Central, and followed that up with a one-point victory over Bristol Eastern in the first round. That team won 12 of 18 conference games and was perfect in nine home games to extended a home winning streak to 16. Years after his graduation, an alumnus praised his former coach in the following way: "Day in and day out, you provided a positive atmosphere for the team to thrive in, setting goal after goal for us, making us strive even harder. There is no doubting the desire you have for coaching." After a three-year hitch in the U.S. Marine Corps, Geraghty graduated from St. Bonaventure University with a Bachelor's Degree in Education and went on to earn his Master's Degree from Trinity College. Geraghty passed away in November of 2011 at the age of 78. Harry and his late wife, Gail, were survived by a daughter, Deanna.



Susan M. Golden Perrella '99



Susan Golden was a four-year letter-winner and three-sport captain in cross country, indoor and outdoor track who won four individual state championships at 800 and 1,000 meters and was a nine-time all-conference performer. As a senior, she gained All-State honors in cross country with a fourth-place finish, then won state championships at 800 meters both indoors and outdoors (defending her outdoor title),

and ran to a second-place finish at that distance in the New England Championships in one of the top 15 fastest times of the season (2:11.5). As a senior, she also led the Rams to conference titles in all three sports and to their first outdoor state title in Class "L" competition. That year, she placed third in the state in the heptathlon, setting the current state record of 2:12.45 at 800 meters. Golden won Class "L" outdoor titles at 800 meters as a junior and senior. In her final season in Class "M" competition, she captured the indoor championship at 800 and at 1,000 meters. Golden ran under the guidance of Dave Smith and 2013 RHS Hall



of Famer Harry Geraghty in cross country and under the four-year direction of Shaun Brophy in track. Of Geraghty, who coached her as a freshman, she noted that "he was always looking out for me and looking for me to do great things." Of Smith, who began training her in seventh grade, she noted that "he always believed in my ability, and of Brophy, she credited him as "someone who made me really love the sport and who always had me peak at the appropriate time of the season and who pushed me to work

harder." In her career, Golden set 23 indoor and outdoor program records in distances ranging from 45 to 1,600 meters and in the pentathlon. Among her many highlights, Golden remembers her outdoor team winning the Journal Inquirer Invitational championship and being honored as the meet's large school Outstanding Performer during her senior year, after claiming the 400 and helping the 4x400 relay do the same – both in meet-record times – as well as taking the 800 in the second-fastest time in meet history. A member of the National Honor Society in high school, Golden moved on to a four-year running career at Division I Marist College on an academic and athletic scholarship. At Marist, she still holds three individual indoor and outdoor and three indoor and outdoor relay records and was named senior Sportsperson-of-the-Year. Golden graduated from Marist with a degree in Business Finance and is employed as a Business Systems Analyst Consultant at Travelers in Hartford. Susan and husband Brian have two young children and reside in Southington.

D. Michael Leonard III '00



Mike Leonard played four years of baseball under Art Wheelock and three of ice hockey under Chris Stevenson, leading the baseball team to consecutive berths in the state championship and the 2000 Class "L" state title. A right-handed-hitting catcher and two-sport captain, the 6-foot, 210 pound Leonard was honored as the

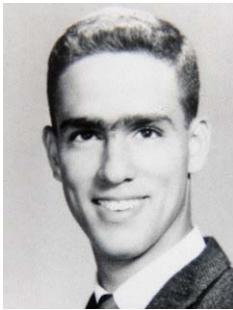
Connecticut Gatorade and *Hartford Courant* Player-of-the-Year as a senior, when he repeated All-State honors. A three-time all-conference baseball selection, Leonard was also a state scholar-athlete award-winner and all-conference selection as a hockey goalie. In leading the Rams to a 21-2 record, a share of the state's top baseball ranking, and their first state championship in 2000, Leonard batted .627 with four home runs and 22 RBI in the regular season with a 1.068 slugging percentage and 3-0 pitching record (the team winning its first 15 games), and was

6-for-11 with four RBI in four post-season tournament games. He had three hits and three RBI in the tournament opener against Jonathan Law and in a 4-3, 10-inning come-from-behind semifinal victory over Holy Cross, he had the game-tying RBI double, then walked to start a decisive three-run, game-winning rally in the bottom of the tenth. Says Wheelock, "Mike just had a great work ethic because he enjoyed

the game so much. It wasn't work to him." In addition to playing two sports, Leonard served as senior class secretary and credits Wheelock with much of his development. "He helped motivate me to work harder and become a better player and person," says Leonard of Wheelock. "He taught me to think of the good of the team before myself." Upon graduation, Leonard played three seasons in the Boston Red Sox organization – reaching the Double A level after batting .300 with the Single A Lowell Spinners -- following a four-year career at the University of Connecticut. At UConn, Leonard was named to the All-Big East Conference team and gained all-academic honors as a Political Science major. Leonard, who also holds an M.S. Degree in Educational Leadership from St. Lawrence University, has served as head baseball coach and leadership coordinator at Bates College since 2011. Mike and wife Meaghan reside in Monmouth, ME with infant daughter Adelynn.



James L. Martello '65



Jim Martello was a three-sport letterwinner who went on to coach girls' basketball for 24 seasons between 1977 and 2001. As the architect of the fledgling RHS girls' basketball program, Martello won 286 games and lost 202, including a composite, four-year record of 79-14 midway through his career. With the Rams, Martello produced 18 state tournament qualifiers, five conference championship teams

and four teams which reached the state quarterfinals or beyond. His 1985-86 team reached the Class "LL" state final, and the Rams followed that up the next year by winning their first 21 games and advancing to the state semifinals. Early on, Martello's 1980-81 team broke through to win 14 of 18 games, and qualified for its first CIAC tournament, setting the tone for the success which would follow. As an athlete, Martello played four seasons of basketball and baseball and two of soccer. At 6-foot-4 inches, he was the most dominant pitcher in the most successful era of baseball at RHS, averaging better than nine strikeouts per game in his career. As a freshman, Martello teamed with staff ace Skip Olander by winning all three of his decisions and helping the Rams to the Class "B" state championship game. As a sophomore, he pitched 35 consecutive scoreless innings and won 11 straight pitching decisions, finishing 11-2 with 128 strikeouts in 91 innings for a team which won 16 straight games and reached the Class "B" final for the second straight season. Martello won ten and lost two games for the 13-3 Rams as senior, when the team won 11 straight and captured the conference title for the second time in three years. Other notable performances that year included a 16-strikeout, five-hit victory over Southington, and an 18-strikeout, 11-inning domination in the first round of the Class "B" tournament in his final high school appearance. As a senior forward in basketball, "tall Jimmy Martello" complemented the muscle of Joe VanOudenhoove and the playmaking and scoring skills of 2013 Hall of Famer Alan Putz – both classmates – by helping the Rams to the conference championship with a perfect 12-0 record, and into the state tournament semifinals. That team completed the program's finest season, at 19-4, and Martello earned a spot as an all-conference honorable mention choice. After being presented the RHS Outstanding Player Award as a senior in recognition of athletic and academic ability, Martello went on to a standout baseball career at Wesleyan University, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in the Classics. Martello also holds an M.A. Degree in Education from the University of Connecticut. Jim and Gail Martello have two grown children and reside in Vernon.



G. Alan Putz '65

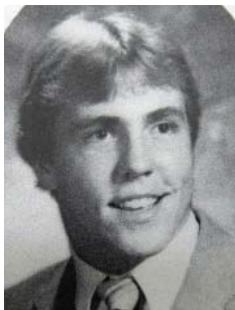


Alan Putz was a four-year member of the basketball and baseball programs -- playing guard in basketball and pitching and playing third base in baseball – and also played soccer for two seasons. Putz was a two-sport All-State selection who scored 1,017 points in basketball as the program's first 1,000-point scorer, and gained

All-New England accolades in baseball. Teamming with fellow 2013 Hall of Famer Jim Martello in basketball and baseball, the 5-foot-10 inch, 165-pound Putz helped the baseball team to the state title game twice and the basketball team to the semifinals as a senior. As a junior in basketball, Putz set program records for points in a game (38) and season (454/20.5 ppg.) en route to Class "B" All-State honors. As a senior on one of the highest-scoring teams in the state, the "Blond Bomber" tossed in 33 points in a 101-58 win over Windsor, 32 in an 89-70 victory over Glastonbury, and 26 in an 86-64 victory over Southington. An All-America infielder at Springfield College in 1969, Putz was drafted six times by professional baseball – including in the 27th round by the Pittsburgh Pirates after his senior year at RHS – and reached the Triple A level with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1973. In 1971, the lefty hitter belted 22 home runs with Class A Modesto (CA) and concluded his minor league career with a .282 batting average. Putz credits RHS basketball coach John Canavari and baseball coach Ron Kozuch with instilling life lessons. "Both coaches emphasized 'team' over 'individual' play," said Putz. "With their guidance, I began to understand terms like responsibility, accountability, and unselfishness. Although I didn't know it at the time, they began my development in becoming a man." Putz and classmates Martello and Joe VanOudenhoove -- who formed the nucleus of the great RHS basketball and baseball teams of the 1960s – got their start as youngsters by playing on a Babe Ruth state championship team, as well as the heralded unbeaten 1961-62 RHS freshman basketball squad. Putz, who grew up in Tolland, holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Springfield and advanced degrees from Southern Connecticut State University and Central Connecticut State University. Putz spent a 36-year career in education and in retirement lives in Statesboro, GA with wife Charlotte. The Putzes have two grown children.



William T. Romanowski '84

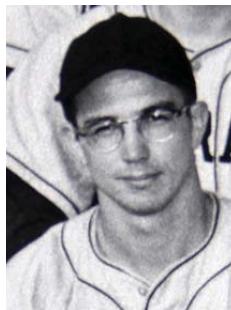


Bill Romanowski played four seasons of football under RHS Hall of Fame coach Tom Dunn, as well as four of basketball and three of baseball. As a senior football captain, Romanowski was rewarded with second-team New Haven Register All-State honors at linebacker and was considered to be “one of the best defensive players in the area.” Offensively, Romanowski

was the club’s most versatile player, contributing at tackle, running back and at end, and also handling the punting chores. Dunn, the most successful coach in RHS football history, cast his vote for Romanowski as the state’s premier player in 1983. “Bill is a blue-chip athlete and the best player in the state of Connecticut,” offered Dunn. “He can play anywhere. (University of) Tennessee called and said that they heard that we had the best player in New England.” With Romanowski anchoring the defense as a senior, opponents averaged less than 100 total yards a game. In a late-season 14-6 victory over Glastonbury, Romanowski’s 55-yard run from scrimmage late in the third quarter put the game away. Following a shutout win over Rockville, Bloomfield coach George Bassos offered these comments: “I want to say this for Rockville – that Romanowski is as fine a player as I’ve ever seen.” In that game, Romanowski unloaded a 71-yard punt and averaged 40 yards per punt. Having being named Class Athlete and earning academic acclaim as a senior, Romanowski went on to a four-year Hall of Fame football career at Boston College – winning the program’s Scanlan Trophy for outstanding scholarship, leadership and athletic ability as a senior – and a 16-year career in the NFL which included five Super Bowl appearances, four Super Bowl victories, and two selections to the Pro Bowl. In his 2005 best-selling autobiography, Romanowski wrote, in part: “How do I begin to thank all my coaches for their help over all these years? To coach Dunn for changing my life and believing in me and my dreams... until coach Dunn came along, I didn’t have anyone else mentoring me in football, telling me that I had a special gift. I’ve always believed that coach Dunn directly... [was] pivotal in helping me achieve my dreams.” Despite gaining stardom in the NFL, Romanowski has not forgotten his roots, having made substantial financial contributions to improving RHS’s athletic facilities. Mike and Julie Romanowski reside on the West Coast.



Ralph K. Schumey '47



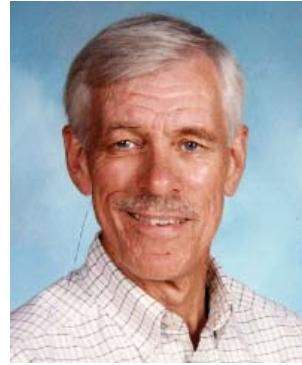
Ralph Schumey was one RHS’s most accomplished athletes and well-round individuals of the 1940s, playing four years of soccer and baseball and three of basketball and serving as a two-sport captain. As a senior, he led the soccer team in scoring, helped the basketball team to the Class “B” state tournament, and batted .369 in baseball. Following graduation, the lifelong Vernon/Rockville resident

played professional baseball in the Boston Braves’ system, served in the U.S. Air Force, played baseball at Willimantic State Teachers’ College, studied voice at the Hart School of Music, and taught for 25 years in the Vernon Public School system. Schumey played baseball under 2013 charter inductee Francis E. Geissler at both RHS and at Willimantic State. Though slight in stature, Schumey was characterized by a former baseball coach as a “gritty, smart, competitive SOB”, but as a gentleman off the field. At RHS, he was vice president of the Glee Club and Assembly Committee, and sports editor of The Banner, and was presented with the boys’ Sportsmanship Award as a senior. Schumey played shortstop at RHS, leading the team one season with a .369 batting average and scoring 13 runs in 12 games for the 9-3 Rams. In soccer, he played up front, scoring a team-high ten goals on a team which won six, tied two and lost one as a junior, and collected a team-high eight goals as a senior co-captain on a 7-3-0 team. In basketball, Schumey played all three positions under Mr. Geissler. At the basketball banquet following his senior season, the multi-talented Schumey also sang a solo. After returning from the service and from a year of professional baseball, “Ralo” enrolled at Willimantic State, playing second base and pitcher as a team captain under Geissler. One of Schumey’s long-time baseball teammates characterized Schumey as “that skinny kid who got his power as a hitter from his tremendous wrists. He was a smart player with great anticipation. Some players have the skills, but don’t have it in the head. Ralph had both.” Among Schumey’s ambitions as a senior at RHS were singing, teaching and playing baseball, and he fulfilled each of those dreams. Schumey earned a B.S. and M.S. from the University of Hartford, and enjoyed a long-time professional career in the Vernon School System, teaching English and serving as the Chairman of the Language Arts Department. Schumey and his wife, the late Aida Alvarez, made their home in the Rockville area and had five children. Schumey passed away in 2011 at the age of 81.



PROGRAM

Welcome	Steven Phelps <i>Director of Athletics</i>
Introduction & Entrance	David Smith <i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
Remarks	Scott Smith <i>Chair, Hall of Fame</i>
Presentation of Awards	David Smith
Inductee	Presenter
Betsy J. Anderson McShea '87	John Andersen <i>Father</i>
Joseph Calaci, Jr. '70	Sonny LaPointe <i>Former Teammate</i>
John R. Canavari, Sr.	John Canavari, Jr. <i>Son</i>
Thomas J. Dunn	Matt Buckler <i>Journal Inquirer</i>
Francis E. Geissler '33	Don Berger <i>Former Player</i> David Geissler/Son (Accepting Award)
Harry M. Geraghty	Mark Waxenberg <i>Son-in-law</i> Deanna Geraghty-Meehan <i>Daughter</i> (Accepting Award)
Susan M. Golden-Perrella '99	David Smith <i>Former Coach</i>
D. Michael Leonard III '00	Art Wheelock <i>Former Coach</i>
James L. Martello '65	Gregg Martello/Son
G. Alan Putz '65	Ken Foise <i>Former Teammate</i>
William T. Romanowski '84	Julie Romanowski/ <i>Wife</i>
Ralph K. Schumey '47	Don Berger <i>Former Teammate</i> Steve Schumey/Son (Accepting Award)
Closing	David Smith



David Smith Master of Ceremonies

Our Master of Ceremonies this afternoon, David Smith, hails from East Hartford, but brings his own Rockville High School experience to our induction this afternoon.

Smith spent 24 years on the RHS faculty, starting in the Special Education department and then teaching English for his last 11 years there.

In addition to his classroom work at RHS, Smith coached cross country and track & field for 18 years, capturing conference titles and a state championship in track & field in 1998.

As he is fond of saying, there will always be a special place in his heart for RHS, having spent much of his professional life there. Smith resides in Vernon with his wife, Sue, who is also a retiree from RHS.

CONTRIBUTORS

ALL-CONFERENCE - \$250-\$499

Vernon Orioles Baseball Association

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