



Monday, June 10, 2024
The Seawane Club

Stephen Bowen • Shante Evans • Brian Spallina • Chris Weidman

WELCOME FROM HOFSTRA PRESIDENT DR. SUSAN POSER

June 10, 2024

Dear Friends of Hofstra University,

Welcome to the 2024 Hofstra Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. As president of Hofstra University, I am incredibly proud of our rich athletic history and excited for this event which highlights the wonderful moments of the 2023-24 academic year for the Department of Athletics.

Tonight, we are honoring a group whose achievements are an important part of Hofstra's history. They are each outstanding representatives of the Hofstra Pride and enjoyed highly-decorated careers as student-athletes.

The following pages contain biographies of those individuals being honored, as well as a listing of our past Hall of Fame inductees. These former student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and supporters each played a key role in the development of Hofstra's athletics program. Their accomplishments established the foundation for a program that is steadfastly committed to academic and athletic excellence. Please join me in congratulating all of tonight's inductees.

To the dedicated supporters of Hofstra Athletics, thank you for all that you do. You have helped Hofstra University provide so many young women and men with an outstanding educational experience, and we are grateful for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Susan

Dr. Susan Poser
President



WELCOME FROM HOFSTRA VICE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS RICK COLE JR.

June 10, 2024

Dear Hofstra Athletics Family and Friends,

Good evening and welcome to the 2024 Hofstra Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. It is always enjoyable to be able to come together at the end of another exciting year and celebrate Hofstra Athletics and the achievements of our incredible Hall of Fame Class!

I extend my congratulations to our four honorees on their inductions to the Hofstra Athletics Hall of Fame. Each of our inductees are great representatives of Hofstra University and have contributed so much to the rich history of Hofstra and its athletics program. They truly represent our mantra of Building Champions!

The Hall of Fame Golf Outing and Induction Ceremony caps off another outstanding year in Hofstra Athletics. Our men's soccer team won the CAA for a third consecutive season, was seeded in the NCAA Championship and advanced to the third round for the second time in three years. The men's basketball team advanced to the CAA Semifinals and guard Tyler Thomas was named the CAA Player of the Year and the Haggerty Award recipient as the top player in the New York metropolitan area. Women's basketball reached the CAA Quarterfinals, while the wrestling team had one NCAA qualifier. Men's and women's track each sent a student-athlete to postseason NCAA competition for the second year in a row to cap off a spring that saw baseball, softball, and women's lacrosse qualify for their respective CAA Championships. There were many other outstanding achievements, both team-wise and individually, that cannot fit in this space. I am also extremely proud that our student-athletes once again performed exceptionally-well in the classroom and contributed so much to the community. Hofstra truly is a special place due to the efforts of our student-athletes, coaches, and administrators.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without the support of our loyal Hofstra Athletics Pride Club and corporate partners. Through your generous support, we can provide a first-class environment for our student-athletes to succeed in athletics, in the classroom, and in life. Thank you for your continued support and enjoy the evening.

Sincerely,

Rick Cole Jr.

Rick Cole Jr.
Vice President and Director of Athletics



2024 HOFSTRA ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME PROGRAM

☞ *Registration and Reception* ☛

MASTER OF CEREMONIES	Siddique Farooqi
WELCOME	Dr. Susan Poser <i>Hofstra University President</i>
REMARKS	Rick Cole Jr. <i>Hofstra Vice President and Director of Athletics</i>
COMMENTS	Tony Perettine <i>Hofstra Athletics Pride Club President</i>

PRESENTATION TO HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Stephen Bowen
Shante Evans
Brian Spallina
Chris Weidman



STEPHEN BOWEN

A football student-athlete from 2002-2005, Stephen Bowen was a four-year letterman and a three-year starter at defensive end.

After playing in five games as a freshman, Bowen moved into a starting role as a sophomore and remained a fixture on the defensive line for the next three seasons. He was named to the All-Atlantic 10 Second Team as a senior after posting 48 tackles and 5.5 sacks. Bowen finished his collegiate career with 168 tackles, 11.5 sacks and one interception, which was returned for a 31-yard touchdown.

Bowen was signed as an undrafted free agent by the Dallas Cowboys on May 1, 2006 following the NFL Draft. He spent five seasons in Dallas before signing with Washington on July 28, 2011. He started all 16 games during his first year in Washington, and received the team's Ed Block Courage Award in recognition of the inspiring way he dealt with his infant son Skyler's death. Following three more seasons with the team, Bowen would sign a free agent contract with the New York Jets. He played in 15 games for the Jets in 2015 before announcing his retirement in June 2016 after signing a one-day contract with Washington.

Bowen finished his professional career with 128 games played (57 starts), 175 tackles (103 solo), and 12.5 sacks.

A graduate of Half Hollow Hills High School West on Long Island, Bowen lettered in both football and basketball. In football, he was a two-way player at running back and linebacker. As a senior, he collected 235 rushing yards,



four rushing touchdowns, 330 receiving yards, five receiving touchdowns and 97 tackles. Bowen was inducted into the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2018.

Bowen is a 2006 graduate of Hofstra with a degree in interdisciplinary studies. He has three children - daughter, Trinity, and twin boys, Stephen III and Skyler.

SHANTE EVANS

A four-year starter and a three-time *Associated Press* Honorable Mention All-American on the women's basketball team from 2009 through 2013, Shante Evans is one of the greatest players to wear a Hofstra uniform. The Pride's all-time leading scorer and rebounder, Evans poured in 2,116 points during her tenure and grabbed 1,348 rebounds.

She is the only Hofstra women's basketball player to score 2,000 points and is one of only two with more than 1,000 rebounds, with the other being fellow Hofstra Athletics Hall of Famer Kate Gordon. In addition to her points and rebounding marks, Evans holds the Pride record for free throws made with 529, is second in games played with 127, and ninth in blocked shots with 86. A four-time All-CAA selection, including three first team nods, Evans led the league in rebounding as a freshman and a senior, and ranks first in career rebounds and seventh in career points in CAA history.

Hofstra made a pair of WNIT appearances during her tenure and averaged 18 wins per season. Evans, who is one of three Hofstra women's basketball players to have her jersey retired, has played professionally overseas for the past decade and currently plays in Poland. She has won championships in the Bulgarian League, Romanian League, Slovenian League, and the Adriatic League. Evans is also a member of the Slovenian National Team and played on the United States Pan American Games Team in 2011.

Evans lettered in basketball and track and field at Henderson High School in West Chester,



Pennsylvania. She finished her scholastic career with 2,168 points and was the first player in Henderson history, boy or girl, to reach 2,000 points, and was the first girls player to score 1,000 points. A McDonald's All-America nominee, Evans was a three-time All-Pennsylvania selection and averaged a double-double in all four seasons.

A 2013 graduate of Hofstra, Evans holds a degree in history while also minoring in community health and physical education & sport sciences.

BRIAN SPALLINA

A four-year member of the men's lacrosse team between 1997 and 2000, Brian Spallina was a two-time USILA All-America selection at Hofstra, including a first team pick in 2000. A long stick midfielder, he earned All-America East honors in 1999 and 2000, and was a first team selection as a senior.

During his four-year tenure with the Pride, Spallina played in 57 games and recorded 17 goals, 10 assists, 27 points, and 208 ground balls. He played on three America East Championship squads and was part of three NCAA Tournament teams, with the 1999 team advancing to the quarterfinals. Following his senior season, Spallina played in the North-South All-Star Game.

Spallina, who was a member of the 2006 U.S. National Training Team, went on to an incredible professional career as he was a seven-time Major League Lacrosse Champion and a two-time MLL All-Star. He ranks third all-time with 181 games played and first with 221.5 penalty minutes. He picked up 187 ground balls during his pro career.

Spallina won titles in 2001 and 2015 with the Long Island Lizards; 2004, 2006, and 2007 with the Philadelphia Barrage; and 2012 and 2013 with the Chesapeake Bayhawks. He was inducted into the Professional Lacrosse Hall of Fame as part of the 2023 class, joining Hofstra alum Nicky Polanco, who was inducted in 2022.

A 2024 inductee into the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame, Spallina starred at Rocky Point High School on Long Island and was a two-time All-



Suffolk County selection.

Spallina, who graduated from Hofstra in 2000 with a degree in elementary education and a minor in psychology, has had a highly-successful career as an elementary school teacher in addition to his professional lacrosse career. He also is the founder of Team 91 Lacrosse, a youth travel lacrosse organization on Long Island.

Spallina and his wife Gina, a former Hofstra women's soccer and women's lacrosse student-athlete, have three children - a son, Rocco (15), and daughters, Luca (12) and Capri (9).

CHRIS WEIDMAN

A three-year member of the Hofstra wrestling team between 2004 and 2007, Chris Weidman was a two-time All-American for the Pride. He won 59 matches during his three seasons, placing sixth as a red-shirt junior and third as a senior at the NCAA Championships. He was named to the Colonial Athletic Association's Silver Anniversary Wrestling Team in 2009.

During his first season at Hofstra in 2004-05, Weidman red-shirted and competed in two open meets. He posted an 8-2 record and placed third at the Penn State Nittany Lion Open. Weidman was 18-13 in 2005-06 and placed second at the CAA Championships at 197 pounds. He went on to post a 3-2 record at the NCAA Championships, with wins over the No. 1 and No. 8 seeds, en route to a sixth-place finish. During his final campaign in 2006-07, Weidman was 33-8 and ranked as high as third in the nation. He was the CAA Champion at 197 pounds and went 5-1 at the NCAA Championships to place third.

Prior to coming to Hofstra, Weidman was a two-time Junior College All-American at Nassau Community College. In 2003 he was the first-ever junior college wrestler to win the New York State Championships.

Following his graduation from Hofstra in 2007 with a degree in psychology, Weidman served as a volunteer assistant coach at Hofstra and began training for a mixed martial arts career and made his professional debut in 2009. He won the Ring of Combat middleweight championship in 2010 in just his third professional bout. He then defended the ROC belt one last time before joining the Ultimate Fighting Championship in 2011. Weidman eventually became an undefeated world champion in 2013 when he took out



UFC legend Anderson Silva by knockout in the second round. He went on to be a four-time world champion before he suffered his first defeat.

Weidman was named the 2013 UFC Fighter of the Year and also won top fighter awards that year from Yahoo Sports and the World MMA Awards. He is still an active competitor in UFC and won his last bout this past March.

A scholastic standout at Baldwin High School on Long Island, Weidman captured New York State and Nassau County championships.

Weidman and his wife, Marivi, have three children - Cassidy, CJ and Colten.

**Congratulations to the members of
the Hofstra Athletics Hall of Fame
Class of 2024.**

**Your outstanding representation of
Hofstra University
is greatly appreciated.**



HOFSTRA
UNIVERSITY®



**Hofstra Athletics congratulates the
Class of 2024 on their well-deserved
induction into the Hall of Fame!**

**We also recognize and salute all of our
outstanding Hofstra Athletics Hall of Fame
members.**

**Lastly, we want to thank all of those in
attendance for their unwavering support of our
athletics program and our
student-athletes!**

#PrideOfLI

HOFSTRA COLLEGE

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HOFSTRA COLLEGE HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

Bob Benn '40
(Men's Basketball and Baseball)

Sy Breakstone '40
(Football)

Lou Bronzo '51
(Baseball)

Lou Buffolino '41
(Football)

Ray Coleman '48
(Football)

Elmer Demarest '48
(Football)

Bernie Fitzgerald '50
(Men's Basketball)

Francis Fusco '49
(Wrestling)

Walter Kohanowich '52
(Football and Men's Lacrosse)

George Luther '52
(Men's Basketball)

David Lynch '52
(Men's Track)

Robert McDonald '50
(Football)

Nat Militzok '48
(Men's Basketball)

John Mills '48
(Men's Basketball)

Phil Musa '41
(Football)

Frank Reilly '41
(Men's Basketball)

Connie Ricci '52
(Baseball)

Ed Rochford '52
(Men's Track)

Fred Roeber '52
(Men's Track)

Bob Schuessler '48
(Football)

Milton Seeley '51
(Baseball)

Phil Sokolowski '41
(Baseball)

Roy Triebel '48
(Baseball)

Owen Walsh '52
(Men's Lacrosse)



2006 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Crystal Boyd '94 (Softball)

Irving Burton '52 (Baseball)

Wayne Chrebet '95 (Football)

Nick Gallo '78 (Wrestling)

Dr. Sylvia J. Giallombardo (Administrator,
Women's Basketball, Softball, and Tennis Coach)

Liz (Irwin) Knauss '82 (Women's Basketball)

Walter Kohanowich '52
(Football and Men's Lacrosse)

Joseph Margiotta '50 (Supporter)

Howdy Myers (Football and Men's Lacrosse Coach)

Steve Nisenson '66 (Men's Basketball)

Carl Orent '55 (Men's Lacrosse)

John Schmitt '64 (Football)

Dr. James M. Shuart '53
(Football and Men's Lacrosse)

Dr. Nathalie J. Smith (Field Hockey,
Volleyball, and Women's Lacrosse Coach)

Bill Thieben '56 (Men's Basketball)

Susan (Gades) Trommer '86 (Volleyball)

Owen Walsh '52 (Men's Lacrosse)

2007 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Dia (LaBella) Alberda '82 (Women's Basketball)

Fran Kalafer (Volleyball Coach)

Melissa Compton-Pasko '95
(Women's Lacrosse and Field Hockey)

Walter Petersen '50 (Football, Baseball,
Men's Basketball, and Men's Track and Field)

Dr. Hilarie Cranmer '89 (Women's Basketball)

Robert Riesenberger '49 (Baseball)

Dave Fiore '96 (Football)

Bill Siegel '80 (Men's Tennis)

Joe Gardi (Football Coach)

Jerry Simandl '55 (Men's Lacrosse)

Stacy Jackson '95 (Softball)

Marty Willigan '69 (Wrestling)

2008 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Linda Wing Caruso '78
(Field Hockey and Women's Lacrosse)

Edith Gallagher '90 (Field Hockey and Softball)

Terry Kosens '63 (Football)

Phil Marino '75 (Men's Lacrosse)

Elizabeth (Parr) Parisi '97 (Volleyball)

JoAnne Russell (Women's Soccer Coach)

Walter "Brick" Stone
(Wrestling Coach and Administrator)

Arthur Strunk '52 (Wrestling)

Willem "Butch" van Breda Kolff
(Men's Basketball Coach)

Emil Wohlgemuth '85 (Football)

Zak Wright '96 (Men's Soccer)

2009 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Dr. Peter Capone '85 (Wrestling)
Stephanie Clarke '97 (Women's Lacrosse)
Ed Gaffney '70 (Men's Soccer)
Bob Hiller '76 (Men's Lacrosse)

Diane Hobin '96
(Women's Basketball, Softball, and Field Hockey)
Al Lahood '56 (Football and Men's Lacrosse)
Rich Laurel '77 (Men's Basketball)

Phil Mordente '66 (Men's Lacrosse)
Erin (Phillips) Ortega '96 (Softball)
Harry Royle '70
(Administrator and Men's Lacrosse Coach)
James Scully '91 (Football)
Jeannie (Asper) Walsh '92 (Volleyball)
The 1959 Football Team

The 1959 Football Team

Bob Ainbinder, Bill Aronwald, Lou Bauer, Bob Brunner, Kevin Commins, Dick Cooney, Frank Cozart, George Dempster, Bob DeNeef, Desmond Devlin, Lou DiBlasi, Vincent Dugan, Tim Gannon, Bill Groom, Don Hanington, Bill Heiser, Jon Hennessey, Dick Hirshkind, Bill Kolb, Bernie Larkin, Doug Lewis, Tom MacDonald, Mike Manzer, Frank Mauro, Steve Miller, Stan Modzelewski, Andy Muccillo, Chet O'Neill, Ted Poliskin, Richard Schrage, Bob Spiotta, Bill Stetson, Burt Swerdling, Coach Howard Myers, Assistant Coach Alan Paul, Assistant Coach Neil Wheelright, Assistant Coach Harold Haines, and Freshman Coach Dick Sullivan



2011 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Giovanni Carmazzi '00 (Football)

Speedy Claxton '00 (Men's Basketball)

Michael D'Amato '68
(Football and Men's Lacrosse)

Rudy Fiorvanti '75
(Football, Men's Lacrosse, and Wrestling)

Kate Gordon '98 (Women's Basketball)

John Irving '77 (Men's Basketball)

Christine (Moore) Newins '88 (Volleyball)

Andrew "Dewey" Rumpelt '86 (Baseball)

Leslie Schlegel-Danowski '91
(Softball and Women's Basketball)

Janet (Walsh) Rogler '00
(Field Hockey and Women's Lacrosse)

2013 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Lena Malinowski '99 (Volleyball)

Kathleen (Mikowski) Durnin '03
(Women's Lacrosse and Women's Soccer)

Greg Polli '86 (Baseball)

Norman Richardson '01 (Men's Basketball)

Lance Schulters '97 (Football)

Doug Shanahan '02
(Men's Lacrosse and Football)

Alicia Smith '00 (Softball)

1959-60 Men's Basketball Team

1981-82 Women's Basketball Team

2013 HALL OF FAME CLASS

1981-82 Women's Basketball Team

Eileen Emmert, Sheryl Hall, Karen Hickson,
Donna Horoski, Liz Irwin, Amanda Johnson,
Dia LaBella, Christine Lathuras, Diane Leonard,
Dawn McGrath, Christine Morrow, Louisa Percudani,
Myrna Pohl, Yvonne Risberg, Manager Donna Jones,
Assistant Coach JoAnn Perricone,
Assistant Coach Mary Jo Lorello, and
Head Coach Harvey Pysler



1959-60 Men's Basketball Team

Brant Alyes, Steve Balber, Curt Block, Mike Douglas,
Steven Dunn, Stan Einbender, Adam Gadzinski,
Richie Goldstein, Ted Jackson, Bob Lauster,
John McGowan, Bob Stowers, Richie Swartz,
Assistant Coach Paul Lynner, and
Head Coach Butch van Breda Kolff



2015 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Linda Brymer '78
 (Women's Basketball, Volleyball, and Softball)
 Ian "Rocky" Butler '01 (Football)
 Robin (Kammerer) Conversano '93
 (Field Hockey and Women's Lacrosse)
 Bill Edwards (Softball Coach)
 Kevin Huff '78 (Men's Lacrosse and Football)

James C. Metzger '83 (Men's Lacrosse)
 Eric Schmiesing '01 (Wrestling)
 Kathleen (McPike) Taylor '01 (Women's Lacrosse)
 1968 Men's Soccer Team
 1995 Volleyball Team
 1975-76 Men's Basketball Team
 1999-00 Men's Basketball Team

1968 Men's Soccer Team

Walt Beebe, Kenneth Bruce, John Burns, Raymond Cavaliere, Wellington Chan, Donald Crosby (captain), Daniel DeStefano, Ed Gaffney, Dennis Hanney, Patrick Hunt, Stephen Mason, Thomas McGinley, Anthony Noto, William Place, David Purnhagen, Henry Rose, Alan Siegel, Alan Stolzberg, Edip Tahir, Ethem Tahir, John Weissman, Paul Wermelinger, Assistant Coach Steve Nisenon, and Head Coach Bob Vanderwarker



2015 HALL OF FAME CLASS

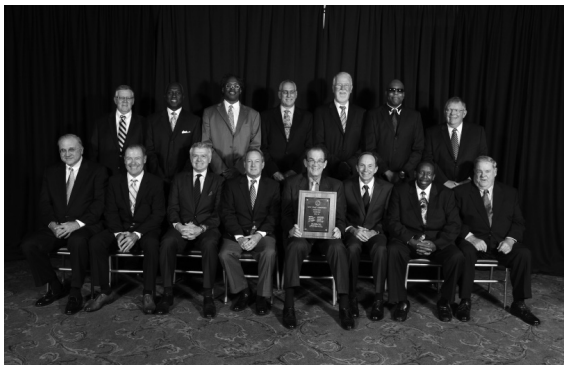
1995 Volleyball Team

Regan Bullers, Albertine de Haan, Heleen Hilhorst, Lena Malinowski, Andrea Natale, Laura Nissen, Laura Oostrom, Beth Parr, Michelle Stark, Pam Zens, Team Manager Gabby Perlman, Graduate Assistant Coach Nikki Holt, Assistant Coach Greg Smith, and Head Coach Fran Kalafer



1975-76 Men's Basketball Team

Bob Bush, Arnold Coleman, Randy Frankel, John Irving, Mark Jenkins, Pat Kammerer, Rich Laurel, John Macukas, Gary Melillo, Kevin McDonnell, Ken Rood, Bernard Tomlin, Willie Vickers, Sports Information Director John Frew, Athletic Trainer Paul Lasinski, Assistant Coach Larry Keating, Assistant Coach Greg Mikalauskas, and Head Coach Roger Gaeckler



1999-00 Men's Basketball Team

Rick Apodaca, Craig "Speedy" Claxton, Mike Feeley, Jeff Fox, Roberto Gittens, Lars Grübler, Jason Hernandez, Osei Millar, Marc Petit, Norman Richardson, Greg Springfield, Abdou Sylla, Danny Walker, Team Manager Greg Wnek, Graduate Managers Joe Conefry and David Duke, Director of Athletic Communications Jim Sheehan, Assistant Director of Athletic Communications Jeremy Kniffin, Athletic Trainer Melissa Marks, Staff Assistant for Basketball Promotional Activities Terry Ryan, Strength and Conditioning Coach Marty Voigt, Assistant Coach Eugene Burroughs, Assistant Coach Brett Gunning, Associate Head Coach Tom Pecora, and Head Coach Jay Wright



2019 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Sue (Weber) Alber '08 (Women's Soccer)
Larry Bloom (Administrator)
Trevor Dimmie '04 (Football)

Shellane Ogoshi '07 (Volleyball)
Jay Wright (Men's Basketball Coach)
1960 Baseball Team

1960 Baseball Team

Bob Ainbinder, Brant Alyea, John Ayres, Edward Burfeindt, John Canzanella, Lawrence Dauch, George Dempster, Dennis D'Oca, Joel Gewanter, Dan Gwydir, Jack Hilderbrandt, George Hvidsten, Terry Kosens, Tony Major, Bill Martin, Arnie Moi, Joseph Mondello, Andrej Muccillo, Carl Peck, Jerry Rosenthal, Jim Sharkey, Bill Stetson, Robert Stoors, and Head Coach Jack Smith



2021 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Antoine Agudio '08 (Men's Basketball)
Lisa Ciavardini '01 (Softball)
Marques Colston '06 (Football)

Tom Kessler '02 (Men's Lacrosse)
Jon Masa '06 (Wrestling)
Lizanne Murphy '07 (Women's Basketball)

2022 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Liz Curley (Messmer)



John Danowski



Bridget Eder Harris



Charles Jenkins



Cindy Lewis



Laura Walker-Karson

Liz Curley (Messmer) '07 (Volleyball)
John Danowski (Men's Lacrosse Coach)
Bridget Eder Harris '05 (Women's Lacrosse)

Charles Jenkins '11 (Men's Basketball)
Cindy Lewis '79 (Coach/Administrator)
Laura Walker-Karson '83 (Women's Tennis)

2023 HALL OF FAME CLASS



Willie Colon '05 (Football)

Olivia Galati '13 (Softball)

Doni Jantzen (Homenick) '07 (Field Hockey)

Tom Ryan (Wrestling Coach)

Vinnie Sombrotto '80 (Men's Lacrosse)



