
UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
ATHLETICS



2009
REUNION AND
HALL OF
FAME
BANQUET

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2009
UIC FORUM
CHICAGO, IL

The UIC Athletic Alumni Club and the UIC Athletic Department are proud to be able to recognize some of the outstanding achievements and contributions of UIC's alumni and friends. The six newest additions to the UIC Athletics Hall of Fame have helped build and further a tradition of success at UIC. We thank each of you for joining us tonight in celebrating UIC Athletics and congratulating our Hall of Fame inductees.



2009 REUNION AND HALL OF FAME BANQUET

Dear Athletic Alumni and Guests,

It is a great honor to be a part of the celebration of the UIC Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2008. Each of tonight's inductees have exhibited excellence as a UIC coach, student-athlete and beyond as a UIC graduate. Determination and hard work to succeed in the area of athletics and other realms of life are traits easily visible in every member of this class.

As ambassadors of UIC and Athletics, you have demonstrated all the core values that set you apart from the many who strive for excellence. You embrace excellence, integrity and the competitive spirit.

On behalf of UIC Athletics, past and present, I congratulate tonight's inductees.

Jim Schmidt
Director of Athletics

UIC ATHLETIC ALUMNI CLUB

Dear Athletic Alumni and Guests,

On behalf of the UIC Athletic Alumni Club, I would like to thank all of you for attending the 2009 UIC Athletics Reunion and Hall of Fame Banquet. Tonight we induct six outstanding individuals who excelled in their respective fields during their time at UIC. In addition to their impressive accolades, every member of this class has achieved tremendous success in a variety of fields upon completing their time with their athletic program.

Since 1990 we have inducted 168 individuals and three athletic teams to the UIC Athletics Hall of Fame. We are very proud to present this prestigious honor to the six-member Hall of Fame Class of 2008.

The celebration of our rich athletic history through tonight's festivities not only brings back wonderful memories, but it also allows us to build upon our traditions and keep our programs moving forward.

Thank you, and congratulations to tonight's honorees.

Deb Fox '02, '05

Vice President

UICAAC



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Lisa Meindl

Jim Ryan

Darryl Rice

John Rutkowski

Shawn Sullivan

Kenny Williams



PROGRAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Mike Cassidy - Associate A.D.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

6:00 PM - Social Hour

7:00 PM - Opening

Welcome from Athletic Director Jim Schmidt

Dinner

8:00 PM - Hall of Fame Inductions

Joseph Siprut *Wrestling, 1969-1972*

Stefanie Christoferson *Softball, 1998-2001*

Fred Espinoza *Football, 1958-1961*

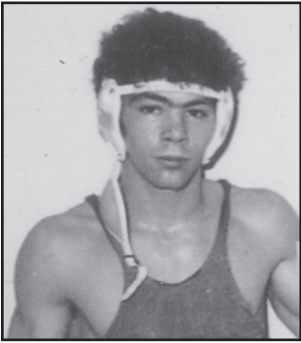
Nicole Livingston *Women's Tennis, 1999-2003*

Sharon Carroll-Poston *Women's Track & Basketball, 1977-1980*

Bob Hallberg *Men's Basketball Coach, 1987-1996*

9:00 PM - Social Hour

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



JOE SIPRUT

Wrestling
1969-1972

A standout wrestler for four seasons, Siprut capped off his collegiate career by earning NCAA All-American accolades in 1972.

The 1972 UIC Athlete of the Year was named the most valuable wrestler every year of his UIC tenure. Siprut claimed the 1972 Eight State Invitational championship and was honored with the Outstanding Wrestler title at the 13-team North Central Tournament his junior year. He also served as the wrestling team captain for two seasons.

Upon graduating with an accounting degree, Siprut has held accounting positions with various engineering and construction companies and now serves as an accountant with Suzlon Wind Energy.

Siprut married his wife, Kim, in 1976 and has two children and three grandchildren. His son, Joe, was also a wrestler.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



STEFANIE CHRISTOFERSON

Softball
1998-2001

A four-year letterwinner as the Flames' catcher from 1998-2001, Christoferson is one of the most prolific players in UIC's storied softball history.

As a two-time conference Player of the Year (2000, 2001), Christoferson earned a trio of all-region honors after guiding the Flames to the NCAA postseason every year of her career. As a senior, Christoferson led the nation with 24 doubles in 2001.

Christoferson earned third-team All-American honors to conclude her Flames career in 2001.

In the UIC career record books, Christoferson ranks third in runs scored (180), second in hits (312), has the second-most home runs (37) and still remains the NCAA's all-time leader in game appearances (304).

After graduating, Christoferson became a police officer "so as to really be able to help people." She has also traveled the world, journeying to Australia, Italy, Fiji and Mexico.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



FRED ESPINOZA

Football
1958-61

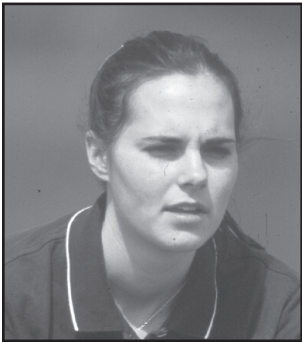
A product of the Navy Pier campus, Espinoza competed on the football team from 1958-1961.

The team's captain in his final season on the Pier, Espinoza was named the squad's most valuable defensive performer in 1961.

During his time in school, Espinoza found time to take on intramural wrestling, winning a 165 lb. title while weighing in at 154 pounds.

Among his many accomplishments, Espinoza is deeply proud of his completion of the architectural curriculum at Navy Pier under Professor Winston Elting, who allowed him to finish his undergraduate degree in Champaign-Urbana. He has six children and numerous grand- and great-grandchildren.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



NICOLE LIVINGSTON

Women's Tennis

1999-2003

As the only two-time conference Player of the Year honoree in women's tennis history, Nicole (Derouin) Livingston guided her squad to four-straight league championships and an NCAA tournament appearance every season of her career.

Livingston left a deep impression on the team, as she ranks second all-time in career singles wins with 82 victories and third in doubles (78) from 1999-2003.

Upon graduating from UIC, Livingston became a CPA, which she lists as one of her greatest accomplishments. She also completed the Chicago Marathon, which "pushed me to a breaking point I had never experienced in tennis."

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



SHARON CARROLL-POSTON

Women's Basketball/Track

1977-1980

A talented two-sport athlete, Carroll-Poston was a standout on the hardwood as well as the track during her time at UIC.

As a member of the basketball team, Carroll-Poston led the team in scoring in each of her final three seasons. Her 1979-80 season average of 22.7 ppg remains the highest in school history. Poston set school records in single-game scoring (36), field goals made (15) and remains the all-time single-season scoring (612) and rebounding (396) leader in program history. Her 1,425 career points ranks fifth all-time.

Upon graduating, she went on to be drafted by the Iowa Comets in the Women's Professional Basketball League.

Apart from basketball, Carroll-Poston also competed with the track team, specializing in the high jump and long jump. Her outdoor high jump record of 1.78m (5 ft. 10 in.), set in 1978, remains as one of the oldest untouchable records to this day.

One of her greatest accomplishments was being the first female to dunk a ball in a college game, and, in their state of disbelief, having the referees call a foul on her for hanging off the rim.

Carroll-Poston is mother of three. Her son Jelani is a freshman on the Flames men's basketball team.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



BOB HALLBERG

Men's Basketball Coach
1987-1995

As the head men's basketball coach from 1987-1996, Bob Hallberg guided the Flames to 134 victories in nine seasons at the helm of the program.

Under his tutelage, Hallberg coached 20 all-league honorees, eight all-tournament team selections, two conference players of the year (Kenny Williams in 1994 and Sherell Ford in 1995) and the 1994 Mid-Con Tournament MVP in Ford.

Ford would go on to be a first round NBA draft pick by the Seattle SuperSonics in 1995.

While at UIC, Hallberg lists defeating sister school Illinois, on the road at Assembly Hall, 71-60, to open the 1990-91 season among his favorite memories.

Currently serving as the athletic director and head women's basketball coach at Saint Xavier University, Hallberg has amassed a lifetime career win total of 776 victories, with 683 coming at the collegiate level.

Hallberg credits his family, complete with three children and seven grandchildren, and the ability to spend his entire life coaching in Chicago as his greatest accomplishments.

FORMER UIC ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME INDIVIDUAL INDUCTEES

1990

Irv Bedard
Orlando Cabanban
Gary Dworski
Dr. Robert Hamilton
Ron Klein
Bob Kriz
Chuck Lambert
Carnell 'Lou' Newman
Greg Olsen
Bill Roetzheim
Bob Ryley
Diana Sepke
Russ Serzen
Ray Staszak

1991

Joe DiLeonardi
Carl Eichstaedt
Hal Frey
Larry Frey
Bob Koleno
Dan McMahan
Les Miller
Toni Paolini
Deborah Bird Robinett
Jim Rogers
Wayne Saunders
George Sedlacek
Lisa A. Thomas
Don Wildner

1992

Kathy Bay Apostolovich
Dr. Thomas Beckham
Richard Czyn
John Engemann
Don Gotkowski
Frank Gremo
James Husarik
George Jurinek
Edwin Koziol
Hal Nemoto

Art Shurlock
Dr. Robert Threatte
Dr. Richard Ward
Harve Weltman
Lori Zabel
Jonas Zymantas

1993

Don Anderson
Tim Anderson
Al Barasch
Larry Bergnach
Nick Compton
Marty Finerty
Bill Fudala
Lindsey Jacobs
Tom Jedlo
Tom Koenig
Diane Blizzard Lee
Ben Montcalm
Gene Moriarty
Paul Reinking

1994

George Demos
Richard Fahey
Sheldon Fordham
Michelle McCartney Kosciak
Bill Merchantz
Jim Noble
Jim Peterson
Rose Rouse
Bill Simms
Walt Versen
Chuck Wanner

1995

Tracy Dildy
Dee Dee Ericks
Jim Izral
Chuck Kristufek
Tonya M. McGowan
Don Mendro
Ted Muzyczko

Jeff Nelson
Frank Provenzano
Jim Ryan
Tom Walthouse

1996

Mary Genualdi
Jacquese Gilbert
Joe Gotfryd
Leonard Gramarossa
Tom Russo
George Strnad
Lawrence Tickner
Bob Villasenor

1997

Jim Darrah
Edward Deam
James Descourouez
Carlyn Fisk
Brian Hill
Edward Kaye
Dave Madej
Leigh Podlesny
Mike Rigas
Dan Zajac

1998

Walter Behrns
Peter Berrafato
Kathy Elg
Alan Nestlinger
Ilene O'Ketter
Richard Rader
Darryl Rice

1999

Bill Bonk
Bob Danner
Sy Handwerker
Oleh Karawan
Barry McDonald
Scott Metz
Justin Zamirowski

FORMER UIC ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME INDIVIDUAL INDUCTEES

2000

Sheldon Gorski
Ralph Mackh
Michael Maksud
Bill Pabst
Mike Vlamis
Kenny Williams

2001

Sherell Ford
Steve Fox
Sue Henry (Moran)
Gus Gregory
Jeanne Johnson
John T. Rutkowski
Dave Webster

2002

Robert Beck
Colin Chin
Joanne McCarthy
Dennis Niezgodra
Debbie Brandonisio
(Obosla)
Edward Savers
Daniel Smith
Brett Wilson

2003

Mark Miller
Robert Bollinger
Emily McKee-Keating
Vaughan Smith
Erich Stredler
Shawn Cronin
Jim McHugh

2004

John Hornacek
John Dunlop
Jody Brown
Heather Brockwell
Shannon Welker

2005

Greg Fiala
Gerald Scherrer
Sanford Horn
John Kantarski
Brett Davis
Richard Knar
Claudine Borkovec-Boettger
Sara Jackson

2006

Ivan Daniels
Jacki (Farr) Fralick
John Lowenberg
Eric Lukin
Samantha Iuli
Mike McGovern

2007

Penny Armstrong
Ron Christopher
Elizabeth Crowder
Curtis Granderson
Roger Wojtkiewicz

UIC ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME TEAM INDUCTEES

1978 and 1979 Men's Gymnastics National Championship Teams (1993)
1975 Women's Volleyball Team (1996)
1994 College World Series Softball Team (2000)

UIC ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

1995 Lifetime Achievement Award - Tom Russo
50-Year Golden Anniversary Special Mention -
Carol Humble and C.J. Johnson

UIC ATHLETIC ALUMNI CLUB

Selection Committee Chairman

Rick Harrigan
UIC Athletics
232 Flames Athletic Center
M/C 195
312-996-5633

Selection Committee

Caudine Borkovec-Boettger

Nicole Livingston

Tom Russo

George Strnad

Kenny Williams



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