2019 HALL OF FAME WRITEUPS

TONY ROMANELLI JR.

CLASS OF 2014

TONY ROMANELLI BURST ON THE BULLDOG BASEBALL TEAM AS A FRESHMAN AND MADE AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT AS A PITCHER AND FIRST BASEMAN. HE RAISED THE BAR EVEN HIGHER FOR FUTURE BULLDOGS AS HE BECAME OUR ONLY 4 TIME ALL-AMERICAN AND 4 TIME MVP. TONY WAS NAMED 6TH TEAM ALL-STATE AS A FRESHMAN, 3RD TEAM AS A SOPHOMORE AND 1ST TEAM AS A JUNIOR AND SENIOR. AMONG HIS OTHER HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS WERE: 4X COUNTY PITCHER OF THE YEAR, 4X LEAGUE PITCHER OF THE YEAR, 2X CONFERENCE 1 AND SECTION 1 PITCHER OF THE YEAR. HE IS SECOND ON THE CAREER WINS LIST WITH 25 FINISHING HIS CAREER WITH A 25-5 RECORD. TONY WAS ALSO A FEARED HITTER AS HE SET THE RECORD FOR CAREER TRIPLES(6) AND TRIPLES IN A SEASON(5). HE IS A MEMBER OF THE 100 HIT CLUB, FINISHING HIS CAREER WITH 110. TONY’S EFFORTS HELPED LEAD THE BULLDOGS TO A #2 RANKING IN NYS DURING HIS SENIOR CAMPAIGN. TONY ALSO OWNS THE 2 LOWEST SEASON ERA’S POSTING A 0.41 ERA AS A SOPHOMORE AND 0.57 ERA AS A SENIOR. TONY WAS RECOGNIZED AS A 2 TIME FIRST TEAM POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL ALL-STAR AND ALSO 2 TIME POJO PITCHER OF THE YEAR. AS A RESULT OF HIS HIGH SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, TONY SIGNED A BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIP TO WAKE FOREST.

AFTER TRANSFERRING TO MARIST, TONY WAS A 4-TIME ALL-MAAC ACADEMIC TEAM SELECTION. TONY WAS NAMED MVP OF THE 2017 MAAC TOURNAMENT LEADING MARIST TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP AND AN NCAA BERTH. TONY IS 4TH IN MARIST PROGRAM HISTORY IN STRIKEOUTS(231), 6TH IN SAVES(10), 8TH IN ERA(3.89) AND 10TH IN WINS(16).

PATRICK SCHETTER

CLASS OF 2014

PATRICK SCHETTER IS BEING INDUCTED FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS A BEACON BULLDOG BASEBALL PLAYER. PATRICK WAS A 4 YEAR STARTER AT SHORTSTOP AND ALSO PITCHED, BUT IT WAS HIS PROWESS AS A HITTER THAT FRIGHTENED OPPONENTS. PATRICK RECORDED THE MOST HITS IN BEACON HISTORY AS HE HAD 152 HITS SMASHING THE PRIOR RECORD OF 123. PATRICK IS ALSO 2ND IN CAREER BATTING AVERAGE WITH A .437 MARK, 2ND IN CAREER RIB’S(104) AND RUNS SCORED (94) AND 1ST IN CAREER DOUBLES(32). PATRICK RECEIVED NUMEROUS HONORS DURING HIS BULLDOG CAREER INCLUDING: 4X ALL-COUNTY, 4X ALL-LEAGUE, 2X ALL-SECTION, 2X LEAGUE MVP, 2X TEAM MVP, 4TH TEAM ALL-STATE AS A JUNIOR, 5TH TEAM ALL-STATE AS A SENIOR AND WAS NAMED A LOUISVILLE SLUGGER ALL-AMERICAN FOR HIS JUNIOR SEASON.

PATRICK CONTINUED HIS BASEBALL CAREER AT PERENIALLY NATIONAL D3 POWER CORTLAND STATE WHERE HE ACHIEVED WHAT EVERY BASEBALL PLAYER DREAMS ABOUT AS HE WAS A MEMBER OF CORTLAND’S 2015 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM. HE RECEIVED MANY INDIVIDUAL HONORS:

ALL TOURNAMENT SUNYAC 2015, 1ST TEAM ALL SUNYAC AS A JUNIOR AND SENIOR AND NY ALL REGION AS A SENIOR.

NICK DINAPOLI

CLASS OF 2014

NICK DINAPOLI IS BEING INDUCTED FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS A BEACON BULLDOG BASEBALL PLAYER. NICK LED SECTION 1 IN HITS DURING HIS JUNIOR YEAR WITH 47 AS THE LEADOFF HITTER HELPED LEAD THE BULLDOG TO THE SECTION 1 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE 100 HIT CLUB WITH 105 AND IS THIRD IN CAREER BATTING AVERAGE WITH .432. NICK WAS A 2X TEAM MVP, ALL-LEAGUE 3X, ALL-COUNTY 2X, ALL-SECTION 2X AND WAS NAMED TO THE ALL-STATE 2ND TEAM AS A JUNIOR. ALWAYS A GREAT STUDENT, NICK WAS NAMED TO THE DUTCHESS COUNTY BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM AND SECTION 1’S DIAMOND 9+1 ACADEMIC TEAM BOTH SENIOR AWARDS.

AFTER GRADUATING FROM BHS, NICK’S TALENTS EVENTUALLY FOUND THEIR WAY TO CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT IN VIRGINIA WHERE HE WON THE STARTING SHORTSTOP JOB IN HIS REDSHIRT SOPHOMORE SEASON. AS A REDSHIRT JUNIOR, NICK PUT ON A REMARKABLE DISPLAY OF HITTING AS HE BATTED .374 WITH 11 DOUBLES, 13 HOME RUNS AND 53 RBI’S WHILE LEADING THE CAPTAINS TO THE #1 RANKING IN THE COUNTRY. ULTIMATELY, NICK WAS HONORED AS THE ALL-SOUTHERN REGION PLAYER OF THE YEAR AND AS A D3 ALL-AMERICA.

TALAH HUGHES

CLASS OF 2014

Talah Hughes is being inducted into the Hall of Fame for accomplishments in girls’ basketball. Talah

played four years of Varsity Basketball and received numerous awards including All Section, All League,

team Most Valuable Player and Poughkeepsie Journal All Star. She led the Bulldogs in scoring, rebounds

and blocked shots during her junior and senior years.

Talah was awarded a NCAA Division I basketball scholarship to Saint Peters University where she played

for the Peacocks for four years, including being a starter during her junior and senior years. Talah scored

1,042 points during her career at Saint Peters. Talah was named to the MAAC All Academic Teams

during her junior and senior years and was named Saint Peters Senior Female Athlete of the Year.

In addition to Talah’s stellar basketball career, she was a member of the National Honor Society and was

named the Vito Dicesare Outstanding Senior Female Athlete at Beacon High School.

JAMES HALL

CLASS OF 2010

James Hall is being inducted into the Hall of Fame for his accomplishments in Track and Field. James

dominated at the section level in the hammer throw during the spring track and field seasons and the

weight throw during the winter indoor track seasons. However, because those events were not

contested during the New York State championships, James did not get the honors he deserved.

James was a four-time Section One Champion, something no other Beacon High School Athlete

achieved. James was a Section One Class A Hammer Throw Champion during his sophomore, junior and

senior years. James is the Section 1 record holder in the hammer throw at the time of his graduation.

His throw of 207’11” broke a record that had stood for 31 years. James placed 2nd in the prestigious Millrose Games Hammer Throw in Madison Square Garden. James was also a Section One Champion in the weight throw as a sophomore. James set school, county and section records in both events, was named All County five-times and was the team MVP as a senior.

James earned a NCAA Division I scholarship to Northeastern University, where he continued to excel in

the hammer throw. He was named All New England in both events and earned All-Conference during his

four years at Northeastern. James also participated in the 2011 Irish Championships, where he won a

bronze medal. James currently coaches high school track and field in Massachusetts.

TAURUS PHILLIPS

CLASS OF 2014

Taurus Phillips is being inducted into the Hall of Fame for his achievements in football. Taurus played

three years Varsity Football and earned All-League, All-Section and Poughkeepsie Journal All-Star awards.

Taurus had a break out season during his senior year where he led the Bulldogs to a 5-4 record. As a

senior, Taurus rushed for 1074 yards with 13 yards per carry. He scored 13 rushing, passing and kickoff

return touchdowns. But it was not until his performance in the Section One Senior Bowl where college

scouts took notice of his athletic ability. During the game, Taurus ran for two touchdowns of 33 and 55

yards the first two times he touched the ball. After the game, Taurus was heavily recruited by several

Division I football universities.

Taurus earned a Division I football scholarship to Villanova University, where he was a starter for three

years and was considered a playmaker for the Wildcats. The Villanova coaching staff utilized Taurus as a

receiver, running back and a kickoff and punt returner. In his junior and senior years, Taurus led the

team in receptions and receiving yards. As a junior, Taurus and the Wildcats beat Saint Francis before

losing to South Dakota in the FCS playoffs. During his football career at Villanova Taurus had 1079

receiving yards and scored 11 touchdowns. Upon conclusion of his senior year, Taurus was named

Villanova’s Coach Lou Ferry Most Valuable Player Award.

ANDREW GRELLA

CLASS OF2014

Andrew Grella was an exceptional baseball player and wrestler. However, he is being inducted into the

Hall of Fame for his achievements in wrestling. Andrew became Beacon’s first wrestler to advance to the

New York State Wrestling Championships finals. Andrew’s second place finish at 195 lbs. was the highest

place finisher of the ten wrestlers who qualified for the NYS Championships. Andrew joins his brother

Vincent into the Hall of Fame. Both wrestlers were Section One Champions and NYS place finishers.

Andrew wrestled for the Bulldogs for four years. He earned All-League, All -Section and Poughkeepsie

Journal All Star awards during his high school wrestling career. During his senior year, Andrew earned

Most Valuable Wrestler Awards in four tournaments, while posting a 45-3 record.

Upon graduation, Andrew attended and wrestled at the West Point Prep School. The following year,

Andrew entered West Point, where he wrestled until being sidelined with a back injury. Andrew

graduated West Point in May 2019.

Andrew only played Varsity Baseball for two years earning All-League, All-County and All-Section in each

of his junior and senior years.

PAIGE RUTKOSKE

CLASS OF 2013

Paige Rutkoske becomes the first female swimmer to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Paige was a

member of the swim team for five years, where she set many school swimming records. Paige qualified and competed in the NYS Swimming Championships for four years. At the state championships, Paige competed in the 50 and 100-meter freestyle events as well as being a member of the 200 freestyle relay team with three of her teammates. Paige’s best finish at the NYS championships was 6th place in the 50m freestyle. Paige earned Poughkeepsie Journal All Star awards and had a 101.6 GPA as a student. Paige was also named as the Vito Dicesare Most Outstanding Senior Athlete.

After graduation, Paige attended the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, where she swam for the Middies. Paige’s swimming accomplishments at Annapolis includes a 6th place 50 freestyle and a 10th place finish in the 100 freestyle events in the ECAC Championships. Paige is currently serving the United Navy as a helicopter pilot.

DAVID RYLEY

CLASS OF 1982

COACH

Dave Ryley is being inducted for his accomplishments as a coach. Dave has served as the Beacon Bulldogs Boys Tennis coach for over thirty years and has amassed over 300 career wins. His teams have won eight league championships including the 1999 undefeated team that was previously inducted. The 1999 team was a huge part of the school record 35 match winning streak that the 1998-2000 teams put together. Dave was named Poughkeepsie Journal Boys Tennis Coach of the Year three times. In addition, he served as both the Varsity and JV Wrestling coach for twelve years. In recent years, Dave has taken over the girl’s tennis team as well and the program is on the rise.

As an athlete and BHS graduate, Dave was a member of the BHS Varsity Tennis and wrestling teams for four years as well as playing on Beacon’s first ever Varsity Soccer team. He was a two-time Conference singles champion on the tennis court and a captain of both the wrestling and tennis teams in his junior and senior years. In 1981, he was named the Sports Arena Male Athlete of the Year. In 1982, he won the John Bennett award as the wrestling team’s most outstanding senior. He went on to play four years of Varsity Tennis at Gettysburg College.