

APP.com

NJSIAA honors 40 at Awards Program

By CHRIS CHRISTOPHER • STAFF WRITER •
December 29, 2010

EDISON — Top figures were inducted into the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association/Bollinger Hall of Fame at the 34th annual NJSIAA Awards Program on Dec. 6 at the Pines Manor.

A total of 40 coaches, athletic directors and other individuals were honored for their contributions to high school sports and presented with 2010 NJSIAA awards in various areas.

"The members of this year's Hall of Fame class rank among New Jersey's high school sports legends and we are delighted to recognize them with this award," NJSIAA executive director Steven J. Timko said. "All of them have been honored numerous times by other sports organizations and we are proud to be able to add the appreciation of the NJSIAA to their many accomplishments.

"Our individual sports honorees are coaches, officials and athletic directors who have made significant contributions to high school sports at their schools, in their conferences and regionally. They have committed themselves to providing the young people of our state with outstanding athletic opportunities and have worked to instill in their teams the qualities of fairness and sportsmanship that will serve them well in later life."

There were five 2010 Hall of Fame honorees.

Among them was the late Ralph Borgess, whose family lives in Lavallette. Borgess was the football coach at Queen of Peace, Harrison and Kearny high schools.

The Athletic Trainer Award went to Summit trainer Karen Manista of Monmouth Beach.

Manista has been an athletic trainer at the secondary school level in New Jersey for the past 30 years. She has served on many state and national committees. She was the first woman inducted into the Athletic Trainers Society of New Jersey Hall of Fame (2007). She was named the 1993 NJSIAA Athletic Trainer of the Year and inducted into the NJSIAA Hall of Fame for Athletic Training in 2000.

Manista has also won the Micro Bio Medics Scholastic Athletic Trainer Award, the Athletic Trainers Society of New Jersey Distinguished Service Award and the NATA Service Award. She also was a past president of the ATSNJ and continues to serve on a number of committees within the Society.

The Basketball Award went to John Brown of Manchester, the Neptune girls coach.

Brown graduated from Lakewood where he was an Asbury Park Press All-Shore athlete in football and basketball. He attended Ramapo College where he was an All-Conference and All-District basketball player. He earned a free-agent tryout with the New Jersey Nets.

Prior to joining Neptune, Brown coached boys basketball at Henry Hudson Regional. He took the Middies of now-defunct Admiral Farragut Academy of Pine Beach to the New Jersey Prep A state title in boys basketball.

Brown has coached Neptune's girls basketball team to a 104-13 record. The record includes numerous titles. Brown guided the Scarlet Fliers to the NJSIAA Tournament of Champions title in March. In his free time, Brown mentors at-risk youth for the Omega 13 Incorporated Mentoring Program in Lakewood.

An Ice Hockey Award was bestowed on Bill McKinnon of Berkeley, the Toms River South coach.

A 23-year member of the Toms River Township Police Department, McKinnon was assigned to South as part of the School Resource Officer Program in

Advertisement

USA TODAY
AutoPilot 

The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®

Presented by: 

SEE HOW IT WORKS >>

The advertisement features a smartphone displaying the USA TODAY AutoPilot app interface. The screen shows flight information for a meeting on Sep 21, 2009, including flight A6 from BNA to IAD, arrival at 11:48 AM, and weather in Washington (IAD) as partly cloudy. It also offers a Flickr gallery of Washington and a link to check Hilton Hotels plucks. The background is blue with white and yellow text.

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

APP.com

2001. A former member of the Emergency Services Unit and a Field Training Officer, McKinnon was a member of the 2005 Response Team that reported to New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

McKinnon began coaching ice hockey as a South assistant in 2002 and became the Indians' head coach last winter. He led the team to the NJSIAA Public A State title, the first in history for South, the lowest-seeded team (16th) to win the crown. McKinnon was named the Asbury Park Press All-Shore Coach of the Year.

Receiving Service Awards were Joe Arminio of Toms River and Dean Glus of Tinton Falls.

Arminio, the former football, girls basketball and softball coach at Toms River East, is the athletic coordinator of the Toms River Regional School District.

Arminio coached in the district for 22 years. He oversees the programs at North, South and East and the three intermediate schools. He oversees the daily operations and events at the Poland Spring Arena and the Bennett Indoor Complex. The latter site hosts the massive NJSIAA winter track relay and individual championships and the Meet of Champions.

Arminio serves on the Shore Conference Executive Committee as the divisional vice president for Class A South, which consists of Ocean County schools.

Glus is the facilities coordinator at The College of New Jersey.

Coordinating with the NJSIAA, Glus enables TCNJ to host championships in boys and girls soccer, field hockey, football and baseball. TCNJ also hosts wrestling and tennis clinics.

A Soccer Award went to South boys coach Ed Leibe, the former girls coach at Toms River North.

Leibe competed on three state championship youth teams in the Mercer County area and led Steinert to the Mercer County title. He was honored by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and Adidas as a high school All-American.

Leibe played at North Carolina State University for two years before transferring to the University of Maryland where he helped the Terrapins to a national ranking as high as eighth in the nation.

Leibe coached North to its conference crown in 1998. He has guided South to winning records in eight of his nine seasons at the helm and it won a Group state title in 2009. In 2010, the Indians won Class A South for the first time in 37 years.

East coach Debbie Schwartz of Toms River won the Softball Award.

Schwartz owns a 430-149 record in 22 seasons. Several of her teams have been state- and nationally ranked. She has produced All-American, All-State and All-Shore athletes. Schwartz was recognized by the Shore Umpires Association for outstanding sportsmanship and was honored by the NJSIAA for Outstanding Service in the Sport of Softball in 2001.

She has been selected by local newspapers for Coach of the Year honors multiple times throughout her career.

A winner of a Track Award was Stephen Theobald of Wall, the Jackson Memorial boys coach.

Theobald is in his sixth season as the Jaguars' head boys cross country, winter and spring track coach. In 2010, the Jaguars won the Group III state winter title. In the summer of 2003, Theobald was a coach on the World Youth Team that competed in Sherbrook, Canada.

Prior to coming to Jackson, Theobald was a six-time All-East performer for Rutgers University in the decathlon. He was a member of the 1987 Junior National Team that competed in Canada and was the 1990 Penn Relays Decathlon champion.

Advertisement

USA TODAY
AutoPilot 
The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®
Presented by: 
SEE HOW IT WORKS >>

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

APP.com

Theobald coached for 10 years at Rutgers, where he guided many All-American and All-East performers. He taught and coached for seven years at Seton Hall Prep, where he coached numerous state champions.

Dan O'Conne of Point Pleasant Beach, Brick Memorial's coach, won the Wrestling Award.

A lifetime coaching record of 172-52 and many honors and championships are the story of his career.

O'Conne's teams have won the following honors: Group IV champion (twice), Central Jersey Group IV champion (twice), sectional finalists (twice), District 23 team champions (three) and five conference titles.

The former Point Pleasant Beach standout has coached two individual state champions, four individual state finalists, 10 state placemen, nine Region champs and 26 District champs.

O'Conne was an NCAA Division III All-American three times, a two-time national finalist, a black belt in Kodokan Judo, the 1997 New Jersey Governor's Nominee for Heroism-Finalist, 2000 Region VI Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee, 2004 District 23 Coach of the Year, 2007 Citizen of the Year-Point Pleasant Beach and president of the New Jersey Wrestling Coaches Association in 2006.

Three wrestlers who competed under O'Conne attended Ivy League schools (Princeton, Harvard and Columbia) where they were four-year varsity letter winners.

Anyone can nominate a candidate for the NJSIAA Hall of Fame. The nominations are reviewed by the NJSIAA staff, and recommendations are made to the Executive Committee, which makes the final decision on the inductees.

Sports award recipients are nominated by their schools. After reviewing the nominations, the NJSIAA staff compiles a list of recommended honorees, which is reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee.

Nomination forms for the Hall of Fame and the sports awards can be found on the NJSIAA website, www.njsiaa.org.

Chris Christopher: 732-643-4249;
cchristopher@app.com

Advertisement

USA TODAY
AutoPilot 
The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®
Presented by: 
SEE HOW IT WORKS >>

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™