

Cheryl Doty Hamilton
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1985

Cheryl played three varsity sports throughout high school, competing in field hockey for three years, basketball for two years and track and field for four years. She was a team captain in all three sports. On the track, she was a standout sprinter with consistent wins in the 100 and 200 meter dashes. She was the leading scorer in field hockey in her senior year with 10 goals and 1 assist.

Her coaches remember Cheryl as an excellent team player and role model with an outstanding work ethic and leadership qualities. Outside the sports venues she was a member of the National Honor Society and held several elected student leadership positions. Her athletics honors are many and include: IAC First Team All-Star in field hockey, basketball, and track and field; Team Most Valuable Player in field hockey, basketball and track and field; Female Athlete of the Year 1985; and McDonald Award 1985.

After leaving MCS, Cheryl earned an Associate degree in business from Herkimer Community College. While at Herkimer she played two seasons of field hockey and in her second year was the fourth leading scorer for junior colleges in the nation. Cheryl has been involved in church missionary work building schools and teaching English in Nepal. She currently resides in Virginia where she is a Washington, DC based flight attendant for American Airlines.

Cindy Harding Grzebin
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1981

Cindy took full advantage of the early MCS girls sports program throughout her high school years, playing varsity field hockey, basketball, and softball for four years and volleyball for three years. She served as captain for field hockey, basketball, and softball teams and was named the field hockey Outstanding Offensive Player in her junior and senior seasons. She also received wider recognition by selection as an IAC First Team All-Star in field hockey and softball and a Second Team All-Star in volleyball.

In her senior year Cindy's 14 goals and 13 assists were a major factor in earning an MCS field hockey team the opportunity to participate in a sectional tournament for the first time ever. That same school year, her softball team won the IAC Northeast Small School Division Championship.

Cindy has remained a resident of the Marathon area where she is employed as a manager and floral designer for Dillenbecks Florists. She has coached youth softball and played in an adult volleyball league. Her three children have followed in her footsteps as outstanding MCS athletes.

Deborah Niggli
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1981

The varsity sports career of Deborah Niggli was distinguished by its length as well as its quality. She was among the first athletes to begin her varsity play while still in junior high school, and she continued to play varsity field hockey, basketball, and softball for five years and volleyball for four years. During her career she captained teams in all four sports.

The record that Deborah compiled during her five year athletic career will be difficult if not impossible to surpass. She was named as an IAC All-Star in all four sports and earned her MCS teammates' and coaches' recognition as each sport's Most Valuable Player. In addition she was recognized as the MCS Female Athlete of the Year for three consecutive years – 1979, 1980 and 1981. During her tenure, all the teams on which she participated progressed to winning records, including a first ever sectional tournament selection in field hockey and a first ever IAC Northeast Small School Division Championship in softball.

Deborah resides in the Marathon area and is employed as a laboratory supervisor at Intertek ETL.

Jeff Parker
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1978

Jeff Parker was an ardent three sport athlete throughout his high school career. He played three years of varsity soccer and baseball and two years of varsity basketball. He was a member of the 1976 Section IV Champion baseball team, the 1976 Section IV Champion soccer team and the 1977 IAC Champion soccer team. He was named Team MVP for baseball, IAC First Team All-Star for soccer and baseball, and MCS Male Athlete of the Year in his senior year, 1977-78. During that school year he led the baseball team in batting with a .478 average. His league-leading 11 assists in soccer ranked the highest ever at MCS at the time of his graduation.

Since leaving MCS, Jeff has had a major impact on soccer play and players in the Marathon community. In 1998 he co-founded the Marathon Stampede soccer club to organize, coach and fund youth teams in the community. Starting with a team of 15 boys under the age of 10, the club grew to field boys and girls teams in age groups ranging from 10 to 19. As a tribute to Jeff's influence, it is noted that 11 of the 15 boys on his first team progressed to become members of MCS state final four tournament teams. In 2003 Jeff switched to coaching a team of girls under the age of 13, and young ladies from that team became the nucleus of Marathon's 2008 State Championship soccer team.

Jeff has served as an MCS coach for boys junior high and JV teams, girls modified teams and as a volunteer assistant for the Girls State Championship Team. He is employed as the Chief Waste Water Operator for the Town of Owego. His two children have followed him as outstanding MCS athletes. Jeff joins his late father in the Hall of Fame.

James E. Joseph
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1979

Jim Joseph played three years of varsity baseball and two years of varsity basketball. He was twice named an IAC baseball Honorable Mention All-Star and was selected to the IAC All-Star First Team for basketball in his senior year. He was also named the basketball team Most Valuable Player and was the recipient of the McDonald Award in his senior year.

In his two high school basketball seasons Jim scored over 671 points in an era prior to the three point line. In 1977 he was moved up from the JV squad for sectional play and came off the bench in the semi-final game to score 16 points and help the team move into the finals. In baseball he was a mainstay right handed pitcher and power hitting left handed batter. He once missed pitching a perfect game by a base on balls late in the game. During basketball season, throughout his four years of high school, he would be found each Saturday morning coaching a youth basketball team. Off the fields and courts, Jim was an honor student, president of the Student Council and a delegate to Empire Boys State.

After leaving MCS Jim earned a BS degree in Accounting from LeMoyne College and a Master of Public Administration degree from Syracuse University where he was recommended for a Presidential Fellowship and spent a year working in the Department of Health and Human Services and Senator Moynihan's office. While at LeMoyne he played JV baseball and basketball. He once scored 25 points in a preliminary game in front of a Carrier Dome full house. Jim currently serves as the President and CEO of Oneida Ltd. and invests considerable time in philanthropic activities and as a coach of youth baseball and basketball teams.

Keith D. Pitman
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1985

Keith Pitman played Olympian varsity basketball for three years and varsity baseball for two years. He was Valedictorian of his graduating class and served as the President of the local National Honor Society chapter.

For his basketball achievements, Keith was named Team Most Valuable Player, IAC First Team All-Star, and IAC Northeast Small School Most Valuable Player in both his junior and senior seasons. He scored 38 points in a game on two occasions, and yet was known as an unselfish team player. He holds the MCS boys basketball career scoring record with a total of 1165 points. He also holds the record for free throws made in a season at 136 in 1984-85. These records were set prior to the implementation of the three point basket and have stood for 25 years.

After graduation, Keith attended Hobart College for one year and then transferred to Cornell University where he earned a BS in Electrical Engineering in 1989. He subsequently earned an MS in Electrical Engineering from Syracuse University in 1993. He has served as superintendent of two municipal power companies and as an electrical forensic specialist. He currently holds the position of President and CEO of Empire Wind Energy, LLC. He has volunteered as a Vernon-Verona-Sherrill youth basketball coach for the past eleven years.

Mark Wainwright
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1982

Mark Wainwright was an outstanding IAC All-Star athlete in soccer, basketball, and track. In two seasons of soccer, he helped his teams to an IAC Championship, two sectional final game appearances and a Section IV Championship. His three basketball teams won three IAC division titles and one overall IAC Championship. In soccer Mark, scored 14 goals with 8 assists playing in the field and stepped into the goal keeper's spot in special situations. In the 1980 sectional title game he stepped into the goal for the tie breaking penalty kick shoot-out. He made the needed critical saves and then switched positions to score the final winner. On the track team Mark was an excellent hurdler and sprinter and stood out in the high jump where he set the current MCS record at 6'3" and competed in the state final meet.

Mark was known as an unselfish basketball playmaker while scoring a career total 923 points to rank eighth all-time at Marathon. At the time of his graduation he ranked third behind Don McEvoy and his Uncle Jim, both Hall of Fame members. In his 1981-82 senior season, he led the team with 124 assists and 148 rebounds while leading the IAC with a scoring average of 21.2 points per game. His season point total of 497 still stands as the all-time single season high for MCS. He captained the team to a 21-3 record including an overall IAC Small School Championship and a single point loss in the Section IV championship game. For his performance, Mark was named to the NYS Sports Writers Association All-State team.

After graduation from MCS, Mark was a starting basketball guard for Broome Community College and SUNY Cortland and earned a degree in Business Communications. He has served as a youth football, basketball, and baseball coach. Mark joins his father and uncle in the Hall of Fame.

Marty Kinner
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1976

Marty Kinner was a talented three-sport varsity athlete having played soccer and basketball for three years and baseball for four years. In soccer he was a speedy, clutch scorer. He scored a career total 31 goals and 14 assists. His goal total ranked 6th among all Marathon players at the time of his graduation even though it was undoubtedly curtailed by an injury in his senior season. His junior year season scoring total of 17 goals ranked 7th at the time of his graduation. He was selected as an IAC First Team All-Star in his junior year. He scored a career total 483 points in three basketball seasons with a high of 277 in his senior year when was selected to the IAC All-Star Third Team.

Marty's favorite and strongest sport was baseball. In his senior season he was a key contributor to the team's successful campaign to win the Section IV Class B-C-D Championship as a center fielder and pitcher. He led the team in RBIs with 13 and was second in batting average at .327. As a pitcher he posted a record of 5 wins and 1 loss. He was named to the IAC All-Star First Team as an outfielder. Two of his finest performances came in the 1976 team's final run to the sectional championship. In a special playoff game to determine the last entry into the sectional tournament, sacrifice fly balls were hit to center field in consecutive innings with base runners on third base. Neither runner scored as Marty's strong, accurate throws cut them down at the plate. He later scored the winning run for the narrowest of victories. He next pitched a one-hit shutout in the first round of the tournament. He finished the tournament with key hits, RBIs and runs scored in the final two games.

Marty is employed as an electrician for SUNY Cortland. He enjoys staying active by playing golf. He joins his father in the Hall of Fame.

Raymond Marsh
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1980

Ray Marsh was a three sport varsity athlete, having played two years of basketball and baseball and three years of soccer. He was named MCS Male Athlete of the Year in 1980. He was a tough and gritty competitor whose demeanor became hard as nails as each game day neared. He was a very quick and tenacious basketball defender and point guard. In two varsity seasons he scored 285 points. His senior year team won the IAC North Division Small School Championship. In baseball he sparked the offense as a very productive leadoff batter and outstanding base stealer.

Ray stands out among a long line of fine Marathon soccer players. In his three varsity seasons he scored 43 goals and 17 assists. Both figures rank seventh all-time among MCS players. His personal single-game high marks of five goals and four assists both rank second. Ray's 38 goals scored in his 1979 senior season is a Marathon record which still stands today. He was recognized as an IAC First Team All-Star. While achieving personal successes, Ray helped his teams to IAC Championships and Section IV final appearances in both 1977 and 1979. As a senior captain he led his team to 21 straight victories before losing 4-3 in the final game which was played under field conditions that current standards would not allow.

Ray has remained a Marathon area resident where he has been the Press Room Manager for the Cortland Standard newspaper for 29 years. He is known as a highly respected soccer referee, having officiated high level college games, state high school finals and Empire State Games. He has also served as a youth program coach. His three children have followed him as outstanding MCS athletes.

Roger Parker
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1977

Roger Parker played four years of varsity soccer and baseball and one year of basketball. He is remembered as an intense, self motivated competitor who was also willing to share tips and guidance with younger teammates. He was selected as an IAC First Team All-Star in baseball in his junior year and in both soccer and baseball in his senior year. He was the first recipient of the Ron Smith Award in 1977. He was a member of Section IV Championship teams in consecutive seasons having won the class B-C-D title for baseball in the spring and the class A title for soccer in the fall of 1976.

Roger scored a career total 25 goals and 24 assists. His 4 goals and 10 assists made a strong contribution to his senior year's team record of 14-2-2 including the first Marathon sectional title in over ten years and the first MCS appearance in a regional game. His season total of 10 assists tied the MCS record at the time of his graduation.

Roger stands out as one of the finest baseball pitchers in school history. He had an overpowering fast ball and a nearly impossible to hit low-and-away curve. In his junior year he posted a record of four wins and one loss, with an Earned Run Average of 1.49. As a senior his record was 6-1 with an ERA of 1.40. Among his single game performances are a one-hitter with 10 strike-outs in the sectional championship game and an 18 strike-out smothering of Cincinnatus.

Roger earned an Associate degree from Broome Community college and a Bachelor of Arts from SUNY Brockport. He resides in Massachusetts where he works as Senior Demand Planner. He remains active as a licensed bicycle racer, skier and youth soccer coach.

Ron Smith
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1976

Ron Smith played varsity player in baseball for four seasons, varsity soccer for three and basketball for two. Ron's favorite and strongest sport was baseball at which he excelled from a young age beginning in Little League and progressing through Babe Ruth and American Legion programs. He was a key member of the milestone 1976 Class B-C-D Section IV Championship team which he led with a .357 batting average.

In soccer he scored 8 goals and 4 assists in soccer in his first two varsity seasons and then unselfishly moved from offense to sweeper back for his senior season. The move earned him selection to the IAC First Team All-Star squad. In basketball he was recognized as a strong rebounder as well as a scoring threat, tallying 326 points in two seasons.

Ron Smith was a talented, all-round athlete who is remembered for his desire and hard work, his acceptability of coaching, and his sportsmanship. He was a role model for his teammates and younger athletes. Most notably Ron was an outstanding citizen of his school and community. His strength of character, loyalty to friends and teammates, and his achievements on the playing field and in the classroom are his legacy.

Ron Smith graduated from Marathon High School in 1976 and began pursuit of a degree in Criminal Justice and Tompkins-Cortland Community College. He was tragically killed in an accident on June 15, 1977. An award in his name is given each year to an athlete who best mirrors the qualities he possessed.

Stephen P. Joseph
Inducted June 25, 2010

Athlete – Class of 1980

Stephen Joseph was a three year varsity baseball player and a two year varsity basketball player. He was twice named a baseball IAC Honorable Mention All-Star and was also a basketball IAC Honorable Mention All-star in his senior year. As a baseball catcher, he led the team in batting in his junior and senior years and batted for over a .400 average as a sophomore and senior. He was also a defensive stalwart, throwing out attempted base stealers at a rate exceeding 50 percent. In his two varsity basketball seasons he scored 485 points and pulled down over 500 rebounds. He was an integral part of the first MCS basketball team to win an IAC Northern Division Championship. In addition to athletics, Stephen was an honor student, President of the Student Council, delegate to Empire Boys State, active in his church and a four year coach for the youth basketball program.

After leaving MCS, Stephen attended The University of Scranton where he played four years of basketball, earned two varsity letters, served as a team captain and was named Men's Basketball Team Player of the Year. He was a member of the 1983 Division III National Championship Team that compiled a record of 29-3. His pride in team, which he attributes to his MCS coaches, caused him to be called upon to act as the student coordinator of athlete visits to the university. Upon completion of his college career, Stephen remained active in basketball as an official and a coach. He officiated for five years in the Syracuse area and coached CYO basketball in the greater Washington, DC area for seven years. He has earned B.S. & B.A., University of Scranton, 1984; M.S., Xavier (OH) University, 1986; and pursued doctoral studies at Catholic University (Washington). In 2008, Stephen and his wife, Colleen, initiated and funded "The Robert S. Bessoir Scholarship" in honor of his former Scranton coach.

Stephen H. Arnold
Inducted June 25, 2010

Contributor

Stephen Arnold began teaching math to Marathon high school students in 1947, shortly after flying perilous bomber missions over Europe in World War II, and had a strong, positive influence on all aspects of student life for the next 33 years. He modeled a right-way of thinking, behavior and pursuit of excellence, not only in the classroom, but as a member of the local semi-pro baseball team and as an avid outdoor sportsman. His love of hunting and fishing is legend, and the values he represented both fostered and complimented the goals of the MCS athletic program. He was a founding member and continues to serve on the MCS Hall of Fame Committee.

Steve Arnold encouraged friendly competition among students, as he recognized its intrinsic value in their development. He fostered healthy academic competition in the classroom, which helped cause him to be a strong supporter of competitive athletics. This wedding of academics and athletics is often remembered with fondness by former student-athletes as they recall "Mr. Arnold's" contributions to their success.

From his early days of teaching Steve Arnold held no differences in his expectations for students or his treatment of them based on whether they were male or female. He never thought, and his record disproves, the notion that "girls can't do math". He was ahead of the Title IX law, and he encouraged and fostered its full implementation in the athletic program.

Scores of former Marathon High School students willingly credit Stephen H. Arnold for much of their success on the courts, fields and tracks and in the greater arenas of life.