

*EAST GREENBUSH
CENTRAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT*

*ATHLETIC
HALL OF FAME
2010*



*SPONSORED BY
THE COLUMBIA
"ALL SPORTS" CLUB*

ALUMNI ATHLETE INDUCTEES

A student athlete alumni whose accomplishments at Columbia High School represented the highest caliber of achievement in his/her time as well as athletes who have achieved success after graduation

In order of year of graduation

JAMES CLIFFORD

Class of 1956

James Clifford was one of the last four sport athletes at Columbia High School. He combined a total of 14 Varsity letters in Football, Basketball, Baseball & Track while a student in the East Greenbush Central School District. Recipient of the prestigious Robert D Chipp Memorial Award, Cliff demonstrated outstanding athletic performance and practiced good citizenship at CHS.

In the fall, Cliff was out on the Football field where he played defensive halfback and offensive right halfback. He was on the Varsity team for four years. He was named to the All-Capital District team in Football his senior year. Cliff was scheduled to play in the Championship game for the Eastern Division Crown but the game was cancelled due to weather & Columbia shared the title with Lansingburgh.

Cliff was a three-year Varsity Basketball player and co-captain his senior year. His junior year, Cliff was the season scoring leader with 183 points. The team broke the school's record for most points in one game when they scored 85 points against Hudson during his senior year. Cliff has a career average of 13.16 points per game. He was chosen to the All-Capital District team in Basketball his senior year.

During the spring season, Cliff was both a Baseball and Track star. In Track he earned four varsity letters. During his junior season of 1955, Cliff is most noted for his help in the 4X100 1st place tie in the Eastern Conference. The team was undefeated in dual meets for that season. On the Baseball field, Cliff played 2nd base. He was a power hitter for the team with a batting average of .457 his junior year and .466 his senior year.

Off the court and fields, Cliff was a member of the Varsity Club his junior and senior years and was the Vice-President his senior year. The yearbook lists him as participating on the Senior Tea Committee, Dance Committee & the Yearbook Committee. His peers voted him Best Male Athlete, Ideal Male Legs and King of the Senior Ball.

Upon graduation from Columbia, Cliff went to Brockport State College where he played Varsity Baseball for two years. He then left college and moved to California. He was a Highway Patrolman for several years until he a friend bought a golf course that they operated until Cliff's death at age 41 from Arteriosclerosis. Cliff and his wife Sylvia were married for 15 years and had no children.

CASEY HALLORAN

Class of 2002

Casey Halloran played five years of Varsity Baseball as a pitcher for the Blue Devils. In her first Varsity game as an eighth grader she threw a no hitter against Shaker. This was the first of many accomplishments for Casey in the Columbia uniform.

A natural leader on and off the field, Casey helped the team to three Suburban Gold Championships. In 1999 Casey was the winning pitcher for the Section II Championship game with a win over Saratoga throwing a 2 hitter 2-0 victory. In 2001 she again was the winning pitcher for another Section II Championship victory in a 1 hitter against Shenendehowa with the winning score of 1-0. That team went on to be NYS Finalists. Her senior year alone, Casey had 2 no-hitters including 1 perfect game. She had a Varsity career of over 50 wins. Casey was named to the Times Union and Troy Records 1st Teams her sophomore, junior and senior years.

Attending Division I University at Albany with an Athletic Scholarship, Casey went on to an astounding collegiate career. She helped her team to three America East Tournament Championships, three Division I NCAA Tournament appearances and two Division I NCAA Tournament Regional wins. Casey held the record at U Albany for 27 wins in a season, 73 career wins, 227 innings pitched in a season, 650 career innings pitched, 252 strikeouts in a season, 595 career strikeouts, 73 career wins, 3 no-hitters in a season and 4 career no-hitters. She was named to the America East All Rookie Team, three America East All Conference 1st Team awards, U Albany Female Athlete of the Year in 2006 and 2007, 2006 America East Pitcher of the Year and 2006 and 2007 Most Outstanding Player in the America East Championship Tournament.

Graduating in 2007 with a Bachelors Degree in English and a minor in Education she went on to get a Masters in Education Administration, Casey now works in the Troy School District where she is also the Varsity Softball coach. In 2009, her first year coaching a high school team, her girls won the Big 10 Championship with a 20-3 record. In October 2009, Casey started her own business, Fastpitch Universe, in Schodack NY. This is an indoor dirt Softball training facility that teaches pitching, hitting and fielding.

IAN LOCKE

Class of 1998

Ian Locke was a three-sport athlete at Columbia earning seven Varsity letters in all. He participated on Varsity Soccer three years, Varsity Basketball two years and Varsity Baseball two years.

Baseball was Ian's main sport where he set many records while a pitcher for the Columbia Blue Devils. His records and accomplishments include ERA with 45+ Innings Pitched of .56 his junior year (2nd in the Columbia record book), Strikeouts in a Season - 115 his senior year (2nd in the Columbia record book), Most Assists In a Season with 162 his senior year, Most Career Strikeouts of 221 (2nd in the Columbia record book) in just two years. He was part of the Columbia team that set the record for Most League wins -16 and Longest winning streak in a season - 20 in 1997. Ian was named the All-Area Troy Record Player of the Year his junior year and was chosen for All-Area 1st Team his junior and senior years. He also received the Most Valuable Player of the Year from Columbia both his junior and senior years. Ian's junior year the team was Suburban Council Champion, Section II Champion, NYS Central Region Champion and a NYS Finalist Team were he was the winning pitcher in Section II, Regional and the NYS Semi-Finalist games. His senior year they again were Suburban Council Champions. He finished his high school Varsity pitching career with 22 wins and 2 losses.

Ian decided to attend Division 3 Ithaca College where he again excelled. He was Freshman Athlete of the Year for Ithaca, selected for the NCAA All-Region Team his freshman, junior and senior years, and named player of the week several times. He set Ithaca's Career Record for Strikeouts with 193 and was 3rd all time in Wins in Innings Pitched with 25 in 261.

After earning his degree in Sports Management with a minor in Marketing and Writing from Ithaca, Ian went on to a career in the administration of baseball. He worked with the Charlotte Knights Baseball team, an AAA farm team of the White Sox from 2003-04 in the media relations department. He has been in Norfolk VA since 2004 as Media Relations Director with the AAA Norfolk Tides Baseball Club, a division of the Baltimore Orioles.

**COACH
FACULTY/STAFF
INDUCTEES**

A coach or faculty member whose contributions and achievements have improved the reputation and brought credit to our school or have inspired our student athletes to achieve their own personal level of excellence. Not based solely on wins and losses and championships but determined by the degree of respect given the coach and program by other people.

JOHN SERBALIK

COACH

John Serbalik has been a part of the East Greenbush Central School District for close to 40 years. He has been a teacher, coach, friend, role model and mentor to the students and staff of this district. He has coached 74 athletic teams during his tenure at CHS.

John attended Mechanicville High School while growing up. He graduated in 1965. John continued his education at Ithaca College and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education in 1969. While he attended high school and college, John played baseball & bowled for the school teams. In 1970, John started his teaching career at Clinton Heights and Red Mill Elementary Schools for the EGCS. He worked there for 2 years when he was transferred to Genet Middle School that later became Genet Elementary School. John stayed at Genet until his retirement in 2002. John led intramural programs after school to give all kids a chance to participate in game experiences. He also started the Jump Rope for Heart Program with Carol DeLucia. This program turned out to be one of the biggest fundraisers in the area for the American Heart Association.

John has coached Baseball, Volleyball, Boys & Girls Bowling and Boys Cross Country for a combined 28 years. John led the Girls Bowling team through numerous Suburban Council Championships, Greater Capital District Bowling League Champions, Gold Division Champions, Section II Champions, Third place in the NY State Championships in 1999, an undefeated Columbia Girls Bowling season in 2000 (18-0) and the first Columbia team to become NY State Champions in 2001 with a record of 17-1. In Baseball he coached on the Freshman, JV and Assistant Varsity levels. After he retired in 2002, John continued as Assistant Varsity Baseball coach and helped to bring the team to become the first Baseball team from Columbia to be NY State Champs in 2004.

John and his wife Vicki now live in Clifton Park. They have five children (Jill, Michael, Laura, Diane and John Yuri) and five grandchildren.

John is described by his nominators as "a man of high moral value and character... who tries to see the positive in all students and athletes...who is a compassionate and silent leader that cares for all on the team. The best part about John is that he can't tell you how many wins he had...and he just went on helping kids every single day of his life."

We are glad that John decided to do this with the students at the EGCS.

*COMMUNITY
MEMBER
CATEGORY
INDUCTEE*

A community member whose special contributions, efforts, service and support have resulted in a meaningful contribution to athletes and/or athletic programs of the East Greenbush Central School District.

JAMES FINKE

Community Member

James Finke, a member of the East Greenbush Central School District Community, has volunteered his service to better the athletes and teams of this district. Through three decades, he has given of his time and energy combining his love of sports, history and statistics.

Starting with the 1982-83 Basketball season, Jim has been the statistician for both the Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball teams. He has almost 30 years of continuous service attending home and away games compiling data for record lists and writing highlights from these games. Jim has also been responsible for getting much of the Basketball information into the yearly Blue Devil Basketball yearbook and the CHS Sports Almanac. Jim has spent countless hours going through old yearbooks, newspaper clippings and scorebooks compiling accurate histories for many of the sports here at Columbia High School.

Jim was also a volunteer assistant Varsity Baseball coach at Columbia. He helped the team from 1983-1987 "assisting in the dugout and trying to keep George calm." Jim became a member of the CHS All-Sports Club while his children were attending Columbia. He fondly remembers selling 50-50 raffle tickets at the Football games.

Jim has also given many years service to this community through youth baseball. He has been a coach and manager for Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle and American Legion teams. He has been President and District Commissioner for Babe Ruth. From 1998-2006 Jim was the State Commissioner for Babe Ruth. He is currently Assistant Commissioner in the Mid-Atlantic Region Babe Ruth and Cal Ripkin Baseball Associations.

Jim grew up in Rensselaer, attending Van Rensselaer High School where he played basketball and baseball. After graduating in 1957, he attended St Lawrence University where he earned a BS in Mathematics in 1961. He served in the US Army National Guard for six years and worked for 37 years in the Materials Bureau in Albany for the NYS Department of Transportation. He retired in 1998. He and his wife Elaine have lived in East Greenbush since 1966. They have four children (James, Barbara, Linda and Judy) and have been blessed with six grandchildren. Jim is an avid sports fan and is still a "Die-hard Brooklyn Dodgers fan."