

## **Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club Announces Annual Winners**

*To be honored at Hall of Fame banquet June 7, 2017*

For more information:

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MADISON, WI, May 5, 2017—The Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club will honor some of the areas top athletes and coaches from the past year at its annual banquet in addition to the four Hall of Fame inductees. The awards event is set for Wednesday evening, June 7th, at Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center.

The Zimbrick Honda Madison Sportsman of the Year Award will be given to Finn Gessner, Madison LaFollette cross country and track athlete. Last fall he won the WIAA Division 1 cross country championship for the second consecutive year as well as the Big Eight conference title. Finn was named WCCCA 1<sup>st</sup> team all-state and the Wisconsin Journal and WI Prep all-area runner of the year. The Gatorade runner of the year was the runner-up in the Foot Locker National Championship. This spring he will seek to repeat his WIAA 3200 meter title. Gessner will compete for U.W. Madison cross country in the fall.

The Neckerman Insurance Madison Sportswoman of the Year Award winner is Estella Moschkau, Edgewood High School basketball player. She was named the Gatorade player of the year as well as co-Miss Basketball for the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association. Estella led her team to its first WIAA championship while averaging 18.4 points, 8.4 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.7 blocks per game. For this feat she was named the small school all-area player of the year by the Wisconsin State Journal and WI Prep. Moschkau will compete for the Stanford Cardinals next year.

The Flad Development and Investment Area Sportsperson of the Year Award will be given to Denver University hockey player, Will Butcher. This former Sun Prairie player led the Pioneers to the NCAA championship as the team's senior captain. Will was named the player of the year and the best offensive defenseman for the National Collegiate Hockey Conference scoring 36 points. The first Wisconsin-born player to be a top three finalist, he received the Hobey Baker Award, for the nation's best hockey player, at the Frozen Four in Chicago.

The Edgewood College Friend of Sport Award winner is Art Luetke. He has competed in swimming for over fifty years since high school at Madison West. The first swimmer named to the U.W. Platteville's Hall of Fame, Art has since won numerous titles in the Badger State games and master's competitions around the world. Many people recognize him as a swim official who has worked at WIAA, Big Ten Conference, Badger State and NCAA competitions during the past forty years. Art received an award of recognition from the Southern Wisconsin Swim Officials Association in 2010 as its co-founder and former officer.

The Madison Area Sports Commission's Pat Richter Favorite Sibling Award winner is Merritt "Jay" Norvell, University of Nevada Wolfpack's head football coach. A graduate

of Memorial High School he was a standout player for the University of Iowa before going to the NFL's Chicago Bears. For the past 31 years, Jay has coached a variety of positions for numerous college and NFL teams. From 1989 until 1994 he assisted the Barry Alvarez led Badgers as an offensive lineman, wide receiver and tight end coach. Norvell has been an assistant in excellent football programs at Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas as well as the Indianapolis Colts and the Oakland Raiders. Last year he took over the struggling University of Nevada team for his first head coaching job.

The Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club's Special Achievement Award Winners:

- Kelly Chadash is Monona Grove High School boys' swim coach. She has won three consecutive WIAA Division 2 state championships in her four years at the helm.
- Jada Dayne, former Waunakee High School multisport athlete, was the University of Michigan's "Rookie of the Year" as a soccer player. As the center back she led a stingy Wolverine defense which had six shutouts during its season.
- Edgewood High School girls' basketball, swimming and tennis teams are recognized for their WIAA state championship seasons this year.
- Tom Kaufman, a West High graduate, is the boys' cross country coach. In his nineteen years with the team, he has developed a premier program winning four WIAA titles including the 2016 championship.
- Chris Knight led the Madison Memorial team in a return to the WIAA state tournament. He was named to the all-tournament team, to the WBCA 1<sup>st</sup> team all-state, to the Wisconsin Journal / WI Prep large school, all-area 1<sup>st</sup> team as well as selected player of the year in the area and the Big Eight conference.
- Ginger Lingard was an outstanding diver for Edgewood High School. She is only the third individual in WIAA history to win the diving title for four consecutive years. Ginger holds the state diving record with 525.45 points and was named the Wisconsin State Journal / WI Prep all-area swimmer of the year.
- Ben McDade has led the Monona Grove boys' swim team to the WIAA Division 2 championship for three consecutive years. This year he won the 500 freestyle, the 200 freestyle, the 200 medley relay and the 400 freestyle relay setting a state record in the 500 freestyle. The Wisconsin State Journal / WI Prep named Ben the all-area swimmer of the year.

**Grandmaster Dr. Jae Bock Chung, Ron Holzhueter, Bill Mattison and Dan Schachte** are the 2017 Hall of Fame inductees sponsored by Strand Associates.

Tickets for the event are \$50. The event is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend and salute this exceptional group of inductees and award winners. Contact Peg Mueller (238-5907) for tickets until June 1st.

The Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club began in 1963 to recognize and honor great athletes and sports figures from the city. The group hosts weekly luncheon meetings from August through May and holds the induction ceremony every June. There are more than 200 inductees in its Hall of Fame. Go to <http://www.madisonsportshalloffame.org> to find

other information about the Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club. Membership is open to anyone who is interested in sports.