

**For immediate release:**

**60th Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club Induction set for May 31<sup>st</sup>**

*Gary Buss, Michelle Jespersen, Doug Parrish, Pam Roecker, Bo Ryan honored*

Madison, WI, – (April 14, 2023) The 60th Hall of Fame inductee class of the Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club sponsored by Strand Associates features a representative from all 4 Madison Public High Schools. The diverse class consists of football players, a swimmer, a basketball player and administrator and a basketball coach. The dinner and enshrinement ceremony will take place at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center on Wednesday, May 31, 2023.

The Public is welcome to attend. Tickets for the event are \$55 and they will be sold until May 25th. The event is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend and salute this exceptional group of inductees. Contact Banquet Coordinator, Al Schumacher (608-395-4648) for tickets or go to our website at [madisonsportshalloffame.org](http://madisonsportshalloffame.org) to order banquet tickets.

**Gary Buss** is a Madison East multi-sport athlete who competed in football, basketball and baseball while at East where he won 8 varsity letters. He then attended the UW Madison where he competed in football earned 3 letters in football and 1 letter in baseball. As a high school football player, Gary received All City recognition for 3 years, All Conference recognition for 2 years, All Area 1<sup>st</sup> Team and All State 1<sup>st</sup> Team in 1966. He was also All City in baseball for 3 years. While at the University of Wisconsin, Gary was a 3 year starter at Defensive End for the Badgers and received All Conference honors. Gary also played baseball at the UW for 1 year, where he led the team in extra base hits, and slugging percentage. However, his commitment to the football program limited his college baseball career to just 1 year.

**Michelle Jespersen** was a swimmer from the beginning. She was seven when her parents joined the Hill Farms Swim Club where Michelle began her competitive swimming career. In high school, at Madison West, she earned WIAA All State honors in four events as a senior, won the WIAA Athlete of the Year Honors three out her four years, was named the WIAA Swimming Coaches Association Girls Swimmer of the Year twice and won 14 WIAA State Titles. Michelle continued her swimming at Stanford, where she became an 11 time All American and was a National Champion in the 400 meter Freestyle Relay and the 800 meter Freestyle Relay and her teams won three National Championships. Michelle also competed in US Olympic trials and meets and National competitions in the 50 meter Freestyle, the 100 meter Freestyle, the 200 meter Freestyle and Freestyle relays. Michelle won a Gold Medal at the 1997 World University Games in Sicily.

**Doug Parrish** participated in football, basketball and ran track while at Madison Memorial High School but football was his #1 sport where he was a running back and a Defensive Back. Doug led Memorial to the Big 8 championship in 1984 and to the WIAA State Semifinals that year. Doug's football career then took him to Taft Jr. College where he picked off two interceptions in the 1987 JC National Championship game. The University of California-Berkeley came calling next. At Cal-Berkeley, Doug

was a 2 year Defensive Back and Kick Return Specialist where he led the Pac 10 in interceptions including 2 against the #3 ranked team in the country, the Miami Hurricanes, in a nationally televised game. Doug played his senior season at D2 San Francisco State where he set a D2 record returning 35 kicks for 1002 yards, averaging 1002 yards per return. After college, the Canadian Football League came calling and Doug played 6 seasons for the Edmonton Eskimos where Doug also played Defensive Back and was a Kick Return Specialist. Doug and his Eskimos' teammates won the Grey Cup as the Canadian Football League champions in 1993.

**Pam Roecker** was a 3 sport athlete while at Madison LaFollette High School where she won 9 varsity letters in tennis, basketball and softball. Her softball team won the Big 8 conference championship and became a WIAA State finalist. During the tennis season, she was a City Doubles champion and was a 1<sup>st</sup> team All City selection and she made it to the WIAA State Tournament. However, basketball was her passion and she was All City and All Conference in basketball and her team made it to the WIAA State Tournament. The love of basketball led her to UW Green Bay where she continued to play basketball for 4 more years. Pam became a 1000 point scorer and finished her career with over 1000 points. She is also the all-time leader at UW Green Bay in assists in a single game, assists in a season and assists for a career. (This fact is still true to this day, some 40 years later.) More impressively is what she has accomplished since college where she coached at the collegiate level, has been an Athletic Director at the high school level and at the DIII level and in 2017, Pam became the Dean of Athletics at Regis College in Massachusetts. If this isn't enough, for the last 20 years, Pam has been a TV/Web broadcaster for college basketball games on ESPN U, ESPN+, ESPN3, Fox, MSG and CBS College Sports networks.

**Bo Ryan** is purely and simply, a basketball coach. Bo began his collegiate head coaching career at UW Platteville from 1984-1999 and then became the head coach at UW Milwaukee for 2 seasons before becoming the head coach at UW Madison from 2001-2015. Bo has an overall head coaching record of 747 wins and 233 losses. Bo has won 12 Conference championships at UW Platteville and UW Madison. Additionally, Bo coached UW Madison to 3 Big 10 tournament championships. At Platteville, Bo's teams won 4 National D III Championships. In 2015, Bo took UW Madison to the precipice of college basketball before losing the championship in the Final Four when a last second shot bounced off the rim. Bo also has been named the National Coach of the Year at both the D III and the D I level and has coached USA Basketball to the Bronze Medal and Gold Medal at the World University Games and another Gold Medal at the Olympic Festival. Bo's induction into the Madison Sports Hall of Fame will mark the 14<sup>th</sup> different Hall of Fame that he will have been inducted in.

These sport names will join the more than 200 individuals already in the Madison Sports Hall of Fame.

The Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club began in 1963 to recognize and honor great athletes and sports figures from Madison. The group hosts weekly luncheon meetings from August through May and holds the induction ceremony every year. Go to [madisonsportshalloffame.org](http://madisonsportshalloffame.org) to find out other information about the club.

