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A.S.A.A. NAMES CLASS OF 2011
ALASKA HIGH SCHOOL
HALL OF FAME

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska School Activities Association announces the Class of 2011 Alaska High School Hall of Fame. Ten individuals will be inducted into the Hall of Fame during a ceremony on August 7, 2011.

The Hall of Fame was established to identify and honor, in a permanent manner, individuals who exhibited high ethical standards and integrity while achieving excellence in high school athletics and activities, as well as others who have distinguished themselves by virtue of exemplary contributions to the advancement of interscholastic athletics and activities in the State of Alaska.

Categories include student athlete and students who participated in fine art and academic activities. Other categories include coaches, advisors/directors, administrators, officials/adjudicators and major contributors.

**2011 Alaska School Activities Association
Hall of Fame
Inductee Bios**

Richard “Dick” Mize

(Administrator, Dimond High School/ASD, Anchorage)

Dick served as a principal at Wendler, Mears Middle Schools and Dimond High School. During his tenure, Dimond High School was newly opened and he was instrumental in establishing an atmosphere that promoted academics, sportsmanship, participation and excellence. The school climate that was established has long permeated the Dimond environment and has become a tradition.

As an accomplished athlete, Dick competed as a Biathlete Olympian and achieved a gold medal as a Masters XCS champion. His dedication to the expansion of Nordic skiing opportunities for students and adults is well known because of his involvement in the planning and development of Kincaid, Hillside, Russian Jack and Girdwood Ski trails. There are few individuals that have contributed more to Nordic skiing than Dick Mize.

Dick has a unique leadership style. He quietly but effectively established a venue for creating a healthy school climate, engaged the city of Anchorage to be physically active and modeled for all of us a lifestyle that exemplifies integrity, hard work and dedication.

Scott Gomez

(Athlete, Hockey, East High School, Anchorage)

Scotty Gomez is a hometown boy that realized athletic fame. He was a stellar hockey player for East High School and led them to the 1995 State Championship and runner up in 1996. Both years he was selected as player of the year and made the all-state hockey team. During the 1995-96 season, he was high point scorer.

Scotty went on to play Junior Hockey and eventually was drafted by the NHL in 1998. In his rookie season he was awarded the Calder Trophy as the league's top rookie. He also played on the New Jersey Devils team that earned the Stanley Cup. Scotty brought the cup back to Anchorage and shared it with the community. Despite all his accomplishments, he returns each year to East Anchorage and contributes to the community through youth clinics, public appearances and the Scotty Gomez Foundation. He is a superb role model.

Matt Hemry

(Athlete, Tennis, Dimond High School, Anchorage)

Matt graduated from Dimond High School in 1986 as Valedictorian of his class and as reigning Tennis Doubles Champion. He competed all four years on the varsity tennis team and each of those years the team earned a regional championship (no state tournament at this time). Matt earned three regional doubles championship and was a semi-finalist in the singles category. Matt served as team captain and was selected as a most valuable player.

Matt returned to Anchorage after earning his degree in Engineering from Dartmouth and graduate degree from Duke. He became a highly successful tennis coach for Dimond High School, claiming two more Region IV titles. He has continued to contribute to the tennis community as region and state tournament coordinator. Matt is highly respected by his players and serves as a positive role model, committed to excellence. He is a true competitor that exemplifies humility and grace.

Sam Hill

(athlete, XCR, Football, Basketball, Wrestling, Kotzebue/Nikiski)

Sam Hill started his journey in the small community of Kiana, moved on to Kotzebue and eventually finished his high school career in Nikiski. Sam was a multi-sport athlete, often competing in two sports with overlapping seasons. In his senior year, he was a state finalist in track, state runner up in XCR, state championship in basketball and an All State player, state champion in wrestling and the only 3A boy named as the Anchorage Daily News Male Athlete of the Year. He also was a leader that demonstrated humility, supportive leadership and responsibility. Sam's comments after being recognized as Male Athlete of the Year serve to validate his character: "I represent the hundreds of students athletes from bush Alaska that never got the chances I did; there are many more out there just like myself."

Sam went on to the University of Oregon and walked on the XCR and track teams. He earned three letters while at UO and served as team captain for XCR. Currently, Sam works with ASRC promoting healthy living with the shareholders and applying his Environmental Science degree.

Tom Huffer Jr.

(Athlete, Football, Wrestling, Track, Chugiak High School, Anchorage)

Tom Huffer Jr. accomplished honors that seem almost impossible to imagine. He was selected to the All-State football team two years in a row at three positions: offensive tight end, defense linebacker and place kicker on special teams. He claimed two state championship football titles and one runner up title. In addition, he kicked 17 field goals out of 25 attempts, a state record. He was also selected to the 1994 Bally All-American Football team and the 1995 All Alaska Dream Team.

Tom also excelled in wrestling capturing a state title for 191 weight class. He was well on his way to a second title until an injury ended his wrestling career. His senior year record prior to the injury was 24-0 with 23 pins.

Tom graduated from Linfield College and has returned to teach and coach at Chugiak High School. People that know Tom, speak of his strong work ethic to better himself in all areas of his life. His willingness to help and lead is exemplary as is his volunteer nature providing help wherever he can.

Jessica Moore

(Athlete, Basketball, Volleyball, Track, Colony High School, Wasilla)

Jessica Moore is an outstanding female multi-sport athlete. She is best known for her basketball accomplishments but her success in volleyball and track are outstanding as well. She was the 4A Triple Jump Champion and was a member of two Region III champion volleyball teams.

Jessica's athletic ability and successes are many. During her high school career she won state championships in volleyball and basketball, earned All State and All Conference basketball honors for three years, She was MVP in two of those years, she was chosen as Gatorade Player of the year as a junior and senior and was a Parade All-American her senior year.

After high school Jessica became a standout basketball player for the University of Connecticut. While there, she played on three National Championship teams. She currently plays basketball in the WNBA. In 2009 she played for the WNBA Championship with the Indiana Fever. When Jessica returns to Alaska, she gives back to the community through her public appearances, clinics and visits with the high school teams.

Kikkan Randall

(Athlete, XCR, XCS, track, East High School, Anchorage)

You would be hard pressed to find an Alaskan that wasn't a Kikkan Randall fan. Her successes' are well known and her demeanor has made Alaska proud. Her high school career was certainly an indication of more to come. She participated in XCR, XCS and track all four years of her high school career. During that time she captured three state titles in XCR, seven track championships (800, 1600 3200m) and runner up ski meister. She was named MVP in all three sports and maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her high school career.

Kikkan took up skiing as a serious conditioner for her promising XCR career only to find more success in skiing. Since high school, Kikkan has competed in 3 Olympic competitions and earned a silver medal in the 2009 World Championships. She has been identified as the best female USA skier ever. Kikkan is very visible in community ski events, clinics, public appearances and as an advocate for a healthy lifestyle.

Sarah Sullivan Afoa

(Athlete, Basketball, Volleyball, Track, Dimond High School, Anchorage)

Sarah was a prolific female athlete, claiming letters in three varsity sports over her four year high school career. She earned 28 State Championship medals across all three sports: volleyball, basketball and track. She earned two state basketball championships, one volleyball state championship, placed 2nd in the triple jump and set a state mile relay record with her teammates. She was named to numerous All State teams and was recognized as the Basketball Player of the Year. She also received the Official's Association Scholarship Award.

Sarah played volleyball at Northern Idaho University and finished her college career at UAA. Sarah has coached both youth volleyball and basketball teams. Currently, Sarah is a kindergarten teacher at Gladys Wood Elementary School.

Woody Wenstrom,

(Coach, XCR, XCS, West Valley, Fairbanks)

Woody is considered the coach with the most wins in Fairbanks, although he never really kept records of his wins and losses. He coached at Lathrop, North Pole and West Valley High school from 1975-1989 and returned to coach again from 1995-2005. Over the first 14 years of coaching, he won 29 Region IV titles including 11 straight girls XCR championships.

Woody not only excelled at coaching but in the classroom. He was selected as a BP Teacher of Excellence, a Presidential Awardee in Math and Science and recognized by his peers and students with Teacher of the Year awards. Woody was always a positive influence, provided great advice and really cared for the students he touched. One of his athlete's was quoted in the West Valley Yearbook as saying, " We won Mr. Wenstrom a team championship, but he has given us a love for the sport."

James Mason

(Official, Football, basketball, baseball, volleyball, softball, Anchorage)

Jim Mason officiated youth sports for 44 years with 27 of those years in Alaska. He was a certified official in Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, Football and Basketball. He officiated both girls and boys events and was selected as a top official many times. He was selected to officiate the girls and boys Alaska State 4A Basketball Championships in the same year—the only official so selected. Jim has officiated more games than any other AK official. Mr. Mason was also selected for the National Federation of High Schools Hall of Fame as a contributing official. He is the only Alaskan admitted to the National Hall of Fame.

Jim was a leader in many of the Officials Associations. He mentored new officials and coaches, had a witty sense of humor, and was always willing to communicate with the student or coach to clarify a point. He wanted everyone to learn from the experience of playing the game.

Jim Mason passed away from complications of cancer in 2007.