

George LaVelle

Class of 1946

One needs only to ask old time Beacon residents and sports fans who they feel was the best basketball player in the history of the school, and the answer will be a resounding... "George LaVelle".

Although debatable, for George LaVelle's time, he was the most complete ball player in every sense of the word. He was a full court player who had grace and great body control. He scored double figures in every game. He led the team in assists and steals and was an unselfish leader on the teams he played for. In his senior year he set the school scoring record of 222 points in 17 games.

Despite his basketball greatness, George elected not to attend college but instead pursued a musical career playing the saxophone and clarinet. George became an accomplished professional musician. George LaVelle died on April 21, 1998.

Floyd M. Jones

Class of 1949

"42 Years as an Educator and a Coach"

Floyd Jones is an honorary inductee into the Hall of Fame for his contributions to athletics in the state of New York. Floyd served as the Assistant Director of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association for 16 years.

As Assistant Director, Floyd was in charge of sanctioning and coordinating state championships, rules publications and administering the Good Sports Program. He has been responsible for improving policy and procedures for over 29 Championships, including 10 which were initiated during his tenure.

At Beacon, Floyd lettered in basketball, football and baseball. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in health and physical education at Brockport in 1954 and an administrative certificate at Ithaca. For over 42 years Floyd was a physical education teacher, coach and athletic administrator. During Floyd's basketball coaching career he accumulated a 263-133 win-loss record. New York State athletes owe a huge debt of gratitude to Floyd M. Jones for his dedication and sacrifice on their behalf.

Richard Kolakoski

Class of 1991

For three years Richard played varsity basketball and football. Richard was the quarterback for the 1990 football team which won its first League Championship in over forty years. Richard is being inducted into the Hall of Fame for his accomplishments as a baseball player.

Richard played 3 years of varsity baseball during which time the "Bulldogs" won three League Championships, appeared in two Sectional Finals and won a Sectional Championship in 1991. Richard was known as the "Butterfly" for his ability to run down fly balls in the outfield.

Richard had a .367 career batting average, and a .614 career slugging percentage. He belted 13 home runs, 19 doubles, had 78 runs scored and 90 RBI's.

In his senior year Richard earned Poughkeepsie Journal All-Star, Hudson Valley All-Star, All Section and All League honors. He batted .324 and had 42 RBI's. Richard was a major contributor to the baseball program for three years which culminated in his team finally capturing the elusive Sectional Championship.

Krisanne Rokitowski

Class of 1989

Krisanne Rokitowski is being inducted into the Hall of Fame for dominance as softball pitcher. She was a pitcher for the "Lady Bulldogs" for two years. During this time, Krisanne pitched every game including a span of five games in five days. She compiled a 46-8 career record.

As a senior pitcher, Krisanne led the 1989 softball team to a New York State Public High School Athletic Association Championship. That year she had an ERA of 1.56 and a 23-3 record. In 157 innings pitched, she struck out 108 batters and only walked 37. At the plate she batted .350 with 22 RBI's.

Krisanne holds school records for most wins in a season (23) and most career wins (46). She was a member of a team that won two consecutive Sectional Championships (1988 / 89) and three League Championships (1987 / 88 / 89).

James "BUBBA" Faison

Class of 1993

James "Bubba" Faison played varsity football and baseball for two years. He is best remembered for his accomplishments as a wrestler for the "Bulldogs". He is Beacon's only wrestler to reach the century mark for career wins.

"Bubba" was a varsity wrestler for five years. He currently holds the school record for wins with 107. He had a career wrestling record of 107-24-2. Throughout his career he appeared in 22 championship finals of tournaments. He won 10 tournament championships including a 1993 Divisional Championship. He placed fourth in the 1993 Sectional Tournament.

"Bubba" earned the team's most valuable player award, and All League (5 years), All Section (4 years), Poughkeepsie Journal All-Star (2 years), and Evening News All-Star (2 Years) honors.

"Bubba" was a major contributor to the team's three League Championships, two Divisional Championships and a third place finish in the Sectional Tournament.

Joe Valentin

Class of 1992

Joe Valentin earned an impressive 11 varsity letters during his years at BHS (4 in football, 4 in wrestling and 3 in baseball). He earned All League and All Section honors in baseball. Although Joe excelled in all three sports, he is best remembered for his exploits as a wrestler for the "Bulldogs".

In 1992, Joe became Beacon's first Section One Wrestling Champion in over 20 years by winning the 177 lbs. weight class. At the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Championships in Syracuse, Joe suffered an opening round loss but eventually went on to win four consecutive matches and place third. He remains the only Beacon wrestler to place at the states.

Joe was the team's Most Valuable Wrestler, the Evening News Wrestler of the Year and a Poughkeepsie Journal All Star. For three years he earned All League and All Section honors. He holds the school record for most wins in a season with 32. He won 9 tournament championships during his career and had a career record of 86-13.

Joe was a big part of the wrestling team's two League Championships, and during his magical 1992 season he led the team to its first ever Divisional Championship.

1991 Baseball Team

Section Champions

The 1991 team captured Beacon's first baseball Sectional Championship. After losing in the sectional finals three out of the previous four years, the "Bulldogs" swept Harrison by the scores of 9-6 and 6-0 in a best of three championship finals. They went on to the Regional Finals where they were beaten by Warwick 1 1 -6.

The team compiled a 21-5 record and won its 5th consecutive League Championship. Pitching and offense were the key ingredients for the "Bulldogs". The team had an ERA of 3.41 and struck out 202 batters. At the plate, the team had a batting average of .393, belted 30 homerans and had 295 runs scored.

The team was led by the pitching of Brian Plimley, the hitting of Richard Kolakoski, the speed of Steven Hernandez, and the "slick" catching of Jose Santiago.