

*Seneca Valley  
Sports Hall of Fame*



*2011 Induction Banquet  
September 24, 2011*

# ***Seneca Valley Sports Hall of Fame Annual Banquet and Induction Program***

September 24, 2011  
Seneca Valley Senior High, Harmony, PA

## ***Banquet***

Banquet Doors Open	Senior High	6:00 P.M.
Welcome to Banquet	Mr. Mickey Flood (SV '90)	6:30 P.M.
Invocation	Mr. Larry Wendereusz, Jr. (SV '92)	
Dinner	Senior High Cafeteria	

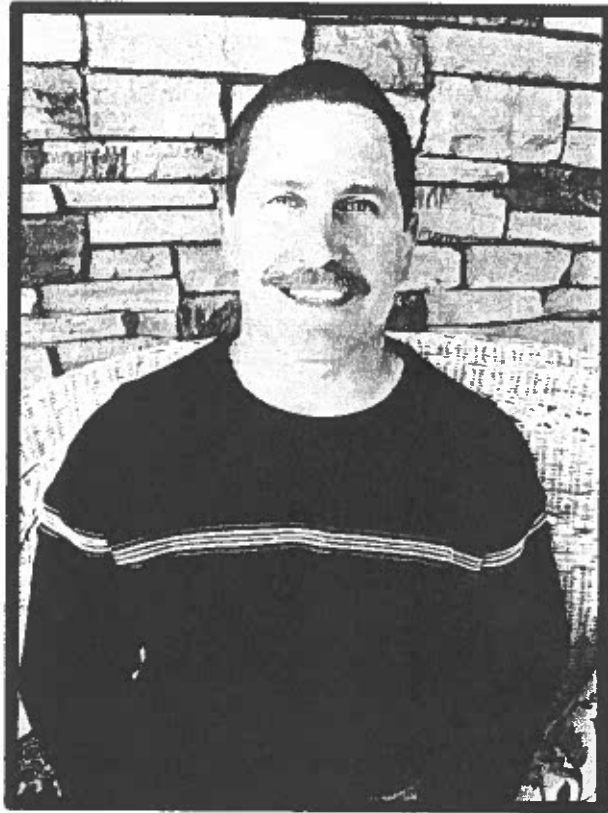
## ***Hall of Fame Inductions***

Induction Ceremony	Senior High Auditorium	7:45 P.M.
Welcome	Mr. Greg Caprara, SV Athletic Director	8:00 P.M.
Welcoming Remarks	Dr. Tracy Vitale, SV Superintendent of Schools	

<b>Mark J. Barron (SV '84)</b>	Introduced by Robert Hornick (SV '87)
<b>Matthew Barron (SV '85)</b>	Introduced by Robert Hornick (SV '87)
<b>S. Jason Conti (SV '91)</b>	Introduced by Max DeVinney (Class of 2016) and Katy Raykovics (Class of 2012)
<b>Kari Bonomo Creehan (SV '94)</b>	Introduced by Jennifer Wolford (SV '94)
<b>Megan Gilliland (SV '01)</b>	Introduced by Wayne Roccia (SV '68 + Coach)
<b>Bill Miller (SV Coach)</b>	Introduced by Jim Cupp (SV Coach)
<b>Sean O'Shea (SV '91)</b>	Introduced by Tim O'Shea (Sean's father)

*Congratulations to the 2011 Seneca Valley Sports Hall of Fame Inductees!*

**Mark J. Barron**  
**Seneca Valley, Class of 1984**  
**Wrestling, Cross Country, Track and Field**



Mark J. Barron was born on July 4, 1966 to Thomas and Anna Barron. He and his four brothers and one sister grew up in Cranberry Township, PA, where Mark was a 1984 graduate of Seneca Valley. During his years as an S. V. Raider, Mark participated in three sports: cross country, wrestling, and track and field. He earned 11 varsity letters and numerous awards as a top student-athlete throughout his high school career.

A four-year varsity letter winner in cross country, Mark qualified two times for individual state competition at the PIAA meet and ranked high each year in the WPIAL. He was co-captain of the 1983 undefeated and PIAA Championship Cross Country team from Seneca Valley. He enjoyed running so much that he also joined the track and field team in the spring season after wrestling competition ended. During his middle and long distance running career for Seneca Valley Track and Field, Mark earned three varsity letters.

In addition to his success in running, Mark excelled as a wrestler, another outstanding member of the Barron wrestling family. Mark started to stand out at age 12 in 1978 when he won the Pennsylvania State Wrestling Championship. He also became the National Champion in 1978, a year when he posted a 63 - 2 record. He continued to wrestle and achieved more success each year. In 1983 at age 17, Mark won as the State Champion in Greco-Roman wrestling and represented Pennsylvania in the National Greco-Roman Tournament that same year, placing in the top ten. He received the Most Outstanding Wrestler Award for Pennsylvania Freestyle Wrestling in 1983 for the most points earned.

Mark was the 1984 Division Wrestling Champion, the 1984 Regional Runner-Up, and placed 5th in the PIAA State Championship meet that same season. He received the Seneca Valley Most Valuable Wrestler Award as a senior at the conclusion of the 1984 season.

Mark is the youngest of the three brothers, including Matt and Rich, who combined to become the first three brothers in Pennsylvania history to ever win 100 wrestling matches each during interscholastic competition. After 25 years, Mark still holds two prominent school records: the Seneca Valley wrestling record for most wins at 125 and the record for the most team points at 415 in wrestling.

Mark is married to Angela Barron, and they reside in Huntington, PA. They have four children: Asia (21), Rayna (19), Adam (10), and Taylor (8). Mark is employed at Geisinger Medical Center in State College, PA as a Medical Technologist.

**Matthew Barron**  
**Seneca Valley, Class of 1985**  
**Wrestling, Cross Country, Track and Field**



Matt Barron was born July 4, 1966, in Pittsburgh and was raised in Cranberry Township with his four brothers and one sister. His father, Tom Barron, was the founder of the Seneca Valley Youth Wrestling program and was its head coach for over 20 years. Needless to say, the Barron brothers were always involved in wrestling and many other sports. Anna Barron, his mother, was an avid sports enthusiast. She never missed a single match, race, or meet throughout Matt's whole athletic career.

Athletics was one of Matt's favorite hobbies during his high school years. He was Seneca Valley's first ever 12-time varsity letter winner. In track and field, Matt was awarded four varsity letters for running in the mile and two mile races. He was a two-time regional qualifier in track and field for the Raiders. Cross country yielded him four more varsity letters. Matt was a two-time PIAA qualifier and a three-time WPIAL qualifier, and in 1983, Matt and his team were undefeated and captured the WPIAL team championship.

regionally. His team continued its unparalleled success that year by winning the PIAA team championship for the state. The 1983 team was given the honor of being listed as one of America's Top 20 cross country teams. Matt qualified twice as an individual for the state meet, and during his junior year he earned 20th place at states.

The last four varsity letters earned by Matt were from his achievements in wrestling. With his father having started the youth wrestling program and having four brothers to practice with, it is understandable that Matt would excel in this sport. He took three sectional championships, qualified for states two times, and won both freestyle and Greco-Roman state championships during his years at Seneca Valley. Matt and his brothers, Rich and Mark, were the first trio of brothers in Pennsylvania history to win 100 varsity matches each.

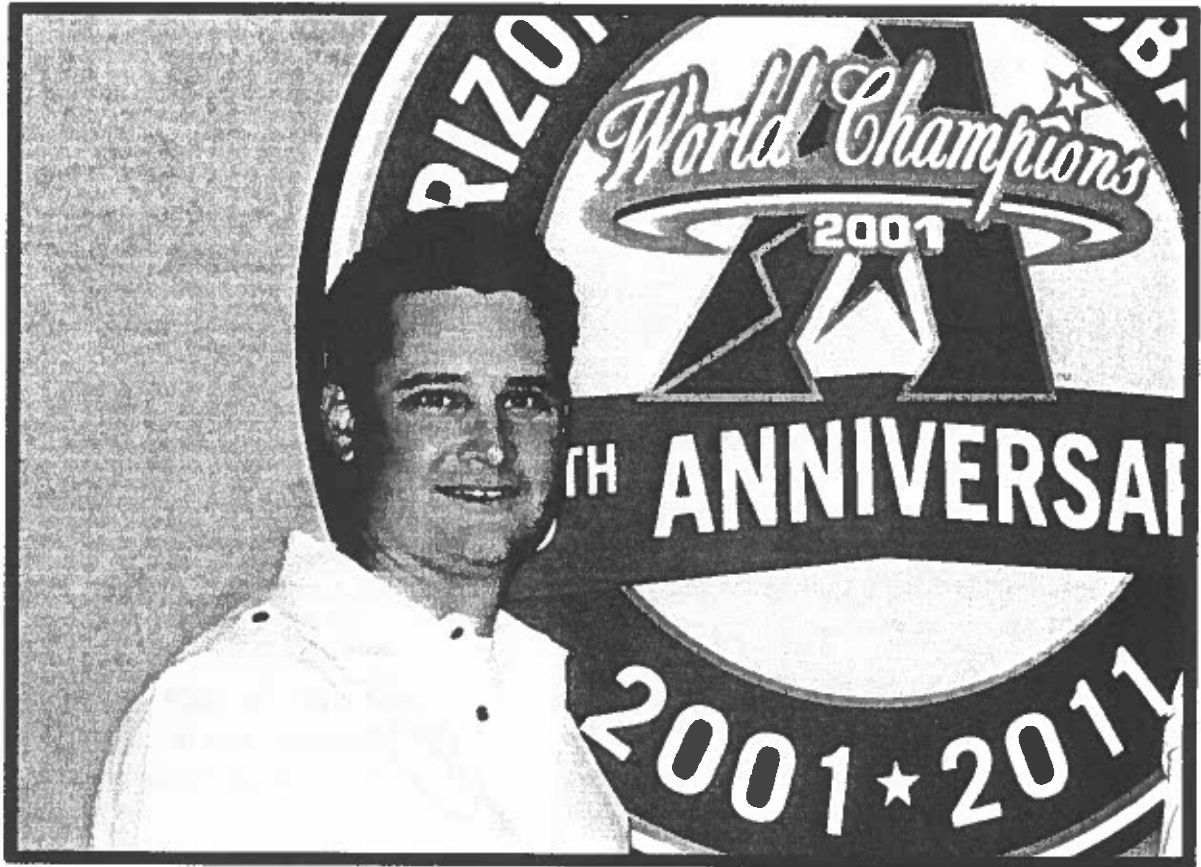
These numerous achievements earned him the honor of being recognized for induction into the Seneca Valley Hall of Fame. "I was very humbled to have been voted the 'Most Athletic Person' my senior year," said Matt, "but I have made it my duty to pass on my dedication and enthusiasm for sports to all children and youth."

It is safe to say that Matt Barron has gone far since his days at Seneca Valley High School. After graduating in 1985 from high school, Matt continued his education at Clarion University where he graduated with honors with a B.S.E. in Earth and Space Science. Currently living in Colorado, he is a dedicated family man. Matt lives with his two children and recently celebrated the arrival of his first grandson. Matt is both a firefighter and a hazardous materials technician for the Colorado Springs Fire Department. In his spare time he, with a group of other dedicated individuals, founded the Falcon Youth Wrestling Program where he coached for eight years and was the vice president for two years. Matt "couldn't be happier" with the way his life has turned out. The athletic achievements he received during his high school years have carried over into his adult life and continue to give him pride in both himself, and his Alma Mater, Seneca Valley.

# **S. Jason Conti**

## **Seneca Valley, Class of 1993**

### **Baseball, Football, Basketball**



Jason Conti, a 1993 graduate and multi-sport athlete from Seneca Valley, enjoyed parts of five seasons as a Major League Baseball player with the Arizona Diamondbacks, the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, the Milwaukee Brewers, and the Texas Rangers. Perhaps the highlight of his baseball career was playing for the Diamondbacks in 2000 and 2001, and he was voted a player of share to earn a 2001 World Series ring.

Coming up through school at Seneca Valley, Jason participated in many sports, but eventually focused upon football and baseball. While playing football for former Seneca Valley Head Coach Terry Henry, Jason was an outstanding defensive back for the Raiders. Although the football team did not win any championships during the years that Jason was a starter, he did play football during the decade when Raider football teams experienced their best years of winning against respected opponents. He twice received honors as a top North Hills Defensive Back, and in his junior year the Raiders went to the WPIAL playoffs. Jason also played basketball for Seneca Valley from 7th grade through his junior year. After that season, he spent the winter months of his senior year prepping for baseball season.

Playing baseball throughout his life, Jason made his mark in Seneca Valley baseball history while playing four years for former head coach Dave Florie. Jason was a star baseball player for the Raiders and produced equally great statistics as an offensive threat and a defensive fielder. His senior year at Seneca Valley, Jason played shortstop. He led the team that year in batting average with .477, RBIs with 20, hits with 30, and runs scored with 26. He also led the team in homeruns and doubles and 10 stolen bases. In looking back, Jason observed how his years as an athlete at Seneca Valley were key years for the football and the baseball program. Both of those teams enjoyed championship success prior to and immediately after Jason's tenure at S.V. Jason is remembered for his confidence and outgoing personality on the diamond as well as his incredible talent.

After high school, Jason played Division I baseball at the University of Pittsburgh where he enjoyed a stellar career and continued to improve. A proud achievement was reached in 1996, when he was drafted by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 32nd round of the amateur draft. From there he left Pitt and spent four years playing Minor League Baseball for several teams and at AA and AAA levels. He received numerous All-Star honors between 1997 and 2001 for the Midwest, Texas, and Pacific Leagues as an outfielder.

His first Major League Baseball game was June 29, 2000 for the Arizona Diamondbacks. His best season of major league production was in 2002 when he played 78 games for Tampa Bay, batting .257. Jason also played for the Milwaukee Brewers and the Texas Rangers, appearing in 188 major league games and batting .238 with six home runs and 47 RBIs. Although he was an offensive standout earlier in his baseball career, Jason was better known for his stellar defensive play in the majors. His arm strength, range, and quickness were his best assets as a fielder.

Jason decided to end his professional baseball career after the 2007 season. He then transferred his college credits from Pitt to Arizona State University, and in 2010, Jason Conti completed his college degree in communications. He is eager to teach young players the game of baseball either as an instructor or coach in the future.

Jason is married to Cari Conti, and they reside in Chandler, Arizona. He earned a total of eight varsity letters in various sports during his years as a Seneca Valley Raider.



**Kari Bonomo Creehan**  
**Seneca Valley, Class of 1994**  
**Track and Field, Cross Country**



Kari Bonomo Creehan enjoyed phenomenal success throughout her four years at Seneca Valley High School in the sport of track and field. She was a four-year letter winner in track and field and received the honor of being named the Top Female Athlete in two of her years of participation. During her freshman and senior years, Kari also ran for the S. V. Raiders cross country team for fun and to stay in shape for high jumping in the spring.

Kari became a high jumper during the early years of her track and field career and came to not only love the event, but to excel at it. She still holds the middle school record for high jump, which she set in 8th grade in 1990. She held the 400-meter dash record for middle school track and field for 20 years as well. In 1991 as a freshmen, Kari placed 1st in the WPIAL for the high jump event and 7th at the PIAA State Championship meet. As a junior, Kari finished 3rd in high jumping at WPIALs, followed by achieving 4th place at the PIAA meet the same year. Kari capped her track and field career in her senior year by again

finishing 3rd at WPIALs in 1994. At the PIAA meet that year, the competition in the high jump was incredible and Kari earned another PIAA award for 7th place in the high jump.

Kari was recruited by Allegheny College to high jump for the track and field team, which she did for two years. Then, she transferred to James Madison University where she received her bachelor's degree in 1998. During her college career in track and field, Kari was named an NCAA Division III All-American in 1995 and again in 1996. She competed and placed at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Nationals twice, placing 2nd in the high jump in 1995 and 5th in the same event in 1996. Kari also earned two trips to the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Nationals, placing 6th in 1995 and 2nd in 1996 while representing Allegheny College. In 2000, Kari completed her Masters in Education degree from Slippery Rock University.

Kari is married to Kevin Creehan. They have three children: Ryan (9), Carson (6), and Evelyn (1). They currently reside in Blacksburg, VA where Kari is employed by Virginia Tech University as a Learning Specialist in the Athletic Department and Kevin is President of Schultz-Creehan Holdings, Inc.

**Megan Gilliland**  
**Seneca Valley, Class of 2001**  
**Cross Country, Swimming, Track and Field**



Megan Gilliland graduated from Seneca Valley in 2001 as a successful three-sport student-athlete. During her years as an S. V. Raider, she ran on the cross country team and the track and field team and was a member of the swimming team. Megan achieved two impressive Seneca Valley firsts during her high school years. She had the honor to be the first female athlete to earn 12 varsity letters. Also, during her junior year, Megan qualified for and competed in the PIAA state meets for all three of her sports, and she was the first person in school history to do so.

Throughout her high school years, Megan held several school records, including the Seneca Valley school record for cross country (3.1 miles) and the course record at S.V., the 400-meter Freestyle Relay and 200-meter Freestyle Relay records in swimming, and the 3200-meter Relay record in track and field. She was chosen as the co-captain of the cross country and swimming teams her senior year; in track and field she was awarded the Top Female Athlete Award in each of her four years. Megan was also a nominee for the Wendy's Heisman Scholar-Athlete Award her senior year.

The Seneca Valley Swimming and Diving team further honored Megan at the conclusion of her senior season with the 2001 David Ketterer Memorial Award. The accolades continued for Megan when she was named Most Valuable Player for Track and Field and for Cross Country the same year. The Seneca Valley Sherman Award, given annually to the Top Female Athlete in the school was bestowed upon Megan to culminate her high school career.

Megan actively participated in many leadership and service activities at Seneca Valley, including Student Council Ambassador, President of the Class of 2001 for three years, and numerous school clubs that offered service to the community. Another honor that Megan received was to be named Senior Prom Queen. The Ed Latagliata Principal's Positive Personality Award was granted to Megan during her senior year.

Megan continued her education at Penn State University where she was recruited to run on the cross country and the track and field teams for the Nittany Lions. She was named captain of the teams in her senior year and loved the challenge of this new level of competition. Megan graduated cum laude in 2005 from PSU where she majored in Broadcast Journalism and minored in Communications, Arts, and Sciences. Her first job was as a reporter and weekend anchor for WTAJ Altoona for two years. She then moved to Baltimore where she is currently a morning anchor and reporter and the co-host of *Good Day Baltimore* on WBFF Fox 45.

These numerous awards and achievements highlight the talents and competitive spirit of student-athlete Megan Gilliland, however most of all, Megan enjoyed every second of participation in her chosen sports. Any and every success that she has had, she owes to her family. Her mom and dad were at every single meet in her career, and her older sister Brooke paved the way in sports and encouraged Megan's success. Megan Gilliland is engaged to Jon Pearson, whom she will marry on October 15, 2011.

# **Bill Miller**

## **Seneca Valley Coach from 1964-1975**

### **Swimming**



Bill Miller was born and raised in Butler, Pennsylvania and graduated from Butler High School in 1959. In 1964 he graduated from Slippery Rock University and earned a Masters degree in 1974. Bill initiated the Boys' Swimming and Diving program during the 1964-65 school year at Seneca Valley High School on an intramural basis. The sport moved to varsity status for the 1965-66 season.

During his tenure at Seneca Valley, Coach Miller's athletes compiled a 110 - 23 dual meet record. In 1975, his Boys' Swimming and Diving team became the first team in Seneca Valley history to win a WPIAL Team Championship. After the end of the 1975 season and school year, Bill transferred to Norwin High School where he coached and taught for a few years. At Norwin, his winning ways continued as his swimmers achieved a 51-17 dual meet record.

In 1978, Bill Miller was hired as the Head Men's Swimming and Diving Coach at Clarion University. During his 22 years as men's coach, his athletes amassed a 154-38 dual meet record, and he was considered one of the premier coaches in the PSAC and NCAA during that time. His men's teams won 16 PSAC team championships and placed second at the PSAC meet the other 6 years he coached. Clarion's men's swimming teams finished 12 times in the top five at the NCAA D-II Nationals, including second place in 1992.

Clarion named Bill Miller as the Golden Eagles' Women's Head Swimming and Diving Coach in 1987. During his 13 years as the women's head coach, his teams had a 90 - 20 dual meet record. They were the PSAC team champions 12 times and placed in the top five at the NCAA D-II Nationals during 11 of his seasons as head coach, including second place in 1993. Bill was the PSAC Men's Coach of the Year six times and PSAC Women's Coach of the Year seven times. In 1992, Bill Miller was named the NCAA Division II Coach of the Year.

Other individual honors for Bill include:

- 1986 Represented the U.S. State Department for one month as guest swimming coach in Cairo, Egypt
- 1988 Inducted into the Butler County Sports Hall of Fame
- 1989 Represented the U.S. State Department for one month as guest swimming coach in Tegucigalpa, Honduras
- 1992 NCAA Men's Coach of the Year
- 1997 Inducted into the Western Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame
- 1999 Dick Steadman Award from College Swimming Coaches Association
- 2005 Inducted into the Slippery Rock University Sports Hall of Fame
- 2006 Inducted into the Clarion University Sports Hall of Fame

When Bill was inducted into the Clarion University Hall of Fame, he was lauded for his career: "Miller, formerly a member of the NCAA Rules Committee and Chairman for NCAA D-II Swimming, has always been a very well-liked head coach among his peers because of his dedication to the student athletes, his honesty and integrity for the sport of swimming, and his always positive approach to life."

Coach Bill Miller and his wife, Judith, reside in Clarion where they own and operate The Clarion House Bed and Breakfast. They have three sons, William, Richard, and Nathan, and three grandsons, Tyler, Ian, and Luke.

# **Sean O'Shea**

## **Seneca Valley, Class of 1991**

### **Football, Baseball**



Sean O'Shea played quarterback and defensive back for the Seneca Valley Raiders in 1989, 1990, and 1991. As a starter, he compiled a winning record of 26 - 5 - 2 over those three seasons. Sean quarterbacked the 1989 junior varsity team to a 10 - 0 record, and then he led the 1990 varsity football team to Seneca Valley's first and only appearance in the WPIAL Football Championship game. Sean remains the only quarterback in the school history to lead the football team to a title game.

During his senior year, Sean was elected Captain, and after the 1991 season, Sean was recognized and honored by the football coaching staff as the team's Most Valuable Player. In both his junior and senior football seasons, Sean was honored by the *Pittsburgh Press* and the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* as a two-time selection to the Fabulous 22 North team. In addition, Sean was chosen as an All-Conference quarterback following the 1989 and the 1990 campaigns.

Sean's athletic abilities earned him a scholarship to Westminster College. At Westminster he developed into one of the most accomplished quarterbacks in the school's rich football history. Starting as a sophomore at Westminster, Sean led his 1992 team to

the NAIA National playoff semi-finals. Following up on the success of that season, Sean then led the Titans to back-to-back National Championship games, winning the title in 1994.

In 1994, Sean was chosen as Captain of his team and after the stellar success of that season, he was named football's Most Valuable Player. Sean is in the record book at Westminster where he is second in all-time passing yards and second in all-time passing touchdowns. A two-time All-American at Westminster, Sean graduated after achieving a 32 - 6 record as the starting quarterback. After graduation, Sean went on to have a free agent tryout with the Pittsburgh Steelers of the National Football League in 1995. More recently, Sean O'Shea was inducted into the Westminster College Hall of Fame in 2004.

Sean is married to Tricia (Wilson) O'Shea. They have four children: Shannon (9), Abaigeal (7), Sean (5), and Rory (2). They reside in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania.



# ***SENECA VALLEY SPORTS HALL OF FAME***

<b>2008</b>	<b>Rich Barron</b>	<b>SV '82</b>
	<b>Tim Kearns</b>	<b>SV '70</b>
	<b>Ken Lockey</b>	<b>SV Coach for 34 years</b>
	<b>Gus Nicoll</b>	<b>SV '84</b>
	<b>George "Doc" O'Shea</b>	<b>SV Trainer</b>
	<b>Wayne Roccia</b>	<b>SV '68 + SV Coach</b>
	<b>Dan Swingle</b>	<b>SV '83</b>
	<b>Mark Van Dyke</b>	<b>SV '75</b>
	<b>Van Walker</b>	<b>SV '68</b>
	<b>Martha Fox Weygandt</b>	<b>SV '77</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>Beth Black</b>	<b>SV '77</b>
	<b>Wayne Bloom</b>	<b>SV '78</b>
	<b>Denny Britt</b>	<b>SV '67</b>
	<b>Dave Florie</b>	<b>SV Coach</b>
	<b>Richard Lane</b>	<b>SV Coach and Trainer</b>
	<b>Norman McMurray</b>	<b>SV Contributor</b>
	<b>2010</b>	<b>Thomas Heckendorn</b>
<b>Lynnette K. McBride</b>		<b>SV '87</b>
<b>Jose Raymundo</b>		<b>SV '89</b>
<b>Amanda Smith</b>		<b>SV '2002</b>
<b>Charles C. Stevens</b>		<b>SV '65</b>
<b>Dennis Stewart</b>		<b>SV '68 + SV Coach</b>

## ***Acknowledgements and Appreciations***

The Seneca Valley Sports Hall of Fame  
would like to extend sincere thanks to

# **Garman Murray Insurance**

for annually sponsoring  
the Seneca Valley  
Sports Hall of Fame  
and Banquet.

### **Seneca Valley Hall of Fame Executive Committee**

Mr. Greg Caprara (SV Athletic Director)  
Mr. Ken Lockey (SV Coach)  
Mr. Wayne Roccia (SV '68 + Coach)  
Mr. Thomas Heckendorn (SV Coach and Athletic Director)  
Mr. Steve Mayes (SV Coach)  
Miss Susan L. Ennis (SV '78 + Coach)

### **Seneca Valley Hall of Fame Banquet Committee**

Ms. Megan Meeder (SV '96)  
Mr. Mickey Flood (SV '90)  
Mr. Larry Wendereusz, Jr. (SV '92)

### **Sponsorships**

Mr. Steve Mayes (SV Coach)