

Myra Gelband

Bellport High School Class Of 1967



Myra Gelband was the Salutatorian of her class at Bellport High School. While she was a student she was the secretary to a new environmental organization called the Brookhaven Town Natural Resources Committee in 1965. In 1967 this organization evolved into the now nationally renowned Environmental Defense Fund. Ms. Gelband's writing ability helped many in the Brookhaven Town Natural Resources Committee clarify their advocacy and foreshadowed her role at *Sports Illustrated*.

Four years later Ms. Gelband graduated from the University of Rochester with a B.A in English Literature and Biology and was the first to pioneer a double major in biology and literature. She earned a special certificate in Forestry and Natural Resources from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Ms. Gelband spent nearly 30 years as a reporter, writer and senior editor for *Sports Illustrated* covering a wide range of sports and issues with a particular emphasis on the environment, golf, track and field, sports medicine and culture.

Myra Gelband has served on the boards of numerous community and national organizations including 15 years as a Trustee of the University of Rochester, where she is now a life trustee. Since retiring from *Sports Illustrated*, Ms. Gelband has continued to work as a freelance writer and editorial consultant. She and her husband, David Wilson have a son and a daughter and live in Rowayton, Connecticut.