

Ten To Be Inducted Into First LaSalle High School Hall of Fame

2009 Induction Is Planned for Fall

By David Latva

Ten people will be inducted into the first LaSalle High School Sports Hall of Fame during ceremonies Sunday, December 28, at the Driftwood Restaurant in St. Ignace. Inductees will be introduced Monday, December 29, between the first two games of the Saints Holiday Boys Basketball Tournament.

Coaches Bud Vecellio, the late Jim MacDonald, Dr. Herbert Hamel, and Tom Hamel will inducted into the Distinguished Service Award Hall of Fame. Barb LaTour (girls basketball), Colleen Colegrove (track), Wade Huskey (wrestling), the late Leroy "Jumbo" Soeltner (football, basketball) Barry Pierson (football), and Ed Lester Sr. (football, basketball) will be inducted into the LHS Sports Hall of Fame.

Vecellio and MacDonald compiled more than 50 victories to lead the Saints football team from 1950 to 1961, which included six-man and 11-man football.

Dr. Hamel was a physician in St. Ignace and the team doctor for the Saints team for more than 30 years.

Mr. Hamel has been the athletic trainer at LaSalle High School for the past 22 years.

LaTour (1976) was the first 1,000-point scorer for girls basketball. Colegrove (1986) still holds the Class C Upper Peninsula mark in the 200



LaSalle High School superintendent Robert Youngren presents number 21 to Barry Pierson after the school retired his jersey following the Saints perfect season of 8-0 in 1965.

meter dash in 26.2 from the 1986 season, and the LaSalle High School record in the 100 dash in 12.4 from 1985.

Huskey still holds the all-time winning (86.8) percentage record and was the first Saints wrestler to win an Upper Peninsula individual state championship.

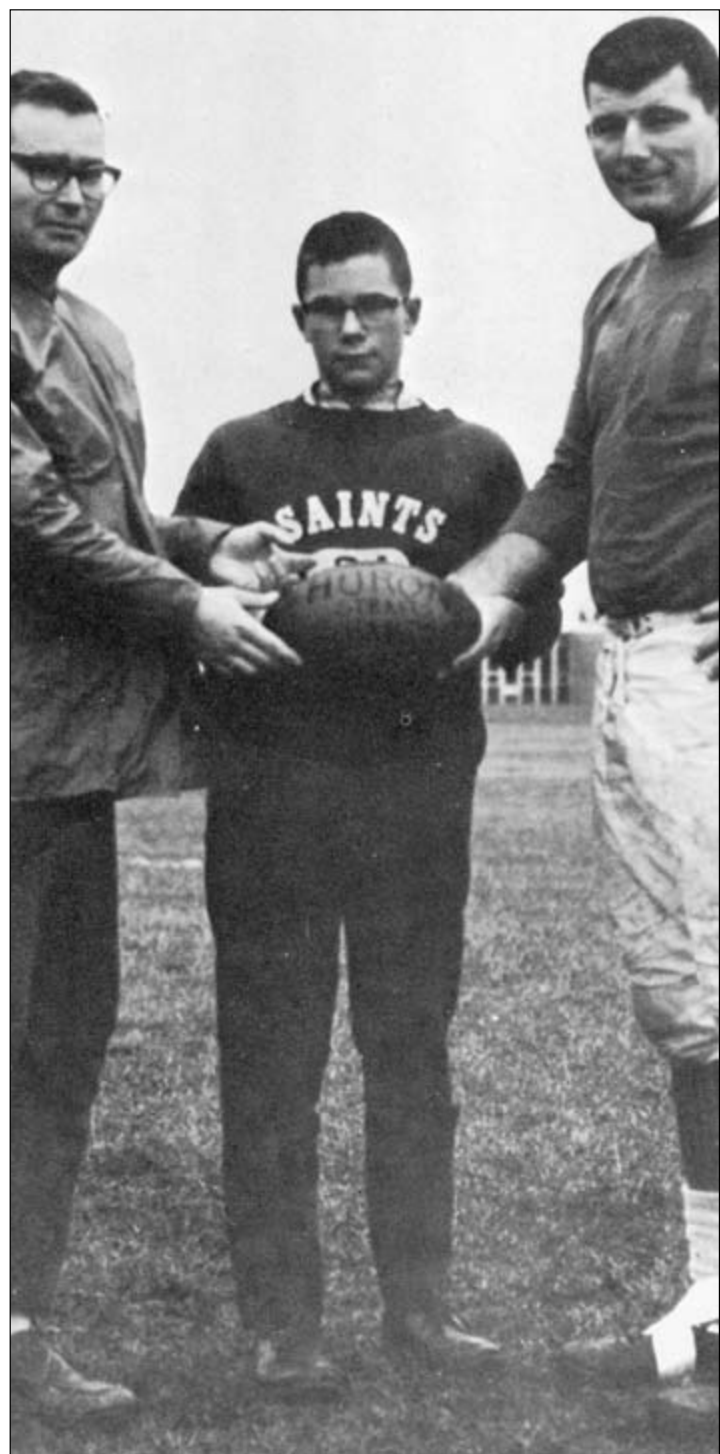
Soeltner, a 1949 graduate of LHS, excelled in football, basketball, and baseball while earning all-state honors.

Pierson (1966) received All-American, All-State, and

Upper Peninsula Back of the Year on the gridiron.

Lester (1973) was an outstanding athlete in football and basketball while earning All-State and All-Upper Peninsula honors in both sports.

To purchase tickets for the awards banquet Sunday, December 28 at 5 p.m., contact Doug Ingalls at St. Ignace Middle School at 643-7822 or at home at 643-8587. Tickets cost \$25. Seating is limited.



Tom Hamel (center) with Head Coach Art Haege (right) and teacher Tom Huggins. Hamel started his athletic trainer career while a student at LaSalle High School and has been a teacher and Saints trainer for 22 years.

Looking Back: 1940-41 Saints Team



The St. Ignace Saints 1940-41 girls basketball team includes (not in order) Phyliss Ney, June Gustafson, Shirley Walker, Marietta McLoughlin, Coach Neibel, Betty Brown, Adia Winkelman, Dorothy Elmhurst, and Lillian Johnson.

Trojans' C.J. Paquin Hopes for Possible 4th Final Four

Senior C.J. Paquin is going into his final season at Cedarville with a great deal of success on his resume for the Trojans, with All-State, All-Upper Peninsula, All-EUPC, All-Area honors, and he's been a member of three final four teams.

The three final four teams that Paquin has been part of include one state championship squad while the Trojans have compiled a 75-4 overall record.

"Not many players in the state have the accomplishments that C.J. has put together with three final four trips and, with some luck, a possible fourth appearance at the Breslin Center at Michigan State University," said Trojans Coach Dave Duncan.

The Trojans earned their first trip to the Class D final four during the 2005-2006 season with a 24-3 mark before losing to Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian in the semifinals. The Defenders went on to win the state title.

Cedarville took the game one step farther during the 2006-2007 season with a perfect 26-0 record that included wins over Crystal Falls-Forest Park in the quarterfinals, Bellaire in the semifinals, and a win over Tri-Unity Christian in the Class D championship game. Paquin



C.J. Paquin

averaged 14 points per game, four steals and assists, and added 65 rebounds during his sophomore season.

The Trojans regrouped and posted 25 victories that included a win over Crystal Falls-Forest Park in the rematch of the quarterfinals before dropping the state semifinal game to eventual Class D champion West Michigan Christian. Paquin scored 17 points per game, recorded five assists and four steals per game, and hauled down 160 rebounds.

Cedarville lost five outstanding seniors from last year, but the Trojans have the nucleus to possibly repeat their success in 2008-2009.