

2010 SMC Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions

The **1960 Boys State Basketball Championship Team** compiled a 26-1 record, Coach McClone's best-ever record at St. Mary's. They were conference, regional and state champions. In a time before divisions, the team beat large schools like Milwaukee North, the public school state runner-up and Wayland Academy, coached by Tom Nissalke, who went on to coach in the NBA. Their season ending game, the 1960 state championship game, resulted in a win 32 to 30 to claim the state title. It was a hard fought battle to victory for the Zephyrs against rival Racine-St. Catherine's, then ranked in the top 10 nationally. All five of St. Catherine's starters eventually earned Division 1 scholarships. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the team's victory.



James DeDecker '55 was a standout basketball player at St. Mary's. In his senior year, he was co-captain, most improved and second in scoring on the 1955 state championship team. Following high school, he played basketball at St. Norbert College, earning four varsity letters. A retired U.S. Army officer, he served two tours in Vietnam before retiring from service in 1979. Mr. DeDecker then established a real estate business in Atlanta, Georgia, where he remained active in his community and coached youth basketball programs. He has been married 46 years to Brigitte and they have one adult son. Now retired, James is a member of Mary Our Queen Catholic Church and an active member of the Elks Club, serving as Exalted Ruler in 1990.



Thomas Haskamp served as manager for the Zephyr football and basketball squads from 1978-1993. Receiving an honorary letter, Tom became a team favorite while assisting both coaches and students. Tom declares his fondest memories include the exciting Zephyr football seasons and the trip to state with the basketball team. A Menasha resident and an employee of Target for the past 14 years, Tom is involved in ARC of the Fox Cities, Special Olympic basketball and State power lifting. The SMC Hall of Fame salutes Tom as one of its "super Zephyr fans."



Amy (Boegh) Herres '94 was an outstanding basketball and volleyball player at SMC, a three-year varsity letter winner in both sports. Her passion was basketball, for which she was named most valuable player in her junior and senior years. In her senior year, she earned first team recognitions from Fox Valley Sports, the FVCC and The Post Crescent, was named Fox Valley Sports Basketball player of the year and named to the Wisconsin Basketball Conference All Star Team. She still ranks among the top scorers in Zephyr history. Following graduation, Herres played basketball for UW-Fox Valley for one season and received First Team All State from the Wisconsin Junior College Athletic Association. Graduating with a marketing degree from Fox Valley Technical College, Amy enjoys working with her family in their business, Fox Valley Stone & Brick in Neenah. She is married to Mike Herres and is busy raising their three sons, Michael age 5, Wyatt age 3, and Jackson age 1.



Dan Pier '90 excelled as a basketball and baseball athlete at SMC, earning numerous conference and team awards. During his basketball career, the Zephyrs were the WISAA regional champions twice, with Mr. Pier as a leader in scoring and rebounding. His baseball team achieved the state runner-up title in 1989 and, with Pier as the winning pitcher, the state championship title in 1990. Pier graduated in 1994 from the University of Notre Dame with majors in English and theology and also remained active playing intramural basketball and baseball there. After teaching and writing for a newspaper in Chile and traveling, he earned a master's degree in education from Harvard University. He taught high school English and coached at Catholic high schools in Minnesota and Maryland for five years before joining Education Development Center (EDC) as a project director in 2003. He currently serves as communications manager at EDC. Mr. Pier is the youngest in a family of eight Zephyrs--all athletes--and his parents are honorary alumni. He lives in Takoma Park, Maryland, with his wife, Carol, and their children, Kayla and Luca.

