

Alfred University to welcome four into Sports Hall of Fame

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ALFRED Four former student-athletes will be inducted into the Alfred University Sports Hall of Fame Saturday, Oct. 2. Timothy Callahan '82, Annie Boucher '92, Mike Johnson, '93 and Brian Johnson '94 will be inducted during banquet ceremonies at 5:30 p.m. on the AU campus. The Hall of Fame Banquet is held each year as part of Homecoming. Callahan was a standout linebacker on the AU football team from 1978-81. He was a member of the nationally-ranked Saxon defense that allowed a mere 8.2 points per game in 1981, when Alfred went 10-1 and played in the NCAA Division III championship tournament. Callahan had 122 tackles that season and totaled more than 200 for his career. He said his greatest thrill as an AU student-athlete was the Saxons' 23-6 victory over Canisius at War Memorial Stadium in Buffalo, which wrapped up Alfred's undefeated 1981 regular season. The 10 win in 1981 remain an AU single-season record. Callahan earned a bachelor's degree in ceramics engineering from Alfred in 1982 and a master's of business administration from the University of Rochester in 1992. He has been employed since 1994 at Welch Allyn Inc., a leading global manufacturer of frontline medical products and solutions, with headquarters in Skaneateles, NY. He is currently group product director for Welch Allyn's electronic vital signs business. Callahan lives in Skaneateles with his wife, Melanie, and his children Cassidy (17), Rory (11) and Patrick (4). Boucher was a star on the women's tennis team in the early 1990s. Her accomplishments are remarkable in that she enrolled at Alfred in 1990 as a 49-year-old grandmother. "One of my biggest thrills at Alfred was observing people's surprise after they saw me play and realized I was a grandmother," says Boucher, who often played against opponents younger than her daughter, Sandra. Boucher dominated her opponents her senior year, logging a 9-1 record in first singles and leading AU to its first-ever unbeaten season. Prior to coming to Alfred, Boucher was a three-sport star at Queensborough Community College in New York City, where she played basketball, softball and tennis for two years. Boucher graduated from Alfred in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She lives in Jamaica, NY, with her husband, Chet Turnquest. The couple have a daughter, Sandra Nkrumah and a grandson, Haki Nkrumah. Her grandson is a freshman at Alfred and a member of the AU men's tennis team. Mike Johnson is one of the best defenders ever to wear a Saxon men's lacrosse uniform. After transferring to AU from Washington (MD) College, he earned All-American honors twice as a member of the Saxons: honorable mention in 1992 and Third Team in 1993. In 1993, his senior year at AU, he scored 13 goals, an incredible number for a defenseman. Johnson was an integral part of the Saxon teams that played in the NCAA championship tournaments in 1992 and 1993. His biggest thrills as an AU student-athlete came in a pair of one-goal home losses in 1993. The first, when Alfred was 9-0 and ranked third in the country, came against top-ranked Hobart, 9-8. At the time, Hobart was the 13-time defending national champion. The second, in the regular season finale, was a 15-14 defeat to second-ranked Ohio-Wesleyan. Hobart and Ohio-Wesleyan would go on to meet for the national title. "Those losses demonstrated just how close we were to being the best in Division III my senior year," Johnson said. Alfred would fall to Nazareth in the first round of the NCAA playoffs and finish the season 12-3. Johnson received a bachelor's degree in history from AU in 1993 and went on to earn a master's from New York University. A native of Waterloo, Johnson is single and lives in Manhattan. He is a senior project manager with the National Development Council. Brian Johnson (no relation to Mike) played two seasons on the men's lacrosse team (1992-93) after transferring to AU from Washington College prior to the 1992 season. He was a two-time All-American attackman (honorable mention in 1992; Second Team in 1993). Despite playing in a Saxon uniform only two seasons, he ranks third on AU career lists for assists and points. Johnson's fondest memory of his AU lacrosse career is the 16-6 victory over Division III powerhouse Ohio Wesleyan in the 1992 regular season finale. The Saxons would lose to Hobart in the first round of the NCAA tournament that year, but would return to the NCAAs in 1993, arguably the best season ever at Alfred. "We became a much better team in 1993," he said. "We beat Ithaca, Hartwick, RIT and Clarkson and had a couple good wins early in the year against Air Force and Denver." A native of Baldwinsville, NY, Johnson earned a bachelor's degree in history from AU in 1994. He is the Northeast key account manager for Brine, Inc., in Milford, MA. Brine is the world's leading manufacturer of lacrosse, field hockey and soccer equipment. He lives in Northbridge, MA, with his wife, Catherine, and four children: son Jacob (4), twins Tyler and Hannah (2) and Leo, eight weeks. During the banquet, the University will honor the men's lacrosse teams of the early 1990s (1990-95). Four of the teams 1990, 1992, 1993 and 1994 competed in the NCAA tournament. The 1991 team went 13-3 and the 1995 squad went 13-4 and claimed the ECAC Upstate NY championship. Twelve different Saxons earned All-America honors from 1990-95. Three are now members of the AU Sports Hall of Fame: 2001 inductee Joe

Alberici, and two of this year's inductees, Mike Johnson and Brian Johnson. A host of school team and individual scoring marks were established in the early 1990s. Alberici accumulated a record 275 points and 174 assists from 1988-91; Rodd Kaufman scored a school-record 116 career goals (since broken) between 1990-93; and Jason Marchetta tallied a single-season record 71 goals in 1990. The defense was outstanding as well. The 1990 squad allowed a mere 4.35 goals per game, a single-season record, and goalie Peter McClean, who played in 1990 and 1991, set career and single-season records for save percentage and goals allowed average. From 1990-95, Alfred scored 1,314 goals in 97 games (13.55 per game) while allowing only 653 (6.73 per contest). Al Brown, who coached at AU from 1989-95, was named NCAA Division III Coach of the Year in 1990, when he led the Saxons to a 15-2 record. Now the athletic director at Portsmouth Abbey School in Portsmouth, RI, Brown left AU with a career coaching record of 85-25. Anyone wishing to attend the Sports Hall of Fame Banquet should call the AU Department of Athletics at 607-871-2193. Tickets for the banquet are \$25.