

Five set for induction into AU Athletics Hall of Fame

9/17/13

ALFRED, NY -- Alfred University will induct five former student-athletes into its Athletics Hall of Fame during an on-campus banquet Saturday, Oct. 5, during the University's annual Homecoming celebration.

Members of the Hall of Fame Class of 2013 are: former track star Joseph "Wes" Carr '82; football standout Joe Haven '91; Alpine skiing champion Conor Walsh '02; women's lacrosse and tennis all-star Lindsay deCsipkes '02; and swimming All-American Pat Kerwin '03.

Carr was a member of the AU indoor and outdoor track and field teams from 1978-82. He holds AU outdoor track and field records in the 100-meter dash (10.70 seconds) and 200-meter dash (21.50 seconds), both set when he won titles in those events at the Independent Collegiate Athletic Conference (ICAC) championships in 1980.

Carr was a two-time NCAA qualifier, competing in the 200-meter dash at the 1980 outdoor championships and as part of the 4X100-meter relay at the 1981 outdoor championships. Carr helped lead the Saxons to back-to-back team titles at the 1980 and 1981 ICAC outdoor championships. He was part of teams that formerly held the school's 4X100-meter relay and 4X400-meter relay outdoor records and 4X200-meter relay and 4X400-meter relay indoor records. He is also the former school indoor record holder in the 55-meter dash and 60-meter dash.

Carr says his greatest thrill as an AU student-athlete was being part of the teams that won ICAC championships in 1980 and 1981.

Carr graduated from AU in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in political science, with a minor in economics. Since 1992, he has been director of the Saratoga County Youth Bureau. He also served as project manager for the Saratoga County Water Treatment Plant and Transmission Facilities Project from 2004-08.

He and his wife, Robyn, live in Burnt Hills, NY, and have a son, Joe.

Haven played on the Saxon football team for four years (1986-89), starting as a receiver his final three seasons. He finished his career with 80 catches for 1,333 yards and 15 receiving touchdowns. He shared the record (since broken) for touchdown catches in a game (three, against Brockport, 1989). His best season came his senior year, when he had 46 catches for 704 yards and eight TDs, helping lead AU to a 30-27 win over Bridgewater State in the ECAC North Bowl championship game.

Haven, who also played lacrosse at AU two seasons (1988 and 1991), lists among his greatest thrills as an Alfred University student-athlete winning the ECAC title to wrap up his career. In the ECAC championship game, he caught a TD pass, recovered an onside kick, and recovered a fumbled punt.

He graduated from AU in 1991 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree (communication arts). He went on to earn a master's degree in education from Syracuse University in 1998.

Haven earned his New York State school administrators certification in 2005 and became certified as an athletic administrator in 2008. Haven has served as director of athletics for the Chittenango (NY) Central School district since 2005. He remained involved in athletics after his playing days at AU ended. He served as an assistant coach for the AU football team from 1990-92, and held several assistant coaching positions for the football and lacrosse teams at his high school alma mater, Cicero-North Syracuse.

Haven and his wife Amy (Rider, AU '92) live in Cicero, NY, with their two daughters, Hanna and Olivia.

Walsh was a four-year member of men's Alpine ski team (1999-2002), serving as a team captain his final three seasons. During his career, he skied on men's teams that went a combined 40-0 in Empire Conference regular season

Wahls won four conference team titles. Walsh won the individual Empire Conference crown three times (1999, 2001 and 2002) and was runner-up in 2000. He led the Saxons to berths in the United States Collegiate Ski Association (USCSA) National Championships his final three seasons (2000-02).

He placed second in the combined individual standings at the 1999 and 2002 USCSA Mid-Atlantic Regionals and was third in the individual combined standings at the 2000 and 2001 regionals. In 2000, he won the individual slalom competition at the regional championships.

During his final two seasons, Walsh skied for his father, current AU head coach Kevin Walsh. He said his greatest thrill as an AU student-athlete was being part of teams that went unbeaten (40-0) in slalom and giant slalom events during conference races throughout his four-year career.

Walsh graduated from AU in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in ceramic engineering. In 2004, he earned a master's degree in ceramic engineering, also from Alfred University. He has worked at Corning Inc., in Corning, NY, since 2006 and currently holds the title of Forming Core Technology Leader. He previously worked as process engineer at AVX Corporation.

He lives in Campbell, NY, with his wife, Nicole, and their two children, Teagan and Brynna.

deCipkes played four seasons on the women's lacrosse team (1999-2002) and women's tennis team (1998-2001). She was a star in lacrosse, starting at midfield all four years.

As a junior in 2001, when she helped lead the Saxons to a berth in the New York State championship tournament, deCipkes was a First Team Empire 8 Conference all-star, Intercollegiate Women Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) Division III New York State Region Second Team all-star, and New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association (NYSWCAA) Third Team all-star.

In 2002, she repeated as a First Team Empire 8 selection and was also named a Second Team ECAC Upstate all-star. She set school single-season and career records (since broken) for assists.

deCipkes, who also earned Empire 8 all-conference honors in tennis as a senior in 2001, said her fondest memory of being an AU athlete was the "friendships and bonds created, joy and laughter shared, and positive support on and off the field among team members."

She earned a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from AU in 2002 and a master's degree in recreation management and policy (therapeutic recreation) from the University of New Hampshire in 2006. She is program administrator at Bomb Diggety Arts, a community support program she founded in Portland, ME, which serves adults with intellectual disabilities. The lion's share of her professional career has been devoted to developing and administering programs aimed at helping people with disabilities. They have included outdoor recreational, creative writing, and student after school programs.

deCipkes resides in Portland, ME.

Kerwin was a four-year member of men's swimming and diving team (1998-02). He earned All-American honors as a sophomore in 2000 and as a senior in 2002 and in his career earned five total All-American certifications: one individual and four relays.

As a sophomore in 2000, he swam for an AU team that placed 15th at the NCAA Division III championships. He was the Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Association (UNYSCSA) champion in the 100 backstroke in 2002 and was part of the 200 free relay team that in 2002 set an Empire 8 Conference record.

The former AU record-holder in the 50-yard freestyle, Kerwin was part of the 200 free relay team that still holds the AU school record, and swam on 200 medley and 400 free relays that formerly held school marks.

He lists as a his fondest memory of being an AU athlete as “being on great teams with great teammates and great coaches.”

Kerwin earned a bachelor&s degree in ceramic engineering from Alfred University in 2003, then received a Master&s of Business Administration degree from AU in 2004.

Since 2008, he has been senior product engineer at M Cubed Technologies — a world leader in the development ceramics and metal matrix composites — in Newark, DE. He also worked four years (2004-08) as engineering manager at Ceramic Protection Corporation of America, Newark, DE.

Kerwin and his wife, Allison (Lass, AU &03) live in Bear, DE, with their son, Ethan.

Saturday's Hall of Fame activities will include the 2013 inductees being introduced at the Saxon football game, set for 1 p.m. vs. Buffalo State. A cocktail reception will be held at Powell Campus Center at 5 p.m., followed by the induction ceremonies and banquet at 6 p.m. in the Knight Club. Anyone wishing to attend the Hall of Fame Banquet is asked to call the AU Athletic Department at 607-871-2193.