Scott W. Emery

Posthumously Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame Inductee 2008



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A more recent photo

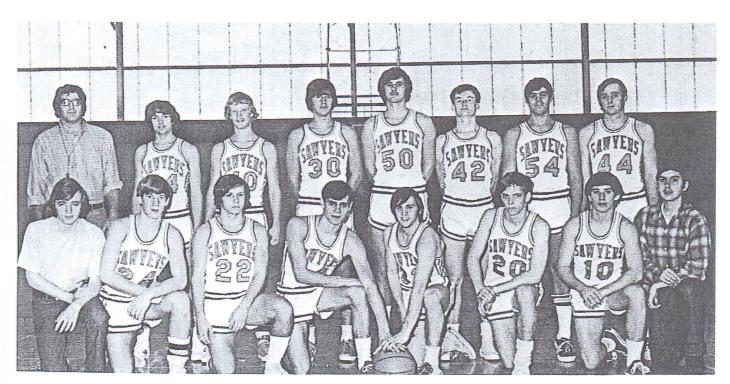
Scott Emery was born in Kingston, NY on March 25,1956 to Robert and Jean Emery. He grew up in Saugerties along with his brother Robert. He graduated from Saugerties High School in 1974 after which he went on to receive a BA degree from SUNY Cortland in 1978. He went on to earn his M.A.T. degree from Cornell University in 1980 and a MS degree from SUNY Albany in 1981.

Scott began his athletic involvement in the Saugerties Little League. He went on to play JV baseball at SHS. As a sophomore he was named team captain. As a junior and senior Scott played for the Sawyer Varsity squad. His baseball teammates included John Spiers, Major League umpire Tom Hallion and Hall of Famer Larry Pannella. In the summer, Scott played for the Saugerties Legion Post 72 squad.

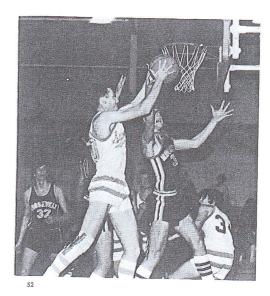


FIRST ROW: T. Hallion, D. Bach, C. Snyder, P. VanBlarcum, R. Cargioli, N. Malgieri; ROW 2: S. Misasi, R. Ohno, M. Abate, J. Bogan, C. Rosenberger, J. Lack; ROW 3: S. VanValkenburgh, Manager, W. Bruyn, S. Wilson, L. Panella, S. Emery, A. Simkins, L. Swart, Coach Ronald Kunst.

In the winter Scott spent his time on the hardwood. He started in the SAA Biddy League and went on to the Junior League. During his high school career Scott played JV and Varsity basketball. At the JV level, Scott played for Hall of Famer Pete Kramer. Larry Marcus coached the Varsity squad and his teammates included Pannella, Spiers, Hallion and Gary Schnell. An unfortunate knee injury suffered in a game against Beacon prevented him from playing competitively at Cortland. Although unable to compete at the Varsity level Scott continued his sports involvement in the intramural program at Cortland.



ONT ROW: E. Tate (Mgr.), G. Schnell, J. Whiteford, B. Maines, P. VanBlarcum, T. Hallion, R. Knorr (Mgr.); ROW 2: Coac rry Marcus, C. Hackett, C. Luley, L. Panella, J. Hellenschmidt, S. Emery, S. Wilson, D. Fuller.



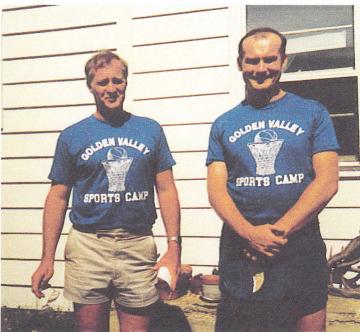
Scott going to the hoop

In addition to his participation in baseball and basketball at SHS, Scott also ran cross-country. According to his father, Robert, Scott's interest in sports came from his grandfather also named Robert. His sports inspirations were Bill Bradley and Ernie Davis. In the tradition of Davis and Bradley, Scott was also a scholar. He was a member of the National Honors Society and a Regents scholarship winner.

After his active playing career ended Scott remained active in sports by coaching various teams at Hudson High School. He began his coaching career as an unpaid volunteer assistant to his good friend Henry "Hank" Theiss, Hudson Varsity basketball coach, in 1981. He coached modified (1982-1985), freshman (1985-86) and JV basketball 1986-1995), varsity volleyball (1982-1985), modified track (1984-1988), modified (1987-1993) and varsity cross-country (1993-1995). He also served as an assistant for the varsity baseball team. His friend Hank trusted his basketball knowledge and analysis so much that he entrusted Scott with the duties of scouting Hudson's upcoming opponents. Hank had such confidence that the information in the reports were of such high quality that it was as if Hank had done the scouting personally. In addition to his duties at the school, Scott also served as a counselor and basketball coach at the Hudson Boys Club. Scott was an avid supporter of the Legion and Dutchmen baseball programs. From 1974 through 1996 Scott built an extensive collection of newspaper accounts of the Legion and Dutchmen action.

Scott's greatest contributions to sports were not made on the field. He spent his career teaching remedial reading in the Hudson school district. He used sports to reach kids with academic problems and disadvantaged backgrounds. He used the lessons he learned while participating in sports to help many kids from different backgrounds. It has been said by many that participation in sports prepares a person for life. The lessons learned on the sports field can be carried over and applied to other situations that one will experience in life. Scott not only believed this but he lived it. Everyday he worked with kids teaching them about commitment, hard work and accountability while encouraging them to do their very best. He did everything in his power to help his students achieve and they knew it. His dedication to the kids was unlimited if a student needed his help and couldn't get to him Scott went to the student. He was the first to arrive at school and the last one to leave. It didn't matter what part of town the kid was from Scott made sure he was there for them. Hudson High Class of 1996 member Abdul Weed stated, "It is difficult to put into words what my teammates and I think about Coach Emery. When we think of him we remember that he was an excellent coach, a leader, he was funny, he was "one of the guys", you could talk to him about anything but above all he was a friend that we will remember for the rest of our lives." Marie Daley, a cross-country runner, reflected, "I've never been athletic but he didn't push me. When I came across the finish line he was always like "Wow, good job." He really cared about running and he really cared about us." Another runner Luke Bryant recalled, "It was okay if you came in last, he just wanted you to do your best." His efforts did not go un-noticed he was recognized, by his peers, with an award acknowledging his excellence as a **teacher**, **coach and gentleman**.





Scott with his parents Robert and Jean

Scott with good friend Henry "Hank" Theiss

In 1995 Scott was diagnosed with leukemia. As usual he thought of others as he battled the illness by attempting to raise awareness about the disease to prevent others from having to go through similar situations. He became active in trying to encourage bone marrow donations. Scott worked with channel 13 reporter Chris Jansen to reach the public and promote the cause. Through his efforts over thirty Hudson citizens traveled to Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital to donate bone marrow.



Scott being interviewed by Chris Jansen



Some of the over 30 Hudson platelet donors at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA Second from the left is Kathy Kosnick and far right is Henry "Hank" Theiss

Sadly, Scott passed away in January 1996 after a long illness. His loss is felt by many lives he touched. The Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame Club extends its congratulations to Scott's family and friends. The Hall of Fame Club and the community are proud to recognize Scott for his accomplishments and most of all for the impact he has made on others in his short life. We would be remiss if we did not take this opportunity to thank all the Hudson High School players, students, coaches and administration who have done so much in helping Scott toward his eventual induction into the Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame.