Alma Mater
(Willard Hedlund '10)

Dear Worcester Tech, our Worcester Tech,
   Our praises ring to thee,
To alma mater, good and true,
   We pledge our loyalty.

Long have we felt thy guiding hand,
   Thy teachings broad and free,
With praises loud in every land
   We'll show our love for thee.

—Refrain—
    Then here's to good old Worcester Tech,
    Come, fellows, join in our refrain,
Wave high the colors, Crimson and Gray,
    For good old Worcester Tech.

As years roll on and changes bring
   To all things great and small,
We still will thee in rev'rence hold
   We'll greet thee one and all.

In accents which no one may doubt
   In terms so strong and bold
The world will know thy worth to us
   Increases many fold

—Refrain—

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

WPI Homecoming
October 30, 2009
2009 Inductees

Coleman

Loone

Penoncello

Pires

Trombi
1994 Joseph D. Bronzino '59
   George Bliss Emerson '32*
   Philip J. Grebina
   Mary-Jane Hall-Stimson '81
   Catherine M. Murray '87
   Frank Sannella*
1993 Richard N. Bazinet '56*
   Mary A. Donovan '78
   Patricia Graham Flaherty '75
   Paul J. Kerrigan '57
   Jack T. Radtowsky '59
   William F. Shields '64
1992 James R. Buell '73*
   Michael C. Carbone '85
   Mark C. Dupuis '72
   Edward C. Milde '30*
   Andrew C. Murray '73
1991 George T. Abdow '53
   Orville A. Bailey '85
   Chiara Whalen Bubin '84
   Philip R. Delphos '26*
   Robert Round Jr. '64
1990 James A. Banks (Al Baro)*
   Anne Marie Foreman '80
   Mark T. McCabe '79
   Peter J. Sifersten '84
1989 Alan K. Briggs '76
   Donald R. Ferrari '59*
   Edward L. Griffith Jr. '69
   Terese M. Kwiatkowski '83
   J. Philip Pierce '31*
   David J. Wilson '80
1988 Arthur J. Knight '07*
   John A. McGrath Jr. '64
   Fred Pickwick Jr. '22
   Leonard Polizotto '70
   Timothy M. Rooney '71
   Ralph W. White '23*

1987 Roy E. Bourgault '42*
   Suzanne Call Marguerum '81
   Richard S. Converse '28*
   Carmen M. Della Vecchia '67
   Joseph L. Guidi '28*
   Alan King
   Harold A. Melden Jr. '49
   Donald W. Putnam '32*
   Richard A. Zeleny '53*
1986 William W. Asp '32*
   Peter H. Horstmann '55
   Cary A. Palulis '68
   Meri Norcross
   Michael D. Walker '78
1985 Percy "Doc" Carpenter*
   Fred DiPippo '60
   Richard E. Ferrari '51*
   John J. Korzick '68
   Charles F. Schmit '46*
   Elmer T. Scott '41*
1984 Ivan "Pete" Bigler*
   Earl Bloom '55
   William Graham '31*
   Donald G. Lutz '67
   David McEwan '39
   Morgan R. Rees '61
1983 Thomas W. Berry '24*
   Edward F. Cannon '68
   Harry L. Dademan '81*
   Raymond J. Forkey '40
   Charles R. McNulty*
   Henry W. Nowick '56
   Robert W. Pritchard*
   Albert J. Raslavsky*

*Deceased

WPI Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet
Presented by WPI and the Poly Club

Homecoming Weekend
October 30, 2009 • 6:30 p.m. • Campus Center Odeum
Kim Landry '97, Poly Club President

Welcome
Brian Daly '91

Alma Mater
Performed by Technichords

Greetings from the University
Dennis D. Berkley
WPI President

Introduction of Inductees
Brian Daly

Invocation
Rev. Robert Loftus
Roman Catholic Campus Minister

Dinner
Chartwells Food Service

Recognition of Hall of Famers
Chiara Whalen Bubin '84

Student Athlete Advisory Council
Liz Tuite '10 and Charlotte McDonnell '11, Co-chairs

Induction Ceremonies
presented by Brian Daly

Benediction
Rev. Robert Loftus
O f the most decorated athletes ever at WPI, Kerri Coleman’s name is still scattered across the WPI track and field record board. A two-time All-American, she still holds all five of the WPI’s throwing records.

Coleman wasted no time becoming a force on the New England collegiate track and field circuit. During her freshman year in 2000, she earned All-New England status three times and was a New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) champion in the javelin. She placed fifth in the indoor New Englands in the shot put (40.0) and second and fifth in the javelin (37.96 m) and shot put (12.02 m), respectively, during the outdoor season.

“Kerri played a pivotal role in transforming women’s track and field at WPI,” said head coach Dan Green. “From Day One she had a way of pushing and motivating people without saying a word. Believe me, as any one who knew her can attest, Kerri said plenty.”

Her sophomore year was capped by earning the Carolyn McCabe Award at the annual athletics award banquet. She dominated the NEWMAC championships that spring by winning the title in both the shot put (41.4.50) and the javelin (113.8).

The next year saw Coleman pick up her first of two All-America awards after placing fourth in the shot put (45.02 m) at the NCAA Indoor championships. She continued to be a force at the NEWMAC championships, winning the shot put (46.7.75) and the discus (155.0) while placing second in the discus. She won the ECAC outdoor championships in the shot put (13.60 m) and took home third in the hammer (45.02). She also qualified for the outdoor NCAA Champions and registered 12th in the shot put (42.8.25) and 15th in the hammer (142.4).

Her senior year began with a repeat performance at the NCAA indoor championships. She finished second in the shot put at the ECAC championships (13.56 m), and seventh at the NCAAs (44.8) en route to another All-America award. She continued her dominance at the NEWMAC championships, winning her sixth career title by capturing the gold in the shot put (12.47 m) and taking home third place finishes in both hammer throw (44.66 m) and discus (35.26 m). She also earned a fifth place finish at the ECAC outdoor championships in the shot put (39.7.25). At that year’s athletics awards banquet, she was honored with the Varsity Club Award, presented to the most outstanding senior female athlete.

Coleman’s place in WPI history still exists. She holds the school record in the shot put (45.10), discus (134.6), hammer throw (155.0), javelin (128.2-2) and weight throw (47.6-50). She earned All-New England status seven times and won six NEWMAC championships.

“Kerri’s commitment to excellence in academics and athletics was impressive, but her raw potential and work ethic are legendary,” said her throws coach Bill Cotter. “Although her individual records may be threatened or even surpassed in the years to come, her overall achievement at WPI can never be challenged.”

Coleman, who hails from Rehoboth, Mass, graduated from WPI in 2003 with a degree in biochemistry. She currently is a chemistry and anatomy and physiology teacher at Canyon High School. She married former teammate Matt Oldmixon in 2006; the couple resides in Somerset.

The WPI Athletic Hall of Fame honors excellence in athletics. Individuals are recognized for their outstanding sportsmanship and character, as well as their extraordinary contributions to WPI athletics. They have distinguished themselves in both their athletic and professional careers, and their accomplishments make all of us proud to be a part of the WPI tradition. Today, October 30, 2009, five individuals join the honor roll of the WPI Athletic Hall of Fame. Their names will be added to the list of current members.

2008 Al Carpenter ’83
Steve Hall ’87
Nicola McGowan Campbell ’90
Jeff Rosen ’80
Bob Schultz ’55
Toby Wyman ’91
2007 Robert Doule ’75
Christopher S. Dunn ’96
Danielle (Luongo) Fries ’94
Thomas L. Maloney ’61
Gregory R. Tucker ’92
2006 Lance Baden ’99
Stacey (Corron) Bonasso ’90
Win. Whitney Griffith
Michael J. Pockoski ’99
Matthew Sarezec ’99
Richard J. Testa Jr. ’84
2005 Danielle M. Batesy ’97
Brian W. Daly ’91
Kimberley (Gabbs) Ehbert ’92
John J. Firegbiono ’73
Alan R. King ’76
Missy (Hurley) Marino ’86
2004 Brian C. Learned ’97
Jennifer R. Lovin ’96
Francis J. Oniglia 42*
Christine (Clancy) McNary ’86
Richard H. Wheeler ’77
2003 David J. Ceppettelli ’93
Kenneth J. Kaufman
Roland P. Marquis Jr. ’85
Susan M. Tarallo ’90
Jason D. Wening ’97
2002 Albert G. Bellows ’41
Brian W. Chu ’92
George E. Chu ’95
Kevin M. Doherty ’79
Kimberly A. Landry ’97
2001 Harry W. Brown ’53
William A. Saimond ’59
Douglas G. Storz ’59
Gregory D. Whitney ’90*
Paul M. Wyman ’83
2000 Joseph J. Alekshun, Jr. ’56
Kimberly Eay Boucher ’86
Frederick D. Rucker ’81
Fred N. Snyder, Jr. ’70
Jason A. Wooley ’94
1999 Kenneth B. Adrian ’65*
David V. Berthiaume ’91
Bruce J. Carbone ’85
Allen H. Hoffman ’63
John A. Roy ’93
Michael P. Shebek ’53
1998 Malcolm R. Chandler ’39*
Thomas M. Killkeny ’82
Carrie L. Nolet
Daniel T. Pond ’86
1997 Michael V. Bucci ’90
Amato Goncalves ’85
Jody A. Normandin ’90
E. Michael Shipulski ’88
J. Kevin Sullivan ’69
Edwin A. Taylor 1891*
1996 Maria E. Carvajal ’88
Susan E. Chapman
David O. Duttenberger ’88
Evan D. Elkington ’89
William R. Nims ’66
Carl F. Simon Jr. ’40*
1995 Gregg A. Fiddes ’85
Eric J. Meerbach ’87
Hugo L. Noridge ’45*
Cindy L. Perkins ’87
John R. Tinker ’32

Kerri Coleman Oldmixon ’03
Garrett Trombi ’95

In the history of WPI Wrestling, 30 athletes have won a total of 37 New England championships. Only one has earned the “Tournament Most Outstanding Wrestler” award—Garrett Trombi.

After registering eight wins as a freshman during the 1990-91 season, Trombi began to establish himself among the top wrestlers in New England as a sophomore. He racked up 50 team points while posting a 10-1-1 mark in dual meets. He earned his first of three All-New England medals at the championships when he placed fourth at 150 pounds.

After missing a season due to injury, Trombi returned to the mat for his junior campaign in 1993-94. He picked up right where he left off, winning nine of 10 decisions during the dual meet season. His success pushed the Crimson and Gray to a 13-3 dual meet record that winter, helping the Engineers earn their third NECCWA team championship by finishing second at 150 pounds at the championships.

During his senior season, Trombi was a man possessed. He won 14 dual matches, including three by pin. He simply dominated the competition at the NECCWA championship, taking home the title at 150 pounds and in the process becoming the only wrestler in WPI history to be named Tournament Most Outstanding Wrestler. The Engineers used every point Trombi amassed at the championships to split the team championship title with Williams.

Unfortunately, a serious injury between the New England’s and the NCAA Championships didn’t give him an opportunity to compete for a national championship. “If it weren’t for his untimely injury the Sunday prior to the NCAA’s, Garrett almost certainly would have placed very high at the national championships,” remarked Hall of Fame teammate Paul Wyman. “He had a Division I level change and the best high crotch takedown I had seen in a decade. More important, he was one of the most mentally and physically tough wrestlers WPI ever put on the mat.”

Trombi left his mark on the WPI record book, particularly in the takedown category. Three times he cracked the top five in single-season takedowns, including the second most (71) during his junior season. His career total of 215 takedowns are an eye-popping 60 more than the next highest mark in program history. He ended his career with an impressive 41-9-1 record with six wins by pin.

“Garrett’s four-year varsity wrestling career can be described as intense, driven and exemplary,” said Hall of Fame head coach Phil Grebina. “A team leader both in practice and in competitions, Garrett always worked for excellence in both his own performance and the team. As co-captain on two New England championship winning teams, Garrett’s leadership was instrumental in that success.”

Garrett Trombi, graduated with honors from WPI in 1995 with a degree in civil engineering. He now works in sales for Barker Steel, a rebar fabricator. He and his wife, Kathy, live in his hometown of Amherst, N.H., with their children, Paul and Caroline.

John Loonie ’87

In the mid 1980s, WPI men’s basketball was one of the top programs in all of New England. A big reason, literally and figuratively, was John Loonie.

Freshman year is usually a season of adjustment for a young player, but Loonie looked like a seasoned veteran during his rookie campaign, averaging 10 points and grabbing a team-best 7.6 rebounds per game for head coach Ken Kaufman.

His sophomore season was one of the most memorable basketball runs in school history. The Engineers went 20-8 and fell one game short of earning a trip to the 1985 NCAA Division III Final Four. The team began its magic run with a 58-57 overtime win over Albany State before averaging a pair of tight regular season losses to Clark by stunning the defending national finalists 67-62. The dream fell short as Widener slipped past WPI 41-38 in a national quarter-final contest. Loonie was second on the team in scoring (14.7 ppg), behind fellow Hall of Famer Orville Bailey, and again led the squad in rebounding (7.6 rpg) and blocks (43). Offensively, Loonie had his best season in 1985-86 as a junior. He connected on an eye-popping 61.9 percent of his field goal attempts en route to averaging 15.3 points and 7.2 rebounds per game. During his senior season, he overcame an illness to average 13.6 points and contributed a career-best 49 blocks. The Engineers continued to win ball games at a steady clip, combining to go 28-20 over the two seasons.

“John was one of the hardest working players we ever had,” noted Kaufman. “He made himself into one of the best basketball centers in New England during his career at WPI.”

Over his four years at WPI, the men’s basketball team posted a record of 62-37 (.627 winning percentage). At the time, the 62 wins was the second highest over a four-year period in program history. Loonie, himself, posted some impressive statistical numbers during his career. He tallied 1218 points, 650 rebounds, and 162 blocked shots (the second highest in school history). By the time he graduated, he held the record for blocks in a game with 9. Offensively he left his mark with his impressive field goal percentage, draining 493 of his 861 field goal attempts (.573).

A native of Brookton, John Loonie graduated from WPI in the spring of 1987 with a degree in computer science. His IQP project utilized computers in elementary school classrooms in Worcester.

Voted one of WPI’s all-time top-10 men’s basketball players in 2001, he currently is the director of software development for Demandware in Woburn. He and wife Suzanne, live in Boshborough with their children, Ryan and Erin.
While thumbing through a binder filled with manager’s reports, a simple sentence in the 1962-63 men’s basketball report proved to be prophetic: “Only a freshman, Penoncello has already won the hearts of WPI followers and it looks like he will be supplying exciting basketball for Tech in the future.”

During his freshman campaign, Penoncello led the Engineers in halves played, a real rarity in an era that saw JV and freshman squads. He averaged 10.1 points and was the second leading scorer on the team. He continued to excel as a sophomore, averaging 11.9 points and a career-best 3.7 rebounds during the 1963-64 season. He helped the team play extremely well at home in Alumni Gym, posting wins against Suffolk, Lowell Tech, Nichols, and Coast Guard.

“What stands out about Larry was his hustle and awareness of the game,” commented teammate and Hall of Famer Bill Nims. “He was the heart of the team who set the tempo in the game. Larry was a triple threat to the Engineers in halves played, a real rarity in an era that saw JV and freshman squads. He averaged 10.1 points and was an active member of Skull.”

Larry Penoncello graduated from WPI with a degree in civil engineering. He recently retired after a distinguished career in the automotive supply industry. Born and raised in Bristol, Conn., he and his wife, Karen, live in Canton, Conn. They have four children—Scott, Jamie, Nicole, and Gregory—and two grandchildren, Will and Abby.

As a junior, he led a much improved WPI during the 1964-65 season. The Engineers saw their win total from the previous season double to 10, including notable wins over Brandeis, Clark, and Tufts. For the second season in a row, Penoncello averaged 11.9 points, while draining a career-best 45.4% of his shots from the outside. As team MVP, he totaled 945 career points and started for Worcester in the annual Boston/Worcester all-star game.

Penoncello excelled outside the basketball arena at WPI as well. He was class president as a sophomore, junior, and senior and was an active member of Skull. “Larry deserves this honor because his passion for the game combined with his basketball skills earned him the respect of both teammates and opponents,” commented teammate David LaRue. “He did everything a quality point guard does and he was the best one I ever played with. Larry always had a great attitude and I’m sure his years after WPI have revealed him as a better person than player.”

Larry Penoncello graduated from WPI with a degree in civil engineering. He recently retired after a distinguished career in the automotive supply industry. Born and raised in Bristol, Conn., he and his wife, Karen, live in Canton, Conn. They have four children—Scott, Jamie, Nicole, and Gregory—and two grandchildren, Will and Abby.

Jon Pires was the best linebacker that I have ever had the pleasure of coaching in my fourteen years of college football, said former defensive coordinator and current head Salve Regina coach Chris Robertson. Jon was the most ferocious, strongest, quickest, instinctive, and intelligent linebacker that ever suited up for the Engineers.”

Pires career totals are simply jaw-dropping. He amassed a total of 465 tackles, including 49 stops for loss. Pires helped in other ways as well, by registering 8 career pass breakups and recovering 7 fumbles. “Jon was everything you would look for in an inside linebacker,” commented head football coach Ed Zaleoom. “He had a great nose for the football, and he would arrive at the ball in a ‘nasty’ fashion. At the same time he was extremely athletic, and he could cover a great deal of ground. He was effective in playing the pass and in pursuing the run from sideline to sideline. Most important, he loved the game, he loved the contact, and he relished intense competition!”

Pires, a native of Stoughton, Mass., graduated in 2000 with a degree in mechanical engineering. His success at WPI was not limited to the gridiron as he earned a Thurgood Marshall Scholarship. Currently a production manager for Cameron Valves and Measurement, Pires and his wife, Jennifer, live in Middleboro with their children, Jenna and Jalen.