Connecticut College
Athletic Hall Of Fame Induction

In recognition of those individuals who have achieved the highest reward for their effort

Saturday, April 1, 2017
GABBY PETRILL BELTZ ’06
Hockey

LISA KINGMAN FORNESS ’81
Gymnastics

ALEX SAMMA ’10
Track & Field

GAAR TALANIAN ’86
Hockey
Dinner and Induction Ceremony

Welcome
Francis J. Shields, Master of Ceremonies
Katherine Wenk Christoffers ’45 Director of Athletics

Buffet Dinner

Induction Ceremony
Gabby Petrill Beltz ’06
presented by Head Women’s Hockey Coach Kristin Steele
Lisa Kingman Forness ’81
presented by Fran Shields
Alex Samma ’10
presented by Head Track & Field Coach Ned Bishop ’84
Gaar Talianian ’86
presented by Fran Shields

Closing Remarks
Fran Shields
**Athletic Hall of Fame Mission**

The mission of the Connecticut College Athletic Hall of Fame is to honor those who have brought distinction to themselves and Connecticut College through their achievement, commitment, sportsmanship and leadership in athletics. Inductees may include alumni, coaches, faculty, administrators or friends of the Connecticut College community. Teams that are exceptionally distinguished through outstanding achievement or significant accomplishment may also be considered.

Alumni are eligible for nomination beginning five years after graduating from Connecticut College. An alumnus who has not received a degree may be nominated when five years have elapsed since the class he or she entered has graduated. The Athletic Hall of Fame Committee may use its discretion in exceptional or extraordinary circumstances for non-graduates of the college. Coaches and administrators who are not Connecticut College alumni are eligible for induction five years after leaving the college. Qualified nominees not selected for induction may remain on the master ballot for future consideration.

**Athletic Hall of Fame Committee**

Ned Bishop '84, Chair – Head Coach Track & Field, Women’s Cross Country

Sarah Pitt-Del Cristo ‘86 – Athletic Hall of Fame Member (inducted 2009)

Jess Ricker ’00 – Staff Member

Page Owen – Faculty Member

Issy Pieper ‘18 – Student Athletic Advisory Committee Representative

Laura Nadelberg ’08 - Alumni Representative

Bridget McShane – Director of Alumni Relations

Tom Satran ’94 - Head Coach, Men's Basketball

Francis J. Shields – Katherine Wenk Christoffers ’45 Director of Athletics

Frank Suher ’89 - Alumni Representative

Dave Talianian ’88 – Alumni Representative

Will Tomasian – Assistant Director of Athletics/Sports Information Director
Gabby Petrill Beltz proved to be one of the greatest goaltenders ever to compete in collegiate hockey. Petrill Beltz ranks fifth on the NCAA all-time list with 2,969 career saves. She averaged 33 saves per start in her four years between the pipes, graduating with 3.26 goals against average while also compiling an impressive .912 save percentage.

Recognized as an All-NESCAC selection for the 2002-03 and 2003-04 seasons, Petrill Beltz and the Camels made history in 2004 by earning the program’s first-ever NESCAC post-season berth. Petrill Beltz stopped 49 shots in a loss at Middlebury to set a NESCAC single game post-season record for saves. She put together the 12th highest single season save total in NCAA history for the Camels during that sensational sophomore campaign as she turned aside 853 shots. Petrill Beltz and her teammates returned to the conference championship tournament two years later, when she stopped 34 shots in a first round game at Bowdoin.

Petrill Beltz’s dominance earned her regional and national acclaim. She was profiled in USA Today for her ability to dominate between the pipes while being one of the smallest student athletes in NCAA history. Petrill Beltz also appeared in Sports Illustrated for Kids. Her positive energy and relentless determination to win proved to be an inspiration for girls and women participating in the burgeoning sport of women’s hockey.

Petrill Beltz received her undergraduate degree in Behavioral Neuroscience. She went on to earn her Master’s Degree in Nursing from the University of Pittsburgh in 2011. She is a nurse anesthetist for Excela Health Latrobe.

Petrill Beltz is married to Jeff Beltz. They are the proud parents of a daughter, Eleanor.
Lisa Kingman Forness was a trailblazer and ground-breaker for the Connecticut College gymnastics program.

A leader and four-year contributor on the mats, Kingman Forness joined the Camel gymnastics team as a freshman in the fall of 1977. She competed as an all-around gymnast for the college and was recognized as the program’s Most Valuable Performer in each of her four seasons.

In her junior year, Kingman Forness became the first gymnast from Connecticut College to qualify for the national championship. She won the gold medal on the balance beam at the 1980 regional championship and went on to compete at the national meet that same year. Kingman Forness qualified for the NCAA Division III Gymnastics Regional and National Championships again as a senior in 1981. She placed in the top three on the balance beam at the regional meet and finished in the top 35 as an All-Around at the national championship that year. She was the team’s co-captain during her senior season.

Kingman Forness earned her degree in History from the College in 1981.

Kingman Forness is married to Kevin Forness. Her three sons are Daniel Bass, Jeff Bass and Kevin Forness II. She also has two daughters-in-law, Lucie Kinslow and Shelby Brown, and two grandchildren.

The Kingman Forness family resides in St. Louis, Missouri, where she serves as a Vice President at Stifel Nicolaus, a full-service broker-dealer and registered investment advisor firm. Kingman Forness is the firm’s Director of Advisory Operations.
Alex Samma left his mark as the greatest field event athlete ever to have competed for Connecticut College. In March of 2009, Samma secured the program’s first national crown, as he won the triple jump at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track & Field Championship with a mark of 15.07 meters (49’5½”). He went on to add two more All-America honors in that event in his career, placing seventh at the 2009 outdoor championship and sixth at the 2010 indoor championship. Samma appeared in a total of five national championship meets, all in the triple jump.

In addition to his national crown, Samma won two New England Division III triple jump titles and one ECAC Division III crown. He also won the NEICAAA triple jump title during the 2009 outdoor season, besting the field of qualifiers from all Division I, II and III programs in New England.

A native of Burkina Faso, Africa, Samma graduated as the program’s all-time leading scorer and he set school records in the indoor and outdoor triple jump, the indoor high jump, and the indoor 55 meter dash, and he ran the leadoff leg on the school record setting 4x200 meter relay team. Samma was honored as the program’s Rookie of the Year in 2007. He was recognized as a leader by his coaches and peers, and was named as a team captain for both his junior and senior seasons. At the conclusion of his senior campaign, Samma was honored as the program’s Most Valuable Performer.

Earning his degree in biochemistry, Samma conducted lab research with the College’s award winning faculty member Marc Zimmer. He completed an honors thesis entitled “The Study of Rotational Freedom of the Chromophore of an Infrared Flourescent Protein.”

During commencement weekend, Samma was honored with the Anita L. DeFrantz ‘74 Award. It is given annually to the male and female members of the graduating class whose athletic ability, leadership and sportsmanship best exemplify the qualities of Olympic medalist Anita L. DeFrantz ‘74. After graduation, Samma continued to compete in the triple jump while he was employed at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. He went on to earn his Master’s Degree in Public Health in Paris, France, before enrolling in medical school in Brussels, Belgium.
GAAR TALANIAN ’86
Hockey

Gaar Talianian’s impact on the Camel men’s ice hockey program was transformative. His leadership and talent on the blue line for Connecticut College Athletic Hall of Fame Coach Doug Roberts’ early teams led the program from its infancy to the top of the ladder in the ECAC South.

With Talianian paving the way, the Camels won the ECAC South title four years later, leading to the program’s invitation to join the highly competitive ECAC East that would evolve into the current NESCAC hockey league.

A two-year captain, two-time MVP and leader on and off the ice, Talianian scored 30 goals and dished out 56 assists for a career total of 86 points. In his rookie season on the blue line, Talianian and the Camels posted a 13-9 record (.591) in just their third season as a varsity program. At the conclusion of the season, Talianian was honored by Roberts with the program’s Unsung Hero Award. During his sophomore campaign, Talianian accounted for eight goals while assisting on 15 others for a season total of 23 points. In his junior year, Talianian was recognized as a leader by his coaches and teammates and wore the captain’s C on his Camel sweater. In his first season as a captain of the defense, Talianian potted six goals and doled out 15 assists for a season total of 21 points to help the Camels make a one game improvement in the win column. As a senior captain, Talianian and his teammates established the gold standard for all future Camel skaters to follow. The team posted a record of 16-6 (.727), earning a spot in the finals of the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) South Championship. By season’s end, the Camels ascended to the top of the ECAC rankings.

The Camels won the Spurrier and McCabe Tournaments for the first time in program history that season. Talianian posted a career best 27 points to finish third on the squad in scoring with seven goals and 20 assists. In his four years on the ice, Talianian helped bring the program forward from its infancy to post a 44-39 record (.530). He was twice recognized as the ECAC Defensive Player of the Week during his prolific playing career on the blue line. The success of the 1985-86 season galvanized the program and its supporters as the Camels would go on to win 16 games or more for each of the next four seasons, an historic run that culminated in the program’s first-ever ECAC title in 1990.

Since his graduation from Connecticut College, Talianian has continued to dedicate time and resources to the sport he loves as a volunteer in the Greater Boston area. He has coached youth hockey at the squirt, peewee and bantam classifications in Arlington, Massachusetts. Talianian has also committed his time as a volunteer to many other worthy causes. He has served as a Relay for Life Team Captain for the Arlington Board of Youth Services. He has also volunteered time with his teams to assist the less fortunate at the renowned Perkins School for the Blind. Talianian and his wife Lori have two children, Josh and Ava.
Athletic Hall of Fame Members

1989
Anita DeFrantz ’74 (rowing)
James Gabarra ’81 (soccer)
Mildred Howard ’20 (field hockey)

1990
David Litoff ’83 (cross country, track & field)
Bambi Flickinger Schweitzer ’75 (tennis)

1991
James Cawley ’74 (basketball)
Jack Cruise (sports reporter, The Day)
Susan Ford ’67 (basketball, field hockey, lacrosse)
Frances Pratt ’60 (lacrosse)

1992
Sally Smith LaPointe ’56 (field hockey, lacrosse)
Wayne Malinowski ’81 (basketball)
Jan Merrill Morin ’79 (cross country, track & field)

1993
Catherine Menges Zagunis ’74 (rowing, swimming)

1995
Rocco Damiano ’82 (soccer)
Laura Lidell Peck ’81 (rowing)

1996
Charles B. Luce Sr. (director of athletics)
Rita MacInnis Luce ’82 (basketball)

1997
James Brown ’89 (ice hockey)
Jane McKee Douglas ’84 (field hockey, lacrosse, swimming)
Tom Gately ’91 (lacrosse)
Jane Dornan Smith ’55 (basketball, field hockey, softball)

1998
Jeff Geddes ’89 (soccer)
Laura Brunner Gulden ’86 (basketball)

1999
Tracey Finer ’87 (basketball)
Lynne Quintal Hill ’87 (basketball)
Sarah Hurst ’91 (lacrosse, tennis)
Peter Johnstone ’88 (sailing)
Eva Cahalan Shea ’91 (lacrosse, soccer)
Matt Shea ’93 (lacrosse)
Tim Young ’92 (rowing)

2001
Anne Carberry Corridan ’91 (soccer)
Tom Fleming ’84 (basketball)
James Luce ’79 (soccer)
Mary Elizabeth Stone ’49 (rowing)
Kristen Supko ’92 (soccer, lacrosse)

2002
Sam Landau ’87 (field hockey, lacrosse)
Cliff Larrabee (head coach of swimming, assistant coach of track & field)
Jane Cadwell Lott ’36 (swimming)
Thomas Olsen ’85 (sailing)
Carl Soane ’85 (tennis)

2003
Nigel Bentley ’83 (ice hockey, tennis)
Elizabeth Lynch Cheney ’92 (basketball)
Colin Corkery ’81 (cross country, track & field)
Bobby Driscoll ’94 (lacrosse, soccer)
Sheila Leniart-Lamothe ’89 (swimming)
Margaretta Shaw Read ’57 (field hockey, sailing, softball)
Athletic Hall of Fame Members

2004
Patricia Moe Andrews ’84 (gymnastics)
Laurie Maxon Katz ’65 (fencing)
Abbey Tyson ’92 (field hockey, squash, lacrosse)
Kevin Wolfe ’88 (soccer)

2005
Peter Dorfman ’84 (basketball)
Meg Gaillard ’95 (sailing)
Kim-An Hernandez ’99 (soccer, lacrosse)
Chip Orcutt ’84 (ice hockey, soccer)

2006
Jessica Archibald ’95 (rowing)
David Barron ’94 (track & field)
Damien DePeter ’95 (lacrosse)
Patricia Robinson ’47 (field hockey, basketball, softball)
Sheryl Yeary (head coach of tennis, squash, volleyball)

2007
Phil Craft ’82 (tennis)
Maura Danahy ’02 (cross country, track & field)
Todd Taplin ’89 (soccer, ice hockey)
Kareem Tatum ’01 (basketball)

2008
Caroline Davis ’99 (soccer, basketball)
Dan Gallagher ’81 (rowing)
Livingston Johnson ’79 (rowing)
Joan Fluegelman Wexler ’53 (field hockey, basketball, softball)

2009
Susan Mabrey Gaud ’68 (tennis, basketball, field hockey, lacrosse)
Kim Holliday McElderry ’97 (field hockey)
Sarah Pitt-Del Cristo ’86 (swimming)

2010
Katherine Grinnell Peila ’89 (track & field)
Timothy Smith ’90 (tennis, soccer)
Zach Smith ’99 (basketball)
Meghan J. Welch ’00 (lacrosse, soccer)

2011
Elizabeth Ashforth Bacon ’78 (field hockey, lacrosse)
Tracy Hayley Smith ’97 (sailing)
Doug Roberts (men’s ice hockey coach)
1998-1999 men’s basketball team

2012
Judy Fontaine-Higgins ’79 (track & field)
Beth Offenhartz Carlson ’81 (volleyball)
Tom Hudner ’95 (lacrosse, soccer)
Meghan Barry ’97 (rowing)

2013
Tom Burke ’81 (lacrosse, soccer, squash)
Caroline Twomey Gilbert ’86 (field hockey, lacrosse)
Michael Moccia ’89 (ice hockey)
Kate Kovenock ’05 (swimming)

2014
Kerry Newhall ’98 (track & field)
Tim Boyd ’01 (lacrosse, ice hockey)
Adam Fitzgerald ’03 (cross country, track & field)
Anne Parmenter (field hockey & lacrosse coach)

2015
Chris Capone ’97 (lacrosse)
Bill Lessig (men’s soccer & women’s basketball coach)
Glen Miller (men’s basketball coach)
Betsy Woods McNeil (women’s soccer)