

Horseheads Central School District



From left to right: Chris Honness, Shanetha McLaurin, Rob Phillips, Rick Gryska, and Doug Wiley

On Sept. 27, 2024, Horseheads High School alumni and coaches were recognized during the 2024 Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Those being inducted include the following:

- **Rick Gryska, Class of 1995** - Rick excelled in both football and baseball. In football, he was a standout quarterback with impressive stats and accolades: All-Twin Tiers selections, Ernie Davis Award nominations, and key contributions to Horseheads' first Section 4 championship in 1994. His baseball career was equally stellar, highlighted by a 11-1 senior season, crucial wins in state semifinals, and multiple all-league honors. Named Horseheads High School Male Athlete of the Year in 1995, Rick later made significant impacts as a coach across various sports, leading teams to sectional titles and demonstrating his enduring commitment to athletics.
- **Chris Honness, Coach** - Chris was a dedicated teacher and coach at Horseheads. Chris made a significant impact across multiple sports. As head coach of varsity wrestling from 1987-94, he led his teams to four STC titles, including three consecutive championships from 1992 to 1994. In varsity lacrosse, he guided the team to its first-ever Section 4 Class A title in 1987. Honness also contributed as an assistant varsity soccer coach and a modified soccer coach. Throughout his career, he was a committed physical education teacher, shaping and inspiring students both on and off the field.

- **Shanetha McLaurin, Class of 2006** - Shanetha excelled in both softball and volleyball. In softball, she was recognized as a STAC Metro/West all-conference player as a junior and a STAC West all-division selection as a senior. In volleyball, McLaurin was a STAC West second-team honoree in 2005 and played a crucial role in leading her team to the state finals that year and the state semifinals as a junior. Her impressive high school career continued with four seasons at Syracuse University, showcasing her talent and dedication.
- **Rob Phillips, Class of 2000** - Rob was a versatile athlete with notable achievements in baseball, football, and wrestling. In baseball, he earned STAC West all-star honors and played a crucial role in Horseheads' 1999 state championship, scoring both runs in the Class A state final. On the football field, Phillips was a two-time All-Twin Tiers selection, with standout performances including multiple touchdowns and key plays as both a runner and receiver. In wrestling, he was a STAC West all-star and a two-time Section 4 Class A champion. His diverse talents and contributions made him a standout athlete across multiple sports.
- **Doug Wiley, Class of 1965** - Doug was a standout athlete with an illustrious basketball career, earning First Team All-Twin Tiers honors twice and leading in scoring both in the city and the Twin Tiers during the 1963-64 and 1964-65 seasons. A finalist for Basketball Player of the Year in both years, he led his team to two STC League Championships and a remarkable 18-1 record in his senior year. Additionally, Wiley was a consistent performer in track and field and baseball, earning three letters in each sport. His legacy as a versatile and dominant athlete remains unmatched.