

Wednesday June 25th, 2014

15th
Lee Remmel Sports
Awards Banquet

Presented By



Rotary Club of De Pere

Swan Club at Legends



LEE REMMEL

SPORTS AWARDS BANQUET

2014

The host and namesake for the Lee Rummel Sports Awards Banquet, Lee Rummel has been associated with the regional and national sports scene for 60 years....initially for 29-plus years as a journalist followed by over 30 years as the Green Bay Packers Director of Public Relations and Team Historian.

Now retired, Lee has had in the course of his two ‘careers’, the opportunity to work with...or around every head coach the Packers have had, beginning with team founder E.L. ‘Curly’ Lambeau in 1945 and including current Head Coach Mike McCarthy.

He also has been involved in staffing 40 Super Bowlsthe first eight as a sportswriter and columnist for the Green Bay Press-Gazette, 29 as a member of the National Football League’s auxiliary media staff and two Super Bowls as a member of the Packers’ front office when Green Bay made back-to-back appearances in professional football’s ultimate game.

His half century association with the Packers was formally recognized on March 30th, 1996, when he was inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame.

In 1967, he was voted Wisconsin ‘Sports Writer of the Year’ in the midst of a career which has seen him span the sports spectrum, professionally speaking, spending 15 years in coverage of high school sports; football, basketball, track, golf, tennis and boxing, and another decade covering hockey, including the 1962 World Ice Hockey championships.

Along the way, he has had the opportunity to interview such icons of the sports world as Don Hutson, Joe Louis, Curly Lambeau, George Halas, Vince Lombardi, Paul Brown, Pete Rozelle, Tom Landry and Paul Tagliabue as well as Jesse Owens, Warren Spahn, Henry Aaron, Ernie Banks, Don Shula, John Madden, Bud Grant and Gary Player among a host of others.

A native of Shawano, Wisconsin, who launched his career as sports editor of a weekly newspaper while a freshman at Shawano High School, he retired after he completed his 33rd year as a member of the Green Bay Packers front office.

The Lee Rummel Sports Awards Banquet honors five recipients annually. The award categories are Distinguished Service, Professional Achievement, Collegiate Achievement, Superior Achievement and Prep Achievement. Lee comments on the banquet. “It has been a great pleasure for me to have my name associated with an annual event of this stature. Because of my longtime involvement with all categories of athletics, I am especially pleased to accord recognition through this banquet. I am also delighted that the proceeds of this banquet will go to support young men and women achieve their educational and athletic dreams through scholarship opportunities.”



LEE REMMEL

SPORTS AWARDS BANQUET

2014

Welcome

Mark Daniels
Sports Director, WNFL/WTAQ

Invocation

Rev. Richard Getchel

Dinner

Introduction of Rotary Representative

Mark Daniels
Sports Director, WNFL/WTAQ

Rotary Presentation

Introduction of Banquet MC

Mark Daniels
Sports Director, WNFL/WTAQ

Introduction of Head Table

Bill Jartz, WBAY TV
Master of Ceremonies

Presentation of Awards

Awards Program

Bill Jartz, WBAY TV
Master of Ceremonies

• **Prep Achievement Award Recipients**

Kennedy Blahnik
Algoma High School
Presenter: Dean Blahnik, Coach/Father

Bonnie Draxler
Wrightstown High School
Presenter: Rob Draxler, Coach/Father

• **Collegiate Achievement Award Recipient**

**University of Wisconsin
Whitewater**
Presenter: Bill Jartz, WBAY TV

• **Superior Achievement Award Recipient**

Johnnie Gray
Retired-Green Bay Packers
Presenter: Bill Jartz, WBAY TV

• **Professional Achievement Award Recipient**

Drew Nowak
Jacksonville Jaguars
Presenter: Greg Rabas
Drew's coach at De Pere High School

• **Distinguished Service Award Recipient**

John Schneider
Executive Vice-President/GM
Seattle Seahawks
Presenter: Bill Jartz, WBAY TV

Final Comments - Bill Jartz, WBAY TV

Kennedy Blahnik.....a 3 year letter winner in volleyball, earning all-conference honors in 2012 and 2013.....a 4 year letter winner in basketball where she played on teams that placed second in the state in 2010-11 and 2013-14 and were state champions in 2012-2013. Her junior and senior years she was first team all-conference and named to the WBCA All-State team. Kennedy was a 4 year letter winner in track and was the state champion in the shot put and the discus all four years, and one of only four female athletes to accomplish this in state history and the first ever in Field Events only. She ranks second all-time in Wisconsin state history for the shot put and the discuss and in 2014 was ranked third nationally in the discus. Kennedy was also a class officer all four years, homecoming queen in 2013, prom queen in 2013, band member, forensics club member and ski club member. She volunteered to help with Algoma 3on3 basketball, school basketball camp and the Algoma Halloween Walk fundraiser. Kennedy is also involved with her church by helping with fundraisers, a Teen League member and Vacation Bible School teacher. Kennedy is the daughter of Dean and Terri Blahnik and she has a sister Alex (23), a brother Zach (20) and a sister Bobbi (11). She is a University of Wisconsin recruit.



Bonnie Draxler.....Bonnie has set numerous records in league, conference tournaments and the state tournament over the past 4 years..... .she is nationally ranked in the Pole Vault and was a member of the 2013 USA Junior Pan Am team...Bonnie has 10 Wisconsin state championships to her credit as a two time state champion in the 100M, 2013 and 2014, and was the state champion in the 400M and the Pole Vault in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014...she is the all-division pole vault record holder at 13' 3"....her many awards include the Appleton Post Crescent female track athlete of the year for 2011, 2012, 2013 and the Green Bay Press Gazette female track athlete of the year for 2012, 2013 and 2014, first team all-conference track all four years and girls track captain in 2014. Bonnie is also a 2 time All American YMCA gymnast, a 15 time YMCA state gymnastic champion and a 5 time AAU TKD state champion. She is a member of the Teen Outreach Club, Spanish Club, FBLA 4 year member and president for 2 years, Student Council member for 2 years and a member of the National Honor Society. Bonnie is the daughter of Rob and Sue Draxler and has two sisters, Michelle and Victoria. She is a San Diego State recruit.





University of Wisconsin - Whitewater

Division III National Champions in Football, Basketball and Baseball

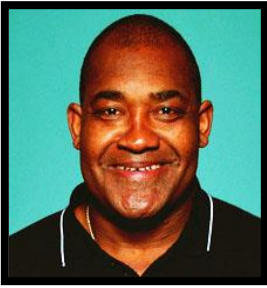
In only 151 days, the University of Wisconsin Whitewater Warhawks did something no university in N.C.A.A. history had accomplished: win national championships in football, men's basketball and baseball in one school year.

With 245 Division III teams competing in football, 378 in baseball and 417 in basketball, the odds of that trifecta were 1 in 38,618,370.

Whitewater, which has an undergraduate enrollment of about 11,000—large for a Division III university—has always fielded high-level athletic teams. But in recent years, the Warhawks' dominance has reached new heights. The pinnacle, of course, came in the last few months, during which Lance Leipold's football program, Pat Miller's basketball program and John Vodenlich's baseball program each won a championship. All three coaches played at Whitewater, and each became the successor to his college coach. In addition, the women's gymnastics team at Whitewater won a national championship this season, and the wrestlers were national runners-up. Seventeen of the university's 20 athletic teams advanced to postseason competition, and the university produced 63 all-Americans, as well as seven student-athletes of the year in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Perhaps no one has raised the bar of excellence higher than Lance Leipold. Leipold, a standout quarterback at Whitewater in the mid-1980s, served as an assistant in the college ranks for 20 years. He returned to Whitewater in 2007 to replace Bob Berezowitz, the man he once played for. In the time since, Leipold has taken a good program and made it great, compiling a 94-6 record. In the process, Whitewater has supplanted Mount Union as the country's dominant Division III football program. Leipold has guided the Warhawks to five national championships in seven years—including four in the last five. Whitewater's basketball team produced the most dramatic moment. The Warhawks trailed Williams, 73-72, with 4.9 seconds left during the national title game in late March. But guard Quardell Young drove the length of the court, scored and was fouled with 0.9 of a second left. Young then completed the 3-point play, giving Whitewater a thrilling 75-73 win. The championship was the program's second in three years and the fourth in its history. Miller, a standout guard on the Warhawks' 1989 title team, took over the program 13 years ago and has gone 291-83 (.778) since. After Miller's team won its championship, all eyes turned to the baseball program. Vodenlich, a former all-American catcher at Whitewater, acknowledged he felt more pressure than normal. Warhawk baseball was up to the challenge, going 44-7 overall, winning 19 of their final 20 games and beating Emory in the championship game, 7-0.

2014 Superior Achievement Recipient



Johnnie Gray

Green Bay Packers - Retired

Johnnie Gray was born in Lake Charles Louisiana to John and Bernice Gray. His father was a machinist in the United States Air Force so the family spent time in Puerto Rico, Tampa Florida and finally Lompoc, California where he retired. Johnnie began playing baseball in Lompoc and went to school with former Milwaukee Brewer, Roy Howell and Ed Rodgers, father of Packers quarterback, Aaron Rodgers. While he played a lot of baseball, that didn't seem to be his sport and by the time he reached his senior year in high school he had been cut from the baseball team twice and the Legion team once. His mother suggested he try football since he wasn't going to sit around and watch television all summer.

Johnnie turned to football and attended Allan Hancock Junior College in Santa Maria. He made the team as a reserve; however, as the result of an injury to a starting defensive back in the first game of the season, he was inserted into the game and finished with three interceptions and the starting job. In 1971-72 he was named to the All-Conference team. Johnnie received a scholarship to Cal State Fullerton and earned All-Conference honors in 1973-74

Johnnie signed a free agent contract with the Green Bay Packers in 1975 and played safety in 124 games during his career (1975-1983) and was named to the NFL All-Rookie team in 1975. He is proud to say that he played for two Pro-Football Hall of Famers in Head Coach, Bart Starr and Defensive Backs Coach, Dick Lebeau. He was inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 1993.

Johnnie is currently an Instructional Aide at Syble Hopp School in De Pere. A member of the Board of Directors for the Green Bay Packers, gives motivational talks at Packer Youth Camps throughout the state under the packers Hero program, spokesperson for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate), TV analyst for WLUK Fox-11, Green Bay and WAOW, Wausau, radio analyst for WDUZ the Fan, Green Bay and ESPN, Wausau and is an NFL Game Day Uniform Inspector.

Johnnie and Barb Gerke-Gray currently live in De Pere, Wisconsin. Their family includes stepson Todd Danen, his wife Mary and sons Alec and Peyton, daughter Rachel and her children Jackson, Michael and Deringer and son John.

2014 Professional Achievement Recipient



Drew Nowak Jacksonville Jaguars

Drew Nowak, a De Pere native, is an offensive guard for the Jacksonville Jaguars of the NFL. Drew attended De Pere High School and was a member of the Redbird Bay Conference Championship team in 2005 and champions of the newly aligned Fox River Classic Conference in 2007. He was a two time All Fox River Classic Conference selection, unanimous All Fox River Valley Conference on offense and defense as well as being named the conference Defensive Player of the Year. Drew served as team captain for two years and graduated with 291 tackles and 36 sacks as a Redbird. He was ranked #8 in Wisconsin by Scout.com.

Drew moved on to play collegiately at Western Michigan University. While at WMU, Drew was named the Mid-American Conference Defensive Player of the Year, first team all-conference and led the Mid-American Conference with 8.5 sacks and ranked second in tackles (20), for a loss his senior year. His career as a Bronco included; 180 tackles, 30 TFL's, 11 sacks, 5 forced fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries and 4 blocked kicks. He capped off his career by becoming the 16th All-American in Western Michigan University history.

Drew was not selected during the NFL Draft and on May 4th, 2012 he signed a free agent contract to play for the Jacksonville Jaguars. After signing to play defensive tackle, Drew was switched to offensive guard and played well enough that the switch was made permanent. After fighting through an early season injury he finally hit the field for a regular season game on December 22nd, 2013. He continues to develop the necessary skills to be an offensive lineman with anticipation toward the 2014 season.

Drew was born and raised in De Pere, Wisconsin. His parents, Russ and Denise Nowak, have enjoyed working with and watching Drew achieve his dream of playing in the National Football League. Drew has 3 siblings, an older brother Bill, and 2 younger sisters, Carli and Alli.

In March of 2014, Drew married his college sweetheart, Maria Iaquaniello, who also played Division 1 basketball at WMU. They live most of the year in Jacksonville where both of them participate in numerous team and organized charity events.

2014 Distinguished Service Recipient



John Schneider, Executive Vice President/General Manager of the NFL's Seattle Seahawks will receive the Distinguished Service Award at the Lee Rimmel Sports Awards Banquet, hosted by De Pere Rotary.

Schneider, a native of De Pere, WI, attended De Pere's Abbot Pennings High School and finished as one of the school's all-time leading rushers, he then attend the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul MN, where he earned a degree in history and played football for one year before a shoulder injury cut short his career.

After graduating, Schneider returned to Green Bay, serving as pro personnel assistant for four years (1993-96) and playing an integral role in the signing of several free agents who would help make up the team that won Super Bowl XXXI in New Orleans.

Before joining the Seahawks in January 2010, Schneider enjoyed eight successful seasons with the Green Bay Packers. Originally joining the Packers March 1, 2002, as a personnel analyst to the general manager, he was promoted in May of 2008 to director of football operations. In his role, Schneider served as strategic counsel to General Manager Ted Thompson, addressing and evaluating the needs of the team in both free agency and in the draft while incorporating long-range planning processes that examined the Packers' roster, as well as the rosters of all NFL teams. Before rejoining the Packers in 2002, he spent three seasons with the Kansas City Chiefs (1997-99), one year with the Seahawks (2000) and a year with the Washington Redskins (2001) as vice president of player personnel.

John and his wife Traci have two sons, Ben, 10, and Jack, 8, and in 2012 they launched "Ben's Fund" in partnership with Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT) of Washington. Named after their oldest son, "Ben's Fund" provides grants to families in order to help cover costs associated with medical bills, therapies and numerous other aspects of supporting a child, or children, on the autism spectrum. In their inaugural event, a celebrity waiter dinner, \$250,000 was raised for "Ben's Fund."



John Schneider
Seattle Seahawks

Lee Remmel Sports Awards Recipients 1998-2013

	1998	1999	2000
Distinguished Service	Bob Harlan (Packers President & CEO)	Bud Selig MLB Commissioner	Dick Bennett UW Basketball Coach
Professional Achievement	Ryan Longwel Green Bay Packers	Vonnie Holiday Green Bay Packers	Bill Schroeder Green Bay Packers
Superior Achievement	Karen Bye Olympic Womens Hockey	Bob Gregorski Golfer	Jeff Pagels Mountain Climber
Collegiate Achievement	Chari Nordgaard UWGB Basketball	Rob Smillie SNC Hockey	Casey Rabach UW Football
Prep Achievement	Nick Greisen	Ryan Warpinski	Kyle Gruscynski Seymour HS Basketball
	2001	2002	2003
Distinguished Service	Bart Starr Former Packer/NFL HOF	Ron Wolf VP/GM Green Bay Packers	Pat Richter UW Athletic Director
Professional Achievement	Ahman Green Green Bay Packers	Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila Green Bay Packers	Donald Driver Green Bay Packers
Superior Achievement	Garrett Lowney Olympic Wrestler	Casey FitzRandolph Olympic Medal Winner/Skating	Kevin Borseth UWGB Girls BB Coach
Collegiate Achievement	Kevin Stemke UW Football	Jeremiah Janssen SNC Football	TimDworak UW Oshkosh Basketball
Prep Achievement	Notre Dame Academy Girls Basketball Team	Caitlin Shannon De Pere HS Runner	Brian Butch Appleton West HS Basketball
	2004	2005	2006
Distinguished Service	Jerry Kramer GB Packers/NFL Hall of Fame	Barry Alvarez UW Football Coach	Willie Davis GB Packers/NFL Hall of Fame
Professional Achievement	Chad Clifton Green Bay Packers	Nick Barnett Green Bay Packers	Aaron Kampman Green Bay Packers
Superior Achievement	Jon Murphy Seymour HS BB Coach	Tim Coghlin SNC Hockey Coach	Connie Tilley SNC Girls BB Coach
Collegiate Achievement	Dan Boeser UW Hockey	Tiffany Mor UWGB Basketball	Brian Calhoun UW Football
Prep Achievement	Joe Walker Notre Dame Academy Football	De Pere High School Girls Basketball Team	Ashwaubenon High School Football Team
	2007	2008	2009
Distinguished Service	Fred 'Fuzzy' Thurston GB Packers Hall of Fame	Mike McCarthy Head Coach/GB Packers	Lee Remmel Retired Packer PR/Historian
Professional Achievement	Daryn Colledge Green Bay Packers	Mark Tauscher Green Bay Packers	Greg Jennings Green Bay Packers
Superior Achievement	John Kolstad Retired GB East BB Coach	Ken Golomski Retired Ashwauben HS Coach	De Pere Legion Baseball
Collegiate Achievement	Nicole Soulis UW Green Bay Womens BB	St. Norbert Hockey Team 2008 D-3 National Champions	Mike Schachtner, Ryan Tillema, Terry Evans UW=Green Bay Basketball
Prep Achievement	Wrightstown High School State Football Champions	Zac Cibula Luxemburg-Casco 4 Time State Wrestling Champion	Girls & Boys Golf Teams Notre Dame Academy

2010**2013****Distinguished Service**

Paul Hornung
Former GB Packer Great

Dave Robinson
Former GB Packer Great

Professional Achievement

Charles Woodson
Green Bay Packers

AJ Hawk
Green Bay Packers

Superior Achievement

Bill Turnquist
West De Pere
Head Coach - Football

Pat Prochnow
Green Bay Preble (Ret)
Head Coach Football/Track

Collegiate Achievement

Adam Koch
Ashwaubenon & Northern Iowa
Basketball

Mike Taylor
Ashwaubenon & Wisconsin
Football

Prep Achievement

N.E.W. Lutheran Boys
Basketball Team

Notre Dame, Kewaunee and
Algoma - Girls Basketball
2013 State Champions

A bright yellow, curved swoosh graphic that starts near the top left and curves towards the right, partially overlapping the word 'Signatures'.

Signatures

Lee Remmel Sports Awards Banquet - Major Sponsors



Rotary Club of De Pere



WBAY-TV



Proceeds from this event benefit Collegiate and High School Scholarships through De Pere Rotary