

HALL OF FAME

# Downers South sends five into Hall of Fame

Saturday, South High School in Downers Grove inducted five new members to its Athletic Hall of Fame: Chuck Novotny (Coach/Administrator), Cheryl Zemaitis-Ferguson ('85), Kurt Griesheim ('85), Dr. Adam Shafer ('94) and Kathy Smith (Griesheim) ('83).

Novotny's accomplishments include: Worked at South High from 1965-1986, serving as the school's first athletic director as well as a physical education teacher and department chair, served as head boys soccer coach from 1976-1986, bringing home the very first state trophy for DGS in 1983—4th in the state, served as head and assistant coach in wrestling and soccer, leading wrestlers to two IHSA District titles in 1970 and 1973 and served as head and assistant soccer coach, winning the Des Plaines Valley Conference title in 1979 and 1980; made regular appearances in the IHSA state series

in the early 1980's. In 1981, team advanced to the IHSA Elite 8, earned a fourth place trophy in 1983 and had another Elite 8 appearance in 1985.

Zemaitis-Ferguson's accomplishments include: Volleyball player for DGS, serving as both captain and team MVP for the Mustangs and for three years was named to the Maine West all-tournament team, All-Conference, All-Area by the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun Times and was named one of the Best Young Players by the Chicago Tribune. She was also named to All-State Team by the Chicago Sun Times and Chicago Tribune.

She played club ball for Sports Performance Rehabilitation Institute (SPRI), a Junior Olympic Team that won a National Championship where she was named MVP of the tournament.

She was the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year in her freshman and sophomore year at University of Iowa and All-Conference at Lewis University.

Griesheim's accomplishments include: Three-sport athlete at DGS in wrestling, soccer and gymnastics and also played club volleyball, an IHSA Regional champion his sophomore, junior and senior years, a three-time champion at DGS invitational, a two-time champion of the Rex Whitlatch Invitational, won Conant Cougar Classic and named Chicago Tribune Athlete of the Week.

In his senior year he amassed 45 wins and went on to win regional and sectional tournaments. Placed third at the IHSA state tournament, earning him All-State honors.

He played in the Volleyball Junior Olympics from 1984-86 and participated in the Prairie State

games.

Dr. Shafer's accomplishments include: Four-year starting basketball player, was named Adidas All-American as well as to multiple All-Area teams chosen by the Chicago Sun-Times, Chicago Tribune, and Daily Herald, including 1994 Player of the Year, All-time leading scorer at DGS, holding the highest three-point shooting percentage for a season at DGS, led the WSG conference in receptions and yards as a football wide-receiver his junior year and a four-time All-Conference and All-Tournament pick for the West-Suburban Gold (WSG) and York Holiday Tournament in basketball.

Played basketball at Villanova

University and University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Smith's accomplishments include: Four-year varsity letter winner in volleyball, instrumental in winning three consecutive Des Plaines Valley Conference titles (1980-83); named All-League twice, 1981 and 1982 volleyball team captain and MVP, she was named to the Suburban Tribune and Sun Times All-Area teams and also named to numerous all-tournament teams.

In 1982 she was named first team All-State by the Champaign News Gazette and the Chicago Tribune.

Three-time All-Big Ten selection and named 1983 freshman player of the year at University of Iowa.