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2005-06 CMSU Athletic Hall of Fame inductees announced

(WARRENSBURG, Mo.) – Eight individuals and two teams make up the 2005-06 class of the Central Missouri State University of Athletic Hall of Fame.

Joining the Hall of Fame this season are **Ted Bozarth** (men's basketball, 1967-71) from the early era; **Julie Cobb** (softball, 1996-99), **Jim Clevenger** (golf, 1979-82), **Jeff Phillips** (football, 1985-88), **Andrei Skvortsov** (men's track & field, 1997-2000), and **Ben Slemmer** (baseball, 1995-98); **Dr. Ron Van Dam** and **Dr. Tom Hairabedian** in the special recognition category; and the **1996 Mules indoor track & field team** and the **2000 Mules baseball team**.

Early Era

Ted Bozarth – Men's Basketball, 1967-71

Bozarth ranks fourth in school history in scoring (1,429 points, 15.2 ppg) and was named first-team All-MIAA as a sophomore and junior. A Warrensburg native, he helped the Mules finish as MIAA co-champions as a junior and senior and helped lead CMSU to a regional runner-up finish in 1970

Modern Era

Julie Cobb - Softball, 1996-99

Cobb was a four-time All-MIAA selection, twice earning first-team mentions. The 1999 MIAA MVP, she also was first-team All-Region and second-team All-American in 1999. Also an outstanding student, Cobb was a three-time Academic All-American (third-team in 1997, first-team in 1998 and 1999) and three-time Academic All-MIAA. The Ken B. Jones Award winner in 1999 (she finished third in Ken B. Jones Award balloting in 1998), Cobb ranks in the top 10 in school history in career batting average (1st, .381), slugging percentage (1st, .557), hits (2nd, 199), total bases (2nd, 291), runs (3rd, 115), doubles (3rd, 44), walks, 52), runs batted in (4th, 103), home runs (5th, 10), stolen bases (T-5th, 20), triples (T-8th, 9), at bats (9th, 522), and games played (10th, 180); holds school record with a .423 batting average in 1999.

Jim Clevenger - Golf, 1979-82

Clevenger was a three-time MIAA Champion and four-time All-MIAA golfer: 1979 (3rd), 1980 (1st), 1981 (1st when he set the MIAA record with six-under par 138), 1982 (1st). An All-American in 1980, he currently is head golf coach at Army.

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Jeff Phillips - Football, 1985-88

Holder of the Mules game and season records for total offense (409 vs. Missouri-Rolla in 1986 and 2,709 in 1987), Phillips also holds the CMSU marks for passing yards in a game (432 vs. UMR in 1986 and season 2,854 in 1987), passes completed in a game (31 vs. Southwest Missouri State in 1986), and touchdown passes in a game (six vs. Lincoln in 1987). He also has the second highest single-season passing mark (2,493) and ranks third in school history in career passing (6,294 yards). The first player in CMSU history to be named MIAA Most Valuable Player two years in a row, he was first-team Academic All-District and second-team Academic All-American in 1986. In 1986 he was chosen USA Today's Missouri Collegiate Amateur Achiever.

Andrei Skvortsov - Men's Track & Field, 1997-2000

Skvortsov was a three-time national champion in the pole vault (indoor in 1997, indoor in 1998, and outdoor 2000). He also was a five-time All-American and holds the Mules' records in the pole vault for both indoor (17-8) and outdoor (18-0). Skvortsov holds the CMSU Multipurpose Building pole vault record and the Walton Stadium record in the event, and also has the MIAA indoor and outdoor pole vault records.

Ben Slemmer - Baseball, 1995-98

A two-time All-American, Slemmer was Co-MIAA Most Valuable Player in 1998. He holds the school career record with 199 runs batted in, and is second in hits (261) and home runs (30), third in runs scored (215), fourth in doubles (54), sixth in triples (11), and eighth in stolen bases (75).

Special Recognition

Dr. Ron VanDam

Head Athletic Trainer

Dr. Ron VanDam was instrumental in developing Central Missouri State's athletic training program into one of the finest in the country. He served 28 (as of 1997) years as CMSU's head athletic trainer and was inducted into the Missouri Sports Medicine Hall of Fame in December 1988. A professor of physical education during his tenure at the university, VanDam came to CMSU in 1969.

Tom Hairabedian

Swimming Coach/Competitive Swimmer

Tom Hairabedian served as men's and women's swim coach when CMSU sponsored the sport in the 1970s and 1980s. It is since his retirement, though, that Hairabedian has made his mark in the sport. Still a competitive diver in his 80s, Hairabedian most recently won four gold medals and set a record in the 80-and-over 1-meter masters division this past August at the Masters National Diving Championship in Mission Viejo, Calif. Hairabedian, who also competed in the World Masters Games in Edmonton, is currently the diving coach for Lee's Summit and Lee's Summit West High Schools.

Teams

1996 Mules Indoor Track & Field

MIAA Champions in 1996, the Mules posted the highest national finish in school history by placing fourth in NCAA-II Indoor Track & Field Championships. That season nine Mules earned All-America honors, while one, Alexandr Alexin was national champion in the mile.

2000 Mules Baseball

The 2000 Mules baseball team finished 50-13 overall, 29-1 in the MIAA. Central Missouri State won the MIAA and the Regional titles and tied for fifth in NCAA-II. In addition, the Mules set a school-record for conference wins, and posted a 32-4 record at home, third best in school history. The 2000 CMSU Mules also started the school's current NCAA-II record streak of six consecutive seasons with at least 50 wins.

With the 2005-06 inductees, the Central Missouri State Athletic Hall of Fame now consists of 114 individuals and 38 teams.

The annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held Saturday, February 25 at 9:30 a.m. in the Elliott Union Ballroom. Tickets are \$12 per person and may be purchased by calling the CMSU Athletic Office at 660-543-4250.