



## Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame

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January 2010

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### Kenny Stabler to Speak at CSHoF Banquet



Kenny “The Snake” Stabler, quarterback of the 1977 Super Bowl champions, Oakland Raiders, will be the guest speaker at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet, Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club.

Stabler, 64, was born in Foley, Alabama. His high school football coach gave him his nickname because “that boy runs like a snake.”

Stabler played for Coach Bear Bryant at the University of Alabama, where he earned All-American status and was the MVP in the '67 Sugar Bowl.

In 1968, the scrambling lefthander joined the Oakland Raiders and Coach John Madden where he became a five-time Pro-Bowl player. He was known for late game, come-from-behind drives that featured his deadly accurate passes to Cliff Branch, Fred Biletnikoff, and Dave Casper.

After a lengthy holdout, Kenny was traded to Houston in 1980. He played for the Bum Phillips coached Oilers for two seasons. Phillips liked his grit and brought Stabler with him to the New Orleans Saints. Kenny retired three years later in 1984.

Stabler is widely considered as one of the top 10 players not currently in the NFL Hall of Fame who deserve to be enshrined.

Tickets to the CSHoF Banquet are priced at \$50 each and are available at the Jock Shop (10 Harrison St., Jamestown), Stuczynski's Convenient Food Mart (33 Temple St., Fredonia) or by writing to the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame, Box 1192, Jamestown, NY 14702.

## Did You Know?

Here's a few interesting facts about the five newest inductees of the CSHoF who will be enshrined at our February 15<sup>th</sup> banquet:

**Art Asquith** pitched for the 1953 Olean Yankees of the Pennsylvania-Ohio-New York (PONY) League where his teammate was Bobby Richardson, World Series MVP in 1960 for the parent club. A rotator cuff injury forced Art to retire from pro ball and return to college after that season.

**Ray Caldwell**, pitching for the Cleveland Indians on August 24, 1919, held a 2-1 lead over the Philadelphia Athletics with two outs in the bottom of the ninth when he was struck by lightning and knocked unconscious. After being revived, Ray retired the final batter to preserve the win.

**Dave Criscione** celebrated the birth of his daughter, Keri, four days earlier by hitting a walk-off homerun in the 11<sup>th</sup> inning to lead his Baltimore Orioles over the Milwaukee Brewers on July 25, 1977. After his retirement from pro ball, he coached at SUNY Fredonia for over 20 years.

**Dr. Patrick Damore** was appointed as the first commissioner of the State University of New York Athletic Conference in 1979. He still holds that same position 32 years later. He is a member of the Athletic Halls of Fame at both SUNY Brockport and SUNY Fredonia.

**Tara VanDerveer**, the women's basketball coach at Stanford since 1985, led The Cardinal to NCAA Championships in 1990 and 1992. She also led the U.S. Olympic Team to the gold medal in 1996. Her teams have won over 750 games in 30 years of college coaching.

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The CSHoF website featured inductee for January is Bill Rollinger, who made his mark in the sport of swimming. Bill was a high school All-American at Erie Cathedral Prep and earned collegiate All-American status at Slippery Rock University.

Rollinger coached the boys swim team at Jamestown High School from 1968-1990, compiling a sensational 302-39 record. His teams won three sectional titles and 14 league crowns.

To learn more about Bill's impact on swimming in Chautauqua County, please visit [www.chautauquasportshalloffame.org](http://www.chautauquasportshalloffame.org).

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