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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Five Inducted into Cougar Sports Hall of Fame

MORRIS, Minnesota (September 20, 2016)—Outstanding athletes in men’s basketball, women’s soccer, and football have been inducted into the Cougar Sports Hall of Fame. Athletes will be honored at a reception and banquet Friday, October 7, as part of Morris’s Homecoming.

Roger Schnaser Holds 50-Year School Record in Men’s Basketball

Roger Schnaser ’67 was the first Morris player to be named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District 13 Team in 1965-66.

Schnaser came to Morris from Willmar Junior College. He averaged 23.2 points per game his junior year and 16.9 points per game his senior year, scoring a total of 956 points in two seasons. In one memorable weekend in 1966, the 6’6” center scored 41 points on Friday night against Jamestown College. The next day he scored 51 points against Ellendale College—a school record that has stood for 50 years.

Schnaser grew up in Appleton and had ambitions to be a cartoonist. He started out as an art major at Morris, but “as [he] played basketball, [he] decided [he] wanted to coach,” so he switched his major to physical education.

After college he served in the National Guard, then coached at Morris for a year under Noel Olson before becoming a physical education teacher and head basketball coach at Morris Area High School. After earning his master’s degree, Schnaser served as head men’s basketball coach at Peru State University in Peru, Nebraska.

Schnaser left coaching in 1975 and became a State Farm Insurance agent in Saint Paul. He retired in 2009. Now Schnaser and his wife, Linda Wieweck Schnaser ’71, divide their time between homes in Poinciana, Florida—where he enjoys making palm bark art—and Big Sandy Lake in McGregor.

Brad Svea Named Three-Time Men’s Basketball All-Conference Player

Brad Svea ’73 was a three-time Northern Intercollegiate Conference (NIC) All Conference athlete, in 1969–70, 1971–72, and 1972–73. He was the only Cougar—and the only freshman—named to the 1969–70 all-NIC team. The 6’6” forward was voted the Cougars’ Most Valuable Player three times and scored 1,159 points in his career. He was a primary ball handler, described by his teammates as a dominant player and praised for his quick hands and defensive talent. Svea, who grew up in Benson, worked in Facilities Management at Morris until retiring in 2016. He and his wife, Holly, live in Starbuck.

Rebecca Witters Gunn Posts Women’s Soccer Conference Highs

Rebecca Witters Gunn ’04 holds the fourth all-time Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) record for women’s soccer career goal assists with 21 and NSIC’s 11th-place record for single-season scoring with 2.67 points per game in 2000. She helped Morris capture the 2003 UMAC regular season championship.

The Morris midfielder notched 10 conference assists in 2000—the second-most in NSIC history—and nine conference assists in 2001—fourth in NSIC history. She was NSIC’s second-leading scorer in points per game in 2000, fourth in 2001, and third in 2002. Gunn ended her Morris soccer career with 55 goals, 41 assists, and 153 points.

Gunn was named to the NSIC All-Conference First Team in 2000, 2001, and 2002, and to the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) All-Conference First Team in 2003. She was UMAC Co-Player of the Year in 2003 and UMAC Player of the Week twice that year. Gunn also received Morris’s Female Athlete of the Year award in 2003.

Gunn went to high school in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where she was recruited by then-Morris women’s soccer coach Christian DeVries. She majored in sport management at Morris and served as assistant women’s soccer coach for a year after graduation. In 2005 she became assistant women’s soccer coach at Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia.

and in 2014 was named head coach.

Gunn and her husband, Keith, have two daughters: Jordan, 7, and Ryanne, 5.

Mari Sandom Destache Notches Women's Soccer Career High-Score

Mari Sandom Destache '05 holds Morris's career high-score record in women's soccer, with 70 career goals, 42 assists, and 182 career points. The standout midfielder helped Morris win the 2003 UMAC regular season championship. She was named UMAC Co-Player of the Year in 2003.

Destache was named to the NSIC All-Conference Team in 2001 and 2002 and to UMAC's All-Conference First Team in 2003 and 2004. She was a UMAC Player of the Week three times in 2003 and two times in 2004. She received Morris's Willis Kelly athletic award in 2005.

Destache grew up in Hudson, Wisconsin, and was recruited to play soccer by then-Morris women's soccer coach Christian DeVries. She majored in management at Morris, then earned a master of arts in human resources from Saint Mary's University. She is controller for Kraft Mechanical in Woodbury.

Destache and her husband, Travis Destache '05, live in Baldwin, Wisconsin. She plays in a Twin Cities-area summer women's soccer league.

Donnay Green Leads in Career Rushing

Donnay Green '05 finished his Morris football career with 3,281 rushing yards, 38 rushing touchdowns, and 232 career points—the most in Morris history. The running back, a walk-on for the Cougars, was named to the UMAC All-Conference First Team in 2003 and 2004.

In 2003 Green rushed for 267 yards and six touchdowns against Crown College, a school record. Green also set several other Morris records, including 20 rushing touchdowns and 1,669 rushing yards in 2003. He scored 122 points that year, another school record. In 2004 he scored 18 rushing touchdowns, the second-most in Morris history. In 2003 he was named to the AP Little All-American Third Team. He was twice named UMAC Player of the Week in 2003 and 2004. He received Morris's Arnold Henjum Scholar Athlete award in 2005.

Green, of South Holland, Illinois, is founder of DJG Consulting, which helps prepare high school students for the transition to college. He works primarily with immigrants, students of color, and first-generation college students. "Many first-generation college students feel ill-prepared for college," says Green, who was himself the first in his family to go to college. Once students start college, "it's sink or swim. I developed my consulting firm to assist students earlier," starting in junior high.

In addition to running DJG Consulting, Green serves as a program manager for a global coaching and leadership development organization.

Before starting his own company Green earned master of arts degrees in business administration and organizational management and served as assistant director of financial aid at Concordia University in Saint Paul.

Green grew up in Chicago and earned his undergraduate degree in speech communication. During his time at Morris Green was a leader in the Multi-Ethnic Student Program, served as a peer mentor, tutored elementary school students, and worked in the financial aid office. He is a past president of the Morris alumni association and currently serves on the board of directors. Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.

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