TENNIS, FOOTBALL, CROSS COUNTRY STANDOUTS TO JOIN KALAMAZOO COLLEGE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

A tennis duo which won back-to-back national doubles championships, a record setting quarterback and a two-time league champion cross country runner will be inducted into the Kalamazoo College Athletic Hall of Fame later this week.

Jim Burda and Alex Palladino, both Class of ’87, Larry Pfaff, Class of ’73, and Joel Menges, Class of ’80, will be inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday, October 29, during Homecoming weekend.

Jim Burda and Alex Palladino are the only doubles team in NCAA Division III history to win two national titles, taking the crown in 1986 and 1987. They also helped to lead Coach George Acker’s squad to the national team title those same years.

Palladino, who grew up in Kalamazoo just two blocks from Stowe Stadium, played in the NCAA Division III singles and doubles tournaments in each of his four years with the team. In 1984, Palladino advanced to the finals of the Division III singles tournament and made it to the quarterfinals in doubles with Timon Corwin, who is Kalamazoo College’s new men’s tennis coach as well as a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame.

In 1985, Palladino made the national quarterfinals in singles and to the semifinals in doubles with Corwin.

Palladino teamed up with Burda in doubles for the first time in 1986. Playing in the No. 2 doubles slot, Palladino and Burda won the doubles title by defeating teammates Corwin and Jack Hosner in a unique all-Kalamazoo final, 6-2, 7-6 (5).

In 1987, Palladino played No. 1 singles for the Hornets and advanced to the finals of the Division III singles tourney before losing in three sets, and in doubles he and Burda retained their national title with a 7-6, 2-6, 6-2 win in the finals over Frank Hinman and Paul Scholtz of Claremont (Calif.).

During his four year career, Palladino was named to the All-MIAA team four times and in 1987 he was named the league’s most valuable player. That same year he won the “Opie” -more-
Davis award, given to the outstanding senior male athlete at Kalamazoo College.

Tennis remains a central focus for both Burda and Palladino. Palladino is a teaching professional at East Hills Athletic Club in Grand Rapids, while Burda holds a similar position at Glenbrook Racquet Club in Northbrook, Illinois. Burda is also the co-publisher of Tennis Plus magazine.

Larry Pfaff is an oft-repeated name in Kalamazoo College's football record books. Pfaff, who played quarterback for Hornets from 1969 to 1972, still holds Kalamazoo records for passing yardage in a single game (279), single game total offense (298 yards), passing yards in a season (1,467 in 1970), season total offense (1,649 yards, also in 1970), and career total offense (3,801 yards). Until just this season, Pfaff also held the school record for career passing yards with 3,549.

Pfaff also led the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association in passing yardage for three seasons (1970-72) and at one time held league passing records for yards in a game, season and career. He was named to the All-MIAA team in 1970 and earned all-conference honorable mention the following two seasons.

In 1970, Pfaff ranked fourth in the NCAA College Division in total offense (235.6 yards per game) and that same season he ranked 11th in College Division pass completion percentage. During Pfaff's senior year, he received the "Opie" Davis award and was also selected as an Outstanding College Athlete in America for athletic and campus activities.

Pfaff is the owner of and human resource consultant for the Kalamazoo firm of Lawrence A. Pfaff and Associates.

Joel Menges was a standout for the Hornets in both cross country and track in the late 1970s. He won the league meet in cross country in 1976 and 1977, being named the MIAA MVP in 1976, and was named to the All-MIAA team on three occasions (1976-78). Menges was also team captain on the 1976, 1977 and 1978 Hornet teams.

Menges also excelled in track, taking All-MIAA honors in 1977. He still holds the Kalamazoo College records in the three-mile, six-mile and 5,000-meter runs. As a freshman, he was ranked sixth in NCAA Division III in the six-mile run.

Menges recently became Project Manager for Lewin-VHI, a health-care consulting firm in Fairfax, Va.
Kalamazoo College Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

1986 - Charter Inductees
Chester Barnard - Coach, 1925-1942
Vic Braden '51 - Tennis
Henry Brown '36 - Golf, basketball
Chris Bussert '78 - Tennis
Rosemary Luther DeHoog '60 - Tennis
Jim Harkema '64 - Football, basketball, tennis
Joe Howard '39 - Track
Don Knoechel '80 - Swimming
Dave Rowley '74 - Football, baseball
Marion Shane '40 - Tennis
Marjorie Snyder '75 - Tennis, basketball, field hockey, swimming
Allen Stowe '20 - Coach, late 1920s-1956
Joseph Westnedge 1899 - Football
Ralph Young - Coach, 1916-25

1987
Chris Burns '82 - Tennis
Bertram "Scotty" MacGregor '19 - Football, basketball, baseball
Claire Wight Payne '16 - Tennis
John Persons '64 - Football, baseball, golf
Gordon Rodwan '62 - Basketball, track
Dan Slattery '79 - Swimming, diving
Robert Warren '39 - Football, basketball, track

1988
Mike Casteel '22 - Football, baseball, track
John Lambooy '37 - Track
Charles Stanski '50 - Football, basketball
Jack Sunderland '50 - Tennis
Mary Westerville Prange '67 - Tennis, field hockey, basketball

1989
Robert Black '26 - Football, basketball, baseball
Donald Spalsbury '39 - Basketball, football, golf
Dan Wood '40 - Football, basketball, track
Merry Lu Jordan '82 - Archery

1990
William S. Taylor '18 - Baseball, basketball, football, track
William J. Oberholtzer '83 - Diving
Lynn Achterberg Offerdahl '85 - Diving

1991
Timon Corwin '86 - Tennis
John Schelske '82 - Basketball

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1992
Rolla Anderson – Coach, 1953-1985
Denny Bishop ’75 – Wrestling
Mary Rosso Lewis ’43 – Tennis
Ada "Tish" Loveless – Coach, 1953-1986
Jim Steffof ’53 – Football

1993
*Jim Burda ’87 – Tennis
*Joel Menges ’80 – Cross Country, track
*Alex Palladino ’87 – Tennis
*Larry Pfaff ’73 – Football

*to be inducted October 29, 1993

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