An Inside Look at Lehman College Inducts Four Into Athletic Hall of Fame

The Lehman College athletic department honored four former student-athletes with induction into the Lehman College Hall of Fame this past Saturday. The 2005 class featuring Paulette Baldwin (Track & Field, Class of 2003), Hillary Peart (Softball, Class of 1998), Chris Viggiano (Baseball, Class of 1996), and Samuel Marquez (Soccer, Class of 1987) were inducted in a special luncheon held in the Music Building on the campus of Lehman College.

Paulette Baldwin captured the NCAA Division III national championship in her junior season, in both the 55 meter and 100 meter hurdles. If the two national championships weren’t enough, Baldwin went on to capture her third national championship in her senior season. A stellar senior season enabled Baldwin to be named NCAA Regional Athlete of the Year.

“It is a great pleasure to be inducted into the Lehman College Hall of Fame,” said Baldwin. “It is great to be acknowledged with the all-time greats to wear Lehman uniforms.”

Christian Viggiano will be remembered as one of the greatest baseball players to wear a Lehman uniform. A member of the 1996 ECAC championship team, Viggiano was a three-time All-CUNY selection, while leading Lehman to a 1996 CUNY conference title. In 1995, Viggiano was named as a NCAA second-team All-American. During the 1995 season, he posted a conference leading .463 batting average.

In her brief two seasons on the softball squad, Hillary Peart was named the CUNY conference Rookie of the Year, while also leading the NCAA in doubles. Her intense style of play, helped the resurgence of the Lightning softball program.

Samuel Marquez, was a two-sport athlete at Lehman. Marquez was a team captain and conference all-star during the 1986 soccer season. His commitment on the soccer field help him lead the men’s tennis program to their first ever CUNY championship. Marquez was a member of the historic tennis teams coached by legendary coach Ted Hurwitz.

“It is a great pleasure to welcome these four individuals into the Hall of Fame,” said Lehman College athletic director, Dr. Martin L. Zwiren. “These former student-athletes have exemplified a true commitment to the legacy of Lehman College athletics, and this is a special tribute to continue their legacy.”

The Lehman College Hall of Fame was founded in 1999. The Hall of Fame currently has five induction classes featuring thirty-six individuals who have exemplified the dedication and commitment of Lehman College athletics.