

The National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame

is proud to announce our 2008 inductees

The Peabody Award winning Mary Carillo has been a stand out athlete in women's tennis both on and off the court. Carillo's athleticism and skill helped her win the 1977 French Open mixed doubles tournament with childhood friend John McEnroe. Off the court her wit and sense of humor came through in her broadcasting making her a two time Women's Tennis Association Broadcaster of the Year (1981, 1985). Recognized for her talented broadcasting, Carillo was selected to provide Olympic coverage for CBS in 1992 and 1994 and then later brought back a third time by NBC to cover the 2006 Olympics. Mary Carillo is still active in sports media coverage and serves as a correspondent for the HBO program *Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel*. Carillo's commitment and passion for the sport of Tennis is recognized and applauded by her induction to the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame.

Edward DeBartolo Jr., former owner of the San Francisco 49ers and the 2-time Stanley Cup Champion Pittsburgh Penguins, has been a dominate figure in the world of sports. Following in his father's footsteps of success and achievement, DeBartolo Jr. and the 49ers won five Super bowl Championships (1981, 1984, 1988, 1989, and 1994) in what has been described as the "winningest" decade in NFL history. The Ohio native proved his commitment to the NFL and the sport of football through the key role he played in the resurrection of the Cleveland Browns in 1999. A strong believer in

community, DeBartolo Jr. has made considerable donations to his alma mater Mooney High in Youngstown, Ohio. Having always maintained a close relationship with his players DeBartolo was asked to present Joe Montana at his induction to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, and when the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame celebrated DeBartolo's induction three former 49ers, Joe Montana, Jerry Rice and Ronnie Lott, spoke in his honor. Currently Edward DeBartolo is busy with his new company DeBartolo Sports Entertainment. His relentless dedication to both community and sport make Edward DeBartolo Jr. a perfect candidate for induction and we are proud to welcome him to the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame.

All-star Frank "Frankie" Lentine played professional 16 inch softball for 27 years with such legendary teams as Cherry lounge, the Jokers, Rogues, and the Bobcats. Frankie's impressive softball career is highlighted with awards and honors throughout his 27 years of playing. Some of these include MVP for all regional tournaments between 1963 and 1968, selection for the All American Tournaments from 1969-1974, and the All State Team from 1970-1972. Lentine has proved he can stand the test of time by playing in every Regional ASA Metro tournament from 1960-1984. In 1972 Frankie was named MVP once again, this time for the ASA National Tournament. With a lifetime batting average of a whopping .600 plus, Frankie slugged his way to win five National Championships. As a member of the 16 inch Softball Hall of Fame, Frankie's raw talent and commitment to the world of sport continue today coaching youngsters with the Chicago Park District. Frank Lentine's passion and commitment for softball has endured for over 40 years, we honor his achievements and hard work by warmly inviting Mr.

Lentine to join the Class of 2008's National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame inductees.

Art Martori has been an exemplary leader and role model in the sport of wrestling for over 30 years. At Arizona State University, Martori made a name for himself in wrestling as a talented and ambitious competitor. After his competitive professional career Art put his wrestling skills and leadership to work and founded the Sunkist Kids wrestling club in 1976. Art's mission for the Sunkist Kids was to create a program that could assist elite athletes to develop into world-class champions. The Sunkist Kids have an impeccable record; they have won every USA Wrestling National Freestyle team title from 1983 to present day. Martori was selected as the president of USA Wrestling and during his short tenure as president the USA Wrestling team won its first world team title in freestyle wrestling. Martori's leadership and abilities to mold talented youth into world class athletes earned him the honor of being selected as a distinguished member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Here at the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame we too recognize Art Martori's contributions and hard work over the years by inviting him to join the class of 2008.

Phil Mickelson picked up a golf club when he was only 18 months old, mirroring his father's swing so well that even though he was right handed at everything else, he developed a mighty left handed swing. Mickelson continued his golfing at Arizona State University where he was able to fine tune his skills on the course. The year 1992 was a very memorable one for Phil; he graduated college with a degree in Psychology and made

his PGA début at the US Open. Since his début, Phil has achieved 33 PGA wins earning him a much deserved spot as number 13 on the all time wins list. Mickelson won the 2004 and 2006 Masters as well as the 2005 PGA Championship making him only the second golfer in twenty years to have won three major championships in three consecutive years. Further testimony to Mickelson's remarkable talent is the fact that he is the only U.S. player to appear in all seven President's Cups and has also been selected for five Ryder Cup teams. Recognizing the importance of passing down the great tradition of golf, Mickleson serves as co-Chairman of the American Junior Golf Association where he helps youngsters achieve their own dreams of becoming Golf Champions. It is our honor to welcome Mickelson to National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame with the rest of this years inductees.

John Smith is truly a giant in the sport of wrestling, under the guidance of fellow inductee Art Martori and the Sunkist Kids, Smith achieved unimaginable success. Smith's impressive resume includes two time Olympic Freestyle Champion, two time World Cup Champion, two time Goodwill Games Champion, two time Pan American Champion, two time FILA Senior World Freestyle Champion, and four time USA Senior Freestyle Champion. His accomplishments on the mat have been recognized and celebrated around the world, he was the first American to be honored Master of Technique and Wrestler of the Year by the International Wrestling Federation (FILA), the first wrestler ever nominated for the World Trophy, which he received in 1992, and was recognized as one of the 100 Greatest Olympians of All Time at the 1996 Atlanta Games. Smith has not only proudly represented his country but also the ancient Sport of

Wrestling itself. In 1997 Smith was inducted as a Distinguished Member into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, and in 2003 he was honored internationally by the FILA Hall of Fame. Smith now coaches Oklahoma State University Wrestling Team, who under Smith's leadership, have won five national titles. We celebrate John Smith's accomplishments both as a coach and a world class wrestler through his induction to the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame.

Diana Taurasi is a role model for young athletes, both girls and boys alike. She's young, talented, and plays professional basketball in the WNBA. Diana played college ball at UCONN where she won three straight NCAA titles, was a two time Naismith Award Winner, and was named the NCAA Tournament's Most Outstanding Player in both 2003 and 2004. Taurasi is also a gold medalist; she was the youngest player on the US Women's Olympic Basketball team during the 2004 Games held in Athens, Greece. As the number one draft pick in 2005 Taurasi joined the Phoenix Mercury and earned the title of rookie of the year through her display of talent and grace on the court. Diana has had continued success during her time with the Mercury as a three time WNBA All-Star and four time member of the WNBA All-Star First Team. Further success came for Taurasi and the Mercury when in 2007 she played an intricate role in winning the WNBA Championship. Off the court as a supporter of education, Diana started Dee's Reading and Learning Room for students in Guadalupe, making her the first WNBA player to create such a service. Diana's extraordinary skills, grace and commitment to providing a positive role model have earned her a place at the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame.

It is easy to see why Eddie Giacomin is such a fan favorite when looking at his impressive NHL career. Giacomin is a six time NHL All-Star, 25th in the NHL's All Time career wins with 289, 19th in career shutouts with 52, and co-winner of the 1971 Vezina trophy recognizing the best goalie in the game for that year. Eddie is known for his acrobatic goaltending style between the pipes and for his aggressive wandering away from the goal to help the defense and sometimes even the offense. Giacomin was inducted into the NHL Hall of Fame in 1987, who would have thought that the kid who was told he wasn't good enough for junior hockey would one day be in the Hall of Fame. To show their appreciation for Eddie's time with the New York Rangers, they retired his # 1 in 1989. Giacomin is still till this day considered a legend with hockey fans, especially his beloved New York Ranger fans. The legacy Eddie left with the New York Rangers has made him a standout in sports history and worthy of recognition, the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame is honored to welcome Eddie Giacomin.

Louis Zamperini's story of heroism and perseverance could very easily be the screenplay for a blockbuster hit. Zamperini's faith, athleticism and leadership have enabled him to negotiate every obstacle in his path. With the encouragement of his brother, Zamperini started running as a kid to stay out of trouble, little did he know that one day he would become one of the world's greatest mile runners. At the University of Southern California, Lou set a national collegiate record for the mile in 1938; his time was an incredible 4:08.3. Two years prior Lou was a proud member of the 1936 US Olympic squad. When his country needed him the most, Lou joined the Army Air Corps and served as a bombardier on a B-24, flying missions over the pacific. In May 1943

Lou's plane went down during a routine rescue mission, he and two other crew members miraculously survived the crash. Lou managed to survive for the next 47 days on a life raft despite strafing attacks by the enemy and with almost no food or water. Just when things looked like they couldn't get any worse, Lou and his surviving crew member were captured by the Japanese. Lou was held as a POW for two and a half years during which time he was threatened with death, starved, tortured, and beaten regularly. Back home Lou's family was informed that he had been killed in combat; his mother never gave up hope that her son would one day return home safely. That hope was proved with Lou's triumphant return from the war in September 1945. Since his return to the states, Lou has shared his story and strengthened faith with thousands each year. Remembering how sports kept him off the streets as a youth, Zamperini started an outward bounds camp to benefit troubled boys. Lou's faith, hard work, and perseverance provide a role model for thousands of kids and are worth recognition and celebration. Among his many accolades, Lou was recently awarded with the 2008 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. We too at the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame wish to honor Mr. Lou Zamperini this year with our invitation as a 2008 inductee.

Alfred (Lindy) Faragalli was a bowler who could perform under pressure. In 1957 Lindy bowled a perfect game before a live studio audience in Chicago and won the \$10,000 jackpot. Success continued for Lindy who one year later won the ABC Title Championship. Faragalli's skill and precision made him a force to be reckoned with during his professional bowling career, most notably with the Faber Cement Blocks. In 1968 the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame acknowledged his contributions

and dedication to the sport of bowling by making him an honorary inductee. In celebration of Lindy's outstanding professional career and notable accomplishments the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame has decided to posthumously induct Alfred (Lindy) Faragalli with the class of 2008.