

**CENTER COURT**  
**Newsletter of the**  
**Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame**  
**DATE: 3/1/01**

Ann Fariss, President/Executive Director	Louise Albrecht, Treasurer/Membership Chairperson
Linda Wooster, Secretary	Lee Franzman, Nominating Chairperson
Brenda Reilly, Founder	Laura Raftery, Board Member
Cindy Adamski, Board Member	Tony Candido, Fund Raising Chairperson
Lynn Spagnesi, Computer Consultant	Jean Hunt, Historian/Archivist
Pat Mascia, Publicity/Promotion	Marge Dolan, Board Member
Pat Nicol, Editor, Center Court	

*DRIBBLE*.... The Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame will be celebrating its 14<sup>th</sup> year of existence and second of the new millennium on April 5, 2001 at 500 Blake Street Café in New Haven. The festivities "tap off" at 6:00 p.m. with a cash bar, followed by dinner and our awards presentation. The significance of the celebration becomes increasingly heightened each year, as the evening becomes a tangible demonstration of the fantastic growth and continued development of the sport we love so dearly. It will be an evening to recognize those individuals who have laid the foundation and paved the way for the opportunities that now exist for so many women. The evening will also serve to honor and induct seven outstanding new individuals who have assisted tremendously in bringing acclaim, honor and distinction to the sport of women's basketball in our state. As always, we welcome your input and support throughout the year, and especially your attendance at our banquet to acknowledge those special people who have contributed so much. We hope to see you on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

***2001 Inductees....***

Ms. Pam Childs	High School Coach
Ms. Cheryl Towne	High School Player
Ms. Beth Chandler	High School Player
Ms. Jennifer Dayton	College Player (Small)
Ms. Jennifer Rizzotti Sullivan	College Player (Large)
Ms. Carol Robertson	Referee
Mr. George DeMaio	Honorary

**For information and reservations concerning this year's celebration, please contact Ann Fariss at 76 W. Hillside Ave., Stratford, CT 06615 (Tel: 203-378-6581).**

*In Memory*.... The Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame proudly announces the ***Brenda Reilly Memorial High School Award***. This award will be given to the outstanding high school girls' basketball team in the State of Connecticut. A selection committee comprised of members of the Executive Board of the Hall of Fame will select the high school using specific criteria. The coach of the selected team, as well as a team representative, will be the guests of the Hall of Fame during the annual banquet. This award is in honor of Dr. Brenda Reilly, Associate Athletic Director of Central Connecticut State University, who recently passed away. Doctor Reilly was one of the founders of the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

*In Addition:* The **Brenda Reilly Youth Camp Scholarship** will be awarded to a young girl to attend a summer basketball camp in Connecticut. The camp selected will rotate throughout the State of Connecticut and the recipient and her parents or guardian will be the guest of the CWBBHF banquet. The basketball camp of **Jody Rajcula** has been selected for the 2001 scholarship recipient.

*Kudos.....* Jean Hunt of Farmington, who was inducted into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 1989, has been named one of the 2001 **Gold Key Award** winners by the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance. She will be honored at the 60<sup>th</sup> Gold Key Dinner on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington. Jean started her coaching career at Litchfield High in 1952 before moving to Farmington in 1957. She coached six sports and found success in each as attested by her overall record of 502-139-44, which included 11 state championships, two second-place finishes, 19 undefeated seasons and eight conference titles. In 1957, Hunt's teams were undefeated in field hockey, badminton, basketball and volleyball and finished second in state track competition. In the early 1970's, she helped organize the first state girls basketball tournament and was recognized for her efforts by the CIAC as part of the tournament's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary season in 1998. A graduate of Boston University's Sargent College, Hunt retired from teaching in 1986. This past summer, Hunt was inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame. In September, Hunt was one of the first honorees into the Connecticut Women's Field Hockey Hall of Fame. Hunt is a member of three other Halls of Fame: Connecticut High School Coaches Association (1985), Connecticut Women's Basketball (1989), and New Agenda Northeast Women's Hall of Fame (1989).....For information concerning the Gold Key Dinner please contact Mr. Ken Lipshez @860-673-6048.

*Update on the CWBHOF website.....*Plans are moving rapidly to complete our own basketball website. Through the outstanding efforts of Lynn Spagnesi, the website will provide the "history" of the organization, pictures and biographies of all Hall of Fame Inductees, the CWBHF constitution, a page on the banquet's ceremony, the committee members, newsletters and much, much more.....Stay tuned!

*Remember when?.....* We thought it would be fun to go back in time and remember those who were on the inaugural state championship teams and those that have carried on the prestigious tradition. Congratulations to the enclosed high school programs for continuing to set a higher standard of excellence in girls and women's basketball in the state of Connecticut .

*Contribution to the Cause....* The CWBHOF Committee is determined to provide maximum service to/for Connecticut Women's Basketball. To give you the best we have to give and to stay abreast with the increasing demands of operating our initiatives, we would welcome any financial contributions to defray our operating costs. If interested, please contact Louise Albrecht at 203-256-0930. Thank you.