

**Nassau County Sports Commission – Seventeenth Annual “Salute to Champions” Awards Dinner, May 1, 2012 @ The Woodlands in Woodbury, NY.**

George Dlugolonski – Chaminade High School – Lifetime Achievement Award



George Dlugolonski has spent his entire 39 year career as a physical Education teacher and wrestling coach at Chaminade High School. A Levittown resident, Dlugolonski (or “Dugo” as he is affectionately nicknamed), has coached a total league champions and 108 state champions over his career. Among those athletes are 91 NY Catholic State Champions, four All-Americans, six Academic All-Americans and three New York State Federation Champions. He has been named Coach of the year 14 times, and was inducted into the New York State Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2007 and the New York Catholic High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 2008.

In January of 2012 George became the first coach in Long Island history to amass 500 career varsity dual meet wins. Over the course of his career he has coached 17 NSCHSAA Dual Meet Championship teams, 23 NSCHSAA League Tournament Championship teams, and 15 NY Catholic State Championship teams. He has been the NY CHSAA State Wrestling Chairman since 1979 and served at NSCHSAA League Chairman for more than 25 years. During his tenure as Chairman the CHSAA Section grew meaningfully in scale and size. Dugo also led the admission of the Catholic school league as section in the New York Public School State Championship Tournament.

Coach Dlugolonski instilled in his young men – be it on the wrestling team or in Physical Education class – the importance of personal responsibility and character. He is beloved by wrestlers (both current and former) and alumni, and greatly respected by coaches from other schools. The spacious wrestling room in Chaminade’s new Activity-Athletic Center is now referred to as “the Dugo Dome.”

In Coach’s acceptance speech he mentioned the great support he has had over the years at Chaminade, from the administration, staff, coaches, students, parents and alumni and how it’s been a team effort. However, the most supportive of his efforts has been his family, his three daughters’ Suzanne, Lorie, Jamie, and his loving wife, Susan. Coach Dugo modestly stated he has been blessed.

Past Award Winner; Julius Erving, Donna DeVarona, Donna Lopiano, Ph.D., Ron Feinold, L.I. Junior Soccer League, Marty Glickman, Arthur Mercante, Lou Carnesecca, Woodward Davis, Stephanie Joannon and Gary I. Wadler, M.D.