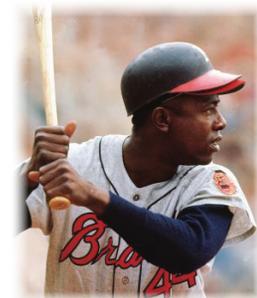




PALM BEACH
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GAME ON!



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PALM BEACH COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTS LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEGENDS

Excellence was the underlying sentiment at the sold out 34th Annual Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet and Annual Sports Awards, which took place on March 21, 2010, at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Friends and family gathered to honor the new Hall of Fame inductees and Annual Sports Awards finalists that have all accomplished greatness in their respective sports.

The Palm Beach County Convention Center was home to one of the greatest gatherings of sports legends, heroes and talent ever assembled in Palm Beach County. During his induction speech, Fred Taylor thanked his mother for the \$60 investment that started his football career in Pop Warner. Taylor's legendary football accomplishments at Glades

Central High School, the University of Florida, and the National Football League's Jacksonville Jaguars culminated with his memorable induction into the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame. Leo Armbrust, a former Catholic priest, reflected on his time serving as team chaplain for the Dallas Cowboys, Miami Dolphins, and the Miami Hurricanes. Marilu Almeida Hunt, a former three-sport standout at Cardinal Newman during the early 1980s traveled from Switzerland to celebrate her induction.

Attendees witnessed the induction of arguably the greatest athlete in the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame. Although, Henry "Hank"

Aaron could not be in attendance, he sent the Palm Beach County Sports Commission and the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame Committee a special message. The Home-Run King was impressed with the collection of stars currently in the Hall of Fame, and reflected fondly of the time he played spring training baseball in the Grapefruit League at the old West Palm Beach Municipal Stadium.

The night was very special for the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, as one of its own, Richard Ellington entered its Hall of Fame. Richard has a long and accomplished career in public service, and his contributions to the Palm Beach County and south Florida sports scene are countless. Richard was the first president of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission and

continues to serve on its board and numerous sub-committees. Richard was instrumental in the development of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission and its growth and national prominence. Ellington has served on numerous community boards and committees, including the South Florida Super Bowl Host Committee and the Orange Bowl Committee. As an athlete, Richard played basketball at Palm Beach High School from 1963-66.

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Inductees L to R: Margie Engle, Snag Holmes, Robert Zammit, Marilu Almeida Hunt, Richard Ellington, Leonard Banks, Leo Armbrust, Fred Taylor

UPCOMING EVENTS

For a complete listing of all upcoming events check our website at www.PalmBeachSports.com.

The Florida Open International Wheelchair Tennis Championships

April 7 - 11, 2010 - Patch Reef Park, Boca Raton

The Florida Open International Wheelchair Tennis Championships is sanctioned by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and the United States Tennis Association (USTA). The event has taken place in Palm Beach County over the last 19 years. The event consists of the world's best wheelchair tennis players, attracting nearly 200 participants from across the United States and 25 different countries.

Play at the Plate

April 8 - 11, 2010 - Roger Dean Stadium

Play at the Plate is designed to give adult baseball players the chance to perform at a high level, while also improving their skills. This baseball showcase takes place each spring at Roger Dean Stadium. The tournaments are geared for adult players over 28 years of age who want to experience baseball on a personal and friendly level.

USTA Boys' & Girls' 12's National Spring Tennis Championship

April 11 - 17, 2010 - Delray Beach Tennis Center

This youth tennis tournament will take place at the Delray Beach Tennis Center, the Delray Swim & Racquet Club, and the Boca West Country Club. The draw consists of 128 players in each gender division (256 total), consisting of the highest-ranked players, 12 years old and under in the US competing in singles and doubles competition. Each player will compete in a minimum of 4 games in 4 days. The winners of the 4th day will continue competing based on single elimination for the championship.

Palm Beach County Sports Commission 5th Annual Golf Classic

May 7, 2010 - West Palm Beach Municipal Golf Course

The Palm Beach County Sports Commission 5th Annual Golf Classic will be held at the historic and newly restored West Palm Beach Municipal Golf Course. This tournament is a shotgun format beginning at 1:30pm. The golf classic supports developing youth sports in Palm Beach County.

American Powerlifting Federation Master, Teen, & Junior Nationals

May 8 & 9, 2010 - Palm Beach Gardens Marriott

The American Powerlifting Federation will bring its Master, Teen, & Junior Nationals to Palm Beach County on May 8-9. The meet will take place at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott. Both men's and women's divisions will be featured. The meet will crown a champion bench press, squat, deadlift, and a combination of all lifts for adults, teens, and junior age groups.

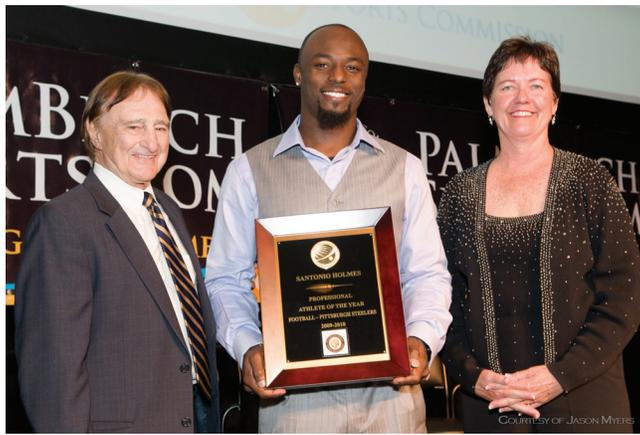
NCAA National Softball Championships

May 13 - 15, 2010 - Lake Catherine Sports Complex

Palm Beach Atlantic University will host the National Christian College Athletic Association Softball Championships at Lake Katherine Sports Complex in Palm Beach Gardens. The tournament features some of the most elite collegiate softball programs in the nation.

HALL OF FAME (CONTINUED)

Margie Engle made history as the first equestrian athlete to receive an induction into this Hall of Fame. Margie competed in more than 20 Nations' Cup victories for the United States Equestrian Teams and has been named the American Grand Prix Rider of the Year an amazing ten times. Additionally, the Sports Hall of Fame proudly welcomed LPGA star, Dottie Pepper; Palm Beach Atlantic University's all time scoring leader in basketball, Leonard Banks; a pioneer in the County's swimming programs, Loring "Snag" Holmes; and standout pitcher for Palm Beach High, Bob Zammit.



L to R (Joe Ceravolo, Santonio Holmes, and Patty Dent)

In addition to the Hall of Famers, Palm Beach County also celebrated the accomplishments of its athletes, coaches, and contributors that excelled this past year. Santonio Holmes, Belle Glade native and wide receiver for the Pittsburgh Steelers, was recognized as the Professional Athlete of the Year. Cardinal Newman graduate and Clemson University standout wide-receiver, Jacoby Ford was honored as the Amateur Athlete of the Year. William T. Dwyer's head football coach, Jack Daniels and all star tailback, Matt Elam were selected as the High School Coach of the Year and High School Athlete of the Year. Captain of the 2009 American Solheim Cup team, Beth Daniel, was distinguished as the Coach of the Year. John DeMott, an active board member of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, who is instrumental in the production of the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame and Lou Groza Collegiate Place-Kicker Award programs, received the honor as Outstanding Sports Contributor of the Year. Jim Austin of Parrallax Productions received the prestigious President's Award for his efforts in supporting youth sports throughout Palm Beach County. A total of 528 people were present at the spectacular event, making it one of the largest attended Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame Banquets in its 34 year history. It is a long way before the Hall of Fame committee will induct the 2011 class, but they will have a tough time topping the class of 2010.

FLORIDA OPEN INTERNATIONAL WHEELCHAIR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Calling Palm Beach County home for the past 19 years, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and the United States Tennis Association (USTA) sanctioned Florida Open International Wheelchair Tennis Championship will be played April 7 - 11 at Patch Reef Park in Boca Raton. The event will attract nearly 200 participants from across the United States and 25 different countries. Founded in 1976, wheelchair tennis

is the fastest-growing wheelchair sport in the world. Wheelchair tennis integrates very easily with the able-bodied game since it can be played on any regular tennis court, with no modifications to racquets and balls. Wheelchair tennis, as endorsed by the ITF, follows the same rules as able-bodied tennis, with the only exception being that the wheelchair tennis player is allowed two bounces of the ball. The event has created significant impact for Palm Beach County. In addition to the strong international media exposure, the Championship is expected to generate over 500 room nights and an economic impact of \$175,000. This is one of many prominent tennis events that call Palm Beach County their home.



SPRING BREAK MEANS BIG BUSINESS IN PALM BEACH COUNTY

Spring break creates niche markets within the sports travel industry for Palm Beach County. The Palm Beach County Sports Commission works diligently to attract collegiate sports teams from across the nation to practice and compete during their spring break. Three such events; The Palm Beach Challenge, Spring Fling and the FAU Spring Break Golf Championships took place during the month of March, creating over 5,000 room nights and an estimated \$2 million of economic impact for Palm Beach County.

Similar to hosting Major League Baseball Spring Training at Roger Dean Stadium, Palm Beach County also has a spring training forum for college baseball, the Palm Beach Challenge. This event attracts over 40 NCAA Division I, II, and III collegiate baseball teams, along with several junior college baseball teams, who travel during their spring breaks to compete in official NCAA games and practice in the tropical environment. The Challenge, which lasts from February 27 – March 21, took place at the Santaluces Athletic Complex in Lantana. Over 120 games were played, and included prominent baseball programs, such as Fordham University and the University Pittsburgh. In addition to the great talent, the event brought in numerous Major League Baseball (MLB) scouts. Last year, over 40 of the Challenge's participants were drafted in the MLB annual draft.

Spring Fling, the largest spring training event in the country for women's collegiate lacrosse and secondary prep schools, took place from March 8 – 24 at Lake Lytal Park in West Palm Beach. Spring Fling showcased 70 NCAA Division I, II, and III collegiate teams, as well as several prep schools predominately from the northeast. The number of participating teams has doubled since coming to Palm Beach County in 2004.

Florida Atlantic University hosted the 2nd annual Spring Break Golf Championships from March 26-28 at the Gleneagles Country Club in Delray Beach. The event included 16 NCAA Division I schools, including Notre Dame, Michigan, Ohio State, and Illinois. Although the event is in its infancy stage, it has displayed some of the best collegiate golf programs in the nation.

Since 2004, these spring training events have generated 27,690 room nights, and nearly \$1,000,000 in economic impact.

PALM BEACH COUNTY SPORTS COMMISSION ONE OF THE TOP 50 PLACES TO WATCH

Sports Events Magazine recently named the Palm Beach County Sports Commission one of the top 50 places to watch in the sports travel industry. Recipients for this reader's choice award were nominated by event planners, rights holder, and national governing bodies located throughout the United States. The destinations, fields, and facilities that were selected earned the industry's vote for providing exemplary service, hospitality, and physical amenities that sports event planners today expect from a host community. The Palm Beach County Sports Commission was one of only five sports destination organizations



listed from the state of Florida. Sports Event Magazine has a circulation that exceeds 16,000 event planners, organizers, and other industry representatives. This accomplishment is quite impressive when considering the number of sports commissions, convention & visitors bureaus, foundations, resorts, and other sport organizations that were eligible for this recognition. This award is one of many



that the Palm Beach County Sports Commission has received for its efforts to develop tourism through sports.

BASHER'S RC RACEWAY OPENS IN PALM BEACH GARDENS



Palm Beach Gardens is home to the brand new Basher's RC Raceway, the most comprehensive indoor remote control car facility of its kind. RC racing is experiencing a rapid and steep incline in participation and Palm Beach County

is now ready to take advantage of this emerging motorized sport. Basher's RC Raceway is an indoor facility equipped with a state-of-the-art RC racetrack that can be altered to entertain both novice and advanced racers. The track is comprised of a well groomed clay surface with sharp turns and exhilarating jumps. The track was designed to provide all that there is to offer in RC racing.



Additionally, RC Basher's maintains a "VIP" pit area, meeting space, and a fully stocked onsite pro shop that offers cars, parts, and accessories. Assortments of remote control cars are available for rent. The track is open to the public seven days a week and hosts organized races every Sunday. In addition to the local races, this new facility will allow Palm Beach County to host a number of state and national RC racing tournaments. For information on how to experience the excitement of RC racing visit, www.bashersrcraceway.com.

AMERICAN POWERLIFTING FEDERATION HOSTS NATIONALS IN PALM BEACH COUNTY

The American Powerlifting Federation (APF) will bring its Master, Teen, & Junior Nationals to Palm Beach County for the first time on May 8-9. The meet will take place at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott. Both men's and women's competitions will be featured in the Master, Teen, and Junior divisions. The meet will crown a champion in several lifting disciplines, which include the bench press, squat, deadlift, and a combination of all lifts. Over 100 lifters from across the nation are expected to invade Palm Beach County to compete.

The international arm of the APF is the World Powerlifting Congress (WPC). The World Powerlifting Congress was established by Ernie Frantz in 1986 and currently provides training, education, and competitions for lifters in more than 30 countries worldwide.

This national meet is the second major powerlifting event to take place in Palm Beach County within the last 7 months. The Palm Beach Gardens Marriott also hosted the WPC World Powerlifting Championships this past November. The WPC World Championships, which attracts over 300 lifters, is one of the largest attended powerlifting events that takes place throughout the globe. Additionally, the Marriot will host the WPC Amateur World Championships on July 16-18, 2010. For more information on these events, please visit www.worldpowerlifting-congress.com



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