

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UC Announces Honorees For 2007 Legion of Excellence

Nov. 1 gala to honor academic standouts, Hall of Fame inductees and service award winners

CINCINNATI, Ohio--Each year, the University of Cincinnati Department of Athletics recognizes its top student-athletes with induction into the Legion of Excellence. This year's class of 17 will be recognized at the Legion of Excellence gala on Nov. 1 at the Kingsgate Marriott on UC's campus. The night will also include the induction of the newest James P. Kelly Athletics Hall of Fame members (Paullete Angilecchia-Rumpke and Kevin Youkilis) and the bestowing of the Order of the Black Blazer and Strubbe Distinguished Service Award.

The selection for Legion of Excellence is based on the highest cumulative grade-point average on the respective team for the previous school year and good academic standing within the individual's athletics team and college.

Induction into the Order of the Black Blazer, recognizing individuals for their contributions and support of UC Athletics, will be bestowed upon Bill Keating Jr., Marvin Kolodzick and Herbert Middendorff. Presentation of the Strubbe Distinguished Service Award will go to long-time Department of Athletics employee Bernie Meese.

In addition to the academic honors, former women's soccer standout Angilecchia-Rumpke and baseball star Youkilis and will be formally inducted into the UC Athletics Hall of Fame.

Angilecchia-Rumpke starred at UC from 1993-96 and was a three-time all-conference selection. In 1995 and again in 1996, she was named the Conference USA Player of the Year. In UC annals, Angilecchia-Rumpke ranks among the all-time greats in points (3rd-118), goals (3rd-50), and assists (6th-18). In the classroom, Angilecchia-Rumpke was twice named to the C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll. She becomes women's soccer's third Hall of Fame enshrine, joining Vicki Niemann and Deb McKinney.

Youkilis played for Cincinnati from 1998-2001, before being drafted by the Boston Red Sox in the eighth round of the 2001 draft. At UC, Youkilis was a three-time all-conference selection, including a pair of first team honors. He was also lauded as an all-American following his senior year and is a member of the C-USA all-Decade team. A .366 career hitter, Youkilis holds or shares 10 Cincinnati season or career marks. He is also ranked among the C-USA leaders in career RBI, hits, home runs, doubles, runs and total bases. Youkilis will become the 16th member of the UC Hall of Fame from the baseball program.

Reservations for UC supporters wishing to attend the gala are being accepted now by the UC Athletics Development Office. To reserve a place, contact the UC Athletics Development Office at (513) 556-4884.

2007 Legion of Excellence Inductees

Baseball--Evan Sanford (Aurora, Ohio)
Men's Basketball--Marvin Gentry (Fort Worth, Texas)
Women's Basketball--Shelly Bellman (Ottawa, Ohio)
Men's Cross Country--Scott Mindel (Ballston Lake, N.Y.)
Women's Cross Country--Jennifer Hannen (Beavercreek, Ohio)
Football--Glenn "Digger" Bujnoch (Cincinnati, Ohio)
Men's Golf--Alex Wenzel (Toledo, Ohio)
Women's Golf--Mya Pronschinske (Cochrane, Wis.)
Rowing--Andrea Hedlund (Perrysburg, Ohio)
Men's Soccer--Noah Davidson (Westerville, Ohio)
Women's Soccer--Erica Maine (Colorado Springs, Colo.)
Men's Swimming--Mark Talma (Port of Spain, Trinidad)
Women's Swimming--Cassandra Dori (Maderia, Ohio)
Tennis--Elizabeth Young (Knoxville, Tenn.)
Men's Track and Field--Jake Richards (Hamilton, Ohio)
Women's Track and Field--Ashley Wilhelm (St. Leon, Ind.)
Volleyball--Jenny Custer (Colorado Springs, Colo.)

James P. Kelly Athletics Hall of Fame Inductees

Paullete Angilecchia-Rumpke (women's soccer)
Kevin Youkilis (baseball)

The Strubbe Distinguished Service Award

Bernie Meese

2007 Order of the Black Blazer

Bill Keating, Jr.
Marvin Kolodzick
Herbert Middendorff

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