

Class of 2020 HOF

Syracuse University Men's Hockey



Hall of Fame

2020 Class

George Mechem '69

David Hadlow '75

Dave Schenkel '76

Jeff Harris '78

Hardy Green '79

Chris Healy '90

Jaime Stasko '01

Ryan Fogg '12

Aaron Witzel '14

Championship Teams

1976-1977 FLCHL Champions

1977-1978 NYCCHA Champions

Van Winkle Awardee

David Hadlow '75



George Mechem SU '1969

1965-1969

Forward/Center, #4

Captain 1966-1969

George Mechem turned down half a dozen hockey scholarships to enroll in the SU School of Speech and Dramatic Art. George played in the early twilight of the modern era of Syracuse University Men's Hockey serving as it's Captain 1966-1969, at a time when the program worked hard to fill a three-line roster, received no financial support and the barest acknowledgement of association from the university. The SU Daily Orange reported that, "Mechem, the spark of in the club's attack demands 100% from his teammates." George insists, "If you want to win you've just got to hustle. All I ask is that they keep hustling. What we lack in talent we make up in hustle and desire."

During his time at SU George was the men's hockey team's top scorer every year 1965-1969, and a three time Finger Lakes Collegiate Hockey League All-star 1966-1969. In 1965-1966 he tallied 37 points in 17 games. During the 1966-1967 season had there had been the equivalent of the NHL's Lady Byng Trophy for a combination of play and sportsmanship George would have been a top candidate going through entire season without a penalty and tallying 14 goals, four in one game. Scoring hat tricks was something George did on various organizations, whether in a losing effort to RIT, or in a winning effort over Hobart, George was touted in the Finger Lakes Collegiate Hockey League Press Guide of 1968-1969 "one of the finest performers in the FLCHL." Based on partial statistics from just two years George ranks among SU players 14th all time in points, 12th all time in goals and 20th in assists; and if we ever find the rest of the those statistics he will certainly claim an even higher position in the team's record books. Babe LaRose, the SU Hockey Coach at that time



asserted that" George Mechem is by far the best player in the area. He can play with any major league team in the country and do a real fine job." And George did just that for when he had the time George played with the local minor league Syracuse Stars.

After graduation with his Bachelor's Arts. in English Education George returned to Massachusetts. Not yet ready to give up the game George played for the Carling Black Labels and the Gloucester (Mass.) Gulls in a semi-pro league comprised of town and corporate sponsored teams that played around New England. During this time he began a teaching career at Lexington High School, where he taught

English for 26 years - coached boys' ice hockey, boys' tennis, and boys' baseball. As an administrator George served first as a Dean of Students and then as Associate Principal. George Retired in 2007 after 38 years. During the past year he has also provided a treasure trove of information, documentation and perspective on SU hockey in the latter 60's for which we are very grateful.

A friend and former fellow coach described Mechem's approach to coaching, using George's own words as a SU Hockey Club player and team captain "Give a little bit extra" George has always led by example has always given what he had and a little bit more". And so it is with honor and pride that the Syracuse University Men's Hockey program inducts George Meacham as member of it's Hall of Fame Class of 2020.



Dave Schenkel, SU '1976
1973-1976,
Forward/Center, #19
Captain 1974-1976

Prior to attending college among Dave's most formative years was the time he spent under the coaching of Don Cherry, yes that Don Cherry, "he was always pushing me, he taught me drive and inspiration". That drive led to two high school state championships, and an impressive collegiate career one that almost didn't include Syracuse. Dave started college at St Bonaventure, from which he transferred to SU to start his sophomore year (1973-1974). After an impressive tryout involving pinpoint shooting on the goalie, Dave joined SUMH and started making an impact immediately. During his junior year season he led the Finger Lakes College Hockey League with 41 assists, which he generously attributes to the scoring ability of his right-winger line mate Joe Forti. The lack of official records prevents us from knowing his exact statistics but not from acknowledging his talent.

Not only an impact player on the ice Dave was part of the team leadership at a time when the hockey program was struggling. He helped to accomplish what was needed to be done to keep the program going, including working hard to raise the team's level of play and even advocating for the construction of a rink at SU. Dave served as team Captain 1974-1976 and as Club President during the 1975-1976 season.

After Graduating with a BS in Business with a double major in Accounting and Marketing Dave went on to work for Ryan Homes a National Homebuilder where I worked for 32 years in every discipline, production management, on site sales, land acquisition, 10 years in operation management and his final 15 years as the Maryland State Manager. Happily married to his wonderful wife Paula for 38 years, together they have raised three great children and four beautiful grandchildren who live near to them in Maryland. Hockey turned out to be a family affair for Dave and his sons - one that gave him one of his greatest on ice moments when during a high school alumni game he played on a line with both his boys, the youngest one scored on a pass from Shenkel to Shenkel to Shenkel - another assist for Dave. And so for all his great assists it is with great honor and pride that we induct Dave Schenkel into the Syracuse University Men's Hockey Hall of Fame Class of 2020.





Jeff Harris SU '1978

1974-1978

Defense; #3

President and Player-Coach 1975-1978

NYCCHL co-organizer/founder 1977-1978

1976-1977 & 1977-1978 Champions HOF Team member

Jeff Harris, known as “Wolfman”, was a part of the amazing talent pool of Syracuse players of the mid-70’s. During his first year he made his presence felt on ice as a high skilled defenseman. In was the teams MVP in 1975-1976. During his sophomore year he started being just as impactful off the ice as a team leader first as a co-captain

and then during his junior and senior years as team President, Captain and a player-coach. Jeff is credited with finishing the transformation of the program begun by Dave Hadlow, 1972-1975, by helping put in on better financial footing, raising the teams visibility, navigating the folding of one league (FLCHL) while co-founding another (NHCCHA) and leading the team to two championship titles, FLCHL 1976-1977 and NYCCHA 1977-1978 teams who on their own merit are being inducted into the this year’s HOF.

Jeff’s unique leadership spread across all areas of the program from negotiating an increase of financial support from the university, serving as a player-coach to even media technician. “I wasn’t a coach in the traditional sense.” says Jeff, “We all worked together. I organized practices, led the drills and what not. During the games I’d make adjustments that needed to be made, set the line-ups and all that kind of stuff. To make it more like a professional game I had a tape recorder with a tape of the Boston Garden’s announcer and music, so when we came out of the locker room we played it at the beginning of the game, then I would run over to the penalty box and turn it off before the face off.”



A man of many talents with a true passion for the game and commitment to SU Men’s Hockey continued existence and advancement. His dedication to the program is one of the critical influences that has insured the continued existence of SUMH and given it it’s legacy of constantly striving for excellence in the face of adversity.

After graduating with a Bachelor’s Science Education Jeff continued playing hockey into his early thirties while realizing his real passion was food thus taking him into the restaurant management field, owning his own restaurant and catering business for a few years, and then settling in to Senior Living Food Service Management industry where he was a Regional Director of Operations for 30 years. Jeff says “running the SU hockey program for three years taught me valuable skills and provided me with a sense of pride.... I believe that my experience with the hockey program helped instill a drive and ambition to be successful at whatever I

do.” We couldn’t agree more, so It is with honor and pride that the Syracuse University Men’s Hockey program inducts Jeffery Harris as member of it’s Hall of Fame Class of 2020.



Hardy Green, SU '1979
1975-1979
Forward/Right Wing, #16
Co-Captain and Player-Coach 77-79
President 78-79

Hardy Green has been described as “Wayne Gretzky’s doppelganger. ... with a slap shot so hard that when he scored the goalie would be like frozen.” (*Jeff Harris 1974-1978*)

An impact player that during the 1976-1977 season Hardy was second in total points 37; led the team in goals with 21 and second in assists 16. He was part of prolific scoring machine and a team with a “wealth of talent” that accumulated 144 total points among the top four players During his time with SUMH Hardy had seven hat tricks, two in one game during his first season against Broome Community College.. And he was not one to be sidelined by little injuries – with two broken fingers in a splint bent so he could grip a stick he kept playing and scoring.

His impact reached beyond the ice when 1977-1979 seasons as Team President, Co-coach.

After graduating SU Hardy took his interest science/medicine and combined it with a Psychology in Business degree, to become logistics and international operations. His supply chain process efficiencies, cost improvements has him working with the Marlborough, MA as a Senior Logistics, leader leading multiple disciplines for



Hardy served during the Captain and a player-

in health Bachelor’s Science an expert in global expertise in developing reductions and quality Candela Company in Supply Chain & Quality companies.



His passion for hockey and the people it attracts led him to continue playing 3 or 4 times a week up until last year when he stopped playing hockey after his third rotator cuff surgery. “It was just a great way to get together with guys, people I played with are mostly from companies like Raytheon, we have done charity tournaments, playing with guys who are ex-pros, ex-minor league players, international players, it has just been a great social environment and you do some good with the charity tournaments” We couldn’t agree more and so it is with great pride and honor that we induct Hardy Green as a member of the Syracuse University Men’s Hockey Hall of Fame 2020 Class.



Chris Healy, SU '1990

1988-1990

Forward/Right Wing, #23

Player-Coach

1989-1990 Champions HOF Team member

Chris Healy was a two-sport athlete at Syracuse, he played club Lacrosse for four years and club hockey during his junior and senior years. Though not a big player size wise he was an impact player with incredible speed and agility, meaning he was good at avoiding being hit, along with his aggressive attack and skillful puck handling he often found the net, usually multiple times a game. Chris was the 1989-1990 scoring leader of his team and for the league, leading Syracuse to an ECHL league Playoff Championship and being named the tournament MVP. Chris has provided us with edited videos of the 1990 ECHL

Championship Semi-final and Final games which SUMH won and he really does fly – all over the ice. During his final year he served as one of the player-coaches and helped administer the program.

According to Chris when describing his time at SU “It was a great four years and the last two years were even better because I played with a great group of guys who got along really well.” Chris goes on to say playing hockey at SU “Rekindled my enjoyment of the sport. I had stopped playing for about 4 years before getting back into it during college and I continue to play to this day.”

Chris graduated with a BS in Public Relations from the Newhouse School of Communication, initially going to work for a PR firm in Manhattan, NYC. He then switched career direction spending the next 17 years managing the operations of a background investigation company in Melville, NY. For the past 10 years Chris has lead the supply chain continuous improvement efforts for an industrial distribution organization – first in New York and for the past seven years in Davidson, NC

Chris is currently living in Davidson, NC with his wife Celeste, and sons Connor, 18 and Cole 14. As for hockey Chris coaches his kids, is a USA Hockey level 4 coach, working with the Queens City Royals 14U Select team and still skates once a week, because as he tells his wife “Hockey guys are the best guys to hangout with”. We agree so it is with great pleasure and honor that we induct Chris Healy in to the Syracuse University Men’s Hockey Hall of Fame Class of 2020.





Jamie Stasko, SU '2001

1996-2001

Forward/Center, #17

Captain 1999-2000

Assistant Captain 1998-1999

Jamie Stasko came to Syracuse from the Binghamton area (the NY-PA-NJ triangle) and a tradition of well-organized hockey programs and winning teams of which Jamie was a member of his high school national championship team. He was a part of a cohort of players and coaches from Binghamton that helped raise SUMH to a higher level. When several of his fellow teammates were asked to name an impact player and leader Jaime was on everyone's list, he played center for four years 1997-2001 helping take the team to the playoffs his last two seasons. As Assistant Captain and then Captain during his senior year Jamie help keep the team focused, and continuing it's improvement setting the foundation for the teams to come.

With Tennity Ice Pavilion due to open the was due to graduate Jamie decided to stay a few extra classes and minors so he would experience the team's move from the "Old State Fairgrounds into the newly built Pavilion. During that year he served as rink the old and new arenas, taught youth clinics and stuck a few more pucks in the

Jamie graduated from the School of B.S. in Health and Exercise Science, Magna with the intention of pursuing a career in health care, medicine possibly athletic training. He temporary delayed that pursuit while he went to Spain and played professional roller hockey for the town of Igualada. Jamie cut his Spanish venture short turning down a professional contract to return to Boston in order to earn his M.S. in Physician Assistant Studies from Northeastern University and today is a practicing Physician Assistant, Orthopedics, Specialty in Sports Medicine and Joint Replacement. Currently he is serving as a Physician Assistant near Bedford, NH where he lives with his wife and 3 boys age 9,7,and 5 who are actively in soccer, skiing, lacrosse and of course hockey.

Jamie has been an enthusiastic supporter of the SUMH history project helping provide perspective of his time there, player information and team photos.

"I think this is a great way to make everyone talk about the great memories we had there, look back and appreciate what this all meant to us." For all his contributions on and off the ice as an impact player, leader and supportive alum it is with great honor and pride that we induct Jaime Stasko into the Syracuse University Men's Hockey Hall of Fame Class of 2020.



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Education, Cum Laude





Ryan Fogg, SU '2013

2008-2013,

Player 2008-2012

Defense, #45

Manager and on-ice practice assistant

Ryan attended SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) at Syracuse University graduating with a Bachelor's of Landscape Architecture from the Landscape Architecture program at SUNY ESF in 2013. SUNY-ESF is the oldest and most distinguished institution in the United States that focuses on the study of the environment. SUNY-ESF students have been an integral members of the SUMH program since the start of the Modern Men's Hockey program in 1960.

Ryan was an impact player that provided shutdown defense while still placing 10th All-time among SU defensemen with 31 total points; 7th for defensemen with 27 assists; and at 144 games 11th overall in games played and 5th for defensemen He was the team's dependable ironman missing only one practice and sitting out one game -at the coaches discretion (*"What was the coach thinking?"*)

In addition to helping win the NESHHL Tournament Championship in 2011 he earned four all-conference awards including Second Team All Rookie during his freshman year 2008-2009; All Conference Honorable Mention during his Junior year 2010-2011; and First Team All Conference as well as All

Academic team member during his senior year of 2011-2012. As team leader

Ryan was Captain and co-captain. He then returned after graduation to serve as an on ice practice assistant and program manager.



After SU Ryan moved to Boston, MA to work at an engineering company while he obtained his professional landscape architecture license. After five years there he moved to Seattle,

WA for a job designing and planning zoological exhibits around the world. He continues to play men's league hockey throughout, often with other SU alumni (especially in Boston).

It is with great honor and pride that we induct Ryan Fogg into the Syracuse University Men's Hockey as a member of its Hall of Fame Class of 2020.



Aaron Witzel, SU '2014

2010-2014

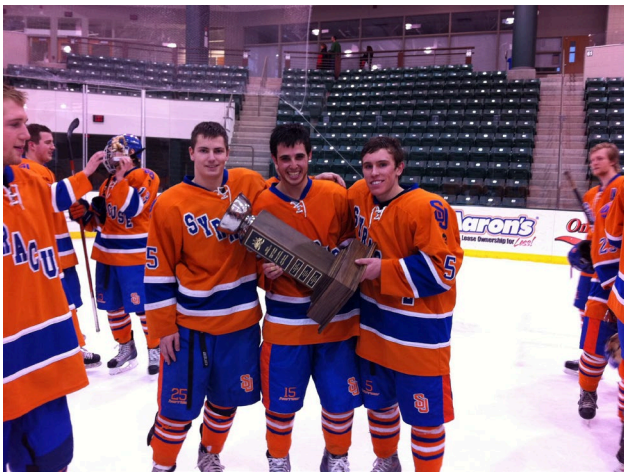
Forward, #25

Alternate Captain 2012-2014

Captain in 2013-2014

Aaron Witzel grew up playing in Rochester, NY and area that has produced a small but impactful and talented cohort of players and coaches during the 2010-2018 period. Before arriving at Syracuse Aaron was feeling burned out with hockey and had little interest in playing at the collegiate level. But enticed a very collegial gas well as talented group of players he found himself drawn back into the game. During his four year career at SU, 2010-2014, Aaron played in 117 games notching 75 Goals and 70 Assists, totaling 145 points and averaging 1.239 points per game, earning him the SU ranking of 3rd All-time in total points; 3rd All-time in goals; and 5th All-time in assists. Aaron helped SU win both the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 NECHL Playoff Championships as well and the 2013-2014 NECHL Championship, propelling SUMH to it's first ACHA Division 1 Top 20 ranking at 19th.

Playing under three coaches during his four season Aaron was there at one the crucial junctures in SUMH's evolution, the nexus moment when the team under the joint leadership of Russell Suskind and himself, first as Alternate Captain in 2012-2013, then as Captain 2013-2014 joined forces with the coaching triad of Pierandri-Treacy-Wolinski determined "to do this the right way and have fun while we do it." The ultimate goal being "to leave it in a better spot than we found it both financially and in terms of culture, in terms of competitiveness."



Graduating from The Whitman School of Management with a double major in Accounting and Finance Aaron joined the ranks of Citi Bank starting out in Buffalo, NY then advancing on to NYC where he is currently involved with Sales and Trading of Structured Projects and Derivatives where he says team based skills honed from hockey that have proven to provide the biggest advantage - the skills of working within a team(s), communicating with different to different people, and handling different personalities. Today Aaron has traded the hockey stick in for a golf club; and he maintains a strong connection to his Syracuse days living with his long-term partner that he met at Syracuse and with his

former teammates who remain an important influence in his life giving voice to his claim "For me I definitely liked the camaraderie of hockey".

And so for the impact he has had on the ice and off helping leave the program better standing while demonstrate that camaraderie and fun is an important part of the chemistry of any successful team It is with great honor and pride that we induct Aaron Witzel into the Syracuse University Men's Hockey Hall of Fame Class of 2020.

Championship Teams of 1976-1977 and 1977-1978

The 1976-1977 and 1977-1978 teams were comprised of some of SU Men's Hockey most talented players of that decade four of whom are being honored this year with induction to the SUMH Hall of Fame. But these four were only the tip of the iceberg.

"We had a lot of pretty good hockey players who wanted to play and Jeff Harris was really the person instrumental in getting this team to the level it was and getting us the type of schedule to play a lot of games with colleges around us. We had a good team, a good bunch of guys who wanted to play good hockey and everyone made the effort it was just a good experience." (*Hardy Green HOF 1975-1979*)

Offensive players Hardy Green, Vic DiMara, Bill Gruber, Mike Tigue, were part of a prolific scoring machine that accumulated 144 total points among the top four, along with a "wealth of talented" multi-goal scorers including Neil Kovnat, Dave Moser, Peter Lyon, Chris Clarke and Steven Campbell who intimidated their competitors. Meanwhile, Ken Reiff, Peter Bliven, Jeff Harris, Van Backus, Larry Lubonty, and others provided a shut down defense that simultaneously neutralized the best of opponents and help support a fierce attack. While the goal keeping of Paul Merrell and Bob Ghani stone-walled opposition scorers.

The 1976-1977 team averaging 10 goals a game and with a season record of 15-3-0 won Syracuse University's first FLCHL championship and the last of the league titles before it dissolved at the end of that season

From the remnants of the old FLCHL and the addition of a group of newly recruited teams i.e. SUNY Oneonta, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Binghamton, and SUNY Broome County and Utica College the newly formed New York State Collegiate Club Hockey Association NYCCHL was establish under the collaborative leadership of Jeff Harris of Syracuse University and the coach from SUNY-Morrisville. The 1977-1978 team went on to win the (NYCCHA) Championship during the league's inaugural season.

1976-1977 Team Roster: Paul Merrell, Jeff Harris, Van Bockus, Mike Tigue, Neil Kovnat, Hardy Green, Jay Roebuck, Bill Gruber, Dave Moser, Vic DiMaria, Bob Ghani, Peter Goodman, Chris Clarke, Steven Campbell, Tony Gerevics, Ken Reiff, and Chip Barber

1977-1978 Team Roster: Paul Merrell, Jeff Harris, Van Bockus, Mike Tigue, Neil Kovnat, Hardy Green, Bill Gruber, Dave Moser, Vic DiMaria, Bob Ghani, Peter Goodman, Chris Clarke, Steven Campbell, Tony Gerevics, Ken Reiff,, Bob Murphy, Peter Lyon, Jimmy Richmond, Larry Lubonty, and Blaise Scioli

It is with great honor and pride that we induct the 1976-1977 and 1977-1978 teams into the Syracuse University Men's Hockey as members of it's Hall of Fame Class of 2020.

2020 HOF and Richard Van Winkle Award Honoree



David Hadlow SU '1975

1972-75

Goalie, #30

73-75 President and Player-Coach

The right time, the right place, the right person. That in a nutshell sums up David Hadlow in connection with Syracuse University Men's Hockey and why we are honoring him with the Richard Van Winkle Award, because the leadership he demonstrated on and off the ice, made a significant contribution to the development of the SUMH program and the maintenance of it's legacy.

While a four year SU student Dave only played three years, sophomore through senior 1972-1975. Originally from Toronto, Canada Dave game to SU as one of those hallowed Canadian hockey players with no intention of playing collegiate hockey. Instead during his freshman year he was a member of the Syracuse University Varsity Rifle team but then the university cut the sport. So David took up the pads, mask and stick again, transforming himself from being the one shooting at a target to being the target being shot at, in which some of his SU teammates took great relish in during practice.

David minded goal for SUMH from 1972-1975 making saves in the classical poster photo position of the time - stand up, glove arm out to side save. While there are no statistics currently available for this time period of SUMH, by his own admission David won more games than he lost. That definitely makes him a winner in our eyes.

But what really makes Dave a winner to the SUMH community was his impact as a team leader at a critical crossroads in the SU Men's Hockey program evolution. As team leader, Captain/Administrator and co-coach 1973-1975

David rescued the team from near extinction by helping the team achieve a strong economical

footing, intensify its recruiting, and increase its visibility. His efforts, along those of a group other HOF players and leaders, helped create a solid footing for the team from which to continue to grow. The accomplishments of David, his contemporaries and those of his successors helped cement the programs existence and provide its legacy of continual growth and excellence.

David graduated with a Bachelor's Science Marketing spending his early career in Medical supplies and Equipment sales. His last 14 years were in the ever changing commercial electronic security business,. David retired in 2015. But, not before demonstrating he still had few moves left when he joined a bunch of work colleagues in a pick up hockey game -dusting off his old brown leather pads, big round groves and his old mask leaving one of the young players wondering "what museum did you steal those relics from?".



As a resident of Whalley a neighborhood of Surrey near Vancouver, BC, Canada, Dave applied the lessons he learned from leading the SUMH program, the importance of volunteerism, the power of listening to other and managing adults, and how to create an inclusive program that benefited all of the members. Coaching Little League Baseball from 2001-2017 Dave served as coach and treasurer of Whalley Little League, coaching at all different levels, he helped Whalley send more teams to Williamsport than any other organization in Canada including his son's Senior League World Series team in 2007, and later the Manager of the 2014 Intermediate World Series Team (13 Y/O) and finally coach on the 2017 Senior League WS team.



Dave is the exemplification of the advice he once provided his own son “you aren’t a leader because go about your business and do what you do set a good example people will follow you.” It is with great honor and pride that we present the Syracuse University Men’s Hockey 2020 Richard Van Winkle Award to David Hadlow.



Richard Van Winkle Award Recipients

James Evert, 2019

David Hadlow, 2020