



Home of the Huskies

*St. Cloud State University*

# HUSKY ATHLETICS

*Athletic Media Relations*

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## **St. Cloud State University to Induct Eight into 2007 Athletic Hall of Fame** **Pamela Raetz Benoit, Jack Conley, Judi McDonald Larkin, Grant Nelson, Karen Scott, Jim Stanek, Bob Wolff and Distinguished Service Award Winner Jeff Passolt to be honored**

St. Cloud, Minn. -- St. Cloud State University will induct eight members into the 2007 Athletic Hall of Fame in an on-campus ceremony, Saturday, Oct. 27. The inductees include Pamela Raetz Benoit (swimmer), the late Jack Conley (basketball/baseball), Judi McDonald Larkin (tennis), Grant Nelson (wrestling), Karen Scott (tennis), Jim Stanek (head baseball coach/assistant football coach), and Bob Wolff (basketball). Former hockey player Jeff Passolt will receive the Distinguished Service Award.

The 25th induction ceremony will take place in the Cascade Room of the Atwood Memorial Union on the St. Cloud State campus. A brunch will be served at 10:30 a.m. with the program and induction to begin at 11:00 a.m. The Huskies football game against the University of Nebraska-Omaha will kick-off at 1:00 p.m. at Husky Stadium.

### **The 2007 Athletic Hall of Fame**

**Pamela Raetz Benoit** swam for the Huskies from 1990 to 1995 and had an outstanding career. Raetz finished her career as a 11-time All-American, with eight honors coming in the breaststroke and the other three as a member of medley relay teams. When she graduated, she held school records in the 100 and 200 breaststroke, and the 200 and 400 medley relays, which have since been broken. Raetz won a North Central Conference championship in 1991 in the 200 breaststroke and swam a leg on both the 1994 NCC champion 200 medley and 400 medley relays. She qualified and competed in the NCAA Division II National Swimming Championships in every one of her seasons with the Huskies, starting in 1991 when she placed fifth in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke. In 1992, she swam a leg on the fifth place 200 medley relay and placed seventh in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke. In 1993, she was fourth in the 100 and seventh in the 200 breaststroke. She saved her top performances for her senior season as she placed third in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke, was fourth in the 200 medley relay and ninth in the 400 medley relay. She was the SCSU team MVP in 1991 and 1994, and a team captain in 1994. She holds a master's degree in education and currently teaches early childhood special education in the St. Cloud School District. A graduate of Sauk Rapids, Minn., High School, Pam and her family reside in Rice.

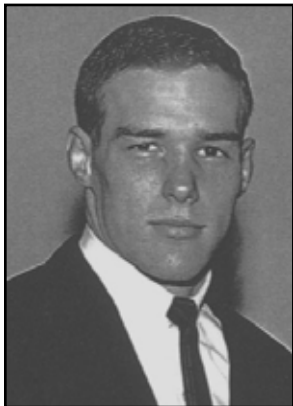


The late **Jack Conley** played basketball and baseball, and ran a little track for St. Cloud State in the early 1940's. Conley lettered in baseball and basketball. He was a three-time All-Conference player in basketball and was co-captain of the team during his senior season in 1943. When he wasn't playing in a baseball game, he ran the 440 for the track team and earned one letter. Conley was involved in campus activities outside of athletics. He was the junior class president, a member of the Al Sirat Fraternity, of which he became treasurer his senior year, and he belonged to the Lettermen's Club. As a team co-captain the Verndale, Minn., native led the Husky basketball team to the National Intercollegiate Basketball Tournament in 1943. After posting an 11-1 record, including 11 straight wins, the Huskies defeated Texas Wesleyan College and lost to Eastern Washington College of Education at the national tournament held in Kansas City. Conley earned his bachelor's degree from SCSU and

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a master's from the University of Minnesota. He spent his professional career as a teacher, coach, and athletic director at three Minnesota high schools, and was the longtime athletic director at Forest Lake High School. He was elected Minnesota State Athletic Director of the Year in 1983 and is a member of the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

**Judi McDonald Larkin** was a four-year standout in the St. Cloud State women's tennis program from 1981 to 1985 and compiled one of the best records in the history of SCSU tennis. She won a school record 77 career doubles matches, and ranks in the top 15 all-time in eight of the 18 categories kept in the record book. She played on teams that won two Northern Sun Conference Championships in 1982 and 1983, and the Huskies first ever North Central Conference Championship in 1985. In 1984 the Huskies finished second in the Northern Sun. During her three seasons of competition in the NSC, the Huskies never lost a single conference match. McDonald played #5 singles her first season, winning individual titles at the MAIAW State meet and the Region 6 AIAW championship. She also won the State #1 doubles title with Karen Scott. That same year (1982), the Huskies placed 20th at the AIAW Division II National Championships. In her final three seasons, McDonald played #1 singles for the Huskies capturing the consolation singles championship and #1 doubles title at the 1983 State MAIAW meet. In 1984, McDonald and Scott were invited to compete in doubles at the NCAA National Championships, the first women's tennis players from SCSU to compete in an NCAA Championship. In her final season of competition, McDonald won the #1 singles consolation title in the NCC and posted an 11-2 record in doubles with Scott. McDonald earned NSC All-Conference honors in 1982 and 1983. McDonald was named to the NCC Academic At-Large team in 1985. Larkin graduated from Kearney High School (Nebraska) and resides in St. Cloud with her family. She has been the head men's and women's golf coach at St. Cloud State University since 2000.



**Grant Nelson** was an outstanding wrestler for the Huskies in the early 1960's. He came to the SCSU campus in the fall of 1959 and began his collegiate wrestling career on a team that posted an 11-1-1 record, and finished second in the Northern Intercollegiate Conference. He placed second in the conference meet and the following year placed third at the league championship. In 1962, Nelson won the individual conference title at 147 points. He posted a 17-2 dual record and pinned every one of his opponents in the conference meet. His crowning season would come his senior year in 1962-63. That year he posted a 10-0 dual record, won the NIC title and claimed a national NAIA Championship at Bloomsburg State College. As a team the Huskies won the conference championship and placed third at the NAIA Tournament. By the time he finished competing for the Huskies, Nelson held school records for best dual record in a season (10-0), longest dual win streak of 16 matches, longest undefeated dual streak of 22 matches, most tournament championships in a season with three and most conference championships with two. The Anoka, Minn., native graduated from SCSU with a bachelor's degree in accounting and currently resides in Prescott, Wisconsin.

**Karen Scott** is probably the most dominant women's tennis player St. Cloud State has had according to former SCSU women's tennis coach Larry Sundby (he didn't coach Karen). Scott played tennis for the Huskies from 1981 to 1985 and still holds school records for best career won/loss percentage of 83%, best career singles winning percentage of 87%, best career doubles winning percentage of 80% and best single season winning percentage in singles of 94%. She played on the Northern Sun Conference championship teams of 1982 and 1983, and led the Huskies to their first North Central Conference title in 1985. She won two MAIAW State singles titles (at #6 and #3 singles), two state doubles titles, one NSC singles championship (#2 singles), one NCC singles championship (#2 singles), and a Region 6 AIAW singles and doubles championship. She competed in the AIAW National Team Championships in 1982 and earned an invite to the NCAA Championships in doubles in 1984. She currently ranks in the top ten in six of the 18 categories where records are kept. She was named the team MVP in 1984 and served as a team captain in 1985. Scott and her doubles partner Judi McDonald, were ranked 13th in NCAA doubles during the 1984 season. Scott holds



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a master's degree in elementary education from Mankato State University. A graduate of Hutchinson High School, Scott resides in Bloomington and is a sixth grade reading teacher at Valley Middle School. Since 1989, she has been the seventh and eighth grade girls and boys tennis coach, and was a girls basketball coach until 1995.



As the Husky baseball coach from 1968 to 1978, **Jim Stanek** compiled a 187-114-4 overall record, won five Northern Intercollegiate Conference championships, and led the Huskies to a third place finish in the 1969 NAIA National Tournament. In addition, the 1971 Husky baseball team placed third in the NCAA Regional tournament. Stanek graduated from St. Cloud Teachers College in 1951 with a degree in elementary education. The Minneapolis, Minn., native played first base for SCSU Hall of Fame member John Kasper in the early 1950's. After several years of coaching and teaching at the high school level, and earning a master's degree, he returned to St. Cloud State in the fall of 1967 as an assistant football coach, head baseball coach, and physical education instructor. He retired from baseball in 1978 and continued as an assistant and later associate professor in the physical education department until 1991. Stanek was on the original SCSU Athletic Hall of Fame committee in 1990, and served on the committee until 2006. Jim and his wife Lorraine currently reside in St. Cloud.

**Bob Wolff** played football and basketball for the Huskies from 1958 to 1962, and earned both his bachelor's and master's degree from SCSU. He played on the 1959, 1960, and 1962 Northern Intercollegiate Conference Championship basketball teams and the 1959 undefeated freshman team. He was an All-Conference basketball selection in 1961. Wolff captained the 1962 NIC championship team, NAIA District 13 championship team, and the NAIA National Tournament team, which set a school best record of 23-4. He was a member of the 1958, 1959, and 1960 football teams. Besides his involvement in athletics, Wolff was the senior class president in 1962, a member of Sigma Tau Gamma, Phi Delta Kappa, and the Lettermen's Club. He was crowned the St. Cloud State College Sno King in 1960. His next association with the college came in 1964 when he taught and coached at the St. Cloud State Laboratory School until 1968. He was an assistant varsity and head freshman basketball coach, and head tennis coach in 1967 and 1968. His tennis team won Northern Intercollegiate Conference titles in both of those years. Wolff enjoyed a successful career with Holt, Rinehart and Winston Publishing Company, and has been heavily involved in civic activities in Hackensack, Minn. He is a graduate of St. Cloud Tech High School.



Distinguished Service Award Winner **Jeff Passolt** played ice hockey for the Huskies from 1977 to 1981. He scored 68 goals and tallied 68 assists during his career. His 136 career points ranks him 11th on the all-time scoring chart at St. Cloud State that includes players from the Division I, Division II, and Division III eras of Husky hockey. Prior to the Division I era, Passolt's 136 points ranked fourth on the SCSU career scoring charts while his 68 goals ranks third on the all-time chart. The St. Louis Park, Minn., native played for SCSU coach Charlie Basch. During his playing career, the Huskies advanced to the NCAA tournament in 1980 and 1981, and posted a 40-20-2 record those same two seasons. His name also remains in the SCSU record book as he holds the Division II/III record for most penalty minutes in a game with 30 that he accumulated in a game against Bemidji State his senior season. As a student-athlete at St. Cloud State, Passolt got his first taste of television as a mass communications major where he took television production classes. Since then he has made a career out of television and is currently the main news anchor at FOX 9 television in the Twin Cities. He has won three Emmy's for Best News Anchor, and is involved in charitable activities. Passolt has returned to campus on many occasions as a guest speaker and emcee for the Husky Sportacular, the Stanley Cup Celebration, and President Roy Saigo's retirement celebration.