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For Immediate Release

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Central New York Athletes Recognized *Believe to Achieve Sports Awards Ceremony Held at the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce*

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK – APRIL 28, 2008 – The Syracuse Sports Corporation and the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce will conduct the **Winter 2007/2008 Believe to Achieve awards ceremony** in the Board Room at the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, **May 1st, 2008 at 4:00 pm.**

The awards recognize meritorious contribution to the Central New York Sports Community. Believe to Achieve was founded by Gary Bugenhagen, Syracuse Sports Corporation member and former Syracuse University football player. This event is sponsored by Hunt Real Estate ERA and The Pen and Trophy Center.

John Rathbun, Sports Development Director for the Syracuse Convention and Visitors Bureau, states, “This initiative is an example of the depth of our sports community. The presentation of these awards marks the hard work and commitment of individuals and teams whose contributions to Central New York are immeasurable. These awards really mean something to the recipients; that is evident at the ceremony”.

Fall, winter, and spring sporting seasons each feature five classifications, which include Class 1 – Individual Male and Female; Class 2 - Active Coaches in Central New York; Class 3 - Active Male and Female Teams in Central New York; Class 4 - Individual, Adult Division; Class 5 – Excellence in Sportsmanship.

-More-

The Winter 2007/2008 award recipients include:

Class 1 – Individual Male Athlete Award

Andy Kahl / Track and Field / Cicero-North Syracuse High School

Class 1 – Individual Female Athlete Award

Allison Leshner / Swimming / LeMoyne College

Class 2 - Coach Award (multiple winners)

Michael Conners / Head Varsity Wrestling Coach / Fulton High School

Bob Coppola / Head Varsity Wrestling Coach / Central Square High School

Jim Marsh / Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach / Corcoran High School

Frank Colabufo / Head Varsity Boys Hockey Coach / West Genesee High School

Class 3 – Male Team Award

Jamesville-DeWitt High School / Boys Varsity Basketball

Class 3 – Female Team Award

Faith Heritage High School / Girls Volleyball

Class 4 Adult Open / Class 5 Excellence in Sportsmanship Award

Carl Eilenberg / Retired “Voice of the Carrier Dome”

This event is open to the public. Media are encouraged and will be accommodated.

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