

## Amherst Hills' 'Master Professional' wins Hall of Fame endorsement

Todd Miller, Amherst Hills Tennis Club's Executive Director and head professional since 1980, has previously been inducted into four athletic Halls of Fame. Perhaps a fifth awaits.

The Buffalo Tennis Hall of Fame selection committee chose Miller from all of its current inductees as their overwhelming choice to be the next from tennis to join the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame.

Past inductees from tennis include Jimmy Arias, Bobby Banck, Charlie Garfinkel, Bob Hetherington, Ethel Marshall and Bea Massman.

Miller is the most accomplished tennis coach in Buffalo history. Last year he became only the 25th individual in world history to be named Professional Tennis Registry "Master Professional." The PTR, comprised of over 12,000 coaches in 123 countries, honored Miller with the designation for his lifetime of career achievement in coaching. He is the only Master Professional in Buffalo history.

Through his career, he has been named International Tester of the Year, Eastern Coach of the Year and New York State Professional of the Year.

In 2006, Todd, his wife Debbie and children, Tina and Tony, were named United States Tennis Association Eastern Tennis Family of the Year. (The John McEnroe family were past recipients of this award.)

Additional titles for Miller include USA High Performance Coach, PTR National Clinician, PTR National Certification Tester, USTA National Coach and president of PTR Eastern.

Miller has previously been inducted into the J.C.C. of Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame (1990), Sweet Home Athletic Hall of Fame (2001), University at Buffalo Athletic Hall of Fame (2002)



**Todd Miller**, Master Professional, won a landslide vote by the Buffalo Tennis Hall of Fame as their next representative from the sport of tennis for induction into the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame.

and the inaugural class of the Buffalo Tennis Hall of Fame (2005).

Miller has the longest head professional tenure and since 1980, has directed the largest junior program in Buffalo history. He has coached national champions, NCAA Division I All-Americans and countless numbers to college scholarships, USTA National and sectional rankings, high school sectional titles and MUNY and City Open championships.

Miller has been instrumental in the success of dozens of teachers and coaches. Under his guidance, ten assistants have become collegiate head coaches and ten have become head professionals.

As a national clinician and tester for the PTR, he has educated and professionally certified over 50 local coaches. He has provided further education by bringing to Buffalo and presenting clinics with world renown coaches like Brett Hobden (Australian au-

thor of "Modern Tennis"), Pete Collins (author of "Successful Doubles" video series) and Luke Jensen (former French Open doubles champion).

In 2004, he created, hosted and directed the PTR Eastern Symposium for coaches, which featured Master Professionals and some of the industry's premier speakers.

For eight years, he was Empire Sports' Fan TV's guest tennis analyst. He has been a featured speaker at events like the PTR International Tennis Symposium and is a published author, most recently producing an eight-page article titled "Net Wisdom" which appeared in Tennis Pro, distributed internationally.

Miller has presented the Buffalo tennis community numerous events and exhibitions, with some attracting over 500 spectators. The 2004 "Night of Stars" featured Arias, Aaron Krickstein (formerly sixth in the world) and the Jensen brothers.

Formerly, Miller was head professional of Westwood and Park County Clubs. He also coached at the Bolletieri (Bradenton, Fla.) and Kesl (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.) Academies, where he trained some of the world's most talented junior players, including two Wimbledon junior champions.

A former UB star from 1977 to 1980, Miller still holds the school record for highest winning percentage (86 percent) for a first singles player. In 1985, he captured the Buffalo City Open Singles Championship, defeating UB All-American Ken White in the finals. Seven years earlier, he reached the championship match before falling to Hetherington. Through the years, he has won numerous local titles, including six City Doubles titles and six City Mixed Doubles championships and the 1995 MUNY 35 singles crown.



**Terry Laughlin** lectures coaches and high school swimmers about total immersion during a recent clinic at Canisius College. The clinic was a fundraiser for the Amherst Central girls varsity swim team.

## Amherst girls swimming holds total immersion clinic

The Amherst varsity girls swim team recently hosted a swim clinic at the Canisius College's Koessler Athletic Center pool featuring Terry Laughlin, founder of Total Immersion Swimming and author of many books on the subject.

The clinic was comprised of 75 participants including coaches, as well as age group, high school, and masters swimmers.

The Amherst varsity girls were demonstration swimmers while Laughlin lectured, enhanced by underwater stroke analysis. The technical aspects of all strokes, including total immersion teaching and training principals, were taught.

The Amherst varsity swim team used total immersion this season with great success. Coaches Kim Skomra and Debbie Sullivan trained with Laughlin this summer and were responsible for bringing him to Buffalo for this event. Laughlin is well-respected around the swimming world, giving lectures world-wide.

The clinic was a fundraiser for the varsity girls swim team.

## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCOREBOARD

### Amherst Central

**Boys Basketball** — def. South 68-58

**Girls Basketball** — lost to Hamburg 54-40

**Hockey** — lost to Frontier 7-0, Geneseo Tourn. — def. Geneseo 2-1, lost to Victor (Section V) 6-1

**Boys Swimming** — def. Lackawanna

### Sweet Home

**Boys Basketball** — def. Jamestown 53-47

**Girls Basketball** — def. W.S. West 58-47

**Hockey** — tied Churchillville-Chili (Section V), 4-4, tied Orchard Park 1-1

**Boys Swimming** — def. Frontier 59-39

**Wrestling** — 17th at Joe Shifflet Sweet Home Invitational Tourn., 48

### Williamsville East

**Boys Basketball** — def. Hamburg 60-54

**Girls Basketball** — def. W.S. East 52-8

**Hockey** — lost to North 2-1

**Boys Swimming** — def. W.S. East 93-92

**Wrestling** — lost to Holley (Section V), seventh at Lew-Port Lancer's Pete Rao Memorial Invitational

Wrestling Tourn.

### Williamsville North

**Boys Basketball** — lost to Frontier 80-75

**Girls Basketball** — def. Clarence 55-50, lost to Jamestown 63-41

**Hockey** — lost to Lancaster 2-1, def. East 2-1

**Wrestling** — def. Clarence 30-26, fifth at Depew Wildcat Wrestling Tourn., 88½

### Williamsville South

**Boys Basketball** — lost to Amherst 68-58, lost to Bishop Timon-St. Jude 61-48

**Girls Basketball** — def. St. Mary's of Lancaster 46-36, lost to Hamburg 47-29

**Hockey** — lost to Ken. East 2-1, lost to Ken. East 4-2, lost to Canisius 7-4

**Boys Swimming** — lost to Depew 108-60

**Wrestling** — lost to Canisius 47-24

### Sacred Heart

**Girls Basketball** — def. Nazareth (Section V) 46-39, def. Holy Angels 41-22

### Sports briefs

**Medaille College** will host a six-week spring training 2007 baseball program for players in grades 1 through 12 from Jan. 28 to March 4.

Medaille College head coach Ron Nero and coach Tony Sekuterski will direct the program in conjunction with Midwest Baseball Academy. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting and pitching at a cost of \$98 for six weeks.

Space is limited. Registration is now under way.

For more information, visit [www.baseballacademy.net](http://www.baseballacademy.net), or call 1-866-MBA-HITS.

**Amanda Dory** won the 1-meter diving for the Buffalo State College's women's team with a score of 233.05 in a recent meet. Dory is an Amherst resident and Sweet Home High School graduate.

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