



## John Clayton: High schools honor their own who's who

By JOHN CLAYTON

Union Leader Staff

[Monday, Apr. 10, 2006](#)

**WITHIN THE WALLS** of Manchester's three public high schools, there will be several occasions today when bells will signal the end of class. In an instant, students will crowd into the halls, but here is the question for the day:

Will a student in the hall wind up in a hall of fame?

Is there a student — male or female — currently enrolled at Central, Memorial or West whose achievements in life might one day make them worthy of the ultimate in recognition and acknowledgment by their fellow alums?



**BOB BAINES**  
Memorial High



**ADAM SANDLER**  
Central High



**CHARLIE QUINN**  
West High

If you'd asked that question:

- At Central in 1984, the answer would have been yes, because actor and comedian Adam Sandler was walking the halls back then, and he will go into the Central High School Hall of Fame on May 27.
- At Memorial in 1964, the answer would have been in the affirmative, because former Mayor Bob Baines was there back then, and he'll be inducted into the Memorial High School Hall of Fame on Nov. 25.
- And at West in 1938, the answer would have been resounding in the positive, because the late, sainted Charlie Quinn was studying there back then, and rightfully, he will be ushered into the West High School Hall of Fame on May 13.

It's been a busy time for the alumni associations at the three city schools, as the respective deliberative bodies have weighed and measured the merits of nominees from every imaginable field of endeavor.

The choices have been made, the honorees are being notified and now — as I provide a complete list — you get to play the game at home.

## **Central High School**

When Manchester's oldest high school inducts its newest Hall of Fame class at the Center of New Hampshire-Radisson Hotel on May 27 to mark its 160th birthday, that class will include 14 men and women.

Among them are the aforementioned Adam Sandler, and two Rhodes Scholars — which no other city school can match — in J. Russell Muirhead and Basilios Tsingos.

From the medical field, there is Arthur Tzianabos, professor at the Harvard School of Medicine; Dr. James Vailas (who should win a Nobel Prize for rebuilding my shoulder); Mark Letendre, the director of health services for the Major League Baseball Umpires' Association; and Dr. Menelaos Aliapoulios, who held professorships at both the UMass and Harvard Schools of Medicine.

Other general inductees include former State Sen. John King, Puritan Backroom icon Plato Canotas and the late Rogers Blood, a Marine Corps lieutenant and Silver Star recipient who died in 1944 "while leading his platoon in the face of severe hostile machine gun, mortar, and rifle fire . . . on the Japanese stronghold of Engebi."

In athletics, the honorees are multiple sports stars at both the high school and college level, including Bob Durand ( '48), Dick "Twang" Zielinski ( '54), Lisa Russell ( '95) and Mary (Larkin) Quinn ( '87).

To purchase tickets for the Central Hall of Fame Banquet and All-Classes Reunion, contact Chris Kehas at 625-9587 or Roland Blanchard at 623-7970.

## **Memorial High School**

The Hall of Fame at the Queen City's youngest public high school is undergoing a renovation of sorts, with the creation of two new wings.

The existing division, the Red Division, has (and will continue) to honor the finest in Crusader athletics. This year's inductees — obviously listed by age before beauty, right Wally? — include Walter Rozmus ( '62), Michael Shaughnessy ( '66), Don York ( '70), Gene Brown ( '72), Doug Nute ( '75), Celeste Beaulieu ( '76), John Wood ( '83), Cynthia Roberge ( '85), Marie LaRoche ( '86), Randy Manni ( '91), Anthony Trisciani ( '92), Shawndra Applegate ( '93) and Aaron Tolson ( '93).

Coaches to be inducted into the Red Division include football giant Bob Chabot, longtime basketball coach Peter Poirier plus the Swiss army knife of coaching, that being baseball, football and hockey coach Hubie McDonough II.

The newly created Blue Division at Memorial will honor individuals such as boosters, parents, teachers and volunteers who contribute mightily to the school. This years honorees include the late Tom Croasdale, Robert Demers, Frank Dubisz, John Golabiewski, the late Steven Kidder, the late Peter Psaledas and Richard Samara.

The Memorial Hall's other new wing, the White Division, will recognize those Memorial graduates who have attained prominence through their contributions to society at large. It's an impressive group, featuring the aforementioned Mayor Baines.

The others are United States Army General Robert Cone ( '82); the late Susan (Tsamparlis) Janosz ( '74), a class valedictorian and recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching; United States Navy Admiral Richard Postera ( '78), Indian Head Athletics owner Don York ( '70) — who will go into the Red Division at the same time — and in the interest of job security, let me not forget my boss, New Hampshire Union Leader publisher Joe McQuaid ( '67).

The inductees will have to wait until Nov. 25 for their membership in the Memorial Hall of Fame to be official, and if you'd care to attend the induction dinner — to be held at the school — call Ted Menswar at 622-1833.

## **West High School**

They say you should save the best for last, and since West is the best — sorry, I'm hardly impartial in this matter — you'd better act now if you'd care to attend the May 13 Hall of Fame inaugural to be held at the school.

On that day, a technical oversight will be rectified when the aforementioned Charlie Quinn finally enters the West High Hall. As a one-time student, athlete, coach teacher and principal at West, he should have been a lock to enter with the first group of honorees in 2001, but as a member of the selection committee, he was ineligible.

This sets it right.

Joining Charlie will be Major General Perry Lamy ( '71), the Air Force test pilot who ushered the B-1B and B-2 bombers into service, and Carl Simon Jr., ( '42) a class valedictorian, three-sport standout and engineering manager with General Electric.

Others include New Hampshire Housing and Finance Authority director Clairra (Pirozzi) Monier ( '58); the Vicar General of the Catholic Diocese of New Hampshire, Monsignor John E. Molan ( '44) and his classmate, valedictorian John J. Neilon ( '44), who was launch director for 60 NASA missions, including two Viking Mars landings.

Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame umpire and Cape League legend Robert "Curly" Clement ('38) will also take a spot in the West High Hall, as will Healthsource visionary — now Choicelinx chief executive officer — Donna (Klop) Lencki ('77) and James DeRocher ('46) a military intelligence analyst and a pioneer in the field of psycholinguistics.

The formalities will take place at West in a little over a month — highlighted by school tours, a large student presence and a buffet dinner — and the man with the tickets and the details is Al Heidenreich at 623-8960.

*John Clayton is the author of several books on Manchester and New Hampshire, including the newly released "You Know You're In New Hampshire When . . ." His e-mail address is [jclayton@unionleader.com](mailto:jclayton@unionleader.com)*