

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****January 23, 2006****Corning Community College to Establish Intercollegiate Golf Team in Spring 2006**

The Corning Community College Athletic Department is pleased to announce the establishment of an intercollegiate golf team for men and women to begin competing in spring 2006. The Red Barons will compete in Region III of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), which boasts 15 teams across New York State.

This is not the first time CCC has competed in the sport of golf on an intercollegiate level. In 1964, the Red Barons hit the links under the guidance of Dutch Craumer. The sport was offered for five seasons until departmental budget cuts forced the cancellation of the sport in 1968. In 1966, John Castrilli, formerly of Bath, NY, became the first CCC golfer to earn a trip to the NJCAA Golf Championship in Grand Rapids, MI. Castrilli placed tenth in the nation.

Horseheads, NY, native **Paul Richmond** and Ithaca, NY, native **Jay Turcsik** have been named co-coaches for the Red Barons team. Turcsik and Richmond's paths have crossed before while competing as teammates at the University of Charleston. Richmond is the former golf coach at Thomas A. Edison High School and was a member of the 1988 and 1989 Horseheads Senior High School Blue Raiders golf team that advanced to the New York State high school tournament. He continued his playing career in college where he was a two-time National Collegiate Athletic Association Academic All-American. Richmond is currently an economics and government teacher at Thomas A. Edison High School.

Turcsik, Soaring Eagles Golf Course Head Professional, earned All-New York State honors while competing for the Little Red of Ithaca High School. He won two collegiate tournaments during his college career and earned Professional Golf Association (PGA) status in 1999. His success continued when he qualified and competed in the PGA's BC Open in 2000 and 2001.

"We are excited to add the sport of golf to our intercollegiate offerings at CCC. This addition will offer an opportunity for our student-athletes to compete on an intercollegiate level and extend a variety of growth experiences," commented Stacy Johnson, CCC Coordinator of Athletics. "Golf seems to be of strong interest to our students and with the quality of the coaches, I am excited and optimistic about the potential for success. These are two dynamic individuals that possess enthusiasm and concern for both the sport and young people."

The addition of golf was made possible through a private donation made to the College from **Bill '70 and Susan Hanley** with the intent of starting a golf team. "The Hanley's generous donation signifies their vested interest in the sport of golf and enhancement of the community college experience. This gift is the largest athletic donation received in the forty-seven year history of our College. In less than a month's time, we learned of the donation, formed an intercollegiate team and hired two of the most qualified individuals in the area to join the coaching staff. The momentum is contagious and we are anxious to hit the links this April," added Johnson.

“We are delighted to be able to play a key role in the creation of a golf program at the College. It is our hope that the existence and future success of this program will encourage talented young people, who are interested in golf, to stay in the region and pursue their education. We are convinced that the local support and enthusiasm for the sport will ensure its success as part of the college experience at CCC,” added the Hanley’s.

A home course has yet to be determined. The match schedule will be released in mid-February.

For questions or additional information, please contact Stacy Johnson at (607) 962-9318.