HPU Athletics Inducts Inaugural Hall of Fame

Former N.Y. Met and a local volleyball coaching legend among honorees

Hawai'i Pacific University will induct its first HPU Athletics Hall of Fame class Sept. 24. HPU has offered an outstanding athletics program for 33 of its 46 years, with its Sea Warrior teams earning five national titles and numerous conference championships.

The honorees include HPU baseball player Benny Agbayani from Honolulu, who was drafted to play in Major League Baseball for the New York Mets. Volleyball coach Tita Ahuna, men’s basketball player Jurgen Malbeck, softball pitcher Susie Schoales, and men’s basketball player Llewellyn Smalley also will be honored during the S.H.A.R.X. Benefit, 5:30 p.m. at the Ko‘olau Ballrooms at 45-550 Kionaole Road, Kaneohe.

The evening will feature a musical performance by six-time Grammy Award winner Daniel Ho, dinner, a silent auction, and a drawing for a trip for two to Las Vegas. Proceeds benefit the S.H.A.R.X. organization (Supporting HPU Athletes to Reach eXcellence), an organization that helps improve the lives of HPU’s student-athletes.

Tickets and tables (10 seats) are available by contacting Athletics Marketing Coordinator Lauren Conching at 356-5223 or lconching@hpu.edu.

The 2011 HPU Athletics Hall of Fame

Benny Agbayani
Agbayani is HPU’s only baseball first-team All-American. He was named to the team in 1993 and was the Area One Player of the Year. Agbayani ranks first in steals, sixth in batting average, third in homeruns, fourth in runs batted in, and ninth in hits in the HPU record book.

Tita Ahuna
Ahuna, of Honolulu, won two NCAA National Championships as the head coach of the women’s volleyball team. In 2000, Ahuna led HPU to a perfect season, going 28-0 — the first-ever perfect season in NCAA Division II history. That season, she was named the NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year. She roamed the sidelines for 11 years and is the all-time career leader in HPU volleyball wins with 206.

Jurgen Malbeck
Malbeck, a student-athlete from Germany, was the 1997 NAIA Player of the Year and a two-time first-team All-American in 1996 and 1997. He ranks first in field goal percentage for a game, season and career; third in points, fourth in field goals, fourth in free throws, fourth in rebounds and second in blocks.

Susanne Schoales
Schoales, of Cerritos, Calif., pitched for HPU’s always-powerful women’s softball team. She has the most complete games in a season and a career, and holds the record for first in games, first in field goals, first in three-pointers, third in rebounds and third in steals.

In 1998, he was named the Hawai‘i Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Most Valuable Player and the Far West Region MVP. After HPU, Malley played professionally from 1999-2006 in Europe.

Llewellyn Smalley
Smalley, from Shreveport, La., was a two-time All-American in 1997 and 1998. Smalley ranks first in points, is tied for first in games, third in field goals, third in three-pointers, third in rebounds and third in steals.

For more information about HPU Athletics, contact 356-5214.

S.H.A.R.X. Benefit
Celebrating 33 years of Sea Warrior Tradition
Saturday, September 24 • 5:30 p.m.
Ko‘olau Ballrooms • Kane‘ohe

Induction of Benny Agbayani, Tita Ahuna, Llewellyn Smalley, Susanne (Schoales) Medeiros and Juergen Malbeck to the
Wealth Strategy Partners’
HPU Athletics Hall of Fame

Musical entertainment by Daniel Ho
Silent Auction
One Golden Ticket Giveaway: A trip for two to Las Vegas presented by Vacations-Hawaii

S.H.A.R.X.—Supporting HPU Athletics to Reach Excellence—is the support group for Hawai‘i Pacific University Athletics

For tickets and more information, visit www.goseawarriors.com