

Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame Club

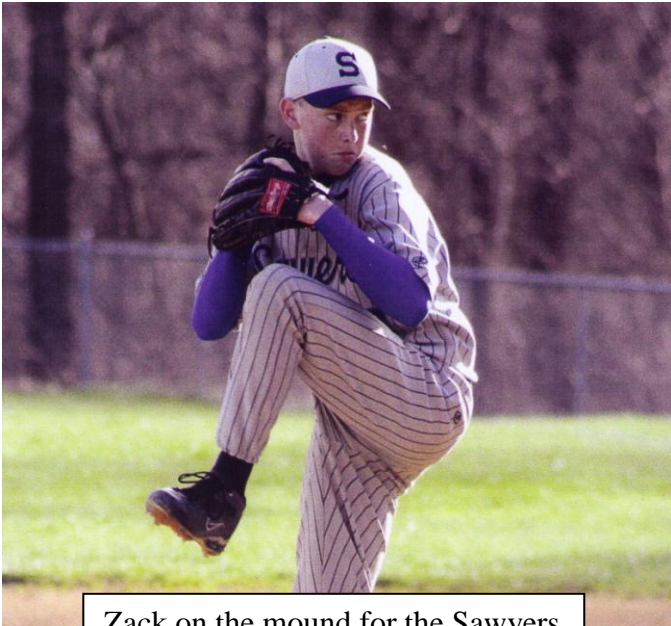
2011 Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship Award



Zack Ball

The Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame Club is extremely proud to announce this year's recipient of the 2011 Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship Award, Saugerties High School Senior, Zack Ball. Zack is the son of William and Donica Ball and the brother of siblings Maureen, Lauren, James and Daniel. Zack has participated in sports at Saugerties High School while maintaining strong academic standing, ranking 36th in a class of 220 with a GPA of 92.385. He is well rounded demonstrated by his involvement in: Student Government (2010)-Jr. Class President, Student Council (2010), Key Club (2009-2010), Baseball Club (2009-2011)-Treasurer 2011, and National Honor Society Member (2010-2011). Zack has given back to the community with volunteer work at the annual Kiwanis sponsored Garlic Festival, umpiring at the Saugerties Little League, as well as performing numerous hours of various community service projects associated with AP Government class. Zack has played

multiple sports at Saugerties High including football from 7th grade through 11th grade, wrestling in 9th grade, golf his senior year, and baseball from 10th through 12th grade.



Zack on the mound for the Sawyers

Although baseball is Zack's most enjoyable sport, it did not come easily to him and he had to work extremely hard to become a member of the Saugerties High School baseball system. Zack's most valuable high school experience is one that he will carry forward in life as it defines what hard work and persistence is all about. After failing to make the baseball team three years in a row, Zack would not be denied his dream of playing

Saugerties High School baseball. Beginning the winter of his sophomore year, Zack spent early Saturday mornings throughout the stovepipe season in the Donlon Auditorium developing his arm and honing his pitching skills. Zack's hard work and perseverance paid off and in the following spring he was finally recognized for his diligence as he was selected to the Sawyer JV baseball squad. With his 'foot in the door', Zack never looked back. The following two seasons he continued his improvement being promoted to the varsity in his junior year and going on to prove a solid contributor to the Sawyer varsity baseball program his junior and senior years as both a pitcher and outfielder. Zack's improvement in baseball also led to his selection to the Saugerties American Legion Post 72 baseball program where he has flourished there also. Striving for success and believing in ones self is a lesson that Zack will never forget and one which has helped him in preparation for life's challenges.

Zack currently plans to further his education at a community college locally, attending either Columbia-Greene or Ulster County Community College. His future aspirations are not really defined yet although he would like to pursue a career in which he has interaction with people and can affect the community in which he resides. Zack has a real desire to

positively affect those he meets and to use his experiences to help others. Being the eldest of five children his experiences at home will certainly give him a wonderful portfolio of life experiences he can share with others. Hard working, of pleasant demeanor, having strong character and values, and just being a ‘good all around kid’, is the general opinion of those who know Zack. We are confident that his work ethic coupled with his positive personality will ensure Zack’s success in whatever path he pursues.



Zach (3rd from left) and
2010 Sawyer Golf Team

When asked what receipt of this award would mean to him, Zack stated that all his hard work has been rewarded simply with his being a part of the SHS baseball team. However, receipt of the Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship Award would represent further reward and recognition for his dedication for working hard for something that he wanted and that never giving up has paid dividends beyond his expectations. An honor

that he never dreamed possible but attained through effort as well as the confidence and support of his family and friends.

The Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame congratulates Zack for being the 2011 Saugerties Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship winner. Zack, your parents, friends, teammates, and the Saugerties community as a whole are proud of your accomplishments. Your hard work in school and dedication towards your athletic goals are a model and inspiration to all who strive to achieve excellence. Good luck in your future endeavors, we are confident that your life’s journey will be one of reward and success.