

BC3 to induct top scorer, hot hitter and runner who served country into Pioneer Hall

April 6, 2018

(Butler, PA) Butler County Community College will induct into the Charles W. Dunaway Pioneer Hall of Fame on May 5 the college's all-time leading scorer in men's basketball, a catcher whose prowess at the plate led BC3's softball team to a 33-6 record over two years, and a cross-country runner who qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Association's national championships before and after serving in the Vietnam War.



Bryant Lewandowski, left, Beckie Jo Higgins-Arey and Michael Franko will be inducted into Butler County Community College's Pioneer Hall of Fame on May 5.

Bryant Lewandowski, Beckie Jo Higgins-Arey and Michael Franko will be honored during the hall's Class of 2018 induction ceremony at 2 p.m. in BC3's Field House. The Pioneer Hall of Fame recognizes former student-athletes, faculty and staff, coaches and friends who through their accomplishments have made significant contributions to BC3 athletics.

BC3 will also present National Junior College Athletic Association All-American awards to golfers Thomas Dimun (2015) and Stefan Carlsson (2015), to women's basketball forward Julia Baxter (2017), to softball outfielder Nicole Houk (2017) and to volleyball setter Brittney Bianco (2017).

Lewandowski became BC3's first men's basketball player to reach 1,000 points and joined his brother, Joe, as the first and only siblings to be selected as BC3 All-Americans. Bryant Lewandowski scored 1,303 points from 1997 to 1999.

Higgins-Arey, a left-handed catcher, hit .402 as a co-captain of a 1990 BC3 squad that finished 18-2. As team captain in 1991, Higgins-Arey batted .366 and led BC3 to a 15-4 record.

Franko qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Association 1969 championship and, after leaving BC3 in the fall of 1970 to serve in the Army during the Vietnam War, resumed his cross-country career in 1973. He again served as team captain and qualified for a second NJCAA national championship.

The Charles W. Dunaway Pioneer Hall of Fame induction ceremony is open to the public. Those wishing to attend can RSVP by contacting Torey O'Donnell, assistant director of Student Life, at torey.odonnell@bc3.edu.