

Hall of Fame creates Community Service Award

John Conlon is the first recipient.

John Conlon has been selected as the recipient of the Blair County Sports Hall of Fame's first Community Service Award. Conlon has served as the president of the Altoona Parochial League for 10 years in addition to coaching in the league for 32 years.

Conlon's nomination was accompanied by more than 500 signatures.

"We are honored to present our first Community Service Award to John Conlon," Hall of Fame president David Andrews said.



John Conlon

"We've had a number of very worthy nominations, but we feel choosing John is an extension of how the community feels about

the contributions he has made."

In addition to coaching, Conlon, whose father, Dick, was inducted into the Hall of Fame posthumously in 1988 for his professional boxing exploits, has been a local sports historian.

He wrote two books about Altoona Catholic and Bishop Guilfoyle football and often writes for the Altoona Mirror's Sports Mailbag about former athletes who have passed away.

Hall of Fame secretary Neil Rudel will handle tonight's presentation.