

Abilities! Hosts Celebrity Sports Night Dinner and Auction

PHOTOS BY CHRISTINE CONNIFF SHEAHAN, DENIS SHEAHAN, DENIS SHEAHAN JR. AND BEN ASEN PHOTOGRAPHY

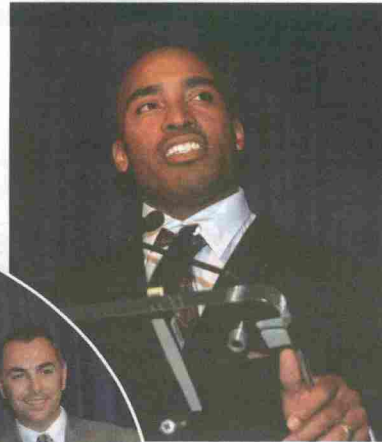
Abilities! celebrated their 43rd Celebrity Sports Night Dinner with celebrity athletes. This year Abilities! honored Stephen M. Ross, chairman and CEO, Related Companies and owner of the Miami Dolphins as the Executive Sportsman of the Year and Edward J.T. Kenney, executive vice president of Mutual of America was the Distinguished Honoree. The event chairman was Steven C. Witkoff, founder and CEO of the The Witkoff Group. Tiki Barber, NBC News correspondent, author, and retired NY Giants Pro Bowl running back assisted auctioneer and master of ceremonies, John Dockery, with the live auction.

Among the 42 sports celebrities who attended the event were former NY Mets baseball legends, Darryl Strawberry, John Franco, Rusty Staub and Bud Harrelson; former football greats Don McPherson, quarterback, Philadelphia Eagles, NY Jet, Wesley D. Walker; hockey champs, Clark Gilles and Gerry Hart from the NY Islanders and Olympic figure skating champions, Sarah Hughes and Dorothy Hamill. The highlight of the event was a musical production of "Drek The Musical" produced by Olympic figure skating champion, Jojo Starbuck, starring both athletes and students of the Henry Viscardi School.

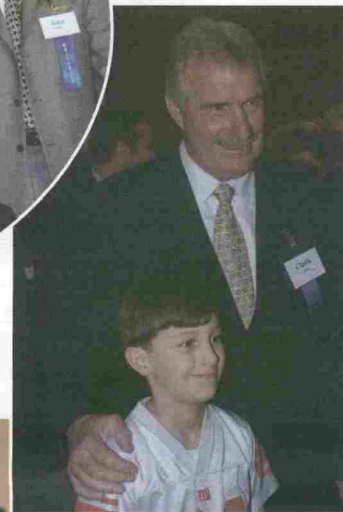
Celebrity Sports Night is an annual event held by Abilities! to raise funds for the organization. Proceeds from the event are used to develop innovative training and education programs for individuals with disabilities. Past attendees have included Scott Hamilton, Jack Nicklaus, Jim Brown, Frank Gifford, Joe Frazier, Tom Seaver, Donald Trump and Michael Bloomberg. ■



Above: Bud Harrelson, Darryl Strawberry, Rusty Staub and John Franco with young guests



Tiki Barber, former NY Giant



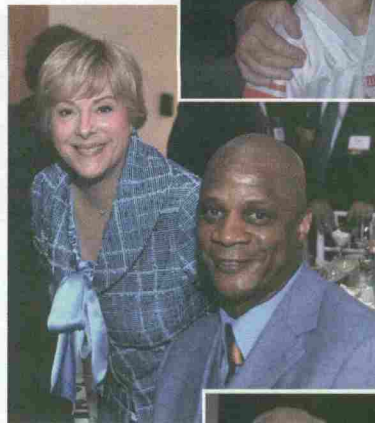
Clark Gilles, former New York Islander and Nicholas Ruffalo



Sarah Hughes, olympic figure skater

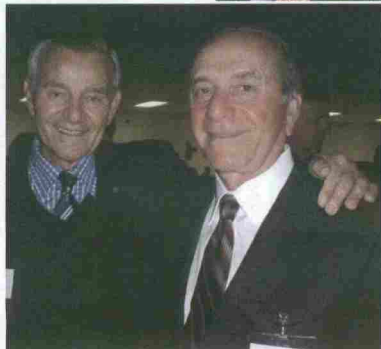


Saul Katz, chairman of the board, North Shore-LIJ Health System, Don Dreyer, director, Nassau County Office of the Physically Challenged and Iris Katz



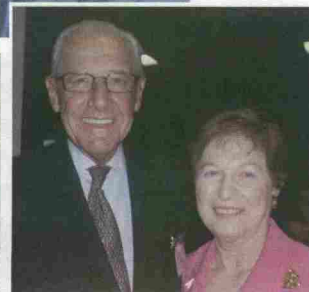
At left: Vicki Murphy, Celebrity Sports Night committee member and Darryl Strawberry, former New York Met

Photo: Ben Asen Photography



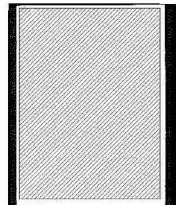
Michael Pascucci, chairman, WLNy-TV 10 55, board member and John Danzi, principal, Long Island Hotels

At right: Don McPherson



Frank Castagna, principal, Americana Manhasset and Rita Castagna, Castagna Realty Co.

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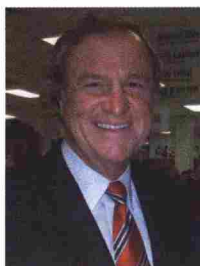
Tokey Hill, world karate champion and Frank Lerro



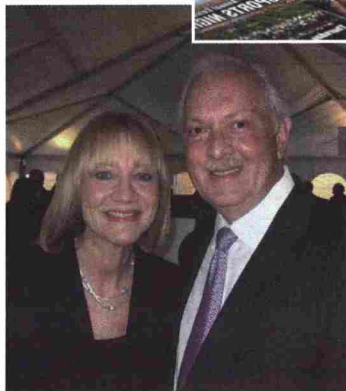
Lynn Drucker, senior vice president of Development and External Relations, with Max Gold, graduating Henry Viscardi School senior



Bud Harrelson, former New York Jet and Denis Sheahan Jr., editor, HOUSE Magazine



Edward Travagianti, president, TD Bank



Karen Loeffler, president, Karen Loeffler Consulting and Ed Cortez, president, CEO, Abilities!



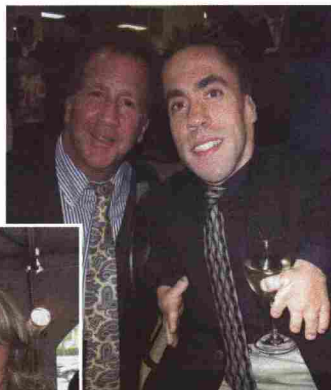
Liz Giordano, CEO, Long Island Head Injury Association and Gil Hodges Jr.



Steven C. Witkoff, Celebrity Sports Night event chairman, founder, CEO, The Witkoff Group and Yoanna Grand
 Photo: Ben Asen Photography



Amanda Goddard



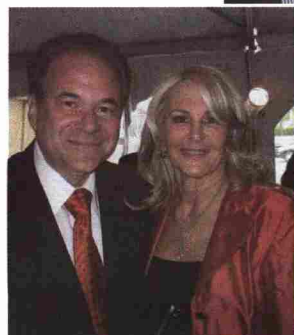
Bobby McGeever and Clinton Brown III



Maureen and Bill Dwyer

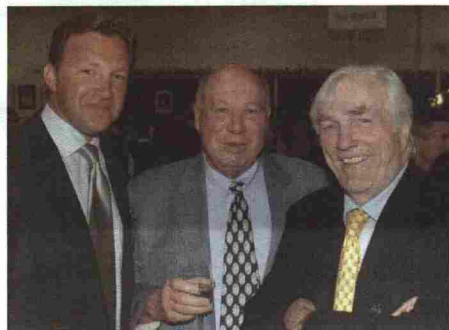


Dorothy Hamill, Olympic figure skater and Michelle Mohan, HVS student
 Photo: Ben Asen Photography



Jeff Davis, Davis Partners, producer, Broadway show, Rock of Ages and Angela Susan Anton, publisher, CEO, Anton Community Newspapers

At right: Frank Beyradt, Vincent Sasso and Denis Sheahan, editor-at-large, HOUSE Magazine



From Kaufman Dolowich Voluck & Gonzo LLP: Kerri Legutko, Megan Bruno and Aileen Smisek

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