



NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON HOMETOWN HEROES

Dedication, passion and commitment determine America's best youth sports leaders

STUART, Fla., September 18, 2007 - The National Council of Youth Sports (NCYS) selected five adult leaders involved in youth sports organizations as recipients of its 4th annual Hershey's STRIVE Award. STRIVE stands for Sports Teach Respect, Initiative, Values and Excellence.

NCYS is a national youth sports advocacy organization. Its membership represents more than 52 million boys and girls involved in youth sports activities nationwide.

This year, NCYS will present Hershey's STRIVE Awards to one national administrator, two local administrators, one volunteer and one coach. Honorees were nominated by team members, parents or colleagues and judged by a panel of NCYS officials.

The honorees include Ron Komornik of Virginia Beach, Va., who is the recipient of the **Hershey's STRIVE Coach of the Year Award**. Komornik coaches baseball and basketball to youth ages 7-17. Komornik's nominators said his focus on respect, discipline and perseverance, as well as basic sports skills, has improved young players' self-esteem. "He treats every player as amazing individuals while leading each one to great achievements as a unified team."

According to Frank Alberio, KPB President, "Ron is one of the most dedicated coaches we have ever had at Kempsville PONY Baseball. He runs great practices and teaches the game of baseball very well. Most importantly, he has motivated young players to come back every season. Most of the players from the Mustang All Star team that Ron almost took all the way to the PONY World Series are still playing as middle school and high school players."

Congratulations, Ron, on your outstanding achievement and contributions to youth sports. The award was presented to Ron on Tuesday December 18th during half-time at the KHS home basketball game. Sally S. Johnson, Executive Director of the National Council of Youth Sports, presented the award to Ron. BEACON article – click [here](#).