

**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Dick Rea Jennifer Garber  
317-571-8204 704-552-6565  
drea@methodistsports.com garber@lgapr.com

**An Evening of Greatness with Hoosier Sports Heroes**

*Basketball Legend Bobby “Slick” Leonard and Retired High School Football Coach Dick Dullaghan to Share Spotlight with Student-Athletes*

Carmel, IN – March 20, 2009 - Indiana sports heroes of yesterday and today will receive top honors at the fourth annual Thomas A. Brady Sports Achievement Awards, scheduled for April 14 at 7 p.m. at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis.

The event, established by the Methodist Sports Medicine Research and Education Foundation in partnership with Clarian Human Motion, will honor four Indiana high school and college student-athletes that have overcome injury or hardship.

In addition, the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) will select Hoosier scholar-athletes and recognize them for their academic accomplishments and hard work and dedication within their chosen sport.

To conclude the award presentation, two Indiana sports legends will be recognized for their long-time professional accomplishments within the field of athletics. This year’s Lifetime Achievement Award recipients are former Indiana Pacers head coach Bobby “Slick” Leonard, a member of the Indiana University Sports Hall of Fame, and retired high school football coach Dick Dullaghan, who later this year will be inducted into the National Federation of High School Athletics Hall of Fame in Chicago.

During his 12-year stint coaching the Pacers, Leonard won more games than any other coach in the American Basketball Association. Now in his 24<sup>th</sup> year as a broadcaster with the team, he is known to younger fans for his familiar “Boom Baby” exclamation when the Blue and Gold sink a three-point shot. He’s one of just five individuals recognized by the Pacers with a banner at Conseco Fieldhouse in honor of his 529 career wins.

Dullaghan became the first coach in IHSAA history to win football state championships at two different schools. When his coaching career was complete after three decades, his teams won a record eight state championships, recording 313 wins and just 58 losses. Dullaghan was named National High School Coach of the Year in 1991 following his third state title at Ben Davis High School.

ESPN and Monday Night Football announcer Mike Tirico will serve as keynote speaker for the event. WISH-TV Sports Director Anthony Calhoun returns as emcee.

Proceeds from the event and event silent and live auctions will help to support the Methodist Sports Medicine Research and Education Foundation.

For more information call (317) 817-1258 or go on-line at [www.methodistsports.com/aboutus/events.html](http://www.methodistsports.com/aboutus/events.html).

### **About the Thomas A. Brady Lifetime Achievement Award**

The Thomas A. Brady Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes individuals with Indiana ties that have made outstanding contributions in the field of athletics. Dr. Brady, recognized as the “father” of sports medicine in Central Indiana, established a walk-in clinic in the basement of Methodist Hospital which ultimately became Methodist Sports Medicine / The Orthopedic Specialists. Over 25 later, this practice is recognized as a leader in the care and treatment of athletes and non-athletes with musculoskeletal injuries and conditions.

### **About Methodist Sports Medicine Research and Education Foundation**

The Methodist Sports Medicine Research and Education Foundation is a not-for-profit organization established to support and enhance the research, medical education, outreach and care undertaken by the Methodist Sports Medicine / The Orthopedic Specialists.

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