



**For Immediate Release
Upon Receipt**

Contact: Drew Biondo
631-451-4776
biondodr@sunysuffolk.edu

Nice Guys Finish First: Leader, Role Model and Sportsman, Suffolk's Eric Brown Will Be Inducted into NJCAA Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

Suffolk County Community College head baseball Coach Eric Brown of Coram has been inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, College Athletic Director Kevin Foley announced today.

The NJCAA made the formal announcement February 3. Brown will be honored at a pre-tournament banquet at the 2014 NJCAA Division I Baseball World Series on May 23 in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Coach Brown, Foley said, is the longest tenured coach of any athletic program at Suffolk County Community College and has led the Sharks for 25 years, amassing an overall record of 587-322-7. Coach Brown has led Suffolk to five appearances in the NJCAA Division III World Series (1998, 1999, 2000, 2006, and 2011) and is a five-time recipient of the Region 15 / District F Coach of the Year Award.

"Coach Brown is an exceptional leader who sets a high bar for our student athletes not only on the field, but in the players' everyday lives. He is a credit to our College, and I am proud to say congratulations to him on behalf of our entire College community," said Suffolk County Community President Dr. Shaun L. McKay.

"This is a fitting acknowledgement of the outstanding record that Coach Brown has achieved as head baseball coach at Suffolk County Community College. His contribution to the College and the young men who have played for him is legendary. He is an example of how one person can make a difference in so many people's lives. I have known Eric for more than 30 years and he is truly an outstanding person and one who deserves this recognition. A multi-sport star himself, Brown lettered in three sports – including baseball – as a student-athlete at Suffolk. He was hired to lead Suffolk's Baseball program in 1987 and was subsequently inducted into the Suffolk County Community College Sports Hall of Fame in 1993," said Kevin Foley, Director of Athletics for Suffolk County Community College.

-more-

Brown is a member of the Suffolk County Sports Hall of Fame and the Longwood High School Sports Hall of Fame.

In addition to his program's success on the field, the NJCAA Region 15 Umpires Association has awarded Coach Brown's program its annual sportsmanship award four times.

Brown is currently the president of the NJCAA Region 15 Baseball Coaches Association, a post he has held since 2000.

Other inductees this year include Steve Ruzich of South Suburban (Ill.) and Tim Wallace of Spartanburg Methodist (S.C.).

###