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Skating Association of Maine Announces Dean Gardner Memorial Hockey Scholarship

AUGUSTA, Maine - On January 20, prior to the Cony/Hall-Dale/Monmouth boys ice hockey game against Lawrence/Skowhegan, the Rams and the Skating Association of Maine honored the late Dean Gardner, a former Cony ice hockey player and coach who passed away on December 31, 2017. As part of the on-ice ceremony, the Skating Association of Maine announced a hockey scholarship in Dean Gardner's name that will provide financial support to local hockey players in need of equipment and funds to play the sport.

Dean Gardner started playing hockey at age 7 and played three seasons for the Cony Rams hockey team from 1984 to 1987. He was named the MVP in his senior season, but was known more as a true teammate. He was also the head coach for Cony from 1993-94.



From left to right: Back row, Cony seniors Tyler Dostie, Avery Pomerleau, Dalton Bowie, Cole Lockhart, Logan Leadbetter and Riley Dowe. Front row, Cony coach Shawn Johnson, Loren

Gardner, Arlene Gardner, Debra McMahon and Holly McMahon-Hall. Photo courtesy: Skating Association of Maine.

Prior to the start of the game, current and past Rams players were on the ice to support the Gardner family, including Dean's mother, Arlene Gardner. The players and family watched as a banner was hung from the upper railing in Dean's memory. A plaque was also provided to the Gardner family and will be displayed at the Camden Nation Bank Ice Vault lobby.

Dean Gardner is survived by his son, Loren M. Gardner of Auburn; his mother, Arlene M. (Glazier) Gardner of Augusta; three sisters: Diane L. Ouellette and her husband Don of Wells, Debra K. McMahon and her husband Tom of Augusta and Darlene L. St. Hilaire and her companion Patrick Griffin of Freeport as well as several nieces, nephews, cousins.

To donate to the Dean Gardner Memorial Scholarship Fund, supporters can send funds to the Skating Association of Maine at PO Box 5663, Augusta, ME 04332.

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About the Skating Association of Maine (SAM):

The Skating Association of Maine is an organization with more than 300 members. SAM's mission is to encourage and promote ice skating programs in the State of Maine. SAM's purpose is to encourage and promote the participation, instruction, practice and advancement of its members in the sport of skating on ice, including, but not limited to Learn to Skate, Figure Skating, and Hockey, in accordance with the rules and regulations of each sport's National Governing Body (NGB) and to instill the ideals of sportsmanship, honesty, and teamwork. Learn more at <u>www.maineskaters.com</u>.

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