

Richard Romer

Class of 1984

Columbia High School

Richard Romer, currently occupies the position of Market Engagement/ Program Manager for Plug Power, Inc., where he is actively engaged in the development of fuel cell technology. Between 1990 and 1999, Mr. Romer employed his business and engineering skills in varying capacities at Clearview Bag Company, Albany; as Field Engineer for Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory coordinating testing of the submarine power plant; as Product Development Manager at the Berkshire Corporation and finally in 1998-1999, as Product Manager for the Furon Company where he was instrumental in the development and commercialization of new products. Prior to Richard's entry into the world of business he briefly employed his considerable physical skills on the gridiron with the Cincinnati Bengals for two years.

After graduating with honors from Columbia in 1984, where he captained the football, basketball and track teams in his senior year, Mr. Romer went on to Union College where he received a B. S. in Mechanical Engineering, in 1988. He completed his formal education in 1993 when he graduated from State University at Albany with a MBA.

Richard's athletic prowess on the football field while attending Union College made him a legend both at that institution as well as in the Capital Region. Among the honors and awards bestowed upon him were: Honorable Mention All-American by the Associated Press and Pizza Hut All-American second team (1985); Associated Press First Team All-American (1986 and 1987); ECAC Upstate New York All-Star (1986-1987); Kodak First Team All-American Award for academic and athletic excellence (1987); recipient of Union College's Outstanding Male Athlete Award both in 1987 and 1988; and finally as a tribute to his aforementioned prowess his selection in the seventh round draft by the Cincinnati Bengals in 1988.

Richard Romer, between the years 1990-1994, served on Governor Mario Cuomo's Youth Drug Prevention Campaign/Athletes Against Drunk Driving Program. His image as a role model for young people and his unique personal style of communication made him an outstanding choice to speak to and counsel young audiences throughout the State. Even with such a crowded schedule, Rich Romer still has found the time to volunteer his efforts on behalf of Junior Achievement, the Girl Scouts and the D. P. Sutherland PTO Craft Fair. It is with great pleasure that the East Greenbush Education Foundation welcomes Richard Romer into the Alumni Hall of Fame.