

N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A.
Section IV

March 5, 1973

NEWS RELEASE

(At a recent "Hall of Fame" meeting it was agreed to alternate the news release time each year so that the A.M. & P.M. media would get an even break. To start this off, a flip of the coin decided that this year's release date will be Tuesday, March 13th, P.M. Morning papers release will be on Wednesday, March 14th. This will be reversed for next year. We hope that everyone concerned will cooperate with these dates and times.)

The Section IV Athletic Council is pleased to announce this year's Hall of Fame selections. This is the second year in this program and the purpose is to permanently honor athletes who have been outstanding over the years as participating high school athletes and who have contributed greatly to the success of sports in his community, school and Section IV.

From the 47 candidates, a screening committee has selected twelve men to be so honored. The induction will take place during the half time of the Class AA basketball finals at SUNY at Binghamton (Harpur College) on Saturday, March 17, 1973. Mr. Phil Jacobs, WNBG-TV, will again be the master of ceremonies.

The recipients are; (alphabetical order)

1. Mr. John "Jack" Call - Cortland High (1949-53)
Football - 4 years - All league
Syracuse University
Baltimore Colts & Pittsburgh Steelers
Basketball - 4 years
Track - 4 years

Coached football & track at Ilion, N.Y.
Presently coaching at Hartford Jr. College in BelAir, Maryland.
2. Mr. Jerome "Jerry" Hanifin - Binghamton North (1944-48)
Football - 3 years - All league 2 years
St. Bonaventure - 3rd in East in rushing in 1950.
Basketball - 2 years
Track - 3 years - Holds current school record in 220.

Presently an Attorney in Binghamton.
3. Mr. Henry Johnson - Ithaca High (1934-37)
Football - 4 years - Outstanding fullback
Basketball - 4 years - leading scorer
Track - 4 years - First to clear 6'2" in high jump which stood as the record for many years.

Presently retired from the Ithaca Police Force after 25 years on the force. Active in youth work.

4. Mr. Michael "Mike" Kopicik - Union Endicott High (1933-38)
Football - 4 years - All league 2 years
 Georgetown U. - All-American Honorable Mention 1941
 Outstanding punter in high school and college.
Basketball - 4 years
Baseball - 2 years
Track - 2 years
 Presently an IBM Manager at Glendale.
5. Mr. Richard "Conky" Lalla - Cortland High (1946-50)
Football - 4 years - All league
 Colgate University
 Coached at Schenectady, N.Syracuse & Bing. Central
Basketball - 4 years
Baseball - 4 Years
 Was Section IV Football Chairman before being assigned to his present position of Vice Princ. at Bing. Central.
6. Mr. Edward "Ed" Michaels - Elmira Southside High (1951-55)
Football - 3 years - All league 2 years - On all Central New York and National All-American High School teams in 1955.
 Pittsburgh University - 3 year starting guard and team captain in senior year.
Basketball - 3 years
Baseball - 3 years
 Presently living in Gibsonia, Penna.
7. Mr. Salvatore "Toots" Mirabito - Norwich High (1933-38)
Football - 4 years - All area selection - Scored 19 touchdowns for undefeated 1937 team.
 Syracuse University - 4 years
Basketball - 2 years
Boxing - 3 years - undefeated at 165 lbs.
 Syracuse U. - National Collegiate Heavyweight Champion
Wrestling - 2 years - undefeated at 165 lbs.
Baseball - 4 years
Track - 1 year
 Received a total of 16 varsity high school letters.
 Coached football and is presently the High School Vice-Principal at Floral Park, Long Island.
8. Mr. William "Bill" Tryon - Elmira Free Academy (1945-48)
Football - 3 years - All League 2 years
 Princeton U. - 3 Years at quarterback
Basketball - 3 years - All league 2 years
Baseball - 3 years -
 Princeton U. 3 years in outfield
Golf - 1 year - New York State Amateur Champ 3 years plus many other championships locally and around state.
 Only recent athlete to earn four major letters in E.F.A. Presently living in Elmira.

9. Mr. Joseph "Joe" Vavra - Binghamton Central (1928-31)
Football - 3 years
Syracuse U. 4 years - All-American Mention 1934
Played offense & defense line, punted & place kicked.
Basketball - 3 years
Baseball - 3 years

At Syracuse Joe played football, basketball, baseball and track. Also as a sophomore he was undefeated National Collegiate Heavyweight Boxing Champion. Presently is retired from teaching/coaching and lives in Binghamton.

10. Mr. Leon "Lee" Williams - Owego Free Academy (1931-36)
Basketball - 3 years - All league 2 years
Cortland State - Regular started for 3 years.
Coached for 27 years on college level (20 at Colby College in Maine) Coach of the Year in Maine 1954, Pres. National Basketball Coaches 1964, U.S. Olympic Selection Committee 1960 & 1964
Baseball - 3 years

Presently the Executive Director of the National Basketball Hall of Fame at Springfield College.

11. Dr. Edward "Ed" Winnick - Candor Central (1942-47)
Football - 4 years
Basketball - 4 years
Baseball - 4 years - Outstanding pitcher and hitter. In senior year he had averaged over two strikeouts per inning. Led team to three championships. Had five no-hitters and coach relates that he could've had many more but he would pull him before completed game. Ed was offered a lucrative contract from the St. Louis Cards but went on to higher education instead.
Cornell University - Outstanding baseball career. In junior year he was the league strikeout leader and batted cleanup with .326 average. In his final college game he beat Colgate on a 4 hitter and hit a grand slam. Ed's former coach, Hank Vetter now at Auburn, said, "Ed has to be the finest athlete I ever coached. I say this not because of his ability which was great, but because he probably lived up to his potential more than any athlete I coached."
Dr. Winnick is presently a highly successful veterinarian in Sidney, N.Y.

12. Dr. Walter Zimdahl - Elmira Free Academy (1932-36)
Football - 3 years - Star of "Coconut Bowl" in Miami, Fla. 1935
Syracuse University - 3 years - full scholarship
Charter member of Elmira Hall of Fame. He was cited on the 165 Sports Illustrated 25 yr Silver Anniversary Team for Contributions to Sports and Society.
Presently a prominent surgeon in Buffalo, N.Y.