

CENTRAL ISLIP SPORTS



HALL OF FAME

INDUCTION CEREMONY

September 19, 2015

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Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony 2015

Welcome Tom Black

Brunch

Induction Ceremony

Inductees into the Central Islip Hall of Fame 2015

Roy Barker

John Black

Randy Beverly, Jr.

Willie Combs

Allen "Skip" Cordingley

Scott Davis

Barbara Davis

Dan Devine

Dawn Ellerbe Crawford

Carl Hawker

Byron Hurt

Stacey Justice

Loughlin Family

Doug McBride

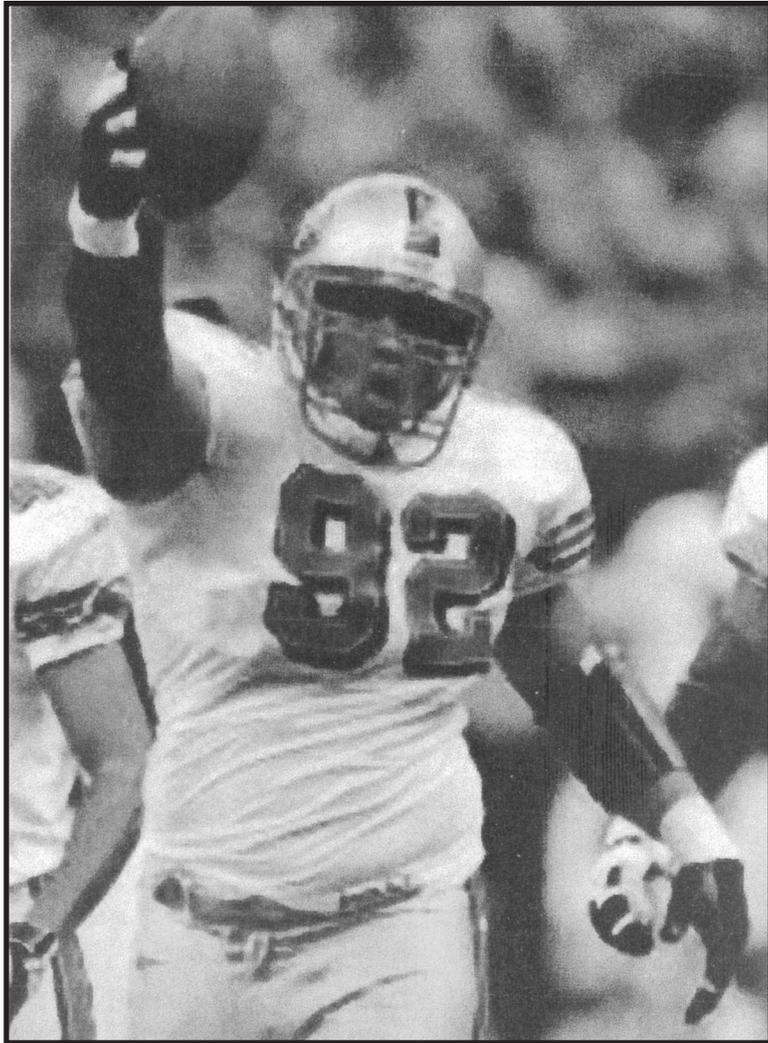
John O'Connor

Eric Unverzagt

Warren "Swede" Johnson

Fred Zimmerman

Closing Remarks



Roy Barker 1987

So, when a veteran NFL Player is proposed a question about his most memorable moment in football, you can guess how that question sometimes might be answered, “I caught three TD’S against Boise State when...” Or, “I recovered a fumble in the Rose Bowl and I returned it to the twenty when I...” We might even allow a player to start off his self-indulgence with, “In Super Bowl yada, yada, I...” Not so for Roy Barker who, when asked, immediately barks out, “Bellport.”

Huh? “Yeah, we took ‘em down, man. They were like fifth in the nation.” That year, 1986, our #76, proved what “we” is all about. A team will not win unless it is ‘we’. Barker, C I’s MVP, starred mightily in his senior year. An All Long Island player, Roy won the coveted Zellner Award as the most outstanding lineman in Suffolk County. “We just went out there and played tough”, Barker now humbly recounts.

The University of North Carolina was watching and Roy headed to Chapel Hill on a football scholarship. He played so terrifically well for the Tar Heels that the Minnesota Vikings chose Roy in the 4th Round of the 1992 NFL Draft. The 6’4” 290 pounder played in 57 games for the Vikes through 1995 and after that, continued in the NFL with stops in San Francisco, Cleveland, and Green Bay, before returning to Minnesota his last year in 2000. He completed his NFL career recording 42.5 sacks and three interceptions.

Roy lives in Miami and owns Stonegate Allied Services, a security company based in Miami Beach.

There is nothing securely kept under wraps about Roy Barker, however. His prowess was masterfully displayed on the field in Central Islip and all the way through to the top of his craft: The National Football League. We welcome you into your high school’s sports hall of fame, Roy. You are now “we” once again.

John Black

1964

There was an old saying that good things come in threes. This inductee proves that point! John “Chucky” Black joins his two brothers, Buddy and Tommy, in the Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame. Considered by many to be the finest “raw talent” of the boys, John was noted by his brother Tom, “as the best Football player I ever saw in High School”. That’s high praise from a very good source.



John played four years of Varsity Football for the Musketeers during the start of the “glory years of 1961-64”. He started on both sides of the ball, averaging 6 yards per carry as a punishing Fullback and leading an intimidating defense from his end position.

He also played two years of Varsity Basketball for Coach Tony Armata as a leading rebounder and defensive specialist where his speed and aggressiveness were highly valued in a full-court-press set up.

John joined the U.S. Navy in 1964 and served with honor and distinction, retiring after 25 years as a Master Chief Petty Officer. He was an investigator with the Navy’s Legal Department and a recipient of the Navy Achievement Medal and various other prestigious awards. He received his BA degree from Virginia Wesleyan College in 1999.

While on duty John played on numerous service sports teams. He played Football and was part of two championship Softball teams in Hawaii and won two Home Run Derby contests. While stationed in Australia and New Zealand, he played Softball and was introduced to Rugby. His duty and sports took him to Italy and other countries throughout Europe. Those travels eventually led to his playing against the King and His Court in 1984.

Chucky enjoys retirement in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Unfortunately, his wife Eileen passed away several years ago, but he is blessed with daughter Cynthia, son Johnathan, and granddaughter Kimberly. He has taken up Golf and makes frequent visits to Atlantic City, “for the weather”.

We bid the Master Chief fair seas and a following wind as he sails into the Hall of Fame.



Randy Beverly, Jr. 1985

It would be difficult for any Central Islip athlete to match Randy Beverly and 1984. Ever. Randy masterfully quarterbacked the 1984 football squad to a fine 8-1 season as he was selected as the Hansen Award winner as the finest player in the county. But there was more. Much more. All Long Island, The New York State GATORADE Player of the Year, All American and a national ranking which placed Randy among the top 50 NCAA Division 1 recruits. Simply put, WOW.

But there was much more, even still. In football, Randy played both sides of the ball, excelling in the defensive backfield. From '83 to '85 Randy also lettered in baseball and basketball. Ah, but it was in Track and Field where Randy broke records in the Long Jump, Men's 400 and 4X400 Relays. And UCLA knew that they were getting some kind of remarkable athlete.

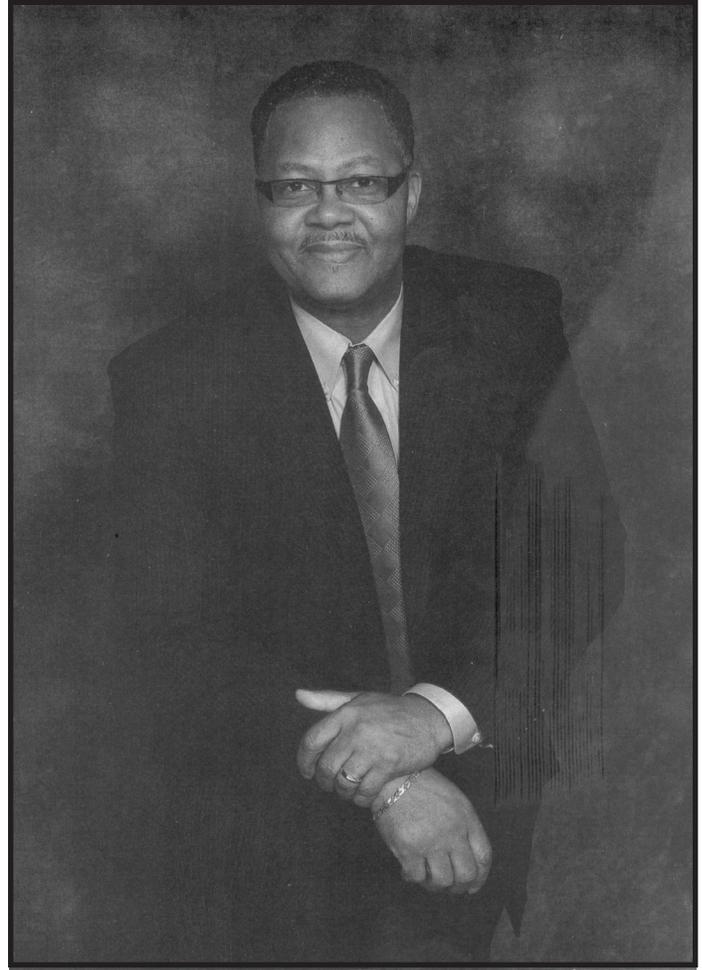
At UCLA, Randy played Defensive Back and became a Kick Return Specialist for the nationally ranked Rose Bowl and Pac-10 championship teams from 1986 -89. He co-captained in his senior year and went on graduate from the university.

Randy is now an accomplished video game designer and sports technologist. He has designed software for EA SPORTS, as well as for Fox Sports, Disney and ESPN. He has worked with the NFL in assisting the league in the creation of new training technologies and in 2007, he co-founded Beast Studios, an Eastern European gaming studio. He lives in Milan, Italy where he is the current V.P. and Head Coach of the Rams Milano American Football Club. And Defensive Coordinator, just to keep himself busy!

So, Randy, it is well-proven that you can accomplish many things, sometimes, seemingly, all at the same time. We, on the other hand, have only one thing to do and that is to greet you as you enter The Central Islip Hall of Fame. Welcome aboard.

Willie Combs

1975



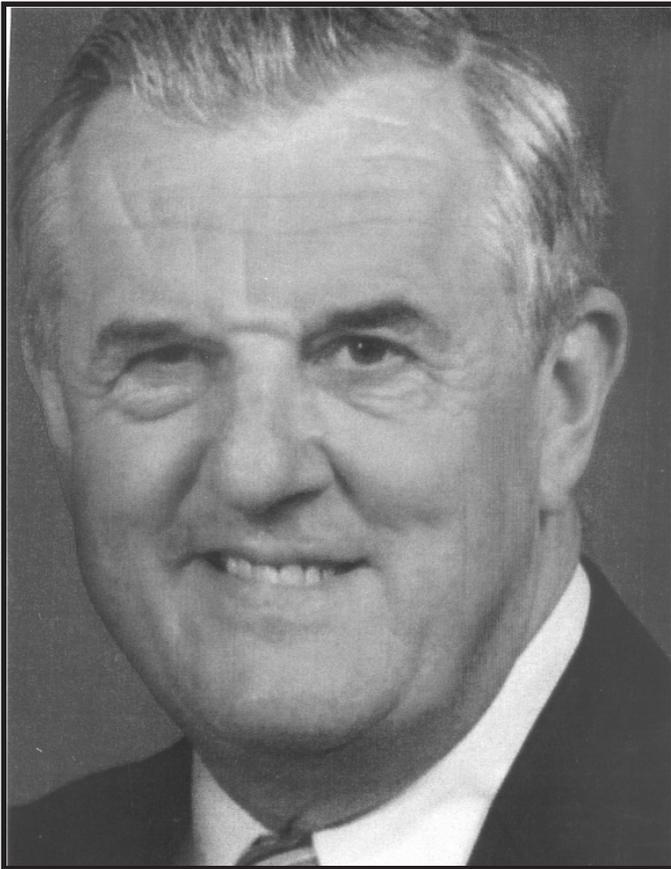
A man among the boys. That is how this fine athlete has been described. God gifted this 1975 graduate with size, tenacity and utterly, massive speed. It almost seemed unfair! Willie Combs is unquestionably among the top talents in the rich history of athletics at Central Islip. Three sports at which to excel and did Willie ever excel!

Willie was a centerpiece on our 1974 County Champion Basketball squad. Who could forget at the infancy of Cablevision, watching our Purple and Gold bring the Championship back to Central Islip? That is, unless you were there. And it was there you witnessed the tenacity. Willie Combs live.

On the football field, much the same. Chosen for our varsity as a freshman, Willie's speed and power lit up many a Friday night at our gridiron on Adams Road. Often times he appeared as nothing short of a blur. Imagine an opposing coach attempting to instruct his players upon how to stop one Willie Combs. Just don't get hurt out there fellas!

Ah, it was that speed. Setting a school record in track for the 100 yard dash was just the start of things. Willie set high time standards in the 200 yard dash and the long jump, as well. A short time later while attending C.W.Post College, he qualified in the 100 meters for the 1976 Olympic trials in Portland, Oregon. Sadly, it was there at Post where he sustained a career-ending injury while playing football, but for anyone who witnessed the talent, Willie was already a memorable vision.

Called by God to serve in 1996, Willie Combs was ordained a Minister in 2000 and holds degrees in Theology and Bible Leadership. Pastor Combs and his wife Jennie have been blessed with six children and as Senior Pastor at Abundant Life Ministry in Bellport, N.Y., our fellow Musketeer continues in the Central Islip tradition where pride matters. Welcome to the Hall, our friend, Willie Combs.



Allen “Skip” Cordingley 1948

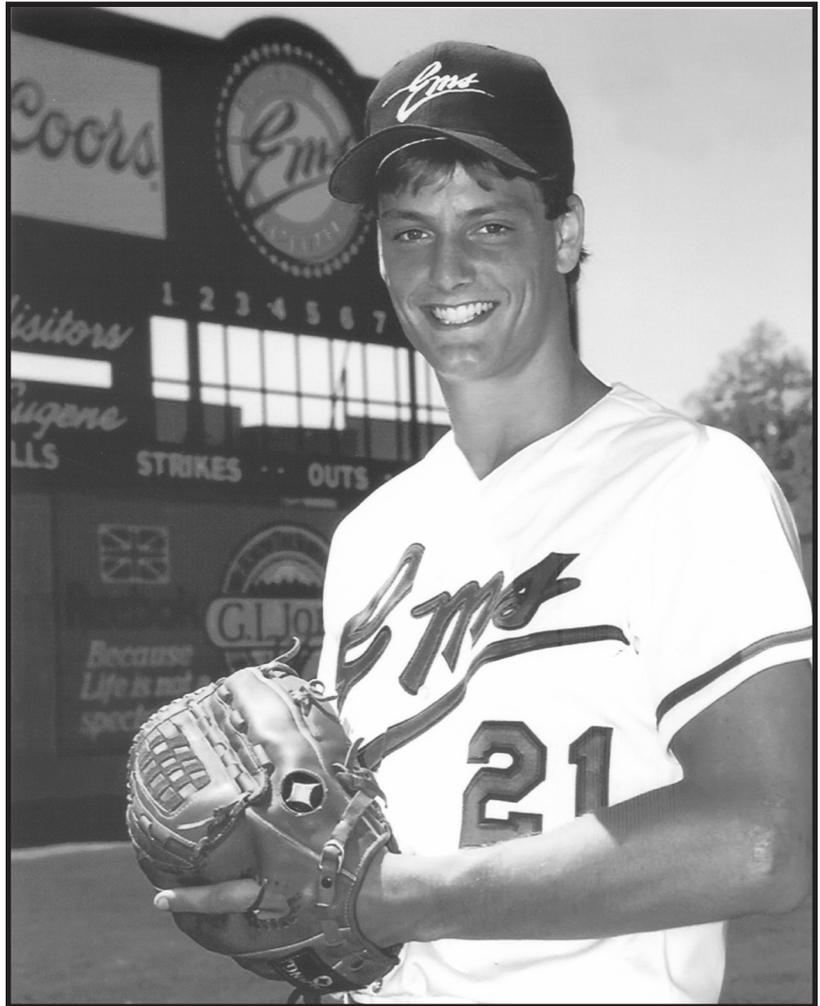
Once upon a time in Central Islip. A simpler time, no doubt. Long before the team championships, a true Central Islip native emerged a champion. Skip Cordingley, Class of 1948, embraced a sport and mastered it. He grew up over the Gulf Gas Station owned by his grandfather on Carleton Avenue and where his father Thomas would provide bus transportation to our students. It was there where Skip first spotted it. A ping pong table in the cellar. And by 1948, nobody could beat him.

When the high school could be found at what is now the Anthony Alfano School on Wheeler Road, Skip’s lunch break from 12 - 1pm became an hour of table tennis excellence. Set up on the stage of the gym, two ping pong tables where he crafted his skills before returning to class. These lunch hours propelled him to Riverhead and to the Suffolk County Championship where he became the 1948 Mens Single champion.

And he then came home and never left. Skip has been living in his “new home” on First Avenue in Central Islip since 1954. He and his wife Pauline have raised six proud Central Islip graduates and our community is quite proud of the Cordingley clan. And Skip, you certainly have made us proud.

So, welcome to the Hall, Skip Cordingley. C I Pride indeed.

Scott Davis 1986



It was a long journey from Central Islip Little League to the Kansas City Royals farm system, but Scott Davis made it. He played three years on the varsity squad under two Hall of Fame coaches, Ray Wurm and Doug Carpluck and was offered athletic scholarships to St John's University and Adelphi University. Scott chose Adelphi and it was there at the Garden City campus that our new inductee flourished.

Scott pitched for four years at the university and the awards kept coming. He was selected to the North East All American Team in 1989 and twice was selected as Player of the Week by the N.Y. Baseball Coaches Association. That same year Scott defeated Springfield College in the NCAA Regionals in a ten inning, complete game, 2-1 masterpiece.

Major League Baseball was keeping its eye on our '86 C I graduate and in 1990 the Kansas City Royals chose Scott in its Baseball Draft. Now THAT'S quite an honor indeed! Scott played two years in Eugene, Oregon and returned to the east coast, married in 1991, and opened up a wealth management the following year. He has been living in Charlotte, NC since 1992 where he has raised a family, but credits his success on coaches such as Tom Black, his JV Baseball Coach as a freshman.

Scott officially gave up the spikes last year as he still was playing baseball in a wooden bat league in Charlotte. He can now tip his cap as he strides off the mound and into The Central Islip Hall of Fame.



Barbara Attello Davis 1964

This honoree was an outstanding performer in the early years of female inter scholastic sports. In an era of shorter seasons and condensed schedules, she was not only a “three letter man”, but often “a four and five letter woman”.

Barbara played four years of Field Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, and Gymnastics, with two years of Badminton thrown in for good measure. She

was Captain and MVP of her Softball and Basketball teams in her Senior year. She was also named to honor teams in Field Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, and Softball and was awarded the Goldkey, emblematic of the top female athletes in Suffolk County. It is a wonder she found time for her schoolwork, but she did, and upon graduation, Barbara went on to Suffolk County Community College. There she earned her BA degree in Liberal Arts.

Barbara took time out from sports to marry and raise a family; Scott and daughter Donna. It wasn't long, however, before she got back in the game. She coached Little League in Central Islip with her son, Scott and his friends on various teams. She was the envy and consternation of many of her male colleagues. She must have done a really good job with the boys because her son Scott is also one of our inductees today; our first mother/son combination in the Hall!

Barbara has been an active and lifelong member of the business and service community in Central Islip. She was the Founder and Owner of the Defensive Driving School in CI for over forty years and the Founder and Director of “Wiskers N' Tails Guardians”, a non-profit animal shelter and protection agency in action for over 20 years.

They say that all great athletes must have a great heart. Barbara showed the same leadership and toughness during her playing days that she does today; as she heads a program that has saved hundreds of abused and abandoned animals with her care, concern, love, and often, her own money and resources.

We salute this mother, grandmother of (Stephanie, 20 years old at University of North Carolina, Matthew, 18 at University of North Carolina, Diana, 14 and James, 12), business woman, and humanitarian, and we are joined by her family, friends, and a lot of Happy purrs and wagging tails as we welcome Barbara to the Hall of Fame.

Dan Devine 1957

The committee once again takes a step back in time to recognize a Musketeer who has given a lifetime of service to the community and to Athletics in general.

In the fall of 1953 Dan Devine started classes at the Central Islip High School. He played Soccer, Basketball and Baseball during his High School days. Dan played Junior Varsity Soccer in his Freshman year, and Varsity Soccer in his second, third and fourth years. Central Islip had a very good team. In his senior year they won 11 games and lost 1 to Brentwood, 1-0. Brentwood won First place that year with an 11-0-1 record.

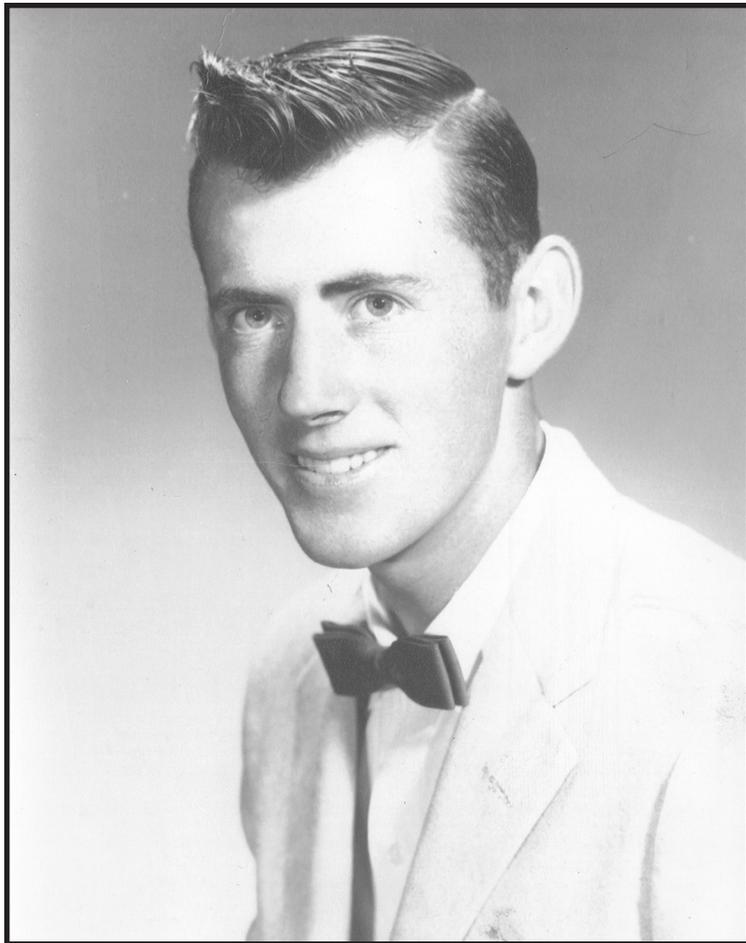
Dan's basketball affiliation started in his Freshman year where he played Junior Varsity during his Freshman and Sophomore years coached by Mr. Tom Bertino. In 1955 playing on the Varsity team under Coach Bertino, Central Islip had a 15-1 record and the Varsity team won the Class B-1 Championship.

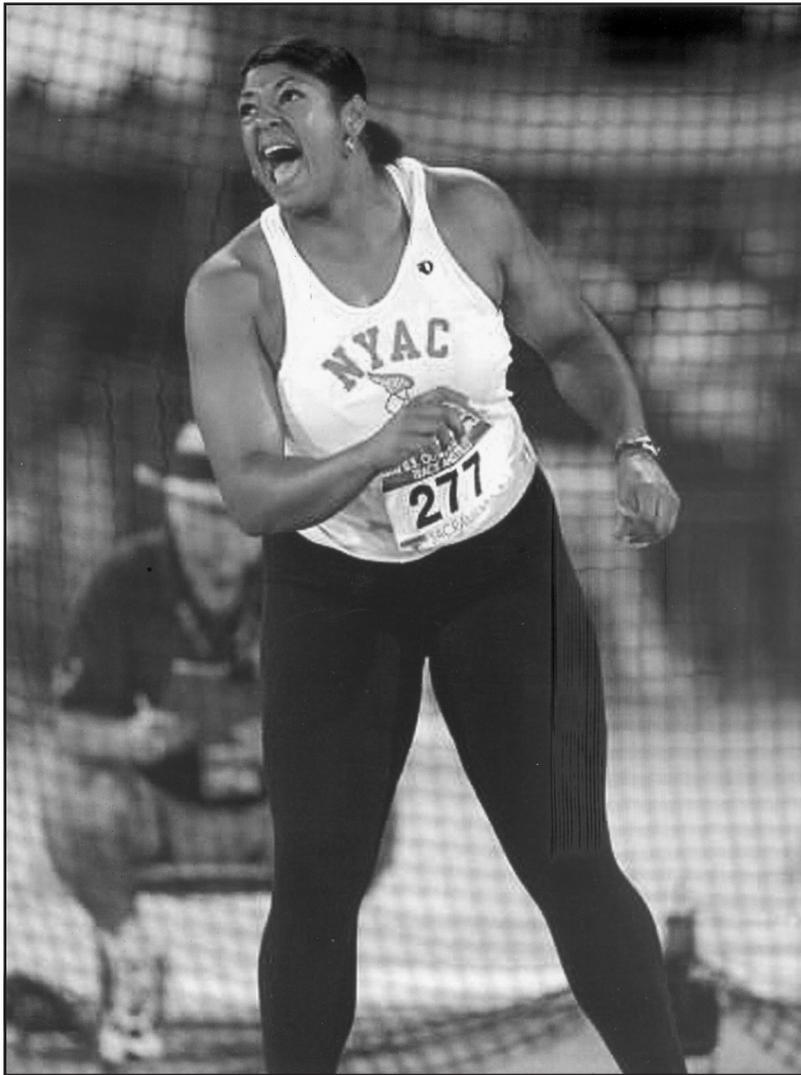
The next two years Dan played under new Coach Tony Armata and in his Senior year, the team went 14-2, losing a tight championship race to East Islip.

Dan played Baseball all four of his High School years and was Central Islip's second baseman. Central Islip had a very good team during those four years. Dan won the MVP Trophy from the Central Islip S&A Club. Dan also played five years for the Brentwood Chiefs in the Suffolk Baseball League and fast pitched Softball for the Brentwood Fast Pitch League and also played on the Islip Slow Pitch League. Dan stopped his playing days at the age of 52.

Dan married his sweetheart, Patricia McGuire, a life long resident of Central Islip, in 1954. Dan and Pat had two children, a son, Kevin, and a daughter, Kristin, and a grandchild, Kaitlyn. Dan has lived in Central Islip for over 60 years during which time he worked for the Central Islip Board of Education for 19 years. During that time "Boomer" has been a prime supporter and a champion of Athletics. He has provided our young men and women, boys and girls with the best in equipment and facilities, enabling them to compete at the highest levels.

Dan has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for 25 years and is an avid golfer. Dan is also a founding member of the Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame Committee and we gladly welcome our colleague into the Hall.





Dawn Ellerbe Crawford 1992

When one thinks of the Track and Field program at Central Islip, one must think Dawn Ellerbe. This 1992 graduate helped take us to a new level of greatness. During her four years, Dawn kept raising the bar in her own performance, setting a new school record in the Girls discus at a remarkable 135'5". Qualifying for the state championships in 1991 and 92, it was her senior year in which she placed 4th in the state in the discus.

Dawn said that the most influential coach of my High School Career was Carl Hawker. He was always encouraging and supportive, no matter how I performed on the field. When I did have a rough day he always told me I could do better and work a little harder, and I continued to improve! We had the best work outs when I showed up to "volunteer practice."

Coach Hawker saw me in the hallway one day my freshman year after basketball season and asked me to come out for the

Track team, that day changed me forever, He taught me how to throw the shotput and discus at Central Islip High School and a few years later I was able to see the sun shine from the other side of the world!

Dawn's athletic career simply hit another strata while competing at The University of South Carolina. It was there that honors were bestowed upon our new inductee in the most glorious of ways! Excelling in the shot put, discus and hammer, Dawn became a four time NCAA Champion and twice was named SEC Athlete of the Year. In 1996, she set the American Collegiate record in the 20 lb weight and hammer. The following year, well, she merely broke her OWN records in both events! It was only fitting that she was named the 1997 South Carolina Female Athlete of the Year. Whew. But she was not done. Not by a long shot put.

In 1999, she won a Gold Medal at the Pan Am Games. She held the American AND World record in the weight and hammer from 1995-2004. But this was not enough. Dawn Ellerbe became an Olympian in 2000. An Olympian! She placed seventh in Women's Hammer at the Sydney Olympic games and is a 12 time USA Track and Field Champion. Dawn also became the first woman to be named the New York Athletic Club Athlete of the Year in 2000.

In 2005, Dawn was inducted into the Hall of Fame at her undergraduate alma mater – The University of South Carolina.

She has also earned a Masters in Communications from the University of Wyoming (2001). If all of the above has not already overwhelmed us, the Penn Relays Wall of Fame has honored Dawn with her own spot there.

Dawn is now working as the Associate Athletics Director for Marketing, Branding and Fan Development at CSUN (Cal State University Northridge.) She oversees the marketing and promotions for 19 Varsity Sports, and external marketing and special events for the Athletics Department.

And so, now welcome to The Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame, Dawn Ellerbe, We, too, are honored to have you back.

Carl Hawker

Retired 2007

One of the most prolific and enduring coaches in Central Islip sports history, this honoree has had a positive effect on countless youngsters, both male and female at almost every level of competition.

He has been a champion and ground breaker in the development of girls' athletics as well as a constant, steady fixture in boys sports. Here is a run down of his years on the field:

Football:

JV & Varsity Football- W.T. Clarke HS, Westbury, 1973-1979, (7 seasons)

JV Football- Central Islip, 1980-1984, (5 seasons)

JHS Football- Smithtown Junior High, 1985, (1 season)

JHS Football- Connetquot Junior High, 1986, (1 season)

JV Football- Central Islip 1986-1997, (11 seasons)

TOTAL: 25 Seasons

Wrestling:

JV Coach- Central Islip, 1979-1984, 1997-1998, (7 seasons)

JH Coach- Central Islip 1985-1996. (12 seasons)

TOTAL: 19 Seasons

Girls Track & Field: Varsity Head Coach- Central Islip Schools, 1979-2007 TOTAL: 29 Seasons

Girls Cross Country:

Varsity Head Coach-Central Islip Schools, 1997-2007 TOTAL: 9 Seasons

Carl has coached many young athletes who advanced after their high school careers to go to college.

Coach Hawker, as the head Junior Varsity Coach in Central Islip, was also the head scout and was part of the Football program that won many conference, division, and the Suffolk County Championship during the late 1980's and early 90's.

As the Varsity Girls track coach in 1979, he took the track and field program from being an inter mural sport in the county to a fully competitive team that season. During his 29 years as the head coach, many young women went on to college with full athletic scholarships. One of his athletes went on to college and won a spot on the United States Olympic team and competed at the Summer Olympic games in Australia in 2000. She was ranked 7th in the World in the 20 lb. hammer throw. Coach Hawker's teams were Scholar Athlete Teams every year that the ratings for scholar teams were accumulated by the County. His teams won many Section Sportsmanship awards and were ranked in the Top 10 teams in the county each of the last 20 years that he coached.

His team won the League II Championship in 1988 and he was named League II coach of the year in 1988.

As a wrestling coach, he left coaching the junior varsity team to teach wrestling at the Reed Junior HS, where an experienced coach could not be found. Later on, he was asked to come back by Athletic Director Gary Jackson to run a developmental program at the junior varsity level where he coached many of the wrestlers that were developed when he was coaching at the junior high level. The team went 7 wins and 2 losses and won the award for Good Sportsmanship voted on by the coaches that year.

Carl, as a Cross Country coach, started the girls team in 1997. Central Islip was very competitive for the 9 seasons that he coached the team sending many of the runners to the New York State Qualifying meet.

Coach Hawker worked for the Central Islip School District from September 1973 to June, 2007. He is married to his wife, Patricia, for the past 44 years. Their children, Melissa Romano and Matthew Hawker, both work in the Central Islip High School. Carl informs us he is now an avid golfer which may either save or end his long and loving marriage.

Carl now adds one more item to his impressive resume. He is the newest member of the Musketeer Sports Hall of Fame.





Byron Hurt 1988

Imagine there were a documentary produced about a documentarian and it centered upon life in Central Islip. How might it look? 2015 inductee Byron Hurt would agree that no view upon his life could escape the value Central Islip provided in that life. “Central Islip is where I learned to how to compete, where I learned how to win and where I learned to take pride in everything I do.”

Byron keenly quarterbacked the varsity for three years and led Central Islip Football to our first divisional championship in 12 years. In 1987, he placed third in the running for the Hansen Award as the top football player in the county. Further, he was named All Long Island by The Daily News and Newsday. He gained a football scholarship to Northeastern University in Boston and started eight games as a freshman quarterback there. A notable moment that year was a game-winning TD toss to defeat Maine. Nobody here in town could be surprised about that. We came to expect that of Byron.

At Northeastern, Byron was a most active student. He became editor of the school’s Black student newspaper, finished first in the Dean Roland E. Latham Oratory Competition and interned at three television stations. He wrote for the Patriot Ledger and as a senior he produced his initial documentary.

Today finds Byron a documentarian of renown. He has been a guest lecturer at hundreds of college campuses throughout the nation and his latest film SOUL FOOD JUNKIES has won the CNN Best Documentary Award at The American Black Film Festival. The Urbanworld Film Festival in New York City awarded Byron for best documentary, as well.

Byron proclaims that none of the above could have been possible without PAL football coaches and mentors such as Tom Reilly. Later, Coach John Shaughnessy challenged him to become a better quarterback and he notes Coach Ben Morselli as someone who showed leadership qualities he attempted to emulate. And there was that particular football game as a senior. Byron’s last game. The Championship game at Huntington. Down 14-0 early, Central Islip rallies to win it all. “I’ll never forget our boisterous crowd chanting “ C I PRIDE, C I PRIDE, C I PRIDE !!!” The next day the headlines in Newsday read, “ A Central Islip Celebration!”

The Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame celebrates you this year, Byron Hurt. We’ll await the movie.

Stacey Justice 1984

Enthusiasm. It has been said that you just can't fake it because you either got it or you don't. Stacey Justice never had to attempt faking it. Beloved by teammates, teachers, administrators and coaches alike, when athletic talent and joy for living are combined, it creates for a most memorable person. Our new inductee is just that. To this very day.

Averaging over 20 points a game during her basketball career at Central Islip, Sta-

cey was our leading scorer each year from 1980-1984. In '82 and '83 she was the 2nd leading scorer in Suffolk County ; each year trailing just behind the legendary Sue Wicks, later of New York Liberty/ WNBA fame. Those four years also saw Stacey selected as a Suffolk County/ All Tournament 1st team member each and every year. Deer Park Basketball watched her drop 51 points on them in one game. That sort of thing can happen when a player scores over 1500 points in her high school career. Yes, Stacey Justice was that player.

After playing in the Empire State Games in Syracuse, and then for Team Long Island against New York City, it was off to Hilbert College on a basketball scholarship for Stacey. Averaging 13 points per game, Stacey led Hilbert to the Region III NJCAA Women's Basketball Championships in '84-'86. Gannon University in Erie, PA was Stacey's next educational stop and there Stacey averaged 14 points per game for Gannon. Against Pittsburgh University/ Johnstown, Stacey averaged a whopping 40 points per game.

Stacey entered The US Army in 1988 and we honor her service. In Hanau, Germany, basketball life continued. Stacey became a five time, Lady Hornets MVP and from 1989 through 1992 she led the team in scoring and assists. She played semi-professionally in the German League in the 1991-92 season after leading the Lady Hornets to V Corps Championships from 1989-92. All accomplished with great joy, no doubt. And it is our joy to welcome you back, Stacey. Welcome to the Hall!





The Loughlin Family 1950-1969

The Loughlin brothers were, and are, very much about golf! It is the major topic of conversation at EVERY Loughlin get-together. They all started playing golf very young, hitting balls up and down the road from their house to the neighbors, and later caddying at Brentwood Golf Course where the pro Jack Sheridan played. Jack was a lifelong friend and to whom the brothers owed much. This association with Brentwood came full circle when Richard returned to be the club professional.

They were all involved in golf during their high school years. They all graduated from Central Islip High School in years spanning 1950-1969 and let the records show that the Loughlins played on many winning golf teams up to and including 1969. The brothers eventually all settled on Long Island and throughout Long Island and the entire state, the name Loughlin appears on so very many club plaques.

They continued to play golf regularly and for at least 30 years, they held an annual match where the four older Loughlins would challenge the four younger. Sibling rivalry at its finest! This event gradually expanded to include the next generation and was keenly anticipated by the entire family each year. To the surprise of everyone, these matches often ended in a tie!

The tradition continued until the eldest brother grew ill. James, whose game was described as “brilliant” by one of his nephews, sadly passed away last year, followed too shortly by the death of his devoted wife. His loving daughters and the entire extended family have found their loss devastating. The entire Central Islip community offers its thoughts to the Loughlin brothers as they stride down the 18th fairway, onto the green and into the clubhouse as they enter The Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame.

Doug McBride 1984

Just ask Doug McBride. Yes, ask the Colonel. How does he explain the accomplishments he has achieved? He'll answer it unflinchingly. Central Islip, he'll say. Teachers, coaches and teammates here made him the man he is today.

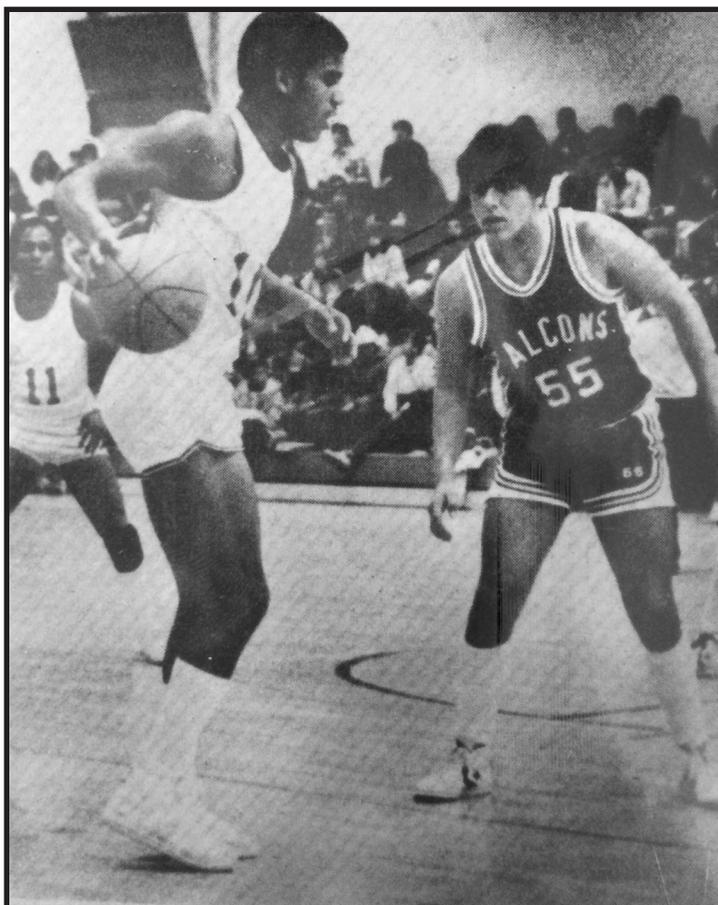
A man who has become a Full Bird Colonel with three combat tours in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq must know what he is talking about. But long before this, it was a Central Islip life for this three-sport star athlete. Doug's playing days on our high school football field were electric. He led the Purple and Gold in rushing, receiving and tackles in his junior year and his senior year in 1984 saw him become team MVP and All League and All County honors.

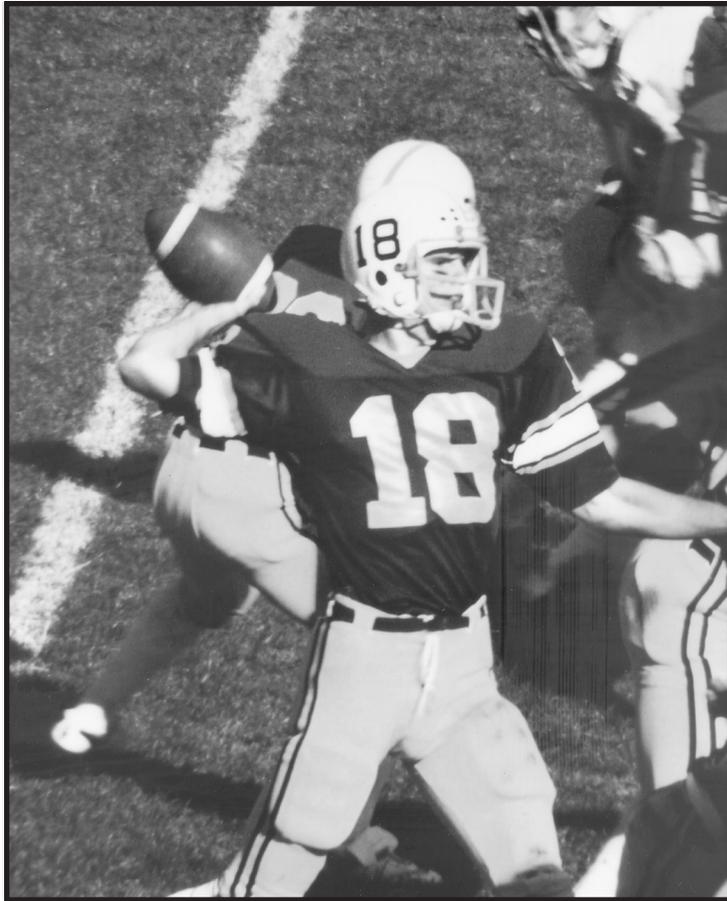
On the basketball court, that same type of success ensued. As a two-time team MVP, Doug averaged 18.5 points per game in his junior year and in his senior year, a soaring 22.5 points per game average! That led the league and Central Islip won the league title with its leader earning All League and All County honors.

Before the eighth grade, Doug had never even seen a lacrosse stick. But an athlete is an athlete and Doug grabbed a stick and ran with it; playing for our junior varsity in 8TH and 9th grade before heading up to varsity for his sophomore and junior years. Doug enjoys telling how much he enjoyed the sport, but most importantly, his teammates. All of his teammates from all three sports must have felt the same about Doug as he became the 1984 Central Islip Athlete of the Year.

Doug earned a football scholarship to Northeastern University, graduating in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned as an Army Officer. Three masters degrees and 26 years later, Colonel McBride is married to Pamela, Program Manager with the Department of Treasury. Doug credits Pamela with more than he can articulate at any one time. They have been blessed with two outstanding children : Daughter Taylor, a superb volleyball player at her high school in McDonough, Georgia and son Doug, Wide Receiver and 2015 7th Round Draft Pick of the Tennessee Titans. With parents like these, how could they miss?!!

Welcome back, Colonel Douglas McBride, Jr. The army has come marching into The Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame once again.





John O'Connor 1982

Cheerful John. Yes, that is how we all know him. And when one can lay claim to that description of self, after taking the battering afforded lacrosse goalies and football quarterbacks, well, there is a great deal being said here. And John played both positions. Cheerfully. Graciously. Superbly.

John could handle it and handle it well. Starting at QB from 1979-81, John's leadership afforded Central Islip Football a league championship his last year. And it was evident to those in the know. Team MVP, All County selection and finalist for the Hansen Award as the top player in the county proved John's worth to our football program. He would receive a full football scholarship to play at Boston University the following autumn.

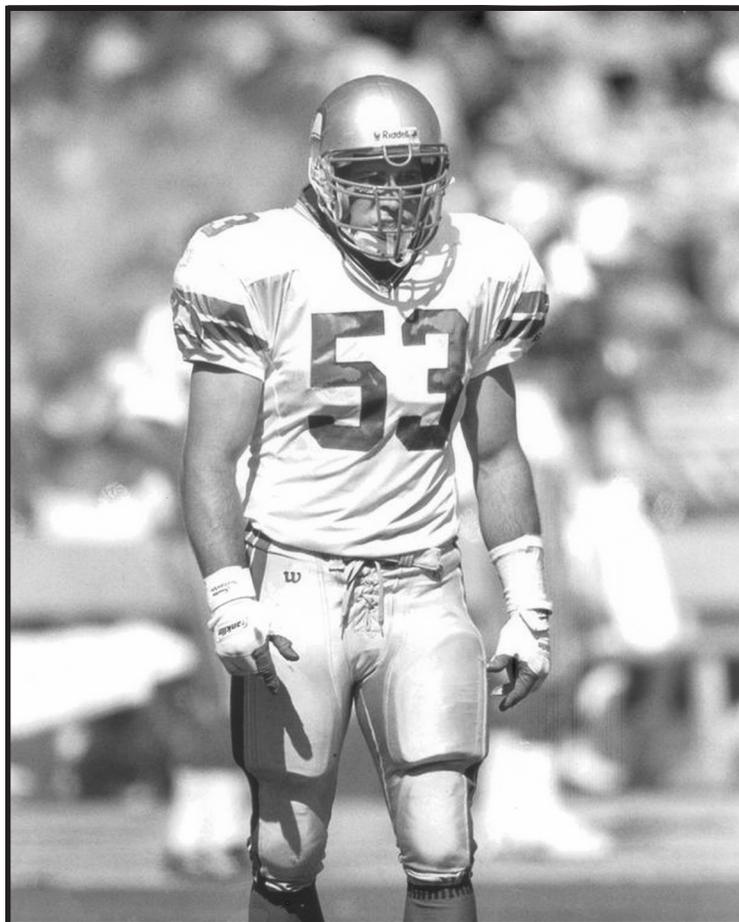
But spring means lacrosse and John was not done yet. Captain and goalie for the lacrosse team both in 1981 and 1982, he was an All League selection his junior year. But it was his senior year when John stood the tallest as he became an All American. That year, John was a finalist for The Lt. Ray Enners Trophy as the most outstanding lacrosse player in the county. Along with his years playing football at Boston University, John continued in net as goalie for the club lacrosse team and was voted team MVP in 1986. He credits coach Tony Antonucci for the decision to attend Boston University. And as he still plays lacrosse in tournaments around the country, his admiration for Coach John Shaughnessy comes to his lips. "The love of the game started in Central Islip playing for Coach Shaughnessy", John asserts. In addition, John wished it to be known that Coach Tom Black and Coach Ben Morselli were his mentors.

John is a Director at Citibank, and has just celebrated his 29th wedding anniversary with wife Maureen. The names of their children read like a script from *The Quiet Man*: Kaitlyn, Meaghan, Erin, Shannon and Ryan. 'Tis a grand thing, indeed.

Our welcome to the Hall to a quiet man. A cheerful man. A good man. John O'Connor

Eric Unverzagt 1991

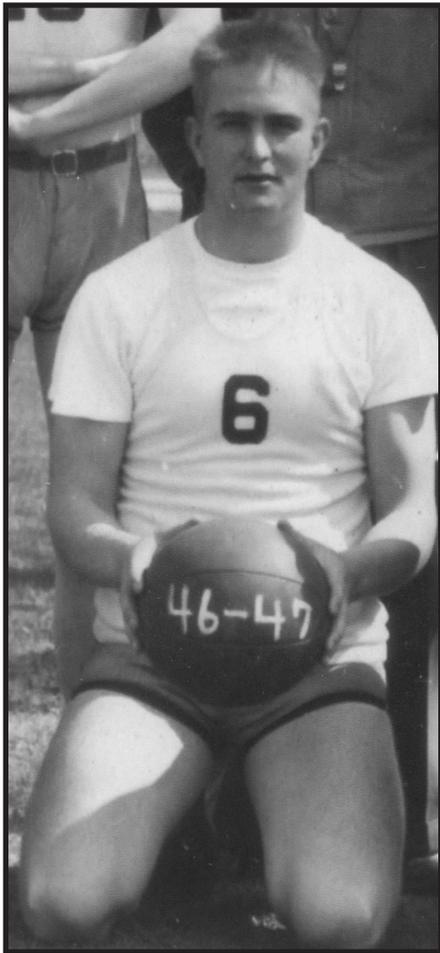
Ah, but you CAN come home again. And he has. Eric Unverzagt, Central Islip Class of '91, has proven that there is a special quality found in the Central Islip athlete. Born and raised in our town, Eric found baseball and football to be among his passions. And, boy did that show. As an All-League (88-91) catcher for our varsity baseball team, those leadership qualities which the man behind the plate must provide his team were easily provided at an early age. Yet, he admits that there was this other passion. Yes, the competition found on the adjacent field next to the baseball diamond became his permanent allure. Football was played there.



Our football tradition is quite well known throughout Long Island. And our players have gone on to college and professional careers because of what they were taught here. Eric seized that opportunity. His stellar years of play on the gridiron were something to be seen. His gritty play accompanied an excellence which became his trademark for many years after. From 1988 through 1990, Eric's status as one of the finer players in our area progressed with each passing year. All League. All County. All Long Island. All New York State. All Northeast. And there was that particular year in 1990 in which he led our Musketeers to the Suffolk County Large School Championship. Not a bad athletic career, indeed.

The University of Wisconsin thought the same. Eric was given a full athletic scholarship to the school in Madison. The institution chose wisely. To become an All Big Ten selection in Football is no small matter. Eric was selected twice ('94/95). He made it to the Rose Bowl with the Badgers in '94, and The Hall of Fame Bowl the following year. Eric completed his time at the university earning a B A in Sports Education. Competitive sports for Eric were far from over, however. Not nearly.

The Seattle Seahawks thought so highly of our fellow Musketeer that they chose him in the 4th Round of the NFL Draft in 1996. He played for two years with the franchise before heading to Europe to Play for the Scotland Claymores of NFL Europe. He followed his stint there with the IFL'S Steel Valley Smash in 1998 and returned home to Central Islip to become a teaching assistant for the football squad while earning a graduate degree in Education at LIU/C W Post. And he has stayed right here. Eric teaches Special Education Math at our high school and coaches Varsity Football. He lives in Holbrook with his wife and two boys, Eric and Luke. Yes, indeed. You CAN come home again. Welcome to the Hall of Fame, Eric. You are most deserving.



Warren "Swede" Johnson 1947

Over the decades old newspaper clippings, yellow and crumble, and the ink fades and dims, but in the minds eye of young boys, now older men, who saw these heroes play their deeds are not forgotten. So, the Veterans Committee, takes time out to honor two of the Musketeers best of a by-gone era.

The Swede was a big man who moved with quickness and grace behind the plate and blocked it against all comers. He played hardball for four years in high school and later on Championship Fast Pitch softball teams in the old Islip Town League for the Central Islip S&A club.

On the hardwood, Warren was a standout rebounder for the Musketeers for three years.

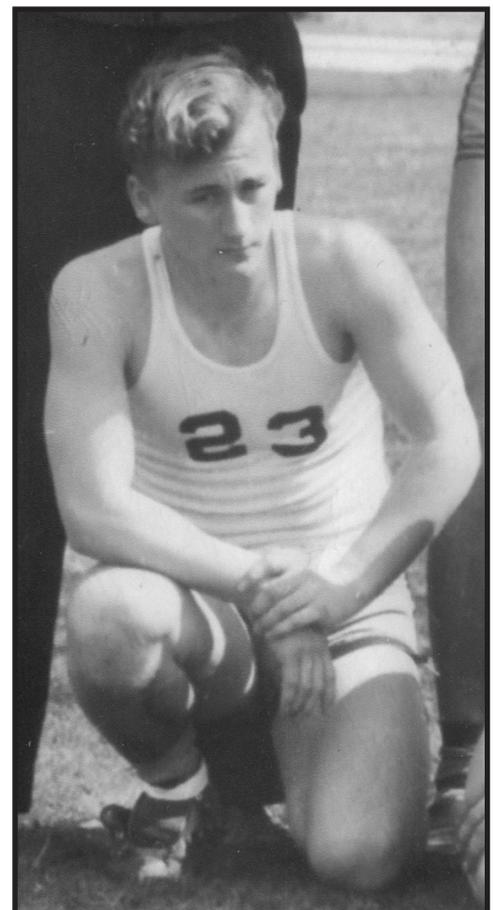
Swede was also a standout in soccer and very few defenders were willing to challenge the big man when brought the ball up field for CI.

Unfortunately, Swede's life and sports career was cut short by a tragic construction accident while he was still a very young man.

Fred Zimmerman 1948

By physical contrast, Freddy Zimmerman was short and compact. Possessed of burning speed and surprising power, there were very few balls he couldn't run down in centerfield and a number he launched over the fence. He starred for the Musketeers on the diamond and a hard driving guard on the basketball court.

After high school, he continued to play softball both fast and slow pitch for the Central Islip S&A, the CI State Hospital team and Oscar's, where he was a standout on a number of championship teams. Playing into his forties, Fred passed away several years back, but his legacy and that of the Swede lives on as we remember them and enshrining them into the Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame.



CENTRAL ISLIP SPORTS



HALL OF FAME

Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends of the Hall.

Six years ago, Tom Black called and asked if I would help out in starting a Central Islip Sports Hall of Fame. I said yes, of course, but with reservations. Would we get the support and participation necessary to make it a reality, or would we be left holding the bag for a few thousand?

Well, thanks to you and the tireless effort and drive of President Tommy, we have survived and thrived. We are not just a group of gray-bearded, balding, slightly-overweight, former ball-players who sit around drinking beer and tell the same war stories for the hundredth time. (Although, at times, our group photo may appear that way!)

I believe we have made a difference. You have made a difference with your generosity and concern. Our ever-faithful and vigilant Treasurer Joe Cilio has compiled a listing of our growing impact and donations over these past six years. Your money has gone toward student scholarships, the purchase of needed equipment, field trips, school T-Shirts and emblems, donations to local civic groups and for the overall good of the community. These past six years we have raised over \$37,000.00. Thank you! You are the Pride of Central Islip!

As you can see, the “acorn” has produced a pretty good-sized “oak”. Let’s keep it going! We extend our appreciation and sincere thanks.

All The Best!

Jack Cassidy
Vice President, C.I.S.H.F