

NJSIAA/BOLLINGER 2016 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The 21st annual High School Hall of Fame ceremony gives us the opportunity to honor the following individuals – most deserving of our recognition.

ALOIS “AL” LEITER Athlete (Baseball) - Central Regional HS



At Central Regional HS, Al was a standout pitcher, with two consecutive no-hitters and an unheard of 32-strikeout game (game went in to extra innings of course). Al was selected to First Team All-American and the *Star-Ledger* "Baseball Team of the 20th Century." He was drafted by New York Yankees in 1984 as a second round pick and made his major league debut on September 15, 1987. That date marked the beginning of a long and successful 18-year career in the MLB. He pitched two All-Star games, played in three world series championships, pitched a no-hitter on May 11, 1996, and became the first Major League pitcher to defeat all 30 teams. Besides the NY Yankees, Al played for the Toronto Blue Jays, Florida Marlins, and NY Mets.

With the Blue Jays Al appeared in five postseason games, picked up a win in relief in Game One, and hit a double in Game Three of the 1993 World Series, as the Blue Jays went on to win their second consecutive World Championship. Al signed with the Florida Marlins a few years later, and in his first season as a Marlin, he made his first All-Star team, going 16–12 with a 2.93 ERA and 200 strikeouts. It was also with the Marlins that Al pitched his no-hitter (against the Colorado Rockies). This was a first in Marlins history. In 1998, Al was traded to the New York Mets, where he played until 2004. On the Mets, he reached a career high in wins going 17–6 and a career low in ERA finishing with a 2.47 ERA. In 1999, when the Mets were tied with the Cincinnati Reds for the National League Wild Card spot after 162 games, Al was the Mets starting pitcher in the "winner take all" one game playoff. He pitched a two-hit complete game shutout to earn the win in the Mets 5–0 victory. The win put the Mets in the playoffs for the first time in 11 seasons. In 2000, Al made the All-Star team once again going 16–8 with a 3.20 ERA and 200 strikeouts, and the Mets reached the World Series to play the NY Yankees. Al started Game 1 and Game 5 where he achieved a 2.87 ERA and 16 strikeouts in 15 2/3 innings and was presented with the Roberto Clemente Award prior to Game 2 (to the boos of Yankees fans.) Al was the second New York Met to be honored with the award. Al ranked highly on several Mets all-time lists including wins (6th), strikeouts (7th with 1106), innings pitched (7th with 1360.0), and games started (6th with 213).

After short stints with the Marlins and the NY Yankees again, Al traded in his glove for a microphone. He found work in the television broadcast booth for FOX during the playoffs for several seasons, before accepting positions with both the YES Network and MLB Network. Al received many awards for his work in the booth, including four National Sports Emmy Award nominations for Studio Analyst and three Sports Emmy noms for Outstanding Studio Show-Daily MLB Tonight Segment Producer. He has also won nearly every philanthropic award MLB offers, including the Roberto Clemente Award, the Branch Rickey Award, the Bart Giamatti Award and the March of Dimes Sportsman of the Year.

JOHN MILLAR
Soccer Coach - Kearny HS

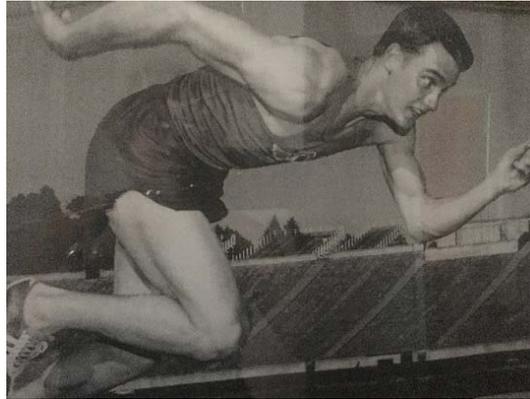


Born and raised in Kearny, John graduated Kearny HS before earning his B.S. in Physical Education and Health at Montclair State College. After college, John achieved his M.A. in Administration / Supervision and gained his Principal Certification at Seton Hall University. He then returned home to his high school alma mater as a physical education teacher for 31 years, until becoming the current Vice-Principal of Athletics and Student Activities in 2006.

As Head Coach of the Kearny High School boys' soccer team, John has established one of the most storied boys' soccer programs in the state and nation. In his 30 years as the Head Varsity Coach, his overall record was 547 wins - 86 losses - 19 ties and his teams won 22 league championships, 18 sectional championships, 13 North Jersey championships, 9 Group IV titles and were the Group IV finalists 13 times. His teams were ranked in the Top 20 Polls for each of his 32 years as Head Coach and he coached more than 40 First-Team All-State players, 14 All-Americans including his son Michael, and three national team players (Steve McLean, John Harkes and Tony Meola).

Coach Millar has been recognized time and time again for his outstanding accomplishments. He has been named "Coach of the Year" several times, by SCANJ, S.C.O.A. Officials Association, *The Star-Ledger*, and the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. He has also been inducted into the Kearny High School Athletic Hall of Fame, the Kearny Soccer Alumni Hall of Fame, the Hudson County Hall of Fame, and the NJSCA Hall of Fame.

DR. DAVID SIME*
Athlete - Fair Lawn HS



Dr. David Sime was one of those dynamic individuals who excelled at everything he tried. At age 13, he won a speed-skating contest at Madison Square Garden, despite the fact that he hated to skate. At Fair Lawn HS, he was an all-state football player with over 20 football scholarship offers, including an offer to play at West Point with assistant coach Vince Lombardi. David was also an all-state baseball player. His senior year he batted .525 and was given offers to play for the Cincinnati Reds and the NY Giants baseball team. In the end, David chose a scholarship to play centerfield for Duke University. (He also played football at Duke for one year which got the attention of the Detroit Lions, who tried to draft him).

Ironically, though David went to Duke initially to play baseball, David is most known for his speed on the track, a sport he never played in high school, and picked up as a sophomore when the Duke track coach noticed him. At a time when the world record for 100 yards was 9.3 seconds, he ran 9.8 in his first practice and 9.6 in his first meet. A career was born. In the mid-1950s, he broke or tied five world records outdoors and four indoors in the sprints and low hurdles to become the world's fastest sprinter. His record in the 200-yard dash stood for ten years from 1956 - 1966 and David appeared on the cover of a July 1956 Sports Illustrated with the caption "Superman in Spikes." He was favored to win three gold medals in the 1956 Olympics but a groin injury kept him out. At the 1960 games in Rome, he went on to win the silver medal but Rome marked the end of Sime's track career. He returned to Duke to complete his medical degree before settling in to South Florida. David was voted the best athlete in the university's history.

In Florida, Dr. Sime opened up his own ophthalmology practice, where he became a renowned eye doctor, with clients such as President Richard Nixon, Ted Williams, Sugar Ray Leonard, Eddie Arcaro, the swimmer and actress Eleanor Holm and Nixon pal Bebe Rebozo. He also served as one of the physicians for the Miami Dolphins during the Don Shula era, when his main job was to help quarterback Bob Griese deal with various eye difficulties.

David died in January of this past year in Miami Beach after a long battle with cancer. He was 79.

**Posthumous Award*

RON "ITCHY" SMITH
Athlete (Basketball) - Camden HS



Ron "Itchy" Smith, a 1960 graduate of Camden HS, is widely regarded as one of South Jersey's best basketball players of all time. With a deadly shooter and tremendous speed and skills off the dribble, the 6'1" guard scored 1,276 points over three seasons. What makes these stats even greater is that these stats were achieved in only three years because back then Camden HS was only grades 10-12. There was also no three-point shot and Itchy didn't play full games because of the lead Camden would accumulate early. Itchy led the Purple Avalanche to two consecutive Group IV basketball titles in 1959 and 1960 and constructed a 47-game winning streak.

Ron was known as the consummate team player and was named High School All-American. *The Star-Ledger* named Itchy First Team All-20th Century and one of the state's ten best high school players of all time. In 2006, he was inducted into the Camden County Sports Hall of Fame.

When Itchy graduated from Camden HS, he accepted a scholarship to play at Tennessee State University where he started for four years and made All-Midwestern Conference his junior and senior years. He graduated in 1965 with a BS in business administration and returned home to the city that raised him. He worked for five to six years for the city of Camden before turning to the family business that he still runs today.

EDWARD STINSON
Football Coach, Hoboken HS



1970 was the year it all began. After graduating Jersey City State College in 1969, where Edward played varsity football team for three years, earned All-Conference and was captain senior year, Ed stayed on as the football team's Defensive Coordinator until 1973. After Jersey City State College, Edward coached one more year at the collegiate level at William Paterson University before switching over to high school. He began one of two stints at Hoboken HS, the school where he spent the majority of his career. The first time coaching there, he led Hoboken to consecutive conference championships from 1977-1979 and a state championship in 1980. Record 24-13-3. He returned back to Hoboken HS in 1987, but this time stayed 17 years. In those two decades, Coach Stinson's Redwings won five state championships and ten conference championships and finished with a dynamic record of 158-36-1. In between his two Hoboken periods, Edward coached at Park Ridge HS and Pascack Hills HS. At Park Ridge, his teams won two conference championships and were state finalists. After leaving Hoboken the second time, Edward coached at William Paterson University again, Queen of Peace HS, Hackensack HS, Bergen Catholic HS, before finishing his career at St. Anthony HS, where his 2014 team finished their season as state finalists and Edward is currently employed as the Vice Principal. 44 years later, after many championships and numerous coaching accolades, Coach Stinson traded his playbook in and ended a dynamic career with a final 244-85-5 record.

In his four and a half decades, two of Edward's teams were ranked the No. 1 team in NJ, he coached four undefeated seasons from 1995 – 1999, had a 38-game and 29-game winning streak from 1994-1997 and 1998-2000 respectively, won 27 championships (six Group III championships, seven consecutive HCIAA conference championships and 14 conference championships.) He also accumulated many honors including 14 conference Coach of the Year awards, NJSCA Coach of the Year twice, the NY Giants & NFL Coach of the Year in 1997, Army All-American Bowl Coach in San Antonio, TX in 2012, the National HS Coach of the Year (Eastern Selection), American Football Magazine – Schutt Sports award in 2000, the All-American Football Foundation Award, the Gerald R. Ford All American HS Coach Award, the Frank McGuire Foundation Coaches Award and the NY Athletic Club Award. In addition to being inducted in to NJSIAA's Hall of Fame today, Edward has been inducted previously in to four other Halls of Fame: Hudson County Sports, New Jersey State Coaches Association, Hoboken HS, and Jersey City State College.

MILT WAGNER
Athlete (Basketball)
Camden HS



Milt Wagner led the new era of Purple Panthers from Camden HS to a state championship title in 1979. In his three years playing varsity, Camden HS went 77-8 and Milt became the first Camden HS basketball player to score over 2,000 points. He was All-South Jersey both his junior and senior years, and ended his high school career on the all-state team his senior year.

Milt accepted a scholarship to the University of Louisville, where he started and directed the Cardinals to three Final Four berths and the 1986 NCAA championship. Louisville went 113-32 with Wagner on the roster, claiming three Metro Conference regular season titles and two tournament crowns. He ranks 5th in Louisville history with 1,836 career points. Milt was a three-time All-Metro conference player and his number was retired by the school. He played in 144 career games, second all-time at Louisville, and started the last 111 games he played. He ranks sixth in career assists (432) and seventh in career free throw percentage (.808, 336-of-413). He left the school with 355 rebounds, 432 assists, 138 steals, 52 blocks, 373 turnovers, 325 personal fouls, and 1,836 points in his 144 games, with a total field goal percentage of 50%.

In 1986, Milt was drafted in the second round by Dallas Mavericks. In 1987-88, Wagner eventually became one of a small group of players to win a high school state championship, a national collegiate title, and the NBA crown when playing for the Los Angeles Lakers, he won an NBA championship. He spent one season with the Miami Heat and played in the CBA as well as in Israel and Europe. When his playing days ended, Milt continued his career in the sport he loves. He spent six seasons as the Coordinator of Basketball Operations at the University of Memphis and was a large part of the Tiger's run of 148 victories and six straight post season tournament appearances. He was also an assistant coach at both the University of Texas at El Paso and Auburn University.