

# MYNDERSE ACADEMY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NEWSLETTER

*SPECIAL EDITION*

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## IMPACT OF COVID 19

It may come at no surprise that the worldwide pandemic has affected the activities of the Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

Normally at the Committee's June meeting, the selection of the entire new class of inductees is decided, but not this year. This year the Committee began their June meeting with a discussion on how to conduct their annual Columbus Day induction in a safe manner. This discussion started with a frank examination of information available at that time. Unfortunately, as is the case throughout the country, there is no way to predict what health regulations will be mandated come October.

Here are some things the Committee did know which lead to their final decisions.

The Committee has not been able to contact our NYCC food services representative. This person is critical in our plans, not only to provide food and drinks for this year's induction, but for securing usage of the auditorium and necessary equipment. In fact, the Committee is unsure if the New York Chiropractic College will allow any large group events. Understandably, the College has much more important issues dealing with their own delivery of instruction.

The Committee discussed what this year's induction ceremony would look like, assuming that the college would allow our event.

At the very least, we would need to wear masks and maintain social distancing. The Committee couldn't visualize how maintaining 6 feet of separation could be accomplished following our normal induction events. It became clear that this year's induction would not be as relaxed and enjoyable as in past years.

The Committee discussed postponing a final decision on an October induction until sometime in July or August. But after exploring that concept, it was clear that, lacking a vaccine, we wouldn't know much more then than we did at that point. The Committee also felt it was unfair to keep inductees, their families, and friends in limbo for another two months.

It was therefore decided not to proceed with an October induction.

The Committee then discussed postponing the induction until the spring of 2021. This option posed its own set of problems. A tentative spring date could not be guaranteed. The college might not even be willing to host the event in the spring. Add to the difficulties of a spring induction would be the rapid turn-around of the following year's class to get back to our October induction. The final decision was to completely cancel all 2020 induction events and begin to focus on October 2021.

### **Covid Financial Impact on the Hall**

Since this year's induction ceremony has been canceled, much of the annual expenditures have been averted. The Committee realizes our supporters may have their own financial hardships during these difficult times. With the absence of an induction, the Committee has decided not to mail out its annual fundraising letter this year to our loyal patrons who have made the Hall of Fame so successful. The Committee sincerely thanks all those who have contributed in the past. It is these contributors that have allowed this organization to exist and grow. We all hope that 2021 will be a much brighter year, one that sees the Hall functioning successfully as in the past.

### **MYNDERSE ACADEMY 2003 BOYS' SOCCER**

Before the pandemic struck, the Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame Committee selected the 2003 Boys' Soccer team to be the next team inducted into the Hall. Team members will be inducted in the induction class of 2021.



Kurt Dawley, Troy Gotham, Mike Sciotti, Mike Johnson, sam Agnello, Colin McKeveny, Joe Sloan, Aaron Ryrko, Bill Moody, Kevin Olmstead, Sean Johnson, Kevin Gillon, Doug Brewer, Mike Leslie, Adam Sanderson, John Marino, Kyle Olmstead, Adam Capozzi, Jase Clark, Jeremy Buffone, Greg Blanchard, Nate Loucks, Head Coach Al Loucks, Assistant Coach Dieter Ryrko

### **HOW ARE TEAMS SELECTED FOR THE HALL OF FAME?**

Have you ever wondered how the Hall of Fame Committee selects what team will be inducted each year?

Over the decades of Mynderse Academy athletics, a number of sporting teams have recorded very successful seasons. Two particular sports lead in this team category – football and basketball. It's easy to understand why, since both of these sports have been part of Mynderse history for as long as most alumni can remember. The Hall of Fame Committee recognized that these two sports could dominate yearly inductions for many years. With that in mind, the Committee has attempted to spread out team honors to include many other sports.

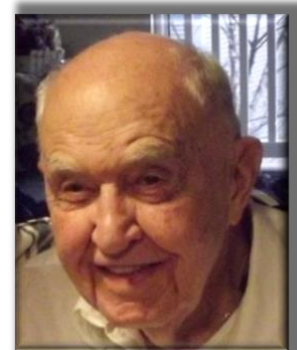
Starting in January of each year, the Committee begins discussions as to which team will be selected for the upcoming induction. In January, it is normal for the Committee to examine several teams for induction. The Committee examines the overall accomplishments of the teams and attempts to rotate the sports so as not to honor one sport several consecutive years.

The MAA HOF Committee is pleased to note that all teams that have been nominated are worthy of induction and will be in the future.

### **Departed Member**

The Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame Committee sadly reports that in June 2020 Louie Pilo, at 100, passed away. Lou was inducted into the HOF in 2011 as a member of the undefeated and unscored upon 1938 Mynderse football team. Lou was maybe one of the last surviving members of this storied team that recorded 170 points while holding opponents scoreless. Lou was living in Vermont.

We would remind all members to contact any HOF Committee member listed below if they hear of a Hall member that has passed.



Louie Pilo 1920-2020

### ***The Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame Committee***

*Lisa Anderson, Liz Becht, Mike Ferrara, Tony Ferrara, Mike Marriam, Ted Novak, Rod Verkey*