

## **Jose St. Victor**

### **Football, Track, Coach**

### **Class of 1973**

Many Nyack athletes have excelled on the field over the years, but Jose St. Victor has set a unique example, with his contributions playing, coaching and giving back to the community. As a player at NHS, Jose was All-County in Football and Track. He went on to excel in college Football, playing for the storied program at Syracuse University. He was drafted into the NFL, and also played in the USFL. St. Vic returned to Nyack as a coach, working with two generations of NHS athletes. He has also spent many years volunteering with local youth.

Jose St. Victor enjoyed an excellent high school football career. He played for three years under the legendary coach Paul Lankau (NHSAHOF 2016), on some of the great Nyack teams of the early 1970's. Alongside Steve Wanamaker (NHSAHOF 2015), Jose helped lead a powerful offensive line. St. Victor was named All-County Honorable Mention as an Offensive Tackle in his Senior year. In Track, Jose excelled in Discus and Shot-Put. He finished 5th in Discus at the County meet, and was named All-County Honorable Mention.

St. Victor continued his Football career after high school, playing for the prestigious Syracuse Football team. He was 6-foot-4, and 233 pounds. In 1974, he became the starting Left Tackle. In 1975, Jose was named to the Associated Press All-East Football Team, as an Offensive Tackle. St. Victor also earned the Pat Miller Outstanding Athlete/ Student/Citizen Award in 1976. This is a Syracuse University award that is only given to one player per year. Another NHS great, Jim Ridlon (NHS 2015) won the same award in 1956. Jose St. Victor was selected by the Cincinnati Bengals in the 8th round of the 1977 NFL Draft. He spent time with the Dallas Cowboys, as well as the New Jersey Generals of the USFL.

St. Vic returned to Nyack as a Coach in 1995. He has worked with the Track team continuously since then. Jose has helped develop many great Track and Field stars. One of the best was state champion Nina Victorin (NHSAHOF 2018), who also holds NHS records. In 1998, St. Vic became Assistant Coach for the Nyack Football team, working with legendary Coach John Castellano (NHSAHOF 2017). During St. Victor's time with the team, they won 5 Section titles and 2 State titles, in 2000 and 2003. Among the great athletes that Jose coached were Ronnie King (NHSAHOF 2017) and Nigel Morris (2015). St. Vic was named Assistant Football Coach of the Year in 2002.

Jose St. Victor has also given back generously to the community over the years. During the 1980's, he worked with migrant students in New Jersey, as part of the Goals for Youth NFL program. From 2001 till the present, Jose has been a Physical Education teacher at Nyack High

School. From 2001 till 2016, he was a Dean of Students. In 2006, he won the Service to School award from the national Sorority Phi Delta Kappa. In 2017, St. Victor won an award in recognition of his commitment to the Nyack Center. St. Vic remains a beloved figure in the halls of Nyack High School and beyond.