

Homer Wanamaker

Soccer, Football, Swimming, Baseball

Class of 1971

Winning a title in one or two sports is an impressive feat, but Homer Wanamaker won titles in four different sports, over an epic career at Nyack High School. Amazingly, Wanamaker played both soccer and football during the Fall seasons, winning championships with both teams. Homer was also a champion swimmer and a leader on a title-winning Nyack baseball team. After high school, he continued to thrive in college, winning titles and setting records on the University of Bridgeport football team.

Homer enjoyed a stellar soccer career at Nyack. He was a starting defender on the team for 3 seasons, winning 3 PSAL titles, 2 section titles, and a regional title. As a sophomore, Wanamaker helped Nyack win the PSAL and section titles. Homer was named All-County Honorable Mention as he and the rest of the Nyack defense only allowed 2 goals in PSAL play. As a junior, he was First Team All-County and he led Nyack to another PSAL title. As a senior, Homer led the soccer team to one of the greatest seasons in program history as they finished 16-0 and won the PSAL, section, and regional championships. Wanamaker was First All-County again, anchoring a defense that had 10 shutouts and only conceded 9 goals. He even scored a goal in the 7-1 win over Washingtonville in the section finals.

Homer also excelled in football at NHS. Wanamaker was the starting kicker his sophomore season as the team won the PSAL under Coach Paul Lankau (NHSAHOF 2016). During his junior season, Homer made a crucial go-ahead extra point in the 4th quarter after a Dale Lydecker (NHSAHOF 2017) touchdown in a 7-6 win over North Rockland that put Nyack alone in first place on their way to a 4th straight PSAL title. In his senior season, Wanamaker led PSAL in scoring by kicking with 27 points, even making 7 extra-points in a win over Nanuet.

Homer spent 4 seasons on the varsity swimming team, helping the team get better and better during that time. After finishing 2nd in the 100-yard butterfly at sectionals two straight seasons, Wanamaker won the section title in the event as a senior, becoming the first Nyack swimmer to win a section title in 5 years.

Wanamaker was a phenomenal catcher who helped rebuild Nyack's great baseball program. As a senior, Homer helped lead Nyack to its first PSAL baseball title since 1957, and they went on to win the section title as well. Wanamaker hit a 3-run homer in a win over Nanuet to help Nyack clinch sole possession of the PSAL championship. Homer was named All-County, even catching a no-hitter thrown by his brother Steve Wanamaker (NHSAHOF 2015).

Homer continued his athletic excellence in college. As a kicker, Wanamaker helped the

University of Bridgeport win back-to-back Knute Rockne Bowls as the team had two of their greatest seasons in program history. He also set multiple school records for kicking. Homer Wanamaker will long be remembered for being a phenomenal teammate and leader in high school and beyond as he helped various teams reach and remain at great heights. history.