

Jerome Whidbee
Football, Basketball, Baseball
Class of 1966

No matter what sport it was, Jerome Whidbee made sure to make an impact. Whidbee was a leader across the board for Nyack, serving as a captain for the football, basketball, and baseball teams. Jerome helped all three teams improve and make remarkable runs at titles, while at the same time earning well-deserved individual accolades for himself.

In basketball, Whidbee was a three-year starter, directing the team as the point guard. After the team finished 7-7 in 1964, Jerome helped transform Nyack into title contenders in 1965. By his senior year in 1966, Nyack was able to finish in 2nd, and was the only team to defeat powerhouse Clarkstown. Whidbee was named All-County in 1965 and 1966 in recognition of his value sparking the team.

On the diamond Jerome was a stud shortstop and center fielder. He started for three years and helped a struggling baseball program secure a shock top-4 finish in 1965, earning 1st-Team All-County honors.

Jerome Whidbee's finest sport, though, was football. As a sophomore in 1963, Whidbee was expected to back-up at quarterback and Nyack was expected to struggle. Jerome made sure to exceed those expectations, taking over as the starter and driving Nyack into the title race. After struggling in a title-deciding loss to Clarkstown, Whidbee made amends in 1964. Along with Coach John Beake (NHSAHOF '23), Jerome and Nyack crushed Clarkstown on the way to 6-0 record, setting up a clash of unbeaten archrival Spring Valley with the title on the line. On the road and in front of a record crowd, Whidbee connected with Ron Stroud on a monster 74-yard TD pass that helped Nyack tie the mighty Tigers and secure a share of the championship. As a senior, Jerome put a bow on his career with Team MVP, 1st-Team All-County, and Back of the Year honors.

After NHS, Whidbee played football at Tennessee State before returning to Rockland. He enjoyed a successful semi-pro and recreation sports career, playing football for the Rockland Warriors and softball for the legendary Apollo XII softball team. In honor of his achievements, Jerome was inducted into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame in 2017.