

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

1970 VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM



The undefeated 1970 Power Memorial Academy varsity basketball team was the CHSAA city champions, the number one ranked team in New York City, New York State and the number one nationally ranked high school basketball team in the country.

During the 1969-1970 season, the Panthers cruised to a record of 22 wins and no losses against many of the top private and public teams in the country. They won the Cambria War Memorial Tournament in Johnstown, PA against Mansfield high school and the number one rated player in the country, Tom McMillen, who came into the game averaging 57 points per game. They beat powerhouse Boys High from Brooklyn at Madison Square Garden, which marked the first time a public high school team was allowed to play there since 1964. They defeated Mackin High School, one of the top ranked high schools in the Washington, D.C. area, at Georgetown University and they beat Archbishop Walsh High School at St. Bonaventure University.

The team's true strength was evident as they cruised through the CHSAA playoffs on their way to another city championship. They crushed their opposition by an average of 28 points per game and avenged their loss a year earlier to Archbishop Molloy High School in the championship game.

It was the only team in the history of NYC high school basketball to have 3 players named to the All City First Team by the New York Daily News and the New York Post. These 3 players, Len Elmore, Ed Searcy, and Jap Trimble were also selected as All Americans during the 1970 season. Many team members had success playing collegiately and two members of the team, Len Elmore and Ed Searcy, played in the NBA, with the Bucks, Nets, Knicks, and the 1975-1976 NBA champion Celtics. Team member Steve Donohue was the last coach of Power's varsity basketball team.

This great team was coached by Mr. Jack Kuhnert, who blended power, speed, athletic ability and team work into a cohesive unit. Jack entered the Power coaching ranks as an assistant in 1961 and took over the head coaching reins in 1966. He compiled an incredible 89-18 record in 5 seasons, continuing Power's dominance of NYC basketball. Jack coached Power to 4 Division titles and the 1970 championship victory over Archbishop Molloy, completing a 22-0 season and garnering the Number One national ranking, making this team one of the best high school teams ever.

Team Members: Robert Akalski, John Conboy, Brian Dalton, Stephen Donohue, Stephen Duthie, Leonard Elmore, Williams Mannix, Eldred Richards, Edwin Searcy, Lawrence Simth, Robert Toner, Japeth Trimble, Alan Young, Henry Walther. **Team Managers:** Charles Appel, Thomas Paris, Francis Sinatra, John Yu.