

MSGR. MARTIN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOC.

MANHATTAN COLLEGE CUP

1979 PLAYOFFS



ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 24th and 25th

Jean Casey
MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

FEBRUARY 28th and MARCH 2nd

PROGRAM: \$1.00

AA Division

Bishop Timon	9	3	Mel Palano
Bishop Neumann	9	2	Sonny Attea
Bishop Turner	7	5	Joe DeMarco
St. Joe's	6	5	Richard Bihr
St. Francis	5	7	Robert Torgalski
Niagara Catholic	4	7	Dick Condino
Canisius	0	11	Connie McGillicuddy

A Division

Archbishop Walsh	10	1	Edward McGuire
St. Mary's Lancaster	10	2	Dick Wojciechoski
Cardinal O'Hara	8	4	Bill Robinson
Cardinal Dougherty	7	5	Orv Cott
Cardinal Mindszenty	2	9	Bob Muscato
DeSales	2	9	Mike Ennis
St. Mary's for. the Deaf	1	10	Frank Podziallo

Manhattan Cup Championship

Bishop Timon	73	Bishop Neumann	68	OT
Manhattan Cup MVP	Jim Barnes	Bishop Timon		

AA Championship

Nazareth	59	Timon	53
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Federation B Champs

Bishop Neumann	68	Bridgehampton	65
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All Catholic Team

AA Division

Jim Barnes	Bishop Timon	12	
Tyrone Beaman	Neumann	11	All WNY

Jim	Copeland	Turner	12
Garland	Hughes	St. Joe's	11
Tom	Spanbauer	Niagara Catholic	12

A Division

Tony	Breckenridge	Cardinal Dougherty	12		
Dan	Burns	O'Hara	12		
John	Comstock	DeSales	12		
Paul	Galardo	Mindzenty	11		
Tom	Pilon	Walsh	12		
Mark	Rzernek	St. Mary's	12	All WNY	1st Team All State Small



MANHATTAN COLLEGE CUP

Champions 1979

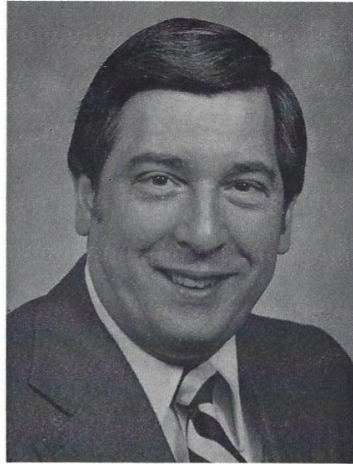
Bishop Timon High School



Dedication to:

JOHN BELLANTI

PRESIDENT ELECT I. A. A. B. O.



John Bellanti, player, manager, referee — he has done it all. About 1945 or so, John started his basketball career as a player at the Butler Mitchell Boy's Club under the late Al Guarnieri. From Al he learned the fundamentals of basketball. This helped him in making the Varsity as a Junior at Grover Cleveland High School, but due to a childhood illness, he was forced to become manager of the team instead. A year later he made the Varsity and played guard. After his graduation from Canisius College, and because of his love for the game, he began refereeing.

Oddly enough, he started refereeing parochial school games at Jubilee Gym. In those days, you worked three games for \$5.00. As time went on his love for the game grew. He was always ready and willing to help the new referees with the techniques of officiating.

As the years passed, John worked finals in the Eldridge Club, Butler Mitchell Alumni, Yale Cup, Catholic League, etc. In the last seven years he has either been rated number one or number two in his district (all of New York state except New York City) by coaches and fellow referees.

He has worked the Catholic finals many times. The referees are picked as an honor by the coaches — for more than a decade. In 1967, he officiated the Catholic final and was sent straight to the hospital after the game because of a recurrence of his childhood illness.

John remembers, "My doctor told me I had to go into the hospital. I said, 'I can't, I have to referee the Catholic League final.' The doctor said, 'You're crazy!' But it was an honor to be picked."

Also in John's long list of accomplishments, he has officiated at the National Invitational Tournament, the Holiday Festival, the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division and Small College Division and has officiated the finals of the Manhattan Cup for fourteen consecutive years. John has held the offices of Treasurer and President of the Basketball Officials (Board No. 53) for many years.

And now the *piece de resistance*' (frosting on the cake)! John has just been elected President of the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials (I. A. A. B. O.). *Congratulations, John!*

A Tribute To . . .

PHIL SCAFFIDI

Over the past thirty years the Manhattan Cup basketball playoffs have featured some outstanding individual performances. One of the most brilliant exhibitions ever put on was in the 1974 championship game, between St. Joe's and Bishop Timon.

St. Joe's had reached the finals by upsetting powerful St. Francis in the semi-finals, mostly on the sterling play of Greg Witherspoon, Mike Naples and Phil Scaffidi. Against Timon these three again were the St. Joe's mainstay in a nip and tuck battle. However, midway through the third period things began to look very bleak for the Marauders as Naples, the team's top rebounder, fouled out. Early in the fourth quarter, disaster struck as Witherspoon, the team's second leading scorer, also went to the bench with five fouls. Nearly everyone in Memorial Auditorium was ready to concede this game to Timon. Enter Captain Phil Scaffidi. Phil is the type of player who thrives on impossible situations. He loves a challenge and is at his best when the going is the toughest.

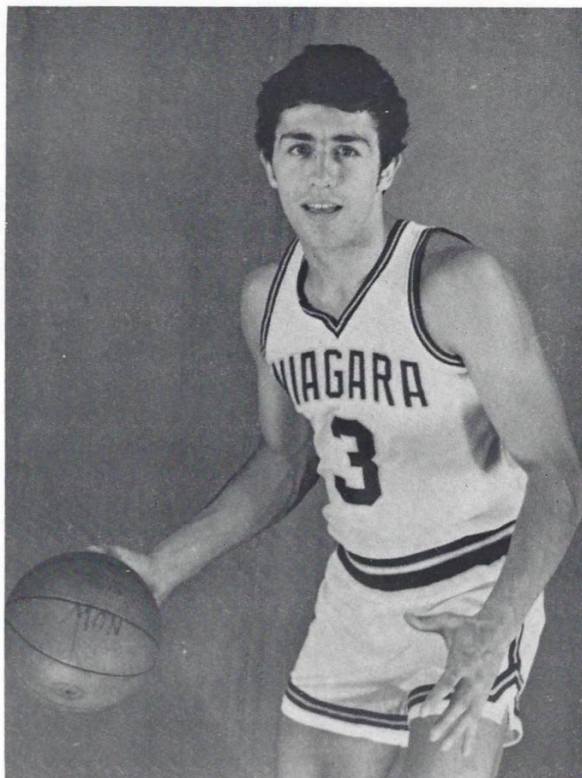
In the game's final five minutes Phil seemed to be everywhere, intercepting passes, scoring crucial baskets, sinking pressure foul shots and feeding teammates for clutch buckets. Phil Scaffidi, far and away, was the most outstanding player on the court that night, leading St. Joe's to its second straight Manhattan Cup title.

Phil was a four-sport star at St. Joe's and, although he had many football and basketball scholarship offers, he was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates and decided to give pro-baseball a try. After a two year stint in the Pirate chain, he took advantage of a basketball scholarship to Niagara University. He has been a starter for the past four years and for the past two years he has been the Purple Eagles Captain.

Presently Phil Scaffidi is on the minds of every sports fan in Western New York. Early in January he underwent cancer surgery in Denver, Colorado. The surgery was a success and Phil has returned home to recuperate. Phil has a tremendous attitude and he is looking forward to returning to Niagara's basketball team next fall. This does not surprise the people who know Phil. He is a tenacious competitor who doesn't know what it means to quit, and he has been an inspiration to everyone he has come in contact with.

St. Joe's, the Msgr. Martin League, Niagara University and all of Western New York are proud that Phil is one of ours.

In Phil Scaffidi's career at St. Joe's he earned twelve varsity letters participating in football, basketball, baseball and track . . . All-Catholic All-Star Team, four times, once each in four different varsity sports . . . Freshman All-Catholic 880 Relay Team . . . "Chicago New World's" All-Catholic All-American Prep Team . . . All-State Squad . . . Manhattan Cup M.V.P. Award . . . Basketball All-Western New York . . . Baseball All-Western New York . . . M.V.P. in three sports at St. Joe's . . . Billy Kelly Award . . . Knights of Columbus Outstanding Catholic Student-Athlete in Western New York . . . The above are just some of Phil Scaffidi's honors and accomplishments.



1979 MANHATTAN CUP CHAMPIONSHIP GAME IN PICTURES

