



1964 Trenton State College National Champions

In 1964, The Trenton State College men's soccer team recorded a first for a New Jersey state college - bringing home a national title. With a team boasting five future Hall of Fame members, we are proud to induct the 1964 Trenton State College National Championship team into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

Led by HOF coach Mel Schmidt, the Lions rolled through the season with a 12 – 2 record, scoring 62 goals while only allowing a single goal in league play while winning the New Jersey State College title. With ten players scoring over the season's duration, TSC was led by freshman Gary Vogler with 16 goals, closely followed by all-time scoring leader Wayne Huston's 15 tallies and Kalman Csapo chipping in with 11. Huston's career high 72 goals still stand as the benchmark for the Lions men's program. The defense, anchored by standout defenders Lee Cook and Bob Patten and goalies Tom DeVito and Gary Anderson, teamed up to produce seven shutouts over the course of the season.

Entering the NAIA National Tournament at Montclair State College, the Lions first met Rockhurst College out of Kansas City, Missouri. In a high-scoring tilt, Trenton State managed to hold off the midwest school by a score of 7-5. Huston netted three while Vogler, Willie Bleimel, Mike Kessler, and Ed Zimbicki, who suffered a broken leg during the contest, helped the Lions progress to the final against Lincoln University.

Lincoln was riding a nine game winning streak coming into the game after dropping their opening regular season game to Rider College. But it was to be Trenton State's day. Bleimel scored after just over a minute into the game with Csapo following up with the second late in the first period from his inside left position. He followed up with his second in the third period to seal the victory and bring the national

championship back to the Pennington Road campus. They would follow up with a second national title in 1965.

Lee Cook was named Most Valuable Player in the tournament for his stellar defensive play and fine sportsmanship while Vogler and Csapo joined him on the NAIA All-Star Team. The team was inducted into the TCNJ Hall of Fame in 2001 while Schmidt and DeVito joined the trio in the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame over the years.

Setting a standard for future local teams on the local collegiate level, we are proud to induct the 1964 Trenton State College National Championship team into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.