



**MERCER COUNTY SOCCER HALL OF FAME
20th DINNER
October 24, 2010**

HIBERNIAN CLUB
TICKETS \$50.00
COCKTAILS 5:00 DINNER 6:00

HONOREES

JIM BOWEN JOHN BOWEN STEVE GROEGER
MIKE RASIMOWICZ ED SMOLINSKI JOE BIANCHINI
MANFRED SCHELLSCHEIDT DENNIS KINNEVY
DOMENIC STILLITANO THE FINK FAMILY

DINNER PROGRAM

Grand Entrance.....Jim Turp
Masters of Ceremonies.....Harold Fink
Charlie Inverso
Flag Salute.....John Wagner
Invocation.....Bruce Angebranndt
Induction Ceremony.....Harold Fink
Benediction.....Bruce Angebranndt

DINNER MENU

Pasta Salad
Chicken Francaise

Rolls & Butter Vegetables
Dessert

Beer, Wine, Coffee, Tea





CONGRATULATIONS

2010 SOCCER HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Joe Bianchini
Jim Bowen
John Bowen
Fink Family
Steve Groeger
Dennis Kinnevy
Mike Rasimowicz
Manny Schellscheidt
Ed Smolinski
Dominick Stillitano

Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame Executive Committee

Harold Fink – President
Bruce Angebranndt – Secretary

John Wagner Joe Suosso Jr.
Ernie Turp Sonny Companick
Jim Turp Puggy Malone
George O'Gorman Dave Turp
Charlie Inverso Russ Beaulieu
Rich Garton

**The Mercer County Soccer
Hall of Fame Committee**

is greatly indebted to all those whose advertisements
appear in this program booklet.



We would like to take
this opportunity to express
our sincere appreciation to them.



We would like to urge
all the members of
this Association to patronize
these good friends whenever possible
to show our gratitude for their most generous support.

We Thank You!

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
2010 HONOREES
OF
THE MERCER COUNTY
SOCCER HALL OF FAME**



THE FINK FAMILY



Congratulations Opi!
 We can't wait until you can coach us too!!
 Love,
 your grandchildren,
 Teagan and William

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CONGRATULATIONS
UNCLE DON DON!

CONGRATULATIONS &
BEST WISHES



TO THE HONOREES & THE MERCER
COUNTY
SOCCER HALL OF FAME
THE SCHELLSCHEIDT FAMILY

**MERCER COUNTY SOCCER HALL OF FAME
JOSEPH SUOSSO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

GIRLS

1990 Kristen Marie Kusak – Notre Dame
1991 Gretchen Elizabeth Hartigan – Steinert
1992 Diane J Quattrone – Hightstown
1993 Jennifer Abbondanza – Ewing
1994 Heather Batz – Ewing
1995 Christy Jo Geraci – Steinert
1996 Jennifer Hutchinson – Notre Dame
1997 Rebecca A Kravitz – West Windsor
1998 Kathryn K Muessig – Ewing
1999 Kathryn Larkin – Notre Dame
2000 Eleni Ginis – Notre Dame
2002 Meghan Gannon – Notre Dame
2002 Christa Tindall – Steinert
2003 Lauren Grochala – Steinert
2004 Lindsay Kelley – Steinert
2007 Heidi Summers – Nottingham
2007 Jessica Babice – Steinert *

BOYS

1990 Leon Hayduchok – Hamilton West
1991 Rafal Ochalski – Lawrence
1992 Vince Burgey – Hightstown
1993 Mark Amatucci – Hightstown
1994 James Butera – Hamilton West
1995 Marc Muelener – Hightstown
1996 Robert D Miller – Ewing
1997 Eugene Grybowski – Steinert
1998 Stephen R Oliver – Ewing
1999 Robert Hamilton – Steinert
2000 Dixon Hayes – Princeton
2002 Robert Paul Bonitz – Nottingham
2003 Kenneth Ellsworth – Notre Dame
2004 Emmanuel Bamgbade – Hamilton
2007 Curtis Fornoratta – Ewing
2007 Kyle Clugston – Notre Dame *
2007 Khawaja Hammed – Hightstown *

***In Memory of Albert Cowell**



Domenick Stillitano

Whatever level of soccer he played at Domenick 'Don Don' Stillitano did one thing better than any other player on the field — score goals. No player in the history of Trenton High soccer, and only a handful in Mercer County annals were more prolific scorers than “Don Don”.

He set the all-time county scoring record with 44 during a great senior season when he not only led the county, but set what was then an all-time Mercer County career scoring mark with 78 during his varsity career (1968-69-70) on the first three Tornadoes teams coached by Hall of Famer Stan Patykula.

A star in the West End and Hamilton leagues prior to getting to Trenton High, “Don Don” quickly made his mark with 13 goals as a soph on a team that went 10-4-4. A year later his goal total was up to 19 as Trenton posted a 13-4-2 record before being ousted in state play, 2-0, by eventual state Group IV co-champ and unbeaten Steinert.

The next year Stillitano opened his senior year with 25 goals in his first six matches. It included five in the opener at Hamilton, seven against Pennsbury and six against Cathedral. By his 13th game he had broken the old county mark by getting his total to 31 with two in a 2-1 win over Lawrenceville, and would eventually finish with 44. He made first team All-State and All-American for a 15-4-0 Tornadoes squad that again saw its season end with a one-goal loss to rival Steinert that again shared the Group IV state title.

The next year as a freshman at Mercer County Community College under another Hall of Fame coach - Stan Dlugosz - 'Don Don' continued his amazing scoring by contributing 29 goals for a Vikings team that came in third in the national finals to end 17-3.

That spring and summer Stillitano's continued to pound opposing defense and goalies for the Trenton Extension Juniors, who won the Eastern Regional title and went to the National Junior Cup Final Four in Chicago. 'Don Don' sustained a severe ankle injury in the opening game yet still scored twice in an overtime loss for the Extension team that was trying to bring Mercer County its first U.S. Junior Cup title in 45 seasons. He also turned out for GAK, winning the NJ State Cup, and the Trenton Italians.

We welcome Domenick Stillitano to the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

DOMENICK STILLITANO

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR INDUCTION INTO
THE MERCER COUNTY
SOCCER HALL OF FAME!!



WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!!

ALL-AMERICAN 1971
ALL-TIME SCORING LEADER IN
TRENTON CENTRAL H.S.HISTORY

GREAT BROTHER,HUSBAND, FATHER
GRANDFATHER, UNCLE AND FRIEND!!

YOU ARE THE BEST!!!

MERCER COUNTY SOCCER HALL OF FAME PAST HONOREES

1986

Arthur Bub Chambers
Alex Squarie Chmielewski
George Shorty Nemchick
Albert Cooper
Jake Lorenz
Al Wilson
Pete Pietras
Pete Murphy
Bill Joseph
Julius Chmielewski
Andy Ferko
Val Misalowski
James Carlton
Alfie Rothstein
Jack Lloyd
Bill Loyd Sr.
Robert Yarson
Steve Larkin
Danny Adamson
Joseph Sokolowski
John Bugdal

MERCER COUNTY SOCCER HALL OF FAME PAST HONOREES

1992

George Carlton
George Scotty Ford
Joe Remiezewski
Fred Barlow
John Conway
Joe Hamran
James McGroarty
John Pietras
Frank Donlon
Joe Klewicki
Toby Pontani

1991

Charles Ping Pong Farrutto
Lou Angebrannndt
Mike Klim
Fred Cooper
Gene Gendek
John Pyle
John Dickson
David C Goodwin
Alex Rulkiewicz
1941 Mercerville Boys Club

1990

Steve Hritz
Alfred Smokey Lloyd
Bill Drake
Bob Woodside
Arthur Leckie
Ralph Bates
Charlie Mullen
Laddie McCabe
Frank Pestrak
Joe Farletta
Al Cowell

1989

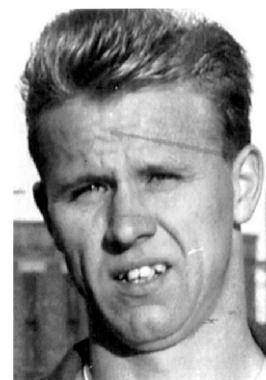
John Dekis
Charlie King
William Walter Lloyd
Mario Goose Laurenti
Otto Schutts
Anthony Velivis
Ed Kater
Joe Waladkewics
German American Society

1988

Tony Butch
John Toot Cier
Len Davidowski
Andy Hritz
Goerge Puggy Malone
Walter Barci Patykula
Ed Airdale Millinowicz
Bill Stu Clark
Harold Bunny Hunt
Frank Novak

1987

Andy Gallagher
Nick Gilsdorf
Fran Kelley
Leonard Red Owen
Bill Pennington
Jim Solarski
Ted Swiecone
George Judi Worth
Herb Griffiths
Frank Rasimowicz
John Konopka
Fred Darling
Tom Hamnett
Dave Weisberg
Billy Carnall
Tom King
John Robinson



Ed Smolinski

One of many top-flight players to come out of Trenton's legendary Hetzel Field, Ed Smolinski's induction is both well-deserved and overdue. Starting his soccer career early in his life and progressing to play on some of the finest professional teams of his era, he is welcomed into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

Playing against Trenton's typically hard-nosed players from an early age, Ed first began playing with Frank's Cleaners in the East Trenton youth programs. His talent was quickly recognized as he joined the Globe Porcelain Juniors at age 16 followed by a stint with East Trenton SC in the Capital City League. He progresses to playing with Trenton's entry in the Philadelphia League. He then took his skills to the professional ranks, joining the Trenton Americans in the American Soccer League for two seasons. After leaving Trenton and spending three years with the Newark Portuguese, he started a long run with the famous Ukrainian Nationals of Philadelphia.

He would enjoy great success with the Ukrainians, winning two U.S Open Cup titles in 1959-60 and 1960-61, while the Ukrainian fans voted him the Team's Most Devoted Player at the end of his outstanding career with the Philadelphia club.

A highlight of Ed's career was to be selected by the U.S Soccer Federation to represent his country in an international match against the Republic of Ireland. Not limited to success on the pitch, Ed was a multi-talented athlete, competing in basketball and baseball, eventually playing softball in the Trenton area and for his exploits on the diamond, was elected to the Trenton Softball Hall of Fame in 1974. Tonight, he joins the select few who have earned induction into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame

Mercer County Amateur
Master Soccer League

**Congrats
to this year's
Honorees**

Never lose your
touch on the ball!



www.MercerMenSoccer.net

COMPETITIVE SOCCER FOR ADULTS IN MERCER COUNTY



MERCER COUNTY SOCCER HALL OF FAME PAST HONOREES

1998

John Chmiel
Albert Cowell
Kalman Csapo
William Gazonas
David Goodwin
Andrew Greener
Frank Kane
Anthony Procaccino
Steven Reid
David Turp

1997

David Leckie
Arthur Napolitano
David Sergeant
Elyse Eichman Diamond
Richard Gialella
Paul Tessein
Joseph Timko
1977 Steinert Boys Team

1996

Bob Smith
Glenn Myernick
John Sonny Companick
Nick Wiener
Stan Patykula
Walter Doc Cartlidge
Joe Logue
Joe Sec Secretario
Bob Pivo Pivovarnick
Steve Zielinski

1995

Carl Abbott
Frank Black
Londy DeGeorge
Stan Dlugosz
Al Innocenzi
Barry Ivins
Frank Nerwinski
Ray Spider Raider
Ernie Turp
Bill Wade
John Wagner

1994

Ed Adams
Paul Dombroski
Ed Hobson
Whitfield Muse Jr.
Joe Suosso
Chester Waraksy
Russ Beaulieu
Joe Schoen
Ernie Tessein
Pep Bayan

1993

Harry Cier
Walt Cier
Marty Conway
J.P. Hogan
Thomas King
Len Millen
John Solarski
Mike Waraksy
Bill Zimmer
Frank Zimmer

MERCER COUNTY SOCCER HALL OF FAME PAST HONOREES

2007

Michael Angelotti
Vince Baldino
George Cimore
Joe Cryan
Dan D' Angelo
Ed Gauss
Erin Wingerter Gonzalez
Michael Perone
Nikolaus Wirth
1984 Notre Dame Boys Team

2004

Joe Casey
Shelly Dearden
Jim Dill
Rosato Ferri
Larry Gunnell
Ron Hoch
Charlie Inverso
Vito Petrino
Mel Schmid
Joe Suosso Jr.
Brian Welch
Lawrence Hamnetts SA

2003

Pino Armano
Franz Beismann
Bill Bensch
Tom Dolan
Ken Eiker
John Gribbon
Kevin Murphy
Cynthia Soffel
Joan Tarr
Krissy Turner
Gary Vogler

2002

Ken Andres Jr.
Andy Doyle
Sergio Flamini
Mickey Forker
Ken Hess
Paul Mott
Jim Solarski Jr.
Bill Stam
John Timko
Bill Zimmer Jr.
Hibernian Athletic Association

2000

Ciro Baldino
Stephen Collis
Tom Fink
Rich Garton
Bob Gray
Diane Kelly
Jim Knox
Pete Lindauer
Jim Loper
Bob Rostron
Pat Varsallona

1999

Jim Barlow
Jack Bell
Lee Cook
Dan Donigan
Lisa Gmitter
Charlie Lee
Tim Murphy
George O'Gorman
Cyril Robinson
Kevin Welsh
Sigmund Zegarski



Mike Rasimowicz

Mike Rasimowicz was an early success story for what was to become a dominant decade for Steinert sports. A talented athlete who was equally adept on the basketball court or baseball diamond, Mike dreamt of playing for the Green and White from the age of ten, never missing a contest at the school while others were playing hide-and seek or riding bikes.

He earned his stripes playing in the Hamilton Recreation League as a youth before moving on to Steinert. Playing soccer for the Spartans from 1968 to 1970, Mike was a three-time All County player. He was also team captain as a senior and made All-State while leading the team to an 18-0-2 record and the Group IV State Championship in 1969. That year, he scored 30 goals, then a school and county record.

He continued his career at Mercer County Community College, where, as a freshman, he scored 19 goals, leading the Vikings to a third place finish in the national tournament, following that up with a return to the tournament in his sophomore year. He was named to the All-Region XIX team in both years. He would go on to play for local club sides in the area, including GAK and Trenton Extension SC.

Heralded as a pure scorer, he was known to be a dangerous attacking player with a great shot. But his shooting prowess extended off the soccer field. He was an accomplished basketball player for the Spartans, garnering honorable mention All-County honors in his senior year and won the MVP of the annual Christmas Tournament in a sport that he considered his weakest. He was especially proud of being able to play for legendary coach Jake Tarr, a big influence on his sporting career.

Moving to the diamond, Mike was a shortstop and was voted second team All-County in baseball while also playing for the strong Hamilton Post 31 American Legion teams of the time. He is a member of the Trenton Softball Hall of Fame and the Steinert Sports Hall of Fame and tonight, Mike Rasimowicz joins the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

CONGRATS TO MIKE RAZZ!!

**Once Again You Have Made Us So
Proud!!!**



WE LOVE YOU!!!



**Sheila & Anne
Allie, MJ, Jaxs
& Lew**



Jim Bowen

Helping to form one of the most dynamic brother combinations in Mercer County sports history, Jim Bowen's run to the Hall began in the Hamilton Recreation, Little Bigger and Junior Leagues, enjoying success in the U.S Amateur Cup. During that time, Jim was also a member of the Mercer Juniors, coached by Hall of Famer George Cimore.

It was at Steinert High School where Jim showed the state what Mercer County was already seeing as a member of the 1975 Group IV Co-Champions, following up that success as a member of the memorable 1977 unbeaten side. For his efforts as a Spartan, Jim was All-County three times, All-Central Jersey twice, and All-State in his senior season, including being elected to the Star-Ledger All Decade team. Not limited to success on the soccer field, Jim was a heralded pitcher for Steinert, earning All-State honors as a senior for the Group IV champions.

Staying close to home for college, Jim made his mark at Princeton University where, along with his brother and fellow inductee John, was a four year All-Ivy player and three-time regional All-American, graduating as third on the all-time list in goals and points. He was a member of the U-19 and U-20 national teams and was a first round pick of the New Jersey Rockets of the Major Indoor Soccer League. He was also a member of the Olympic Developmental squad in 1979 and 1981, playing for the east in the U.S Olympic Sports festival and being named to the All-Tournament team in 1981.

Jim's soccer career was far from over after college, as he played for powerhouse amateur sides like Trenton Azurri and Trenton Abruzzi in the NY / NJ Super League, leading the league in scoring in 1983-84 with Princeton SC in the Garden State League, Cranbury Kickers, and Smitty's Kicks in the Mercer Men's League. He continues to play with Cranbury Rangers in the Garden State Over-40 Friendship League and in the Mercer Mens League and is a standout with the Trenton Power team who have enjoyed success in the Legends of Summer Over-40 Tournaments in Oneonta, NY and the Legends of Summer Over-50 Tournament in Cranbury NJ, continuing a storied career that keeps going. Congratulations!!



DOMENICK STILLITANO

“STILL THE BEST!!!”

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Love, Micki, Dominick, & Jess

DOMENICK STILLITANO

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
BEST DAD!!!

LOVE,
NICOLE, NICK, & MADALENA



Dennis Kinnevy

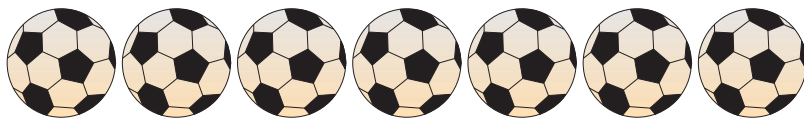
If you were compiling a list of prolific goal scorers from Mercer County, Dennis Kinnevy's name would be near the top. On every level, Dennis showed a predatory sense near the goal and continues to coach and give back to the game that gave him so much

First making his mark for Post 313 in the Hamilton League, Denny came into his own upon entering St. Anthony High School, where he was one of four brothers to play for the Iron Mikes. In 1973, he was nothing short of spectacular, scoring 33 goals, including two 4 four goal games and a remarkable 8 goals against Delaware Valley, a county record that stands to this day. Paring with fellow Hall of Fame member and best friend Billy Gazonas, the two led St. Anthony's to the school's only Parochial “A” state title for coach Tony Potenza.

He took his golden scoring touch to Mercer County Community College where he teamed with another Hall of Famer, Steve Reid, to bring a 17-3 mark and fifth in the National Junior College Tournament to the school. Denny scored 24 goals for MCCC that year and followed that performance with a 1975 encore where he scored two or more goals five times for the Vikings and led them to a 19-3-1 record. He continued his collegiate career at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut before returning home to play with amateur side Trenton Extension.

Moving outside of the lines, Denny coached at his alma mater St. Anthony's (then McCorristin H.S.) for three years in the 1980's and today is the assistant coach at Trenton Catholic Academy, where recently his #14 was retired in honor of his outstanding career. He has also coached on the youth level, teaming with Charlie Inverso to take the Garden State Juniors to the U.S. Junior Cup Region 1 Finals in 1985.

Today, Denny lives in the shadow of Wetzel Field where he learned the game and continues to share the years of soccer knowledge that he gained on the fields of Mercer County. We welcome Dennis Kinnevy to the ranks of the Hall of Fame.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Dennis P. Kinnevy on your induction into the **Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame**

**We are so very proud of all your
accomplishments as a player and a coach**

**Love,
Maureen, Kara, Chris and
the Kinnevy & McManimon Families**



John Bowen

Starring on a number of highly visible Mercer County sports teams while growing up, John Bowen has the distinction of playing on a soccer team every year since 1968!! Enjoying a start in the Hamilton Recreation, Little Bigger and Junior leagues, he garnered success in the U.S Amateur Cup and playing for George Cimore as part of the Mercer Juniors.

John eventually took his considerable talents to Steinert High School, where he was a member of the 1975 Group IV Co-Champions and the 1977 unbeaten State Champions, scoring 50 goals for his career, ranking him just behind fellow Hall-of Famer Art Napolitano on the school scoring list. He earned All-State honors three times and was selected to the Star Ledger All-Decade Team. Also a standout on for the Spartans on the baseball field, John led a pitching staff with two future Major Leaguers to the state title, hurling shutouts in the final three games, culminating in his selection to the All-State squad for the second time and being named the Trenton Knights of Columbus Baseball Player of the Year in 1978.

Joining his brother Jim at Princeton University, he went on to be a four-year starter and captain his senior year for the Tigers, making the All-Ivy, All-New Jersey, and regional All-American teams three times. Picked to compete in the prestigious College Senior All-Star game, John was a member of the Olympic Developmental team, U.S National U-19 and U-20 squads and also played for the medal winning East teams in the U.S Olympic Sports Festival, as well as being a member of the U.S Pan-American team. He was drafted as the seventh overall pick by the Philadelphia Fever of the Major Indoor Soccer League.

Continuing his long run on the pitch, John played locally for Trenton Azurri and Trenton Abruzzi, Princeton SC in the Garden State League, Smitty's Kicks, where the team won several NJ Over-30 State Cups, Cranbury Kickers for legendary player and coach Steve Collis, and in the Mercer Men's League. Currently playing for Norwich in the Yardley-Makefield Over-35 League and for Cranbury in the Mercer Mens League, John also has a college coaching record of 1-0 while filling in for Charlie Inverso as the coach of the Princeton University JV team! A versatile player, the hall welcomes John Bowen to its ranks.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
2010 HONOREES OF
THE MERCER COUNTY
SOCCER HALL OF FAME
FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
BOTH ON AND OFF
THE FIELD OF PLAY**



THE ANGEBRANDT FAMILY



Manfred Schellscheidt

Although Manny Schellscheidt is not a Mercer County product and never played for a local side, his contribution to the local soccer scene is undeniable and his teachings have influenced many of the area's best players and coaches. Known as a soccer guru, Manny Schellscheidt is a welcome addition to the Hall of Fame.

Born in Germany, Manny played professionally for FC Solingen and FC Victoria Cologne before coming to New Jersey in 1964. Upon his arrival, he joined a strong Elizabeth Sports Club team who won U.S. Open Cup titles in 1970 and 1972. Following these successes, he joined the Hartford Bicentennials of the fledgling North American Soccer League. When the Philadelphia Atoms were formed in 1973, Manny moved south to become a teammate of the newly drafted and future National Team player Bob Smith. With Manny's experience leading the way, the Atoms became the first expansion team to ever win a championship in U.S. sports history in their first year of existence.

His friendship with Bob Smith flourished as they led a group of local stars in 1975 on a trip to Germany to train and play against top-flight talent, featuring such talented players like Tim Murphy, Glen Myernick and Kevin Welsh. It was in that year that Manny assumed the role of coach of the U.S National Team. He was the coach of the 1984 Olympic Team and is a former Pan American Games coach.

He is currently in his 23rd year as head coach at Seton Hall University and has been the coach of the U-17 National Team since 2007. He is the first coach in the U.S to earn an A-1 coaching license and he has mentored current coaches such as former player and current Princeton University coach Jim Barlow and Rutgers University coaches Dan Donigan and Charlie Inverso. He is a member of the U.S Soccer Hall of Fame among many other honors. He has worked with such respected coaches as World Cup coach Bruce Arena, current National Team coach Bob Bradley, and former U.S assistant and strategist Myernick. The Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame is honored to include Manfred Schellscheidt among its members.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MERCER
COUNTY SOCCER HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!!

SPECIAL CONGRATS AND "THANK YOU"
TO
STEVE GROEGER
&
MANNY SCHELLSCHEIDT
FOR INTRODUCING THE BEAUTIFUL GAME TO SO MANY
BOYS AND GIRLS!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
FINK FAMILY!!
YOURR PARENTS ARE SMILING DOWN AND SAYING
"GOOD JOB BOYS!!"

KEEP THE BALL ROLLING!!

The Myernick Family



Joe Bianchini

One of many great players to come out of Trenton Central High School in the early 1960's, Joe Bianchini's career included many strong teams and he was influenced by some of the most revered coaches in the area. His contributions continued into the coaching ranks and tonight he earns induction into the Hall of Fame.

Joe's start in the world of soccer saw him playing in the Tom Hamnett league, where he was heavily influenced by coaching legend Bill Zimmer. As he entered school, he was coached by Hall of Famer Lou Angebrannt before moving to Trenton Central, where he was a three-year varsity player for coach Toby Pontani and part of several Group IV champions for Trenton. He also earned All-County status as a junior and senior for the Tornados.

Always a solid player, graduation saw him leaving Trenton and enrolling in Trenton Junior College, where he was a part of the National Championship team of 1963 where he was named a Junior College All-American. Following a four year stint in the Marines, he was convinced to use his last year of eligibility at Trenton Junior College, only to see his year cut short by injury.

His stellar career did not end there, as he moved onto the club soccer scene, teaming with names like Leckie, Rostron, and Kearns on the always powerful Trenton Extension side. He continued to play in the Bordentown Over-30 league for years and eventually moved onto the coaching sidelines, helming travel and recreation teams in Bordentown for many years.

Joe was inducted into the Mercer County Community College Hall of Fame in 2009 as part of the '63 Championship Team and is also a member of the Trenton Softball Hall of Fame. We welcome Joe Bianchini to the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.



THE FINK FAMILY

Annie and Harold “Big H” Fink moved into their Hamilton Square abode at 128 Jarvie Drive in 1966. Little did they know that they were doing more than just setting up a residence. They were establishing the home of one of the greatest soccer legacies in Mercer County, and opening up a social headquarters for the Reynolds Junior

High and Steinert High soccer teams and their pals for the next two decades. There have been schools with three, four and sometimes even five siblings contributing to their athletic success. But one would be hard pressed to find *seven* brothers who all impacted the same sport for the same high school like the Fink brothers did for the Spartans program.

From Jim's sophomore year in 1971 to Paul's senior year in 1985, the Green & White was never Fink-less in what was a big chunk of the greatest era of boys' soccer in school history. Ask any of them now, and they still don't think of themselves as a legacy. But they are.

The nicknamed army (from oldest to youngest) of Jim (Himer), Joe (Ape), Tom (Fritz), Harold (Bird), John (Sid), Bill (Clubber/Sounds Good) and Paul (The Hessian) amassed a collective resume unlike any other. As a group the Finks can point with pride to:

- Eight All-County, five All-Area and three All-State honors, as well as one All-America and New Jersey Player of the Year award in high school.

- All seven played college soccer at St. Joe's, North Carolina, Maryland, Davis & Elkins, Alderson-Broaddus and Mercer County Community College, with two reaching the NAIA national semifinals and several of them being named captains and earning awards.

- Won State Cup titles with club teams and championships with numerous Mercer County men's teams, including the Cranbury Kickers and Smitty's Kicks. Bill also played for a U14 travel team in Scotland.

- Coach or have coached numerous county recreation and club teams, most notably at the Hibernians.

- Serve or have served as officials and trainers at various Mercer clinics and for the Bob Smith Soccer Academy.

- Three of their teams have been inducted to the Steinert Athletic Hall of Fame.

And then there is tonight's honor, which the oldest and youngest accept with classic Fink humility. “Induction into the Mercer County Hall of Fame is a great honor and to enter with your brothers makes it even more



Steve Groeger

Steve Groeger's name has been synonymous with sports in the Lawrence Township area for over 40 years and has made it possible for countless boys and girls to enjoy the beautiful game. His dedication to providing a place to play has made the Lawrence Hamnetts program one of the most storied in the state and he continues to do the same for youth baseball and football programs.

Steve was a multi-sport athlete at Lawrence High School, garnering lifelong friendships with Tim Murphy and Glenn “Mooch” Myernick during that time. After graduating from Lawrence High in 1968, he matriculated at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, graduating in 1972.

It was later in life that he formed an attachment to soccer. Recruited by Hall of Fame coach Bill Zimmer, he started out as a youth coach in the Lawrence Hamnett League in the early 80's. Within several seasons, he had coached his teams to Hamnett League titles and N.J. State Cup honors. He has been involved with youth programs in Lawrence Township ever since.

Perhaps where Steve has made his biggest contribution has been since he assumed the role of superintendent of the Lawrence Township recreation department in 1982. Under his watchful eye, he has directed the development of the soccer complex at Eggerts Crossing and Village Park, providing some of the best recreational facilities in the county.

Branching out from his sporting roots, Steve has also has played a major role in developing the township nature center and, showing his creative side, has expanded the fine arts program. His devotion to the youth of Lawrence Township and Mercer County is unparalleled and he continues to keep the late Glen “Mooch” Myernick's name prominent by organizing an annual soccer game in his honor. We are proud to induct Steve Groeger into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame

Congratulations to

Steve Groeger
and
Joe Bianchini

on your induction into the
Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame

October 24, 2010



Computer Vision Technology, Inc.

Richard Garton, ceo
Phone: 609-584-8484

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special,” Jim said. “It is a shame that our parents are not here to enjoy this moment with us.

“We have only reached this point due to their hard work and sacrifices. It certainly was not easy taking each of us to games, practices and tournaments. Sometimes my parents would have to go to separate tournaments so that my brothers and I could participate.”

That sacrifice positively impacted countless Spartan teams. While the preceding list of accomplishments could go on forever, the one thing each brother will point to with pride is the success of Steinert during their lengthy tenure. In those 15 years Steinert went 254-42-25, which computes to a staggering .858 winning percentage excluding the ties.

Wrapped within that record is five state championships, six Central Jersey titles and two Mercer County Tournament titles; two undefeated teams including the record-setting 24-0 squad that was named the nation's top team in 1977; two one-loss seasons and three two-loss seasons.

Ask any Fink and they will say the talent around them was the reason for those wins. Ask the talent around them and they will point to the Finks as key figures on each team. Paul Tessein, legendary Steinert coach, agrees with Jim that Annie and the Big H deserve much of the credit for the Seven Wonders of Mercer County.

“From the coaches' point of view, the parents were classic,” Tessein said. “Always there, always supportive, never a complaint regardless of the role given their sons.” When asked for the Fink trademark, Tessein said “There is always the smile, the friendly approach and the ease of communication. I would say they could, and maybe should, be the role model for all.

“The boys always came with a great work ethic. They seemed to live the game and to willingly accept their roles – from Jim to Joe, to Tom, to Harold, to John, to Bill and finally Paul, they did their best to excel in their own way.”

Soccer excellence is only part of the story, however. As is well-known, their loyalty and support of each other is legendary, and the Finks possess likeability from top to bottom that have made them one of the most charismatic families in Mercer County athletic history. It was because of their personalities, that 128 Jarvie Drive became a second home for a never-ending parade of Steinert students.

Leave it to Tessein to put it all in perspective. “I doubt there is any other like them,” he said. “They truly stand alone.” Tonight, they stand together, proud of each other for the honor they so richly deserve.

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The Bob Smith Soccer Academy would like to congratulate the Mercer County Hall of Fame inductees especially the "Fink" family!



**RUTGERS SOCCER ACADEMY
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