

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

1982 Varsity A Basketball Team



Left to Right: 1st row: M. Roman, R. Viggiano, R. Dominguez, F. Memoli, T. Ryan, P. Murray, M. Golden, 2nd row: S. O'Sullivan (Mgr.), J. Georges (Mgr.), Mr. Donohue (coach), D. Walker, M. Kennedy, J. McNulty, G. Santos, P. Claude, J. Mooney, C. Hall, Br. Gannon (coach), F. Matos (Mgr.), D. Starks (Mgr).

The 1981-1982 season was going to be a rebuilding year, having lost four starters and ten seniors from the 1980-1981 team, which claimed the title of CHSAA Bronx-Manhattan champions and CHSAA City finalist.

Under the direction of coaches Steve Donohue and Tim Gannon, the team played one of the toughest schedules in the entire country. The team competed in tournaments in Buffalo, NY (Long John Silver Tournament), Albany, NY (Corning Cup Classic), Atlantic City, NJ (Seagull Classic) and New Brunswick, NJ (Eastern States Tournament). The team won the Corning Cup Classic and the Eastern

States Tournament, and was a finalist at the Long John Silver Tournament. The players were determined to prove that they could play with any team in their league, state or anywhere.

Frank Memoli was chosen as the MVP of the Corning Cup Classic. Gus Santos and John McNulty earned All-Tournament honors. Frank Memoli was the MVP of the Long John Silver's Tournament, despite Power losing a very close championship game to Long Island Lutheran, the number one ranked team in NYS. Darryl Walker held three time all Western NYS player, Tony Kelly to nine points in the win over Lackawanna HS, the number one team in western NYS. The team traveled to NJ to participate in the Eastern States tournament, facing Overbrook HS on Friday and St. Peter's Prep on Saturday. Gus Santos led all scorers in the championship game with 22 points to lead the Panthers to victory. Gus Santos was named tournament MVP, while John McNulty and Frank Memoli were chosen to the All Tournament team.

The Panthers completed league play with a 7-2 record, having won seven games in a row to start the season and then winning nine in a row towards the end of the year, which propelled them into the playoffs. They reached the Archdiocesan Championship game, which they lost to All Hallows in triple overtime on a 30 foot shot at the buzzer. They reached the CHSAA City Championship game for the second year in a row but lost to a very talented St. Nicholas of Tolentine team. Next for the Panthers was the CHSAA State Championships, where they traveled to Long Island to play the number two ranked team in the state, St. Dominic's HS. The Panthers were able to outlast the Doms in a fiercely contested game 74-70 in overtime. Sophomore, Mel Kennedy, scored 11 points in the fourth quarter/OT. Ruddy Dominquez hit two long shots towards the end of the fourth quarter and made two free throws in OT to help secure the victory. Power needed one more win versus St. Francis Prep to win the Catholic State Championship. Playing an extremely well coached St. Francis Prep squad, the Panthers got out to a 23-14 lead after one quarter, but the Terriers fought back to get within 7 points at the end of the third period. Darryl Walker's four straight free throws helped secure a one point win and the Panther's became the CHSAA State Champions for the first time.

Up next, the NYS Federation Championship, which included private, parochial and public schools, played in Glens Falls, NY. The Benjamin Franklin squad from Manhattan, proved to be the best team Power played all year. Their height and ball handling were too much to overcome, final score, 75-65. In all, a fabulous season: 21 wins and 9 losses against some of the best teams on the East Coast.

Congratulations to Gus Santos who was selected first team All City, Frank Memoli, second team, and John McNulty and Darryl Walker honorable mention All City!