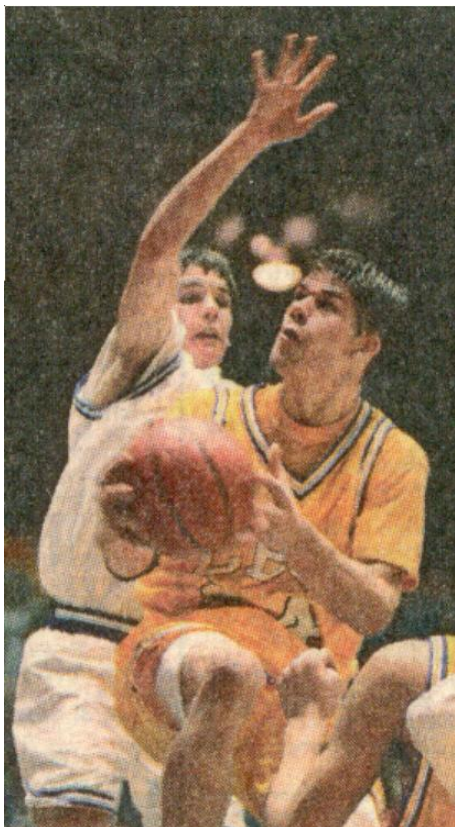




Christian Brothers Academy entered the 90's with great hope and anticipation. The transition to a coeducational institution had gone better and more smoothly than even the most optimistic supporter could have imagined. Enrollment was growing and the concerns of the 80's seemed a distant memory. CBA was again attracting the best and brightest from all over the city. It was only a matter of time before the athletic programs would reap the benefits of this revitalization. At the time, the Hamilton Street Boys Club ran a very intense basketball program. Several of the best young athletes in the area participated in that program and unfortunately, most stayed on the west side and went to Bishop Ludden for high school. There was a group of friends, however, that wanted to go to cross town to CBA. Jeff Segar was part of that group. They dreamed of the day that together, they would remain teammates and win championship after championship. Dan Glover, Sean Anderson, Brandon Duck, Joe Leone among others were part of that group and little did they know that in a few years even their wildest dreams would come true.

During his high school career Jeff earned seven varsity letters. He was a gifted athlete who had the ability to succeed in any sport he chose to play. That was evident in his senior year when he decided to play football to try to help his friends win a sectional championship. As a wide receiver, Jeff had a good season in fact he was named an All League all star. The team finished with an 8 – 2 record, but the championship eluded them. This would be the only championship ring that Jeff did not earn.

The 1996 baseball season was a season to be remembered. Glover, Anderson, Leone and Segar were all in their second year on the varsity and flourished under Coach Dotterer's laissez faire style. The group was confident in their abilities and had a tremendous determination to win. They also had something that all the championship teams before them had, and that was chemistry. The Brothers rolled to league and sectional championships. Jeff was the teams shortstop and played with a contagious passion. He, Glover and Jeff Tornabene led the team into the state tournament, trying to win the first state championship in school history. The Brothers, (although maybe not by blood but certainly by conviction) continued to rip through the tournament culminating with comeback wins over Pleasantville and Catskill to take away the top prize. Jeff received individual accolades, all league, All CNY but the success of the team playing along side his friends was the most rewarding part of the year. Although his senior baseball season did not end in a state championship, the team did win the league championship and Jeff was named to the All CNY team. For the two year span, the team achieved an impressive record of 48 - 8



Although Jeff's sport of choice became baseball, like Barney Warner before him, he had his most individual high school success on the hardwoods. After an average sophomore season personally and as a team, the 95 – 96 team finished with a 16 – 5 record, the best record since Mark Adams graduated in 1988. That year the team also defeated Bishop Ludden, a win that broke a 13 year, 12 game drought. Individual honors followed including being selected as first team all league. When the Brothers entered the 1996 – 97 season, they had high hopes for a great year. Jeff Segar, Sean Anderson and Joey Leone already with a state championship under their belt, were looking for a similar result in the sport that they had played together since the Hamilton Street Boys Club days. That team will go down to be one of the best in CBA history and that season, Jeff was unbelievable. You have to understand that the chemistry on that team was tremendous. John Law, Sam Lampuri along with Anderson and Leone formed the most together group that I have ever coached..... Early in the season, Jeff set a school record by hitting 7 threes in a game against Tully. Later against West Genesee, Jeff hit a pull up jumper as time expired to give CBA a 2 point win.....He had a run where he scored over 20 points in 6 straight games. However, there is one play that I will always remember Jeff making. In fact in my opinion it is the play that pushed the basketball program to another level. After winning the sectional championship we played Bishop Ludden in the game to see who would move onto the state tournament. We had split the two regular season meetings and this game was played at Liverpool High school in

front of a turn away crowd. In the third quarter, Jeff received a technical foul for taunting. He was taken out of the game possibly done for the night. But with a few minutes left in the game I went over and asked him if he was ready to go back in..... no answer just a smirk.... So against the wishes of our assistant coaches Jeff went back in the game.... And with 1:25 to go, Jeff hit a tough jumper to put us ahead to stay and take us to the state tournament. The rest was history. We went on to win the state championship and Jeff was named the tournament MVP. He received all league, all CNY, All State, all everything honors from just about anyone who had honors to hand out.

Following his senior season, Coach Dotterer pointed Jeff towards University of Montavello in Alabama; a school he felt would be a great place for continuing his career. It was a perfect fit and Jeff thrived. He had a productive career that culminated in his being named an All American in 2000. His .450 batting average was twelfth in the country. That year he was also drafted by the New York Yankees organization and spent that next four and a half years playing profession baseball.

In a Post Standard article written about the baseball team before the 1997 season, Jeff when asked about his feelings having participated on state championship teams in two sports was quoted as saying "This is something I'll never forget..... That's something you tell your kids and grandkids about....

Well Jeff, although tonight is not the same as winning a state championship, it certainly is something to be proud of and I am honored to welcome you into the LaSallian Athletic Hall of Fame.

