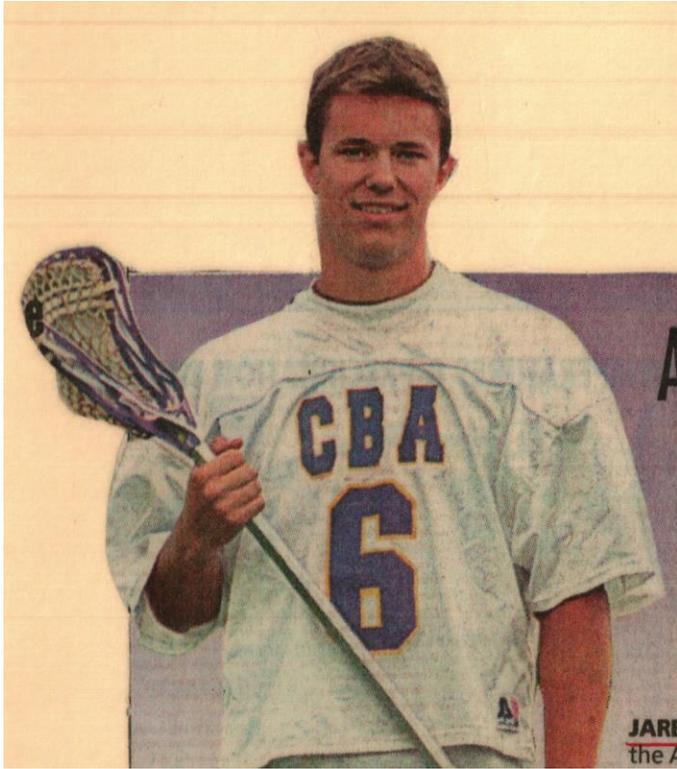


Our next inductee's path to CBA is a little different from our previous inductees but nonetheless one that isn't unique. Jarett Park had a pretty good deal down in Tully. He was a contributor on the varsity soccer team as an eighth grader where he played on the same team as his brother Justin. He had recently picked up and begun to enjoy the sport of lacrosse, a program that Tully High prided themselves in. So when Jarett's parents asked him to take the entrance exam to CBA he really didn't think much of it. Why would they have him change schools when things were going so well? So imagine his surprise the summer before 9th grade when Janet and Jeff informed their son he would be traveling up route 81 to go to school at CBA... and, I'm sure this will sound familiar to some of us... after six months, if he didn't like it, he could go back to his old school. Yeah right, from what Jarett says he doesn't recall ever being asked about whether he liked it or not. But it wouldn't have mattered. It didn't take him long to make steadfast group of friends and found that he fit right in on Randall Road

Now the athletic program that Jarett was going into was much different than the one that Frank Giufre entered just six years earlier. CBA was riding high with three state championships and a state runner-up in less than a year. One of those sports was soccer, Jarett's first love (at the time at least.). The team that he would be trying out for was the defending State Champs, a tall task for a young freshman. But from the time he stepped onto the St. Denis field our coaches knew he was something special. In that freshman year he joined a very talented group of returning players led by the Riverso Brothers and Bobby Hammer and helped CBA repeat as State Champions. Although a great way to start your career, certainly there would be a letdown the following year...aaahhhhhh, no. Let's put it this way, in Jarett's last three years his team went 68 - 3 - 2. Let that one sink in... 68 - 3 - 2... So in Jarett's four years his team won a State championship, 4 league championships, 4 sectional championships two in Class C and two in Class B! In his sophomore year, the team advanced to the regional final; junior year they advanced to the state semifinal and as a senior, they advanced to the state championship game. What a great run, and not small part due to Jarett Park. In his junior year, he and Ross D'Eredita would lead the Brothers to one of the most successful years in program history. They were ranked first in the state for most of the season and actually achieved a number 3 national ranking near the end of the season. A 2-1 loss to Hauppauge in the state semifinals ended the state championship dream, but Jarett, however, raked in the accolades... All league, All State, CNY Player of the Year who scored 33 goals and added 10 assists. In his senior year, he and teammates Ramez Ghaly, Tom Wangerman and Dario Vacco were hoping to get even farther. And they did, one game further. A battered CBA team with injuries to several key people including Jarett lost a heartbreaker to Aquinas 3 - 1. Park played gamely but just couldn't overcome the

injury. After the game. Coach Papaleo was quoted “I don’t care who you are, you can’t stop Jarett Park “, in response to a question about how a healthy Jarett might have changed the outcome. Papaleo had a factual basis



for that remark. As a senior, he scored 34 goals and had 30 assists. He finished his high school career as one of the most prolific goal scorers of all time scoring an astounding 96 goals and dishing out 64 assists.

As mentioned earlier, Jarett’s main sport when he entered high school was soccer. However, as the years progressed he became more and more enamored with lacrosse.

At the time, the CBA lacrosse program was not in the same place the soccer team was. The team had not had a winning record in 14 years. Second year coach Rick Cote was hoping to change that, and with Jarett in the field and Josh LaGrow in the goal, it did change. In his last three years, his team advanced to the Sectional finals twice and had two winning seasons. So maybe the **team** was not as dominant as the soccer team, but Jarett certainly was. In his sophomore year against Marcellus, he scored nine goals and assisted on another in a 11 – 10 victory. For his career, he scored an amazing 241 goals (96 of them in his senior year) and 80 assists. For his

efforts, he was named the CNY Player of the year as a senior along with all everything... All League, All State and All American. Coach Cote commented on his character ”He is one of the nicest young me I ever met, I feel real lucky to have coached him. He is in a class by himself”.

Jarett had many options coming out of high school, because of his athletic ability and his academic achievement. He chose Syracuse University because unlike most players these days, he wanted to play both soccer and lacrosse. Coaches Desko and Foti were willing to allow him to do that and neither coach regretted his decision. In 2001, Jarett was named the NCAA Division I Freshman of the year in soccer. That year, he was also the Big East Rookie of the Year and led the nation in assists per game. He was twice named all Big East and was fourth in career assists after his junior year. In lacrosse, he lead the team in groundballs in all four seasons, and helped them win two NCAA Men's Lacrosse Championships in 2002 and 2004. After his college days were over, he continued in the sport playing professionally for almost a decade.



Jarett, when you were named the Catholic Sun Athlete of the Year in 2001, I was quoted as saying that “you were one of the best athletes ever to come out of CBA” Tonight my assessment is confirmed as you take your rightful place In the LaSalian Athletic Hall of Fame.