

LaSALLIAN HALL OF FAME

CBA Nine Wins City Title

Inducted 2016



Pete Barclay
Joe Brooks
John DeFrancisco
Head Coach Babe Testone

Bill Doyle
Bill Fitzgerald
Jerry Foody

Paul Frazier
Jim Gaffney
Bill Gallagher

Carl Kalinowski
Pete Keenan
John Lander

Jim Lavoy
Jim Michaels
Mike O'Neill
Bill Reitmeyer

Jim Sacco
Mike Stella
Andy Tursi
John Zulberti

Results (13 wins, 1 loss)

City League and All City Champions

CBA 5 Nottingham 2
CBA 2 North 1
CBA 7 Vocational 2
CBA 6 Central Tech. 4

CBA 8 Eastwood 4
CBA 13 Vocational 0
CBA 8 Valley 1

CBA 19 Valley 1
CBA 2 North 14
CBA 10 Central Tech. 8

CBA 10 Nottingham 3
CBA 6 Eastwood 2
CBA 3 North 2
CBA 4 Most Holy Rosary 3

CBA BASEBALL 1961

For our first inductees tonight we are going back 55 years to honor our first group.... We have to remember the times. It is 1960 and the nation is getting ready to elect a new president. There is a young good-looking Catholic boy on the ballot, which was very exciting to the millions of Catholics throughout the country. With due respect to Hillary, could Kennedy break the glass ceiling for Catholics? Well he did and he ran promoting the policy of the new frontier, proclaiming that the torch had been passed to a new generation of Americans. Well interestingly enough, the school year that started in the fall of 1960 was also a special one for the Brothers boys down on Willow Street. You see for years there had been talk of a new school and now it was going to come to fruition. However, this last group at Willow Street had their own ideas on how to pass their torch on to the Randall roaders.



By the time the spring arrived, it was already a great year for the Golden Tornadoes as all of the boys wanted to close the venerable school in style. Walt Ludovico's football team won the city championship. The basketball team made their improbable run to win the schools only diocesan basketball championship. Now it was the baseball teams turn to close the school with one of the most successful years in the schools storied athletic history. You have to remember that back then the number of offerings are not the same as today. In 2015-16, CBA offered 26 varsity level sports. In the 1960 – 61 school year at the Willow Street School, there were 5!

The baseball team had momentum going into the season, coming off an All City Championship the year before when they beat Sacred Heart 5-3. While graduation losses did have an impact the Brothers, they still were considered one of the top teams in the league. In the infield, Jerry Foody, John Zulberti and Bill Doyle were back for another campaign and in the outfield was Andy Tursi, flanked by John Lander and Pate Barclay. On the mound, Jim Sacco and Carl Kalinowski were two of the most feared hurlers in the league

CBA Downs Nottingham, 5 to 2

Kalinowski Yields One Hit

Unbeaten CBA Hands Vocational 13-0 Loss

North and CBA Win Easily to Stay Deadlocked

Windy Hillers In 14-2 Romp Over Brothers

CBA Shades North, 3-2, in League Title Clash

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and freshman John DeFrancisco and Bill Reitmeier added depth to an already stacked team. The spring had not been kind weather wise. The first game of the season, scheduled for April 24, was pushed back to May 4. That meant the Brothers had to spend much of the month of April in the Willow Street version of the Carrier Dome, the gymateria or was it cafetorium. The guy running the show was a former pro, small in stature but big on baseball, Babe Testone. Babe had many quirks but he also had the respect and admiration of all of his players. This particular season went pretty much as you would have expected. With the depth of the team and the strong pitching staff, the Brothers mowed down their opponents. The few times there was

adversity they pretty much had the firepower to recover. In their second game vs. Central Tech for example, the Lancers jumped out to a 7-1 lead after 3 innings but led by Bill Reitmeier and John Zulberti, the Brothers came back and scored seven runs in the next 2 innings to win 10-8. The one exception was the second game against North. The Windy Hillers jumped out to a big lead and took no prisoners and that 14-2 shellacking the only blemish on an otherwise perfect season. I will go to the yearbook, or musicale ad book as it was called then, to recap the rest of the season:

“Expert coaching and great play under pressure enabled the charges of John “Babe” Testone to capture their second straight City League and All City Titles At the time called one of the finest baseball teams fielded by CBA, the Tornadoes ended regular season play in a tie with North, both teams with 11 – 1 records. In a special playoff game, the second in as many years, the Brothers Pete Barclay drove in the winning run with a double giving CBA a 2 -1 victory over the Windy Hillers. Against MHR in the game for the all city championship at McArthur Stadium, the Brothers fell behind in the sixth inning when Rosary scored all of their runs to take a 3 - 2. With two outs in the top of the seventh, pinch hitter Bill Doyle walked. John Zulbeti then drilled a triple of the wall in right center driving in the tying run. Mike O’Neill beat out a roller to second and Zulberti crossed the plate with the deciding run. Kelly Kalinowski, who relieved Jimmy Sacco in the sixth, put the side down in order to preserve the win.

That championship game was played on June 12, just 4 days before the graduates of that class of 1961 crossed the stage at the War Memorial. I have heard from several members of that team. They all recall the great camaraderie between the players and that they just were a group that didn’t want to lose. The also, all had a story about their coach Babe Testone. Unfortunately, Babe passed away suddenly a bit more than a month ago. He was a baseball man in the truest sense of the word. He was also a very religious man who cared deeply about his players. He prayed the Rosary with his wife each day and in fact he passed away peacefully just after saying the rosary with his wife, The 1961 Baseball team put an exclamation point at the end of the storied athletic history of Christian Brothers Academy on Willow Street. Please accept our gratitude and your place in the LaSallian Athletic Hall of Fame.

