



The year was 1980 and the CBA was entering its fourth year with a junior high. Young boys from all over central New York were given a new choice for seventh grade. Even families that had planned to send their boy to us in ninth grade were now evaluating whether to send their child two years earlier than expected. Such was the case with Marc Jones. His parents knew that the City High Schools were not for their children. They had already made the decision to send their older daughters to Bishop Grimes and anticipated that Marc would go the same route. But as Marc played on the gridiron with the Eastwood Bears, talk among the parents began to center around CBA. Several of his teammates were planning to take the entrance exam and after much discussion, so did Marc. When he received his acceptance letter, there was no question about his path to the future. Against his protests, he wanted to go to Henninger and remain with all of his friends (isn't that a surprise) he would join 130 other boys in the CBA Class of 1986. Oh by the way, those teammates whose parents got the Joneses interested in CBA in the first place..... none of them came with him.

Marc was a talented athlete. As a freshman, coach Bob Campbell chose Marc, Jim Corapi and Mike Adornato as members of the varsity team, not a common practice at the time. And for Marc he had a plan. Although a running back by trade, Jones was asked to spend the first two years of his career at wide receiver. The Brothers already had future NFL player Billy Owens in the backfield and a young Lorenzo Jackson a year behind as his backup. So for the good of the team, Jones played end and learned how to run routes and catch the ball, skills that would later end up being very important to his future in football. He performed admirably those two seasons and for his junior year coach remained true to his word and moved Marc back to his natural position in the backfield. That year he split time with Garnell Gladden while he learned the ins and outs of another position. That year the team played well, finishing with a 5 – 3 record and both running backs shredded the opposition each gaining nearly 700 yards. His accomplishments earned him a second team all star berth.

All of his hard work paid off in his senior season. That year, led by Jones, Corapi, Adornato and Marty Coyne, the Brothers enjoyed their best season since the Pete Vercillo coached '72 team as they finished the regular season with a perfect 8 – 0 record. And Jones was the offensive star. In the opening game of the season he rushed 10 times for 169 yards. That game he also scored on a 69 yard kickoff return and scored three touchdowns on the day. He was quoted as saying he just getting warmed up. Fired up is probably more appropriate. Marc, who was clocked at 4.5 in the 40, went on a tear averaging over 8 yards per carry for the entire season. He led the league in scoring with 84 points in 8 games and also led in interceptions despite



playing in games that we for the most part over by halftime. For his efforts, Marc earned first team all league honors as a running back and as a defensive back and he was also chosen to the 1985 all state team.

Mark continued his football career at the next level and it was another CBA alumni who helped him to get there. Rick Stoto's teammate, Joe Riccardi, encouraged Marc to attend the University of Alabama's football camp during the summer of his junior and senior years and it was there that he caught the eye of Alabama assistant coach Terry Donahue. When Donahue went to the University of Tennessee in 1986 he convinced Jones to go with him. A Yankee in the deep South was certainly a rarity. Marc had a solid career for the Vols. In his sophomore year he won a starting spot on special teams. By his senior year he was also in the running back rotation, being used mostly as a third down back. There he was able not only to use his running skills but also his ability to catch passes out the back field a craft he honed during his first two years at CBA.

When his college career was completed, he wasn't ready to hang up his cleats just yet. So when the opportunity to play in the European League of American Football presented itself, he jumped at the chance. As one of only 6 Americans on the roster, Marc made a name for himself in Germany. In his second year playing Marc scored 26 touchdowns and was dubbed Mr. Touchdown by the German Free Press.

When he concluded his playing days after the 2000 season, when he returned back home to start his own business, Dreissig Athletics. He also wanted to give back and thank his family and the community that helped mold him into the person that he is today. Marc is currently a member of the CBA marketing committee and I a great ambassador for CBA in the Syracuse Community.

Marc you have always represented your school with pride and have done much to enhance the image of CBA. You have made it evident that CBA played a very important role in your life. Tonight, please let us give you a small token of our appreciation for what you have done for us, as we include you in our LaSallian Athletic Hall of Fame'

