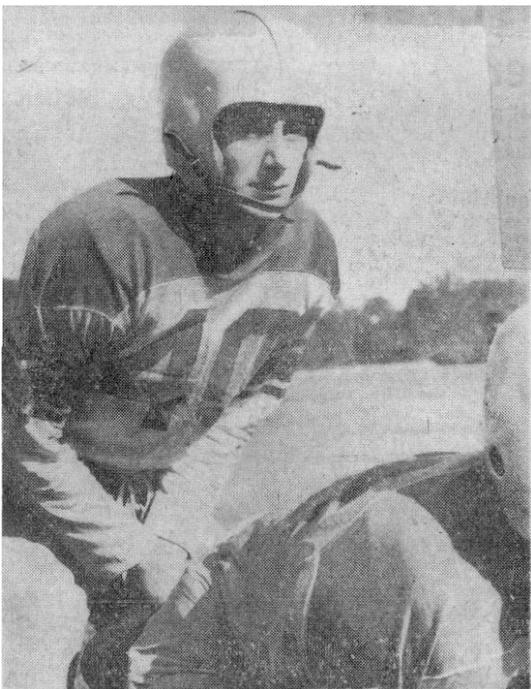


When Chuck Zimmerman started at CBA in 1950, the school was still located on Willow Street with a whopping tuition of about 165 dollars. As was the case with many of us, he was following in his father's footsteps. Legendary Coach Walt Ludovico was beginning his third year at the helm and had begun to make the Brothers a football power. Because of this, some of the finest athletes in Syracuse were taking the bus to the North side and becoming Brothers Boys.

First and foremost, Chuck Zimmerman was a serious student. He was a member of the Brother Adolphus Honor Society with an average of 95.6 during his sophomore year. In fact, he was first in his class in general excellence at the end of that year. Throughout his four years of high school, he was a member of that honor society and was the highest scoring junior when it was time to be chosen for the National Honor Society.

As well as he performed in the classroom, he was even more impressive on the athletic fields. Zimmerman was a well-rounded athlete. He loved the competitiveness and camaraderie associated with athletics and being part of a team. As a junior on the basketball court, Chuck hung up the cleats after football season and joined his fellow roundballers. As the season wore on, he became an important factor in the Brothers' success. In fact, he



scored a high of 28 points in one game, 25 in another, and averaged 21 points per game in the city playoffs that year in which the Brothers took runner-up honors to perennial power Central Tech. For his efforts, Chuck was selected to the second team All City all star team.

He was also a weapon on the baseball field. As a first baseman, he helped lead the Brothers to a City league championship as a junior. A consistent hitter and solid defensive player, Chuck was just beaten out in the voting for first team all city but was named to the mythical team's second group. During the summer he was a teammate of a young Tommy Dotterer on the Valley American legion team that finished as state runners-up in the summer of 1953. It was obvious that Zimmerman was a natural athlete that loved all sports.

But his passion was football.

When Chuck began the 1951 season on the varsity, the Brothers had already begun to make a name for themselves. Coming into the season with a four game winning streak, the team had begun to assert itself on the field and learn how to win. In fact, in what I think is an amazing stat, in the three years that Chuck Zimmerman was a varsity football player at CBA, he NEVER played in a game that his team didn't win.....THEY Never LOST!!!! During that time the team was 24 and 0 and get this one, they outscored their opponents by 169 - 38, 230 - 6. 196 - 0. An important part of the equation for victory was Zimmerman's leadership. Immediately taking over the quarterback slot, his passing ability gave CBA the diversity that they needed. Already having one of the best runners in the area in Frank Cappelletti, they now featured the golden arm of Zimmerman. As a sophomore, his favorite target was Dean Bettenger, a combination that was claimed to be unstoppable by the Syracuse Newspapers. As a junior, he led the City league in scoring with 60 points and was named to the mythical first team all city squad. As with all great players, he saved the best for last. He opened his senior year scoring on a 95 yard run and gaining nearly 200 yards on the ground against North. After a game vs. Eastwood late in the 1953 season, famed Syracuse sportswriter Ed Reddy wrote: "Chuck Zimmerman, is a ball carrier who seems to float through the opposition because of his remarkable speed and driving power." That 53 team, arguably the best in the history of CBA (although this years team is trying to give them a run for their money), finished the season undefeated and unscored upon, The Zimmerman led Brothers ran their four year winning streak to 28 games and Chuck's 84 points set a new City league scoring record, the second year in a row that he claimed the scoring title. The accolades for Zimmerman were astounding. Chuck was chosen unanimously as the captain of the First team all city and all upstate squad.. He was then chosen to the Catholic All American team. He then became the first recipient of the Italian American Athletic Club scholarship awarded to the top athlete in Syracuse for his overall performance in the classroom and on the field.

After graduation, Chuck spent a semester at Fordham and then came back to lead the fortunes of the Syracuse Orangemen. He was the starting quarterback on the 1956 team that featured Jim Brown in the backfield. As a junior, Chuck led the Orangemen in most offensive categories completing 53 of 96 passes for 770 yards, which was just short of the combined total for the previous three years. He led in total yards with just less than 900 for the campaign. As a senior, Captain Zimmerman led his team to a berth in the Orange Bowl. He was selected as the first team all east quarterback and as an honorable mention All American pick, but the most prestigious honor came when he was named Syracuse University's top athlete of 1958 - 59. Athletic Director Lew Andres called Zimmerman a superior athlete as well as an outstanding student and citizen" and Ben Schwartzwalder praised Chuck as the boy who made our team click.. He was the player most responsible for our Orange Bowl bid.



After college, Chuck fulfilled his civic obligation as a Lieutenant in the army. When he returned, he came back to CBA for one season to assist his former backfield mate Frank Cappelletti in coaching the CBA football team. Since then he has remained an ardent supporter of the Academy and a great family man to his wife, three children and six grandchildren. Chuck, you are the epitome of a student athlete and always proudly represented the purple and gold. We were proud of you then for all that you have accomplished and tonight we are honored to have you rightfully take your place in the Lasallian Hall of Fame.