

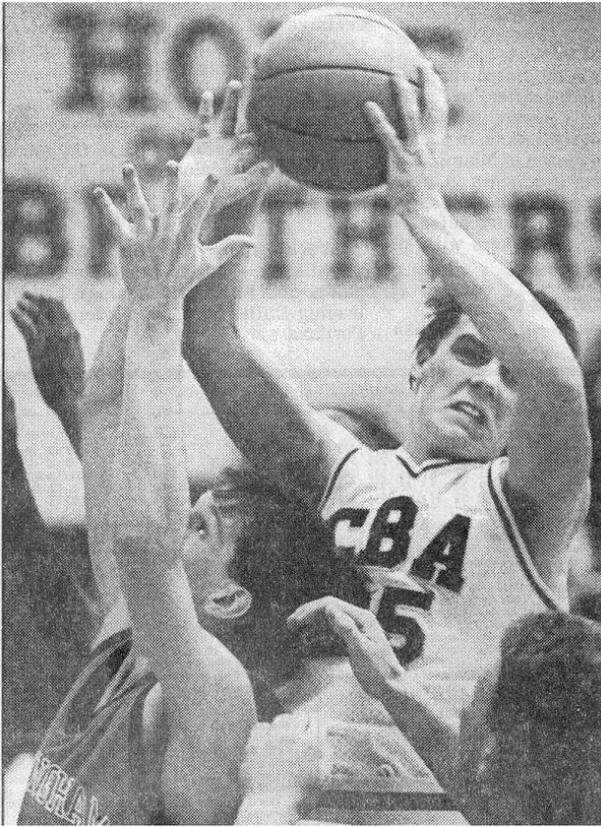


When John Haas entered the 9th grade at CBA in the fall of 1985, the school was actually experiencing some hard times and was going through some major changes. The school was on the brink of a multi million dollar capital campaign where much of the money raised was earmarked to revitalize the schools anything but impressive athletic facilities. In fact, at the time, the Brothers did not even play football or baseball on the Randall Rd campus anymore but rather traveled to Griffin Field in Liverpool for their “home” games.

John came to CBA from Blessed Sacrament. The youngest of four children of Bob and Barb Haas, John broke the Bishop Grimes tradition of his siblings and entered the, at least at that time, all male environment of CBA. He was a highly touted basketball player but it was obvious even from the beginning of his career that he would make his mark on more than the hardwoods. As with most of the athletes of that time, as a freshman John played on the junior varsity teams in football, basketball and baseball. That would all change in the next year where John would be promoted to the varsity all of those sports.

John ended his career with 9 varsity letters. He was a three year starter on the football and baseball teams and two year starter on the basketball team. On the baseball field John was a second baseman who came to play every day. Although his third sport, John was a consistent player throughout his career, earning All league honors during his senior year. Under the tutelage of Fellow inductee Tom Dotterer, Haas helped to lead his team to OHSL championships in his sophomore and senior years.

John had even more success on the gridiron. As he began his sophomore year he was called upon to make an immediate impact on the varsity football team. The 1985 team coached by Bobby Campbell had advanced to the Class A Semifinals and graduated 12 seniors. Now, led by new head coach and athletic director Matt Steenberg, the Brothers looked to rebuild but had to do so without a place to practice. They became road warriors, making the trek to Sair Park in Lyncourt each day to practice while the State of the art Alibrandi Stadium was being built. The team persevered and although having a what could be deemed less than impressive record, John showed himself to be an athletic defensive back and a talented receiver. By his senior year everyone had taken notice. With his team competing in a division against schools three and four times our size, John was considered to be one of the most talented receivers in the area. Although the team could only manage to finish the year with a 4 -4 record., John was selected as a first team Class A division all league player. But the accolades didn't stop there. He was then selected to the all upstate team, a unanimous choice alongside Nottingham's Dorsey Levens, and then was named to the first team all state class A team. With all these awards came the interest of colleges and he was courted by Holy Cross and Delaware among others.



Although he loved baseball and football, he was passionate about basketball. As a sophomore, John was chosen on the varsity and by the end of the season he had earned a starting berth at forward. During his junior year he was a regular from the beginning, playing the center position on a team with no player taller than 6'2. At the time, CBA was playing in the Metro division where it was not uncommon for our opponents to have players 6'6 and 6'7, so virtually every night he was playing against players 4 and 5 inches bigger than him. But that didn't matter. He used his athleticism and jumping ability not only to compete against the larger players but to excel. The team finished with a 15 - 6 record good for second place in the division. John averaged almost 13 points per game and was selected second team all league. Then came his senior year. Although still the tallest player on the team, it became evident to his young coach, that he was also the best ball handler, so for his last season John was allowed to play his natural position of point guard, and the results were amazing. In the first 3 games of the season, John scored over 30 points each time. Then LeMoyné coach and current West Virginia coach John Beilein was in attendance at most of our games and several of our practices trying to come to grips with just how good Haas was in his true position. By the end of the

season his numbers told the story. John averaged 22 points per game scoring over 380 points on the year. He was chosen as a unanimous first team all league player and an all upstate selection. He was also a fifth team all state selection.

Somehow in the midst of all this success in the athletic area, John found time to excel in the classroom. An honor student, Haas was continually achieved first honors while in high school and was a member of the Brother Adolphus Honor Society. He was also selected to the National Honor Society and was one of five players on that year's team that achieved such an honor. John was chosen as CBA's representative the first ever Section III scholar athlete dinner..

When the time came to choose a college, John chose to stay close to home accepted a full athletic scholarship to Lemoyne College. After learning the system his freshman year, he became a three year starter for the Dolphins. He became one LeMoynes most consistent players and took his place among all time greats. For his career, John became the only player in school history to score over 1000 points and pass for more than 500 assist. He still ranks fifth all time in steals, third in assist in is in the top twenty in points scored. For his efforts he was twice named to the Conference all league teams and was one of the popular players in the history of the school.

After college John chose to follow in his fathers footsteps and enter the field of education. He is currently teaching in the



CNS school district and has remained involved in athletics by coaching junior high football. He is also the Junior Varsity basketball coach in that district and is looking forward to the day where he will be able to put his own signature on the CNS Basketball Program.

On a personal note, I will always remember your work ethic, eagerness to learn and compassion for others. As a coach, I couldn't have asked for anything more of you. John, your achievements have put you in the CBA record books - scoring the first touchdown at Alibrandi Stadium and getting the first base hit at St. Denis Field. Now on this night, you very deservingly have become an important part of our history.