

# HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

## Power 1965-1967 Three-Peat Cross Country City Champions

### Power Memorial Academy

CHSAA Cross Country THREE PEAT Champions  
1965 - 1966 - 1967



(back) Mario Campo, Gordon Jackson, Joe Barbary, Rich O'Brien

(middle) John Lovett, Garth McKay, Chancy Marsh, Andy Walsh

(front) Peter Lovett, Al Novell, Rich Stewart

(inset) Varsity Coach Mr. John Mulligan

In any sport there are building blocks to great achievements. Coached by Mr. John "Muggsy" Mulligan, this group started theirs being led by Captain Kevin O'Brien, one of tonight's individual Hall of Fame inductees. Kevin was a Freshman, Sophomore, and Senior Varsity individual champion, leading Power to a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish City Champs finish in 1964. His younger teammates would follow his lead and deliver three City Championship Cross Country titles following his graduation. From 1963 to 1965, Power would win Freshman and Sophomore individual and team titles. Mario Campo, Rich Stewart, and Joe Barbary added the individual titles in these years. **The foundation was now in place for the 1965 season.**

### 1965

Juniors Garth McKay, Rich Stewart, Mario Campo and Sophomores Joe Barbary and Chancy Marsh would run times within several seconds of each other in many meets. Following his Sophomore Champs victory, Joe Barbary suffered a leg injury that cost him five races. Senior Al Novell stepped in and scored in the Top 5 for Power each week. This was the depth of the Power team. **The winning formula for team success was placing runners among the**

**top 20 finishers and this was accomplished at both the Sectional and City Championships, as Power won its first ever team title by 73 points.**

### 1966

The 1966 Power varsity, with most runners returning, would defend their City Title. Each race was a decisive team win. Only a 3<sup>rd</sup> Place finish at Eastern States marred an otherwise undefeated season, with Power finishing 6-1. Senior Garth McKay and Junior Joe Barbary emerged among the top 5 finishers in several races. Garth would run a personal best of 12:53. Rich Stewart, Chancy Marsh, Gordon Jackson, and Rich O'Brien would be a part of the varsity scoring machine. Power again had decisive wins in the Sectionals and City's and were now two-time City Champs. **Power's top 5 runners again all placed in the top 20, scoring 44 points with second place Stepinac scoring 230. This differential of 186 points remains the largest margin of victory in the history of the CHSAA Championships.**

### 1967

Now Seniors, Joe Barbary, Chancy Marsh, Gordon Jackson, Peter Lovett and Rich O'Brien had their eyes set on 3<sup>rd</sup> City Championship with Keith Heron, John Lovett, Andy Walsh, and Sophomore Tony Colon vying for the remaining two spots on the varsity. Before the race, Coach Mulligan had his Power runners jog 30 yards to the Race Starter, Mr. Joe Fox. This would be Muggsy's 3<sup>rd</sup> and final city title, and it was his way of letting all the other teams know that Power would defend its City Champs title. Joe Barbary had seven top 3 finishes including two wins, with five sub-13:00 minute race times and a season best of 12:47. Chancy Marsh would be the solid #2 runner all season followed by Gordon Jackson and Peter Lovett. As before, Power displayed strong depth as the four were top 20 finishers in the Sectional and City Champs. **Power would again be victorious with an 81-point victory and now had THREE CONSECUTIVE TITLES in both the Sectional and City Championships.**

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Chancy Marsh, Gordon Jackson, and Rich O'Brien have a most unique claim on 5 titles – Freshman, Sophomore, and 3 Varsity City Championship Team Titles. These are the only runners in CHSAA Cross Country history to achieve this unparalleled feat. Joe Barbary earned 4 titles. Many of these runners excelled at indoor and outdoor track distances and relay events. Gordon Jackson, Rich O'Brien and Al Novell ran quality times from the ½ mile to 2-mile distance on many relay teams.

Garth McKay (9:29-Two Mile), Rich Stewart (4:22 Mile, 1:56-1/2 Mile and Mario Campo (51.- 1/4 Mile) were leading competitors over many distances. These 3 teammates along with Chancy Marsh would win the 1967 New York Relays Distance Medley Relay.

Joe Barbary's 9:28-Two Mile and Chancy Marsh's 1:53 1/2 Mile were elite caliber times at these distances. Chancy's 1/2 Mile time would be recognized with an invite to the prestigious Golden West Invitational Meet in California in 1968. Rich Stewart, Mario Campo, Joe Barbary, and Chancy Marsh would set a New York State Four Mile Relay record of 18:04.6 in 1966.

Joe Chancy, Peter and John Lovett would win 10 Distance Medley and Two-Mile Relay races during their 1968 Senior season. At the Loucks Games in White Plains, NY their 2 Mile relay time of 7:49 would be a meet record for 40 years!

Peter and John Lovett, Andy Walsh and Tony Colon would be 2019 Hall of Fame inductees for a record setting 2-mile relay at the Penn Relays lasting 21 years.

**In the 10-year period from 1965 to 1974, Power would have an unmatched 8 City Cross Country Titles. Since 1960, no other school in the CHSAA has had a similar achievement. Coached by Mr. John Mulligan and Br. John Bielen these Three Peat teammates would forever establish a LEGACY of EXCELLENCE in the CHSAA.**

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Power Memorial Academy</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">All-Time Cross-Country Records</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">CHSAA Varsity Cross Country City Champions: 1965, 1966, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1974 Eastern States Cross Country Champions 1970</p>		
Varsity City Championship Teams		
1965 CHSAA Varsity Cross Country Champions		
7	Garth McKay	13:28
8	Mario Campo	13:29
9	Richard Stewart	13:35
12	Chancy Marsh	13:42
20	Al Novell	13:49
xx	Gordon Jackson	xx:xx
xx	Rich O'Brien	xx:xx
Power Memorial		56
Chaminade		129
Brooklyn Prep		132
<a href="#">Five Man Avg 13:36.6</a>		
1966 CHSAA Varsity Cross Country Champions		
2	Garth McKay	12:53
5	Joe Barbary	13:16
8	Rich Stewart	13:23
9	Chancy Marsh	13:24
20	Gordon Jackson	13:39
xx	Rich O'Brien	13:49
xx	Mario Campo	13:53
Power Memorial		44
Archbishop Stepinac		230
Archbishop Molloy		232
<a href="#">Five Man Avg 13:19.0</a>		
1967 CHSAA Varsity Cross Country Champions		
3	Joe Barbary	12:55
10	Chancy Marsh	13:22
13	Gordon Jackson	13:26
18	Peter Lovett	13:38
73	John Lovett	xx:xx
xx	Rich O'Brien	xx:xx
xx	Andy Walsh	xx:xx
Power Memorial		117
St. Peters		198
Mater Christi		201
<a href="#">Five Man Avg xx:xx.x</a>		