

## ITEMS FOR LAST PUBLISHED ISSUE OF THE NPAAA NEWSLETTER

### **PRESIDENT BRODHAG'S TERM CONCLUDES**

Coach Al Brodhag will step down as President of the NPAAA effective January 1, 2004, following a three year term of office at the helm. Much progress has been made during the past three years. Under his leadership, By-Laws were established, Scholarships were awarded to North Penn senior athletes, the NPAAA Newsletter was begun, Annual General Membership meetings were held, and a Website/Base of Communications was established. Memorial memberships were given to commemorate pivotal individuals in North Penn High School's history. To help maintain fiscal solvency, the First Buffet and Beverage Social was held and NPHS sports apparel was sold during football games. Just recently, a site was located for our first office.

Al's career as an educator and coach was a perfect formula to head up this new alumni organization. Even though Coach Brodhag is retiring from the Board of Directors, he will still attend meetings as a member. We are happy to hear that! Coach, thanks for your time and hard work, and best of luck in the future.

### **THANK YOU, KEN McLARNON**

We owe a special thank-you to Ken, our Initial Website Designer. Ken, a Business Education Teacher and member of the Football Coaching Staff, created the Knight Site for the NPAAA in 2002. He had to relinquish his time with us in 2003 due to other commitments at the high school. Ken did a great job creating the format which we presently use. We have had 4000+ hits on the Knight Site to date!! Thanks, Ken, for your time and hard work getting the Website started. Ken is a Lifetime Member of the NPAAA. Best of luck in the future!

### **KUDOS TO ART WURSTER**

The NPAAA owes an enormous debt of gratitude to Art Wurster for his selfless and untiring efforts on behalf of North Penn HS athletics. The dream of having an organization dedicated to North Penn Athletic Alumni was Art's idea from the get-go, and he has worked unceasingly to make this dream become a reality. We cannot begin to count the number of hours that Art has spent in multiple ways to make this project the success that it is. He created the scenery, colors the scenery, works behind the scenery, and his heart is part and parcel of the scenery. Art, thanks a million from the President, the Directors, and the entire Membership.

### **FIRST NPAAA SOCIAL EVENT A BIG SUCCESS -- Encore Requested!**

Our Buffet and Beverage Social Event was held at the Blue Dog Pub on Saturday evening, October 25th. We didn't know what to expect, but it was full of surprises. Former NPHS athletes, students, teachers, coaches (past and present) came to show their support for the NPAAA. Profits from this event go toward Scholarships for Senior Athletes.

Some attendees had not seen each other for fifty years or more. We had Alumni from Lansdale High School 1940s to NPHS 1990s, mixing together and having a great time. Because the majority of attendees requested another event of this nature, we are happy to inform you that the NEXT ONE will be held in May, 2004. More information later and **Thank You** to all who attended.

## **COACH CRAWFORD INDUCTED INTO MONTGOMERY COUNTY COACHES HALL OF FAME**

The late James B. Crawford was inducted into the second class of the Montgomery County Coaches Hall of Fame on November 22 at the Westover Country Club in Jeffersonville, PA. Over 500 were in attendance. Coach Crawford's award was accepted by his wife Virginia and son James Crawford, current coach at North Penn HS.

Coach Crawford was the first inductee into the North Penn/Souderton Area Sports Hall of Fame in 1991 and the Pennsylvania Track and Field Coaches Hall of Fame in 1997.

After lettering in four sports at West Chester State Teachers College, Jim arrived at Lansdale High School in 1930 to teach and coach cross country and track and field. He was assistant football coach until 1940 and head coach in 1941. His Huskies were unscored-upon in the first seven of nine games. After serving in the U.S. Navy as a Lieutenant-Commander during World War II from 1942 to 1946, he resumed coaching at Lansdale and North Penn HS where he was athletic director for 17 years. His greatest accomplishments came in track and field - guiding the Huskies and Knights to 22 consecutive Bux-Mont title - 276 wins, 7 losses... 95 consecutive dual-meet victories... 18 Penn Relay titles and in his last year (1969) the District One Title. Following his retirement in 1974, he was a PIAA official in track, cross country and swimming. The ultimate gentleman, he was respected by his athletes and is considered the dean of Bux-Mont track and field.

### **NORTH PENN HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS**

North Penn won its first Pennsylvania State AAAA Football Championship on Sunday evening, December 7<sup>th</sup>, defeating Pittsburgh Central Catholic 37-10 at Hershey Stadium. The Knights were ranked #1 all season and went undefeated with a 15-0 record. Congratulations to Coach Beck, his staff and players for a tremendous season!

*Season Highlights:* North Penn HS Team Record: 14-0 (Suburban One Patriot Division Champions; District One, Two and Four Champions; PIAA AAAA Eastern Champions). They won their second straight Suburban One Patriot Division Title and District One, Two and Four Titles. This was North Penn's first trip to the State Finals.

The 2003 Knights are the first team in school history to go undefeated throughout the regular season. Coach Dick Beck in his second year as head coach compiled a record of 24 wins and 3 losses for a .889 winning percentage. The Knights this season scored 557 points while allowing 185 points. The Knights averaged 39.8 points per game, allowing 13.2 points per game.

North Penn's regular season got off to a great start when they defeated a competitive non-league team 35-7. They went on through the regular season allowing no more than 19 points per game, and finished it off with a win against school rival CB West 41-7. They won four playoff games, scoring no less than 28 points per game. For more information about the North Penn Knights, please visit <http://www.npfootball.com>.

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?** (Submitted by Al Brodhag)

NPAAA members now teaching in NPSD:

Bill Bartle	Greg Kobasa	Rich Swanker
Dan Drissel	Bob Krum	Ginny Ward
Jim Heimer	Beverly (Kratz) McGuire	Jami Wilus
Ron Jaros	Selma (Bjorkland) Robinson	Carole (MacBain) Yoder

NPAAA Members who have recently passed away:

George Atwood, North Penn HS (1967)  
George J. Atwood, Lansdale HS (1938)  
James K. Gulick, Sr., Lansdale HS (1950)  
Carl "Hicks" Weingartner, North Wales HS (1928)

NPAAA Members who taught outside the NP School District:

Charles Blackman (NP 1960), Teacher/Coach, State of NJ (Retired)  
Dr. George Bonekemper (NP 1960), Supt. of Schools, Upper Perk SD (Retired)  
Bill Coddington (NP 1985), Teacher/Coach, Souderton HS  
James Gulick, Jr. (NP 1984), Asst. VP of Alumni Affairs, LaSalle University  
Byron Hecker (NP 1968), Teacher, Upper Perkiomen SD  
Jerry Kobasa (NP 1967), Teacher/Coach, Milford, DE. Milford HS Hall of Famer  
Dave Kratz (NP 1963) Elementary Principal, Souderton SD (Retired)  
Mary Ann (Harris) Leight (NP 1957), Teacher/Coach, Souderton SD  
George Loux (NP 1961), Teacher, Central Bucks SD  
Tom Nolen (Lansdale HS 1949), Teacher, State of CA (Retired)  
Wayne Sebulsky (NP 1965), Principal, Wissahickon HS (Retired)

NPAAA Members who chose careers in Medicine or Law:

Walter S. Buck III (NP 1963), Podiatry, Perkasio  
Curtis L. Deardorff (NP 1970), Dentistry, Lansdale  
Edwin S. Kneedier (NP 1963), Fed. Attorney, Presenter to U.S. Supreme Court H.  
Lane Kneedier (NP 1959), Fed. Attorney, Presenter to U.S. Supreme Court

NPAAA Member Jim Wiley, All Bux-Mont Tackle (NP 1965) has a son Grant Wiley, Senior Linebacker at the University of West Virginia. Grant has an excellent Chance to be named on the All-American Team, and an opportunity to be Drafted into the NFL.

NPAAA Siblings:

Jim Gulick (NP 1984), LaSalle Univ. Administrator, also coached Track at USNA  
Mike Gulick (NP 1990), works for Chrysler Corp. in Lansdale area.

Erv Jaros (NP 1965), Univ of New Mexico, real estate broker in Albuquerque, NM  
Ron Jaros (NP 1966), W. Chester Univ., teacher/coach NPHS. Author and artist.

Greg Kobasa (NP 1969), Teacher NPSD (York Ave), Director/Membership Chmn.  
Jerry Kobasa (NP 1967), Del State Coll., teacher/coach Milford HS (see above)

Carol (Schmidt) Kriebel (NP 1957), W. Chester Univ., Retired PE Teacher, NPSD  
Ken Schmidt (Lansdale HS 1950), W. Chester Univ., Ret. NP Teacher/Principal, and NPAAA Secretary

Bob Stewart (NP 1969), Lehigh University, now lives in TX  
Ted Stewart (NP 1963), Lehigh University, Naval career with NATO (now retired), Lives  
in La Spezia, Italy  
Both brothers continued their football career at Lehigh

Special NPAAA Category: Most Versatile Career and Most Traveled Member.

Hands down, this distinction goes to PAUL ALAMAN (NP 1970). Paul has had  
Careers as:

- Teacher at NPHS
- Burlington Northern Railroad
- Insurance Agent for State Farm
- Mississippi Riverboat Stevedore
- Manager of RV Campsite in Montana

Paul is undoubtedly the most traveled NPAAA Member:

- Lansdale, PA
- Kentucky, along the Mississippi River
- Montana (three or four times)
- Arizona is his present residence, but will be moving east within a month while his  
new house is being built in Billings, Montana. STAY TUNED.

Special Recognition to our NPAAA Members who are members of the media and who present  
Athletic Awards to graduating NPHS seniors every June at Senior Awards Night:

JIM CHURCH, WNPV Radio (Lansdale HS 1950)

- > Weekly broadcasts
- > Provided the Perpetual Plaque in memory of Coach Jim Gulick >
- Provided valuable assistance in the creation of the NPAAA

GREG MATUSKY (NP 1979), Univ. of Pennsylvania

- > Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for the James Gulick Memorial  
Scholarship Award

KEN ZEPP (NP 1966)

- > Photographer for NPAAA whose color action and posed photographs are  
printed in the Knight Times.