THE VARSITY CLUB OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

LETTERWINNERS OF DISTINCTION

25th ANNIVERSARY DINNER
THE CARRIER DOME
SEPTEMBER 15, 1989
The Varsity Club of Syracuse University was founded in 1933. Its 1,400 members "maintain an active social organization of those who have received a varsity letter in athletics at Syracuse University, for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of the University, particularly through the encouragement and support of the Syracuse University athletic program."

Early in its history, the Varsity Club sponsored Colgate football eve smokers, Block S dinners, reunions for former teams, entertainment of local high school boys on campus, an annual Varsity Club outing (now the Orangefest), and publication of the Varsity Club News.

As the Club grew in stature, it received two positions on the Athletic Governing Board, assumed leadership of the Manley Field House construction fund, and established the LetterWinners of Distinction Awards. The Varsity Club also organized and directs the Orange Pack, sponsors team banquets, and consults with the Chancellor about Syracuse athletics.

Recently, the Club began hosting parties for freshmen and senior athletes, acting as liaison with team coaches, offering career counseling for athletes, sponsoring recognition awards for championship teams and All-Americans, and helping students find summer jobs.

Four directors have served the Varsity Club: May Crandon Horr, William J. Rafter, Charles A. Lee, Jr., and current director Joseph G. Szombathy. They have contributed to the growth and stature of the club through their devotion, dedication and enthusiasm.

The Varsity Club is proud of its accomplishments and will continue to boost Syracuse University's quest for excellence in intercollegiate athletics.
OFFICERS

President
Gay M. Pomeroy

Vice Presidents
Robert Miron
Richard C. Murphy
Stephen B. Nathan
Ross J. Prossner

Secretary
Neil E. Brenneman

Treasurer
Charles D. Zimmerman

Executive Director
Joseph G. Szombathy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William C. Archbold
Paul Barkal
Richard J. Beyer
John C. Brown, Jr.
Leonard J. Campolieta
John C. Cherundolo
W. Carroll Coyne
Dennis T. DuVal
William J. Haskins
Richard A. Horstmann
James P. Lee
Thomas H. Lehr
James T. LeMessurier
Nicholas J. Marsella
Fred J. Mautino
Harold H. McGrath, Jr.
Roger H. Praetorius
Mark R. Roadarmel
Raymond T. Schuler
William Skye
Mark E. Wadach
Jay W. Wason
Charles J. Wink

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Philip H. Allen
Douglas E. Allis
Arnold Burdick
Tracy H. Ferguson
John C. LaMonte
Charles A. Lapham
Bernard LaVine
J. Clinton Loucks
Gordon H. Mahley
Harry Marley
Roy D. Simmons, Sr.
Joseph Spector
Leland B. Taylor
Norman M. Weltmann
Albert Wertheimer
Floyd "Ben" Schwartzwalder (Honorary)

Norman M. Weltmann Scholarship
Bernard Dworski Athletic Scholarship
Louis M. Cannata '90
Jerry J. DeLorenzo '92
In the early 1960s, a group of Varsity Club directors, led by Executive Secretary Charles A. Lee, Jr. decided to give an annual award to Syracuse University varsity letterwinners who had received their degrees at least 25 years earlier and "who since leaving the University have gained distinction in their community or profession and brought honor to themselves and to the University."

The first Letter Winners of Distinction Awards Dinner was held in the Hotel Syracuse October 15, 1965. J. Clinton Loucks was Varsity Club president; Harry Marley was committee chairman. They were assisted by 18 other officers and directors, several of whom are with us tonight.

The six men honored were selected by vote of the Varsity Club membership. They were: Gordon D. Hoople, a crew letterwinner who became a physician and surgeon, serving in both World Wars; Lewis P. Andreas, who lettered in football and baseball and coached football and basketball at Syracuse University, later becoming director of athletics; Arnold M. Grant, a Manhattan lawyer who lettered in swimming and water polo; Earle J. Machold, a baseball letterwinner, chief executive officer of the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, and a Syracuse University trustee; Victor A. Hanson, a football, basketball and baseball great, and later head football coach at Syracuse University; and John T. Connor, United States Secretary of Commerce who lettered in football.

In 1969, Chancellor Emeritus William Pearson Tolley was named the first honorary Letter Winner of Distinction. In 1970 an honorary award was made to Dr. George L. Manley, for whom Manley Field House was named. In 1970 a special award was presented to Roy D. Simmons, Sr., a 1966 honoree with letters in football, lacrosse and boxing who later coached all three sports at Syracuse University. In 1971 an honorary award was presented to Crandall Melvin, Sr., a Syracuse banker and longtime friend of Syracuse University athletics.

The format of six or seven honorees each year and, on occasion, honorary or special awards, has continued. The first women's award came in 1986, presented to golfer Virginia Guilfoil Allen. Counting tonight's silver anniversary honorees, there has been a total of 162 awards to Letter Winners and 15 honorary awards. Recipients' names are listed in this program.

Written by Marc G. Terziev '41, Past President, The Varsity Club
Lawrence R. Csonka

The Syracuse University link of outstanding runners was continued by Larry Csonka from 1965 to 1967. The quintessential fullback, Csonka capped off a stellar career with All-America honors in 1967. The "Zonk" lettered three times and was co-captain and Bill Herr Most Valuable Player as a senior. He broke every existing rushing record with a total of 2,934 yards, capped by a phenomenal senior campaign of 1,127 on 261 carries. He eclipsed the 100-yard plateau 14 times in his career, including a 216-yard performance against Maryland as a sophomore.

In addition to his All-American laurels, Csonka was named ECAC Player-of-the-Year and Most Valuable Player of the College All-Star Game, and was fourth in the Heisman Trophy balloting as a senior. He also played in the Coaches All-America Game, the East-West Shrine Game and the Hula Bowl.

Upon graduating from Syracuse University in 1968, Csonka moved to the National Football League as the Miami Dolphins' number-one draft choice. During his 11-year career, he amassed 8,081 yards and 64 touchdowns, and led the Dolphins to a Super Bowl title. Csonka, who also had brief stints with the New York Giants and Memphis, ended his pro career in 1979 with Miami.

Csonka was named Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl VIII and was voted Super Athlete-of-the-Year by the Pro Football Writers Association. The pinnacle of his football career came in 1967, with his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. That honor is followed this year with his induction into the National Football Foundation's Hall of Fame.

Csonka has been active in a variety of non profit, charitable, civic and community service organizations, including the United Way, the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Currently, he is involved with former Miami teammate Nick Buoniconti in the "Miami Project," which helps people suffering from paralysis. His other activities include offering color commentary on NFL telecasts, public speaking and Csonka Promotions.

Floyd D. Little

No list of "44" would be complete without this three-time All-American who led the Syracuse offense from 1964 to 1966. Floyd Little lettered three times each in football and track, and was co-captain of the Orange football squad as a senior. His outstanding final campaign led to his selection as the University's Athlete-of-the-Year in the spring of 1967 when he graduated. At Syracuse University, Little received a variety of athletic honors, including the Ernie Davis Leadership Award, the Swede Nelson Award from the New York Gridiron Club and the Jaycee Sportsmanship Award, and was named to the Gator Bowl Hall of Fame. In 1984 he was inducted into the National Football Foundation's Football Hall of Fame. A storied professional career spanning nine years with the Denver Broncos awaited Little following his brilliant tenure at Syracuse, as he earned All-Pro honors as a running back and was selected to the Denver Broncos Hall of Fame.

As his professional football career drew to a close, Little continued his education, earning a law master of science degree in judicial administration from the University of Denver in 1975. From 1977 to 1979, he took part in the Ford Motor Company Executive Management Training Program.

In public and community service, Little was a member of the USO Goodwill Tour of Vietnam. He received the YMCA Brian Piccolo Award for contributions to country, community, team and fellow man; the Vitalis Man-of-the-Year Award; and the Byron "Whizzer" White Award. He has received the Distinguished American Award, the American Jewish Committee Citation, and the Rotary Club and Syracuse Chamber of Commerce "Classic Champion Award." He also has served on boards and committees, including the President's Drug Abuse Program, the Arthritis Foundation, the Lung Foundation, the United Way, the Boys Club, and Easter Seals. He was an assistant in urban and state affairs to Governor John A. Love of Colorado. Little currently is vice president and co-owner of West Covina Lincoln Mercury in the Los Angeles area.

Joseph G. Szombathy

Few people have displayed their loyalty to Syracuse athletics as Joe Szombathy, who has been with Syracuse University in some capacity for 37 years. He currently serves as executive director of the Varsity Club and Orange Pack, and as associate director of athletics.

Szombathy lettered in football at Syracuse from 1950 to 1952 and was co-captain as a senior, moving the team to its first post season appearance in the 1953 Orange Bowl. He helped the Orange to the Eastern Championship in 1952, and was the squad's leading pass receiver for three seasons. Szombathy graduated in 1953 and earned a master's degree in education from Muhlenberg College in 1955. From 1955 to 1958, he was a member of the United States Army Reserves.

His coaching career began at Central Bucks High School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania in 1953 before returning to Syracuse in 1957 as a full-time staff member under Ben Schwartzwalder. Szombathy served 17 seasons under Coach Schwartzwalder, handling several facets of the Orange program. He coached primarily offensive and defensive ends, working with such Syracuse University greats as Frederick Muitino, John Mackey, Gerald Skonieczki, and Herbert Stecker. In all, Szombathy was affiliated as a player or coach with six bowl teams.

Szombathy is active in the Syracuse community, serving on the board of the Central New York Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. He has been associated with such public service organizations as the Boy Scouts, Little League, the Chamber of Commerce, the United Fund, the YMCA and the Ernie Davis Statue Fund. Naturally, he is involved with the American Football Coaches Association, the NCAA, the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics, the National Association Fund Raisers of America, the Conference for Athletic Fundraising, and the American Legion.
PAST LETTERWINNERS OF DISTINCTION

From left to right: Arnold M. Grant '27, Swimming, Water Polo, Football; Dr. Gordon D. Hoople '15, Crew; John T. Connor '36, Football; Chancellor William P. Tolley; Victor A. Henson '27, Football, Basketball, Baseball; Lewis P. Andrews '21, Football, Baseball; Earl J. Mochold '27, Baseball

From left to right: Sheldon Leonard '29, Water Polo, Swimming; Harry Marley '27, Basketball; Lewis H. Ryan representing Posthumous Award winner; Lewis C. Ryan '12, Basketball; Raymond J. Barcal '28, Football, Track; Preston D. Fogg '12, Football, Track; Missing from picture Donald S. MacNaughton '39, Basketball

From left to right: Lynn O. Waldorf '25, Football; Crew; Martin F. Hiffinger '16, Football; Crew; Roy D. Simmons, Sr. '26, Football; Boxing; Lacrosse; Eric W. Will '18, Crew; Charles D. Ridgway '12, Football, Track; Chancellor William P. Tolley; Posthumous Award, Dr. A. Harry Keller '12, Football

From left to right: Honorary LetterWinner of Distinction Chancellor William P. Tolley; George Percival, Jr. '36, Football, Bowling, Lacrosse; Theodore R. Johnson '16, Football, Track, Wrestling; Grower G. Kingsley '15, Football, Track; Leslie A. Bryan '23, Track, Cross Country; Dr. Joseph Alexander '21, Football, Lacrosse; Chancellor John E. Corbally, Jr., Posthumous Award, Marquis F. "Bill" Harr '09, Football, Track

From left to right: John F. McFarland representing Posthumous Award winner Paul H. Heims '12, Crew; Jean Daughtery representing Award winner Hugh "Duffy" Daughtery '40, Football; Christopher P. Schachter '17, Football, Track; Dr. Eric H. Fagile '28, Track, Cross Country; Chancellor William P. Tolley; Dr. A. Blair Knapp '26, Football; Albert Wertheimer '33, Boxing

From left to right - Front Row: George H. Bond, Jr. representing Posthumous Award winner George H. Bond, Sr. '34, Football, Charles A. Chappell '30, Tennis, Honorary LetterWinner of Distinction Dr. George L. Marley '26, James V. J. Shufelt '15, Football, Baseball, Back Row: John E. McFarland and Douglas F. Allis, Dinner Co-Chairmen; James E. Konstanty, Sr. '39, Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Boxing; Stuart E. Pomeroy '29, Baseball, John S. "Bill" Hall '35, Baseball, Roy D. Simmons, Sr. '26, Special Award

From left to right - Front Row: Kenneth D. Molloy '42, Lacrosse, Walter J. Rekstis, Jr. '35, Football, Myres S. "But" Friedman '27, Football, Boxing, Track; Dr. Bruce E. Chamberlain '41, Crew; Harold H. McGinn, Jr., Varsity Club President, Chancellor Melvin A. Eggers, Missing from picture Louis R. Bruce '30, Track; John A. Mastrella '38, Boxing and Honorary Letter Winner of Distinction James H. Decker '32, Posthumous Award, Robert T. Cadigan '09, Football.

From left to right - Front Row: Honorary Letter Winner of Distinction H. Hiram Weisberg '63, Mrs. Margaret R. Lewis representing Posthumous Award winner Grant W. Lewis '30, Football, Chancellor Melvin A. Eggers, Edward A. Jodou '36, Football, Lacrosse; Back Row: Charles F. Cooch '27, Football, Basketball; Charles A. Lapham '41, Lacrosse, Philip H. Allen '40, Track, Football; Lester H. Dwyer '42, Football, Basketball.


LETTERWINNERS TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Who began his World War II military service as an infantry "mule-skinner" and later coached a Rose Bowl winner?

2. Who taught transportation courses at Syracuse University during World War II—when he was assigned to oversee a civilian pilot training program—and became a leading authority on aviation matters?

3. Who became a presidential cabinet member and CEO of two of the largest companies in the United States?

4. Who was one of the first black passing and running backs to play for a major Eastern team and later one of the first black fighter pilots in World War II?

5. Who was one of his successors at SU and the first black quarterback to start for a major professional team?

6. Who retired as head of one of the largest insurance companies in the world, then became CEO of a major health services organization?

7. Who lettered in lacrosse, then became president of the Football Writers of America and sports editor of a major newspaper?

8. Who "studied" under the above and became an executive at the NFL under Pete Rozelle?

9. Who lettered in wrestling, majored in mathematics, and became an astronaut?

10. Who turned the NFL on its legal ear—and won?

11. Who lettered in track, football, wrestling, crew and rugby, became a teacher, coach, and writer, and coached the only blind rowing crew in the world?

12. Who investigated organized crime in the 1930s and wrote a prize-winning story on General McAuliffe’s retort during the Battle of the Bulge, "Nuts" to Hitler?

13. Who played and later coached three sports—football, lacrosse, and boxing—at SU?

14. Who was an All-American in football but umpired professional baseball and wrote books about it?

15. Who was known as the "Destroyer"?

16. Who discovered the soil organism that produced one of the world’s leading antibiotics?

17. Who tricked a Cornell player to toss him the ball—instead of his teammate—and stole a two-point SU win?

18. Who was probably the greatest football player ever who now acts in films?

19. Who was the revered SU football player who succumbed to leukemia?

20. Who was discovered boxing during the Depression, became a champion at SU, and later retired as New York State Supreme Court Justice?

21. Who discovered the above boxer and now, in his eighties, has a $100-million real estate project under way near Fort Drum?

22. Who starred in baseball and basketball, dabbled in soccer and boxing, and set a major league record of 74 relief appearances for the 1950 Philadelphia Phillies?

23. Who, as a naval ensign, survived the sinking of the battleship West Virginia in Pearl Harbor, then commanded the main gun battery on the same refloated ship?

Contributed by Marc Terziev