



Daniel P. "Dan"
O'Brien
~ 1989 ~

Dan O'Brien Gymnasium on the campus of New Rochelle High School is a memorial for a man who was a legend as a coach in basketball and track & field. His basketball teams won innumerable league crowns and three Section One titles (1947, '52, '55) and his track teams were the scourge of Westchester and the Empire State for two decades, winning an incredible 19 W.I.A.A. Championships, 7 Section One titles, and 2 New York State Crowns. In 1950, his team won the Penn relays mile in 3:23.1 - a National Record. The consummate gentleman, he always politely refused to name an "All-Time Team". The late and venerable coach had a standard reply, "I like every kid who ever played for me, from star to scrub."



George L.
Starke Jr.
~ 1989 ~

Only one man in New Rochelle wears a Super Bowl ring, emblematic of professional football supremacy, and it belongs to George Starke Jr., a top drawer offensive tackle with the Washington Redskins. George was a football standout with the Huguenots, being named All-County and All-Metropolitan area tackle for three years. He was a center of attention for New Rochelle's 1965 Section One basketball championship team. He later played tight end at Columbia University before being restored to this natural tackle position with the 'Skins. Starke was also a center on Columbia's nationally-ranked basketball team. He was a blocking bulwark for the unit nicknamed "The Hawgs" and lasted a decade in the NFL. He was a key member of the Redskins' 1983 Super Bowl Team.



Bertram J.
"Bert" Williams
~ 1989 ~

Bert came to America from England and was as much a pioneer as he was a celebrated coach in his beloved sport of soccer. The highly acclaimed and eminently successful NRYSL program is a monument to the man who served as one of its founders, catalysts and foremost supporters. Bert took NRHS to six Section One tourney appearances and had a record of 80-23-5. He then rekindled interest in soccer at Iona College and still retained his links to the youth program. He was nominated for several scholastic "Coach of the Year" accolades, but insisted competing, rather than winning at all costs, be affixed to the bottom line. One of his favorite lines: "You don't have to win all the time to get a kick out of soccer, which is a lot like life, the ball takes some funny bounces along the way."