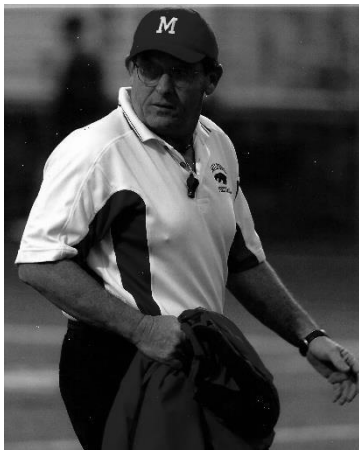




John Dagnese

Coach

A 1971 graduate of St. Mary's Central Catholic High School in Milford, John Dagnese was a star athlete in three sports- football, basketball and baseball- before earning his B.S. degree in Physical Education at Southern Connecticut. Upon graduation, he joined the staff at Milford High and for the next thirty-three years was a fixture on the football field, becoming the longest tenured football coach in Milford High School history.

"Dagga" was an assistant football coach for twenty years, working with Hall of Fame Coaches Dick Corbin and Dennis Breen. He was named Associate Head Coach in 1995. During that time, serving mostly as the Defensive Coordinator, he helped the Scarlet Hawks win three Super Bowls (1983, 1986, 1987) in five

appearances. In 1996, he was named to the Massachusetts State Football Coaches' Hall of Fame as an assistant coach.

Dagnese assumed the position of Head Football Coach from 1999-2007, compiling a record of 45-53. After the 2000 team became Midland-Wachusett League Co-Champs, the team struggled against the much larger schools in the new Central Mass. Division I alignment. However, Coach Dagnese's tenacity resurrected the program and propelled the team back to the top. The 2005 squad captured the Central Mass. Div. 1A Championship before falling to South Hadley in the Super Bowl. That loss was quickly avenged when Scarlet Hawks dominated the same opponent in the 2006 Super Bowl. That team finished the season at 11-1, including two clutch last second victories over Marlboro and Leominster.

In addition to his contributions to the football program, Coach Dagnese was the Assistant Boys' Track & Field Coach from 1981-1998, and Head Coach from 2006-2007. He also was the Head Girls' Track & Field Coach from 1999-2005.

Although winning Super Bowls is a coach's ultimate prize, Coach Dagnese always stressed practicing and competing with intensity, being disciplined and displaying character and class. Countless athletes are thankful for the life-lessons learned and friendships they developed under his guidance.



Stephen Manguso

Class of 1971 – Coach

With the exception of four years at the University of Bridgeport, Stephen Manguso was a fixture on the courts and fields at Milford High School since the late 1960's. He played football, basketball and baseball, was a member of undefeated 1970 Class C Championship Football Team, and was a member of the 1972 State Championship Legion Baseball Team.

Manguso wore many hats as a coach. He served as JV Boys' Soccer Coach (1977-84), JV Girls' Soccer Coach (1993-97), JV Boys' Basketball Coach (1978-83), JV Baseball Coach (1978-85) and Asst. Varsity Baseball Coach (1985-88; 1997-98).

In 2004, Coach Manguso succeeded Hall of Fame Coach Charlie Stand as Varsity Baseball Coach. Over the next nine seasons, he amassed a record of 149 wins against 58 losses to rank behind only Stand for career wins. His teams won five (2004, 2005, 2010, 2011 and 2012) Midland-Wachusett League Championships and were Div. I Central Sectional Finalists in 2005. "The Goose" was appointed Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach in 1983, serving in that capacity until his retirement in 2013. His 30 year tenure assured his position as the longest serving coach in any single position in MHS history, a record unlikely to be broken. His overall record during this time stands at 435 wins and 195 losses. His teams won 11 MidWach League Championships and one Hockamock League Championship. His 1998 squad was crowned the Div. 1 Central Sectional Champs, Div. I Central-West Champs, and Div. 1 State Finalists. The 2013 team was also crowned Div. I Central Champion. Coach Manguso was a member of the Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Association, serving on the Executive Board from 2001-2007 and as President in 2006. He was named MBCA Coach of the Year in 1998 and 2013.

Steve Manguso was always at the top of his game when he took the court or the field, and he expected his athletes to be at the same level. That was the hallmark of his success. As he so often stated: *"It's about teaching lessons to the kids and the process. Sometimes the final destination was special, but it was always about the chase."* Not many people were better teachers.