



Mark Niro **Class of 1977**

The mid-1970's were the glory years of the Milford High School Football Program under Coach Dick Corbin, and Mark Niro, Class of 1977, was the poster boy for that era. During his three years as the starting halfback on explosive offensive teams, Niro helped the Scarlet Hawks to a record of 26-5, two Midland League Championships and the school's first Super Bowl Championship. A versatile athlete, Mark also earned varsity letters in basketball and track and field.

Heralded as an elusive runner who seemed to glide effortlessly downfield, Mark's initial campaign in 1974 lived up to all the high expectations. At 5'8" and 155 lbs., Niro had a knack for making the opposing defenders miss the tackle, and once he found the slightest opening, he also had the speed to outrun the others. He accounted for 988 yards rushing, 1,458 total yards including returns, and 17 touchdowns as the Hawks claimed their first league title since 1970.

During the 1975 season, Niro teamed up with Vin Ferrelli and Jay LaPierre to form the most formidable backfield in school history, one that combined for over 2,300 yards rushing and 33 touchdowns. Mark showed his versatility in leading Milford to a stirring 27-26 come-from-behind victory over Clinton by rushing for 134 yards, throwing a 45 yard touchdown pass to Lapierre to cut the lead to 26-20, and then scoring the winning touchdown with under two minutes to play. He also rushed for 152 and two touchdowns, bringing his season total to twenty one, in the Super Bowl game versus Pittsfield.

Mark's senior year totals were even more impressive. He rushed for 1,380 yards and 14 touchdowns, averaging a phenomenal 9.4 yards per carry! He finished his career with 3,359 yards and 52 touchdowns, records that have not been matched to this day.



Louis J. Noferi **Class of 1955**

A graduate of the Class of 1955, Louis J. Noferi was a two-year varsity letter winner in football and a three year varsity player in baseball.

Lou played both halfback and fullback during his two years on the gridiron. Although he did not possess either great size or outstanding speed, Lou was a hard-nosed runner who had the skill and ability to make a difference in the game. He scored three touchdowns in a game versus Marlboro during his junior year, and scored two fourth quarter touchdowns and played outstanding defense in a 12-6 win over undefeated Hudson during his senior year. His play earned him a place as a first team Midland League All Star in 1954.

In baseball, Lou played centerfield for three varsity seasons, helping the team to two league championships in 1953 and 1954. Lou became a part of MHS baseball lore when he, Gardie Rett and Joe Arcudi hit three consecutive homeruns in one game, the only time that has been done at Milford High. He also batted .292 as a member of the 1955 Junior Legion team that advanced to the state semifinals and ended the year at 18-3.

Lou received a scholarship to Dean Junior College, where he continued to excel as a running back, earning first team All American status in 1956. He then attended the University of Connecticut on a football scholarship and helped the team to two Yankee Conference championships.

In 1997, Lou was among the first group of inductees into the Dean Junior College Athletic Hall of Fame along with Milford's own Charles Brucato, Sr. and major league baseball catcher Gabby Hartnett.