

1974-'75 MYNDERSE ACADEMY BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM



Kneeling: Steve Nearpass, Dennis Psynack, Ray Uticone, Gene Giovannini, John DeBottis, Kevin Kabat

Standing: Tom Sage, Duncan Jensen, Coach John Nicholson, Larry Ingalls, Don Mackey Joe Porcelli

1975-'76 MYNDERSE ACADEMY BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM



Bob Sandroni, Dan Velte, Steve Nearpass, John DeMillo, Scott Smith, Duncan Jensen, Joe Porcelli, Larry Ingalls, Jeff Manning, Don Mackey, Mark Scheuerman, Bob Mitchell, Ken Kabat, Tim Jones

The 1974-'75 and the '75-'76 basketball teams dominated the Finger Lakes East and Section V with a 39 and 5 overall record, winning two league titles and two Section V Class AA championships. The '74-'75 team was the first Mynderse basketball team to win a sectional basketball title. (At that time there was no state tournament.)

Although a few players earned individual post-season honors, the success of these teams was due to their total unselfishness. Unlike many other successful basketball programs, no one or two players dominated the post-game stat sheets. During these two years, as many as ten different players led the team in individual game scoring. Obviously, there was a lot of talent, but the keys to their on-court success were their friendships and teamwork.

Over the years, Mynderse Academy has had many basketball teams whose success can be measured, not only by its win-loss record, but by the admiration and reflection of opposing coaches, many of them Hall of Famers at their own institutions. The following testimonials are excerpts from the *Finger Lakes Times*.

Sonny Wilson, Geneva: "In the past, we've always had a good defensive team at Geneva, but we can't seem to find the defense for this Mynderse group."

"It's disheartening to score 70 points in a game and lose."

Phil Andrews, Canandaigua: "We've got to control the game early because we don't figure to outscore Mynderse."

"We couldn't win because they are Mynderse. They're good ball handlers and have more talent than we have."

John Dunn, Waterloo: "When we lose to a team with the size they have by just two points, we feel we won."

Tom Bonetti, Waterloo: "We didn't box them out and keep them away from the boards and they shot well."

"Our kids played tough, but Mynderse is really tough"

John Miles, Penn Yan: "We didn't stand much of a chance to win. They're so damn big."

Bill Danaher, Marcus Whitman: "We were so high for the game and (then) we had to lose it. We couldn't have been any higher. It's a long drop down', Danaher stated shaking his head."

"Mynderse is so darn big and that's why they keep winning', he stated pointing to a 52-22 margin in rebounds."

Gary Miller, Newark: “Mynderse displayed one of the finest team efforts any team has ever played against us.”

“I don’t understand why Porcelli is not starting – well, maybe I can understand after seeing the other Mynderse players.”

“In my eight years of coaching Newark Varsity basketball, that team out there was the best Mynderse team I have ever seen.”

And finally, here is a quote from Gary Miller to *Times* reporter Norm Jollow prior to the 1975 Section V Class AA Finals at the Rochester War Memorial. Newark had won two of the three previous AA titles. “After hearing that the Mynderse Academy cheerleaders had won the Section V, Class AA cheering title, Miller predicted, ‘Well, Mynderse won’t have to go home empty handed after all.’” Mynderse defeated Newark later that night for the Class AA Championship.