



1955 Championship Football Team Inducted 1998

"Hampered by lack of veterans, the outlook for the 1955 season appeared grim. Prior to the Aquinas game, the chances of winning a single game seemed poor and the attainment of the Catholic High School Football League championship was expected by none. The opening game in Rochester proved the pre-season predictions to be wrong. Possibly the upstate team could have been defeated were it not for the fact that Choquette's 94 yard touchdown run was called back. This penalty eventually gave Aquinas the winning touchdown and was definitely a moral blow to the knights.

With successive victories over Fairfield and Hayes, student interest surged. Students and friends flocked to witness the downfall of Iona. But in the two weeks interval before the St. Francis Prep tilt complacency infiltrated into the team and the school. Few students bothered to make the trip to Brooklyn and this lack of interest was partially responsible for our only loss in the CHSFL. A cloud of gloom hovered over Stepinac until the Crusaders courageously battled to conquer the Mount in the final moments of the game. This victory made the 1955 season unique in Stepinac history as it was the first time that the "Big Three"-- Hayes, Iona and Mount fell victims to a Stepinac football team. Chaminade was the final hurdle to be jumped before the dream of a tie for the CHSFL title would be a reality and on Thanksgiving Day the Flyers were sent home to Long Island in complete defeat. As the victors carried Mr. Werder off the field, all the splendor and glory of the best football season in Stepinac history was evident." (From the 1956 Stepinac Yearbook)

- Aquinas 13 - Stepinac 6
- Stepinac 19 - Fairfield 0
- Stepinac 19 - Hayes 6
- Stepinac 31 - Iona 7
- St. Francis 33 - Stepinac 14
- Stepinac 24 - Mount St. Michael's 19
- Stepinac 25 - Chaminade 6