

Honoring

*the
Legacy and*



CELEBRATING
the
History

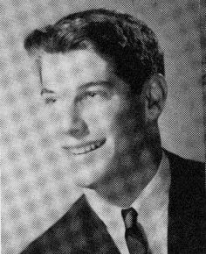
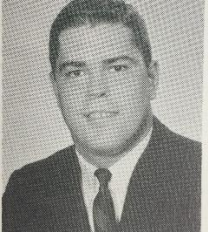
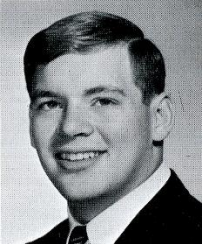


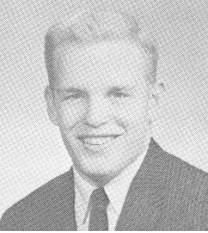





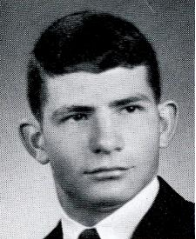
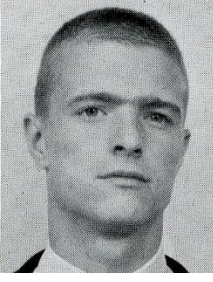

of the Wesleyan University

All - Decade and 1969

Undefeated/Untied Football Teams

November 1, 2019

<p>Stu Blackburn '69</p> 	<p>Football: Tight End. Captain of the 1968 team. Drafted by the Oakland Raiders, but did not pursue football after college. Regarded by many of his peers as one of the best blockers they went against. Had 80 career receptions and 98 career points. Both top 3 in the window from 1945-1970.</p>
<p>Dick Crocket '63</p> 	<p>Hometown: Mercer Island, WA (6 months) and Menlo Park, CA (6 months) Family: Wife Marcia; 3 kids (two of whom played college football). Brother David (deceased) was Wesleyan Class of 1969 and played tackle on the football team. Profession: Lawyer (retired) Football: Played center and DLine/Linebacker. Started every game for 4 years. Played alongside Jim Dooney, who may be the greatest lineman Wesleyan has ever had. Memory: 1960 Trinity game, which ended in the only tie in the long history of the Wesleyan-Trinity series. The debate 50 years later was why we missed an easy field goal with very little time remaining. No one could remember. I was the center that snapped the ball. Watched game film at a reunion with the Trinity team in 2010, which exonerated my snap as the cause of the miss.</p>
<p>Jeff Diamond '70</p> 	<p>Football: Offensive Tackle, Captain of the 1969 Team, All New England honoree</p>
<p>Bill Dibble '67</p> 	<p>Hometown: Born in Oakland, CA in 1945 and died in Nashville, TN in 2011. Football: DKE brother. Terrific linebacker and teammate. Marine fighter pilot in Vietnam. Successful photographer in Nashville (specialized in work with musicians). Never married.</p>
<p>Dirk Dominick '67</p> 	<p>Hometown: Football: A linebacker on the '64, '65 and '66 teams. Recruited by Tom Curran '60 from Central Catholic H.S. in Portland, Oregon where he was a legend. Recruited by several PAC 10 schools including Oregon, Washington and Stanford. He was highly regarded by his Coach, Don Russell. Possibly held the ECAC javelin record for several years after he graduated.</p>
<p>Jim Dooney '63</p> 	<p>Hometown: Vancouver, WA Family: Married 53 years, 3 children Profession: Insurance Business 1963-2016. In fall of 1984 co-founded Anchor Insurance & Surety, Inc. (Portland, OR), serving the construction industry throughout the west. Football: I played offside (pulling) guard on the unbalanced offensive line and middle guard on the defensive line of the 1960, 1961 and 1962 teams. Co-captain of the 1961 and 1962 teams. Memory: In 1960, Wes beat Coast Guard 27-7 (I think). Dick Crockett, in celebration stole Coast Guard Coach Otto Graham's cap only to have our bus stopped at the security gate where much to Danny's embarrassment Crockett confessed the pilferage and sheepishly returned it to Commander Graham after unloading half the bus looking for his equipment bag where the stolen cap was hidden.</p>
<p>Kevin Dwyer '68</p> 	<p>Football: Co-Captain of the 1967 Team. Lineman</p>

<p>Pat Dwyer '67</p> 	<p>Hometown: East Hartford (with Tom and Kevin '68). Currently lives in Glastonbury, CT Family: Married 52 years to Barbara; 3 children; 4 grandchildren Profession: Currently an attorney in CT. Football: Co-captain of the Little Three 1966 championship football team. Played offensive guard and outside linebacker. His senior year Coach Russell went to a two platoon system and he played defensive end. He was also co-captain of the Wesleyan varsity baseball team with Jeff Hicks.</p>
<p>Al Erda '63</p> 	<p>Hometown: Guilford, CT Family: wife Ann (Decker), 55 years. Three children - daughter Tibby is Wesleyan '91 Profession: Retired, IBM computer sales and independent consultant Litigation Support Football: One of the best tackles ever -- big, fast, and a great blocker. Red was co-captain of the '61 team. Despite the miserable W/L record that year, Red never gave up. He dominated his side of the line and was an excellent leader, encouraging younger players to step up.</p>
<p>Walt Filkins '70</p>	<p>Offensive Tackle</p>
<p>George Glassanos '70</p> 	<p>Glenmont NY, Attorney Dave Revenaugh said it best in 2010 as we chatted and walked to the Deke House after watching a game on Andrus Field..."My memory of game details is weak. The excuse I use is that I was so immersed in the actual game back then, details were a blur. But the truth may have more to do with age." So, a blur or a total white out, it's the same. The enduring memory is being on a happy team...oh what a Team. Had 1166 career rushing yards making him 6th during the era of 1945-1970 in Wesleyan history.</p>
<p>Charlie Holbrook '70</p> 	<p>Home/Family: Dataw Island, South Carolina with wife Leslie (married 21 years). Has 3 grown children, Matthew, Maggie and Sarah. Professional: High school History teacher in Clarkstown, NY and Beaufort, SC for almost 30 years. Held the elected position of Clarkstown Town Supervisor for 18.5 years. Retired in 2017. Football: 1967 placekicker and did the pk/punting in 1968 and 1969. Was Wesleyan's first soccer style k. Never missed a varsity game. Memories: In 1967 v. Bowdoin, I went in to kick a PAT and there was an errant snap. I picked up the ball like a loaf of bread and threw it into the end zone where Al Nichols caught it for 2 points. This play may have convinced Coach Kosty to leave Bowdoin and come to Wes. In the 1968 Hamilton game, Wes was ahead 10-6 late in the 4th qtr and we were deep in our own territory. The 30-40 mph wind was gusting in our faces. We were confronting a 4th down with a few seconds left in the game. Coach Russell instructed me to take the snap, retreat into the end zone and take a safety. I called for the snap, which sailed over my head I managed to recover the ball in the end zone for a safety. I then punted from the 20-yard line into the wind and Hamilton got the ball about mid-field. They were only able to run one play before the game ending, Wes 10-8. In the very first game of our undefeated season we played Midd at home first trailing 14-0 and later 20 -14. When Midd scored their 3rd TD their kicker kicked the PAT short of the cross bar. When we later scored our 3rd touchdown, I was able to convert and that point proved to be the difference. If we did not win that first game, the story of the 1969 team would be very different. Scored 75 career points finishing top ten in points for 1945-70.</p>
<p>Jeff Hopkins '66</p> 	<p>Highest punting average for a career 1963-65 (40,8) yards/punt, highest punting average for a season 1965 (40,8), and highest average in a single game Williams 1965 (50.8). These records are now at least 54+ years old.</p>

Jeff Hicks '67



Profession: Has been professor of surgery at the University of Rochester Medical Center since 1990 while being Chairman of Cardiothoracic Surgery and surgeon at Highland Hospital since 2001. He lettered four years in football and was captain of the baseball teams thereafter receiving a medical degree from the University of Rochester as an AOA student. Dr Hicks has spent the majority of his professional life at URMCM now approaching 50 years during which he has performed over 12,000 cardiac procedures.

Football: Dwyer and I met on sub-freshman weekend and made plans to be roommates (which lasted four years). Arrived as freshman expecting to play with my buddy who much to my surprise was on crutches having torn his ACL in an All-Star game in Hartford that summer. Ended up not playing until sophomore year. Played in every 1963 game both ways as freshman and vividly remember arriving at Amherst who we beat, seeing State Troopers and snipers on every roof as JFK (as president) was attending an event. He was killed one month later. Played every game from sophomore on as defensive corner and/or rover with Tom Gullick, who was one of the toughest players I ever played with. Worst trip was playing in the cold and rain at Hamilton losing on a last second field goal, hyper extended my elbow and riding home in pain. Missed two games in four years due to torn MCL, which we finally taped adequately to play against Williams junior year. Had an asthma attack two days before the Williams game senior year and since our team MD was an OB-GYN physician had to take three epinephrine injections during the game to keep breathing. Won the game, foaming at the mouth, and ended up in the infirmary for three days with heart rate of 200 bpm. Wouldn't trade any of the aches or pains for the wonderful days we had playing and trying our best to raise the image of Wesleyan as a football team.

Rick Ketterer '69



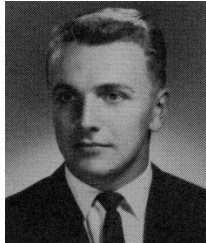
Hometown: Snowbird - Philadelphia PA & Boca Raton FL

Profession: Leadership/organization consultant (PhD, University of Michigan (retired))

Football: undersized pulling guard (5' 8", 185 lbs) '66, 67, & '68 teams; Division 3 All New England, '67

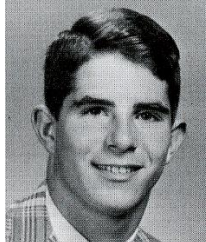
Memories: Great team camaraderie and spirit under Coach Don Russell; favorite plays - QB bootleg (waggle); double team blocks with Walt Filkins (hit 'em high and hit 'em low); tough but unforgettable practices 'in the pit' with the inimitable Coach Mac!

Darcy LeClair '69



Football: Halfback

Mike Mastergeorge '70



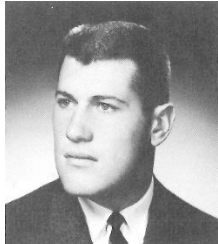
Hometown: Pepperell, MA.

Professional: Retired from a career in Retail Management.

Football: I was a quarterback and defensive safety. I missed my junior year with an ACL/MCL tear and returned senior year to earn the starting safety position.

Memory: Collectively, senior year was an incredible experience. Despite being down by two touchdowns on three different occasions, not a single player ever thought that we would not come back to win. It was not cocky and it was not confidence, as one teammate put it, "We just knew that we were going to get the job done." My personal game highlight was the Amherst game with 3 interceptions and a fumble recovery. My career highlight was selection to 1st team All New England college division team as a Safety.

Phil Rockwell '65



Hometown: (Current) Canton, Connecticut

Family: Wife, Cynthia, managing editor, Wesleyan magazine, MALS '19; son, Christian '11

Profession: Non-profit fund development and public relations (retired)

Memory: Tight end, defensive end; honored to be on Don Russell's first team as head coach; greatest memories include coming back from big deficit to beat Coast Guard in New London (in '64) and twice beating Trinity (in '63 in Hartford) and in '64 in Middletown.

Dom Squatrito '61



Football: Co-captain, fullback and inside linebacker on the '60 team. Was possibly converted from the right guard position he played on the '59 team. He was a great blocker and could be relied on for a "3 yards and a cloud of dust" effort when he carried the ball. Was a great leader with a lot of energy.

Paul Stowe '67



Hometown (current): Bay Village, Ohio

Family: married, four children

Profession: automotive consultant

Memory: this team like those before had an obsession to beat Amherst, which had not been done for 15 years – (I believe.) The team had one final year to do it in 1966. Playing fullback and having any success was always the result of team line play. No blocking, no back yardage. Amherst had given up 98 yards of rushing in their first four games. It was going to be a challenging game offensively. Highlight from the Middletown Press. *"With less than two minutes remaining in the game and Wes grimly holding to a 21-20 lead, Stowe was again called on with third and nine. He responded with a 25-yard jaunt that wrapped up the long sought victory. Stowe 16 carries, 95 yards.* Finally, the losing streak was broken with an incredible team effort. Great team memories all winning the little three but finally beating Amherst was special. Career total offense of 1136 yards. Scored 72 career points making him top 10 for 1945-1970.

Warren Thomas '65



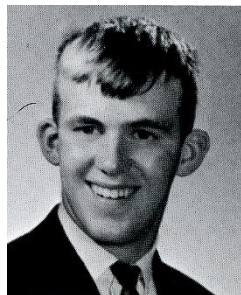
Family: Wife of 50 years, Carol Thomas, Daughters Kearstin, Jennifer, Son Warren

Profession: Former dealer principal (Ford,Toyota).

Football: Offense: halfback, Defense Halfback (now corner I guess)

Memory: One of many memories of Wes football -- we didn't shake hands after games. Really disliked teams that beat us, was easy to be gracious to those we defeated. That said, sophomore year Williams had a player named Mike Reilly. He was supposed to be great. He was! During the following summer it was rumored he was injured or sick. Maybe he wouldn't be able to play? GAME TIME that fall against Williams there he was on the field during warm ups. He was literally a skeleton in a uniform. A very humbling image that has stayed with me to this day. Warren was a running back who never wore a helmet with a facemask. He complained that the facemask of the day obstructed his peripheral vision. He could cut through a keyhole in the line, and then cut a 90-degree turn left or right without losing a step, smiling all the way. Captain of '64 team.

Frank Waters '70



Hometown: Avon, Ct

Family: wife Janet, daughter Jody, son Tyler, 1 grandchild

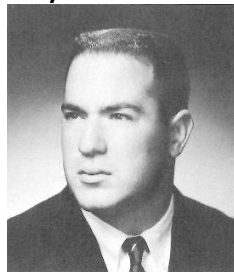
Profession: Owned an insurance agency in West Hartford for 35 years. Now retired.

Football: Wide receiver & defensive back. Earned the 1969 C Everett Bacon Award; 1969 ECAC Division II All East Team (Defensive Back of the Year); 1969 UPI All New England Second Team as split end

Memory: Every minute of the undefeated 1969 season but especially the tense, taut narrow wins over Williams & Trinity to finish it off. The bus ride back to Wesleyan from Trinity and the celebration when we got there were pretty special too.

Miscellaneous: Also played basketball & baseball (1970 MacNaughton Award) at Wesleyan.

Gary Witten '65



Hometown: East Amherst N.Y.

Family: Wife Mary Gentner-Witten, son Matthew Witten

Profession: Certified Financial Planner

Football: Co-Captain 1964 (& Track Team 1965); All CT Football 1964; Mid Brackett All American Team (Honorable Mention); Current Outdoor Track Shot Put Record Holder 50' 4.5"

Gary credits his weight lifting prowess directly to his athletic success and was featured in the December 1965 edition of *Strength and Health Magazine*.

Military Press 260 lbs - Quarter Squat 700 lbs - Half Squat 500 lbs - Dumbbell Incline Press 100lbs

Memory: The 5 QB sacks I had in one game, which Frank Navarro former head coach of Williams talked about in the Columbia Spectator.

John (Ziv) Zywna '66



Two way tackle – described by multiple teammates as big, strong, fast and tough.
