



Waldwick High School Athletic Hall of Fame



Inductee

John 'Jay' Parks

Class of 1983

Voted 'most-athletic' by the members of his senior class, John "Jay" Parks was the first athlete in WHS history to be named captain, MVP, and All-League in three sports. Jay was a WHS recipient of U.S. Army Reserve National Scholar/Athlete Award, an award that recognizes seniors for superior performance in athletic and academic achievement, his senior year in 1982-83. Jay was awarded first Team All-league in basketball and tennis, and Second Team All-League in soccer. He was awarded 1st Team All-Suburban, and 3rd Team All-Area by the Ridgewood News and the Star Ledger respectively for basketball.

In soccer, John was the third highest scorer on the varsity team where he tallied (8 Goals and 5 Assists) which accounted for 17% of total goals scored and 13% of the assists for that year. John scored 1 of the 2 goals in the team's most consequential victory that season when they upset the top seeded Cresskill in the state tournament. In tennis, John was the first WHS tennis player to make it to the semi-finals of the County Tournament, losing a competitive match to a nationally ranked player at the time, who later was ranked in the world. John only lost 2 tennis matches at first singles in the BPSL league.

A point guard in basketball, John was the team's 2nd leading scorer with 13.5 points per game; he led the team in assists with 3.3 per game and led the team in steals with 6.3 per game. John also averaged 4.7 rebounds per game.

John was recruited for all three sports in college and played both basketball and tennis at Ursinus College.

John has used his BS in English from Ursinus College and MS in English from Rutgers University to teach middle school English at Pennsauken, coach girls' soccer and basketball in his hometown of Haddonfield NJ and become a freelance sportswriter in the greater Philadelphia area.

