

The Royle-Sombrotto Locker Room was made possible through the generosity of James C. Metzger.

"As a player, Vinnie Sombrotto was not a big man with enormous strength or great speed. He also did not have what most would have considered a powerful or exceptionally accurate shot. However, he had an immeasurable impact on any lacrosse game in which he played. His will to win and the level of intensity he brought to every game were unmatched. Vinnie was truly a catalyst that made the players around him significantly better. He is undoubtedly the greatest lacrosse player with whom I ever played or competed against. While facing Vinnie as an opponent, you were not only up against his tremendous talent and physical skills, but you were also forced to compete against his finely tuned lacrosse mind. Whether as a teammate or a competitor, Vinnie was the smartest player with whom I ever had the pleasure to share a lacrosse field. In my eyes, Vinnie was the closest thing to a perfect player I have ever seen. He defined himself by winning while playing lacrosse – and now, retired from the game at age 49, he continues to feel the need to win just as his body needs air, water and food. This singular combination of skill, will, intensity and intelligence add up to the creation of Vinnie Sombrotto – an insuperable athlete."

"It was once said by the great Dodger manager Tommy Lasorda of Joe DiMaggio, 'He was to people all over the world what a baseball player was supposed to be like. If you said to God, 'Create someone who was what a baseball player should be,' God would have created Joe DiMaggio ... and he did.' If God was asked to create the perfect lacrosse midfielder, he would have created Vinnie Sombrotto ... and he did."

— Jim Metzger

James C. Metzger

James C. Metzger played high school lacrosse at Half Hollow Hills East for Coach Lou DiBlasi, Hofstra Class of 1961. He led the team in both points and assists in the 1976 and 1977 seasons. While at Half Hollow Hills East, he set school records for most points in a season as well as for most assists in a game, season and career. In 1977 Jim earned High School All-America honors, was the League I and Suffolk County scoring champion, and won the Lt. Raymond Enners Award as the Outstanding Player in Suffolk County. Upon graduation from high school in 1977, Jim attended the Naval Academy Prep School and led the lacrosse team in goals, assists and points. Jim played for Hofstra in 1979 and 1980, respectively, and led the team in assists in each of those seasons. In 1980 Jim scored 49 points in 11 games and earned Honorable Mention Division I All-America honors. The 1980 team won four of its last five games to finish with a record of 7-6. Jim scored an amazing total of 29 points in the team's last four victories, which came against Towson, Penn State, North Carolina State, and Washington and Lee.

Harry H. Royle

- Head Men's Lacrosse Coach (1976-85)
- Led five teams to top 15 national rankings
 - Coached 12 All-Americans and eight North-South Game All-Stars
- Member of the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Committee (1999-2002), Chair in 2002
- Hofstra Athletics Administrator (1985-2007), Director of Athletics (1997-2004)
- Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association Lifetime Service Award, 2007

Vincent J. Sombrotto

- Hofstra Lacrosse Division I All-American
- Player on four World Lacrosse Championship teams
- Player on 10 U.S. Club National Championship teams with L.I.-Hofstra
 - Two-time Team USA captain
 - Member of 1982 All-World Team
- Three-time National Club Player of the Year
 - 15-time All-Club player
- Newsday All-Century team selection and Krongard Award winner



The Harry H. Royle and Vincent J. Sombrotto Men's Lacrosse Locker Room



COACH ROYLE'S:

Assistant Coaches:

Jim Amen
Gary Arnold
Bengt Barbaccia
Chris Deeks
Ron Frazer
Tom Gill
John Hiller
Kevin Huff
Anthony Manzione
Pat Monohan
Brian Myers
Tom Postel
Bob Quinlan
Joe Taylor
Jim Watson

Captains:

Gary Arnold
Michael Fowler
Ed Geiger
Bob Hiller
Kevin Huff
Bob Linker
Bob Lombardo
Dave McCulloch
George Muller
Gerard Mulligan
Rich Petillo
Chris Pifte
Bob Quinlan
Paul Sanit
Kevin Smith
Joe Taylor
Ed Wallace

Leading Scorers:

Gary Arnold
Michael Fowler
Tim Goldstein
Kevin Huff
Dave McCulloch
James Metzger
Anthony Perettine
Vincent Sombrotto
Rich Stoecker

COACH ROYLE'S:

All-Americans:

Joseph Fowler
Michael Fowler
Ed Geiger
Bob Hiller
Kevin Huff
Richard Lewton
Dave McCulloch
James Metzger
Bob Quinlan
Mikko Red Arrow
Vincent Sombrotto
Ed Wallace

North-South Game All-Stars:

Bob Gilmartin
Robert Guido
Kevin Huff
Dave McCulloch
Bob Quinlan
Mikko Red Arrow
Joe Taylor
Ed Wallace

During Coach Royle's Tenure:

- * Michael Fowler achieved the highest goals per game average in the history of the Men's Lacrosse program with 3.33 goals per game in 1979. The record still stands.
- * Joseph Fowler recorded the most saves in a game with 36 against Navy in 1980. This record still stands.
- * Kevin Huff is the only player to appear in every category listed above: All-American, North-South Game All-Star, Leading Scorer, Captain and Assistant Coach.
- * Dave McCulloch set the freshman scoring record with 49 points in 1983.
- * Bob Hiller set the program record for career goals with his 129th goal in 1976.
- * Vincent Sombrotto scored the most points in a season (54) in 1980.

May 21, 2007

Dear Coach Royle,

I would like to demonstrate my support of Hofstra University and intend to assist Hofstra Lacrosse going forward. While I did not play my final two years of lacrosse at Hofstra and I clearly received more from the school than I ever gave, I believe that I contributed greatly to Hofstra during the two years that I did participate. I have taken many of the lessons I learned over those two years and applied them in both my business life and my everyday life.

Oftentimes, as with many high school and college athletes, the advice and assistance of people in authority isn't appreciated until time passes and we have the opportunity to reflect on wasted potential. While my appreciation for your efforts came long after my athletic career was over, I can tell you that the value of your efforts has been realized.

You may recall that I walked away from the game of lacrosse in the prime of my athletic career following my sophomore year. I vividly recall the day I came to your office to inform you that I would not continue as a member of the lacrosse team. In fact, I told you that I would not be matriculating at the University for the spring semester of my junior year.

Many years have passed since I made that decision, but its impact has been immeasurable for me on both personal and professional levels. With time and age came the desire to acknowledge your efforts. As a businessman who has built a successful business since that time, I would like to start right here right now by honoring my coach. I am donating the funds necessary to build the Men's Lacrosse Locker Room at Hofstra University in your name. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during my freshman and sophomore years at Hofstra. This donation in your name is the most demonstrative way to acknowledge all you did for me and, frankly, how those actions significantly impacted both my life and my business career.

Thank you, Harry,

Sincerely,

James C. Metzger

**Royle-Sombrotto
Locker Room Dedication
and
Men's Lacrosse Alumni Day
Saturday, April 12, 2008**

Tour of Royle-Sombrotto Locker Room 10:30 a.m.

Brunch and Locker Room

Dedication at Hofstra University Club* 11 a.m.

Hofstra Men's Lacrosse versus Delaware 1 p.m.

Post-Game Reception
at Howdy Myers Pavilion

Brunch Cost: \$30 per person

*2008 Hofstra Hundred members
are compliments of Hofstra Lacrosse

R.S.V.P. by April 1, 2008.

Please make my reservation for _____ person(s).

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone _____

Method of Payment:

Check in the amount of \$ _____
payable to Hofstra University

Visa MasterCard American Express

Amount \$ _____

Card # _____

Expiration Date ____/____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Name(s) of guest(s). Please print.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Kindly list the name(s) of your guest(s) on the reverse
side of this form.

*Please return this form with payment in the enclosed
envelope, or call Chrissy Arnone at (516) 463-5281 to
register by phone.*