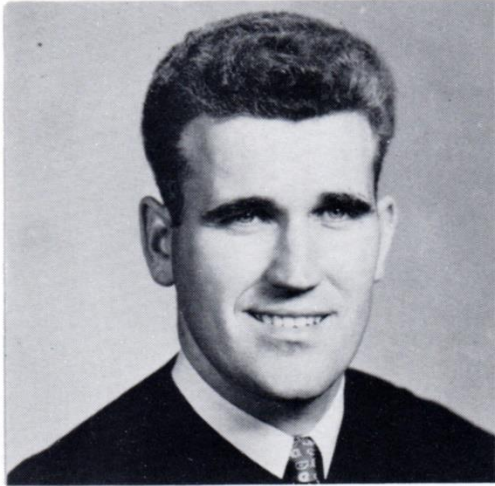


Coaches Spotlight Mr. Gerald F. Humphreys



MR. GERALD F. HUMPHREYS

A former trackman, paratrooper and football player came to pilot the Power Memorial Track & Field team in the fall of 1951. arrived from Iona College with an impressive record of achievements.

At Cardinal Hayes High School, he was very active in extracurricular activities playing football, joining the track team and school newspaper. Football was the coach's primary interest in high school, and it's been reported he was a key sparkplug for the team. During the fall, Mr. Humphreys ran cross country before turning to his track & field specialties, the shot put and discus. On the school paper he became the managing editor, another noteworthy achievement.

After high school, Mr. Humphrey's joined the military. Attached to the Second Airborne Division as a paratrooper, he was stationed in the Far East under General Douglas MacArthur. During his service time, Mr. H. played football for his division team.

With his military service completed, Coach Humphreys entered Iona College to continue his education. As in high school he became the managing editor of the school paper, "The Literary Quarter". Although Iona didn't have a football team, Mr. Humphreys ran cross country and joined the Track & Field team focusing on the shot put.

During the day at Power, Mr. Humphreys taught Biology and American History. In the evening he took courses for his degree at New York University.



"What's your name, official room . . .?" Mr. Humphreys signs up recruits for the Track Team.

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As pilot of the track team, Mr. Humphreys had a novel system for recruiting athletes. He advocated practice only three days a week: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

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As an added inducement to entice new recruits, a lenient system for winning letters was offered. The only requirement was steady attendance at practice, although major letters were earned by scoring specific point totals in various meets.

During the 1951-1952 school year, Coach Humphreys was supported by Brother Delaney, the track team moderator.



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Brother Delaney racing through last minute instructions with some of his boys before a big meet.