

In the early 1920's a soft-spoken young graduate of the Lindsay Collegiate Institute left his home in Lindsay. He enrolled in Providence College, in Providence, Rhode Island, to begin the more than a dozen years of study which would lead to his ordination as a priest in the Roman Catholic Order of Preachers (Dominicans). This goal he reached in 1936.

Recently, Father Aloysius B. Begley, son of the late Thomas J. Begley and of Mrs. Bernadette Begley, Russell St. E., retired as Athletic Director of Providence College amid honors and recognition from ecclesiastic, political, fraternal and sport leaders of New England.

Following his ordination and completion of his academic work, Father Begley was appointed to the professorial staff of Providence College and ultimately took over the duties of Athletic Director. Under his guidance this task assumed such importance that

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it became a full-time responsibility.

During his term of office he presided at the construction of a large sports structure which led the College into the first rank of Intercollegiate basketball in the United States. The College also achieved major ranking in hockey, baseball and field sports.

On his retirement, Father Begley was guest of honor at a gathering in Providence College's student union. Present were religious, political, professional, business and athletic leaders all gathered to pay tribute to the former Lindsayite. They also presented him with the keys to a new automobile as a retirement gift.

During the course of his years at the College, Father Begley was the recipient of many honors and recognitions from organizations both religious and secular.

Outstanding, perhaps, is the Resolution passed in General Assembly by the Senate of the State of Rhode Island. A scroll, marking the retirement, was sent to Father Begley together with the following preamble:

Senate Resolution

Extending congratulations upon the retirement of the Reverend Aloysius B. Begley, O.P., former athletic director at Providence College.

Whereas, the Reverend Aloysius B. Begley, O.P., has retired from his post as athletic director at Providence College and

Whereas, Father Begley, who was born in Lindsay, Ontario, was graduated from Providence College in 1931, was ordained to the Priesthood in 1936, and rose with the stature of Providence College and is 'respected by his athletic director colleagues throughout the east; and

Whereas, Under his tutelage the College's athletic program blossomed from a sports program of football, basketball and baseball to one which includes hockey, indoor and outdoor track, cross country, tennis, soccer, golf and rifle teams; and

Whereas, Under his tutelage the College's athletic program blossomed from a sports program of football, basketball and baseball to one which includes hockey, indoor and outdoor track, cross country, tennis, soccer, golf and rifle teams; and

Whereas, Though the most noted of the College's athletic teams has been the "Basketball Friars" who have captured national honors and recognition during the past thirteen years, other Providence College athletic teams have brought honor to the College and community; and

Whereas, His knowlege and leadership were instrumental in the construction of the present athletic facility which

was opened in 1955 and he has been a member of several intercollegiate athletic committees and has served as consultant in intercollegiate athletics to other colleges and universities; and

Whereas, During his illustrious career which began in 1940, he has been honored on several occasions;

1960: Words Unlimited - in recognition of his tremendous influence upon Rhode Island sports and invaluable assistance both spiritually and materially he has given the states' athletes;

1968: Frank Lanning Award for outstanding service to sports in Rhode Island;

1969: Mal Brown Club - for outstanding service to Providence College;

1971; Brotherhood Temple Bethel - the Youth Service Award; and

Whereas, an appreciation of the personal qualities of Father Begley who was a major factor in Providence College's growth in the athletic world can be gleaned from the words he spoke to the Mal Brown Club in 1969: "My contribution to Providence College would be very small if placed

against that given by Providence College to me. This honor must go to those people who have made Providence College what it is. I wish to take the award on behalf of what Providence College is and stands for." now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, fully aware of the contributions Father Begley has made to Providence College, takes this opportunity to extend its sincere thanks for the people of the state and to wish him well upon his retirement; and be it further

RESOLVED. That the secretary of state be and he is hereby authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Reverend Aloysius B. Begley, O.P.

Upon his retirement as Director of Athletics, Father Begley accepted a post as chaplain of the Alumni Association. He was also appointed by Governor Licht to a special state legislative commission to study labor-management relations of non-profit association and corporations.

Father Begley is still well known in Lindsay. He visits

here frequently and spends his summer vacation at his brother's summer home on Balsam Lake.