

To Whom It May Concern:

Coach Mols' greatest contribution to the students at Park School was developing their self-confidence. He had the uncanny ability to take non-athletes, teach them the basics of how to compete in a given sport, outfit them in a school uniform and put them on the field with total confidence in the outcome. And it worked. Coach expected them to succeed, and they did. We called it the "Pioneer Spirit", a special pride we felt wearing the Park School uniform...a pride imbued in us by Herb Mols.

I'm a prime example. I played three sports at Princeton and captained a team. Were it not for Herb Mols, I would never have made a college team!

When I think of the most rewarding experiences in my life, my thoughts inevitably return to Park School and to the Mols family on Chateau Terrace – where many of us discovered a "second set of parents" in Herb and Ruth. To me, Herb Mols was Park School. He built in me a reservoir of confidence that I've tapped into throughout my life. Someone who can do that is a very special human being.

Dale Casto, Class of 1954 - The Park School of Buffalo

Hi Gary,

A great article and one that anyone who played for your dad thoroughly understands. How he managed to fashion winning teams from the non-athletes he had to work with was truly nothing short of miraculous. There was never threat. Never fear. There was something totally unspoken that Herb instilled in us. Our greatest motivation was not to disappoint him - to make him proud - because, and he never said it, we knew he was counting on us to represent the best of what Park School could be. That was his version of the Pioneer Spirit and ours. I'm convinced that none of us would have come close to reaching our athletic potential under any other coach or in any other school. And I was particularly lucky having Herb as a coach and your family as neighbors. I'll never forget your dad and what he did for me.
Dale