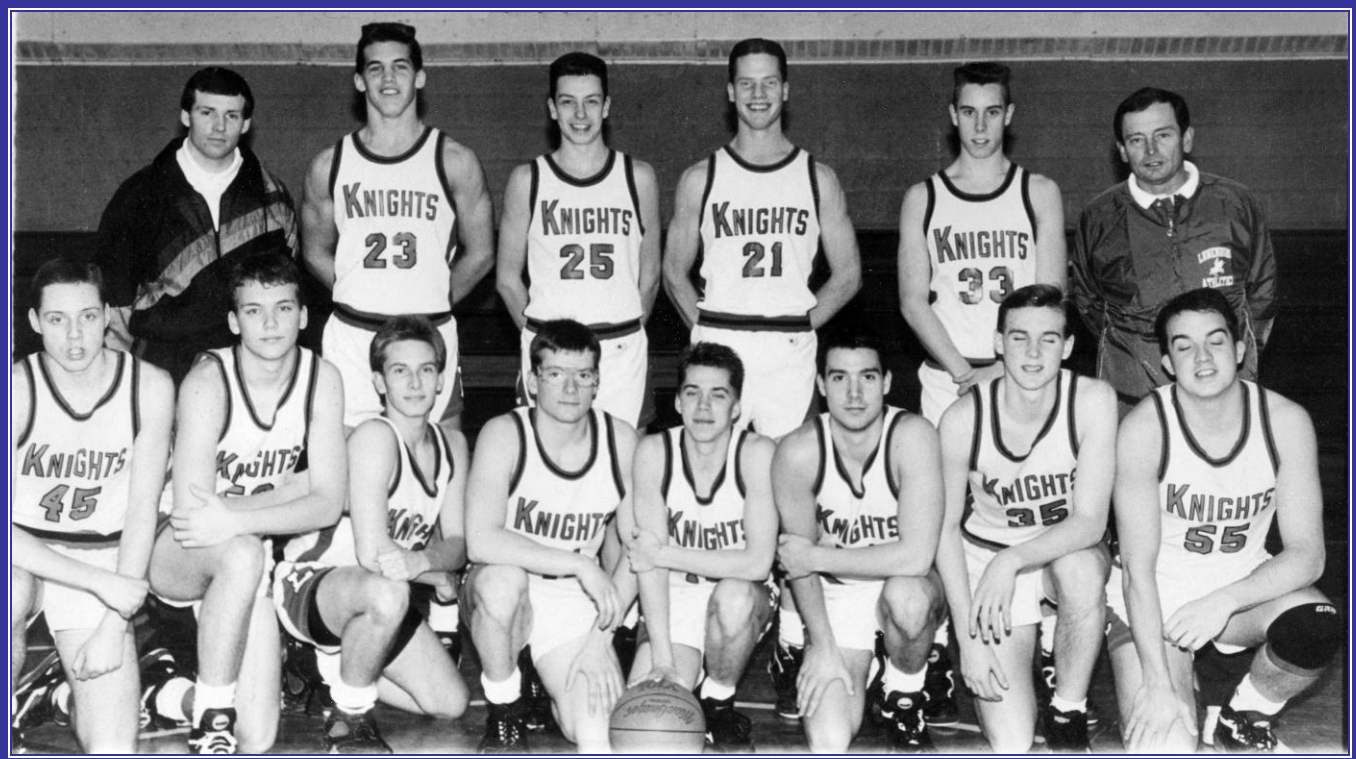


1991 – '92 Boys' Varsity Basketball



Front row: Dan Krysiak, Barry Smith, Jesper Matsch, Brent Meserve - Capt.,
Rich Johnston - Capt., Jeff Santella, Kevin Szocik, Jeremy Kullman - Capt.
Back row: Coach Hastings, Ryan Sipomnaa, Jon Economo, Steve Benoit,
Scott Bergeron, Coach Stachowicz.



1991-1992 BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

Expectations were high as the Blue Knights entered the basketball season in the winter of 1991. Their high hopes were based on the previous year's performance and the fact that a senior-laden team would be returning, having lost only one team member to graduation. Who would have known at that time, however, that the team would pull off what no other LHS basketball team in school history had accomplished: an undefeated 20-0 regular season? Along the way, the team scooped up the St. Bernard's Christmas Tournament championship by defeating the host Bernardians in overtime, and beating Millbury to earn the Clark University Small Schools championship, a feat that had not been accomplished by the Lunenburg boys since 1962, and has not been accomplished again since then.

The team consisted of seniors Rich Johnston, Dan Krysiak, Jeremy Kullman, Jesper Matsch, Brent Meserve, Jeff Santella, Barry Smith, and Kevin Szocik. Rounding out the roster were juniors Steve Benoit, Scott Bergeron, Ryan Siponmaa, and sophomore Jon Economo.

By all accounts, this team often was at a disadvantage in terms of height (the tallest player was Barry Smith at 6'3"), which is often an impediment in the game of basketball. However, this group overwhelmed the opposition with their superior team play. Only 6'2", Jeremy Kullman often dominated the boards over big men who were several inches taller. Possessing strong hands from which few could ever strip the ball, he was a force in the paint. Others providing strong rebounding and interior scoring were Dan Krysiak, Barry Smith, and Ryan Siponmaa. Rich Johnston was deadly as a point guard in the open court, picking teams apart with his crisp passes as well as being a legitimate scoring threat. Deadly outside shooting came from Brent Meserve, Kevin Szocik, and Jon Economo. Not to be overlooked, Jesper Matsch, Steve Benoit, and Scott Bergeron also provided key support throughout the season.

School spirit and support for the basketball program were at an all-time high during the '91-'92 season. The boisterous cheers from "The Dog Pound" were a staple of home games at Memorial Gymnasium. Crowds that today are usually seen only during playoff games were the norm for any home contest, and there was always a large contingent of fans traveling to the away contests to cheer on their Blue Knights.

Taking effect for the 1991-1992 season was a short-lived change to the rules for post season qualification, which allowed any team that wished to participate in the tournament regardless of regular season record. After earning the number 1 seed in the Central Mass. Division 2 playoff bracket, Lunenburg faced a ten-day break between the regular season and their first playoff game due to two bye rounds. A tough loss to a gritty Gardner team in a packed LHS gymnasium on Monday, March 2, brought the season to a premature end. While the loss was difficult to accept, it could not overshadow all of the tremendous accomplishments of this very talented team. It is with great honor that we now induct this team into the Lunenburg High School Athletic Hall of Fame!