

LEDYARD FOOTBALL

STATE CHAMPIONS

1986 – 1991 – 1993 – 2007

E.C.C. CHAMPIONS

1971 – 1972 – 1979 – 1984 – 1986 – 1990 – 1992 – 1993 – 2003 – 2007

Ledyard Record: 303 wins, 115 losses, 2 ties

Overall Record: 321 wins, 130 losses, 5 ties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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STATE'S MOST SUCCESSFUL HEAD FOOTBALL COACH RETIRES AFTER 42 YEAR LEGENDARY CAREER AT LEDYARD HIGH SCHOOL

Bill Mignault, the most successful high school football coach in Connecticut history, has decided the time is right to turn over the head coaching responsibilities of the Ledyard High School football team to another qualified coach. He officially announced his retirement today after a legendary 42 year career as Ledyard's only head football coach.

"This is a very difficult decision, stated Mignault, but it would be difficult to experience a more exciting season than 2007 when our team won the ECC Championship and State Title. When this team of young men was in eighth grade, I told them they were my "special group" that would take Ledyard High School Football to number one again. They certainly exceeded all of my expectations!"

Mignault began his head coaching career at Waterford High School in 1958 and established the football program at Ledyard High School where he has coached since 1966. Mignault has earned 321 wins, including 10 ECC football championships and four state championships in 1986, 1991, 1993 and 2007. Mignault set the state record for coaching victories on October 20, 2001 and is just two wins away from being the most successful coach in all of New England. Mignault has been awarded many honors including being selected to the Connecticut High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1991 and the prestigious Gold Key Award from the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance in 2004-2005. In 2005, he was selected as the State & Region One Football Coach of the Year. And on Tuesday evening, April 22, the UCONN Club will present Mignault with the prestigious Red O'Neill Award.

Mignault was born in Killingly, CT and played football for Killingly High School and UCONN. His first coaching position was in the United States Air Force where he fielded his first football team on the base in Germany with fellow lieutenant Don Klosterman (who went on to become the General Manager of the Baltimore Colts and Los Angeles Rams). He has been married to his high school sweetheart, Patricia, for 55 years, and he has two sons, one daughter and five grandchildren. He has also had the honor of coaching his two sons and three grandsons through the Ledyard High School Football program. All three grandsons, BK, Patrick and Marc, were part of Mignault's history-making seasons.

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William F. Mignault, Sr.
Ledyard High School
Head Football Coach
1966 to 2008



“I am going to miss coaching the players and working with the staff and administration. I have great admiration and respect for all of the players, coaches, parents, and friends that have supported Ledyard Football and the Colonels over the years. I am proud to be a Ledyard Colonel, and I am especially proud of the players and coaches that have competed and will continue to play on Bill Mignault Football Field” he continued.

“Coaching Ledyard Football has been very rewarding. We have had many exciting, challenging and winning seasons. I have had hard-working players and loyal assistant coaches, including my sons Billy and Brian, with the ability to play and coach football with mental hardness, intensity, and a complete team attitude. I believe that our program has been successful because of our “one heartbeat” philosophy both on and off the field.

“I consider all Ledyard Football Players and coaches as family. Once a Ledyard Colonel, always a Ledyard Colonel! I wish the best of luck to future Ledyard Football Teams. I know they will continue to play hard, intense Ledyard Football and make our school and community proud!”

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