

Dave Ragaini



Dave Ragaini has had an active sports career in both his native Danbury and in Norwalk.

Growing up in Danbury he played basketball and baseball with the St. Peter's school teams, then in the same two sports at Danbury High along with participation in soccer and softball with the PAC group.

He played football with the Barberry Coast All Stars, American Legion, and the Lee Hat nines. While he worked at the Lee Hat factory he was on his company's baseball and basketball squads. During World War II, while serving with the U.S. Army in Saipan, he was on softball and basketball teams.

Moving to Norwalk in 1949 to work with the 7-Up distributing company, Dave became a manager and coach. He managed the 7-Up baseball team in the Twilight League while coaching and officiating in Little

League, Babe Ruth League, the Industrial Softball League, and the Industrial Baseball League.

He served as assistant district commissioner under Commissioner "Chick" Ciccarelli in the Babe Ruth League.

Dave was a fine bowler in Danbury and competed here in the Friday "A" League at Rip Van Winkle Alleys and in the Norwalk Industrial League.

Presently, Dave is secretary of the Norwalk Old Timers AA and is an active member of the Spring Hill Tigers. He is employed at the Spartan Catalogue Showroom on West Avenue.

When asked what his greatest thrill was in his many years in sports, both in Danbury and Norwalk, Dave said: "It was the long touchdown pass I caught when playing with the Danbury Hatters football team, which enabled us to defeat Lowell Thomas's squad in a thrilling game 7-6 in Pawling, NY in 1949."

Dave, with his wife Nellie, lives at 84 Magnolia Avenue. They have two sons, Richard and Jim, and one daughter, Linda. Dave is a member of St. Mary's Church and has served as an usher there for 30 years. He is also a member of the Laurel AC and the Catholic War Veterans.