

## **PAUL MANDLI (COACH, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR & EDUCATOR)**

Paul Mandli was an accomplished and successful wrestling and football coach at PHS and other institutions prior to landing in Portage. He may best be known as an exceptional Athletic Director at PHS. He must be credited with hiring some of Portage's best coaches including Ed Zydowsky, Joanne Armson and keeping the likes of Howard Ochs and Miles Oakey positions to succeed. He put everything in place to have qualified coaches working in good facilities to benefit Portage's athletes.

In the 1972 PHS Wauona annual Mr. Mandli was quoted to state, "I have lived in New York, North Carolina, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois as well as Portage. From my home town, Racine, I went on to receive my degree at UW. I also received my MS at the U of Illinois. You might have heard about my athletic records over the last 23 years and the young men that have developed." We have heard these things Mr. Mandli and we are happy you have chosen Portage as your home for the past 51 years.

It is known that Mr. Mandli had coached at the college level before moving to Portage. He had many opportunities to take his talents elsewhere, but he wanted to help influence and develop young science students and male athletes. He has met that goal on so many levels. When we consider the talented and accomplished group of tonight's inductees we can see that Mr. Mandli has had "a hand" in the success of each of them in one way or another.