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Midtown Madness was a great success!





A capacity gathering of Tom's Team at the Bryant Park Grill in Manhattan braved the torrential rain on Saturday to honor our beloved friend.

[Click here for a YouTube video snippet of Midtown Madness](#)



Dennis O'Donnell delivered the invocation written with **Br. Bill Sherlog** (both of Cardinal Hayes HS). Quoting from Frank Capra's film, [It's a Wonderful Life](#), he spoke of Tom: " Strange, isn't it, how one man's life touches so many other lives." We are thankful for Tom's "wonderful life!"



Foundation President, **Steve Konchalski**, welcomed us reflecting on the past year's successes. He recalled the honors Tom has received from the Naismith Hall of Fame, Collegiate Hall of Fame, Bronx Hall of Fame and CHSAA Hall of Fame.

Photo credits and many thanks to
Greg Shemitz, Photojournalist
[click here to follow Greg on Instagram](#)



Mike Quick was Emcee

Mike's humor and larger-than-life presence had us all engaged throughout the program. He recounted many interesting and funny stories about Tom who appeared with Mike on some 75 shows on MSG network.

Mike's favorites were the annual high school basketball preview. Of course Tom knew all the key players throughout the city and could recall every interesting detail about each of them.



Coach **Michael McCleary**, AD at Archbishop Molloy HS, introduced Konchalski scholar - athlete **Josh Powell**. As a 6'5" shooting guard sophomore, Josh led the league in scoring with a 21.7 average and maintained a 93% GPA. Josh spoke



Coach **Jason Curry** of [Big Apple Basketball](#) ran summer workout programs for over 100 boys. Sponsored by the TK Foundation, at gyms in Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn and the Bronx. These programs were geared to PSAL (public school) players. He

of his experience at Molloy and appreciation and honor for receiving the first TK Foundation scholarship. Many thanks goes to Molloy HS President **Mr. Richard Karsten**, and **Mrs. Karsten** who were in attendance with Josh's mother, **Lashon Powell**.

introduced **Andrew Kibel**, a senior at the Bronx HS of Science, who never met Tom. Andrew spoke of his research of Tom, his values and how he wishes to emulate him. [Click here to hear Andrew's comments](#)



Our hosts, **Michael and Sam Weinstein**, owners of Bryant Park Grill are thanked by **Barry "Slice" Rohrsen** for their generosity in sponsoring the 2nd Annual Midtown Madness

Thank you to **Jason Curry** who posted the new TK Foundation YouTube page and videos from Midtown Madness,
[please click here and subscribe](#)

Rich Petriccione

Kicked off the Spring Fundraising Campaign by thanking everyone for their support. He stressed how fundraising is the lifeblood of a foundation and allows us to continue Tom's charitable works. "if you have given in the past, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your attendance here today symbolizes your continuing support. Please consider keeping the Tom Konchalski Foundation in your annual giving plans."

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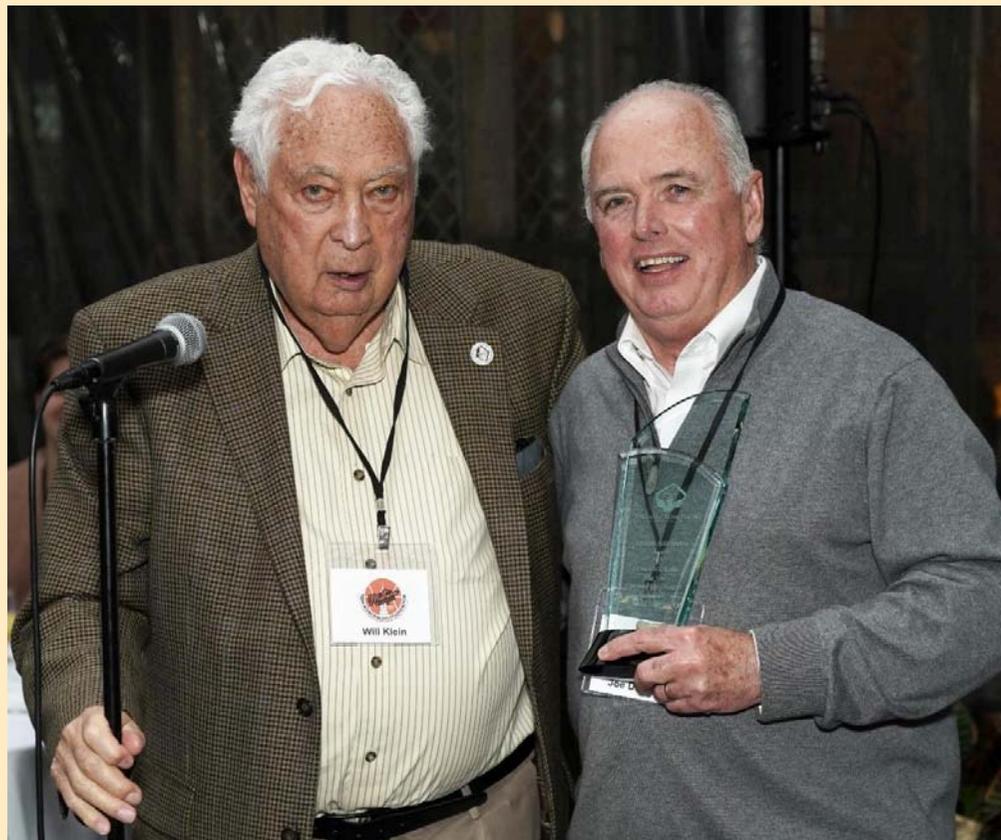
Fordham University men's basketball head **Coach Keith Urgo** received the Tom Konchalski Foundation "Spirit of the Game Award." Presenting the award are **Steve Konchalski** (center) and Fordham AD **Ed Kull** (right).





Coach Keith Uργο Spirit of the Game Award

Keith first met Tom as a varsity player at Gonzaga College High School in D.C. He spoke of continuing his Jesuit education at Fairfield University where he was a 2-sport athlete. His coaching journey brings him to Fordham University where as a first year head coach, Keith received the 2023 Atlantic 10 Coach of the Year Award.



Five Star Basketball Camp co-founder, **Will Klein**, received the Tom Konchalski Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award from Foundation Vice-President **Joe Dunleavy**.

Will Klein Lifetime Achievement Award

In reflecting upon his many achievements, Will spoke of his career as principal of Evander Childs HS and his family. His wife Vera and son Leigh and his wife Robin were at his table. He spoke to the enjoyment of all present, of the many players and coaches from Five Star that went on to achieve greatness in college and NBA. Tom once said, "for 35-40 years Five Star served as the primary think-tank of American basketball." Under the leadership of Will and his partner, Howard Garfinkel, Five Star was truly the camp that changed basketball.





Coach Pete Gillen (l) and Foundation President, **Coach Steve Konchalski** (r) present **Coach Bobby Cremins** with the Tom Konchalski Foundation "Values of the Game" Award. Gillen was the 2023 recipient of this award.



Coach Bobby Cremins Values of the Game Award

After introducing his family and thanks yous, Bobby spoke about his early days as a coach and his relationship with Tom. He got the job at Appalachian State and was the youngest D1 head coach. But he could not get players to come to the "North Pole of the South." He tells a great story of how Tom helped him recruit his starting 5 and the team's successes. This propelled him to Georgia Tech where he coached for 19 years and was 3 times ACC Coach of the Year

[Click here to view Coach Cremins talk](#)

Here are some great pictures of Tom's Team from the
2nd Annual Midtown Madness Event















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