



Father Michael O'Donnell, S.J.

The great athletic successes of Saint Mary's University athletes and teams over the last 30 years can be directly traced to the early inspirations and dedication of Father Michael (Buck) O'Donnell, S.J.; the legendary padre of many hats within the University. Father O'Donnell served as Professor of English, Latin and Theology; Dean of Men; alumni Moderator; and Director of Athletics which was most dear to him. He presided over what was initially a mostly intramural programme and directed its growth into one of the strongest university athletic powers in the nation. He believed implicitly in the correlation of fine athletes and good students which has become the hallmark of Saint Mary's successes. Under Father O'Donnell's direction, the athletic program developed correspondingly with the growth and development of the University.