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BRADEN TO BE INDUCTED INTO KALAMAZOO COLLEGE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

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Vic Braden '51 of Trabuco Canyon, California, is one of fourteen individuals in the inaugural class of the Kalamazoo College Athletic Hall of Fame. Braden, a top tennis player of the late '40s and early '50s who has become one of the top tennis teaching professionals in the nation, will be honored in a special ceremony at the Homecoming dinner on October 18, which begins at 7 p.m.

A native of Monroe, Michigan, Vic Braden began playing tennis in the fifth grade. By the time he reached high school, he was an accomplished player. He was undefeated as a ninth-grader, and won the Michigan High School Class A state singles championship in 1946 and 1947. At Kalamazoo, he was coached by fellow Hall of Fame members Allen B. Stowe '20 and Marion "Buck" Shane '40. He was one of the top players on teams that won MIAA (Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association) championships in each of his four years.

Following his graduation from Kalamazoo College, Braden did graduate work in psychology at the University of Toledo from 1952 to 1954, at UCLA from 1955 to 1957 and at Los Angeles State College from 1958 to 1959. He was awarded a master's degree in psychology from the latter institution. He was then a doctoral candidate at USC until leaving the field for professional tennis in 1960. A licensed psychologist, he served as a consultant to various school districts in California for a number of years.

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In 1960, Braden was affiliated with Jack Kramer Tennis Tournaments, Incorporated, as a teaching and touring professional. He continued in that capacity until 1971, when he opened the Vic Braden Tennis College, an instructional facility for tennis players of every range of ability, from beginners to professionals.

Braden is noted for his innovative teaching methods, and his application of high-technology to the basics of tennis instruction. He has written several books and numerous articles on tennis instruction, and often appears on television.

A plaque honoring Mr. Braden as a charter member of the Athletic Hall of Fame will be mounted in the lobby of Kalamazoo College's Anderson Athletic Center.