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BARNARD TO BE INDUCTED INTO KALAMAZOO COLLEGE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

CONTACT: Andrew Reed
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The late Chester Barnard is one of fourteen individuals in the inaugural class of the Kalamazoo College Athletic Hall of Fame. Barnard, a longtime coach, teacher and athletic director at Kalamazoo College, will be honored at the Homecoming dinner on October 18, beginning at 7 p.m.

Chester Barnard was born and raised in Springfield, Missouri. During World War I, he joined the Navy and was stationed at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. He played in the 1919 Rose Bowl game, in which Great Lakes defeated the Mare Island Marines. Following the war, he attended Northwestern University for one year, playing football, basketball, and track, and attaining All-American status as an end in football. He then returned to Springfield, where he was graduated from Southwest Missouri State Teachers College. He served as head football coach at Mississippi University for one year.

Chester Barnard coached and taught at Kalamazoo College from 1925 until 1942. During that period, his teams won seven MIAA (Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association) championships in basketball (1926, 1928, 1930, 1931, 1938, and 1939), and track (1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, and 1938); five in cross country (1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, and 1932); four in football (1930, 1934, 1936, and 1937); and one each in baseball (1927), and golf (1935). He coached fellow Hall of Fame members Henry Brown '36 (golf) and Joe Howard '39 (track and basketball). Barnard was held in highest esteem by his students, athletes, and colleagues during his tenure at Kalamazoo College.

During World War II, Barnard left Kalamazoo and re-entered the Navy. He attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander, and was in charge of athletics and physical training at the Ford Naval Training Station in Dearborn, Michigan. He later held the same post at the Naval Air Training Station in Pensacola, Florida.

After the war, Barnard returned to Missouri and served as a coach at the University of Missouri at Rolla until his death in November of 1952.

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Chester Barnard was recognized by the National Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts, for devising a unique three-way playoff format. At the end of the 1938 basketball season, Kalamazoo, Hope, and Albion were tied for the MIAA championship. In a playoff held in Kalamazoo, each team played one half against each of the others, resulting in each team having played a full game. Kalamazoo won each of its halves by identical 29-28 scores, and was declared MIAA champion.

Barnard was inducted as a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri, in 1977.

Chester Barnard is survived by his wife, Thelma McCord, of Des Moines, Iowa. He will be represented at the induction ceremonies by his son, William Barnard, of Des Moines.

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