

## Jim McKeown

Joining an ever-growing list of booters from Steinert High School, Jim McKeown's accomplishments on the field earns him a place among the many greats in the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

A product of the Hamilton Township youth programs, Jim was a three-year performer for the Spartans, leading them to the Group IV title in both 1971 and 1973. In 1973, he scored 10 goals while dishing out 10 assists to push Steinert to a 20-0-1 record. For his efforts, Jim was named to the All-County, All- Area and All-State teams and won the Hamilton PAL Scholar-Athlete award for his senior year.

Taking his talents to the national stage, Jim was named to the U.S U-19 National team, where he was a starting fullback in competition for the CONCACAF Championship. He then moved on to a successful career at Rider College, where he was a four-year starter, was voted Rider's 1977-78 Athlete of the Year, and garnered All-ECAC and regional All-American honors. On the local level, Jim played for a number of powerhouse sides, such as the Scots-Americans, Post 313, and a Trenton Extension side that went to the 1976 National Amateur Finals.

Jim's career was far from over after college. He was chosen as the 13<sup>th</sup> player picked in the 1978 North American Soccer League draft, eventually playing for a year with the Tulsa Roughnecks and a final year close to home with the Philadelphia Fury.

Currently a vice president of sales for a construction equipment manufacturer, we welcome Jim McKeown to the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.