

CHUCK HUNSINGER STADIUM



September 4, 1998

Charles Ray Hunsinger was born July 25, 1925, in Saline County. He attended grade school in Harrisburg and enrolled at Harrisburg High School in 1939. Chuck played basketball, football, and track during his high school career. His favorite sport was basketball, but he received the most notoriety for his accomplishments on the track and gridiron. In the spring of 1942, he placed second in the state in the 120 high hurdles. In the fall of 1942, his senior football season, he led the state in touchdowns and was named to the All-State team. He graduated from HHS in May of 1943, and later that summer was offered a full scholarship to the University of Illinois.

By September of 1943, however, Chuck was drafted into the United States Marine Corps and stationed at Jacksonville, Florida. While there, he proved his football skills with some of the best talent in the country. The quarterback on his team was Sid Luckman, an NFL Hall Of Famer, and the coach was Jim Tatum, who later coached the Oklahoma Sooners.

After serving his country for three years, it was time for Chuck to enter college. Coach Tatum wanted him to go to the University of Oklahoma, but Chuck decided to stay in the Sunshine State and attend the University of Florida on a football scholarship. This proved to be a wise decision and led to a legendary career. Chuck was a starting halfback for UF and made All-SEC twice. To this day, he is one of Florida's all-time rushing leaders. After his senior year, he played in a college all-star game in Florida and played in the Senior Bowl at Soldier Field against the NFL all-stars.

Chuck was the Chicago Bears' number one draft choice in 1950. He played three years for the Bears. His coach with the Bears was the legendary George Halas, and his teammates included Johnny Lujack, George Blanda, and Whizzer White.

In 1953, Chuck went to Montreal, Canada, to play with the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League. Montreal won the Eastern Division in 1953 and made it to the Grey Cup finals in 1954. He contemplated retirement after the 1954 season, but the fans in Montreal sent him a 310-foot telegram containing 21,000 signatures asking him to return for the 1955 season. He went back for the 1955 season, but broke his ankle late that year and retired.

In 1958, Chuck came to Harrisburg High School to coach and teach. In 1960, he was named to the All-Time All-State Football Team. Other players named to the team included Otto Graham and Buddy Young. In the late 1980's, he became a member of the NFL alumni association.

Chuck taught auto shop at HHS for 33 years and retired in 1990. Throughout his career, he helped hundreds of Harrisburg's kids and had a positive impact on everyone he met. After his retirement, he served on the Unit 3 School Board for three years. On March 23, 1998, the greatest athlete in the history of Harrisburg High School, Chuck Hunsinger, passed away.

RESOLUTION

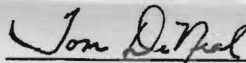
Dedication of the Stadium at Taylor Field in Honor
of
Mr. Charles "Chuck" Hunsinger

WHEREAS, Mr. Charles "Chuck" Hunsinger served the students, staff and community of Harrisburg Community Unit School District No. 3 as a teacher at Harrisburg High School from 1958-1990, and served as a member of the Board of Education from 1995-1997; and

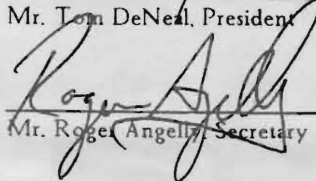
WHEREAS, Mr. Charles "Chuck" Hunsinger was a visionary leader and supporter in the development of the educational process and one of the finest athletes to leave Harrisburg and play collegiate and professional football,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Harrisburg Community Unit School District #3, both as individuals and a unified body, recognize these contributions by establishing that the stadium at Taylor Field from this date forward shall be known as the Hunsinger Stadium.

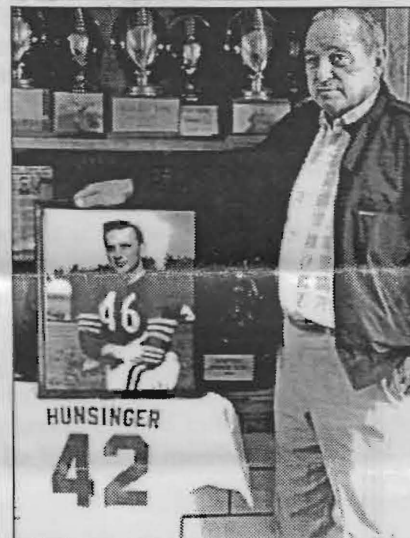
ADOPTED this 18th day of August, 1998.



Mr. Tom DeNeal, President



Mr. Roger Angella, Secretary



Left: Hunsinger with Coach Raymond Wolf during a game at the University of Florida.
Right: Hunsinger poses with his retired jersey outside Davenport Gym.