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Midtown Madness Brunch - A great time was had by all



Pete Gillen and Vito Montelli honored





Leading basketball personalities and friends of Tom gathered in Manhattan on Saturday to honor two basketball greats. The Thomas C Konchalski Foundation conferred its Lifetime Achievement award on Coach Vito Montelli and the Values of the Game award on Coach Pete Gillen.

Hosted by Michael Weinstein and his Bryant Park Grill, the attendees were treated to a sumptuous buffet brunch. Dubbed "Midtown Madness," the event was held on the day of the "elite eight" at nearby Madison Square Garden



Steve Konchalski, Foundation President welcomed the guests. He spoke of the scholarships awarded, programs and other Foundation accomplishments.



Many thanks to Master of Ceremonies, Vin Parisi. His wit and knowledge of the game added enormously to the proceedings as he introduced the speakers.



Rev. Richard Rock, Campus Minister for athletics at St. John's University, delivered the invocation. He thanked God for the gathering and prayed for success for the players.

Thank you Weinstein Family and Bryant Park Grill

With gratitude to the Weinstein Family, owners of the Bryant Park Grill, for hosting this event.

Pictured (l to r) Sam Weistein, Michael Weinstein, Joe Dunleavy, Barry Rohrssen



Photo credits and many thanks to
Gregory A. Shemitz, Photojournalist
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Coach Tobin Anderson

Was on hand to greet well-wishers following his extraordinary NCAA tournament success.

Tobin was a friend of Tom and fellow 5-Star coach. He welcomed guests, shared memories and spoke highly of the honorees.

Coach Pete Gillen

was awarded the Thomas C Konchalski Foundation "Values of the Game Award for his contribution to basketball.

A close friend of the Konchalski family, Pete was a varsity player at Fairfield University, a division 1 Head Coach and currently CBS Sports college basketball analyst.

Tom and Pete were both English scholars and graduated *cum laude* in the same year. He spoke of Tom's relationship and equal treatment of the kings and vassals of the basketball world and everyone in between. Coach Gillen recited a passage from Rudyard Kipling: "If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, or walk with Kings-nor lose the common touch."



Special thanks to:

- ★ TK Award sponsors - Ed Hall and Greg Shemitz
- ★ TK T-shirt sponsors Barry Rohrssen and John Mullally



Seth Davis

Was a surprise guest as he made time between his broadcast responsibilities at CBS Atlanta and New York.

He introduced his close friend Vito Montelli and spoke of the significant contributions both Tom and Vito made in their respective basketball careers.

Coach Vito Montelli

was awarded the Thomas C Konchalski "Lifetime Achievement Award" for his contribution to basketball. In his 50 years at St Joseph's he amassed 878 wins and 3 national coach of the honors - and so much more.

Fifteen family members were on hand to hear about Vito's love for Tom and his appreciation of Tom's life of faith and dedication. He recounted one of Tom's final wishes which was to have an envelope delivered to Vito after his passing. This was given to Vito as he sat with his family in the first pew at Tom's funeral Mass. It contained Tom's rosary beads which Vito uses daily as he prays with his wife the Rosary to Our Blessed Mother.



Molloy High School and Coach Michael McCleary

have always been there for Tom's Foundation. We thank and honor them for hosting our first event, a memorial for Tom in September, 2021.

In particular, we appreciate Mike for all the work he has done on behalf of the Foundation,



We would love to hear from you

Please call or email with questions or ideas

email: tomkfoundation.org@gmail.com

phone / text - John Coman 518-578-6509



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