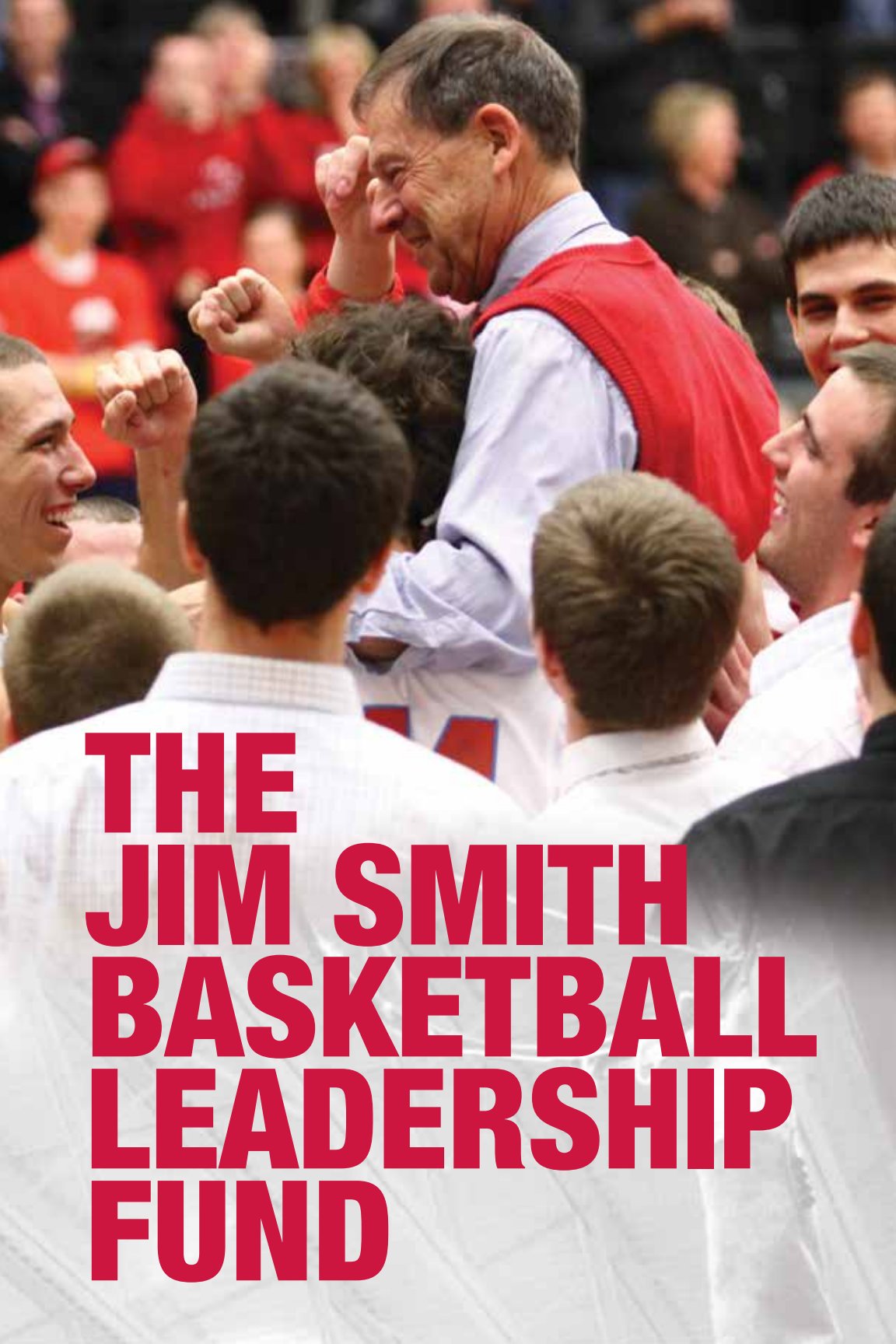


TO HONOR
and
TO BUILD



**THE
JIM SMITH
BASKETBALL
LEADERSHIP
FUND**

A GRAND LEGACY

1,342 games ... 786 victories ... 51 seasons.

By every measure, this is an extraordinary coaching career.

But beyond these remarkable numbers lies an even more impressive statistic: over 1,000 players whose lives have been shaped, enriched and transformed.

Now that's a true legacy.

Jim Smith is the winningest college coach in Minnesota basketball history. And yet, perhaps his most important accomplishment was the one Smith referenced when he retired in 2015:

"Thank you to all who have made OUR family part of YOUR family."

That's the essence of the impact Smith made on everybody associated with the basketball program over a half-century at Saint John's.

Smith's teams won 12 conference regular-season or playoff championships and qualified for 17 national tournament appearances. But his biggest accomplishment was building that tradition, that legacy, that family.

There can be no better way to honor the man who laid that groundwork than this:

- **Preserve the tradition of the Johnnie basketball program**
- **Sustain the strength and stability of the program**
- **Enhance the program by infusing it with the resources to enhance that player experience for future generations**

Jim Smith built teams. He built connections. He provided a leadership model that built champions and enhanced lives.

He built a family. And there could be no better honor for a family man than to pay it forward.



THE NUMBERS

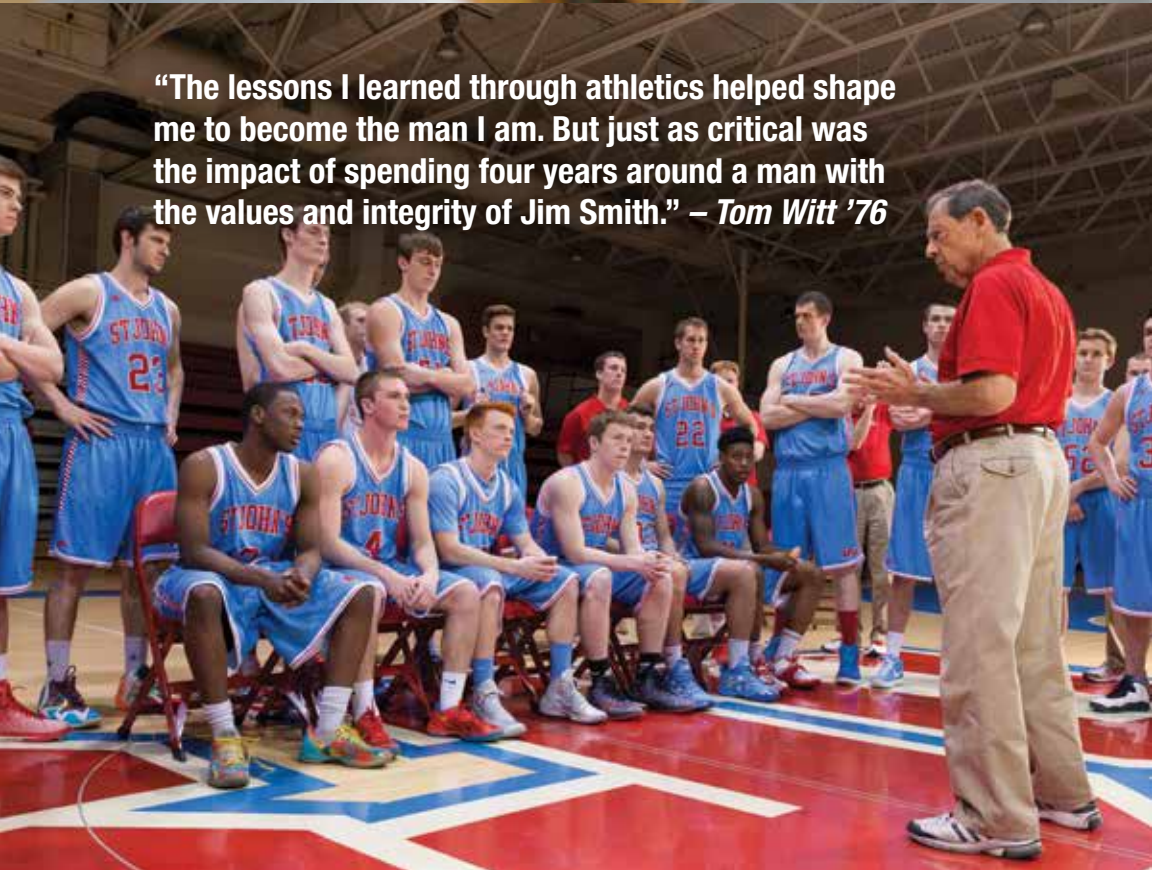
- 51** Years at Saint John's
- 786** Victories
- 7** MIAC championships
- 5** MIAC playoff championships
- .637** MIAC winning percentage
- .586** Overall winning percentage
- 17** National tournament appearances
- 5** All-Americans

THE AWARDS

- 6-time MIAC Coach of the Year
- 3-time NAIA District Coach of the Year
- 2-time NCAA Division III West Region Coach of the Year
- MIAC Distinguished Service Award (2015)
- National Association of Basketball Coaches Outstanding Service Award (2009)



“So many times over the years, I’ve reflected on his positive approach with players, how he relished competition and the fun I had with my teammates. Coach Smith’s legacy will live on for many years through this endowment.” – Tim Bot ’86




“The lessons I learned through athletics helped shape me to become the man I am. But just as critical was the impact of spending four years around a man with the values and integrity of Jim Smith.” – Tom Witt ’76



I wanted to be a part of this endowment to honor Jim Smith and the impact he has had on my life. His example of being a great family man as well as a great coach has impacted many young men at Saint John's. – Tim McNamara '77



The Saint John's experience was a very important part of my life, and playing basketball was one of the pillars of that experience. It is important to me that the Saint John's basketball program has the right level of resources to continue creating successful experiences for future players. – John Wiehoff '84



In honor and recognition of his legendary basketball coaching career and the extraordinary impact he had on the lives of team members, students and fans, Saint John's is delighted to establish the **JIM SMITH BASKETBALL LEADERSHIP FUND**.

Like the concepts and connections Jim used to build a tradition and enrich the lives and experience of team members, the goals of the Jim Smith Basketball Leadership Program Fund are simple:

- To honor Jim Smith and his impact on Saint John's players and students
- To provide funds to enhance and strengthen the SJU basketball program

PURPOSE:

The annual proceeds from this endowment fund will be used to support the following activities:

- Leadership enhancement programs for basketball players and student managers
- Providing tools and resources needed to enhance coaching staff stability and support recruitment initiatives
- Improvements to the overall player experience that will enhance recruitment and retention
- Further establish and maintain Saint John's basketball as a top-tier MIAC and NCAA Division III program

"I like the idea of a Leadership Fund, because great positive leadership is extremely important in today's society. Many of our former players have assumed great leadership in their communities and in their occupations." – Jim Smith

**THE JIM SMITH BASKETBALL
LEADERSHIP FUND VOLUNTEER TEAM**

C. Dan Smith '79

cdanielsmith@icloud.com

404-323-4615

John Patterson '79

jpatterson@fredlaw.com

612- 492-7379

Tim McNamara '77

timmc7377@gmail.com

952-250-8265

Tim Bot '86

teebot@comcast.net

952-200-5011

John Ellis '88

jdellis321@gmail.com

320-493-2447

Troy Fritz '88 *

tfritz@csbsju.edu

320-249-4753

To learn more, please contact a
member of the committee

*Staff Advisor with Saint John's Institutional Advancement

