

MICHAEL JACK SCHMIDT

Ohio '71

Oxford Cup Roll N° 023

In more than 2,000 games, spanning 18 years with the Philadelphia Phillies, Michael Jack Schmidt, *Ohio '71*, helped lead the team to five division titles, two National League pennants and two World Series. He also claimed individual honors as Most Valuable Player three times, including MVP for the 1980 World Series; won 10 Gold Gloves and led the league in home runs eight times.

Elected to the All-Star team 12 times, he finished his career ranked seventh on the all-time home run list and held 14 major league records, 24 Phillies career records and 11 Phillies season records. He was "1980s Player of the Decade" and was enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1995, his first year of eligibility.

Following retirement, Mike broadcast games on PRISM, bringing insight and humor to a behind-the-scenes look at the game. He is a partner and patron of the famous *Mike Schmidt's*, a sports Philadelphia cafe whose motif highlights his Phillies career, and "Mike Schmidt's Philadelphia Hoagies", bringing the best in "fan food" to the Philadelphia area. Among his endorsements: Nike, Rawlings, Tri-State Chevrolet, Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing, Campbell's Soup, Lee Jeans, 7-up and Benjamin Moore Paints. Mike assisted in the development of and maintains an ongoing relationship with Gold Bear Sports Management, an organization which provides financial management services, advertising endorsements and business opportunities to professional athletes.

Mike places the very highest priority on his devotion to family, evidenced by his 20-year marriage to Donna and his affection for his children Jessica and Jonathan.

His willingness to contribute to the community forged new programs for the United Way through corporate contributions for each home run he hit. He carried his program across the country, recruiting athletes in each of the major league cities to set up similar programs, raising more than \$1 million locally and \$2 million nationwide. He also serves on the Boards of the Major League Baseball Alumni Association, Philadelphia Sports Congress, Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic and the Ohio University Board of Trustees, and he gives time and expertise to the U.S. Baseball Federation as hitting instructor for Team USA and the U.S. Olympics Team.

In addition, Mike established the Mike Schmidt Foundation which provides contributions to various charities, and he gives time to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and to ALS through his involvement with Phillies Wives Charity. In July, 1992, he introduced *The Mike Schmidt Pro Celebrity Challenge*, a golf tournament to benefit the Pennsylvania Special Olympics. This event broke new ground in the ever-expanding ways that Mike has found to keep children and the children's charities in the forefront of his life.

Michael Jack Schmidt: yesterday's idol, today's example, tomorrow's legend.

Erv Johnson, Idaho '53, Editor