Joe Orsene sipped his coffee and talked about each loss as if it just happened.

"I remember those four losses because we could have won all four of them," he said. "One, we got beat by Plainville in 1966 where illness raged through the team. There was the one in 1961 that spoiled a perfect season. He put his quarter- back into a defensive hole, and he said, 'One, we got beat bad, but we didn't have anybody on the field. If Eddie [DellaVecchia] hadn't gotten hurt in mid-1961, we would have beaten Woodrow Wilson. It was only my first year coaching, so we didn't have the defenses we had later. Every time I think of that, it makes me sick. That was a tough loss.'"

No other football coach in the state can boast a 91.8 percent winning percentage. No one else can boast about a 33-game unbeaten streak that spanned five seasons.

"He was such a meticulous guy with fundamentals, so you knew that he was going to diagram everything with blocking and tackling. You knew he was going to be a great coach. He did it with trick, too."

Not bad for a Branford kid that had never stepped onto a football field before coaching the Knights. A reporter once asked him how he ended up with football, and he replied, "You don't have to be an Italian to cook like one."

Orsene was the one to Middletown in 1962 was the last one he experienced that spoke there, so I was really kind of proud."

Orsene was one of four coaches selected into the first class of the Southington Sports Hall of Fame. On Friday, July 16, 2010, he will speak at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. Wednesday, Nov. 10, he will be inducted into the Connecticut Sports Hall of Fame. On Wednesday, Nov. 10, he will be inducted into the Connecticut Sports Hall of Fame.

Joe Orsene went 50-4-1 over six seasons with Southington High School and set a New England record with a 33-game undefeated streak.

He was such a meticulous guy with fundamentals, so you knew that he was going to diagram everything with blocking and tackling. You knew he was going to be a great coach.

"There aren't many coaches that get the chance to do that," he said. "I was the only high school coach that spoke there, so I was really kind of proud."