

## Westfield resident honored as oldest living AIC football player

The football program at American International College was just beginning when Westfield native Cecil Durphy took the field. And now 75 years later, he joined with other AIC alumni for the Homecoming festivities and the opening of a brand new AIC football field.

The event, "75 years of AIC Football," brought back many former players from different eras, but none from as far back as Durphy.

Cecil, class of 1938, is the oldest living AIC football player. He along with more than 100 other former players gathered at the Metcalf Gymnasium earlier this month to reminisce and tell war stories about their days on the AIC gridiron.

The event coincided with the official opening of the new Ronald J. Abdow Football Field, part of a \$4.3 million project that includes artificial turf, lights, new grandstands, and a new press box.

Richard F. Bedard, director of athletics at AIC, said he was proud to have Durphy return to his alma mater on such a momentous occasion.



*Cecil Durphy, at left, is pictured alongside his wife as he is honored by American International College of Springfield for being the school's oldest living football player. (Submitted photo)*

