



# SANTA MARIA HIGH SCHOOL

## Inaugural Athletic Hall of Fame

2023



Recognizing the value of our high school legacy in athletics  
by honoring our high school athletes, coaches, and competitive spirit  
of our athletic teams





# SANTA MARIA HIGH SCHOOL

## Congratulations INDUCTEES

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND  
SANTA MARIA HIGH SCHOOL  
ATHLETICS  
2023 INAUGURAL

### *Hall of Fame*

INDUCTION CEREMONY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023

DINNER ♦ 5:30 PM ♦ CAFETERIA

CEREMONY ♦ 7:00 PM

SANTA MARIA HIGH vs. PIONEER VALLEY HIGH  
FOOTBALL GAME

DAVE BOYD FIELD/RALPH BALDIVIEZ STADIUM

PLEASE RSVP - 805-779-1488

FOUR GUESTS ALLOWED IN VIP SECTION

(NO CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD ALLOWED IN VIP AREA)



### *Inductees*

#### AQUATICS

DANTE DETTAMANTI (1957-60)  
KARL BELL (1959)

#### BASEBALL

DONALD WILSON (1952-63)  
BRYN SMITH (1969-73)

#### BASKETBALL

JOHN RUDOMETKIN (1955-58)  
STEVE PATTERSON (1962-66)  
TERRI READE-BRAMER (1974-78)  
TAMI (MOELLER) ANDERSON (1972-76)  
BOB MCCUTCHEON (1964-67)  
BOBBY WHITE (1960's)

#### FOOTBALL

TOM HAWKINS (1966-76)  
WAYNE KING (1962-66)  
MILES MOORE (1964-68)  
JAN MARTIN KIRCHHOF (1974-78)  
RICKY JOHNSON (1974-76)  
EDDIE JOHNSON (1980-84)  
TERRY HERMELING (1960-64)  
DONALD GATEWOOD (1953-57)  
BARNEY EAMES (1982-90)

#### MULTI-SPORT

MIKE DRAPER (1969-73)  
CURTIS READE (1971-75)  
JAMES STEELS (1975-79)  
CRYSTAL (JOHNSON) SMITH (1976-80)  
JOAN (CAROLE) EDWARDS (1970-78)  
VINCE SILVA (1980's)  
RALPH BALDIVIEZ (1964-67)  
MAURECIA (CLARK) REA (1996-99)





Time fades everything...  
except what we collectively value...  
*and choose to recall.*

Welcome to the 2023 Santa Maria High School Athletic Hall of Fame inductee celebration. Thank you for joining us on a historic journey back in time as we collectively reflect on our athletic legacy. We appreciate your support as we gather to honor our current inductees and look forward to future inductee celebrations.

## MISSION

*To inspire future athletes, coaches and teams to reach higher levels of athletic achievement.*

## BELIEF

As a core foundation of the athletic legacy of our school and communities, we reflect on our athletic tradition that is built to last. As the Santa Maria High School Hall of Fame committee, we collectively believe that participating and coaching in high school athletics, has life-long benefits with lessons that become core elements in the development of our personalities and commitments to our families and careers. We believe that athletic training, competition and related experiences, regardless of the level of success or achievement, will never stop transforming our lives and contributing to who we are as individuals. For coaches and athletes who reach a high level of athletic achievement, there is a level of responsibility to model and set examples for others to follow. As time passes, it gets easier to forget our past success and harder to recall the amazing pathway of our athletic legacy. We believe it is vital to our future success in athletics, to recall, highlight and honor the athletic achievements that we all commonly respect. Understanding the level of commitment that leads to a high level of athletic achievement will guide our evaluations leading to future inductees. We are committed to the evaluation and selection process that leads to celebrating the athletic achievements and related legacy of our athletes, coaches and teams.

## INTENT

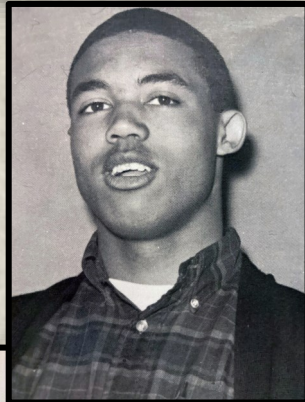
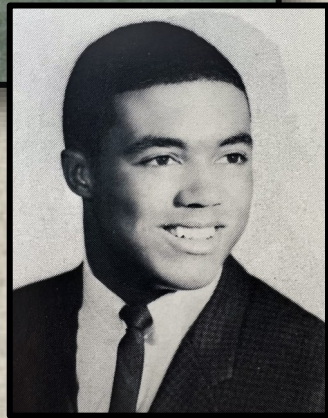
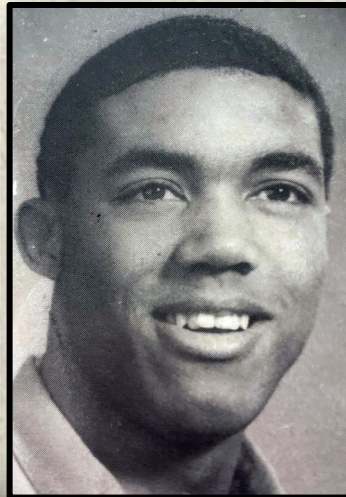
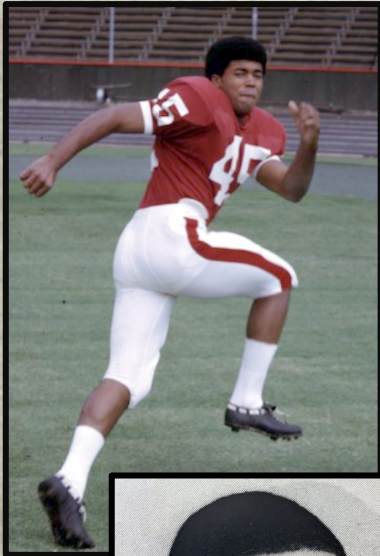
The intent of Santa Maria High School Athletic Hall of Fame is to honor and reflect the success and achievement surrounding our school's athletic legacy of the past 130 years, and to tell the stories that highlight the journey and contribution of our individual athletes, coaches, teams, cheerleaders and community supporters. Our vision is to leverage the story of each Athletic Hall of Fame inductee to inspire others to set a higher level of commitment, leading to a higher level of athletic achievement. The opportunity to pay it forward to those who are inspired by the Santa Maria High School Athletic Hall of Fame inductees, is the core intent and purpose of recognizing and honoring individuals and team achievements.





## ATHLETE

## MILES MOORE



Miles Moore graduated in 1968 and lettered in football, basketball, and track while attending Santa Maria High School. He was the only sophomore on the Saints' 1966 CIF championship team. But on the football field, Miles was the Saints quarterback. In his junior year, Miles made Saint of the Week against the Oxnard and Righetti games and was on the All-league team. He was recognized as the offensive leader and named Saint of the Year.

In his senior year, Moore earned the Most Valuable Player honors and played in the Santa Barbara County All-Star football game. He was selected Saint of the Week in his senior season and was named Athlete of the Year. In track, Miles ran hurdles, sprints, and relays, plus he played forward on the basketball teams.

Miles Moore was involved in student activities, serving as senior class president and participating in various social activities for Community and Regional Development.

Many colleges were recruiting Miles to play football, but he chose Stanford University. The first year at Stanford, he was co-captain of the freshman football team. That year, Miles was awarded the College Football Centennial Award presented by the NCAA. Because of a traumatic neck injury, Moore transitioned from offense to defensive back his sophomore year. He recovered completely and returned to offense as a wide receiver. The team's record that year was 9-3-0.

During his junior year at Stanford, Miles marked several records: 38 receptions for 816 yards, the longest touchdown pass from Don Bunce to Moore of 78 yards during the Army game in 1971, and a Bunce to Moore 75-yard pass. The Indians went 9-3-0 that season and captured the Pac-8 title.

During that 1972 season, Moore became part of Stanford All-Time Individual leaders in his career, receiving an average of 65 catches for 1,234 yards for an average of 19 yards and 38 catches for 816 yards for an average of 21.5 yards per catch. In 1971, Miles' team went to the Rose Bowl and defeated Ohio State University, 27-17. They returned to the Rose Bowl in 1972 when Sanford defeated Michigan 13-12.

Miles Moore grew up in Santa Maria, attending local schools, but his athleticism took him to many parts of the Country. Miles and his wife, Carol, now reside in Columbus, Ohio.



## ATHLETE

## MAURECIA REA-CLARK



Maurecia Rea-Clark comes from a family whose father, brothers, sister, uncles, cousins played basketball, baseball, volleyball, or tennis at Santa Maria High School. Her father was a starter on the 1966 CIF Championship basketball team. Though her first sport was basketball she was a four time varsity tennis player earning 1st team honors in her junior and senior years. She made the CIF play-offs in doubles her junior year and in singles her senior year.

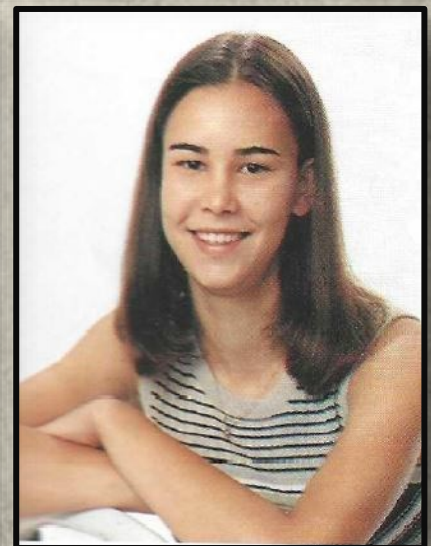
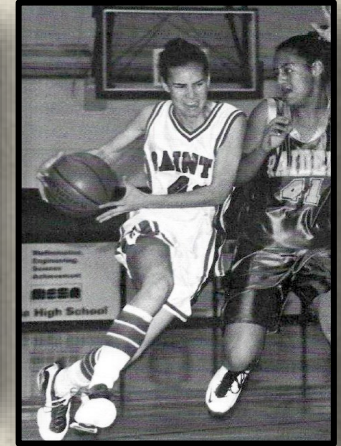
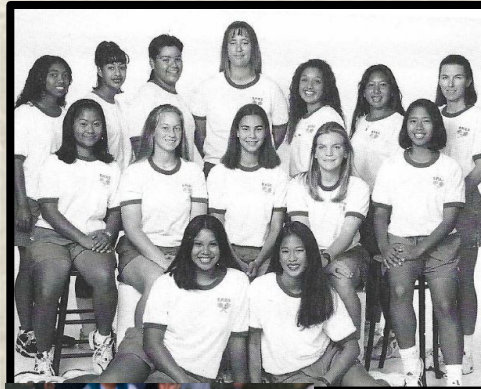
This Saint played varsity basketball 3 years earning 1st team honors each year. She was selected as the league's MVP, All Area MVP for basketball, and the Round Table Scholar Athlete of the Year in her senior year. She maintained a 3.96 GPA average during her high school career. That 1999 team earned the CIF Academic Banner for Girls Basketball.

Maurecia went onto Allan Hancock College and continued playing basketball and tennis for a season, earning All-Conference honors in basketball. After graduating from Hancock College, Maurecia received a full tuition scholarship to play basketball at Fresno Pacific University. She played her remaining 3 seasons and earned Scholar All-American recognition all three years and Athletic All-American honors her junior and senior years. At Fresno Pacific University, Maurecia was selected as her team's Offensive Player of the Year for each year she was there. In the women's history records she was number 4 on FPU's All-time points scored (1,494 career points). She was also 4th in FPU Women's Basketball Career Records in points per game, 15.4 points, and numbered 9th in assists (390). The records were based on four years in the program and Maurecia played only 3 seasons.

Maurecia graduated from Fresno Pacific University Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in Physical Education. She earned her Master's Degree in Athlete Administration and Coaching degree from Concordia University Irvine in 2015.

Maurecia's career took her to Madera, CA and Phoenix, AZ where she taught, coached, and directed various sports programs for a combined 10 years before returning to Santa Maria in 2018. Since returning, Maurecia has taught, coached, volunteered and directed sports programs for Santa Maria Bonita School District and the community. She is currently the Physical Education/Health TOSA (Teacher on special assignment) for SMBSD and leads the Elementary Sports Program.

Maurecia is passionate about a holistic educational approach when students are given multitude of opportunities to succeed and find their strengths. As a child, Maurecia Rea-Clark dreamed of the day she could wear a Saints uniform and represent SMHS. She continued to work to represent Santa Maria High School well even after she graduated and continues to contribute to the Santa Maria community. She will always consider herself a Saint, and she cherishes her time at SMHS.

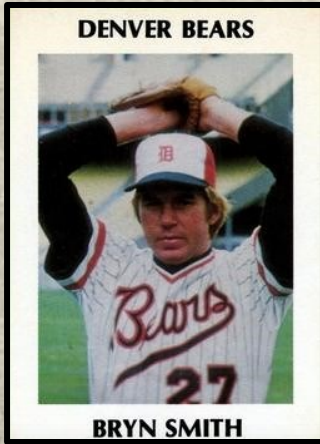






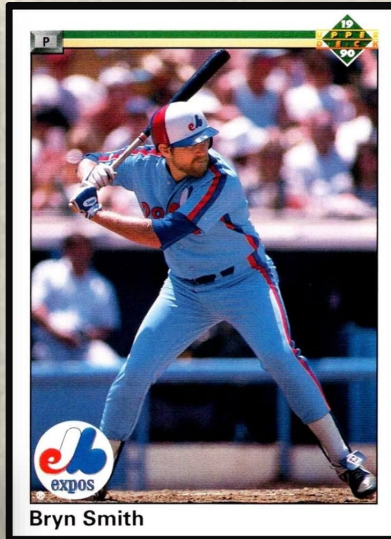
ATHLETE

BRYN SMITH

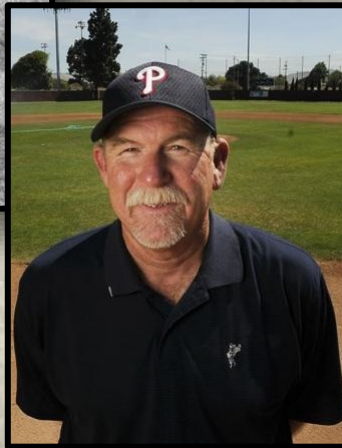
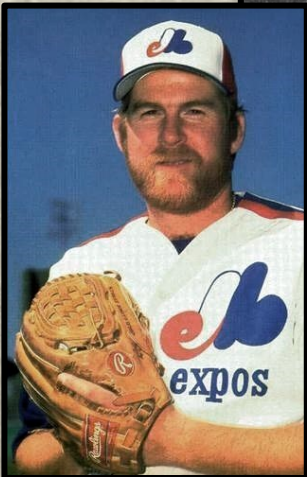
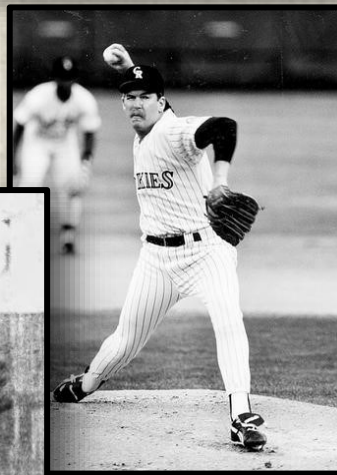


DENVER BEARS

BRYN SMITH



Bryn Smith



Bryn Smith graduated from Santa Maria High School in 1973 and left a legacy on the baseball field. During his senior year the team won the Northern League title and was also a CIF Semi-Finalist team. For Bryn's efforts he was voted as the Northern League Most Valuable Player and ALL CIF 2nd team while going 13-2 with a 1.07 earned run average. After the graduating Bryn was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals in the 49th round but chose not to sign and instead enrolled at Allan Hancock College. During the 1974 season for the Bulldogs Bryn was selected 1st Team All-Conference and Conference Pitcher of the Year. The Baltimore Orioles took notice of Bryn's talent and sign him to a professional contract on December 18th, 1974, setting the stage for a 19-year professional career.

Bryn would spend a few years with the Orioles in the minor leagues before being traded to the Montreal Expos on December 7th, 1977. Bryn would spend the majority of his career with the Expos and on September 8th, 1981, made his major league debut which was the beginning of a 13-year major league career. In Montreal Bryn would go on to win 81 games, which is good for third all-time in Expos history. Bryn would continue his career with the St. Louis Cardinals and then finished his career with the Colorado Rockies. Bryn's most memorable game came on April 9th, 1993, when he started the home opener in the inaugural season for the Rockies in front of a record 80,227 in attendance. Bryn pitched seven scoreless innings in route to an 11-4 victory and the first win in Colorado Rockies history, ironically the team he beat was the Montreal Expos. Bryn would finish his career with a record of 108-94 with a 3.53 earned run average in 365 games. After Bryn's playing days were over, he spent time with the Rockies and the Los Angeles Angels organizations as a pitching coach in the minor leagues.

All of Bryn's professional success does not compare to what he has given back to the Santa Maria Valley. Bryn has been involved with youth sports for many years. He has supported all the local high schools as well as Allan Hancock College. Bryn had many different roles with local schools and organizations from coaching, to helping with updating the facilities, helping with multiple clinics, spreading his knowledge of the game, speaking at local events, reminding people of the history of baseball in Santa Maria, and many more. Bryn in the past has been quoted as saying "I have come back home to give to the community that gave so much to me. It makes me feel good to come back home and still see that so many people are concerned with the welfare of our young people. All we can do is create opportunities for the kids and give them a chance to go on to bigger and better things."



## ATHLETE

## ROBERT W. McCUTCHEON

*Deceased*

Robert W. McCutcheon coached two CIF championship teams from Santa Maria High School. He coached the 1957 Saints basketball team which included John Rudametkin and the 1966 basketball team which included Steve Patterson and Bobby White.

Bob McCutcheon was born in 1926 and grew up in Highland Park, California. He attended Mark Keppel High School and graduated in 1944. Bob was named All Conference during his senior year, and he was the leading scorer his junior and senior years. He lettered all four years in high school. During his senior year, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps prior to graduation but still received his high school diploma. He served for two years until the end of World War II.

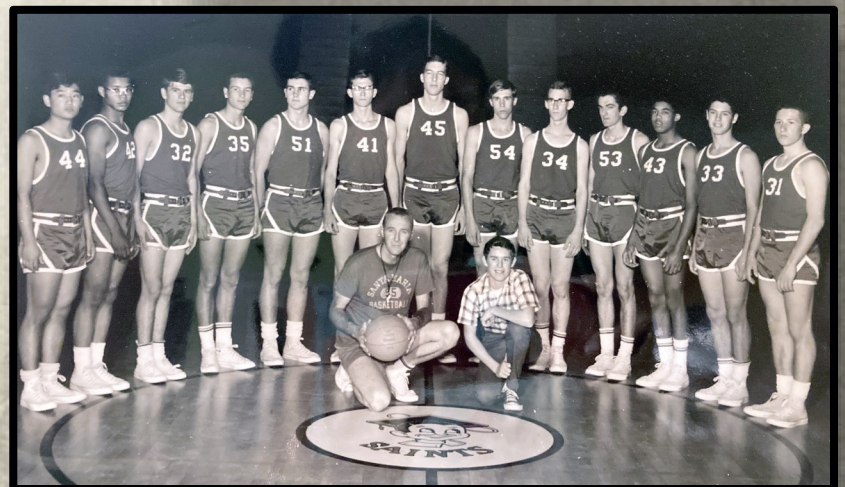
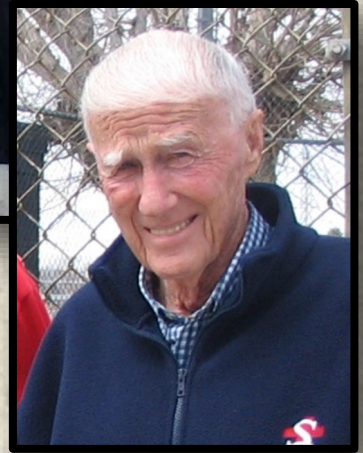
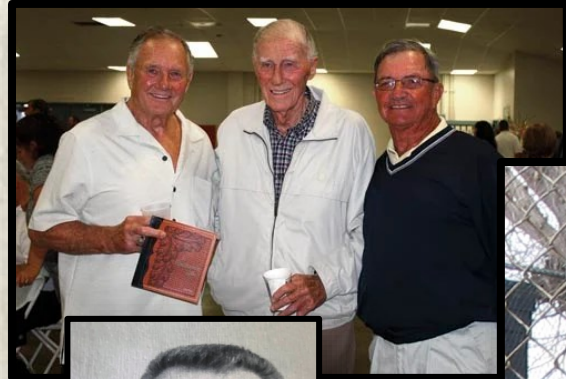
After his military duty, he enrolled at Pasadena City College to play basketball. After one year he transferred to UCSB to continue his education and pursue his basketball career. Bob played basketball from 1947 to 1950 and graduated with his degree in 1950. Bob McCutcheon was All Conference in 1948, and in 1949 Bob was inducted into the Gaucho Athletic Hall of Fame. In 1949 he won the Rider Trophy, setting the UCSB record with 407 points. McCutcheon played against John Wooden's first UCLA basketball team in 1948. In later years McCutcheon became good friends with John Wooden and spoke at the Wooden's Coaches Clinic.

After college graduation Bob married his wife, Grace Vial, and in the summer of 1950 moved to Santa Maria to play on the Golden Dukes basketball team in the National Industrial Basketball League. He started his teaching career at Santa Maria High School. He taught physical education classes and coached freshman football, then several years later coached varsity basketball. He also served as Dean of Boys for a few years. Bob and Grace raised their children, Cyndie, Rick, and Jan in Santa Maria and they graduated from Santa Maria High School.

In 1966 Coach McCutcheon moved to Allan Hancock College where he taught PE classes and coached basketball at the college level. He coached his son, Rick McCutcheon (1971-1973). In 1974 he lead the Bulldogs to their second State Title. He worked at Hancock for over 20 years and retired in 1986. After his retirement, Bob McCutcheon developed Lorraine Estates and built many homes in the Santa Maria community.

In 1985 Bob was inducted into California Community College Coaches Association Hall of Fame, and in 1996 he was inducted into the Santa Maria Valley Sports Hall of Fame for Outstanding Performance in the field of coaching.

Robert W. McCutcheon loved basketball and made his mark in coaching that sport and living in this community. Bob played in a semi-pro team, coached two CIF teams at Santa Maria High School and a state championship team at Allan Hancock College. All of these titles earned Robert W. McCutcheon a seat in Santa Maria High School Hall of Fame.

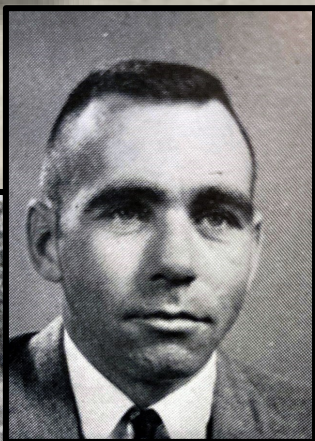
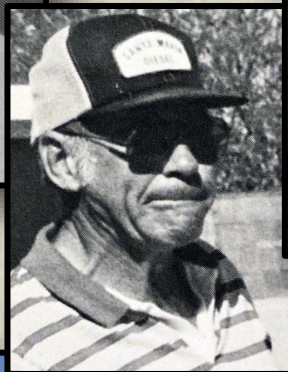
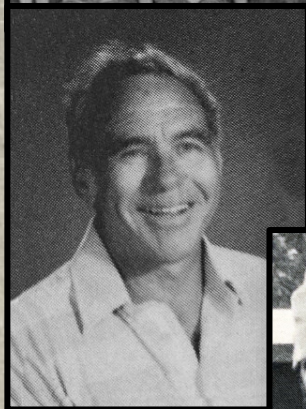
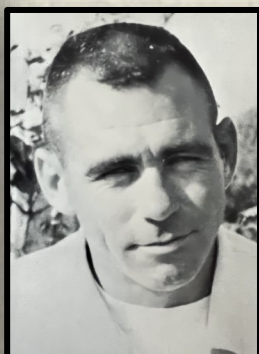






ATHLETE/COACH

KARL BELL



Coach Karl Bell, was a former star swimmer who made the CIF finals his senior year. Bell graduated from Santa Maria High School in 1954, then went onto Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where he would swim for Coach Dick Anderson. It was at Cal Poly that Karl found the sport of water polo. After getting his degree, plus his masters degree in physical education, Karl returned to his alma mater in 1959 to teach and coach. Karl initially was the swim coach, but with the help of Gordon Gill, who played water polo at Cal Berkeley, they developed the water polo program for SMHS.

The Saints' first water polo game was played at Oxnard High School whose team was coached by Pete Cutino. Cutino was on the Cal Poly water polo team with Karl. The Saints played their water polo matches at the Santa Maria Plunge, the city's indoor pool.

in 1960 Karl coached a senior swimmer named Dante Dettamanti. Dettamanti continued his education at UC Davis. Dante became a career water polo coach, most notably 20 years at Stanford University. Within the first three years of coaching three of his swimmers participated in the Olympic trials. Bell coached a female swimmer who won four straight 100 yard breast stroke titles. In his time Coach Bell had at least one swimmer qualify for the CIF SS finals every year he coached.

Karl Bell's team never had an on-campus pool. Instead, the Saints would swim and play water polo at the city's Paul Nelson Pool, which was 5 blocks away from the high school. As the other district high schools had pools built on their campus, Righetti High School first then Pioneer Valley High School opened with their on-campus pool which Bell designed. Santa Maria High School waited their turn, then that dream pool on campus became a reality in 2012. The district honored Coach Bell by naming the SMHS pool the Karl Bell Aquatic Center.

That moment capped a 70-year journey for Bell. Back in the 1950s, Karl and his brother Frank were star swimmers at Santa Maria High. The duo both qualified for a number of CIF meets.

Coach Bell, a water polo pioneer, spent 36 years teaching and coaching at Santa Maria High School, a run that ended in 1996. Always by his side was Thelma Bell, wife and mother of their two sons, Charles and David.

After Karl's coaching career at SMHS, he continued coaching water polo at Hancock college.



ATHLETE

EDDIE JOHNSON



Eddie started watching Santa Maria High School football since he was 10 years old. His older brother, Ricky Johnson, made his mark as an outstanding athlete at SMHS. Eddie wanted to experience that same kind of thrill for himself, so from 1980-1984 he played on the Saints football team.

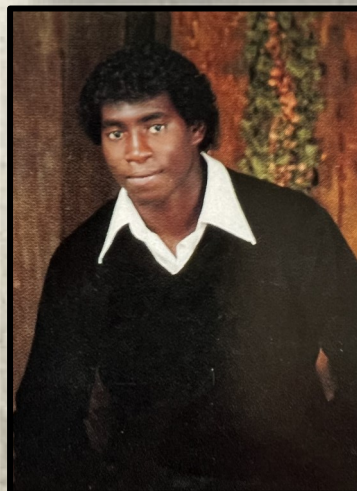
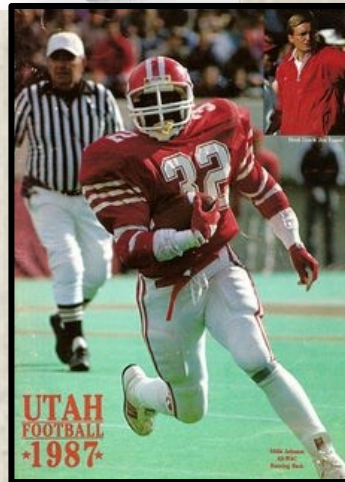
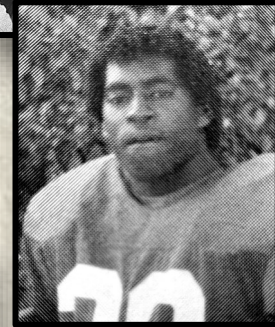
Eddie earned 1st team All League in his junior and senior years. In that last season at SMHS he made 1st team All CIF, All American for high school, and named Northern League Most Valuable Player. He was the team captain and was voted by his peers as the team's MVP.

During his senior year Eddie rushed for 2400 yards and scored 27 touchdowns. Eddie was aware of his brother Ricky's best rushing game during his senior year against San Luis Obispo High School. Eddie repeated that extraordinary performance against the Tigers by rushing 349 yards and scoring 4 touchdowns. The Tigers didn't have a chance against the Johnson brothers when they were seniors. Eddie had two other 200 yard games that season. Those statistics him to 1st team All League running back.

Like his siblings, Crystal and Ricky, Eddie ran track. He was name 1st team All-league as a senior. He competed in 100 m and 200 m races, the 4 x 4 relays, the Long Jump and the Triple Jump. It is amazing that 3 members of the same family were outstanding in their track and field events.

After graduating from SMHS, Eddie was awarded a full scholarship to University of Utah and continued his football career and academic studies. As a freshman, he made all-American and was named twice 1st Team at University of Utah. There were two years where he gained over 1000 yards rushing in a season. In his senior year, he served his team as team captain and was name University of Utah's MVP. Eddie became the second leading rusher in University of Utah's history, gaining 3219 rushing yards and scoring 35 touchdowns.

Eddie, like his siblings, came back to Santa Maria to live and be part of the community and raise their families here. He, like other SMHS alumni football players, volunteered and coached in the youth football programs and helped with the high school and college football teams. With their strong family bond, Eddie's family continues to support one another, including his mother, Gladys. The Johnson continues to stay involved in their hometown of Santa Maria

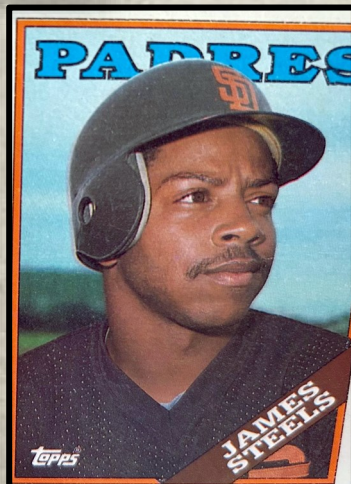
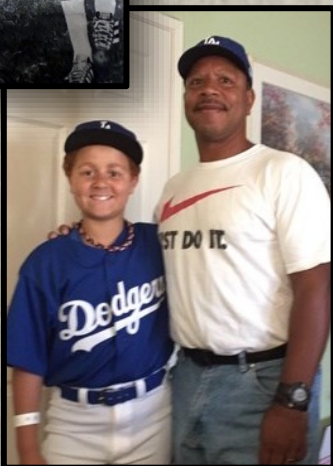






ATHLETE

# JAMES STEELS



James Steels was a great dual threat athlete at SMHS, from 1975-1979 where he racked up numerous records, accolades, and achievements throughout his career.

James played varsity football and baseball. Steels was a first team all CIF and all conference football/baseball player during his junior year of High school and also earned MVP honors for both sports during his senior year. Steels boasted an impressive 1,800 yards rushing with 28 touchdowns on the gridiron during his senior campaign.

On the baseball diamond, he hit for an average of .428 with 10 homeruns and 20 stolen bases. Out of high school, James was drafted by the San Diego Padres in the 7th round of the 1979 MLB Draft, but decided to go to Hancock to play football during the fall. At Hancock James earned 2nd team all Western State Conference awards. After his short stint at Hancock, James decided to start his journey into professional baseball. James proceeded to play for 3 different professional baseball teams, the San Diego Padres, Texas Rangers, and San Francisco Giants organizations from 1980-1992.

After a 12 year career in professional baseball, James decided to begin a new journey working for the Santa Barbara Probation Department. He served as a supervising deputy probation officer during his 25 year tenure with the department. James and his wife Barbera, currently reside in Santa Maria and have 3 children, Jake, Jaimi, and Janae to go along with 6 grandchildren.



ATHLETE

MICHAEL DRAPER

*Deceased*

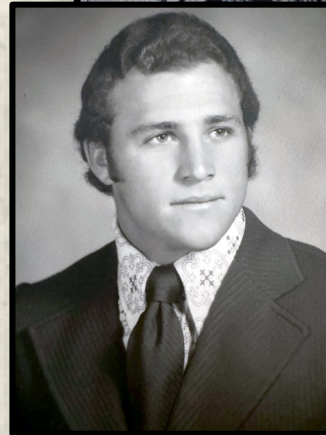
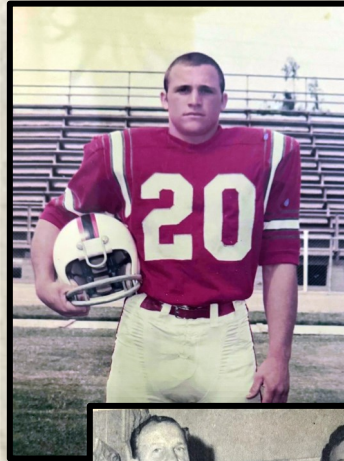


Mike Draper graduated from Santa Maria High School in 1973. During his years at Santa Maria High, he was an elite multi-sport athlete. During his senior year, Mike was named First Team All-CIF Running back, leading the team to a Northern League championship in '72 and all the way to the CIF championship game. In '72 he led the Wrestling team to a runner-up finish at the CIF SS tournament and became the CIF Southern Section Individual Champion at 148 lbs. He went on to capture runner-up at the State Championship that year. As a baseball player, he helped SMHS to a 1973 Northern League championship.

Mike was named Southern California Citizen Savings Athletic Foundation (now Amateur Athletic Foundation) 1973 "Athlete of the Year." An accomplishment he was very proud of. He was also inducted into the Northern Santa Barbara County Roundtable Hall of Fame in 2001.

Mike went to Hancock College, where he was named All-Western State Conference first-team running back in 1973 and '74. He continued wrestling at Hancock and was conference runner-up in '74 and Western State Conference Champion in '75. He then moved onto Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he graduated in 1977. Mike worked in Agriculture, where he started a crop service company that is still family run.

Mike sadly passed away in 2010. He leaves behind a family he loved and a legacy of hard work and kindness. Pride in his community and school will not be forgotten by way of the Mike Draper Scholarship Foundation which provides and funds the youth of Santa Maria Area with Athletic and Agricultural opportunities. He would be very proud of this honor.







COACH

# BARNEY EAMES

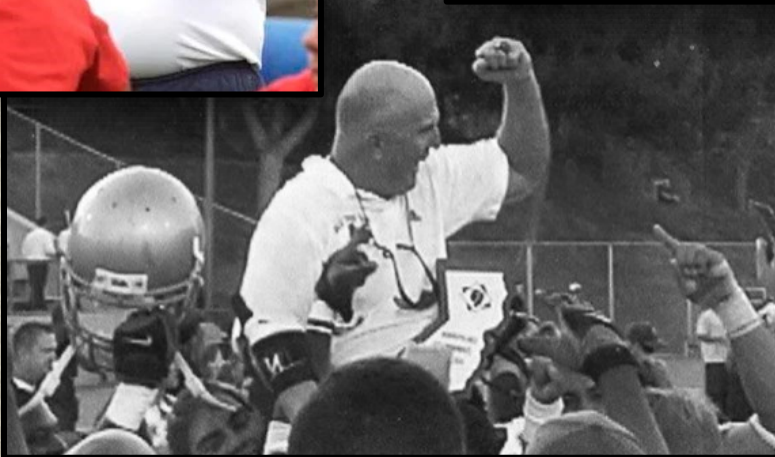
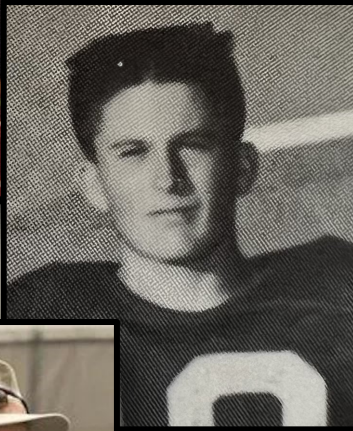
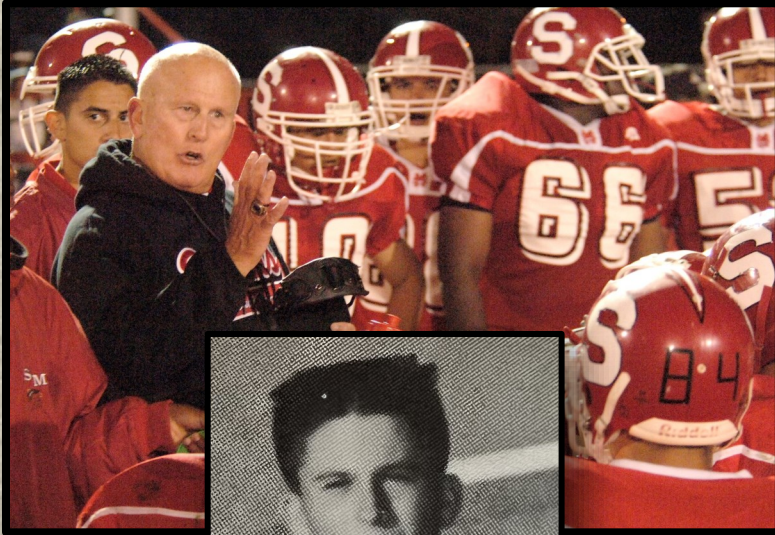
**Barney Eames, SMHS Head Football Coach  
1982-1990, 2005**

Coach Barney Eames graduated from Santa Maria High School in 1958, where he played football and baseball and was voted his team's Most Inspirational Football Player. The Eames-Saint football connection runs deep as Barney's Father, Byron, played for SMHS, and he also coached his sons for the Saints. After a successful career as head coach of the Allan Hancock Bulldogs spanning the 1960s, 70s.

Eames returned to his high school alma mater as head coach from 1982 to 1990 with an additional stint in 2005. During his tenure as the Saints head coach, Barney also amassed an impressive track record. He led the Saints to two CIF finals appearances and 4 Northern League Titles. Additionally, under his guidance, he led the Saints to 8 CIF playoff appearances in his 9 seasons. Eames was selected to coach in the Santa Barbara County All-Star game multiple times. One of coach Eames' proudest accomplishments was that he helped send many Saints to further their academic and athletic careers in the college ranks.

Coach Eames enjoyed similar success in the Santa Maria Valley with an impressive run at Hancock, which included a state title game in 1999, 7 Straight bowl games, and WSC Coach of the Year 4 times.

He serves as a Board Member of the Santa Maria Youth Football League, Director of Special Olympics in Santa Maria, and is involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Additionally, he is a "Lifetime" Member of the Elks Club, serving for 54 years. He and his wife, Alys, have been married for 34 years. They have six children, Aaron, Mike, David, Ma', Lisa, Jason, and 13 grandchildren.





ATHLETE

# ORIE RICKY JOHNSON



Orie Richard "Ricky" Johnson grew up in Oxnard, California. His parents, Orie and Gladys Johnson, were involved in starting a church in a town called Santa Maria. In 1972 Orie and Gladys and their 3 children, Ricky, Crystal, and Eddie moved to Santa Maria, where Orie got a job at Hancock College and continued to minister at his church.

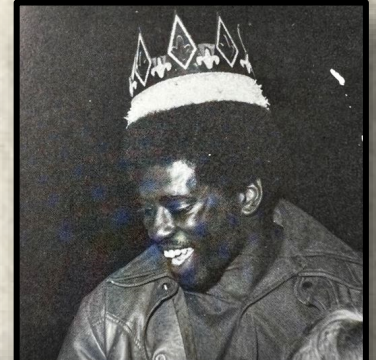
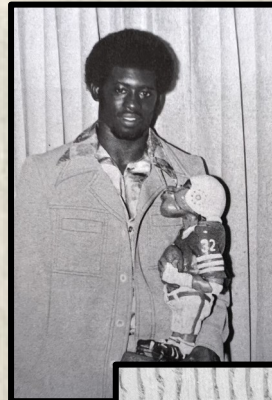
Ricky Johnson started at Santa Maria High School as a freshman and that was the beginning of his exceptional sports career. Ricky played football, basketball, and track all four years. Johnson was a remarkable running back who made his mark in SMHS sports history by awarded 1st team All league in 1975 and 1976. In his senior year, Johnson was awarded 1st team All CIF and Northern League MVP.

During the game against San Luis Obispo High School, Ricky ran for 327 yards to defeat the Tigers. When asked how many yards did he gain during his senior year, Ricky responded, "I don't count them as yards. I count them as blessings as I was blessed to play this game." Coaches and players described Johnson as "the running back who could beat you to the edge, run off a tackle, or punish tacklers while running right up the middle." The Saints went to the CIF play-offs during Rick's junior and senior years. The team fell short from winning CIF by their losses in the semi-finals.

In track Rick ran the 100 yard dash and competed in the long jump, the high jump, and the low hurdles. He qualified for the CIF playoffs in the 100 yard dash.

Ricky was highly recruited by numerous Division I colleges including The Ohio State University. Coach Woody Hayes personally came to Santa Maria to talk to Rick and his family. Ricky Johnson chose Ohio State University and played for Woody Hayes for 3 years (one year was a red shirt year for a foot injury) and 2 years for Earl Bruce. In a game against University of Syracuse Ricky had an exceptional game. He brought Ohio State from behind to defeat Syracuse. His contributions in that game gave him the recognition which made a spotlight in Sports Illustrated.

After Ricky Johnson finished playing football, he came back to Santa Maria to work, got married, and to be close to his parents. Like other SMHS football alumni, Ricky helped coach football for the youth leagues and high school programs.



Most Athletic  
Tami Moeller, Ricky Johnson







COACH

# JOAN EDWARDS

*Deceased*



Joan Edwards came from Fremont, Nebraska. She attended the University of Nebraska in Omaha and graduated in 1967. She began her teaching career in Carter Lake, Iowa for two years during which time she earned her Master's Degree in 1970 from the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley.

In 1970, Joan attended a job faire in Colorado where she met Vernon Graham, principal of Santa Maria High School. Mr. Graham was interviewing physical education teachers to join his staff and to begin the women's sports program coaching basketball and softball. After the interview Mr. Graham asked Joan if she would like to live in California. It was the beginning of her career at Santa Maria High School and recruiting young women into sports. Joan found that there were many girls who were hungry to play competitive sports. As she taught physical education, Joan recognized girls that had that special athleticism in her classes. She became the avenue where these female athletes could try out their skills, improve them, and excel in numerous sports. With these talented female athletes Joan began building her a basketball team that won a CIF Championship Title for the Saints in 1975. Girls competitive sports found a home at SMHS under Joan Edwards' coaching and leadership.

In 1978 Allan Hancock College was beginning their women's sports program and offered Joan a position to teach and coach basketball, volleyball, and softball. Joan made another change in her career, but continued to have that same drive to seek out female athletes when the birth of women's sports began at Hancock College. She sought out girls to play at a higher level of competition than what they had ever experienced in those early years.

Not only did Joan recruit girls to play sports in high school, but she encouraged women of all ages to play and compete in basketball, softball, volleyball, running, and racquetball. Throughout her life, Joan played sports herself and attended many sports clinics and seminars to be current with rules and changes. Joan was constantly learning, teaching, and coaching in even the newest sports like pickleball.

After her coaching career at Hancock College, she returned to Santa Maria High School in the 1990's and continue coaching basketball at all the levels; freshman, junior varsity, and varsity. Joan loved basketball and competitive sports. She wanted to share her love for sports with women who had the same desire to play. Joan Edwards ended her coaching career at Santa Maria High School in 2016.



ATHLETE

# TERRY HERMELING



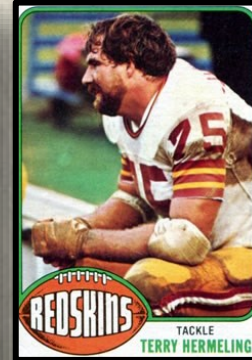
Terry Hermeling came to Nevada from junior college and played two seasons with the Wolf Pack from 1968-69. He was named to the All-Far Western Conference team his senior year and attracted the eye of several professional scouts. His pro career began in 1970 when he signed with the Washington Redskins, and he represented Nevada in the professional ranks for 11 years with Washington, playing in 120 games with 103 starts.

At 6'5" and 255 pound, he earned a reputation for protecting his quarterback and being one of the most intelligent offensive lineman in the NFL. He helped the Redskins to the 1972 NFC championship and led the NFC in yards passing in 1975. In 1973, the team made it to the Superbowl before losing to Miami 14-7. Terry Hermeling was one of the teams captains during this era.

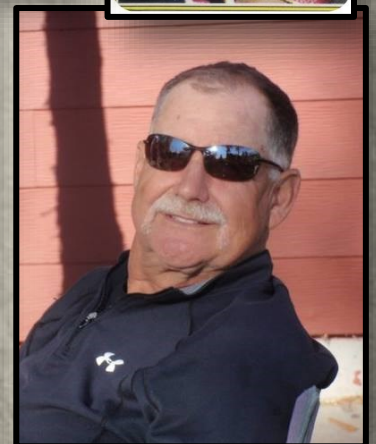
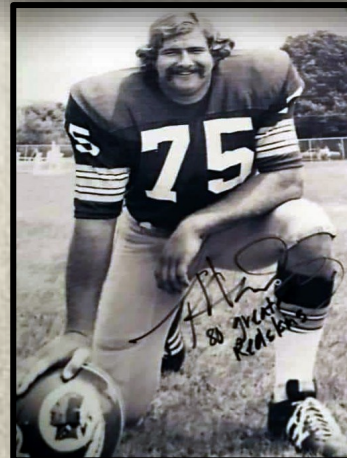
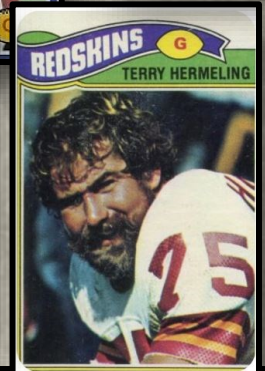
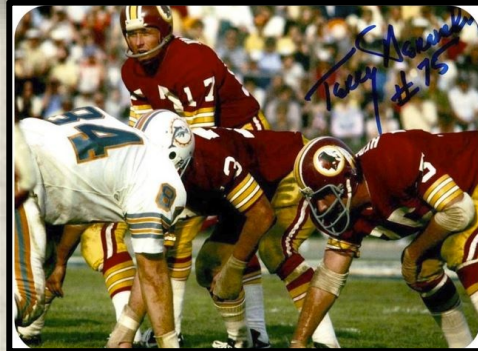
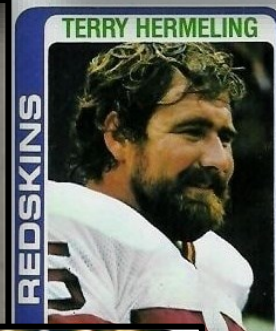
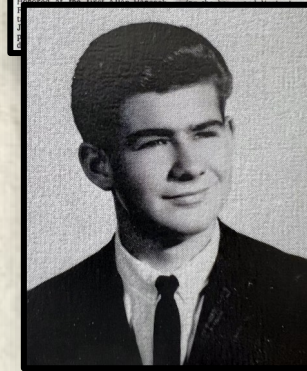
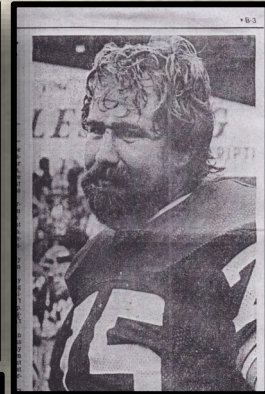
Among his honors, Washington's offensive line for many years is a plaque from the Nevada State Society in Washington, D.C. He currently owns Yur's Bar and Grill in Portland, Oregon. Terry was inducted into Nevada's Hall of Fame in 1981 and only played Football after high school



Bulldog Trophy Winners Named



TACKLE TERRY HERMELING

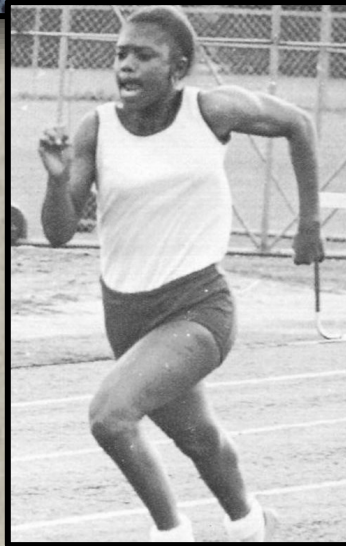
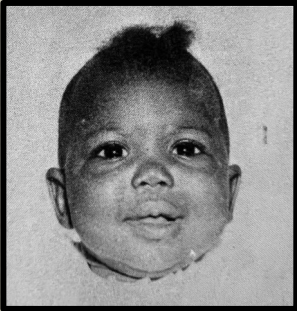






## ATHLETE

## CRYSTAL JOHNSON



Crystal (Johnson) Smith excelled in track, volleyball, and basketball. She went to Santa Maria High School when girls competitive sports were just starting. Crystal played four years of volleyball and four years of track. She was the main setter in volleyball, but despite her height Crystal proved to be a big hitter. She played basketball for a year but she turned her focus onto track.

This talented athlete found that running and field events in track were her best gifts. She loved the 100 m and 200 m runs. She made All CIF AAA Southern Section in the 100 m and the 200 m. While at SMHS she broke the 100 m record that was set by Cynthia McBride. This runner competed with 3 other runners in the 4 x 4 100 m relay and the 4 x 4 200 m relay. If the team needed another girl to compete, Crystal would perform the Triple Jump or the Long Jump. If she could place in those events then the team could get additional points for the meet.

After graduating from Santa Maria High School, Crystal continued her education and her sports career at Allan Hancock College. Again she played volleyball but she focused on running 100 m and 200 m sprints and the 4 x 4 relays.

Crystal transfer to Sonoma State University in 1984 where she continued to compete in volleyball and track. In 1985 she was named Female Student-Athlete of the Year. Throughout her high school and college careers Crystal credited her success to Lydia Johnson and Joan Edwards who coached her at SMHS. These two coaches recognized her talents and encouraged, coached, and supported this talented athlete. Crystal Johnson Smith said "These two coaches encouraged me to not be afraid and to "Go for it!"

Crystal graduated from Sonoma State University with a psychology degree. She returned to Santa Maria, married, and raised her two daughters. She worked at the Vocational Training Center, VTC, for over 30 years.



## ATHLETE/COACH

## RALPH BALDIVIEZ



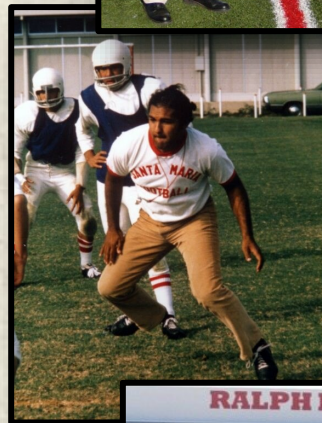
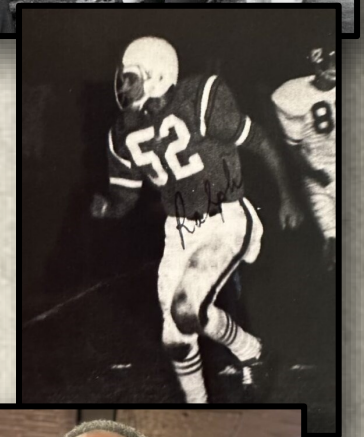
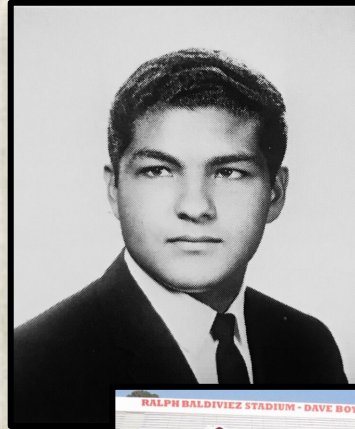
Ralph graduated from Santa Maria High in 1967, where he played on the Varsity football and wrestling teams. After high school, he continued his education at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. It was during his time in college that he began his coaching career. In 1971, Ralph became the assistant football coach. Starting at the freshmen level and eventually JV, and he would continue coaching as he completed his degree and teaching credential.

In the fall of 1974, Ralph was officially hired to teach at Santa Maria High School. He continued coaching football and would also coach wrestling for the next few years. In 1983, Ralph began his career as Athletic Director at Santa Maria High School. A position he would continue with for the next 28 years.

As Athletic Director, Ralph became the leader of the Saints Athletic program and would pave the way for athletic directors in the district and surrounding area for years to come. Throughout his years as Athletic Director, Ralph became the ultimate Saint, always striving to provide his students and coaches the best program and experience. He never wavered in his love for the Saints and pushed his athletes to adopt the same passion, integrity, and drive as they wore that red & white uniform. Ralph spent countless hours at sporting events, organizing sports schedules, managing coaches, traveling to attend away games, and fundraising for the program – all while maintaining his regular teaching job at the high school. He witnessed the Saints earn league titles, CIF titles, set new school records, adopt new sports, and had the pleasure of watching young men & women grow and excel through the sports program.

His students and colleagues have highly respected Ralph. In 2008 he was honored by naming the Santa Maria football stadium after him. After over 40 years of service and devotion to Santa Maria High School, Ralph retired in 2011. You can still catch him wearing red, but now it is usually on the golf course or traveling.

Ralph currently resides in Santa Maria with his wife of 52 years, Mary Ann. Ralph now enjoys spending most of his time with his five grandsons. You can find him most Saturdays attending one of the boy's many sporting events, which is only fitting for the retired AD.

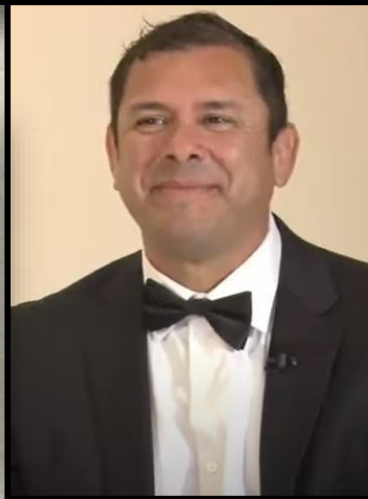
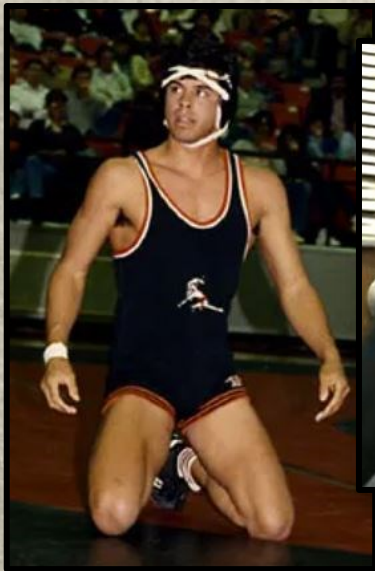






## ATHLETE

## VINCE SILVA



Vince began wrestling at Santa Maria High School where he won the CIF Southern Section in 1981 and in 1982, won the CIF Southern Section Masters Meet in 1982 after placing 4th as a junior, and then placed 4th as a senior in the CIF State Championships at 138 pounds.

He was the first and only “walk-on” in Oklahoma State University’s wrestling history to make the starting lineup as a sophomore and then start in three consecutive seasons. A team captain in his senior year, Silva was a Big 8 Conference Champion in 1988 at 158 pounds when he was ranked No. 2 nationally with a record of 18-1 behind North Carolina’s Rob Koll.

Vince was a two-time NCAA Division 1 All-American after placing 7th in 1986 with a record of 31-16-1 at 150 pounds, and then 5th in 1987 with a record of 27-13-2. When Vince began coaching, he served as an assistant at the University of Nebraska for two years under Head Coach Tim Neumann where he was named the Big 8 Conference Assistant Coach of the Year. He then coached two years at the University of Minnesota under legendary Head Coach and Hall of Fame member Jay Robinson.

Silva returned to California and served as an assistant coach for Head Coach Frank Gonzales for two years at Santa Ana College. Vince became Head Coach there in 2000, and he continues to guide the Dons today. His team won the 2005 California Community College Athletic Association State Championships, and he was designated the CCCAA Wrestling Coach of the Year as well as the National Coaches Association Wrestling Coach of the Year. In 2009, his team won another California CCAA Championship while going undefeated in dual matches and tournaments. Vince was again named the California JC Coach of the Year. During his tenure at Santa Ana College, Silva has coached 75 State Placers that include 60 All-Americans, 27 State Finalists and 13 individual State Champions.

In 2007, Vince was inducted into the Santa Barbara County Athletic Round Table Hall of Fame for his wrestling achievements, and in 2008, he was awarded the prestigious Bob Bubb Coaching Excellence Award in recognition of his accomplishments as a college coach who epitomizes the characteristics of a role model and mentor for developing student-athletes. He was inducted into the Orange County Wrestling Hall of Fame, and in 2015 he was inducted into the California Wrestling Hall of Fame.



ATHLETE

TAMI (MOELLER) ANDERSON



If one word could describe Tami Moeller's tenure on the basketball courts of Santa Maria High and beyond, "winner" would be an appropriate choice. When her career on the hardcourts had ended, Moeller's squads had won a basketball league or conference championship for nine consecutive years, spanning from Santa Maria to Cal Poly-Pomona.

Moeller started early, serving as the point guard for the Saints' squad that won the Northern League title in 1972-73, a feat the team would repeat three more times before her graduation in 1976. Before that happened, however, more was to be done. Following Moeller at the point, the Saints qualified for the first-ever CIF girls' basketball playoffs in 1974, a feat bested one year later when Santa Maria won the Division III-A championship. She earned first-team All-CIF honors for that feat. The following season, she repeated as Northern League MVP then was named a second-team All-CIF selection.

Graduated 1976

**SMHS Sports:**

- Basketball 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976 Lettered 4 years
- Track 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976 Lettered 4 years
- Softball 1974, 1975, 1976 Lettered 3 years
- Tennis 1975, 1976 Lettered 2 years

- Basketball 1975 League MVP, CIF 1st team MVP
- 1976 All-League MVP, CIF 2nd Team,

SMHS Outstanding Female Athlete

- Basketball 1975 Won 3A CIF Basketball Championship

**Allan Hancock College:**

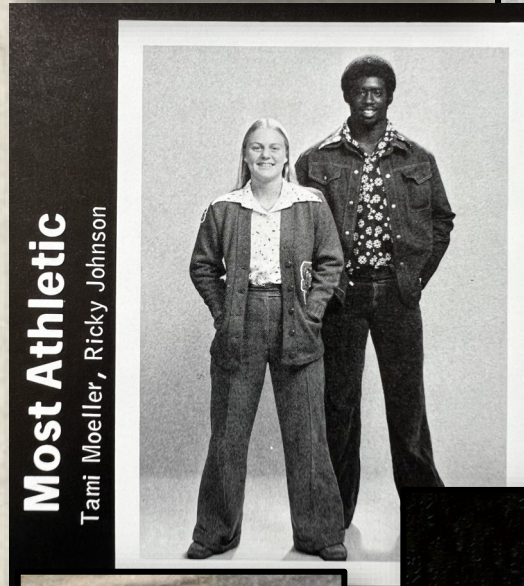
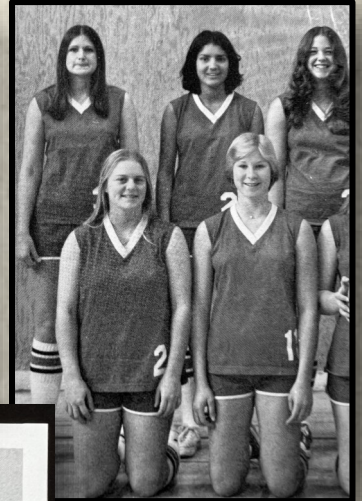
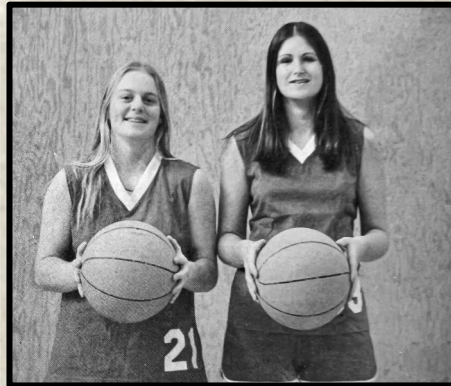
- Basketball 1976-977 League MVP
- 1977 So Cal JC Tournament Championship, MVP

**Cal Poly Pomona**

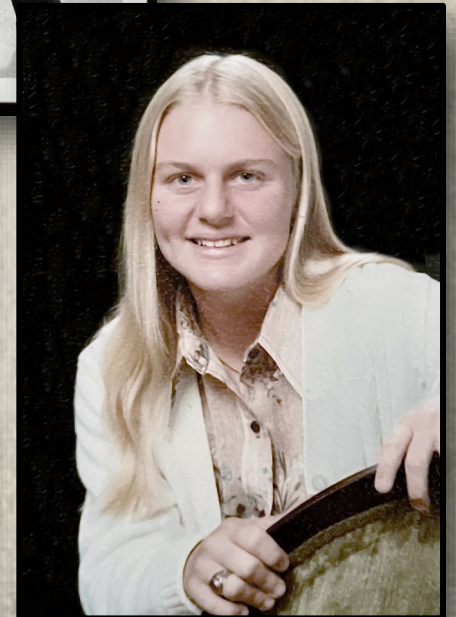
- Basketball 1978-1981

SMHS Assistant Coach with Larry Carney:  
Girls Basketball Team 1994-2004

Basketball: named Northern Santa Barbara County Athlete Hall of Fame 2008



**Most Athletic**  
Tami Moeller, Ricky Johnson

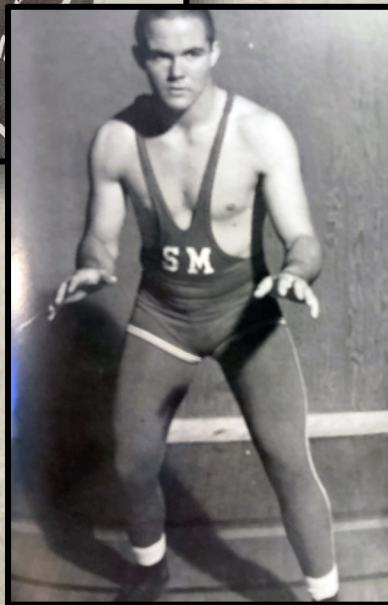
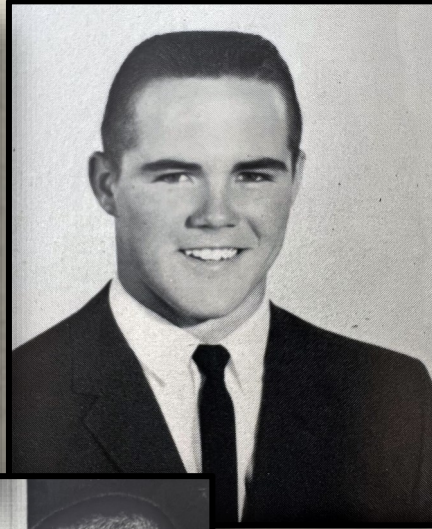
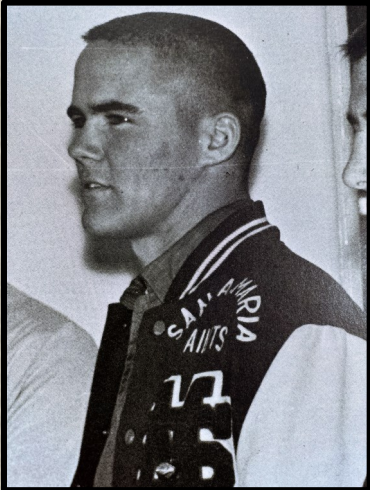






## ATHLETE

## ROY "WAYNE" KING



Roy "Wayne" King was part of the Class of 1966 and played football and wrestled for four years as a Saint. In football Wayne earned his first All Team CIF in the southern section and Northern League first team his junior and senior year. Wayne was a tackle and played both defense and offense for the Saints. He had an exceptional game against Righetti. King's spectacular tackles and rushing was an asset to the squad and earned him Saint of the Week, The Saints beat Righetti 60-14.

As a senior wrestler, Wayne was the northern league champion in the heavyweight division which earned him 1st place in CIF. During one of his league matches his senior year, Wayne overpowered his opponent and pinned him in 14 seconds. His athleticism continued during track season, Wayne also competed in the shot put.

After Santa Maria High School Wayne chose to continue his education and football career at the University of California Los Angeles. King played football three years at UCLA, but because of a recurring knee injury his senior year he didn't play. Instead he became the freshman assistant coach in 1970.

After graduation from UCLA, Wayne return to Santa Maria to be the assistant football coach at Allan Hancock College from 1970-1982 and to teach. Staying at Hancock, he became the head wrestling coach in 1973-1983. Then in 1983 he became the head football coach for the Bulldogs until 1989. Wayne was an assistant coach for football throughout the Santa Maria Valley for the next 24 years.

Roy Wayne King and wife, Sharie raised their four children on the central coast. Wayne stayed connected to his hometown and coached the sports that he loved making a positive impact on young athletes. A talented and successful athlete, a teacher and dedicated coach, Roy Wayne King earned his seat on Santa Maria High School's Athletic Hall of Fame.



## ATHLETE

## CURTIS READE

*Deceased*

Curtis "Curt" Reade played football and baseball as a Saint. He was an offensive lineman and was coached by Tom Hawkins. Reade played two years on the varsity level and his team went to the CIF playoffs his junior and senior years.

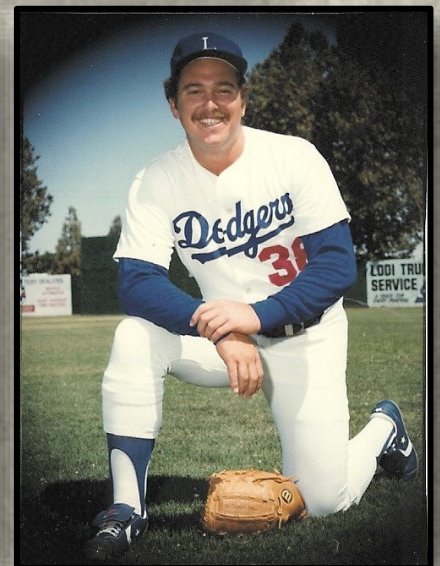
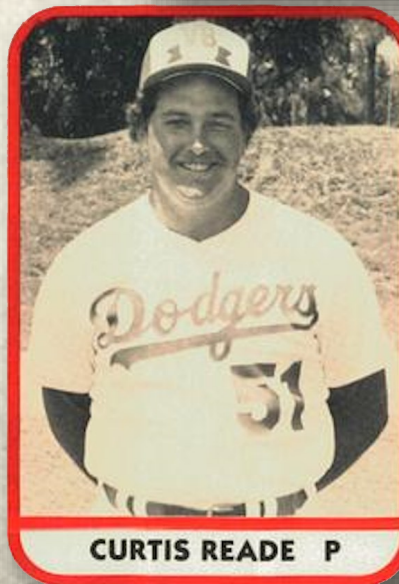
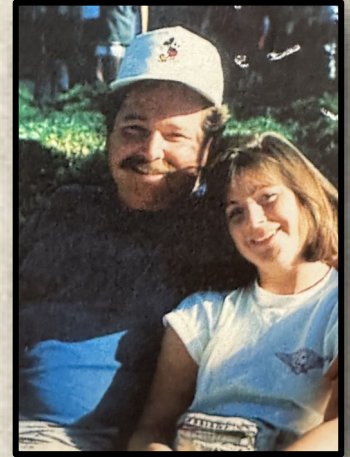
Baseball was Curt's sport. At Santa Maria High School Curt was a pitcher but he also played first base. His coach was Mr. Bill Yanez. After playing baseball at SMHS, Curt went to Hancock College to pitch under the guidance of John Osborne. It was during his sophomore year as a bulldog, that Reade was picked in the first round of the Major League Baseball Draft.

At that time, Curtis turned down the offer and chose to attend Fresno State University on a baseball scholarship. He played two years at Fresno State where he earned a nick name of "Bus". His team mates and friends called him Bus for the strength and power of his pitching.

While playing ball at Fresno State, the Los Angeles Dodgers took note of Curtis' accomplishments, and he was drafted into their organization. He played in the minor league in Lodi and had the fastest "fast" ball in the Dodger organization at that time. After spending over five years with the Dodgers, Curt was offered the opportunity to play Italian professional baseball in Italy.

Curtis Reade accepted the offer and he took his wife, Veroneka, and children, Curtis and Tiffany, to Italy and for Italian baseball.

Santa Maria High School retired Curt Reade's baseball number in \_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_.



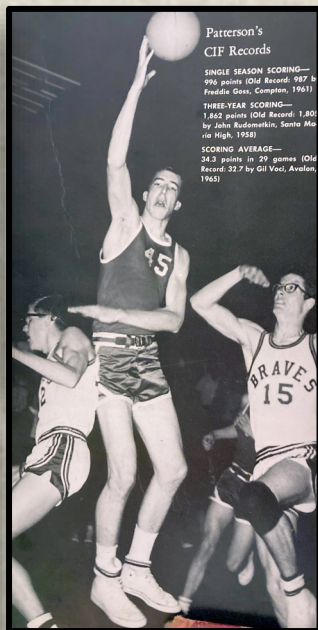




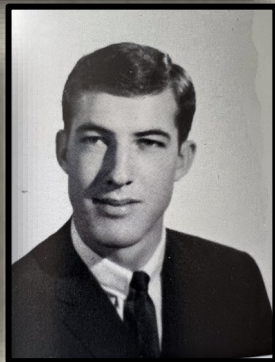
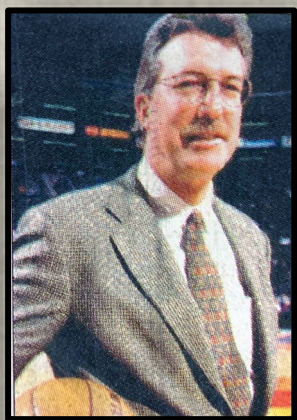
ATHLETE

STEVE PATTERSON

Deceased



Patterson's  
CIF Records  
SINGLE SEASON SCORING—  
996 points (Old Record: 987 by  
Freddie Goss, Compton, 1961)  
THREE-YEAR SCORING—  
1,862 points (Old Record: 1,805  
by John Rudometkin, Santa Ma-  
ria High, 1964)  
SCORING AVERAGE—  
34.3 points in 29 games (Old  
Record: 32.7 by Gil Voci, Avalon,  
1965)



Steve Patterson was the 6'9" center on the 1966 CIF Basketball Championship Team. The stand out student-athlete was name CIF 2A Player of the Year. The Saints took first place in league and Steve was chosen MVP, and was honored as an All American. During his high school career he set 3 CIF records; scoring 996 points that broke the old record of 987 in a single season, compiling 1,862 points in three years to break the old record, 1805 points, held by another Saint basketball player, John Rudometkin, and finally maintaining a scoring average of 34.3 point in 29 games. (The old record was 32.7 points in 1965.)

The team was coached by Coach Bob McCutcheon who returned to coaching basketball after a break for several years. Bob McCutcheon coached a Saint team in 1957 that for the first time in SMHS history won the CIF 2A Basketball Championship Title. With the team's outstanding season and Steve's extraordinary performance, he was recruited by many division I schools. He chose to play for John Wooden at University of California Los Angeles from 1969 to 1971.

That first year, Steve played back up to Kareem Abdul-Jabbar who was the starting center at UCLA. During that time Steve and the Bruins team won three National Championships. Bill Walton followed as the Bruins center after Steve. In his last game, a 68-62 victory over Villanova in the NCAA title game at the Houston Astrodome before a then-record crowd of 31,765, Patterson scored a career high 29 points.

Once Steve left UCLA, he continued his basketball career by trying out for the NBA. As the 1st pick in the 2nd round in the 1971 NBA draft, Steve went to play for the Cleveland Cavaliers for four seasons. He ended his pro career with the Chicago Bulls in 1975-76.

After his professional basketball career, he attended Santa Rosa Community College as a head coach then coached at Arizona State from 1985-89. He later served as chairman for the Phoenix area's Super Bowl committee in 1996 and was hired as commissioner of the Continental Basketball Association 1997.

Steve turned his focus on youth, community sports programs and sports philanthropy. There is a Steve Patterson Award for Excellence in Sports Philanthropy given in his honor by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Steve Patterson passed away in 2004 at the age of 56 from a short battle with cancer.





## ATHLETE

## TERRI (READE) BRAMER



Terri (Reade) Bramer was a freshman starter on the first girls basketball team to win the CIF Division 3A Championship at Santa Maria High School. That girls' team got the attention of the public with so many outstanding female athletes in 1975. Those players were the start of girls sports in the area, and Terri took full advantage of the opportunity. While she was in high school, Terri played 4 years of basketball, softball, and tennis.

Terri helped the Saints claim the Northern League Championship, then the CIF Division 3A Championship title. In her career at SMHS, Terri was named Northern League Most Valuable Player for two years and earned All CIF 1st Team honors.

Along with basketball, Terri also played tennis and softball. Again Terri excelled in softball earning varsity letter for 3 years and earning the team's MVP in her junior and senior years.

Like many of her peers Terri had a love for playing sports, but to have the chance to play in competitively within the neighboring schools and in a league enriched her high school experience.

In the 1970's high school was not just about classwork, studies, and homework for girls. Female athlete could release their energy on the sports field, test their skills, practice to get better and compete against other girls in a league just like the boys. Terri was one of those girls and she continued to prove her athletic ability when she went to college.

This gifted athlete went to Santa Clara University, setting the school's scoring record as a freshman basketball player. She earned the team's MVP title for 2 years and All League 1st team NCAA Division I. She was inducted in the Santa Clara University Hall of Fame in 2001.

In 2003 Terri was inducted into the Santa Barbara County Athlete Hall of Fame.

Terri lives in the Fresno area and has two sons, Reade and Trent.



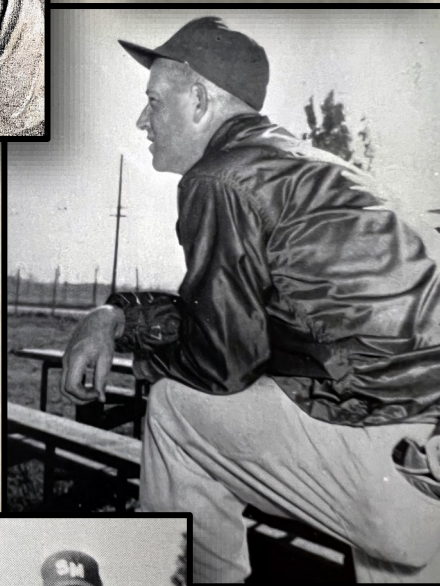




COACH

# DONALD WILSON

*Deceased*



Don met the love of his life, Santa Maria native Jo-Ann Smith while pitching on scholarship at Whittier College. They married right after graduation and while he worked on his graduate classes, he played semi-pro baseball. During the summer of 1952 his team traveled up to Elks Field to take on the Santa Maria Indians where he pitched a shut-out. The next morning, Vice President Prof Wilson offered Don the Varsity Coaching position that was being vacated by Joe White.

After moving to Santa Maria in 1952 Don began teaching freshman civics and physical education at Santa Maria High. He was proud to be named the Varsity Baseball Head Coach and during his eleven years the team went on to win seven league championships and two CIF Championships (1954 and 1957).

In 1963, Don was hired as the head coach for Allan Hancock College Baseball where he served for three years before retiring from coaching to accept a new position as Director of Adult Education but mostly to pursue his growing officiating career.

In 1965 Don was hired by the then PAC-8 (now PAC12) to officiate basketball and in 1969 he joined the conference in football. His collegiate officiating career was highlighted by being to officiate the 68<sup>th</sup> edition of "Granddaddy of them all", the 1982 Rose Bowl Game – Washington vs. Iowa.

In 1983, Don left college football for the newly formed professional league, United States Football League (USFL) where he worked as a head referee until the leagues demise in 1985.

While working at Hancock and busy with football officiating, Don found time to serve our local high school officiating organizations as well as commissioner and/or supervisor of many Community College and Division II leagues.

Upon retirement from officiating, Don continued his mission of training young officials and advancing them to the next level. To accomplish this, Don created the Western Collegiate Football Officials Association which not only trained, but also assigned officials to work at the Division 1AA level. This program was so successful it still exists in the NFL today.



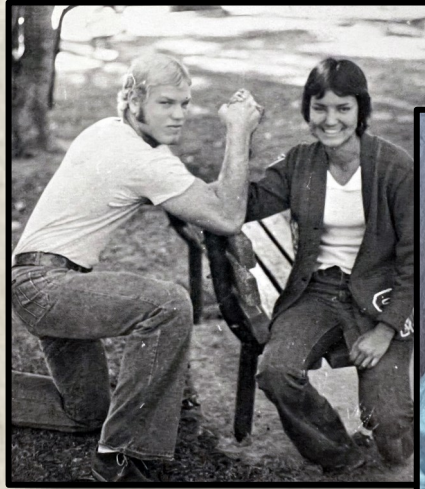
## ATHLETE

## JAN KIRCHOFF

*Deceased*

Jan Martin Kirchof comes from a long line of Santa Maria Saints, including his father Alan and brothers Kim and Kyle. Jan played at SMHS during the years 1973-1977. As a sophomore, Jan started as a lineman. Jan was a 1st Team All-League Defensive Lineman as a junior, 1st Team All-League OL and DL lineman as a Senior and voted the league's Most Outstanding Lineman. Jan played in the Santa Barbara County All-Star Football game.

He earned a scholarship to Cal Poly, where he played middle linebacker. He became a starter midway through his freshman year and played alongside his older brother Kim Kirchoff who was a starting defensive tackle for the Mustangs. Jan was the starting middle linebacker for Cal Poly for the next three years and won a National Championship with the mustangs in 1980—certainly, one of the most dominant high school players the Central Coast has ever seen.





## ATHLETE

## ROBERT (BOBBY) WHITE



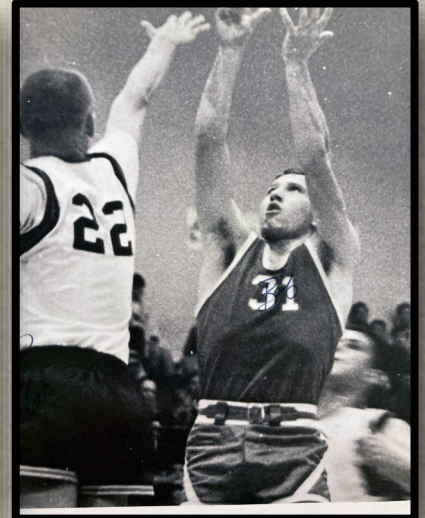
Robert "Bob" White was the starting guard on the Santa Maria High School 1966 CIF championship basketball team. Bob earned All CIF AA first team recognition in 1966 as well as All-SLO first team all league that same year. In Bob's senior year, he was named again All CIF AA first team 1967, MVP of Santa Barbara County Northern League first team. Academically, Bob excelled in his coursework and earned life membership of CSF, California Scholarship Federation.

After high school Bob White was offered a scholarship to attend the University of California, Berkeley (1967-1972) where he earned his degree in mathematics. Bob continued his basketball career and was a 3 year letterman at Cal Berkeley. He was named Most Inspiration Player in 1969 and 1970 plus won the Free Throw Award in 1969. While at Cal Berkeley he earned All Northern California Honorable Mention Award.

After graduating from Cal Berkeley Bob married his high school sweetheart, Donna Brass. They returned to the Santa Maria area and he attended California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo to get his teaching credential in mathematics. White began his career at his Alma Mater, teaching mathematics in 1977. He transferred to Righetti High School to teach math and coach the varsity basketball team for five years. He took his teams to win Northern League Champions for three seasons and co-champions for 2 seasons. He was name Coach of the Year twice and two more times northern League Co-coach of the year, 1978 - 1983.

In 1983 Coach White joined the Allan Hancock College staff to teach mathematics, physical education, and coach the men's basketball team. The Bulldogs were Western States co-champions in 1999 and Champions in 2004. In 1988, 1989, 1990, his teams were quarterfinalist in the State playoffs. During his coaching career, Bob's teams had 347 wins, the most wins in the school's history under the same coach.

Bob White was a high school and college stand out in basketball. When he was ready to start his career, Bob and his wife returned to their hometown. Bob and Donna raised their three sons, David, Brian, and Scott, who went through the Santa Maria High School and Righetti High School. Robert White's father was Joe White, who contributed to the sports program at Hancock College. Bob returned to Hancock and continued his own legacy at Santa Maria's community college.



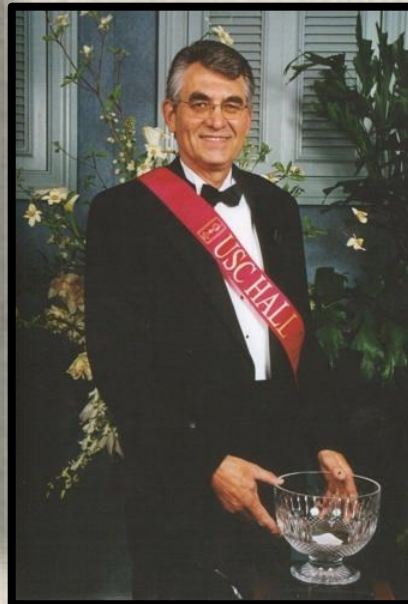




ATHLETE

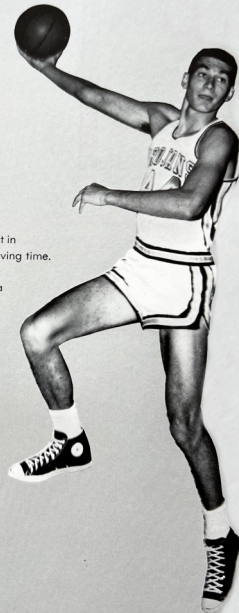
JOHN RUDOMETKIN

Deceased



JOHN RUDOMETKIN

Strikes Famous Santa Maria Athlete



John Rudometkin, III, Santa Maria High's all-time great in basketball, was stricken with incurable cancer at Thanksgiving time. Finding himself short of wind time after time, he was finally hospitalized in Fresno, Calif. Exploratory surgery revealed a rare type of cancer—reticulum cell sarcoma.

Rudo, the reckless Russian, carried a convincing set of basketball credentials that started in his junior year on campus. He set many C.I.F. scoring records, was named C.I.F. player of the year, was a prep all-American, made all-American at Hancock College and at the University of Southern California. In addition, John holds 10 of the 12 scoring records at U.S.C. He played three years of professional basketball with the New York Knickerbockers.

Those who knew of Rudometkin's capabilities, stamina, and courage realized that it was his illness that brought about his shortened pro career.

John Rudometkin was the starting center on the first CIF 2A Championship basketball team at Santa Maria High School. The team won the title in 1957 and Rudometkin won numerous honors, including CIF Player of the Year, All American in 1957 and 1959, and 1st team all league. The 6'6" Saint was coached by Bob McCutcheon, whose second team in 1966 would win the CIF Championship again. Rudometkin scored a record high of 966 points in a single season (1957-1958). That record would be broken by another Saint player, Steve Patterson, in 1965-1966 when Steve scored 987 points in his CIF Championship season.

After high school, John continued his education and athletic career at Allan Hancock College. He played one season as a Bulldog and averaged 18.2 points per game. Jim Glines, the President of the Hancock Boosters Association, said "John was a true sports pioneer. He was one of the greatest, if not the greatest to come out of the Santa Maria Valley."

Rudometkin went on to University of Southern California in 1959. John's success followed him at the college level. In his three varsity seasons at the Division I institution, he held career records. During his career, he scored 1,434 points, 18.8 point average, 10.5 rebounds in 79 games. In 1961 he led the Trojans to a conference title, when he was named team MVP, and second team All American. John was inducted into the USC's Hall of Fame in 2001, and his Number 44 jersey was retired by the Trojans in 2010.

After college, Rudometkin was selected in the second round as the 11th overall pick by the New York Knicks in the 1962 NBA draft. He spent 3 seasons playing for the Knicks until he was signed as a free agent on February 2, 1962, by the San Francisco Warriors with whom he would finish his season (and his career). Though John played the center position in college, he played the forward position in the NBA.

John played one year with the Warriors when he was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. It forced him to quit his basketball career with the Warriors and he focused on getting well. After years of treatment, John finally went into remission in 1966. He believe that his medical treatment and his faith got him through this ordeal. It was a miracle that he was able to survive the tumor that encircled his lung and heart.

John Rudometkin, was married, had three sons, had a basketball career, wrote a book about his life experiences of basketball, and travelled the country as a motivational speaker. John passed away on August 4, 2015.



## ATHLETE

**DON GATEWOOD***Deceased*

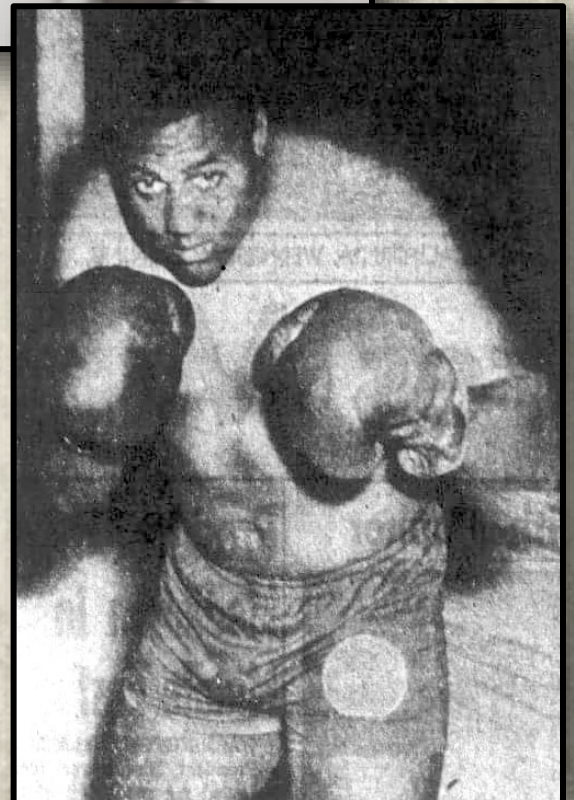
Donald "Don" Gatewood: When Don's family came to Santa Maria they were the first black family to move in. They were a pioneer family of African-American descent. His parents were Eula and Loudon Gatewood, and Don was their eighth child.

Don entered SMHS, and he played football and baseball. During his junior and senior year the football team made the CIF play offs. As a fullback Don made All conference in league both as a junior and a senior. In his freshman year Gatewood made the Saints varsity baseball team. During his junior and senior year the Saints baseball team made the playoffs but in 1957 they won CIF Championship.

Don was involved in numerous student clubs and activities. He became the first black student body president. After graduating in 1957, he received a football scholarship to Idaho State College, but Don chose to stay in town to attend Allan Hancock College. His two seasons at Hancock did not go well in football or baseball, so he accepted the scholarship to Idaho State College and transferred there.

Don returned to Santa Maria worked for the city, then coached and taught at St Joseph High School from 1965 to 1969. He went back to college at the University of San Francisco and earned a business degree. From 1969 through 1997 Don worked in various vocational schools, helping physically and mentally challenged students and adults. He worked for the Santa Maria Association, Orange County Association, and the Ventura County Association.

After Don's retirement, he relocated to Hawaii, but he still has family that live in the Santa Maria Valley.



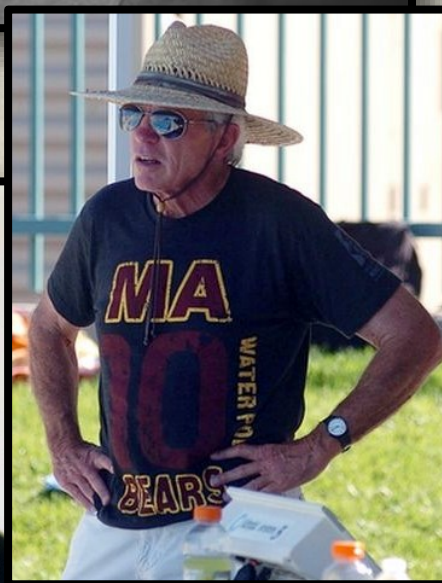
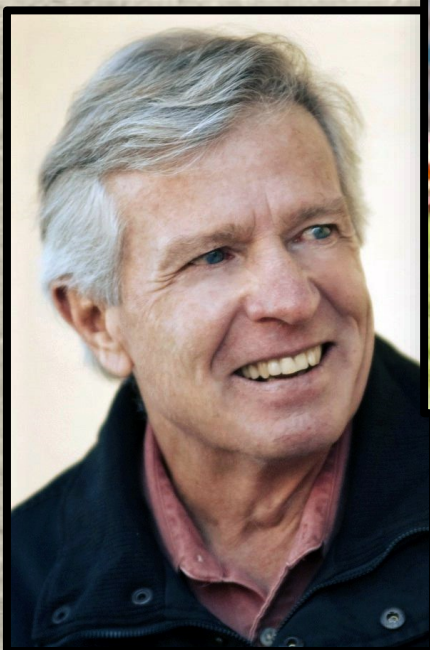




ATHLETE/COACH

# DANTE DETTAMANTI

*Deceased*



Dante Dettamanti was the son of Josie Mossi and Elio Dettamanti and was born in Santa Maria, CA in 1942. Dante attended Santa Maria High School and was on the swim team for Karl Bell. When Coach Bell started the water polo programs, Dettamanti went out for this new water sport.

Dante graduated in 1960 and went on to attend University of California at Davis. He earned a bachelor's degree in engineering. He enlisted in the army, then returned to UCLA, earning his master's degree in Exercise Physiology. This period of time was the start of Dante's coaching experience at UC Santa Barbara and Occidental College.

Dettamanti's career was coaching water polo for which he did for 25 years at Stanford University. His Stanford team won eight National Championships, advancing to the NCAA title game 14 times. Dettamanti became only the second collegiate coach in NCAA history to record over 600 career wins and the only collegiate coach to win NCAA championships in four different decades.

Dante was named National Coach of the year six times, and league coach a total of ten seasons. He also had great success on the international stage, coaching the USA World University teams and he lead them to gold and silver medals in 1979 and 1981. This was the highest finish for the USA national team, many former players went on to achieve success at the Olympics.

After his retirement, Dettamanti stayed involved in the sport by consulting with coaches and players all over the world, conducted interviews, and authored several books on water polo.

Dante was physically active his entire life. He was an impressive athlete and was one of the original pioneers in the sport of triathlon. His training included swimming, hiking, and biking regularly. In 1981 Dante Dettamanti completed and placed 6th in the prestigious Hawaii Iron Man Triathlon. (2.4-mile ocean swim, 112 mile bike race, followed by the 26.2 mile run)

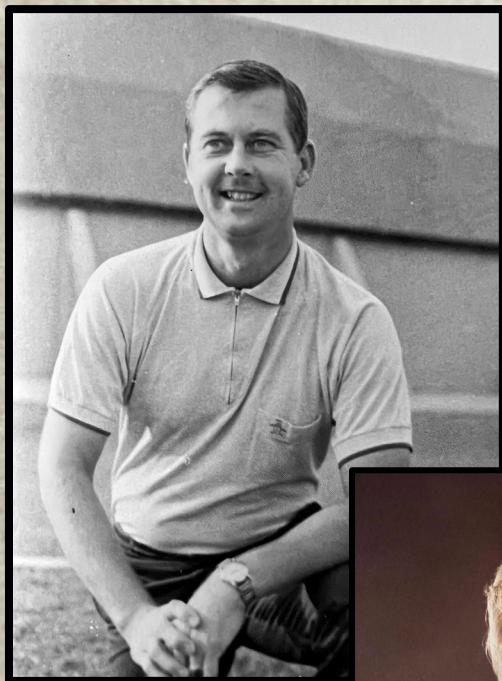
Once Dettamanti found water polo in his senior year at SMHS with Coach Karl Bell, that season determined his life career. Dante devoted his life to water polo, playing, coaching, consulting and interviewing, and writing books on water polo.





COACH

# TOM HAWKINS



Tom Hawkins came to Santa Maria High School when the Saints were a power house in football. Coach Hawkins arrived in 1966 after a national search found him in Merced, California, where he had been an assistant football coach. Tom and his two assistant coaches, Don Rohrke and Bob Biddle, took their talented football players into a new league his first year at Santa Maria High School.

With the regrouping of the league teams, the Saints were competing against San Marcos, Lompoc, Cabrillo, Righetti. Coach Hawkins guided the Saints to a 77 and 12 record over the next 10 seasons. The Saints made the playoffs seven times under Coach Hawkins. That was an accomplishment since at that time only one team in the league was allowed to go to the playoffs.

There were several milestones achieved by the Saints while Hawkins coached. The Saints never lost to a football team in the San Luis Obispo County and they were undefeated by local teams, Righetti and Dos Pueblos.

One of the greatest seasons the Saint football program ever had was in 1972 when the Tom Hawkins led them to a 12-1 season. The Saints' only loss that year was a 16-15 defeat to Los Altos in the CIF 3A Championship finals.

Tom coached football stand outs that made high school All Americans, MVP of the league, and players that continued their football career at USC, UCLA, Ohio State University, Stanford, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo,

Saints football continued their winning season and dominance in the area under the guidance of Coach Hawkins. His winning record with SMHS has earned Tom Hawkins a seat in the Santa Maria Athlete Hall of Fall.



# *Autographs*



ALMA MATER  
ON THE FERTILE VALLEY FLOOR  
GLORIOUS TO VIEW  
SM HIGH IS PROUDLY STANDING  
HAIL OH, HAIL TO YOU.  
FEARLESS SAINTS EVER ONWARD  
WAVE YOUR COLORS BRIGHT  
HAIL TO YOU OUR ALMA MATER  
HAIL, OUR RED AND WHITE.  
RED AND WHITE, RED AND WHITE.  
COME ON SAINTS, FIGHT TEAM FIGHT

*Once a Saint, Always a Saint*