

Jose “Manny” Penaflor

Athlete: Football

Coach: Boys Soccer

Class of 1959

Athlete

Manny was a standout football player and track athlete at Santa Ana High School. In the 1958 football season he was the co-captain of the Sunset League Champion Santa Ana HS football team. In the 1958 football season Manny was named First Team All-Sunset League, First Team All-County, and the Orange County Register Lineman of the Year. He played in the very first Orange County All Star Game in the summer of 1959, and was selected by coaches as the 1959 SAHS Athlete of the Year. Manny excelled academically as well, and was voted by the SAHS senior class to receive the Coterion Award as the top student in his class. He received a four year scholarship to UC Berkeley where he was a four year letterman. Manny also lettered in track at Santa Ana HS, taking 2nd place in the Sunset League in the shot put.

Coach

After college, Manny came back to Santa Ana High where he worked as a teacher and a coach in football, wrestling, track, and soccer at Santa Ana High School from 1965-2005. As a teacher and coach, Manny was an inspiration to thousands of student-athletes spanning 40 years. To quote Manny’s former football coach, Tom Baldwin, in a July 6, 2010 news article, “You can write a book about Manny. To me he is an amazing man. He didn’t speak English until the fourth grade and he goes on to graduate in the top of his class and goes on to UC Berkeley. All these barriers he overcame.” Throughout his coaching career, Manny inspired many student-athletes to similarly overcome obstacles and achieve success.

Coaching Resume:

~Assistant Football Coach from 1965-1980, serving as defensive coordinator under head coach Tom Baldwin.

- ~Head Wrestling Coach from 1965-1972***
- ~Assistant Wrestling Coach from 1972 -1982***
- ~Assistant Boys Soccer Coach from 1982-1989***
- ~Track Coach – boys and girls throws 1980-2000 (in 2000 he coached Matala Lualemaga, finishing as the girls Orange County shot put champion, placing 2nd in CIF, and 8th at Masters)***
- ~Head Coach Boys Soccer from 1986-2000 – winning the Golden West League Championship 6 times: 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999, and 2000***
 - 1997 team was ranked #1 in County and his 1999 team was ranked #2 in the County***
 - 1997 Mustang Invitational Champion***
 - 1996 CIF Quarterfinalist***
 - 1997 CIF Semifinalist***

He received the Bravo Award from the Superintendent in March 2005