

# Los Gatos High School Athletic Hall of Fame

**W**elcome to the nineteenth induction ceremony for the Los Gatos High School Athletic Hall of Fame. It is the goal of the Hall of Fame committee to recognize those men and women who, while students at Los Gatos High School, distinguished themselves as outstanding athletes. It is our hope that we have created a Hall of Fame that honors the accomplishments of past Los Gatos High School athletes and also serves as a source of community pride and inspiration.

It is an extremely difficult task to sort through the hundreds of athletes worthy of this honor. In a school established in 1887, the number of athletes worthy of induction is still very large. Tonight, each of you can obtain a Hall of Fame ballot. Please take the time to nominate any athlete whom you consider worthy of entry into the LGHS Athletic Hall of Fame. The committee will evaluate and discuss the accomplishments of each nominated athlete whose name we receive. We will add that person's name to the growing list of outstanding athletes who will continually be considered. Each year we hope to recognize more athletes and continue to balance gender and era and cover the entire spectrum of sports competition throughout the decades.

To be selected to the Hall of Fame, a candidate must receive 75% of the votes from the standing committee. This committee is dedicated to recognizing those athletes who clearly displayed greatness on the playing fields while students at Los Gatos High School. We hope to continue the level of excellence that tonight's inductees typify. Our inductees will be recognized with a beautiful trophy. Their names will be added to the banner hanging in the school's gym.

We plan to begin shortly after tonight's proceedings with the selection of next year's class of inductees. The guidelines established by the committee require that 10 years pass from graduation from high school before a candidate becomes eligible for consideration. We hope to make the announcement for the Hall of Fame "Class of 2025" at the Alumni Reunion Football Game in October 2024 and honor the group at a dinner ceremony on the first Saturday in May 2025. Please enjoy the evening as we recount the accomplishments and feats of some of the greatest Wildcat athletes in the long and storied history of Los Gatos High School.

*Los Gatos High School Hall of Fame Committee*

# Los Gatos High School Athletic Hall of Fame

*Induction Dinner – May 3, 2024*

## **Evening's Events and Timetable**

**4:45 PM**

*Hall of Famers' Photo Shoot*

**5:30 PM**

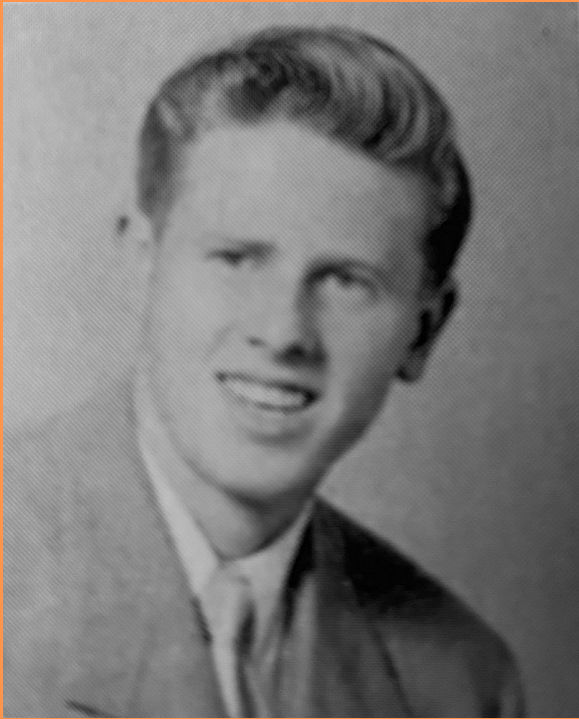
*No Host Reception*

**6:45 PM**

*Dinner*

**8:00-10:00 PM**

*Introduction of 2024 Hall of Fame Inductees*

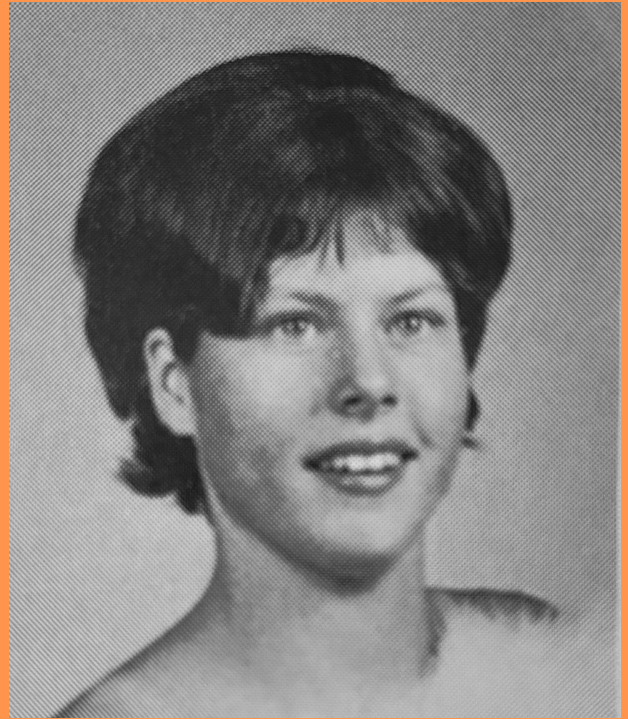


***Donald Straub***

**1950  
FOOTBALL, TENNIS**

Don's greatest achievements were as a tennis player. He played on four SCVAL championship tennis teams in 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950, all four years of high school. His junior and senior seasons he was the #1 singles player and the SCVAL singles champion in both 1949 and 1950. After graduation, Don went on to San Jose State where he also played four years of varsity tennis and earned the #1 singles position for the Spartans. He played two years of 130 football as a freshman and sophomore before focusing solely on his tennis game.

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***Terrie Ogilvie Christiansen***

**1966  
SWIMMING**

Terrie was one of the highest nationally ranked swimmers ever to have graduated from Los Gatos High. She was a member of the 4x100 yard freestyle relay team that broke the American record on April 17, 1966. She swam the fourth fastest American 100 meters backstroke time at the USA Swimming National Championships in August 1966, just tenths of seconds behind four Olympic swimmers. She was also a member of the 4x100 meter Medley relay team that won the USA Swimming National Championships in 1966. Terrie swam for the Santa Clara Swim Club coached by world renowned George Haines. Terrie also played on a water polo team with SCSC teammates that won a national championship where she was voted team MVP.

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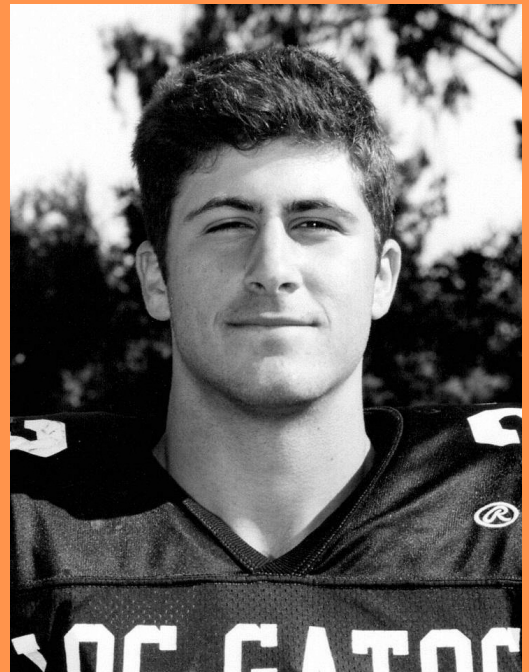
***Russ Tanner***

**1996**

**VOLLEYBALL**

Russ was a member of the first Boys Volleyball team to compete at LGHS in 1996. After his senior season he was named team MVP, League MVP and an All-State selection. Russ shattered a two-decade-old record at age 16, becoming the youngest AAA-rated beach volleyball player in history, a record he held for 12 years. He won three Junior Olympic All-American honors, dual MVP honors at the Alisal tournament, and a spot on the All-Tournament team at the prestigious California Tournament of Champions. He claimed victory in numerous AAA beach volleyball tournaments and achieved national recognition as a grass doubles national champion. He played Division 1 volleyball at BYU.

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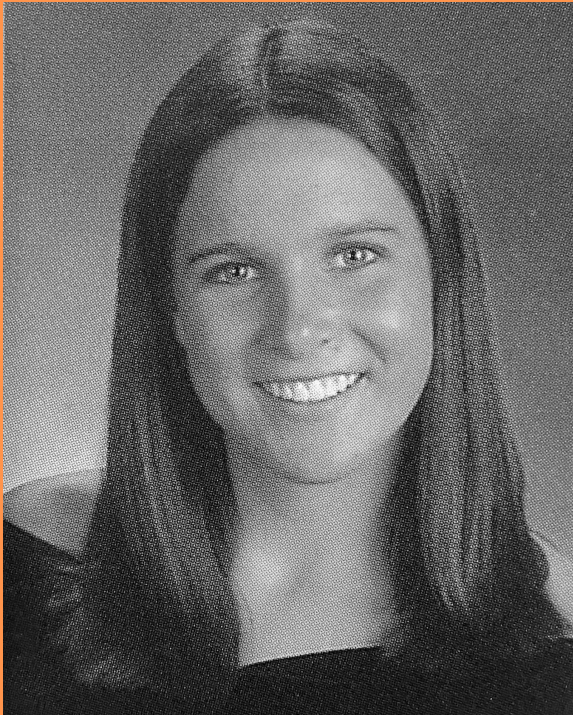
***Danny Bates***

**2004**

**FOOTBALL, SOCCER, TRACK**

Danny was an outstanding football player. During his two years of varsity football, his teams won 2 League titles and one section title. He was the first Los Gatos player to rush for over 2,000 yards in a season. His outstanding performances included 300 yards vs. Milpitas, 186 yards against Saratoga, 221 vs. Wilcox and 255 yards against Palo Alto in the league championship game. His senior season totals included 2,380 rushing yards and he was named the League MVP, first-team All-CCS and 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Metro. He scored 31 touchdowns in 12 games his senior season. He played 4 years of soccer and was also a sprinter on the track team running the 100 and 200. He was the Panighetti Trophy winner his senior year as the outstanding male athlete.

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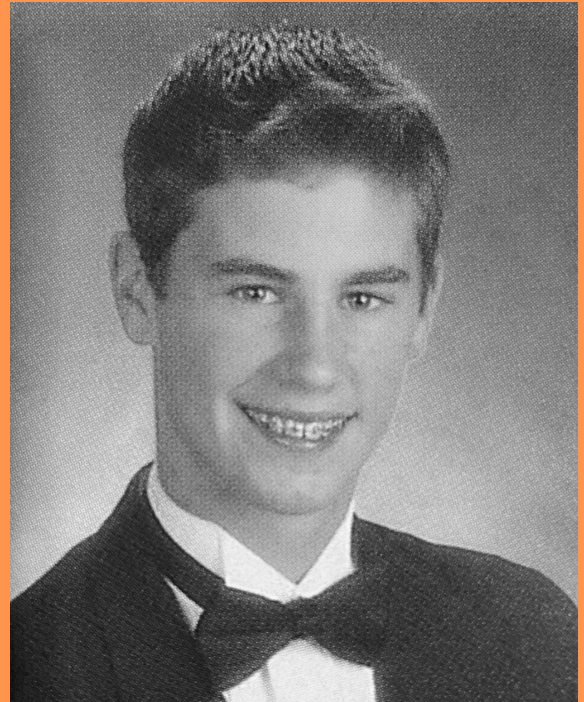
***Melissa Mullins Umansky***

**2004**

**SOFTBALL, GOLF**

Melissa played every varsity softball game for four years on teams that went to the CCS playoffs all four of those years. She was really the only pitcher her Sophomore, Junior, and Senior seasons, pitching every game her sophomore and junior years. She was a three-time first team all-league selection and chosen as the SCVAL Defensive MVP as a sophomore and junior. Her sophomore season she was 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-CCS and threw 7 consecutive shutouts that included 45 straight scoreless innings, including 4 no hitters and an 0.91 ERA. Her junior season she threw 7 shutouts and held opposing hitters to a batting average of just .162. In those two seasons alone, she recorded 332 strikeouts. Mellissa also played three seasons on the golf team.

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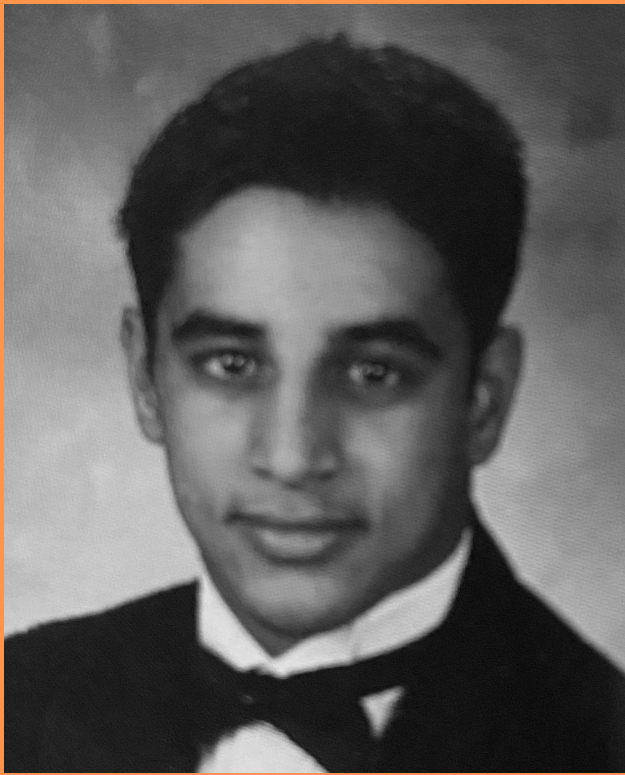
***Logan Schafer***

**2004**

**SOCCER, BASEBALL**

Logan played four years of soccer and four years of baseball at LGHS. As a soccer player he was a four-year starter while also competing on an Olympic Development team. He was offered a scholarship to play soccer at Northwestern University, but declined as baseball was his first love. His four years of baseball at LG saw him pitch, play first base and centerfield. With his great speed and solid bat, he was a big contributor to the Wildcat baseball program. After high school he attended Cuesta Jr. College, transferred to Cal Poly SLO where he made an immediate impact, getting drafted in the third round after his junior season. Prior to his 6-year MLB career he was named Milwaukee's Minor League Player of the Year, was the Florida League batting champion and 3 times was named the Brewer's organization's best defensive player.

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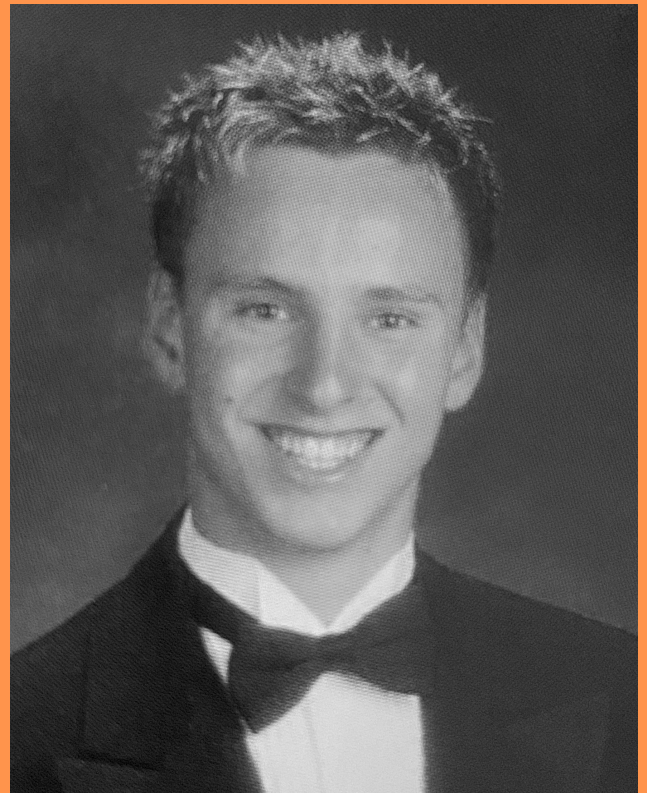
***Naveed Bagheri***

**2007**

**WRESTLING**

Naveed finished his high school career at Los Gatos as one of the most successful wrestlers in program history. He had a career record of 112 – 36 with 34 pins and 12 technical falls. He finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the state after finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in league and 2<sup>nd</sup> in CCS to a league opponent who was a two-time state champion and eventual Olympian. Naveed was LGHS's first champion at the prestigious Sierra Nevada Classic as well as tying for the highest finish in school history as the Five Counties Tournament. Naveed wrestled at San Francisco State where he was a 3-time NCAA All American, winning an NCAA Championship his senior season. At SFSU he was twice chosen Male Athlete of the Year and inducted into the SFSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 2022.

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***Nico Weiler***

**2008**

**TRACK AND FIELD**

In 2007 and 2008 Nico was a two-time California State Champion in the Pole Vault. He was also a two-time CCS and Indoor National Champion Pole Vaulters those two years. He holds the CCS record with a vault of 17' 6 1/4", over 8 inches higher than the second-best vault in CCS history. Nico was the Field team MVP twice and is considered to be the Most accomplished Track and Field athlete in school history. In 2008 he was the #1 pole vaulter in the nation, finishing first at the Arcadia National Invitational. Nico continued his amazing pole vault career at Harvard University where he was an All American, and holder of all of Harvard pole vault records. He had a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish in the NCAA Outdoor Championships with a vault of 18'0"

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***Danielle Katz***

**2013**

**CROSS COUNTRY, TRACK**

Danielle is the best Cross Country runner in LGHS history, holding the fastest times in school history at the league course, the CCS course and the state course. She was a three-time MVP of the Cross Country team and CCS champion who also finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state, the highest finish at the state meet in school history. In Track, she is the only athlete in LGHS history to finish in the top 5 of CCS in all three distance races. Danielle has the fastest 3000 meter time in school history as well as the fastest 1600 time to go along with the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest 3200 and 5<sup>th</sup> fastest 800 time in school history. She made the state meet in the 800 and 4x400 relay her junior year and the state meet her senior year in the 1600 where she set the school record. She went on to a stellar running career at Stanford where she continued to excel.

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***THANK YOU***

**To the friends and businesses  
whose generosity helped make this  
evening a great success**

**Justin Petersen / Play1Media**

- **Program Printing**

**Dan Mullins and Pro Signs**

- **Posters**

**Dave Lepori**

- **Photography**

**Erin Robinson / Jeff Benjamin**

- **Sponsorship Support**

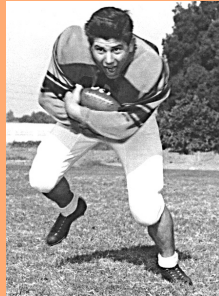
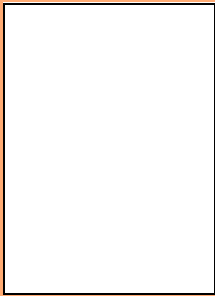
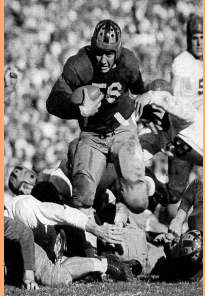
- **Wine Selection**

**Cathy Macierz**

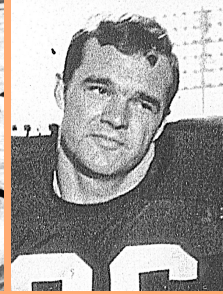
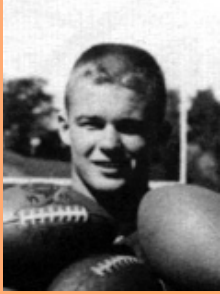
- **Flowers**

**La Rinconada Country Club**

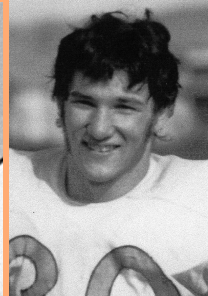
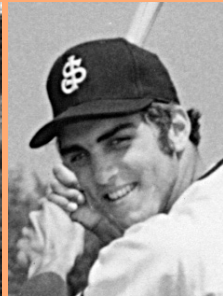
## 2004 Hall of Fame Inductees



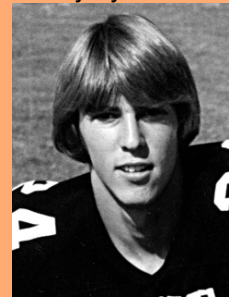
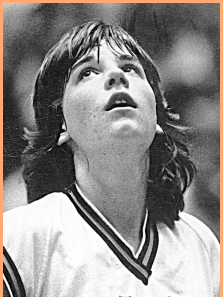
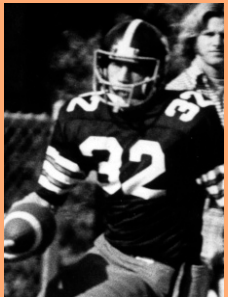
Dave Anderson '35 Bob Chambers '44 Ken Spagnola '54



Hugh Campbell '59 Chris Von Saltza  
Olmstead '61 Bill Fairband '63



Bob Branon '64 Ed Siracusa '69 Gary Lynn '74



Holden Smith '76 Suzy Meckenstock-  
Seandel '82 Dave Bearden '82



Todd Mayo '85

Heidee Ruiz '88