

San Jose Sports Hall of Fame to induct 10th Anniversary Class

For Immediate Release

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SAN JOSE (Sept. 9, 2004) – Five South Bay athletes who left indelible marks in the National Football League, Olympic Games, National Basketball Association and Professional Golfers' Association form the 10th Anniversary Class of Inductees for the San Jose Sports Hall of Fame.

The 10th Anniversary Class, which will be inducted in dinner ceremonies Nov. 4 at HP Pavilion, includes:

- John Brodie, former Stanford and San Francisco 49ers quarterback,
- Amy Chow, a double Olympic medalist and member of the championship U.S. women's gymnastic team at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics,
- Kurt Rambis, a former Santa Clara star who played on four NBA championship teams,
- Pat Tillman, football star at Leland High and with the Arizona Cardinals before his death in combat in Afghanistan,
- Ken Venturi, a San Jose State graduate who was U.S. Open champion and long-time television golf analyst.

The ceremonies will also honor five other South Bay athletes with athlete-of-the-year awards.

Amateur Athletes of the Year:

- Tara Kirk, former Stanford swimmer and silver medalist at the Athens Olympics,
- Jason Windsor, former pitcher at Leigh High who was the Most Outstanding Player of the College World Series for NCAA champion Cal State Fullerton.

High School Athletes of the Year:

- Allie Miller of Los Altos High, state high jump champion and volleyball player,
- Zac Monsees of Leland High, all-CCS water polo player who qualified for the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in Swimming.

Special Olympian of the Year:

- Stacey Stevenson of San Jose, a 30-year program participant and seven-sport athlete who won medals in swimming, track and field.

The event begins with a 5:30 p.m. VIP reception and silent auction followed by the dinner ceremony at 7 p.m. Dinner tickets begin at \$150 each and may be reserved by calling (408) 288-2932.

The 10th Anniversary Class of Inductees brings to 50 the number of South Bay athletes in the Hall of Fame, which recognizes each honoree with a brass plaque mounted in the concourse of HP Pavilion. The annual dinner is an event of the San Jose Sports Authority, San Jose Arena Authority, HP Pavilion Management/San Jose Sharks and the City of San José. A portion of the proceeds benefits Special Olympics Silicon Valley Region.

The San Jose Sports Authority is the sports marketing agency for the City of San José and supports youth and amateur athletics throughout the community as well as bringing premier sports events to the city. Visit our website at www.sjsa.org.

San Jose Sports Hall of Fame 10 th Anniversary Induction Dinner

Sponsorship packages

Platinum Table Sponsor – \$ 5 ,000

Includes:

- One 10-seat table, premium location
- Access to VIP reception and press conference with 10 th Anniversary Class of Inductees
- Name and logo in event program
- Introduction and recognition as a Platinum Table Sponsor
- Commemorative gift

Gold Table Sponsor – \$2,500

Includes:

- One 10-seat table, preferred location
- Name and logo in event program
- Introduction and recognition as a Gold Table Sponsor
- Commemorative gift

Silver Table Sponsor – \$2,000

Includes:

- One 10-seat table
- Name in event program
- Commemorative gift

Inductee biographies

John Brodie

A quarterback for Stanford University and the San Francisco 49ers, he was one of the most prolific and accurate passers in football. Named All-American in 1956 for leading the nation in pass attempts, completions, completion percentage, yardage and touchdowns, he joined the 49ers in 1957 and led the NFL in completion percentage three times. He was named NFL Player of the Year in 1970 when he led his team to the NFC Championship Game. After retirement, he became a television commentator on pro football and golf, and had a successful career on the PGA Senior Tour.

Amy Chow

A native of San Jose and a two-time Olympian, Chow was a member of the first U.S. women's team to win an Olympic gold medal in gymnastics. Having first competed for the United States in 1992, she achieved international fame as a member of what became known as the "Magnificent 7" – the U.S. women's championship team at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. She also won an individual silver medal on the uneven bars. Four years later she returned to the Olympics in Sydney .

Kurt Rambis

A graduate of Cupertino High School and Santa Clara University , his distinguished professional career spanned 13 seasons in the NBA. He left Cupertino as Santa Clara County 's second all-time prep scorer. At Santa Clara he was named freshman of the year in 1976, and he was the West Coast Conference Player of the Year in 1980. He currently ranks as the school's all-time leader in points and ranks second in field goals and rebounds. He joined the Los Angeles Lakers in 1981, and helped the team capture four NBA championships.

Pat Tillman

A native of San Jose and graduate of Leland High, he challenged himself as a complete person, and thus challenged everyone who knew him. A star two-way player at Leland, he earned a scholarship to Arizona State where he was a defensive leader on the 1997 Rose Bowl team and Sporting News/Honda Scholar-Athlete of the Year. In 2001, after four seasons with the Arizona Cardinals in which he earned a starting safety spot and a lucrative offer, he gave up football to join the U.S. Army Rangers following the terrorist attacks on America . He was killed in action in Afghanistan in 2004.

Ken Venturi

An alumnus of San Jose State , Venturi won the 1964 U.S. Open golf tournament launching one of the great career comebacks in PGA history. He burst into golfing prominence at the 1956 Masters, losing by one stroke to miss becoming the tournament's only amateur champion. Injuries in 1961 threatened to end his pro career, but after three winless years, he won the Open on the final day's 36 holes played in 100-degree heat. He retired from competition in 1968 and became golf analyst with CBS, remaining in that position 35 years to become the longest-working lead analyst in TV sports.