

San Jose Sports Hall of Fame will induct 5 at beginning of its second decade

Venturi, Jones, Jordan sisters, Pierce to be honored

For Immediate Release

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SAN JOSE (June 27, 2005) – Five South Bay sports personalities who made their marks in golf, the NFL, tennis and high school football form the 2005 Class of Inductees as the San Jose Sports Hall of Fame begins its second decade.

The 2005 Class, which will be inducted in November dinner ceremonies at HP Pavilion, includes:

- Ken Venturi, former San Jose State golfer whose professional titles include the 1960 U.S. Open,
- Brent Jones, a football star whose entire career – from Leland High to Santa Clara to the San Francisco 49ers – was spent in the Bay Area,
- Sisters Barbara and Kathy Jordan, national championship tennis players at Stanford before going on to win singles and doubles titles at Wimbledon and in the Australian, French and U.S. Opens,
- Benny Pierce, football coach at Saratoga High for 33 seasons and winner of 17 league championships.

The November event, date to be determined, begins with a VIP reception and silent auction followed by the dinner ceremony. Dinner tickets begin at \$150 each and may be reserved by calling (408) 288-2936.

The 2005 Class brings to 54 the number of South Bay sports figures in the Hall of Fame, which recognizes each honoree with a bronze 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 2005 Induction Dinner

Sponsorship packages

Reception Sponsor – \$15,000

Includes:

- Signage at VIP and attendee reception
- Representative from your company will welcome guests to the VIP reception
- Ten tickets to VIP reception
- Company logo on event screens
- Full page ad in event program
- One 10-seat table at dinner, premium location
- Opportunity to have celebrity athlete at your table
- Commemorative gift

Platinum Table Sponsor – \$5,000

Includes:

- One 10-seat table, premium location
- Tickets to VIP reception
- Name and logo in event program
- Opportunity to have celebrity athlete at your table
- Commemorative gift

Gold Table Sponsor – \$2,500

Includes:

- One 10-seat table, gold section
- Tickets to VIP reception
- Name and logo in event program
- Commemorative gift

Silver Table Sponsor – \$2,000

Includes:

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

Inductee biographies

Ken Venturi

Venturi attended high school in San Francisco and was the star of San Jose State's golf team in the early 1950s. He won collegiate and amateur tournaments as a Spartan and was a member of the U.S. team that won the 1953 Walker Cup. Venturi won the Bing Crosby Pro-Am in 1960 and the U. S. Open in 1964, the year he was chosen as PGA Player of the Year. A hand injury ended his playing career prematurely, and he moved into the television booth, where he worked as one of golf's best-known analysts until his retirement in 2002. He was inducted into the California Golf Hall of Fame in 1960. He is also in Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame and San Jose State Hall of Fame.

Brent Jones

Jones spent his entire 11-season National Football League career with the San Francisco 49ers and played on Super Bowl championship teams in 1989, '90 and '95. A graduate of Leland High and Santa Clara University, where he was a Division II All-American in 1985, Jones was taken in the fifth round of 1986 NFL draft by the Pittsburgh Steelers and was traded to the 49ers. Jones caught 417 passes for 5,195 yards and 33 touchdowns in his NFL career. He went to the Pro Bowl every year from 1993 through '96. He is a member of the San Jose Sharks operating committee and is in the Santa Clara University Hall of Fame.

Barbara Jordan

An outstanding junior tennis player in Pennsylvania, Jordan was one of the first women to receive a sports scholarship to Stanford, where she was a three-time All-American in 1976-78. She was a member of the 1978 national championship team and was the collegiate doubles champion with her sister, Kathy. Jordan turned pro in 1979 and won the singles title at the Australian Open. Her doubles record includes the French Open mixed doubles title in 1983. Jordan also served the game off-court on the Women's Tennis Association board of directors, where she worked to make the WTA a more professional organization. She was honored with WTA's Player Service Award. She is a lawyer with the San Jose city attorney's office. She was inducted into the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Hall of Fame in 2004.

Kathy Jordan

The sister of Barbara Jordan, she attended Stanford in 1978 and 1979, then turned pro. Jordan was a member of the 1978 national championship team, winning the doubles title with her sister. She won the collegiate doubles title again with Alycia Moulton in 1979, when she also won the singles championship. She was an All-American in 1978 and '79. Jordan won the U.S. Open doubles and Australian Open doubles 1981, French Open mixed doubles in 1986 and three Wimbledon doubles titles in 1980, '85 and '86, the last in mixed doubles. Jordan won the WTA's Player Service Award in 1991. A year later she received her

bachelor's degree from Stanford in political science. Jordan is in the Stanford Hall of Fame and was inducted into the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Hall of Fame in 2004.

Benny Pierce

Pierce was football coach at Saratoga High for the first 33 seasons of the school's existence. A football halfback at Los Gatos High and San Jose State, Pierce compiled a 270-84-4 record before his retirement following the 1994 season. He was the 1976 California high school coach of the year. His teams won 17 league titles, one county championship in 1971 (before the Central Coast Section playoffs were inaugurated) and CCS titles in 1973, '76, '80 and '87. Saratoga was the top area team of the 1970s, going 97-15 with undefeated teams in 1973 and '76, and four other seasons with only one loss. Pierce is a member of the Los Gatos High Hall of Fame. Saratoga High's first on-campus football field opened in 2004 and is named in his honor.