

San José State University Men's Water Polo

Back in the 1960s and 1970s San José State was one of the undisputed centers for water polo in the nation. The team was a respected powerhouse in Northern California, feared by the competition and admired by many for its ongoing success. Along with the university's "Speed City" track and field program, the men's water polo team helped to keep San José State at or near the top of collegiate athletic achievement during the time.

San José State water polo players figured prominently in various club, high school and university water polo programs in and around San José. Program graduates served as coaches, referees and officials at various levels, helping to raise the overall quality of water polo in the area and establish genuine enthusiasm for the sport. The Spartan players' influence in local athletics resulted in many graduating high school seniors going to Division I universities and some becoming eventual Olympians.

Unfortunately, lack of funding resulted in the San José State men's water polo program being abolished in 1982.

1956: The Team of San José State, Spartans



Front row L-R: Lee Walton, Art Lambert

Middle row L-R: Ron Tuttle, Dave Towle, Rollo Koivisto, Dale Anderson, Stan McConnell,

Roger McCandless, Dave Friedenrich

Back row L-R: Charles L. "Charlie" Walker (coach), Rich Donner, Walt Webster,

Jim Anderson, Ron Paradiso, Herb Colt, Dave Ulrich, Paul Battaile

Return to Glory

A group of San José State alumni is bringing the team back!

They understand the importance of water polo in helping to shape the character and future of our young athletes. The camaraderie and friendships developed in and around the pool, plus the requisite competitiveness, serve individuals throughout their lives. Not only will another collegiate program in the area be great for the sport and good for the university, it could be a game-changer for many inspired athletes.

Poloists Capture NCAA Title



SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95114, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1968

NCAA Water Polo Champions



HALL OF FAME Men's Water Polo

Dale Anderson	1957
Rich Donner	1958
Bill Finch	1953
Bill Gerdts	1969
Al Grass	1949
Steve Hamann	1971
Greg Hind	1968
Brad Jackson	1973
Bob Keeler	1948
Art Lambert	1956
Bob Likins	1968
Jack Likins	1967
Roger McCandless	1959
Jim Monsees	1962
Ed Rudloff	1948
Howard Ruweler	1948
Nort Thornton	1953
Peter Ueberroth	1958
Lee Walton Player	/1956
Lee Walton Coach/1961-72	
Bruce Watson	1973
Martin Wempe	1938

THE CHAMPS —

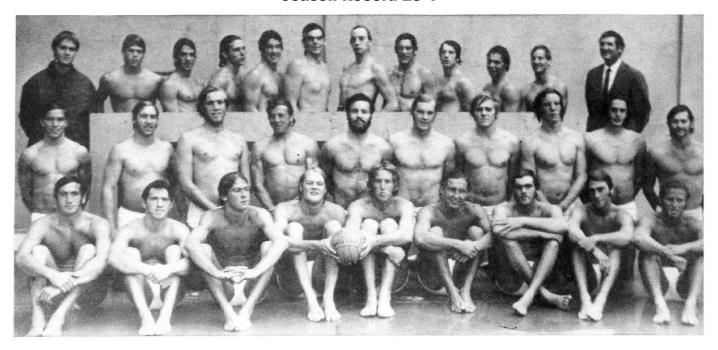
(Inside left to right) Scott Mobley, Bob Wake, Dennis Belli, Jim Williamson, Greg Hind, Jim Miles, Brue Prefontaine, Ed Mecchella, Dan Landon, Tim Halley

(Back left to right) Marc Larivie, Bob Likins, Stan Weiss, Steve McKinzie, Bill Gerdts, Dennis Lombard, Craig Sprain, Bruce Newman, Jeff Eorio, Nick Armstrong and Coach Lee Walton

"After the tournament there was no doubt this team was the best college water polo team in the nation," offered an elated Walton.

1971 San José State University Varsity Water Polo

P.C.A.A. Champions - Norcal Champions - N.C.A.A. 2nd Place Season Record 20-1



Front Row: Ken Belli, Mickey Butler, Ben Van Dyke, Lon Regher, Steve Hamann, Fred Belcher, Ron Coates, Jeff Eorio, Mike Albright

Middle Row: Chris Holt, Steve Spenser, Bruce Watson, John Gerbers, Scott Mobley, Tom Ballard, Roger Williams, Ed Samuels,

Ron Young, Harold Zane

Back Row: Tim Halley-Assistant Coach, Dennis Hartman, D. Winchell, Mike Wade, Craig Windmuller, Dan Jones, Pat Ellington,

Brad Jackson, Dennis Hartman, Coach-Lee Walton

Not Pictured: Mike Monsees-Assistant Coach, Jamie Gonzales and Dave Thompson

All Americans: Fred Belcher, Ken Belli, Brad Jackson, Mike Albright and Goalie-Steve Hamann

Santa Clara Valley Sportswriters Banquet of Champions Water Polo - Fred Belcher

We Need Your Help

We are asking for a yearly contracted commitment for each of the first five years of the program. This contracted annual pledge ensures your continuing support of the program and helps to lessen the financial impact of your total contribution.

The funds that are raised will be used for coaching, travel, team clothing, tournament fees and scholarships.

We need your help. Please contact one of the committee members (right) for addition information and recommendations on how to make a pledge.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ed Samuels - Ernstpolo@yahoo.com

Bill Simpkins - Bill@airtalk.com

John Wagner - John.Wagner@trane.com

Bruce Watson - Bruce.Watson@westvalley.edu

Bill Gerdts - William.Gerdts@wellsfargoadvisors.com

Art Lambert - ArtLambert@sandpoint.TV





San Jose State University Alumni Coaches and Water Polo Officials

Coaches

Dale Anderson Homestead High School

Matt Anderson Los Gatos High School / Michigan

Fred Belcher Fullerton College

Dennis Belli Foothill College

Ken Belli West Valley Aquatics

Eric Black American River College

Robbie Boranda Lincoln High School

Mickey Butler Independence High School / Piedmont Hills High School

Rich Donner College of San Mateo

Pat Ellington Lynbrook High School

Jeff Eorio San Ramon High School

Dennis Fosdick Tex A&M / LBCC / Occidental

Mike Garibaldi Hartnell College / Napa Aquatics

Mark Garrett Soquel High School / West Lake High School / Oxnard High School

Bill Gerdts Valley Christian High School

Mac Haines Live Oak High School

Steve Hamman Boscher High School

West Valley College

Bob Jones San Jose City College

Art Lambert 1968 & 1972 Olympic Coach / Awalt High School / De Anza / Stanford

Don Lasiter Santa Cruz High School
Al Lavayen Irvine High School
Dennis Lombard Air Force Academy

Gerry Macedo Almaden Swim and Racquet Club

Steve Martin St. Francis High School / Willow Glen High School / Hollister High School

Ted Mathewson Los Gatos High School / Valley Christian High School

Pat McCarty Hartnell College

Mike Monsees Bellarmine Prep / West Valley College / San Jose State University

Chris Rayment Piedmont High School / San Jose State University

Craig Rond Cal Lutheran University

Ed Samuels Sacred Heart Prep / Los Altos High School / San Jose State University

John Schmidt Fremont High School

Steve Spencer Los Gatos High School / Lynbrook High School

Dave Towle Lynbrook High School / Willow Glen High School

Lou Tully Mt. Pleasant High School / Gunderson High School / San Jose State University

Randy Usedom Pleasant Hills High School

Lee Walton Washington High School / San Jose State University

Bruce Watson Bellarmine Prep / West Valley College / Olympic Club

Bob Wegman Boscher High School / De Anza College

Harold Zane Fresno State University

Officials

John Fischler Mike Francis Carlo Gonzales Dan Kocal Bob Lee

Larry Lundberg
Gary MacDowell

Lou Tully Ron Tuttle

