



Ken Arnold Class of 2010

Kenneth Arnold is a retired Oroville Union High School District employee, who taught and coached at Oroville High School from 1961 to 1990. He was an outstanding athlete in high school, college, the US Army, and played for semi-professional teams. He was a successful high school teacher for 32 years. He taught physical education (PE), adaptive PE, geography, psychology, senior problems, health, fitness for life, and general mathematics. He also served as a PE department head for 24 years. He coached 56 high school sport seasons in 32 years. During that time, he coached six different varsity sports: football, baseball, track, golf, and soccer. He also coached summer Little League and Junior Legion Baseball teams.

Ken graduated from Payette High School, Payette, Idaho in 1950. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Idaho, Caldwell, in 1954. He served in the US Army for two years and was honorably discharged in 1956. He completed a Master of Arts degree from Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah in 1960.

As a high school athlete, he played football for four years, (3 years on varsity) varsity basketball for two years, varsity baseball for four years, track for two years, and boxing (Golden Glove Welter Weight and Senior Welter Weight) for two years. By unanimous selection, he played on the State All-Star Football Team. He was awarded a Life-Time Pass to all Payette High School sporting events. He received The Ed Parson Achievement Trophy for outstanding sportsmanship and citizenship. He earned a full football scholarship to the Northern Idaho College of Education (NICE), Lewiston, Idaho.

As a college athlete, he played varsity football for four years and won the Outstanding Freshman Athlete Award. He played varsity baseball for four years and was selected "All League" each year. He also played with the Lewiston Indians semi-pro baseball team, winning the State Championship and playing in the National Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament in Wichita, Kansas. Furthermore, he played with the Boise Braves professional baseball team before being drafted into the Army in 1954. In addition to football and baseball, he boxed for three years: first as a varsity light-heavy weight and then as a varsity heavy weight.

While serving in the US Army in Austria and Germany, he played football for two years and baseball for two years. His baseball team won the Fifth Army Division championship in 1955, and he was selected as the Most Valuable Player (MVP). He also boxed for two years and earned the title of Company Champ in 1956.

After being discharged from the Army, he played as a pitcher and outfielder with various semi-pro baseball teams in Idaho, Utah, Oregon, and California, including the Oroville Olives in the 1967-1968 season.