



Norm MacKenzie Class of 2010

Norman Mackenzie is a 1948 graduate of Oroville High School (OHS) who retired from the Oroville Union High School District in 1995, after serving 39 years as a highly successful physical education teacher, coach, and athletic director. At OHS, Norm was an outstanding student athlete in football and track, who went on to play at Marin Junior College and Chico State. Coach Mac, as he is known throughout the Northern Section, taught and coached at both OHS and Las Plumas High School (LPHS). Norm served as the LPHS athletic director. He was responsible for bringing the High School State Track Meet to Harrison Stadium in 1972. Norm is still actively involved in the Northern Section Athletic Directors Association (NSADA) and the California State Athletic Directors Association (CSADA). He has mentored many athletic directors and coaches not only in the Northern Section, but in the entire State of California. Because of his integrity and professionalism, Norm has several awards named after him and has received many honors.

Norm attended Oroville High School from 1944 to 1948, and was a four-year athlete in both football and track. He was selected as All League Varsity Football in his junior and senior years and was the only junior starter on an undefeated varsity football team. He was the League and Section Hurdle Champion in his junior and senior years and is the school record holder in the hurdles. In addition to sports, Norm was a leader in Associated Student Body (ASB) activities. He served as a class officer during his freshman and sophomore years. He was the Student Body President and the Block O President during his senior year.

After graduating from high school, Norm attended Marin Junior College where he was a two-year starter in football and was the Conference Champion in the low hurdles and placed in the State Track Meet each year. He is the school record holder in both high and low hurdles. He graduated from the college in 1950 with an Associate of Arts degree.

Norm served two years in the US Army earning the rank of corporal. He served nine months in Korea and fought in two major engagements earning a Combat Infantry Badge and Honorable Discharge.

He attended Chico State and graduated in 1955, with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He played football for three years and was All Conference in his first year. He was the Conference Champion in the high and low hurdles in his junior year.

Norm's career as a teacher began at OHS where he taught PE and coached football, basketball, and track from 1956 to 1961. From 1961 to 1995, Norm taught PE and coached at LPHS. He coached football for 12 years and track for 33 years. He was the PE department chair for 15 years and athletic director for 31 years. His many awards include both the State CIF and California Coaches Association Distinguished Service Awards.