



Jim McNulty
Class of 2011

Jim McNulty was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1943 and moved to Oroville at the age of eleven. He graduated from Oroville High School (OHS) in 1961. While a student at OHS, he lettered in football and baseball and was a member of the Block O Society. During the last half of his senior year football season he was injured, but still managed to earn Honorable Mention All League honors. His injury prevented him from any further competition in football.

Following graduation, he attended Yuba College to earn his Associate Arts degree. He then went to California State University, Chico (CSUC) to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1967.

Jim entered the military in 1967 and was a member of the United States Army Reserve and the California Army National Guard. He retired after twenty-two years of service.

His thirty-three year education career began in 1970 when he did his student teaching at OHS. After earning his special education and secondary credentials, he signed a contract and enjoyed a very successful career as teacher, coach, and Athletic Director until his retirement in 2003.

He coached both football and baseball, but it was as a football coach that he made history at OHS. He was head varsity coach for twenty years and was the longest reigning head football coach in the nearly one hundred years of OHS football. During this time, he logged the most wins in school history with a winning percentage of just under .700. He was also the only OHS football coach to garner more than one hundred career wins.

His OHS teams won Eastern Athletic League (EAL) championships in 1983, 1985, 1988, 1990, and 1991. OHS was in the North Section playoffs twelve times between 1982 and 1999, with six straight appearances between 1994 and 1999. His teams were in the section finals in 1985, 1988, 1995, 1997 and 1999, claiming the Section Championship in 1985 and again in 1989.

Over the years, Jim has placed numerous players on the All Northern Section football teams, and three of his players were named to the all-state football team. Coach McNulty was also instrumental in helping many of his players attain college scholarships.

During his coaching career, Jim earned several honors and awards including Northern Section Coach of the Year, the Sportsman of the Year, and the Northern Section Achievement Award. He was twice selected as the Lions All-Star Game Football coach and on two occasions was a presenter at the Clinic of Champions in Reno, Nevada.

In addition to his coaching honors, Jim received a United States Congressional Proclamation, the OHS Principal's Award and its Distinguished Service Award. He was recognized by the City of Oroville and received the Mayoral Proclamation. In 2004, he was inducted into the Northern California Sports Hall of Fame.

His service to the Northern Section included serving on the playoff committee for eight years and the realignment committee. In addition, he served terms as President of both the Westside and Eastern Athletic Leagues and was active in various section governance issues during his coaching career.

As a classroom teacher, Jim was a Resource Specialist, working with special education students. He served as department chairman, worked in the Work Incentive Program where he helped high school dropouts pass the High School Equivalency test, sat on the School Advisory Committee and was chairman of the WASC (school accreditation committee). He also coordinated the Japanese Student Exchange Program, was advisor to the Interact Club and worked on numerous fundraising projects.

Following his retirement, Jim coached two years in the football program at Durham High School and assisted at Pleasant Valley High School for a year.