



SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

2026 FOOTBALL SEASON GAME NOTES

3 CIF State Championships

1997 Division II (Cal-Hi Sports Poll)

2011 Division I

2025 Open

4 CIF Southern Section Championships

1996 Division V, 1997 Division V

2011 PAC-5 & **2025 Division I**

30 CIF Southern Section Playoff Appearances

1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021 (Fall), 2022, 2023, 2024 & **2025**

5 League Championships

1996, 1997, 2000, 2001 & **2025**

38th Varsity Season

Overall Record: 269-160-3 (.626)

Home Record: 145-72-3 (.667)

Road Record: 122-88-0 (.581)

10 Nationally-Ranked Teams

1997, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2011, 2012, 2017, 2024, 2025 & **2026**

2025 Season: CIF State - Open Division Champions / Cal-Hi Sports State Football Team of the Year / Unanimous State No. 1
HSRatings.com Analysis: No. 17 Top Single Season in California Since 2003 / No. 9 Dominant Program in California Since 2003

SMCHS Retired Number Honorees: 2 – Minna | 3 – Palmer | 4 – Newman / Stanton | 54 – Frost | 82 – Minardi

2022 California High School Football Hall of Fame Inductees: Carson Palmer (Quarterback) & Harry Welch (Coach)



Santa Margarita Catholic Eagles (9-0) at Orange Lutheran Lancers (5-4)

**Orange Coast College (Costa Mesa)
Dick Tucker Field at LeBard Stadium
Friday, October 30, 2026 • 7:00 p.m.**



RECAP & HIGHLIGHTS OF LAST GAME VS. JSERRA CATHOLIC

Eagles Use Big Plays to Tame the Lions 36-12 and Clinch At Least a Tie for Second-Consecutive Trinity League Title

By Adrian Peters | Football Statistical Consultant

The lightening that delayed the game for over an hour and steady first have rain didn't faze the Santa Margarita Catholic High School (SMCHS) Eagles as they used big plays to remain undefeated and pulling away from the JSerra Catholic Lions in the second half for a convincing 36-12 win at Saddleback College. It was the fifteenth-consecutive win for the Eagles (9-0, 4-0) and allowed the hosts to secure at least a share of their second-consecutive Trinity League title. With the loss, JSerra Catholic fell to 4-5 overall and 0-4 in league play.

Freshman linebacker Aydan Steen recorded two tackles for loss in helping the stout Eagle defense force a punt on the Lions opening possession. Fletch Palmer completed two passes to freshman wide out Kiyan Callis and another to Grant Mosley before lightening forced a delay for over an hour. When play resumed in the rain, SMCHS was led by runs of 11, nine and five yards by Adrian Petero (19 carries for 114 yards) set up first and goal at the Lion six. Petero running to his right was net by several defenders and lost control of the ball on the four ending the drive.

After forcing another Lion punt, which was returned by junior Ryan Clark for 12 yards to the JSerra Catholic 30 yard line, runs by Petero and receptions by Mosley (7 catches for 71 yards on the evening) moved the ball to the visitor's eight, but on the last play of the first quarter Lion outside linebacker Grayson Matvay jumped up and intercepted a slant route and returned it over 80 yards before Mosley made a touchdown-saving tackle. Two plays later quarterback Hayes Cloutier took it in from two yards out to make it 6-0. The PAT was blocked by nose tackle Tonga Uhila who had a remarkable game with a forced fumble, quarterback hurry, four tackles including a tackle for loss and a pass defended.

Taking over with 11:32 left in the first half, the Eagles used three runs by Petero to reach their 43 yard line before their drive stalled forcing a beautiful 54-yard punt by senior Colin Hicks that pinned the Lions on their own three yard line. Three plays later from the seven, freshman edge player Kaleb Herndon (eight tackles, two TFL's, a pass defended, and

1.5 sacks on the night) applied backside pressure on Cloutier who, while in Herndon's grasp and falling to the ground, threw the ball into the turf for intentional grounding, an automatic safety, closing the deficit to 6-2 with 7:49 left in the half.

After the free kick, Palmer found fellow junior Grant Van Raaphorst for 42- and 18-yard completions, but the drive stalled inside the Lion 10 yard line and Kai Koga's 27-yard field goal attempt was pulled wide left at the 4:22 mark. Junior defensive end Kingston Jimmerson and Herndon combined on a key third down sack to force a punt which was returned 17 yards by junior Ryan Clark to put the Eagles in business on the Lion 26 yard line. Three plays later Petero swept around right end and hit pay dirt from nine yards out for his fifteenth touchdown on the year with 54 seconds left in the half. Koga's PAT made it 9-6 and closed out the first half scoring.

The second half saw the rain stop, but the Eagles displayed some lightening and thunder of their own. Junior Luca Amaya returned the second half kickoff 94 yards for a touchdown to increase the lead to 16-6. The Lions' first two drives of the second half ended in punts. Sophomore linebacker Dax Karney recorded a 17-yard sack of the elusive Cloutier, and Herndon broke up a pass to end their first drive while relentless pressure from USA Today midseason All-America selection Steen (eight tackles, four hurries and 0.5 sacks) forced Cloutier to regularly try to hit cheerleaders to avoid sacks on the next one. SMCHS then went on a ten-play 60-yard drive that took 4:13 off the clock that was capped by an eight-yard shovel pass from Palmer to Mosley to increase the Eagle lead to 23-6.

The Lions were briefly injected with life as the ensuing kickoff was nearly returned for a score by, interestingly, Luca Deleon, but Rayshawn Brandon's touchdown touchdown-saving tackle. This seemed to refocus the hosts as on the next play the relentless 6-3, 280-pound Jimmerson chased Cloutier around the backfield before the senior signal caller was hit by Uhila who forced a fumble which was then picked up by his aforementioned line mate who then raced untouched 79 yards for a scoop and score to make it 29-6 with 9:06 remaining.

Junior linebacker Jaion Smith (three carries for 41 yards) took over for Petero at running back after the defense forced yet another punt, and ended a quick 48-yard drive with a 28-yard burst over left tackle to make it 36-6 at the 4:28 mark. The Lions added a garbage time score on the last play of the game to make the final 36-12. Overall, the Eagles outgained the Lions 327-121 yards and by allowing only 69 yards rushing, propped up by picking up 30 of that on their last drive, it was the ninth-consecutive game this season SMCHS has limited their opponent to under 100 yards rushing.

The Eagles have now won six of the least seven games against the Lions in a series that dates back to the formation of the Trinity League in 2006. Santa Margarita closes out the regular season next week when they travel to Orange Coast College on Friday October 30 to play the Orange Lutheran Lancers (5-4, 2-2). A win would be the third time, and first since 1997, that the Eagles completed league play 5-0. Kickoff is set for 7:00 p.m. The CIF-Sothern Section - Division 1 playoff draw will be released at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 1.

SMCHS IN THE NEWS



Sophomore Star Adrian Petero Sets the Tone for Santa Margarita Catholic

By Silas Bravo | westcoastpreps.com | October 22, 2026

Not only does Adrian Petero lead by his words, but also by his actions. "We just execute," says Petero. "This was a team effort. I give thanks to my offensive line and my receivers for blocking for me. I'm grateful for everyone."

In the memorable game versus Inderkum (Sacramento), Petero finished his night with whopping four touchdowns, 101 rushing yards, 22 receiving yards and an average of 8.4 yards per carry. "It means a lot that they could depend on me," said Petero. "All Glory to God. Got to give him praise every single day."

Santa Margarita Catholic has depended on their star underclassman all season and he continues to deliver. Petero has been a bowling ball out of the backfield, averaging 83.3 rushing yards per game on a tough 5.7 yards per carry against some of the best defenses in the nation. The underclassman is explosive out of the backfield, but patient behind his blockers when he needs to be. He has a low center of gravity and is incredibly shifty.

"That's A-Train, man, he's a dog," said defensive end Kaleb Herndon. "I love going against him at practice; I love A-Train."

Petero is as strong as an ox and absorbs contact without losing his footing, allowing him to shed tackles with ease. He's impossible to stop at the goal line and he can make a house call, totaling 15 touchdowns this season. He's been pivotal in Santa Margarita Catholic's 9-0 start to the 2026 season. "Forever grateful for what God has done," said Petero.

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Steve Fryer on High School Sports | October 22, 2026

Is Santa Margarita Catholic Football As Good As Last Year's Championship Team?

Coach Carson Palmer says the undefeated Eagles won't know if they measure up until they go through the playoffs

Link:

<https://www.ocregister.com/2026/10/22/fryer-santa-margarita-football-as-good-as-last-years-championship-team/>



On3.com Covers the Eagles Like A Blanket: Features from October 18-24

- Santa Margarita Catholic's Four Freshmen Are Already One of the Scariest Groups in High School Football
- Proud Dad Moment: Fletch Palmer Orchestrates Santa Margarita Catholic Offense with Famous Father As Coach
- Eye Catchers: Santa Margarita Catholic's Defense and Young Players Dominate In Win Over St. John Bosco
- Santa Margarita Catholic and Sierra Canyon: The Debate Over California's Best Team Rages Toward the Playoffs
- Six Schools With A Chance for the National Championship

SMCHS BY THE NUMBERS

SMCHS: All-Time Overall Winning Streaks

Win Streak	Season(s)
28	1996-1998
15	2025-2026
12	1990
11	2011-2012

- Current longest streak in Orange County and the CIF-Southern Section

SMCHS: 2026 Rushing Defense

Opponent	Rushing		
	Attempts	Yards Allowed	Average per Attempt
Jones	19	- 13	- 0.68
Centennial	25	82	3.28
Highland	22	- 15	- 0.68
Inderkum	16	11	0.69
Norco	18	- 3	- 0.18
Mater Dei	30	84	2.80
Servite	23	41	1.78
St. John Bosco	21	59	2.81
JSerra Catholic	34	69	2.03
<i>Orange Lutheran</i>	-----	-----	-----
Season Total	187	315	1.68
Average rushing yards allowed per game: 35.00			

SMCHS: All-Time Fewest Points Allowed per Game – Full Season

Points Allowed per Game	Season	Total Defensive Points Allowed	Games Played
6.2	2026	56	9
9.5	1990	124	13
11.0	1996	154	14
11.7	2025	164	14
13.9	2012	167	12

SMCHS: Most Team Sacks – Single-Season – All-Time

Season	Sacks	Games Played	Average per Game
1996	50	14	3.6
2011	40	15	2.7
2025	36	14	2.6
2001	35	12	2.9
1989	34	12	2.8
2026	37	9	4.1
1992	30	12	2.5
1994	30	10	3.0

SMCHS: Most Rushing Touchdowns – Single Season – Since 2010 Season

Player	Rushing Touchdowns	Season
Ryan Wolpin	27	2011
Johnny Stanton	25	2011
Chad Magyar	20	2017
Ryan Wolpin	19	2012
Adrian Petero	15	2026
Trent Mosley	15	2023

SMCHS: Most Sacks – Single Season – Since 2010 Season

Player	Sacks	Season
Chris Frost	12.5	2011
Mack Pierson	11.0	2011
Hero Kanu	9.0	2021
Isaia Vandermade	9.0	2025
Kingston Jimmerson	8.0	2026
Aydan Steen	7.0	2026
Derek Wilkins	7.0	2019
Kaleb Herndon	6.0	2026

HS Ratings / hsratings.com: National Computer Top-10 Defensive Team Rankings

Rank	School (Location)	Mark
1	Santa Margarita Catholic	57.7
2	Thompson (Alabaster, Alabama)	50.7
3	Vestavia Hills (Alabama)	49.9
4	Sierra Canyon	49.8
5	De La Salle (Concord, California)	48.4
6	Mater Dei	48.3
7	Centennial (Peoria, Arizona)	47.6
8	Lewisville (Texas)	47.5
9	St. John's (Washington, D.C.)	47.5
10	IMG Academy (Bradenton, Florida)	47.2

10/25/26

SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC - PLAYER NOTES, HIGHLIGHTS & STATS

0 Aydan Steen | Linebacker | Freshman | 6-2 / 210

- Dan Albano (*Orange County Register*): One of the top under-the-radar players who missed the Preseason OC Hot 150
- Ranked No. 6 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Defense
- USA Today Sports 2026 All-USA Midseason All-America Football Team -- Second-Team - Defense
- USA Today Sports 2026 West Region Midseason High School Football Team -- First-Team - Defense
- PrepRedzone.com: 2026 Midseason Fantastic Freshmen of Southern California - Defense
- Continued remarkable season with a team-high 14 total tackles, 2 tackles for loss and one sack in victory against Servite -- Cited by PrepRedzone.com as one of the best performances of the week and Defensive Player of the Week by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com)
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 56 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Player (of 65)
- Blocked a punt in the end zone which led to a special teams touchdown for the Eagles in dominant victory versus Norco -- *Los Angeles Times* Performer of the Week / Season and cited by PrepRedzone.com as one of the best performances of the week
- West Coast Preps: "Has been unreal through first three games of his high school career -- 20 total tackles, six tackles and 4.5 sacks"
- Prep Talk by Eric Sondheimer / *Los Angeles Times*: "Freshmen Aydan Steen and Kiyan Callis Make Early Impact for SMCHS" 09/03/26
- On3.com / rivals: Instant impact freshman contributor for SMCHS
- After playing two games, was one of a handful of players in the Southland off to the best starts and making immediate impact for their team
- Continued to be factor on defense as he registered 1 sack versus Centennial (Corona)
- Enjoyed one of the finest defensive debuts by a freshman or player in first varsity game versus Jones (Orlando). Registered 3 sacks, 10 total tackles and 3 tackles for loss -- all led team in those categories: *Los Angeles Times* Top Star Performers for the Week in the Southland
- Identified as a standout prospect by Six Star Football -- highlighting elite prospects and talent in Fall
- Ranked the No. 18 "Freshman Player to Watch" in the Southern Section for 2026 by High School on SI
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Named by PreActive / PASports / @pre_aktivesports as the No. 14 top class of 2030 incoming freshmen Watch List prospect for the CIF Southern Section
- High school debut is much anticipated by Dan Albano of the *Orange County Register* -- cited as one of the top incoming freshmen in Orange County
- Selected as the "Overall Most Valuable Player Award" recipient at the Under the Radar Straight Baller Camp in Spring
- Has received Division 1 offers from Alabama, USC, UCLA, Ohio State, Southern Methodist (SMU), Utah, Wisconsin and Miami (Florida)
- Projected to be a top-50 national recruit -- aggressive, downhill athlete who can deliver big hits

1 Jaion Johnson-Smith | Linebacker / Running Back | Junior | 6-0 / 190 | Two-Year Varsity Starter

- Scored his fourth rushing touchdown of the season in win versus JSerra Catholic
- Ranked No. 44 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Offense
- Saw action on offense as well and capped off an Eagle drive with a touchdown in slim win over Centennial (Corona)
- Logged 53 yards rushing and scored one touchdown in win over Jones (Orlando) -- the fourteenth of his career
- Identified as a standout prospect by Six Star Football -- highlighting elite prospects and talent in Fall
- Ranked the No. 3 running back to watch in the Southern Section for 2026 by High School on SI
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 45 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 80 prospect in California and No. 6 at his position for class of 2028 in Summer
- Named by the *Orange County Register* as No. 3 among the "Top Running Backs to Watch in 2026" from Orange County
- Has made the transition to the defensive side of the ball for 2026 and will play linebacker. Led the Eagles in rushing his freshman and sophomore seasons
- Named by MaxPreps.com as one of the Key Players for the No. 6 nationally-ranked Eagles' for 2026

- PrepRedzone.com Underclass Trinity League Running Backs to Watch in Winter
- PrepRedzone.com state prospect rankings: Overall - No. 53 / Position - No. 3 in February
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports Sophomore All-State Football Second-Team - Offense
- 2025 All-Trinity League First-Team - Offense
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee
- Rolled for 127 yards rushing on 19 attempts (6.7 average) and one touchdown in final regular season win of 2025 at JSerra Catholic -- new career high
- Collected a 41-yard pass reception in historic win versus Mater Dei on October 10 in 2025
- Scored what proved to be the game-winning touchdown in victory over Servite in 2025
- Established new career highs for rushing yards (122) and touchdowns (3) in rout of Oaks Christian School (Westlake Village). Cited by PrepRedzone.com as one of the best performances of the week
- Eight rush attempts for 59 yards (7.4 average) and 2 touchdowns versus Highland (Palmdale). Named *USA Today* High School Sports Team Player of the Week
- PrepRedZone.com: Standout class of 2028 performer in Southern California for Weeks 0 and 1
- Ranked No. 87 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2025
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports Preseason All-Orange County Team
- Has received Division 1 offers from Morgan State, Sacramento State, San Diego State, Syracuse, Maryland, Arkansas, Cal (California), USC, Oregon, Wisconsin and Texas State
- 2024 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense

2 Ryan Clark | Wide Receiver | Junior | 5-10 / 150

- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 121 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No.155 prospect in California and No. 14 at his position for class of 2028 in Summer
- PrepRedzone.com No. 1 Receiver to Watch at the Exposure Series Preview Showcase in Spring -- Great deep threat who can create separation with his speed and win in man coverage and versatile enough to succeed in multiple alignments. Event showcases in high school prospects to compete and gain exposure
- PrepRedzone.com state prospect rankings: Overall - No. 98 / Position - No. 9 in February
- 2025 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com Rising Star and Early Off-Season Notable Underclassman from Southern California
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com class of 2028 Potential Breakout Receivers in Orange County
- Has received two Division 1 offers: Oregon State and Sacramento State
- Was the second leading receiver for SMCHS with 384 yards on 27 catches with six touchdowns last season -- emerging as the top receiver when Trent Mosley was down due to injury
- Continued to contribute strong production to the Eagle's offense as the first half come to a close with one reception, 26 yards and one touchdown in 42-7 rout of Centennial in the CIF Southern Section - Division 1 championship
- Enjoyed the best game of his career, thus far, with two pass receiving touchdowns (33 and 42 yards) in the CIF Southern Section - Division 1 Playoff victory at Sierra Canyon / PrepRedzone.com Top Southern Section Offensive Performer from Round 2
- Collected three pass receptions for 67 yards and one touchdown in final regular season win of 2025 at JSerra Catholic
- Contributed two receptions for 28 yards in win at Highland (Palmdale) and followed up that effort with four receptions and a touchdown in win at Oaks Christian School (Westlake Village)
- PrepRedZone.com: Standout class of 2028 performer in Southern California for Weeks 0 and 1 and also "Big games, big numbers" player by Tarek Fattal of si.com
- Enjoyed a breakout game versus Centennial (Corona) with seven pass receptions for 78 yards (11.1 average) and his first career touchdown. SMCHS upset the Huskies for the second season in succession. Named a Top Performer for Santa Margarita Catholic versus Centennial by PrepRedZone.com

3 Fletch Palmer | Quarterback | Junior | 6-2 / 190

2026 Season							
GP	Comp	Att	Com %	Yards per Game	TD Passes	Ints	QB Rating
9	114	176	64.8 %	158.3	10	6	94.5

Most Passing Yards - Single Game: 242 yards vs. Jones (Orlando)

Longest Completion: 55 yards to Grant Van Raaphorst - Touchdown vs. Servite

- Has thrown at least one touchdown pass for seven-consecutive games
- Tossed a 4-yard touchdown pass to Grant Van Raaphorst for proved to be the game winner versus Mater Dei in the third quarter -- 13-for-20 passing (65.0 %), 154 yards and 1 touchdown
- Received his first Division 1 offer from San Diego State
- Was 16-of-23 (69.6 %) with 215 yards passing an one touchdown in one-sided victory over Inderkum (Sacramento) -- completion percentage for the season stands at 66.7 % (54-of-81)
- Turned in one of the best starting debuts for an SMCHS quarterback in dominant win over Jones (Orlando). Was 21-of-31 passing (66.7 %), with 242 yards and 2 touchdown passes. One was to fellow junior Grant Van Raaphorst for 39 yards to seal the game in the fourth quarter. In all, connected with six different receivers: *Los Angeles Times* Top Star Performers for the Week in the Southland
- Palmer's 242 yards passing is fifth-most in a first career start for an Eagle quarterback (see chart)

Most Passing Yards in First Career Start at SMCHS - All-Time				
Quarterback	Yards	Opponent	Date	Class
John Gazzaniga	377	@ Bishop Amat	September 7, 2023	Junior (Transfer)
Peter Costelli	325	Downey	August 16, 2018	Sophomore
Jaxon Potter	294	San Juan Hills	August 20, 2021	Junior (Transfer)
Josiah Norwood	243	@ Downey	August 25, 2017	Senior (Transfer)
K.J. Costello	243	@ Bishop Amat	August 30, 2013	Sophomore
Fletch Palmer	242	Jones (Orlando, Florida)	August 21, 2026	Junior

- Guided the Eagles in three offensive series' versus Highland (Palmdale) and was 1-for-2 passing for 20 yards. Followed that effort with a showing of 4-for-5 for 54 yards at Oaks Christian School (Westlake Village)

4 Jayden Jack | Safety | Freshman | 5-11 / 190

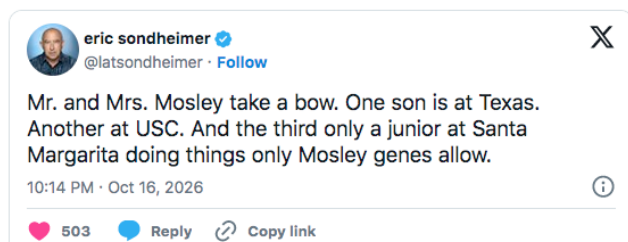
- PrepRedzone.com: 2026 Midseason "Fantastic Freshmen of Southern California" - Defense
- Named by West Coast Preps as one of the 100 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Players
- Enjoyed a big defensive game along with Eagle's teammates versus Mater Dei: 6 total tackles and 1 interception
- Registered his second career interception in blowout win over Norco
- On3.com / rivals: Instant impact freshman contributor for SMCHS
- Gathered his first career interception in his first varsity game versus Jones (Orlando)
- Identified as a standout prospect by Six Star Football -- highlighting elite prospects and talent in Fall
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Named by PreActive / PASports / @pre_aktivesports as the No. 17 top class of 2030 incoming freshmen Watch List prospect for the CIF Southern Section
- High school debut is much anticipated by Dan Albano of the *Orange County Register* -- cited as one of the top incoming freshmen in Orange County
- Has received four Division 1 offers: USC, UCLA, California (Cal), San Diego State and Georgia State
- Named "Most Valuable Player" of the 8th-grade championship game with Top Flight Eagles in January
- Has played for the Top Flight Eagles (8th Grade), Los Angeles Rams 13U, O'Donovan 7v7 and Hell Star 7v7

5 Curren King | Safety / Linebacker | Junior | 6-0 / 185

- Two-year varsity player with 12 total tackles and 2 passes defended

6 Grant Mosley | Wide Receiver | Junior | 6-0 / 180

- Led the team in pass receptions with 7 versus JSerra Catholic -- totaled 71 yards (10.1 average) and scored 1 touchdown



Nike Offensive Player of the Game -- Continued to make contributions after returning from injury, caught a remarkable 49-yard touchdown pass from Fletch Palmer off of a flea-flicker play in dynamic win over St. John Bosco

- Returned to action after missing the first five games of the season with an injury and responded by delivering 3 pass receptions for 38 yards (12.7 average) versus Mater Dei
- Picked by Cannon Sports as the No. 6 Top Wide Receiver in California for the class of 2028
- Identified as a standout prospect by Six Star Football -- highlighting elite prospects and talent in Fall
- Mitch Stephens / High School on SI: One of the Top Receivers to Watch in California for 2026: Rocker!
- Greg Biggins -- On3.com / rivals: A huge weapon
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 111 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Named by High School on SI as one of the Top Wide Receivers to Watch in CIF Southern Section Football in 2026
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 41 prospect in California and No. 5 at his position for class of 2028 in Summer
- Named by PreActive / PASports / @pre_aktivesports as the No. 18 top class of 2028 junior Watch List prospect for the CIF Southern Section
- Named one of the top Wide Receivers in the Southland for 2026 by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times*
- Named by MaxPreps.com as one of the Key Players for the No. 6 nationally-ranked Eagles' for 2026
- Featured in published article by West Coast Preps -- "Underclassman Spotlight: Is Santa Margarita Catholic's Grant Mosley next up?" -- A highly touted class of 2028 wide receiver with a prominent football bloodline (06/18/26)
- Has received Division 1 offers from Washington, Oregon, UCLA, USC, Sacramento State, Minnesota, Colorado State, Stanford and San Diego State
- PrepRedzone.com state prospect rankings: Overall - No. 63 / Position - No. 8 in February
- Was the team's leading receiver in loss to Bishop Gorman with five catches for 73 yards (19.0 average)
- Continued to show remarkable talent as he caught a career-high seven passes versus Oaks Christian School (Westlake Village). Scored one touchdown for the third-consecutive game
- Collected one reception for 14 yards and a touchdown in win over Highland (Palmdale)
- PrepRedzone.com: Standout class of 2028 performer in Southern California for Weeks 0 and 1
- With brother Trent watching from the sidelines with an injury, caught a perfect rainbow throw from Trace Johnson for his first high school touchdown -- 39 yards
- 2025 High School Football America Academic All-America selection
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com No. 3 Sophomore Receiver to Watch in Southern California
- Cal-Hi Sports: California Freshman Football Players to Watch in the 2024 Season

7 Cruz Nuñez | Linebacker | Senior | 6-3 / 222

- PrepRedzone.com: One of the "Top Southern Section Defensive Performers from Week 3" -- 8 total tackles, 3 tackles for loss and 1 pass defended
- Led the Eagles in total tackles with 9 (1 for loss) in victory at Centennial (Corona) and again in one-sided win versus Inderkum (Sacramento) with 8 (3 for loss)
- Has received a Division 1 offer from Cornell
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee
- 2025 Statistics: 2 pass receptions, 41 yards and 1 touchdown / 38 total tackles (3 1/2 for loss) and 2 sacks
- 2024 Statistics: 32 total tackles (6 for loss) and 4 sacks
- Transfer from JSerra Catholic High School

9 Luke Gazzaniga | Tight End | Senior | 6-4 / 235 Captain

- Ranked No. 11 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Offense
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 33 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Player (of 65)
- Named by High School on SI as a member of the 2026 CIF Southern Section Preseason All-Star Team
- 2026 *USA Today* High School Sports Preseason All-West Region Third-Team - Tight End
- Mitch Stephens / High School on SI: One of the Top Receivers to Watch in California for 2026: Mover!
- 2026 Cal-Hi Sports Preseason All-Southern Section Third-Team - Offense
- Chosen the No. 2 tight end in California and No. 13 in the nation by *USA Today* High School Sports
- Lauded by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times* for both his toughness and skill -- utilizes the "Oklahoma drill" to train in feature entitled "Tight end Luke Gazzaniga Is Set To Fight To The Finish"
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 1 tight end in Southern California for the 2026 season
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 39 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026

- Named by the *Orange County Register* as No. 9 among the “Top Wide Receivers and Tight Ends to Watch in 2026” from Orange County
- Named by MaxPreps.com as one of the Key Players for the No. 6 nationally-ranked Eagles’ for 2026

The Whole Package

By: Greg Biggins - Rivals National Recruiting Analyst and Andy Villamarzo - On3.com / rivals Prep Journalist (06/09/26)

- Prototype tight end with an ideal frame to play in any situation
- Well-rounded player who can line up out wide, in the slot or attached
- Flashed at multiple off-season events and showed the ability to work the seam and get vertical
- Natural pass catcher with strong hands and catches it well through contact
- Strong blocker, especially in run situations and will routinely drive his man down the field or bury him at the point of attack
- Advanced as a route runner
- Has committed to Kansas to continue his football career. Had received Division 1 offers from Duke, Arizona, Arizona State, Nevada-Las Vegas, California, Hawaii, Kansas, Utah, Southern Methodist (SMU), Washington State, New Mexico, San Jose State, Colorado State, San Diego State and Sacramento State
- Cited by Tom Lemming / Lemming Prep Report as one of the more talented tight end professional prospects in the West region – a class of 2027 all-around player who can run, catch in a wide radius and block
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 68 prospect in California and No. 4 at his position in Winter
- PrepRedzone.com: In 2025, emerged as one of the top tight end prospects in the state -- big downfield target with blocking -- one of the Top Offensive Newcomers
- Scored a key touchdown late in the first half in 42-7 rout of Centennial in the CIF Southern Section - Division 1 championship – two receptions, 39 yards (19.5 average) and one touchdown
- Quickly become a favorite target of quarterback Trace Johnson. In the first two games as teammates, the duo hooked up for 11 receptions covering 150 yards (13.6 average) before missing several games with an injury
- Collected his second pass reception of the season which was also his first-ever touchdown scored at the prep level -- in a rout of Inglewood in the CIF Southern Section - Division 1 First Round playoff game in 2024

10 Kiyan Callis | Wide Receiver | Freshman | 5-10 / 170

- Ranked No. 9 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Offense
- PrepRedzone.com: 2026 Midseason “Fantastic Freshmen of Southern California” - Offense
- Selected by PrepRedzone.com: to the 2026 Fantastic Freshmen Team in Southern California - Offense/Receiver -- “Will be a top playmaker in the Trinity League for years to come”
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 56 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Player (of 65)
- Through first four career games, has 29 receptions for 391 yards (13.8 average) and 3 touchdowns
- Was team leader in pass receptions (10) and a new career-high 111 receiving yards – also added a touchdown
- Led the club in pass receptions at Centennial (Corona) with 3
- Prep Talk by Eric Sondheimer / *Los Angeles Times*: “Freshmen Aydan Steen and Kiyan Callis Make Early Impact for SMCHS” 09/03/26
- On3.com / rivals: Instant impact freshman contributor for SMCHS
- Started at wide receiver and didn’t disappoint with 9 pass receptions for 105 yards (11.7 average)
- Identified as a standout prospect by Six Star Football -- highlighting elite prospects and talent in Fall
- Ranked the No. 6 “Freshman Player to Watch” in the Southern Section for 2026 by High School on SI
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Named by PreActive / PASports / @pre_aktivesports as the No. 7 top class of 2030 incoming freshmen Watch List prospect for the CIF Southern Section
- Named a “Top Performer” at the South County Passing Classic by Michael Huntley of PrepRedzone.com: will be a major contributor as a freshman for the Eagles
- Michael Huntley of PrepRedzone.com had this to offer after seeing Callis perform at the “Battle of the Beach” 7v7: “Has a chance to be one of the best freshmen offensive players in the state this season”
- Has received Division 1 offers from USC, UCLA and Miami (Florida)
- Selected as the “Offensive Most Valuable Player Award” recipient at the Under the Radar Straight Baller Camp in summer

11 J.J. Minardi | Wide Receiver | Junior | 6-4 / 190

- Collected the first two pass receptions of career in the past two games -- 13 yards versus Inderkum (Sacramento) and 21 yards versus Norco
- Has demonstrated sure-handedness by being selected as the holder for field goal and PAT conversion attempts

- Scored a vital touchdown versus eventually tournament winner Sierra Canyon in 7-on-7 summer event
- A key contributor to SMCHS's freshman team that won the 2024 Trinity League championship for the first time in several seasons -- 9-1 overall record, 5-0 league record -- including victories Mater Dei and St. John Bosco and outscored opponents 384-154

12 Matthew Smith | Quarterback | Senior | 6-1 / 190

- Saw significant action versus Highland (Palmdale) and responded with 78 passing yards with a long of 51-yards
- Chosen as No. 4 of the Top 10 Senior Quarterbacks in Orange County for 2026 by Cannon Sports
- Picked by Cannon Sports as the No. 8 Top Quarterback in California for the class of 2027
- Named by On3.com/rivalsdotcom as the No. 2 "Quarterbacks to Monitor" the nation for the 2026 season
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Selected by OCVarsity (Orange County Register) as No. 27 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Recognized as one of the "Top 20" quarterbacks in California by Mitch Stephens of High School on SI
- Named by the *Orange County Register* as No. 8 among the "Top Quarterbacks to Watch in 2026" from Orange County
- Strong summer saw him earn the "Quarterback Most Valuable Player Award" at the Under Armour Next Camp Game in Maui, Hawaii -- Event featured nearly 500 4-star prospects in the classes of 2027 and 2028
- Named a "Top Performer" at the South County Passing Classic by Michael Huntley of PrepRedzone.com
- Gained significant attention as a top performer at the "Elite 11" Regional held at De La Salle High School in Concord on April 25, 2026 -- noted for having "elite zip on the ball" and superior anticipation. The Elite 11 quarterback program is operated by Stack Sports and heavily supported by long-time partner Nike.
- 2025 Season @ Villa Park: 6 games -- 74-for-108 (68.5 %), 1,006 yards and 7 touchdown passes / 1 rushing touchdown
- 2024 Season @ Loyola: 7 games played -- 28-for-57 (49.1 %), 340 yards and 2 touchdown passes
- PrepRedzone.com: 2027 Orange County All Star Game Watch List -- South Offense
- Has an committed to play at Vanderbilt after receiving Division 1 offers form offer from Princeton, Utah, Northern Arizona and Idaho
- Transfer from Villa Park High School (previously enrolled at Loyola 2023 and 2024)

13 Jake Martin | Safety | Junior | 6-0 / 180

- Has blocked 3 field goals this season -- part of the teams' total of 5
- Received his first Division 1 offer from San Diego State
- Delivered crucial plays to assist the win over Mater Dei -- blocked a 41-yard field goal attempt, delivered a key pass breakup and led the team in total tackles with 12. Awarded "Stat Stuffer - Top Performance status from High School on SI and one of the Top Southern Section Defensive Performers from Week 6 by PrepRedzone.com
- Played a fierce game from safety position and collected first career interception in one-sided victory versus Inderkum (Sacramento) -- added 7 total tackles (1 for loss)
- Delivered a game changing block on the point-after-attempt following Centennial's late fourth quarter touchdown to preserve the Eagles win -- named a Weekly Key Performer by the *Los Angeles Times*
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 122 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as a Watch List prospect for class of 2028 in California in Summer
- Has made the transition to the defensive side of the ball for 2026 and secured the free safety position
- PrepRedzone.com Selected to Watch List for class of 2028
- 2025 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com Rising Star and Early Off-Season Notable Underclassman from Southern California
- Registered five pass receptions for 66 yards (17.2 average) and one touchdown in final regular season win of 2025 at JSerra Catholic
- Collected a career-high six pass receptions in win over Servite in 2025
- PrepRedZone.com: Standout class of 2028 performer in Southern California for Weeks 0 and 1

15 West Stansbury | Quarterback | Junior | 6-4 / 230

- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 116 prospect in California and No. 18 at his position for class of 2028 in Summer
- Holds Division 1 offers from UCLA and Texas - El Paso (UTEP)
- PrepRedzone.com prospect rankings - Texas: Overall - No. 63 / Position - No. 8 in February

- Father Ed was nationally-ranked quarterback prospect out of Irvin High School (El Paso) in 1997. Was backup at UCLA for two seasons before making the move to fullback. Played for the Houston Texans in 2002. Uncle Don was a defensive lineman for Southern Methodist (SMU) from 2001-05 and uncle Hal was a fullback for Texas - El Paso (UTEP) in the mid-1990s
- Has attended numerous prospect camps over the past three years
- Stansbury is a traits-based evaluation, and those traits are real. The frame is college-ready, and his ability to generate power without over swinging is impressive for his age. He throws with rhythm and shows an understanding of sequencing reads, even with limited varsity reps
- The next step for Stansbury is volume and command, more snaps, more situational football. Once he gets a full season as the guy, expect rapid development. This is a quarterback whose stock could rise sharply once exposure and reps catch up with the tools
- Best game of career came on September 19, 2025 versus Parkland (El Paso): 261 yards passing and 3 touchdown passes
- Transfer from Coronado High School (El Paso, Texas)

16 Grant Van Raaphorst | Wide Receiver | Junior | 6-0 / 175

- 42-yard pass reception versus JSerra Catholic gives him five this season with a distance of 34 yards or more
- Delivered another solid performance versus Servite – 5 pass receptions for 87 yards (17.4 average) and one long-distance score of 55 yards
- Named a USA Today High School Sports Playmaker Athlete for Week 7 – nominated for the “National Play of the Week” for Going Up the Ladder versus Mater Dei
- Set up his own touchdown reception with 20-yard reverse run into the Mater Dei red zone and then was on the receiving end of a Fletch Palmer pass for a score. Also 34-yard reception earlier in the game. Finished with 3 touches for 58 yards (19.3 average)
- Registered a solid game -- 4 pass receptions for 91 yards (22.8 average) and long of 38 yards in dominant victory over Highland (Palmdale) – season high for receiving yards thus far
- Has receive Division 1 offers from Connecticut and Colorado State
- In first game for SMCHS, caught 3 passes for 69 yards (23.0 average) and one touchdown (39 yards) from Fletch Palmer in victory against Jones (Orlando)
- Named by prep sports guru James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key transfers and impact players in the Trinity League for 2026
- 2025 New Jersey Prep Super Football Conference All-Division Football -- First-Team - Offense (Tight End)
- Most Valuable Wide Receiver at the PrepRedzone.com New Jersey Combine in July, 2025
-- Key Performance: 40-Yard Dash -- Measured at 4.56 and then 4.53
- Week of November 5, 2024: Named Jersey Mike's “Athlete of the Week” as he scored the game winning 78-yard touchdown to give Delbarton a 17-13 win over Paramus Catholic (first reception of high school career)

Dalbarton School Career Receiving Statistics						
Year / Season	Games	Recs	Yards	Avg.	TDs	Other Notes
Sophomore 2025	10	29	576	19.9	7	Led team in all categories and was one of the top kickoff returners in the state -- 21.1 average
Freshman 2024	4	1	78	78.0	1	
Career Totals	14	30	654	21.8	8	334 yards -- kickoffs and punt returns for career

Best Individual Receiving Game: September 27, 2025 vs. Seton Hall Prep -- 5 pass receptions, 139 yards (27.8 average) and 2 touchdowns

- Transfer from Dalbarton School (Morristown, New Jersey)

17 Rayshawn Brandon | Defensive Back | Sophomore | 6-0 / 165

-  Nike Defensive Player of the Game -- Snagged the first interception of his career in the first quarter of dynamic win at St. John Bosco and returned it 55 yards for a touchdown – Lauded by the *Los Angeles Times* / Eric Sondheimer: Noted as a Top Game Performer of the Week in the Southland and awarded Stat Stuffer -- Top Performance status from High School on SI and Top CIF-Southern Section Defensive Performer by PrepRedzone.com
- Received first Division 1 offer from UCLA
- Saw action on the varsity for two postseason games 2025 when promoted from the freshman team
- Member of the SMCHS track & field team. Clocked at 11.74 in the 100-meters. Also on the 4x100-meter relay team with fellow football players Emmanuel Logan-Brown, Ca'ron Williams and Titus King (since transferred)

19 Jagger Apt | Safety | Junior | 5-9 / 170

- Scored the first touchdown of his career as he scooped up a blocked punt and rambled 10 yards for a score versus Norco
- Registered first career interception in one-sided victory versus Inderkum (Sacramento) – added 5 total tackles
- Collected three pass receptions in overtime upset win versus Centennial (Corona) in 2025 -- the first of his young career

20 Juel McAlister | Cornerback / Free Safety | Sophomore | 6-1 / 170

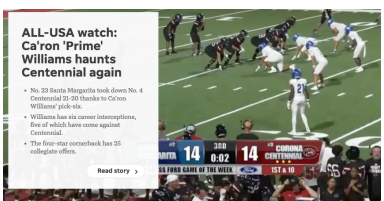
- Has received Division 1 offers from California and San Diego State

21 Ca'ron Williams | Cornerback | Junior | 6-0 / 175 | Two-Year Varsity Starter & Captain

- Ranked No. 4 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Defense
- Logged his third interception of the season and seventh of his career in victory at St. John Bosco -- SMCHS record for most interceptions in a career: 12 by Brad Finneran from 1991-93
- USA Today Sports 2026 West Region Midseason High School Football Team -- First-Team - Defense
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 26 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Player (of 65)
- Developed a new tool in his arsenal in win versus Mater Dei – the elite pass defender registered the first two sacks of his career. Also notched 5 total tackles and 2 tackles for loss
- Featured guest on MaxPreps.com's "National Prep Football Podcast" – 09/02/26
- Nominated by High School on SI for "Southern California High School Football Player of the Week" (08/24-29)
- All-USA Today Watch: Cornerback Ca'ron "Prime" Williams Gets Key Pick Six In Santa Margarita Catholic's Super 25 Win Over Centennial, 21-20
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/high-school/football/2026/08/29/caron-williams-interception-santa-margarita-beats-centennial-football/91527079007/>
- Scored what turned out to be the winning touchdown with a 31-yard return in the fourth-quarter in slim win over Centennial (Corona). Touted by prep sports guru James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as the "Play of the Night"
- Continued a career of dominating performances versus highly-ranked Centennial (Corona)

Ca'ron Williams – Career Interceptions vs. Centennial

Season	Games vs. Centennial	Interceptions		Touchdowns vs. Centennial	Return Yards
		Career vs. All Opp	Career vs. Centennial		
2024	1	1	1	0	0
2025	2	3	3	1	131
2026	1	3	1	1	31
Total	4	7	5	2	162



- Collected his fifth-career interception in blowout win over Jones (Orlando)
- 2026 MaxPreps.com Preseason All-America Junior First-Team - Defense (Defensive Back)
- Named by Cannon Sports as the No. 7 Top Football Player in California from the class of 2028
- 2026 West Coast Preps – No. 35 – Top High School Football Players in Southern California
- Identified as a standout prospect by Six Star Football -- highlighting elite prospects and talent in Fall
- 2026 Cal-Hi Sports Preseason All-Southern Section Second-Team - Defense
- Greg Biggins -- On3.com / rivals: Elite cornerback
- Named one of the top cornerbacks in the Southern Section for 2026 by High School on SI
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 3 cornerback in Southern California for the 2026 season
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 21 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 6 prospect in California and No. 3 at his position for class of 2028 in Summer – first appearance in the outlet's Top 10 -- a "Rankings Riser"
- Named by the *Orange County Register* as No. 5 among the "Top Defensive Backs to Watch in 2026" from Orange County
- Named by PreActive / PASports / @pre_aktivesports as the No. 9 top class of 2028 junior Watch List prospect for the CIF Southern Section
- Selected by Michael Huntley of PrepRedzone.com as one of the "Top Performers from the Battle at the Beach" 7v7 tournament -- brings consistency and experience to his corner position – capable of locking down bigger receivers
- Named by MaxPreps.com as one of the Key Players for the No. 6 nationally-ranked Eagles' for 2026
- Named one of the top Defensive Backs in the Southland for 2026 by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times*

- Delivered a dominant performance at Nike's The Opening regional camp in Los Angeles in February
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com: Named one of top three class of 2028 Defensive Backs in Orange County by Michael Huntley in Winter, 2026
- Selected to play in The 2nd Annual Sevens 7-on-7 Football Tournament in late February at Peachtree High School in Suwanee, Georgia along with nation's top 200-plus recruits in the classes of 2027 and 2028
- PrepRedzone.com state prospect rankings: Overall - No. 11 / Position - No. 4 in February
- 2025 West Coast Preps All-Southern California First-Team - Defense
- 2025 West Coast Preps -- Top 65 High School Football Players in Southern California
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports Sophomore All-State Football: First-Team - Defense
- 2025 All CIF Southern Section - Division 1
- 2025 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Defense
- 2025 All-Orange County Football team (*Orange County Register*)
- 2025 MaxPreps.com Sophomore All-America First-Team
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com All-Southern California Sophomore Football Team
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee
- In 42-7 rout of Centennial in the CIF Southern Section - Division 1 championship, snagged his third interception of the season against the Huskies and returned it 51 yards.
- Notched two interceptions in the span of the last four minutes of the first half against Centennial (Corona), an upset win for the Eagles. He sprinted 62 yards on the first of the two for his first high school touchdown.
 - Named the Orange County Male Athlete of the Week by the *Orange County Register* for his impressive defensive performance
 - PrepRedZone.com: Standout class of 2028 performer in Southern California for Weeks 0 and 1
 - Lauded by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times*
 - Named a Top Performer for Santa Margarita Catholic by PrepRedZone.com
 - Named a Dominant Defender for Santa Margarita Catholic by PrepRedZone.com
- 2025 MaxPreps.com Preseason All-America Sophomore selection: Second-Team - Defense (Defensive Back)
- Ranked No. 80 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2025
- 2025 *Orange County Register* No. 10 defensive back in Orange County
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports Preseason All-Orange County Team
- 2024 MaxPreps.com Freshman All-America Team: Second-Team - Defense
- Has received more than 30 Division 1 offers from: USC, Oregon, Ohio State, Cal (California), Oklahoma, Miami (Florida), Alabama, UCLA, Arizona, Arizona State, Norte Dame, Washington, Florida State, Texas, Texas A&M, San Diego State, Ole Miss (Mississippi), Nebraska, North Carolina, Arkansas, Vanderbilt, Iowa, Missouri, Maryland, Sacramento State, Coastal Carolina, Toledo, SMU (Southern Methodist), Colorado State, Florida, Michigan, LSU, Penn State and Georgia
- Has narrowed his commitment decision to 12 schools:



23 Luca Amaya | Running Back | Junior | 5-10 / 190

- Fielded a kickoff versus JSerra Catholic and returned it 96-yard for a touchdown -- tied for third-longest in school history. Earlier this season, Ford Davenport returned a kickoff 88-yards for a touchdown versus Highland (Palmdale)

SMCHS: Longest Kickoff Return – All-Time

Player	Distance	Season	Opponent
Malone Mataele	98	2016	@ Mission Viejo
A.J. Cruz	97	2008	@ St. John Bosco
Luca Amaya	96	2026	JSerra Catholic
Cory Thomson	96	2009	Poway
Malone Mataele	94	2016	@ Mission Viejo
Logan Sweet	91	2008	Mater Dei
Josh Ireland	90	1990	Trabuco Hills
Josh Ireland	90	1990	San Luis Obispo

- Scored 2 rushing touchdowns in dominant win versus Highland

24 Noah Grande | Running Back | Senior | 5-9 / 200

- Has scored 2 rushing touchdowns – one each in lop-sided wins against Highland (Palmdale) and Inderkum (Sacramento)

26 Adrian Petero | Running Back | Sophomore | 5-6 / 190

- Contributed 19 rushing attempts for 114 yards (6.0 average) and 1 touchdown in victory over JSerra Catholic
- Featured in online article by Silas Bravo of westcoastpreps.com – “Sophomore Star Adrian Petero Sets the Tone for Santa Margarita Catholic” (10/22/26)
- Leads the Trinity League lead in touchdowns scored with 15 -- Continued streak of capturing at least one touchdown in each game this season
- USA Today Sports 2026 West Region Midseason High School Football Team -- Second-Team - Offense
- Led the Eagles in rushing versus Servite – 98 yards on 7 attempts (14.0 average) and 2 touchdowns scored. One score was a 56-yard romp.

Trinity League: Most Total Touchdowns Scored

Player	School	Touchdowns
Adrian Petero	Santa Margarita Catholic	15
Maliq Allen	St. John Bosco	13
Jorden Wells	Servite	10

- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 53 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Player (of 65)
- Scored the Eagle's first touchdown of the game versus Mater Dei
- Cited by Tarek Fattal in the High School on SI midseason report as a strong candidate for the 2026 CIF Offensive Player of the Year
- In blowout win over Norco, established a new career high for rushing yards with 142 yards (23 attempts / 6.2 average) and 2 touchdowns -- now has at-least one rushing touchdown in each game and multiple in the past three -- *Los Angeles Times* Performer of the Week / Season
- Continued remarkable start to season with 101 yards rushing on 12 attempts (8.4 average) and scored 4 touchdowns (all rushing) against Inderkum (Sacramento)

A-Train Rolling

- The last game an Eagles player scored four rushing touchdowns prior to Adrian Petero was on September 15, 2011, when junior running back Ryan Wolpin tied the school record with four rushing touchdowns. In that matchup, Wolpin led the Eagles to a 35-14 nonleague victory over Trabuco Hills, finding the end zone on runs of 1, 2, 1, and 34 yards
- The last Eagles player to score four overall touchdowns in a game before Adrian Petero was Trent Mosley in the CIF-Southern Section - Division 1 Championship game on November 28, 2025 versus Centennial (Corona) at the Rose Bowl



- Pass reception and dynamic run after catch versus Inderkum (Sacramento) and powerful running (101 yards) was recognized by many outlets:
 - No. 1 on the ESPN SportsCenter “Top 10 Plays of the Day”
 - Named a USA Today High School Sports “Super 25 Playmaker and High School Football Athlete of Week 4” -- nominated and won “National Player of the Week”
 - PrepRedzone.com: One of the “Top Southern Section Offensive Performers from Week 3”
 - “Recommended viewing on social media” – Steve Fryer / *Orange Coast Register*
 - West Coast Preps Named: “Weekly Star”
 - The play was picked up and aired all over the nation by media outlets including: *New York Post*, ESPN SportsCenter, Sports Illustrated, Yahoo Sports, NFHS Network, *USA Today* High School Sports, Cal-Hi Sports, rivals, MaxPreps.com and numerous YouTube channels
- Was a key contributor and foundation of a grinding running attack in win at Centennial (Corona). Established new career highs for attempts – 23 and yards gained 111 (1 touchdown) in a game – Named a Weekly Key Performer by the *Los Angeles Times* and one of the “Top Southern Section Offensive Performers from Week 1” by PrepRedzone.com
- Dubbed the “A-Train” by teammates last season and has a new moniker bestowed by prep guru Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times*: “Mighty Mouse”
- Literally carried the load for the Eagles with 14 attempts versus Jones (Orlando) and scored one a 1-yard dive. Fourteen is a new single-game career high

- Greg Biggins -- On3.com / rivals: Provides strength to the ground game
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 99 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Named one of the top Running Backs in the Southland for 2026 by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times*
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 79 prospect in California and No. 4 at his position in Spring
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports California All-State Football Freshman Watch List
- 2025 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com Rising Star and Early Off-Season Notable Underclassman from Southern California
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com class of 2029 Orange County Players to Watch
- Named to the PrepRedzone.com "Watch List" for Class of 2029 recruiting class
- Scored one rushing touchdown in the 31-6 CIF Southern Section - Division 1 semifinal victory over Orange Lutheran
- Executed one of the most pivotal plays when he caught a pass from Trace Johnson and romped 59-yards versus the Mater Dei defense in historic comeback victory versus Mater Dei on October 10 on late scoring-drive
- Combined with teammate Jaion Smith to gain 156 yards on the ground versus Centennial (Corona) -- regular season. Petero grinded and drove to gain the final two yards of real estate and score the winning touchdown in overtime as well. It was the first score in his young career. Named a Top Performer for Santa Margarita Catholic versus Centennial (Corona) by PrepRedZone.com

27 Kaleb Herndon | Defensive End | Freshman | 6-5 / 225

- Registered 1.5 sacks in win against JSerra Catholic
- Ranked No. 3 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Defense
- PrepRedzone.com: 2026 Midseason "Fantastic Freshmen of Southern California" - Defense
- Featured in lengthy (1,700 words) published article by High School on SI -- Five-Star Freshman Kaleb Herndon Emerging as Force for Undefeated Santa Margarita Catholic (09/07/26)
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 45 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Player (of 65)
- Enjoyed a strong defensive game along with Eagle's teammates versus Mater Dei: 8 total tackles, 4 tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks
- Snagged first career interception to set up an early Eagles first touchdown in the one-sided win versus Inderkum (Sacramento)
- On3.com / rivals: Instant impact freshman contributor for SMCHS
- Another one of the freshman contributors on defense in big win versus Jones (Orlando) -- 2 sacks, 3 total tackles and 2 tackles for loss
- One of sixteen of the nation's top young athletes selected for the inaugural "UP NEXT: No Days Off" class -- a new recognition program created by Whistle Sports and DAZN (dazn.com) to spotlight standout competitors from across the country -- Will be featured in a premium documentary-style episode exploring his journey, support system and pursuit of excellence before being presented with the Golden Whistle Plaque -- an annual award recognizing athletes who exemplify the spirit of "No Days Off"
- Identified as a standout prospect by Six Star Football -- highlighting elite prospects and talent in Fall
- Ranked the No. 1 "Freshman Player to Watch" in the Southern Section for 2026 by High School on SI
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Named by PreActive / PASports / @pre_aktivesports as the No. 2 top class of 2030 incoming freshmen Watch List prospect for the CIF Southern Section
- Generated early Division 1 interest as he is considered one of the top prospects in the country for his age group
- Has received Division 1 offers from Alabama, Texas Tech, Texas A&M, Oregon, Ole Miss, Oregon, Miami (Florida), Southern Methodist (SMU), Texas-San Antonio (UTSA), San Diego State and USC, many while still in 8th grade
- Possesses elite size for his position at a young age, leading to comparisons to top athletes

33 Gauge Cook | Kicker / Punter | Junior | 5-11 / 205 -- INJURED

- Junior transfer displayed his leg strength with 4 kickoffs with a 60.0 average and 2 touchbacks
- Named by the *Orange County Register* as No. 7 among the "Top Specialists to Watch in 2026" from Orange County
- Star Tiers in Class of 2028 (per Chris Sailer): Kicker -- 5-star and punter -- 4.5-star
- Chris Sailer Kicking Rankings
 - National Rank: 9 overall kicker - Class of 2028
 - California Rank: 2 overall kicker - Class of 2028
- Chris Sailer Kicking Camp Accomplishments

- 2026 Vegas 47 Field Goal Finalist
- 2026 Vegas 48 Punt Finalist
- 2026 Vegas 48 Field Goal Finalist
- 2026 Top 12 Camp Selection
- 2025 Vegas XLV Class of 2028 Punt Champion
- Fresh off an impressive performance at the Chris Sailer Kicking Camp was one of only two kickers from California invited to the prestigious camp and just 50 specialists nationwide
- Transfer from Aliso Niguel High School
- Played on Aliso Niguel junior varsity team in 2025 -- In a notable 10-8 victory over Beckman High School (Irvine), Cook connected for the game-winning, 36-yard walk-off field goal with 0:01 remaining on the clock. His long for the season was 37-yards.

37 Colin Hicks | Punter | Senior | 6-0 / 210

2026 Season				
GP	Punts	Avg.	Long	In 20
7	20	36.5	54	4

- *Team did not punt in 2 games: Inderkum and Servite*
- Averaged 50.0 yards per punt (2) in game versus JSerra Catholic
- Has connected on a punt of 44-yards or more in six of seven games played
- Long of 54-yards versus JSerra Catholic – The second longest by a punter in the Trinity League this season
- Received a 4-star ranking from Chris Sailer Kicking in June 2025
- Trained by legendary kicker John Carney at the Carney Training Facility – works alongside with free agent kickers and punters in the offseason

41 Kai Koga | Punter / Kicker | Senior | 5-11 / 176

2026 Season						
PAT	PAT Att	PAT %	FG	FGA	FG %	Points
31	36	86.1 %	0	3	00.0 %	31

- Brings a rare international soccer background to SMCHS -- having trained and competed across multiple countries before transitioning to football with advanced ball-striking mechanics
- Trained summer in Spain. Spent three weeks training at the Marcet High Performance Academy in Barcelona and spent time training in Madrid, Rome, London and Scotland
- Plays club soccer for Pateadores ECRL, based in Orange County
- Kohl's Kicking: Ranked 4-star / Attended multiple showcase and invitational events
- Chris Sailer Kicking: Ranked 4.5 star
- 315-pound squat that supports genuine leg power and runs a 4.68 40-yard dash

44 Dax Karney | Linebacker / Long Snapper | Sophomore | 5-11 / 195

- Has gained more field time as the seasons' progressed – 37 total tackles, 5 tackles for loss, 5 hurries and 3 sacks
- Enjoyed the best game of his young career in Eagle's shredding of Norco – led team with 10 total tackles (1 for loss), one-half sac and 1 hurry. Has 2 sacks and 4 tackles for loss in first 5 games

45 Sebastian Watson | Linebacker | Sophomore | 5-11 / 205

- PrepRedzone.com: Selected to Watch List for class of 2029 -- an emerging, high-potential underclassman linebacker tracking toward future official state rankings
- Has received a Division 1 offer from the University of Texas-San Antonio (UTSA). In addition, he has an offer from Georgetown and recently received an unofficial recruiting invite and visit to UCLA

50 Adam Iloilo, Jr. | Offensive Lineman | Sophomore | 6-4 / 295

- Collected 3 pancake blocks in the dominant win over Norco
- High School on SI: One of key offensive lineman SMCHS leans on to do the dirty work up front
- 2026 MaxPreps.com Preseason All-America Sophomore First-Team - Offense (Offensive Line)
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 137 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026

- Named an Honorable Mention offensive lineman selection by 300+ Media / 300 Plus Podcast -- National Coaches Poll for 5v5
- Named by PreActive / PASports / @pre_aktivesports as the No. 9 top class of 2029 sophomore Watch List prospect for the CIF Southern Section
- Registered 11 pancake blocks last season
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 43 prospect in California and No. 6 at his position in Spring
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports California All-State Football Freshman Watch List
- PrepRedzone.com 2026 Winter Showcase Most Valuable Player -- Offensive Line
- Test categories:
 - * 40-yard dash: 5.36 / 4th
 - * Shuttle: 4.79 / 2nd
 - * Broad jump: 8'1" / 2nd
 - * L Drill: 8.63 / 3rd
- 2025 MaxPreps.com Freshman All-America First-Team
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com Rising Star and Early Off-Season Notable Underclassman from Southern California
- Named a Top Performer for Santa Margarita Catholic versus Centennial (Corona) - regular season by PrepRedZone.com

52 Chris Kraninger | Offensive Lineman | Junior | 6-3 / 275

- Registered 3 pancake blocks in the trenches versus Servite
- Has received offers from Harvard and Princeton
- Registered 4 pancake blocks in four games played in 2025
- PrepRedzone.com: Selected to Watch List for class of 2028
- 2025 High School Football America Academic All-America selection

53 Isaia Vandermade | Offensive / Defensive Lineman | Senior | 6-4 / 290 Captain

- Ranked No. 19 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Defense
- Arose to record 2 sacks in win over Servite - Cited by PrepRedzone.com as one of the best performances of the week and Honorable Mention Defensive Player of the Week by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com)
- Named by West Coast Preps as the No. 22 Top SoCal Midseason Impact Player (of 65)
- Awarded Stat Stuffer - Top Performance status from High School on SI in win over Mater Dei: 4 total tackles, 1 tackle for loss and 1 sack
- Chosen by West Coast Preps as the No. 5 defensive lineman in Southern California for the 2026 season
- Named by High School on SI as a member of the 2026 CIF Southern Section Preseason All-Star Team
- Mitch Stephens / High School on SI: One of the Top Defensive Lineman to Watch in California for 2026
- 2026 West Coast Preps -- No. 29 -- Top High School Football Players in Southern California
- 2026 *USA Today* High School Sports Preseason All-West Region Third-Team - Defensive Line
- 2026 Cal-Hi Sports Preseason All-Southern Section First-Team - Defense
- Greg Biggins -- On3.com / rivals: Strong leader of the defense
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 7 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Named one of the top defensive linemen in the Southern Section for 2026 by High School on SI
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Named by the *Orange County Register* as No. 4 among the "Top Linemen to Watch in 2026" from Orange County
- Cited by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times* as one of the top defensive linemen to watch this season
- Named by MaxPreps.com as one of the Key Players for the No. 6 nationally-ranked Eagles' for 2026
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com Junior All-Southern California - Defense
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports Junior All-State First-Team - Defense
- 2025 West Coast Preps All-Southern California First-Team - Offense
- 2025 West Coast Preps -- Top 65 High School Football Players in Southern California
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 94 prospect in California and No. 9 at his position in Winter
- 2025 All CIF Southern Section - Division 1
- 2025 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense
- 2025 All-Orange County (*Orange County Register*)
- 2025 SMCHS Defensive Lineman of the Year
- 2025 High School on SI / si.com / SBLive All-CIF Southern Section
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee

- Committed to play for USC on February 17, after having received Division 1 offers from: Arizona, Brigham Young (BYU), Cal (California), Colorado, Minnesota, Oklahoma State, Oregon, Texas Tech, Washington, San Jose State, South Florida and San Diego State
- Continued to romp over opposing offensive linemen with eight total tackles (3 for loss) and another three sacks
Note: In first three CIF Southern Section Playoff games (SCS, OLu and Cent) had eight sacks, nine tackles for loss and two forced fumbles
- Followed up his best career game with another triumphant performance five total tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss and two sacks in the 31-6 CIF Southern Section Division 1 semifinal victory over Orange Lutheran
- Had the best game of his prep career in upset win at Sierra Canyon in the CIF Southern Section - Division 1 Playoffs -- seven total tackles, 3 1/2 tackles for loss, three sacks, one forced fumble and one pass defended. Commendations from:
 - Cal-Hi Sports Southern California Defensive Player of the Week nominee
 - *Orange County Register* Boys County Athlete of the Week nominee / Dan Albano - "Most Impressive"
 - PrepRedzone.com Defensive Performer of the Week selection
- Ranked No. 83 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2025
- 2025 *The Sporting News* Honorable Mention - Defensive Lineman in California
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports Preseason All-Orange County First-Team
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com Top Offensive Linemen to Watch in Southern California
- 2024 Cal-Hi Sports First-Team All-State Sophomore Team - Offense
- 2024 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee
- 2024 All-Bay Area News Group Honorable Mention - Defensive Line
- 2024 *San Francisco Chronicle* All-Metro Team - Honorable Mention - San Francisco
- 2024 Cal-Hi Sports Preseason All-Central Coast Section Team - Second-Team
- 2024 West Catholic Athletic League - Sophomore Player of the Year
- 2024 All-West Catholic Athletic League - First-Team
- 2024 All-Bay Area News Group Preseason Team - Defensive Line
- 2023 *San Francisco Chronicle* All-Metro Honorable Mention - San Francisco
- 2023 *San Francisco Chronicle* All-Metro - Freshman of the Year
- 2023 All-West Catholic Athletic League - Freshman Player of the Year
- 2023 All-West Catholic Athletic League - Second-Team
- 2023 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee

54 Chavis "Ceejay" Tuimauga | Offensive Lineman | Junior | 6-1 / 275 -- INJURED

- 2025 PrepRedzone.com All-Southern California - Sophomore Team - Offense - Honorable Mention
- 2025 PrepRedzone.com state prospect rankings: Overall - No. 164 / Position - No. 23 in February
- Noted for his strong base and heavy hands
- Transfer from Leuzinger High School (Lawndale)

55 Ray Jacobs | Offensive Lineman | Senior | 6-3 / 300

- High School on SI: One of key offensive lineman SMCHS leans on to do the dirty work up front
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Featured in podcast interview in late summer on 300+ Media / 300 Plus Podcast
- Registered 7 pancake blocks in 2025

56 Aaron Klatt | Center | Senior | 6-1 / 280 Captain

- Asserted himself as the "King of the Pancake Blocks" versus Norco with 5 in the game
- High School on SI: One of key offensive lineman SMCHS leans on to do the dirty work up front
- Starting at offensive guard rather than his usual center position, dealt 3 pancake blocks
- Named as the No. 1 center in Southern California, for classes of 2027 and 2028, by 300+ Media / 300 Plus Podcast
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 10 Offensive Linemen in Orange County for 2026
- Selected by OCVarsity (*Orange County Register*) as No. 91 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Has registered 38 career pancake blocks
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 341 prospect in California and No. 54 at his position in Winter

- PrepRedzone.com: Klatt anchors perhaps the top offensive line unit in the state and is one of the top returning offensive lineman in the Trinity League
- 2025 All-Trinity League First-Team - Offense
- Named a Top Performer for Santa Margarita Catholic versus Centennial (Corona) - regular season by PrepRedZone.com
- Also is a member of the SMC wrestling and track & field teams

58 Tonga Uhila | Defensive Tackle | Senior | 5-10 / 260 Captain

- Made presence know in win over JSerra Catholic with 4 total tackles, 1 tackle for loss, 0.5 sacks, 1 forced fumble and a blocked field goal
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- 2025 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Defense
- 2025 SMCHS Brad Dillahunt Award selection
- Registered one sack and one tackle for loss in final regular season of 2025 win at JSerra Catholic
- Blocked at PAT attempt versus St. John Bosco in 2025
- Finished with the best game of his young career with one interception and one sack versus Liberty (Bakersfield) in 2024

64 Kairin Brunt | Offensive Line | Sophomore | 5-11 / 280

- High School on SI: One of key offensive lineman SMCHS leans on to do the dirty work up front
- PrepRedzone.com: Selected to Watch List for class of 2029
- Recognized for his strength and physical presence at the point of attack, often highlighted on platforms like Hudl and SportsRecruits

67 Elyjah Aiavā | Offensive Lineman | Junior | 6-1 / 325

- Joined teammate Aaron Klatt in the pancake fest versus Norco – dealt 3 in the game, bringing his season total to 9
- High School on SI: One of key offensive lineman SMCHS leans on to do the dirty work up front
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as a Watch List prospect for class of 2028 in California in Summer
- PrepRedzone.com Selected to Watch List for class of 2028 / Named Top Riser in Spring
- PrepRedzone.com Breakout Sophomore Sensation selection in Winter -- One of the top class of 2028 prospects across the entire state regardless of position. Already well on his way to being a FCS+ prospect and should be closing in on his first offer soon

88 Sacha Guerdat | Tight End | Junior | 6-5 / 235

- Has received five Division 1 offers from Colorado State, San Diego State, Sacramento State, Northern Arizona and Dartmouth
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 132 prospect in California and No. 3 at his position for class of 2028 in Summer
- Collected 9 pass receptions and 3 pancake blocks in 2025
- 2025 High School Football America Academic All-America selection

99 Kingston Jimmerson | Defensive End / Edge | Sophomore | 6-2 / 267

- Scooped up a fumble and returned it 79-yards to register a touchdown versus JSerra Catholic – established three new school records in the process:
 - Longest fumble return in a game – 79 yards
 - Most fumble return yards in a season – 79 yards
 - Longest defensive touchdown – 79 yards
 - Jimmerson became the third SMCHS player to have a spectacular play nominated as the USA Today High School Sports “National Play of the Week”
- Exciting play was shared on video by *USA Today* High School Sports and Yahoo Sports around the country
- Ranked No. 30 by Orange County Football (orangecountyfootball.com) for the 2026 Midseason OC50 Defense
- Has continued defensive dominance into his sophomore season – has 20 total tackles while registering 15 for loss -- also collected 7.5 sacks
- USA Today Sports 2026 West Region Midseason High School Football Team -- Second-Team - Defense
- Defensive hard performance that supported SMCHS defensive unit in victory over Mater Dei - 2 sacks and 2 tackles for loss one of the Top Southern Section Defensive Performers from Week 6 by PrepRedzone.com

- Displayed a fierce defensive effort from his edge position – 6 total tackles (3 tackles for loss) in victory at Centennial -
- Named a Weekly Key Performer by the *Los Angeles Times*, one of the Top Southern Section Defensive Performers from Week 1 by PrepRedzone.com, SoCal Stud by West Coast Preps – the best player on the field and cited by PrepRedzone.com as one of the best Defensive Performances of the Week
- Mitch Stephens / High School on SI: One of the Top Sophomore Defensive Lineman to Watch in the nation
- Greg Biggins -- On3.com / rivals: Expected to have a breakout year
- Featured prospect on @varsity_sports_media_ with showcase reels, graphics and performance highlights
- Picked by editor James Escarcega of the Southern California High School Football Report as one of the key players in the Trinity League for 2026
- Selected by OCVarsity (Orange County Register) as No. 119 on the Hot 150 high school football players likely to have the biggest impact on the field in 2026
- Ranked the No. 3 defensive lineman in the nation by 300+ Media / 300 Plus Podcast
- Has received Division 1 offers from UCLA, USC, Arizona State, Penn State, Arizona, Sacramento State, Nebraska and San Diego State
- Ranked by PrepRedzone.com as the No. 44 prospect in California and No. 7 at his position in Spring of 2026
- 2025 Cal-Hi Sports California All-State Football Freshman Watch List
- PrepRedzone.com 2026 Winter Showcase Most Valuable Player -- Defensive Line and leader in every test category:
 - * 40-yard dash: 4.94 seconds / 3rd
 - * Shuttle: 4.65 seconds / 2nd
 - * Broad jump: 8'10" / 2nd
 - * L Drill: 8.03 seconds / 1st
 - * A no-brainer FBS talent that is one of the best at his position in the Trinity League
- Performed well in rout of Centennial in the CIF Southern Section - Division 1 title game -- one sack and one forced fumble

CURRENT COMPOSITE POLL RANKINGS

Media Outlet	Coverage Area	Poll Rank
<i>Los Angeles Times</i> / latimes.com	Southland	1
<i>Orange County Register</i> / ocregister.com	Orange County	1
Cal-Hi Sports / calhisports.com	State	1
	Southern Section	1
MaxPreps / MaxPreps.com	Nation – Opinion	2
	Nation – Computer	2
	California – Opinion	1
	California – Computer	2
	Southern Section – Overall – Computer	2
	Southern Section – Division 1 – Comp	2
	Los Angeles Metro – Computer	2
	Media Composite – Computer	3.3 = 4
HS Ratings / hsratings.com	Nation – Computer	3
	California – Computer	1
	Southern Section – Computer	1
	Offensive Unit – Nation – Computer	158
	Defensive Unit – Nation – Computer	1
High School Football America / highschoolfootballamerica.com FloFootball / flofootball.com	Nation – Computer	2
	California – Computer	1
	Southern Section – Computer	1
High School on SI / SBLive Sports / <i>Sports Illustrated</i>	Nation – Opinion	2
	California – Opinion	1
	Southern Section – Opinion	1

Massey Ratings / masseyratings.com	Nation – Computer	5
	California – Computer	1
	Southern Section – Computer	1
USA Today High School Sports / usatodayhss.com	Nation – Opinion	1
	West Region – Opinion	1
	California – Opinion	1
	Southern Section – Opinion	1
	Nation – Media Composite – Computer	4
National High School Football / nationalhsfb.com	Nation – Opinion	4
	California – Opinion	1
ESPN High School Football – Next / espn.com High School Football Nation / hsfootblnation.com	Nation – Opinion	5
	California – Opinion	1
	Southern Section – Opinion	1
On3.com / rivals.com Composite	Nation – Opinion	4
	Nation – Computer	2
	California – Computer	1
	Southern Section – Computer	1
The Sporting News / sportingnews.com	Nation – Opinion	9
	California – Opinion	3
	Southern Section – Opinion	3
Sports Idol Nation (SPIN Media) / spinmedia.com	Nation – Media Composite – Computer	14
	Nation – Opinion	2
	West Region – Opinion	1
	California – Opinion	1
	Southern Section – Opinion	1
College Football Now / collegefootballnow.com	Nation – Opinion	2
	California – Opinion	1
	Southern Section – Opinion	1
Football Clears / footballclears.com	Nation – Opinion	2
Nations Elite / @nations_elite	Nation – Opinion	8
JPWest Media / jpwestmedia.com	Southern Section – Opinion	1
	Orange County – Opinion	1
West Coast Preps / westcoastpreps.com	California – Opinion	1
	Southern California – Opinion	1
	Southern Section – Opinion	1
	Orange County – Opinion	1
The Mecca Sports / themeccasportscomplex.com	Nation – Opinion	2
USA Top 100 / usatop100.org	Nation – Opinion	5
SoCalFootball / socalfootball.com	California – Opinion	3
	Southern California – Opinion	2
Orange County Football / orangecountyfootball.com	Orange County / Power – Opinion	1 / 1
Mister Football National Composite Rankings -- 13 Sources	Nation – Algorithm	3.42 / 2



WEEK'S OPPONENT: at ORANGE LUTHERAN

SMCHS Season Game No. 10 / Trinity League Game No. 5

Game Day / Date / Time: Friday, October 30, 2026 / 7:00 p.m.

Game Location: Dick Tucker Field at LeBard Stadium (Orange Coast College / Costa Mesa)

Tickets: GoFan.co

Nickname: Lancers

Head Coach: Ray Fenton (First Season at OLu)

2025 Season: Overall: 3-9 / Trinity League: 1-4 / CIF-Southern Section – Division 1 Playoff: 1-1

2026 Season: Overall: 5-4 / Trinity League: 2-2

Last Week's Game: vs. Mater Dei at Santa Ana Bowl, Lost 52-38

All-Time Series: Orange Lutheran leads 12-11 (including postseason)

Last Game / Last SMCHS Win: 2025

-- Regular Season: SMCHS won 28-7 @ Trabuco Hills High School

-- CIF-Southern Section - Division 1 Playoff (Semifinal) SMCHS won 31-6 @ Orange Coast College

Key Players to Watch:

- Anhor The Great Johnson – Defensive Back – Junior
- Ariez Leomiti – Defensive End – Junior
- Chauncey Washington II – Defensive Back – Junior
- Chris Flores, Jr. – Wide Receiver – Senior
- Ezra Brown – Quarterback – Sophomore
- King Rich Jonson – Safety – Junior
- Matthew Zapien – Defensive Back – Senior
- Nico Bland – Wide Receiver – Senior
- Raiden Velasquez – Wide Receiver – Sophomore
- Reagan Toki – Quarterback – Senior
- Ryan Christianson – Running Back – Sophomore

NEXT: CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION – DIVISION 1 FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

2026 DIVISION 1 FOOTBALL



School	Projected Seed	Notes
Santa Margarita Catholic	1	Clinched Division 1 inclusion / Seed TBD
Sierra Canyon	2	Clinched Division 1 inclusion / Seed TBD
Mater Dei	3	Clinched Division 1 inclusion / Seed TBD
St. John Bosco	4	Clinched Division 1 inclusion / Seed TBD
Orange Lutheran	5	Clinched Division 1 inclusion / Seed TBD
Centennial (Corona)	6	Clinched Division 1 inclusion / Seed TBD
Mission Viejo	7	Significant Division 1 probability / Seed TBD
San Clemente	8	Significant Division 1 probability / Seed TBD
JSerra Catholic	9	Probable Division 1 – At-Large / Seed TBD
Chaparral (Temecula)	10	Division 1 or 2 - Dependent on bracket size

- **Playoff brackets to be released by the CIF-Southern Section Football Committee on Sunday, November 1 at approximately 10:00 a.m.**
- First-round playoff games will be played Friday, November 6
- CIF-Southern Section championship finals are Friday, November 27 and Saturday, November 28
- The Division 1 championship game is Friday, November 27 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
- CIF Southern California Regional games are Friday, December 4 and Saturday, December 5 at campus sites
- CIF State championship games are Friday, December 11 and Saturday, December 12

- State Championship games will be played at Buena Park High School, Fullerton High School and Saddleback College in Mission Viejo (Division assignments to be announced)
 - Saddleback College will host the State Open Division Championship Game on Saturday, December 12 at 8:00 p.m.
-

Note: Santa Margarita Catholic High School strives to ensure all athletic information published and released is as accurate and complete to the best of our ability to track, compile and research. Football statistics are compiled by on-site personnel and reviewed for precise accuracy from postgame film. Honors, awards and other outside information and highlights are compiled from various reputable sources on an ongoing basis. If information is deemed to be incorrect or lacks valid support, the originating sources will not be utilized. In addition, all information used is as of the date of production. Rarely, some material can change after production. Our staff will gladly correct any mistaken information or material omissions. We appreciate your patience and support.



SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

2026 VARSITY FOOTBALL ROSTER

No.	Player Name	Pos	Class	Ht.	Wt.
0	Aydan Steen	LB	Fr.	6'2"	205
1	Jaion Smith	RB/LB	Jr.	6'0"	195
2	Ryan Clark	WR	Jr.	5'10"	160
3	Fletch Palmer	QB	Jr.	6'0"	195
4	Jayden Jack	RB, S	Fr.	5'11"	200
5	Curren King	S/LB	Jr.	6'0"	190
6	Grant Mosley	WR	Jr.	6'1"	185
7	Cruz Nuñez	LB	Sr.	6'3"	230
8	Braxton Boyle	TE	Jr.	6'2"	205
9	Luke Gazzaniga C	TE	Sr.	6'4"	235
10	Kiyan Callis	WR	Fr.	5'10"	175
11	J.J. Minardi	WR	Jr.	6'4"	190
12	Matthew Smith	QB	Sr.	6'1"	200
13	Jake Martin	WR/FS	Jr.	6'0"	195
14	Finn Sanders	QB	So.	6'0"	180
15	West Stansbury	QB	Jr.	6'4"	240
16	Grant Van Raaphorst	WR	Jr.	6'0"	180
17	Rayshawn Brandon	DB	So.	6'0"	165
18	Johnny Dos Santos	WR	So.	6'0"	180
19	Jagger Apt	DB	Jr.	5'11"	175
20	Juel McAlister	CB	So.	6'2"	180
21	Ca'ron Williams C	CB	Jr.	6'1"	180
22	Titus King	DB	Jr.	5'11"	155
23	Luca Amaya	RB	Jr.	5'10"	190
24	Noah Grande	RB	Sr.	5'9"	200
25	Christopher Behnam	LB	Jr.	5'8"	220
26	Adrian Petero	RB	So.	5'6"	190
27	Kaleb Herndon	DL	Fr.	6'5"	230
28	Colin Fredericks	CB	Jr.	5'9"	165
30	T.J. McKenzie	DL	So.	6'4"	210
31	Setaleki Manu	LB	Fr.	5'10"	206
32	Warren Klatt	LB	Sr.	6'0"	198
33	Gauge Cook	K	Jr.	5'10"	165
35	Alex Windisch	WR	Sr.	6'5"	195
36	Kaleb Mendez	S	So.	6'0"	175
37	Colin Hicks	P/K	Sr.	5'10"	205
38	Ethan Cole	DB	Jr.	5'10"	170
39	Detavian Miller	WR/DB	Fr.	5'10"	190
40	Alex Oots	DB	So.	5'8"	180
41	Kai Koga	K	Sr.	5'11"	170
42	Emmanuel Logan-Brown	DL	So.	6'2"	205
43	Joaquin Perrizo	WR/DB	So.	5'7"	140

No.	Player Name	Pos	Class	Ht.	Wt.
44	Daxton Karney	LB/LS	So.	5'11"	195
45	Sebastian Watson	LB	So.	5'10"	185
46	Robby Piscopo	WR/DB	So.	5'7"	135
47	Nathan Bottiaux	WR	So.	5'10"	165
48	Matthew Galang	WR	So.	5'7"	150
50	Adam Iloilo, Jr.	OL	So.	6'4"	290
51	Nick Alfisi	DE	Sr.	6'3"	280
52	Chris Kraninger	D/OL	Jr.	6'3"	280
53	Isaia Vandermade C	DL	Sr.	6'3"	300
54	Ceejay Tuimauga	O/DL	Jr.	6'3"	320
55	Raymond Jacobs	OL	Sr.	6'3"	320
56	Aaron Klatt C	C	Sr.	6'1"	280
57	Grover Brown	O/DL	So.	6'2"	245
58	Tonga Uhila C	DL	Sr.	5'11"	265
59	Joey Mamola	LB	So.	5'10"	190
60	Chance Weber	OLB	Jr.	5'9"	165
61	Kyler Mendoza	OL	So.	6'2"	275
62	Lucas Boemer	O/DL	Jr.	6'1"	300
63	Heinrik Shriver	OL	Sr.	6'2"	290
64	Kairin Brunt	OL	So.	5'11"	280
66	Cristian Duenas	DL	So.	5'11"	250
67	Elyjah Aiava	G	Jr.	6'2"	320
73	Mickey Stephens	OL	Jr.	6'1"	295
74	Hunter Grajeda	O/DL	So.	6'0"	280
77	Brandon Tapia	OL	Fr.	6'2"	280
78	Karras Vandermade	OL	So.	6'3"	285
79	Jack Matteson	O/DL	Fr.	5'9"	190
80	Ford Davenport	WR/DB	So.	5'9"	156
81	Logan Anderson	WR	So.	5'10"	170
82	Trey Minardi	TE	So.	6'3"	190
83	Sean Meihaus	TE	So.	5'10"	175
84	Carter Muscarella	WR	So.	5'10"	160
85	Evan Linstrom	TE	So.	6'3"	215
86	Ian Nickoloff	LB	So.	6'0"	195
87	Luca Bernal	DL	So.	6'1"	240
88	Sacha Guerdat	TE	Jr.	6'5"	235
89	Dylan Hernandez	LS	Jr.	6'1"	210
91	Teancum Iloilo	O/DL	So.	5'8"	275
97	Jack Bovberg	O/DL	So.	6'1"	210
99	Kingston Jimmerson	DL	So.	6'1"	280



ORANGE LUTHERAN LANCERS

2026 FOOTBALL ROSTER

No.	Player Name	Pos.	Class
0	James Tuia	DB	So.
1	Anhor The Great Johnson	CB	Jr.
2	Reagan Toki	QB	Sr.
3	Chauncey Washington li	FS/WR	Jr.
4	Chris Flores Jr.	WR	Sr.
5	King Rich Johnson	FS/WR	Jr.
6	Jeremiah Laban	LB	Sr.
7	Matthew Zapien	CB/SS	Sr.
8	Nico Bland	WR	Sr.
9	Jamaal Fay	OLB	Jr.
10	Hudson Ploog	TE	Sr.
11	Raiden Velasquez	WR	So.
12	Ezrah Brown	QB	So.
13	Tred Dible	OLB	Sr.
14	Brayden Wilson	WR	So.
15	B.A. Bross-Quibuyen	RB	Jr.
16	Jaxon Rodriguez	TE/LB	Jr.
17	Emmanuel Walton	QB	So.
18	Anthony McClure	OLB	Sr.
19	Brandon Balice	WR	Jr.
20	Kingston Cockett	WR/FS	So.
21	Griffin Overton	DB	Jr.
22	Ryder Christianson	RB	Fr.
23	Shane Torres	CB	So.
24	Lincoln Venator	FS	So.
25	Christoper Davenport	DB	So.
26	Marcus Sanchez	DB	So.
27	Aiden Amat	WR/K	So.
28	Ryan Christianson	RB/LB	So.
30	Ryder Barnett	RB	So.
31	Jayden Warner	QB	So.
32	Drayton Weaver	DB	So.
34	Santino Scully	RB/LB	So.
35	Benjamin Krusiewicz	WR	So.
36	Kameron Hollenbaugh	SS	So.
37	Toby Wickman	P, K	Sr.
Head Coach: Ray Fenton			

No.	Player Name	Pos.	Class
38	Ben Sherbanee	WR	So.
41	Court Mercure	K	Sr.
42	Luke Saddik	DE	Jr.
43	Raymond Langi	DE	Sr.
44	Jackson Brink	OLB	So.
45	Quinn Huddleston	LS	Jr.
47	Luke Larsen	LB	So.
49	William Lee	RB	So.
50	Caden Rupp	MLB	Fr.
51	Antoine Cason	MLB	So.
52	Jonah Tabrizi	OL	Jr.
53	Brecken Blaha	LB	So.
56	Taylen Herbert	C/LB	So.
60	Zaylon Ragland	OL	So.
61	Santiel Magallon	OG	So.
62	Jonah Nardolillo	DT	So.
64	Ayden Rangel	G	So.
65	Nathan Lozano	OL	So.
66	Sonatane Vunileva	OL	Jr.
70	Ozzie Preciado	G	Jr.
71	Ryan Revelle	ATH	Jr.
73	Troy Oliva	OL	Sr.
75	Lucas Rhoa	T	Sr.
76	Bryson Lewis	OL	Fr.
77	Sam Carrillo	OL	Jr.
78	Mario Luna	OL	So.
79	Michael Gilbert	OL	Sr.
84	Mark Flores	WR	Fr.
86	Logan Ploog	TE	Fr.
87	Grady McBurney	TE	So.
90	Jonathan Slawsby	DE	So.
92	Ricky Kagasoff	DL	Sr.
94	Elijah Faalogo	DL	So.
95	Ariez Leomiti	DE	Jr.
96	Marcus Washington	DE/TE	So.
98	Cory Panapa	DE	Sr.