



The Mighty Mariner

CHARTING NEW WATERS

The Newsletter of the Aptos Sports Foundation & AHS Sports Hall of Fame



WELCOME

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the new Aptos Sports Foundation & AHS Sports Hall of Fame quarterly newsletter. In case you missed the 1st issue, our goal is to keep you up to date with the latest and greatest projects, as well as the latest and greatest news about our current and former student athletes. There are so many great things happening and you deserve to know about it all!

UPCOMING EVENTS

ASF Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament
& Casino Night
Friday, October 25, 2024
Seascape Golf Course
AptosSportsFoundation.com
Lisa Gerety at (831) 688-7434

AHS TRIVIA



Q: Since 1977, the SC Sentinel has honored a county-wide Male & Female Athlete-of-the-Year. Who were the 1st winners from Aptos High?
Read on to find out!

AHS Sports Hall of Fame Dinner
Saturday, May 3, 2025
Seascape Golf Course
AptosSportsFoundation.com
mark_dorfman@pvusd.net

GOLF TOURNAMENT SCORES AN ACE FOR MARINER ATHLETES



The recent 45th annual ASF Golf Tournament on Friday, May 10, was another great success! This year saw more student athletes on the course than ever before; they competed as stand-ins for players on some holes, competed against players on other holes, and cheered on the entire field across all 18 holes.

A sold-out field of 144 golfers played the beautiful Seascape Course. This year's winners were: Ron Ridino, Ashton Franks, Raymond Harland, Taylor Wright. The tournament raised over \$30,000 for Aptos Athletics and its feeder programs.

Mark your calendar now for next year's tournament as it always sells out fast.
Friday, May 2, 2025

✉ aptoSPORTSfoundation@gmail.com

📍 P.O. Box 2405, Aptos, CA 95001

THE FOX REPORT

Hey Mariner Family,

Travis Fox, Athletic Director at Aptos High School here! Currently enjoying the summer season on campus, where it has been great to see many of our Mariner teams taking advantage of our facilities during the offseason, and they have been working hard! The 2023-24 school and athletic year was a busy, fun, and successful year for our student-athletes. With an enrollment of just over 1,300 kids, we are proud to say that Aptos Athletics was able to get over 800 different students engaged in at least one sport last year!



In the last 2 years, Aptos has added 3 new sport offerings which include Girls Beach Volleyball, Girls Lacrosse, and Girls Flag Football, bringing our total offering to 32 different athletic programs between both boys and girls sports, and over 60 teams, including JV and Freshman levels. It was an extremely successful school year and the momentum has carried into Summer training and camps!

Starting in July, Aptos Athletics will roll out a new athletic website, aptosathletics.com. This new site will be an update from our old website, and will be a one stop shop for the community to access schedules, rosters, and updates on athletic happenings.

For more information on Aptos Athletics, please do not hesitate to contact me at the information below.

Go Mariners! Sails Up!

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MARINERS MOVING UP

Aptos had four more student-athletes sign Letters of Intent to continue their sports careers in college:

Lawrence Ingram IV- Chapman U- Football
Bella Garvey- University of Cincinnati- Dance
Janie Houser- Menlo College- Wrestling
Kileyanna Martinez- Menlo College- Cheer



THIS YEAR IN SPORTS

The **Spring** season saw Aptos student-athletes capture **SCCAL Team Championships** in:

Boys Tennis
Boys Swimming
Baseball
Boys Track & Field
Girls Track & Field

MARINER MOMENT

In addition to signing her NLI to Menlo College, three-time SCCAL wrestling champion, **Janie Houser** recently won the 2024 California USA Junior Freestyle State Championship. Wrestling at 130lbs., Janie went 5-0 to earn her 1st state title. In the finals in Fresno, Janie defeated Mason Harsch of Concord in a 10-0 technical fall.



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APTOS ALUMS IN THE NEWS



Baseball player **Gabe Gaeckle** ('23), now pitching for the University of Arkansas, earned Freshman All-American honors from the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association. Gabe led the Razorbacks in saves and had a 2.32 ERA. He was also named to the 1st-team All-SEC Freshman Team.

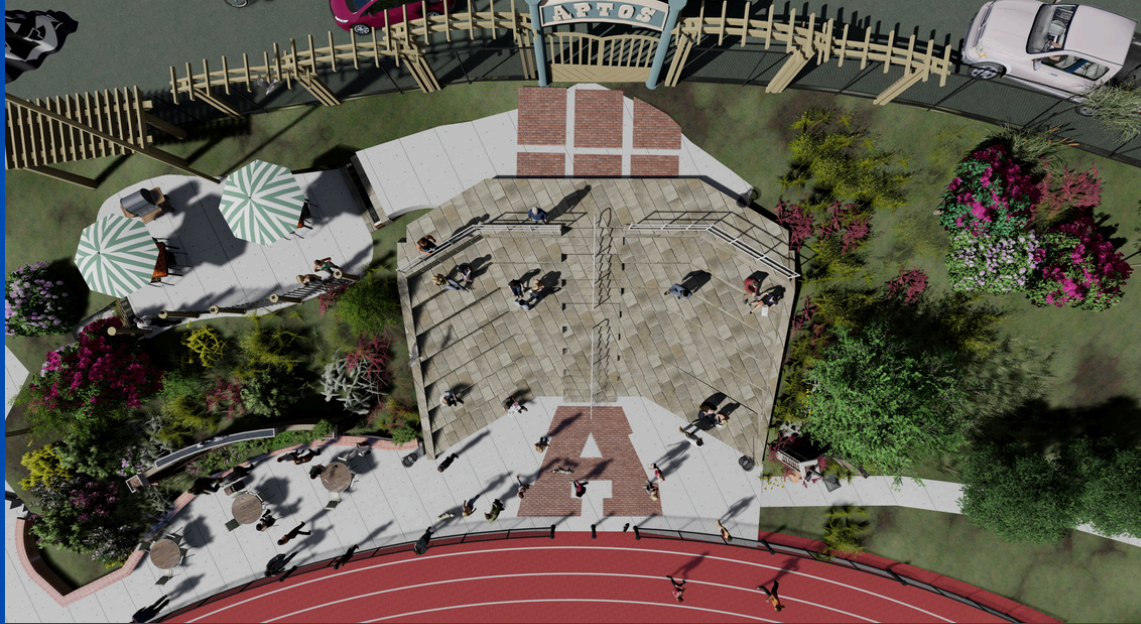
Hoopster **Cole Welle** ('14), a past SCCAL MVP and Cal Golden Bear, recently completed his 5th season playing for Team Umea in the Swedish Professional Basketball League. Cole averaged 6.2 ppg and 6.6 rpg, with a high of 13 points against Sodertalje and against Boras.

AHS Sports Hall of Fame member **Tyler LaTorre** ('01) was just announced as the new head baseball coach at Pepperdine University. Just two years removed from leading Westmont University to the NAIA National Championship and being named NAIA National Coach-of-the-Year, Tyler signed with the Waves. In two years coaching Westmont, Tyler achieved an 81-24-3 (.750) overall record.

Former Aptos QB **Cody Townsend** ('01) is now an award-winning freeskiier and backcountry adventurer, and he was recently profiled in GQ Magazine, which highlighted his FIFTY Project. Cody is ascending (on foot), and skiing down, the fifty most renowned mountain descents in North America. No helicopter, no snowmobiles. In addition, Cody's video of "The Crack", dubbed "one of the craziest lines in ski history", has been viewed almost three million times.

Former Aptos FB player and school record-holder in the shot put, strongman **Robert Oberst** ('03) recently retired from the World's Strongest Man circuit. Robert, who has deadlifted 793 lbs. and overhead pressed an American record 465 lbs. in the Log Lift, finished in the Top 10 of the World's Strongest Man competition two-times, and also finished 2nd in America's Strongest Man twice. After starring in the History Channel's reality hit "The Strongest Man in History", Robert segued to drama, making his debut as Karl Montgomery last year in HBO's "The Righteous Gemstones".





HOLCOMB'S LANDING

We are currently working toward a beautification project at Trevin Dilfer Stadium.

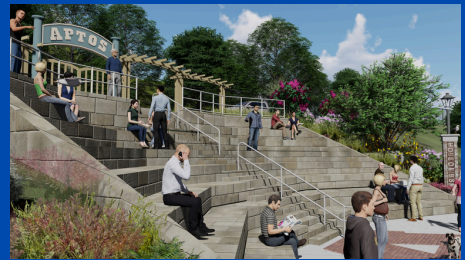
Holcomb's Landing will be built in the north end zone and is a gathering area for students, families and community members. It will include seating, a wall of fame and serve as a historic campus landmark.

Named for the late Mark Holcomb, honoring his generosity to Aptos youth and Mariner athletics, Holcomb's Landing will be a source of pride for generations.

BUDGET ESTIMATE: \$400,000

EARNED TO DATE: \$200,000

BUILD TIMELINE: SUMMER 2025



LAY THE FOUNDATION OF A LASTING LEGACY, BUY A BRICK

Become a forever Mariner by etching your name in history at Holcomb's Landing.

AHS families, alumni, teachers and staff, teams, as well as local businesses and community partners are some examples of those who have already contributed to building a lasting legacy.

To purchase a brick visit: aptosportsfoundation.com/purchase-a-brick

 aptosportsfoundation@gmail.com

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THIS PERIOD IN APTOS HIGH HISTORY

On Friday, June 12, 1970, the 1st graduating class of Aptos High received their diplomas from principal Richard Cunnison. The ceremony was held in the gym, and speeches were given by valedictorian **Karen Angelos** and salutatorian **Thomas Matheson**.

In May of 1973, Aptos sophomore **Rick Downey ('75)** set the Seascapes Golf Course record, shooting a round of 64, including 30 on the back nine. That record was finally broken by former Seascapes golf pro Jeff McMillian in 1985, who shot a 63. However, a year earlier, as a frosh, Rick shot 29 on the front nine, and that record still stands.

On May 17, 1980, by beating SLV in the last game of the season, the Mariners won their 1st SCCAL Baseball Championship. Aptos and Santa Cruz were tied going into the last game, but Harbor upset the Cardinals 4-2, and Aptos beat the Cougars 2-0. **Mike Leon** hit a solo HR in the 3rd, **Mike Green** drove-in **Phil Ingram** with a sac fly in the 4th, and **Kevin Daily** threw a 2-hitter to get the win.

In May of 2009, the **AHS Girls Track & Field Team** won their record-setting 13th straight SCCAL Championship, and 6 years later, in 2015, they set the record for the 2nd longest dual meet win streak in CA history. They went 18 years without a loss.

APTOS TRIVIA



A: In 1978, seniors Kevin Walters and Leslie Bugalski were honored. Both were 3-sport athletes. Kev played football, basketball & baseball, and Leslie played volleyball, basketball & track. Kev went on to play baseball at Santa Clara University, and Leslie volleyball at San Jose State.



INTERESTED IN DONATING?

The ASF offers several ways to donate charitable funds to help Aptos High Athletics:

ENDOWMENT FUND

The Aptos Sports Foundation's Endowment Fund, under the care of the Santa Cruz Community Foundation, will ensure your legacy of support to Aptos Athletics in perpetuity.

DIRECT DONATION

By donating directly to different Aptos Sports Foundation projects, your gift will make an immediate impact.

- Holcomb's Landing - the new end zone development at Trevin Dilfer Stadium.
- Purchase a "Forever Brick" which will sit in Holcomb's Landing.
- The Bobby Salazar Scholarship Fund, which honors the legacy of Bobby, the unofficial Mayor of Aptos



EVENTS

Sponsor or attend an event.

- Golf Tournament
- Poker Tournament
- Hall of Fame Dinner
- Seasonal Celebrations