



# SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## 2022 VARSITY FOOTBALL GAME NOTES

### 2 State Championships

1997 Division II  
2011 Division I

### 3 CIF-Southern Section Championships

1996 Division V  
1997 Division V  
2011 PAC-5

### 26 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)

### 4 League Championships

1996, 1997, 2000 & 2001

### 34th Varsity Season

Overall Record: 236-139-3 (.628)  
Home: 129-62-3 (.673)  
Road: 107-77-0 (.581)

### 7 Nationally-Ranked Teams

1997, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2011, 2012 & 2017

**Retired Uniform Number Honorees: 2 - Minna | 3 - Palmer | 4 - Newman / Stanton | 54 - Frost | 82 - Minardi**

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



**Norco Cougars (0-0) at  
Santa Margarita Catholic Eagles (1-0)**

**Saddleback College Stadium  
Mission Viejo, California**

**Friday, August 26, 2022 • 7:00 p.m.**



## RECAP OF LAST WEEK'S GAME @ SAN JUAN HILLS

SMC took the field at "The Badlands" -- home of San Juan Hills -- for their 2022 season opener. The contest was the defacto "Game of the Week" in the county as it was dubbed so by the *Orange County Register* and broadcast on live television throughout many markets in the country. With a full house of over 2,600 strong, the Eagles found themselves in a dogfight as they couldn't capitalize on several early opportunities and led only 5-0 at half.

The athleticism and skill of the Eagles was certainly on display as SMC fought back to prevail, 18-8. Jaxon Potter demonstrated his ability to be a real on the roll out, as he passed for 180 yards and hitting nearly 66.0 percent of his throws. He also scored a key touchdown with a sneak in the fourth quarter. Emmett Mosley's skill to gain yards after the catch dazzled all as he made his first appearance for SMC and finished with nine receptions for 94 yards and a score. Skilled receivers Bain Eiseman and Niko Lopez proved to be deadly downfield for the opposition as they garnered long pass receptions of 35 and 36 yards respectively.

The SMC defense was at its best as it shutdown the Stallions with five sacks, 12 tackles for loss, one safety and one interception. San Juan's quarterback, Michael Tollefson, one of their biggest offensive weapons, was limited to just 83 yards passing on six completions and 53 yards rushing on 15 carries. Three of the sackers included Noah Sulick, Ben Durham and Collins Acheampong. Durham also added the safety while Blake Wilson was credited with the pick. Wilson, a man of many skills, also punted for a 44.0-yard average, including a boot of 53 yards, and kicked a PAT. Perhaps the best defensive effort was turned in by Jacob Bower. The senior hybrid safety-linebacker contributed 16 total tackles (1 for loss), recovered a fumble, had one quarterback hurry and a half sack.



**PETE**

**STEVENSON**

On July 31st, the SMC football family lost one of its dear friends when Pete Stevenson passed away. "The Pistol" as he was affectionately known, was one of the first public address announcers for the Eagle's from the infancy of the program into prominence -- nearly 25 years. Pete is survived by his wife Joan, daughters Julie Bettwy, Mary Lane, Jennifer and Jeanette Stevenson, sons Tim, Sean, Kenny and Kevin Stevenson, 11 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. Pete loved sports with a special fondness and passion for

Notre Dame football, UCLA basketball, Angel's baseball and Santa Margarita football. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all as we honor Pete here tonight.

## HEAD COACH ANTHONY ROUZIER

Anthony Rouzier begins his third season as the Head Varsity Coach at Santa Margarita Catholic High School. Prior to taking the reigns of the program in the spring of 2021, Rouzier coached at SMC for three seasons, first serving as the linebacker coach and then as the Eagles' defensive coordinator. The path to Head Coach started on August 27, 2020 when Rouzier was named on an interim basis. On February 5, 2021, Rouzier was named fulltime Head Coach by school President Andy Sulick.

Rouzier played collegiately at the University of Connecticut in 2005. There he was the first true freshman walk-on to start in the Division-era of the school. He then transferred to the University of Massachusetts as a scholarship athlete and was a member of two Colonial Athletic Conference championships teams. In the classroom, Rouzier earned All-Academic All-Conference honors in 2007 and 2008.

After his collegiate playing days, in 2014, Rouzier coached at Amherst Regional High School (Massachusetts) where he started as the linebacker coach and was promoted to Defensive Coordinator mid-season. Rouzier then proceeded to coach the outside linebackers at Winston-Salem State University (North Carolina) in the spring of 2015. Shortly after that, he returned as a graduate assistant at his Alma Mater, the University of Massachusetts. There he worked with the defensive backs in 2015 and linebackers in 2016.

Rouzier then found his way to Europe to coach with the Hamburg Huskies of the German Football League. There, in 2017, he was the interim Head Coach and Defensive Coordinator. For his success, Rouzier was promoted to and accepted the Head Coaching position. Rouzier was also the Defensive Coordinator for the Under-17 Hamburg State All-Star team and worked with a recruiting service that helped European prospects earn Division 1 college scholarships in the United States. One of the other German coaches was current SMC assistant coach Sean Embree. It was Embree who convinced Rouzier that coaching at SMC would be worth his while and he soon found his way to South Orange County.

Born and raised in Massachusetts, Rouzier married his wife Elwira, who he met in Germany in 2018. He holds Juris Doctor and Master's of Business Administration degrees from Florida International University and a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from the University of Massachusetts. He is the co-creator of a children's book and non-profit organization that promotes health and wellness.

Over the recent offseason, Coach Rouzier and his talented staff have developed an innovative approach to expand the depth and breadth of the program. These activities and processes include:

- Individual player participation in over 55 camps, showcases and events throughout the West
- Scheduling almost one dozen 7-on-7 passing tournaments and scrimmages between all levels of the program
- Conducting multiple offsite team building and leadership events
- Improvement of communication pipeline with a myriad of team information being offered. For example: first-ever preseason team newsletter
- Development and support of dedicated student-produced media programming covering all aspects of the team

## CURRENT POLL RANKINGS - AS OF PRESS TIME

### Orange County Register

County: 5

### Cal-Hi Sports (calhisports.com)

State: 8

### MaxPreps.com

Nation: 56 | State: 8 | Section: 6

### CalPreps.com

State: 8 | Section: 7 | County: 5

### Los Angeles Times

Southland (Los Angeles / Orange Counties and Inland Empire): 8

### Scorebooklive.com (SBLive)

State: 5

### High School Football America

Nation: 64 | State: 7 | Section: 7 | County: 5

### masseyratings.com

Nation: 22 | State: 7 | Section: 7 | County: 5

## SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC - PLAYER NOTES, HIGHLIGHTS & STATS

## **0 Nicholas “Niko” Lopez | Wide Receiver | Senior | 6-3 / 215**

- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-State Third-Team - Offense selection
- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-Southern Section Second-Team - Offense selection
- Ranked No. 22 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Offense selection
- Ranked the No. 5 wide receiver in the County by the *Orange County Register* for 2022, while teammate Emmett Mosley was the No. 3 selection
- Recognized by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times* as a tight end to “watch” and “making an impact” in 2022 (July 31 / August 12)
- Has committed to Colorado State. Also received offers from Nevada, Portland State and Louisville
- Ranked the No. 73 overall and No. 9 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Summer 2022
- Invited to and participated in the 3rd Annual Rose City Boyz 7v7 Classic in Pasadena, California. Club team won championship
- Cited by PrepRedzone.com (Michael Huntley - April 11, 2022) as being part of the most improved team in the Trinity League for Fall 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Turf Wars 7v7 Tournament held in San Juan Capistrano in mid-March, playing for OC Elite. Recognized by 247sports.com as an “Offensive Standout” and PrepRedzone.com as a shining star
- Ranked No. 2 wide receiver prospect “riser” in state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Winter 2022
- Named an OCVarsity.com (*Orange County Register*) “Future 50” candidate for the 2023 Orange County All-Star Football Game
- Ranked No. 241 overall and No. 62 by position prospect in the nation and No. 55 prospect in state by QB Hit List (qbhitlist.com) for Class of 2023
- Named to “Huntley’s Hot List: Orange County’s Top 6 Available Football Recruits” on January 22
- Ranked the No. 112 overall prospect and No. 17 wide receiver in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Winter 2022
- Fall 2021 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee - Offense
- Fall 2021 All-Orange County (by *Orange County Register*) Third-Team - Offense
- Fall 2021 All-Trinity League First-Team - Offense
- Led team with 65 pass receptions, 693 receiving yards and tied for receiving and overall touchdowns with eight. Was second in pass receptions and fourth in yards during the Trinity League regular season
- Caught 10 passes for 134 yards (13.4 average) and one touchdown in the win over Orange Lutheran in the regular season finale
- Achieved new career-highs in pass receptions (9) and yards receiving (96) in season-opening win versus San Juan Hills
- Ranked the No. 178 overall prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Fall 2021
- Ranked No. 63 by *Orange County Register* of Hot-150 Top Impact Players in Fall 2021
- *Los Angeles Times* Potential Breakout Star in the Southland for Fall 2021
- Spring 2021 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense
- A member of the Eagles basketball program who is described as having sound basketball instincts that transfer to the football field, especially when going after and securing the ball

## **1 Bekkem Kritza | Quarterback | Sophomore | 6-5 / 190**

- Has received offers from Colorado, Colorado State, Kansas, Texas State and Texas A&M. Has also received interest from USC, Texas and Alabama
- Transferred from Fairview High School (Boulder, Colorado) in July, 2022
- Participated in the Nike Elite 11 So Cal Regional Camp in Manhattan Beach in early-June
- Invited to the ESPN 300 Elite Underclassmen Camp in Las Vegas, Nevada
- Passed for 3,192 yards and 22 touchdowns as a freshman in 10 games in 2021. Also connected on 64.9 percent of his passes
- According to MaxPreps.com, ranked No. 3 in the nation for passing yards by a freshmen in 2021

## **1 Gage Burnett | Outside Linebacker / Defensive End / Long Snapper | Junior | 6-0 / 223**

- Ranked the No. 107 overall and No. 14 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Fall 2022
- Ranked No. 73 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Ranked the No. 71 overall and No. 10 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Summer 2022

- Named by *Orange County Register* as a 2022 Spring Football “Top Impact Transfer in Orange County”
- Cited by PredRedzone.com (Michael Huntley - April 11, 2022) as being part of the most improved team in the Trinity League for Fall 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February, 2022. Recognized by 247sports.com’s Greg Biggins and PrepRedzone.com’s Michael Huntley for a “strong showing” at the event
- Transferred to SMC during the winter semester from Servite
- Ranked the No. 71 overall prospect and No. 10 at linebacker in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Winter 2022
- Has received offers from Arizona and Massachusetts
- Played in all 13 games for Servite in Fall 2021 and registered 38 tackles, two sacks and recovered two fumbles

## **5 Jaxon Potter | Quarterback | Senior | 6-4 / 181**

- Named the “CIF-SS Ford Football Game of the Week on Bally Sports Player of the Game” in victory over San Juan Hills in the season opener
- Ranked No. 9 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Ranked as a “Quarterback to Watch” in the West by Tom Lemming, one of the top prep recruiting analysts in the country
- Ranked No. 4 Quarterback in Orange County for senior class (2023) by PrepRedzone.com and No. 4 overall by the *Orange County Register* for 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Offense selection
- Ranked the No. 102 overall and No. 13 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Summer 2022
- Participated in the Nike Elite 11 So Cal Regional Camp in Manhattan Beach in early-June
  - 247Sports.com recognized as a “Top Performer Eye Catcher” -- Player that is under-recruited, has a next level skill set and consistently accurate
  - PredRedzone.com cited: Throws down the field well and showed improved decision making when he was surrounded by better talent at Santa Margarita
  - Interviewed for online article from Cal-Hi Sports (calhisports.com): “The Eagles have a loaded group of returnees, including quarterback Jaxon Potter”
- Has committed to Alabama-Birmingham (Conference USA). Also received an offer from Portland State
- Recognized by Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times* for play at the Millikan (Long Beach) 7on7 Tournament in May, 2022: “Displayed some refined decision-making and touch from his junior season”
- Invited to and participated in the 3rd Annual Rose City Boyz 7v7 Classic in Pasadena, California. Club team won championship
- Cited by PredRedzone.com (Michael Huntley - April 11, 2022) as being part of the most improved team in the Trinity League for Fall 2022
- Named an OCVarsity.com (*Orange County Register*) “Future 50” candidate for the 2023 Orange County All-Star Football Game
- Invited to and participated in the Proway Battle 7on7 held in Dallas, Texas in March, 2022. Described by 247sports.com as an “eye-catcher”
- Invited to and participated in the Turf Wars 7v7 Tournament held in San Juan Capistrano in mid-March, playing for OC Elite. Recognized by 247sports.com as an “Offensive Standout” and PrepRedzone.com as a shining star
- Invited to and participated in the Proway Passing Down 7on7 Northwest Championship in Portland, Oregon in March, 2022. Earned the Northwest High School Regional Most Valuable Player award and championship belt
- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) Athletics 5v5 Tournament in February, 2022
- Ranked No. 120 overall and No. 10 by position prospect in the nation and No. 8 prospect in state by QB Hit List (qbhitlist.com) for Class of 2023
- Selected as the two-day Most Valuable Player at the 2022 Showcase Ball Academy Quarterback Challenge and West Regional conducted at Serra High School (Gardena) in late-January
- Selected the Quarterback Challenge Winner at the same event in Spring, 2021, which included talented quarterbacks from the classes of 2023, 2024 and 2025 from California, Arizona, Utah, Nevada and Hawaii. Also cited as a “Notable Standout” by seismicssportscoverage.com
- Invited to participate in the Rivals Camp Series / Wilson QBX Camp on February 26 in Los Angeles. Participated in the same event in June, 2021
- Ranked in Top 100 List of Quarterback Recruits by College Football Today & ESPN Plus for Class of 2023
- Ranked the No. 102 overall prospect and No. 13 quarterback in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Winter 2022
- Fall 2021 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Juniors Third-Team - Offense

- Fall 2021 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee - Offense
- Fall 2021 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense
- Finished the Fall 2021 season with 239 pass completions, 433 pass attempts, 2,869 passing yards and 23 touchdown passes. Broke the school record for pass completions and attempts in a single season and threw for the second-most yards ever. Also established a new record for fewest games needed to reach 2,000 yards passing in a season (7)
- During the regular season, led the Trinity League in pass completions (223), pass attempts (394), passing yards (2,703) and was third in touchdown passes (23)
- Lit up the scoreboard in last second win over Orange Lutheran in the regular season finale. Set a new single game school-records for pass attempts (55) and pass completions (34) and threw for the second-most yards (462). Scored the game-winning touchdown on a one-yard sneak with 0:13 seconds remaining
- Ranked the No. 4 quarterback in Orange County by Steve Fryer in his "First and 10 for High School Football's Week 7" (10/04/21)
- Threw for the second-most passing yards ever by an SMC quarterback in debut game in season-opening win versus San Juan Hills -- 294-yards. Connected for three touchdown passes
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2021 Preseason All-State Second-Team - Offense (QB)
- Ranked No. 22 by *Orange County Register* of Hot-150 Top Impact Players in Fall 2021
- Ranked No. 5 quarterback in Orange County for Fall 2021 by the *Orange County Register*
- Cal-Hi Sports 2021 Preseason Hot 100 - No. 71 in state for Class of 2023

#### **6 LaRue Zamorano | Defensive Back | Sophomore | 6-2 / 180**

- Ranked the No. 24 overall and No. 4 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Fall 2022
- Selected as a "Watch List" candidate by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Summer 2022
- As a freshman in Spring 2022, achieved amazing marks in Track & Field that are among the school's all-time best:
  - Long jump: 21'6.5" (2nd all-time)
  - Triple jump: 40'0.5" (9th all-time)
  - 200-meters: 23.42
  - 4 x 100-meter relay
- Listed on several PrepRedzone.com lists
  - Ranked No. 6 prospect in state at defensive back position for Class of 2025 in Winter 2022
  - Ranked No. 5 prospect in Orange County at defensive back position for Class of 2025 in Winter 2022
  - Ranked on overall "Watch List" of state prospects for Class of 2025 in Spring 2022

#### **7 Joshua Tucheck | Wide Receiver / Defensive Back | Sophomore | 6-1 / 170**

- Named as a "breakout candidate" on SMC roster by scorebooklive.com in season preview
- Ranked the No. 102 overall and No. 15 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Fall 2022
- Selected as a "Watch List" candidate by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Summer 2022
- Has been clocked at 11.32 in the 100-meters
- Ranked in top 10 list of wide receiver prospects and "Watch List" in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Winter 2022

#### **8 Ben Durham | Defensive Back | Senior | 5-11 / 205**

- Named by PrepRedzone.com as one of the top "under the radar" and underrated senior safeties in Southern California
- Came up big in the first game of the season at San Juan Hills when he notched a safety and sack
- Named as a "top player" on SMC roster by scorebooklive.com in season preview
- Invited to and participated in the Legit Rare All-American Season Series in San Diego in late-Summer
- Selected as a "Watch List" candidate by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Summer 2022
- Offseason training included stops at the Redlands, Utah, Stanford, Sacramento State, San Diego State and Wyoming Summer Camps
- Has been clocked at 4.60 in the 40-yard dash and 11.96 in the 100-meters
- Invited to and participated in the Proway Battle 7on7 held in Dallas, Texas in March, 2022 and other regional events
- Invited to and participated in the four-day National Prep Collegiate Showcase National Combine at the 2022 NFL Pro Bowl held in Las Vegas, Nevada in February, 2022
- Named a "Defensive Standout" at the Turf Wars 7-on-7 Winter Classic Jamboree in San Juan Capistrano while representing the OC Elite Sky Blue club in January, 2022
- Listed on PrepRedzone.com's "Watch List" of state prospects for Class of 2023 in Winter 2022

- Registered a team-high 12 tackles (tied with teammate Donovan Comestro) in loss at Norco
- Listed on PrepRedzone.com's "Watch List" of state prospects for Class of 2023 in Fall 2021

#### **9 Bain Eiseman | Wide Receiver | Junior | 5-11 / 170**

- Ranked the No. 174 overall prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Fall 2022
- Ranked the No. 147 overall and No. 20 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Summer 2022
- Praised by PrepRedzone.com for performances on the "passing league" circuit
- Cited by PrepRedzone.com (Michael Huntley - April 11, 2022) as being part of the most improved team in the Trinity League for Fall 2022
- On SMC Track & Field team, ran 10.98 in the 100-meters which is tied for sixth all-time in school history. Also has been clocked at 4.42 in the 40-yard dash and 23.01 in the 200-meters
- Ranked the No. 147 overall prospect and No. 20 wide receiver in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Winter 2022
- Listed as a "Trinity League Stock Riser" by PrepRedzone.com in Winter 2022
- Was fourth on the team with 27 pass receptions in Fall 2021

#### **10 Emmett Mosley | Wide Receiver / Cornerback | Junior | 6-2 / 195**

- Had a solid performance in his first game in an SMC uniform at San Juan Hills -- 9 receptions for 94 yards and one touchdown
- Cal-Hi Sports 2022 Preseason All-State Third-Team - Defense (DB)
- Ranked the No. 13 overall and No. 2 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Fall 2022
- Ranked No. 10 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County First-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 3 wide receiver in the County by the *Orange County Register* for 2022, while teammate Niko Lopez was the No. 5 selection
- Ranked the No. 13 overall and No. 2 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Summer 2022
- No. 12 ranked prospect in state "Hot 100" from Class of 2024 by Cal-Hi Sports
- Cited as a "Top Offensive Performer" at the Mission Viejo Passing Tournament by PrepRedzone.com and has improved his speed greatly this offseason
- Named by *Orange County Register* as a 2022 Spring Football "Top Impact Transfer in Orange County"
- Received an invitation to attend the Annual Blue-Gold Game (Notre Dame Football Spring Scrimmage) in South Bend, Indiana on April 23 -- Reserved for top Class of 2024 recruits (Reported by Tom Loy - 247sports.com)
- Selected by Lemming Prep Football Report (Tom Lemming) as a National Recruit and All-American from the Class of 2024 for photo shoot in Westwood, California (UCLA) in April, 2022
- Ranked the No. 13 overall prospect and No. 2 athlete position in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Winter 2022
- Ranked No. 40 overall and No. 26 by position prospect in the nation and No. 3 prospect in state by QB Hit List (qbhitlist.com) for Class of 2024
- Transferred to SMC during the winter semester from Servite
- Ranked the No. 13 overall prospect and No. 2 at athlete position in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Winter 2022
- Highly-recruited player was sidelined much of the Fall 2021 season by injury
- Currently holds offers from Alabama, Arizona, Arizona State, Georgia, Colorado, LSU, Oregon, Penn State, USC, Clemson, Iowa, Texas, Utah, Texas A&M, Washington, Massachusetts, UCLA and Notre Dame
- Has been clocked at 11.47 in the 100-meters (2021 @ Servite)
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2021 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Defense (DB)
- Selected as a preseason MaxPreps.com Sophomore All-American in Fall 2021
- Celebrated his best moment of Fall 2021 season as he debuted versus Mater Dei and blocked a punt that a teammate returned for a score

#### **11 LeVar Talley | Defensive Line | Junior | 6-3 / 210**

- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-State Third-Team - Defense selection
- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-Southern Section Second-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 26 overall and No. 3 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Fall 2022

- Ranked No. 62 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County First-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 21 overall and No. 2 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Summer 2022
- No. 64 ranked prospect in state "Hot 100" from Class of 2024 by Cal-Hi Sports
- Ranked the No. 11 Top Defensive Line prospect in Southern California by Cannon Sports USA / ELITE Sports Media Group Company
- Received recognition from Cal Preps - Rivals
  - No. 9 ranked (For all classes) defensive lineman in the nation at Camp Series
  - No. 14 ranked weak side defensive end in the nation for Class of 2024
- Has received offers from Louisville, Georgia, Virginia Tech, Florida State, Pittsburgh and USC. Has made unofficial visits to USC, UCLA, Fresno State, Oregon and Colorado
- Recognized by Lemming Prep Football Report (Tom Lemming) as a prospect that "shows a very quick get off, strong hands, excellent foot work, loose hips and great attitude -- dominates the point of attack in May, 2022
- Cited by PrepRedzone.com (Michael Huntley - April 11, 2022) as being part of the most improved team in the Trinity League for Fall 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Under Armour Next Camp Series at Mission Viejo High School in March. Also named a Top Defensive Performer by PrepRedzone.com. Also noted as a player to watch by Greg Biggins of 247sports.com
- Invited to and participated in the first stop in the 2022 Cal Preps - Rivals Camp Series held at East Los Angeles College. Named the positional Most Valuable Player - Defensive Line in February. Also named a Top Defensive Performer by PrepRedzone.com
- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February. Recognized by 247sports.com's Greg Biggins for a "strong showing" at the event
- Ranked the No. 1 defensive line prospect "riser" in state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Winter 2022
- Ranked the No. 21 overall prospect and No. 2 defensive lineman in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Winter 2022
- Fall 2021 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee - Defense
- Fall 2021 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Defense
- In Fall 2021, was second on the team in sacks (4.5) and tackles for loss (10)
- Enjoyed an outstanding game on defense in loss at Mater Dei -- logged five tackles (4 for loss) and three quarterback sacks
- Had one quarterback sack in win over Nolan Catholic. Recognized by the *Orange County Register's* with "Huntley's Hits" for Week 4

## **12 Cameron Burke | Quarterback | Senior | 6-0 / 168**

- Offseason training included stops at the Northwestern, Stanford, Yale, Princeton, Penn and Columbia Camps
- On SMC Track & Field team, ran 15.90 in the 110-meter hurdles which is ninth all-time in school history and fifth in the Trinity League in 2022. Also ran 41.35 in the 300-meter hurdles which is twelfth all-time in school history and third in the Trinity League for 2022. Also has been clocked at 4.92 in the 40-yard dash

## **13 Donovan Comestro | Defensive Back | Senior | 6-0 / 170**

- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-Southern Section Third-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked No. 35 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 4 defensive back in the County by the *Orange County Register* for 2022, while teammate Blake Wilson was the No. 8 selection
- Has received offers from Holy Cross, Colgate, Fordham, Stetson, Bucknell, Cornell, Dartmouth, Princeton, Yale, Penn and Army-West Point
- Praised by PrepRedzone.com for performances on the "passing league" circuit
- Offseason training included stops at the SMU and TCU Dallas Showcases
- Invited to and participated in the Legit Rare All-American Season Series in San Diego in late-Summer
- Invited to and participated in the Turf Wars 7v7 Tournament held in San Juan Capistrano in mid-March, playing for OC Elite. Recognized by 247sports.com as an "Emerging Sleeper" and PrepRedzone.com as a shining star
- Named a "Defensive Standout" at the Turf Wars 7-on-7 Winter Classic Jamboree at JSerra Catholic while representing the OC Elite Sky Blue club in January
- Fall 2021 All-Trinity League First-Team - Defense

- Tied for second on the team with three interceptions and was second in total tackles with 70. Tied for second-most interceptions in the Trinity League regular season and was fifth in total tackles. Also led the club with 14 passes defended.
- Had one interception and team-high 14 tackles in regular loss at Servite and also registered one interception in loss to St. John Bosco
- Registered a team-high 12 tackles (tied with teammate Ben Durham) in loss at Norco
- Spring 2021 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Defense
- Notched 16 total tackles (4 for loss), a half sack, one interception, three pass defenses and forced two fumbles in Spring 2021

#### **14 Trent Mosley | Wide Receiver | Freshman | 5-11 / 155**

- After the Summer "Battle at the Beach," the *Orange County Register* boasted that receiver Mosley flashed skills beyond his years and was arguably the top freshman in Orange County this season
- Has received offers from Oregon, Michigan State, Texas A&M, USC and Notre Dame

#### **23 Luke Anderson | Defensive Back | Sophomore | 6-0 / 170**

- In first varsity start, registered three assisted tackles in win at San Juan Hills
- Saw action in two varsity games last season. In 42-21 win over Los Alamitos, had one kickoff return for six yards and notched four total tackles
- In a freshman game versus Los Alamitos, scored a long rushing touchdown, made a key block for a teammate that led to a score and played solid defense in a 53-0 victory

#### **24 Matthew Bays | Defensive Back | Senior | 5-11 / 170**

- Offseason training included a stop at the TCU Showcase

#### **26 Taurian Nash | Running Back / Linebacker | Sophomore | 5-10 / 210**

- Ranked the No. 104 overall and No. 9 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Fall 2022
- Selected as a "Watch List" candidate by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Summer 2022
- Listed high on PrepRedzone.com's "Watch List" of state running back prospects for Class of 2023 in Winter 2022
- Ranked the No. 9 overall prospect in Orange County by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Winter 2022
- Enjoyed the best game of his young career in the upset win over Los Alamitos -- 54 yards rushing on six carries (9.0 average) and one touchdown.
- Scored first career touchdown in win over St. Augustine (2021)

#### **33 Nicholas Johnson | Defensive End | Senior | 6-4 / 191**

- Offseason training included stops at the USC, UCLA, Colorado State and Redlands Camps
- Invited to and participated in the Allegiance Athletics Offensive / Defensive Lineman Camp in March, 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February, 2022. Recognized by 247sports.com's Greg Biggins and PrepRedzone.com's Michael Huntley for a "strong showing" at the event
- Garnered high praise at the California Prep Redzone Showcase (sponsored by PrepRedZone.com) in January, 2022 -- Top 12 Defensive Standouts / Most Valuable Player at Defensive Line position

#### **34 Blake Wilson | Defensive Back / Kicker / Punter | Senior | 5-10 / 175**

- Demonstrated his overall ability in game No. 1 at San Juan Hills when he registered an interception, kicked a PAT, averaged 44.0 yards per punt and four tackles. Had a career long punt of 53 yards
- Ranked No. 55 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 8 defensive back in the County by the *Orange County Register* for 2022, while teammate Donovan Comestro was the No. 4 selection
- Cited as one of the top-ten kickers and punters in the Southland by Eric Sondheimer (*Los Angeles Times* - August 16, 2022)
- Ranked one of the two best kickers in the "powerful" Trinity League for 2022 and a true "Swiss Army" knife by Eric Sondheimer (*Los Angeles Times* - August 7, 2022)
- Praised by PrepRedzone.com for performances on the "passing league" circuit
- Named an OCVarsity.com (*Orange County Register*) "Future 50" candidate for the 2023 Orange County All-Star Football Game

- Key member of the ranked SMC baseball team. Named Cal-Hi Sports "State Stat Star of the Week" on April 14 -- at the National Classic High School Baseball Tournament he was 3-for-4 with two home runs -- including a grand slam -- to go along with one double and seven RBI in the 7-4 win over La Jolla Country Day (La Jolla). Batting, Wilson had three home runs and 16 runs batted in while pitching he was 2-0 with four saves in eight games for the team
- University of Washington commit for baseball. Nominated for the Cal-Hi Sports All-State team
- Fall 2021 All-CIF-Southern Section Division 1 Football selection
- Fall 2021 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Juniors Third-Team - Multi-Purpose
- Fall 2022 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee - Defense
- Fall 2021 All-Orange County (by Orange County Register) Second-Team - Defense
- Fall 2021 All-Trinity League First-Team - Defense
- Led team with 76 total tackles and five interceptions. Also, was 8-for-8 on PATs and 3-for-6 on field goal attempts. Connected for the longest field goal of the season at 46-yards, which was the longest in the Trinity League in Fall 2021. Also owned the second longest with a 42-yard boot. Tied for the most interceptions in the Trinity League during the regular season and was seventh in total tackles.
- Registered a career-high 12 tackles (2 for loss), nabbed his team-leading fifth interception and forced a fumble in CIF-SS playoff loss at Servite
- Had team-high 10 tackles in loss versus St. John Bosco
- Registered one interception in upset win over Los Alamitos and at JSerra Catholic
- Connected for a successful 46-yard field goal in loss at Norco
- Recognized by PrepRedzone.com as one of the Top Defensive Performances for Week 0
- Spring 2021 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Defense

#### **42 Jake Foye | Running Back | Senior | 5-10 / 202**

- Ranked No. 79 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Offense selection
- Offseason training included stops at the TCU Showcase and UCLA Camp
- Has received an offer from Culver-Stockton College
- Named the No. 3 running back in Orange County by PrepRedzone.com in Spring 2022
- Has been clocked at 4.65 in the 40-yard dash
- Led the team in rushing yards (646) in Fall 2021. Was fifth in rushing yards in the Trinity League regular season (574)
- Rushed for 137 yards and one touchdown in the win over Orange Lutheran in the regular season finale. Recognized by PrepRedzone.com as one of the Top Rushing Performances for Week 10
- Named to OCVarsity.com Orange County "Bonus List of Top Contenders & Overlooked Players" in 2021
- Rushed for a career-high 181 yards on 21 attempts (8.6 average) in season opening win against San Juan Hills. Also scored one touchdown

#### **43 Noah Sulick | Linebacker | Junior | 5-11 / 200**

- Contributed a solid performance in the season-opening win at San Juan Hills with 10 total tackles (4 for loss) and one-and-a-half quarterback sacks
- Noah is the third Sulick family member to wear the number 43, going along with uncle Tim '93 and brother Drew '21 -- graduates from SMC
- Named as a "top player" on SMC roster by scorebooklive.com in season preview
- Praised by PrepRedzone.com for performances on the "passing league" circuit
- One of the leaders that emerged on defense, notched 42 total tackles (7th) with nine for loss (2nd) for the 2021 Fall season
- Registered first career interception in the win over Orange Lutheran in the regular season finale
- Enjoyed the best game of his young career against Nolan Catholic: four tackles, three tackles-for-loss and one-and-a-half quarterback sacks.

#### **44 Jacob Bower | Linebacker | Senior | 6-0 / 193**

- Enjoyed possibly the best game of his career in the season-opening win at San Juan Hills -- 16 total tackles, (1 for loss), one fumble recovery and one-half sack
- Ranked No. 103 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Selected as a "Watch List" candidate by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Summer 2022
- Offseason training included the UCLA and Sacramento State Summer Camps
- Listed on PrepRedzone.com's "Watch List" of state prospects for Class of 2023 in Winter 2022
- Fall 2021 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Nominee - Defense
- Fall 2021 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Defense

- Was third on the team with 58 total tackles and also among the leaders in interceptions (3) and sacks (2.0). Tied for second-most interceptions in the Trinity League during the regular season
- Registered a career-high 10 tackles in regular season loss at Servite
- Had another monster game on defense in win at JSerra Catholic -- two sacks and one interception
- Enjoyed the best game of his career thus far with two interceptions, a 27-yard fumble recovery and return for a touchdown and nine tackles in upset win over Los Alamitos in Week 4
  - Named the Cal-Hi Sports (calhisports.com) SoCal "Defensive Player of the Week"
  - Awarded a weekly "Helmet Sticker" by Michael Huntley in the *Orange County Register* Link with photo: <https://www.calhisports.com/2021/09/21/norcal-socal-players-of-the-week-63/>
  - SBLive (scorebooklive.com) nominee for "Southern California High School Athlete of the Week"
  - Web feature interview on SBLive (scorebooklive.com)
- Plays rugby for the South Orange County Raptors

#### **50 Jayden Dose | Defensive Tackle | Junior | 5-10 / 229**

- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February, 2022

#### **52 Grant Degulis | Offensive Lineman / Defensive Lineman | Sophomore | 6-1 / 285**

- Attended Jesse Sapolu's "Men in the Trenches" (MITT) Linemen Academy in February and March, 2022
- A member of the SMC wrestling team

#### **62 Jalani Liva | Offensive Line | Senior | 6-3 / 318**

- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-Southern Section Second-Team - Offense selection
- Ranked No. 44 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Ranked the No. 7 lineman in the County by the *Orange County Register* for 2022, while teammate Collins Acheampong was the No. 8 selection
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Offense selection
- Has received an offer from Arizona Christian
- Invited to and participated in the Legit Rare All-American Season Series in San Diego in late-Summer
- Ranked the No. 229 overall and No. 26 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Summer 2022
- Selected to play in the next Polynesian Bowl on Saturday, January 23, 2023 at Kūniūākea Stadium at the Kamehameha Schools - Kapālama Campus in Honolulu, Hawaii
- Invited to and participated in the Polynesian Bowl Combine / Tryout Camp in March, 2022 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Received several accolades regarding performance:
  - Named one of five "Top Performers" after the "Best on Best" drill by camp directors
  - Recognized by 247sports.com for efforts
  - Recognized by PrepRedzone.com and Michael Huntley for efforts
  - Described by Greg Biggins (National Recruiting Analyst for 247Sports & Selection Committee for the Polynesian Bowl) as a "major sleeper out West"
- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February, 2022. Recognized by 247sports.com's Greg Biggins for a "strong showing" at the event
- Named an OCVarsity.com (*Orange County Register*) "Future 50" candidate for the 2023 Orange County All-Star Football Game
- Ranked the No. 229 overall prospect and No. 26 offensive lineman in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2023 in Winter 2022
- Fall 2021 All-Trinity League Second-Team - Offense
- Recognized as a "Lineman on the Rise" in Orange County in Fall 2021 by the *Orange County Register*

#### **64 Joseph "Joey" Lopez | Offensive Lineman | Freshman | 6-5 / 315**

- Has received offers from North Carolina-Charlotte University and Jacksonville State
- Invited to and participated in the Under Armour Next Camp Series for then 8th grade players held in Los Angeles, California in March, 2022
- Originally from San Jacinto, California

#### **66 Aidan Carrison | Offensive / Defensive Lineman | Senior | 6-4 / 315**

- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February, 2022

**75 Simeon Maiava | Offensive Guard / Defensive Tackle | Senior | 6-4 / 333**

- Offseason training included stops at the Nevada-Las Vegas and Redlands Camps
- Has received an offer from the University of San Diego
- Invited to and participated in the Allegiance Athletics Offensive / Defensive Lineman Camp in March, 2022
- Featured guest on the "Ike and Rome Show" on the No Line No Shine Network (April 5, 2022)
- Participated in ongoing training at PTP Sports and Team Elite Sports Academy - Team Elite 91 (T.E.S.A.) during offseason
- Invited to and participated in the National Prep Collegiate Showcase in April and June, 2022
- Invited to and participated in the NICO Trenches Lineman Showcase in March, 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February, 2022. Recognized as a "Top Showcase Performer" by PrepRedzone.com and recognized by 247sports.com's Greg Biggins for a "strong showing" at the event
- Fall 2021 All-CIF-Southern Section Division 11 Football selection
- Transferred to SMC from Vista del Lago (Moreno Valley)
- Attended Jesse Sapolu's "Men in the Trenches" (MITT) Linemen Academy in February, 2022

**77 Ethan "E.J." Thomas | Offensive Lineman | Sophomore | 6-4 / 298**

- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) National Lineman Showcase 2022 So Cal Regional in February, 2022

**85 Jace Brown | Wide Receiver | Sophomore | 6-3 / 205**

- Named as a "breakout candidate" on SMC roster by scorebooklive.com in season preview
- Selected as a "Watch List" candidate by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Summer and Fall 2022
- Listed on PrepRedzone.com's "Watch List" of state prospects at wide receiver position for Class of 2025 in Spring 2022

**88 Kyle Brody | Tight End | Junior | 6-4 / 235**

- Ranked the No. 213 overall prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Fall 2022
- Ranked the No. 145 overall prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Summer 2022
- Offseason training included stops at the UCLA, Redlands and San Diego State Camps
- Invited to and participated in the National Prep Collegiate Showcase in April, 2022
- Ranked the No. 147 overall prospect and No. 2 tight end in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2024 in Winter 2022
- Registered 12 pass receptions for 81 yards (6.8 average) and one touchdown in Fall 2021

**95 Mason Schuster | Kicker | Senior | 5-11 / 178**

- Offseason training included the Auburn Specialist Camp
- Invited to and participated in several kicking specialty camps during the offseason:
  - Kohl's Arizona Kicking Camp held in Mesa, Arizona in February, 2022
  - Chris Sailer's Kicking Camp held in Las Vegas, Nevada in February, 2022
  - Kohl's Texas Showcase Camp held in Ft. Worth, Texas in May, 2022
  - \* Achieved a kickoff long of 70-yards
  - \* Successfully connected on a 55-yard field goal
- In limited action in Fall 2021, was a perfect 4-of-4 on PATs
- Is also a goalkeeper for the SMC soccer team

**98 Collins Acheampong | Defensive End | Senior | 6-7 / 257**

- Online feature in the *Orange County Register* -- "Collins Acheampong's Inspired Journey from Ghana Continues with Santa Margarita Catholic Football" (by Dan Albano -- August 18, 2022) -- Syndicated throughout the United States in other newspapers
- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-Southern Section Second-Team - Defense selection
- scorebooklive.com (SBLive) 2022 Preseason All-State Third-Team - Defense selection
- Cal-Hi Sports 2022 Preseason All-State Second-Team - Defense (DL)
- Ranked No. 45 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Ranked the No. 8 lineman in the County by the *Orange County Register* for 2022, while teammate Jalani Liva was the No. 7 selection
- Ranked as a 3+ star recruit prospect by Tom Lemming, one of the top prep recruiting analysts in the country -- definite Division1 material

- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County First-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 3 Top Defensive Line prospect in Southern California by Cannon Sports USA / ELITE Sports Media Group Company
- Selected to and participated in the Under Armour Next Future 50 All-American Camp at IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida -- drew a great deal of media attention
- Has committed to play at Michigan. Also received offers from Miami (Florida), Arizona, Brigham Young, California, Colorado, Florida, LSU, Oregon, San Diego State, San Jose State, Florida A&M, Texas, UCLA, USC, Vanderbilt, Utah and Washington
- Transferred this summer from Fairmont Preparatory Academy in Anaheim
- Will see playing time at tight end. Ranked No. 45 overall and No. 3 tight end prospect in state by QB Hit List (qbhitlist.com) for Class of 2023, although majority of playing time will be seen on defense
- No. 26 ranked prospect in state "Hot 100" from Class of 2024 by Cal-Hi Sports
- Has not played football since his freshman year when he racked up 51 tackles (15 for loss) and nine sacks
- Comes into the season rated the nation's No. 17 athlete and No. 298 overall prospect by one outlet

#### **99 Tyler Parker | Defensive Tackle / Nose Guard | Sophomore | 6-0 / 299**

- MaxPreps.com Preseason Sophomore All-American Second-Team Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 17 overall and No. 1 position prospect in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Fall 2022
- Ranked No. 145 by *Orange County Register* of Hot 150 Top Impact Players for Fall 2022
- Cal-Hi Sports Fall 2022 Preseason All-Orange County Second-Team - Defense selection
- Ranked the No. 12 Top Defensive Line prospect in Southern California by Cannon Sports USA / ELITE Sports Media Group Company
- Has received offers from Portland State, Mississippi, Texas A&M, Arizona, Incarnate Word, Miami (Florida), Jackson State, California, Colorado and Notre Dame. Attracted interest from Tennessee and Oregon
- Kudos from Eric Sondheimer of the *Los Angeles Times*: "Tyler Parker of Santa Margarita is only a sophomore, but he has everyone's attention because of his strength" (August 4, 2022)
- Online feature at si.com (Sports Illustrated) -- "Getting to Know 2025 Defensive Lineman Tyler Parker" (by Ryan Roberts - July 24, 2022)
- Selected as a "Watch List" candidate by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Summer 2022
- As a result of his viral video, Parker was invited to and appeared on the NBC television show "Access Hollywood" and was interviewed by host Mario Lopez
- Mid-Summer workout video and photos went viral worldwide as Parker stunned viewers who awed at his hulking physique. Highlighted in online feature by scorebooklive.com where he was described as a "Teen Hulk Recruit"
- Offseason training included stop at USC Camp
- Invited to and participated in the PPI Recruits DreamChasers Tour 1 @ Mercer, LSU, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, Southern Methodist, Houston, TCU, Alabama, Kennesaw State, West Virginia, Penn State, Temple, Youngstown State, Ohio State, Michigan, Michigan State, Kent State, Kentucky and Atlanta, Georgia in June, 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Allegiance Athletics Camp in Huntington Beach in May, 2022 and was named the Most Valuable Player - Defensive Line. Impressed staff who described the 14-year-old as "crazy strong!"
- Invited to the ESPN 300 Elite Underclassmen Camp in Las Vegas, Nevada
- Invited to and participated in the National Prep Collegiate Showcase in April, 2022. Selected as one of the "Top 5 Defensive Linemen" from a field of 20 at camp -- the youngest of all participants
- Cited by PrepRedzone.com (Michael Huntley - April 11, 2022) as being part of the most improved team in the Trinity League for Fall 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Allegiance Athletics Offensive / Defensive Lineman Camp in May, 2022
- Has been clocked at 4.90 in the 40-yard dash
- Invited to and participated in the National Prep Collegiate Showcase in April, 2022
- Invited to and participated in the Giant Skillz Athletics - (B.O.S.S.) Skillz Camp in March, 2022. Recognized by 247sports.com's Greg Biggins and PrepRedzone.com's Michael Huntley for a "strong showing" at the event
- Listed on PrepRedzone.com's "Watch List" of state prospects at defensive line position for Class of 2025 in Spring 2022
- Ranked in top five list of defensive line prospects in the state by PrepRedzone.com for Class of 2025 in Winter 2022
- A member of the SMC wrestling team

## THIS WEEK'S OPPONENT: NORCO



### SMCHS Season Game No. 2 / Non-League Game No. 2

Game Date & Time: Friday, August 26, 2021 - 7:00 p.m. **Home Opener**

Game Location: Saddleback College (Mission Viejo)

School Location: Norco, California

Nickname: Cougars

Head Coach: Chuck Chastain (59-28 -- .678)

2021 Fall Season: 8-3 Overall | 4-1 Big VIII League (2nd) | 0-1 CIF-Southern Section Division 1 Playoffs

Last Week: N/A - First game of season

All-Time Series: 3 Games - Santa Margarita Catholic leads 2-1-0

Last Game: 2021 -- Norco won 40-22 @ Norco

Last SMCHS Win: 2001 -- Santa Margarita Catholic won 41-22 @ Saddleback College

Game Broadcast: Live stream on Bally's Prep Zone

#### Players to Watch:

- Grant Gray - Wide Receiver (Senior)
- Tyler Dudden - Quarterback (Junior)
- Kalani Kaleiwahea - Running Back (Senior)
- Chase Miller - Linebacker (Senior)
- Tobias Johnson - Linebacker (Senior)
- Matthew Verdiell - Kicker (Senior)

Spotlight: Last fall, All CIF-Southern Section Division 1 receiver Grant Gray led the Cougars with 61 catches for 956 yards (15.7 average) and 10 touchdowns to help Norco earn a spot in the CIF-SS playoffs. In the spring, he was the baseball team's table setter from the lead off position. Gray batted .352 with a team-high 35 runs scored in helping the Cougars claim their first Big VIII League title since 2015. He reached base safely in 23 of the twenty-nine games played and registered at least one hit in 21 of those contests. For his high level athletic ability, Gray was named the *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin's* Inland Empire "Boys Athlete of the Year."

Previous Game Summary (08/26/21): The schedule got more difficult for the Eagles as they headed east on the 91 Freeway to the Inland Empire for a Thursday date at Norco. The Cougars came into the contest 0-5 versus Trinity League schools in recent seasons. That list included Servite, Orange Lutheran and St. John Bosco. After two quarters of play, it looked like SMC would keep that streak in tact, as they led 16-13. But Norco's luck would change after intermission as they came out of the locker room charged-up. The Panthers gained momentum as they put together a solid mix of running and passing drives en route to a 40-22 win. Defensively, Norco would stymie the Eagles with solid line play, holding them to just 11 yards rushing in the second half. SMC quarterback Jaxon Potter did pass for 247 yards on 19-of-39 attempts (48.7%) and two touchdowns. He found Niko Lopez in the end zone for the second-consecutive game. Sophomore Kyle Brody caught his first-career touchdown pass, as well. Nick Gallegos led the team in receiving yards with 94. Defensively, Donovan Comestro and Benjamin Durham led the club with 12 total tackles each. Defensive tackle Hero Kanu had three quarterback hurries and two tackles-for-loss. On special teams, two kickers combined to connect for three field goals. Jonathan Connor Teasley hit from 41 and 33 yards out, while Blake Wilson was successful from 46 yards.

## NEXT WEEK'S OPPONENT: @ ST. AUGUSTINE



### SMCHS Season Game No. 3 / Non-League Game No. 3

Game Date & Time: Friday, September 2, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

Game Location: Mesa College (San Diego) - Merrill Douglas Stadium

School Location: San Diego

Nickname: Saints

Head Coach: Ron Gladnick (Career: 60-48-1 -- .555) (First season at StA)

2021 Fall Season: Overall: 2-9 | 1-3 Western League (4th) | 0-1 CIF-San Diego Section Division 1 Playoffs

2022 Record: 0-1

Last Week: Lost vs. El Camino (Oceanside), 29-13

All-Time Series: 3 Games - Santa Margarita Catholic leads 3-0-0

Last Game / Last SMCHS Win: 2021 - Santa Margarita Catholic won 39-10 @ Saddleback College (Mission Viejo)

Game Broadcast: Live stream on NFHS Network

Player Spotlight: Misael Sandoval | Offensive Tackle | Senior | 6-6 / 320 -- A dominant right-tackle, Sandoval does not only block but drives defenders into the ground at the line of scrimmage and decimates second-level defenders. Already possessing NFL-like size, the San Diego State commit will play an integral role in getting the storied program of St. Augustine back to the days of past glory. Sandoval's leadership will play a crucial role with a team loaded with several underclassmen this season.

Coach Profile: Earlier this year, St. Augustine announced that the new varsity football team Head Coach is Ron Gladnick. Selected from a group of highly qualified candidates, Coach Gladnick is the twenty-fourth head coach in the Saints' 99-year tradition rich history. Gladnick has been recognized as a well-known coach in the San Diego area for many years. School officials cited Gladnick's first-class resume in local prep football circles as one of the attractive elements. In, 2008 Gladnick joined the Torrey Pines football staff where he coached defensive line until accepting the Head Coach position at Claremont. There, in two seasons at the helm, Gladnick turned the program around and the school won its first playoff game in over a decade. Gladnick then returned to Torrey Pines, this time as Head Coach for seven years, where his teams were tenacious and successful, winning two Avocado League Championships in three seasons. During his tenure the Falcon's program became a regular competitor in San Diego's Open Division.

Previous Game Summary (09/03/21): After suffering a difficult loss on the road at Norco, Santa Margarita looked refreshed as they took the field back home versus visiting St. Augustine of San Diego. It was "Senior Night" at Saddleback College Stadium and the Eagles arrived with high emotions on both sides of the ball as they prevailed, 39-10. After surrendering an early field goal, the defense played inspired throughout and allowed a total of 41 passing yards to the Saints for the game, with the long being a nine-yard gain. The defensive line continued to apply pressure in the trenches, finishing with eight tackles-for-loss and three sacks. The Saints never managed to gain any traction and scored a late touchdown when the contest was out of reach. The offense was led quarterback Jaxon Potter's 270 yards and 67.6 completion percentage. Junior Niko Lopez scored a receiving touchdown for the third-consecutive game. Lopez and teammates Jalen Jones and Nick Gallegos all made highlight-reel type catches during the rout. Freshman back Taurian Nash scored the first rushing touchdown of his career. Sophomore receiver Bain Eiseman (45-yard reception) and senior Justin Rivera (46-yard rush) each had big play gains that led to SMC scores.

## TRINITY LEAGUE



[www.trinityleagueathletics.org](http://www.trinityleagueathletics.org)

### This Week's Trinity League Schedule

#### Friday, August 26, 2022

**St. John Bosco** (Bellflower) @ Allen (Texas) ("Tom Landry Classic" @ Eagle Stadium), 7:00 p.m. CT / 5:00 p.m. PT

**Servite** (Anaheim) @ Mission Viejo, 7:00 p.m.

**Lutheran** (Orange) @ Upland, 7:00 p.m.

**Mater Dei** (Santa Ana) @ Bishop Gorman (Las Vegas, Nevada), 7:00 p.m.

**JSerra Catholic** (San Juan Capistrano) @ Chaminade (West Hills), 7:00 p.m.

## IN-HOUSE EAGLE MEDIA COVERAGE



on  **YouTube**

*"Eagles 360 with Natalie Miller"*

- \* "Postgame Report" - Released Monday's
- \* "The Extra Point" - Released Wednesday's
- \* "End Zone Insight" - Selected In-Season Weekly Game Notes

YouTube Channel: Natalie Miller Sports

Instagram: @nataliemillersports  
Twitter: @NatalieMSports

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*with Host Paul Higgins*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDbdN6QpJdkx-TffMZLe1Ug>