

## 2003 HALL OF FAME



**Debbie Lipson Ekola**  
*Outstanding Athlete*

Combining winning records in both academics and sports is not easy, but Debbie Lipson Ekola did it all!

Moving with her parents and siblings to Carpinteria in 1969, Debbie soon demonstrated her many abilities in Carpinteria High School. From 1974-78, she achieved highest scores in Varsity Tennis as All TVL and CIF Qualifier and quarterfinalist. In Varsity Track and Field, she scored highest in discus, shot put, 880, 440 relay, and 100. By 1977, she was a member of the Championship Teams in Tennis TVL and Tennis CIF runner-up. Debbie earned a total of eight Varsity letters, four in tennis, three in track and field and one in gymnastics.

At the same time, she was honored in academics with the CSF Gold Seal, served as her Senior Class Vice-President and was on the Principal's Honor Roll throughout high school.

Following her high school years, Ms. Ekola received the Academic Achievement Award in Physical Education at SBCC. Her achievements at SBCC also included winning in both undefeated #1 singles and doubles and All Conference Champ in both 1979 and 1980. Her record led to her being named Western States Conference Player of the year in 1980 and in being granted a full two-year tennis scholarship to Fresno State to become their #1 player.

She has worked as a physical education teacher at SBCC for over 19 years. In the summer, she works for the City of Carpinteria as a water aerobic instructor. Debbie lives in Carpinteria with her husband Pete and their three sons: Jared (14), Jordan (11) and Spencer (8). All three are athletically talented, and the two oldest are already in competition.