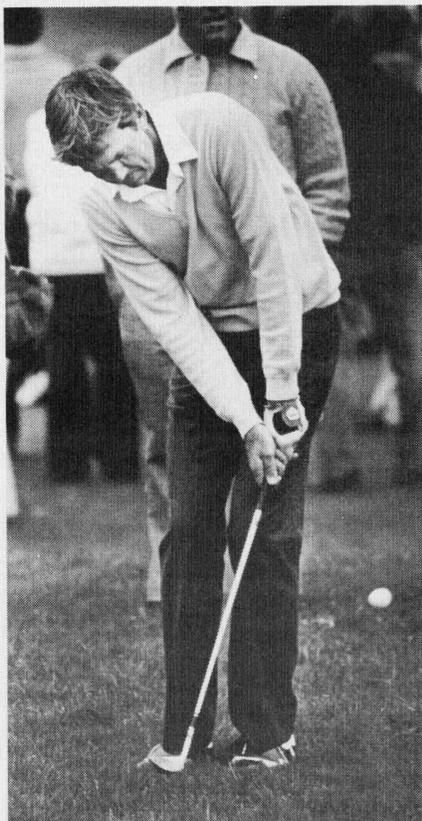


1988 Hall of Fame Inductees



Al Geiberger

Al Geiberger doesn't know it but he was responsible for the Santa Barbara Hall of Fame Selection Committee changing one of its rules on eligibility for induction in the Hall of Fame.

"Ever since the Hall of Fame was started over 20 years ago, we've had a rule that an athlete had to be retired from his particular sport for three years before he could be considered for induction into the Hall of Fame," explained Dave Kohl, selection committee chairman. "But when Al joined the PGA Senior Tour last year, we changed the rule to allow any athlete competing in a 'senior-type event' to be eligible right away. The committee figured Al would probably play on the Senior Tour until he died and we didn't want to wait until that happened before he got in."

Geiberger, a graduate of Santa Barbara High who now makes his home in Palm Desert, has had a pro

golfing career that most young golfers dream about. He made \$1,256,000 in 28 seasons on the regular PGA Tour following graduation from USC and won 11 tournaments, including the PGA in 1966 and the Tournament of Champions and Tournament Players Championship in 1975.

Even with his overall success on the PGA Tour, the lanky Geiberger will be remembered most for what he did during the second round of the Danny Thomas Memphis Open in 1977. In a feat that may never be surpassed, Geiberger shot an 18-hole round of 59 to break a PGA Tour record that had stood since Sam Snead shot a 60 in 1957.

Because of that magical 13-under-par round, Geiberger has become known as "Mr. 59."

"The 59 has been my little claim to fame," Geiberger said. "It has given me my special niche. It's hard to put a figure on the positive effect it has had, but it has done a lot for me."

Today, Geiberger is one of the top players on the Senior Tour. After joining the tour last Sept. 1 when he turned 50, he won three of the first 10 tournaments he entered and finished the 1987 season with his highest single season winnings in his golfing career.

"Most people hate the thought of turning 50," Geiberger told a sports writer last January. "I couldn't wait."

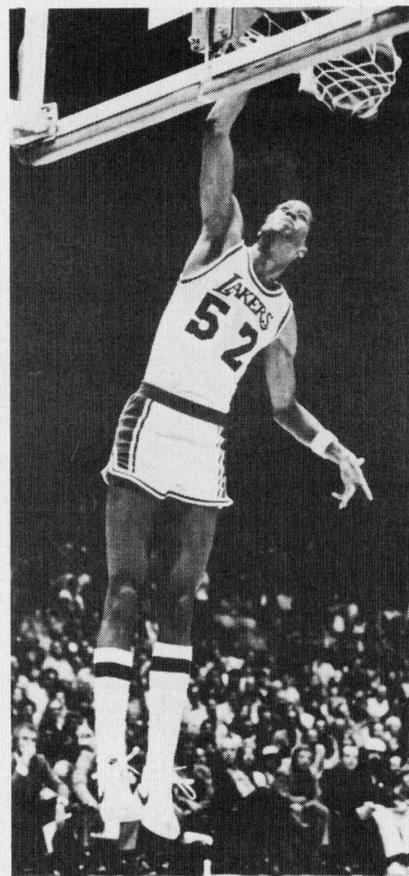
Jamaal Wilkes

Santa Barbara has turned out more than its share of outstanding athletes over the years — Eddie Mathews and Jesse Orosco in baseball; Sam and Randell Cunningham, Booker Brown and Larry Moriarty in football; and Al Geiberger, Buddy Allin, Sam Randolph, Jr. and Steve Pate in golf, to name a few.

Although Santa Barbara has also produced a number of highly talented basketball players, the one name that stands out above all others is Jamaal Wilkes. Nicknamed "Silk" for his smooth style of play,

Wilkes is undoubtedly the greatest basketball player ever to come out of the city.

Wilkes, who moved here with his family from Ventura for his senior year in high school, was voted CIF Class 4A Player of the Year after guiding the Santa Barbara High Dons to the playoff semifinals during the 1969-70 season before losing their only game of the season



to Millikan High.

The 6-foot-7, 190-pound forward, who could score almost at will, went on to UCLA where he twice won first-team, All-American honors and helped the Bruins to two NCAA Championships. John Wooden, former UCLA coach, called Wilkes the most talented player he ever coached.

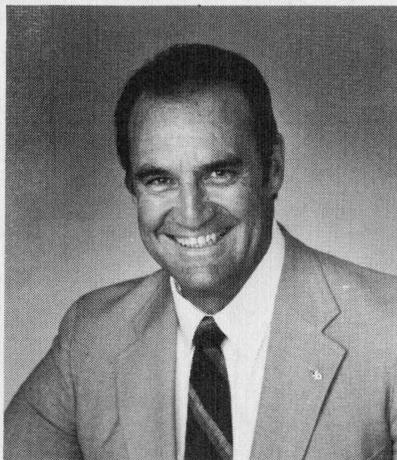
Wilkes' success continued in the professional ranks. He was the NBA Rookie of the Year for Golden State

in 1974-75 while helping the Warriors win the world championship.

In 1977, Wilkes joined the Los Angeles Lakers. He played an integral part in the Lakers winning three NBA Championships. His best season with the Lakers was 1980-81 when he averaged 22.6 points per game, 11th best in the league. A year earlier he averaged 20 points per game and tallied 37 points in the sixth and final game of the NBA Championship Series against Philadelphia, which the Lakers won 123-107.

He also averaged 21.2 points in 1981-82 when the Lakers won another NBA title.

Plagued by injuries and reduction of playing time, Wilkes was released by the Lakers during the summer of 1985. Although he was signed by the L.A. Clippers, Wilkes retired from basketball shortly after the 1985-86 season started.



Bill Blythe

It's a good thing dentist Bill Blythe was self-employed. If he worked for someone, it's unlikely he would have been able to devote all the time he has over the years to help the local sports community.

"It was a lot of long hours, but it was also a lot of fun," says Blythe of his involvement. "And I couldn't have done it without the strong support of my family and office staff and the great people who worked on the various committees and boards with me."

Going over his various activities, one would have a difficult time

finding someone else who has done more for the local sports community.

Among his activities were: a member of the Santa Barbara Athletic Round Table Board of Directors for 15 years, including six years as president and master of ceremonies at the SBART's weekly press luncheons; served five years (three years as president) on the Valley Stadium Inc. committee which raised capital for the stadium to be built at San Marcos High; and was a member of the UCSB Hoop Club, "UCSB Bench," and UCSB Gaucho Gridiron Club and president of both the football and basketball support groups for three years. He also was involved in the resurrection of football at UCSB a few years ago.

In addition, he was co-chairman to head the Capital Campaign to raise the \$850,000 to complete the construction of the UCSB Events Center.

Blythe also was co-founder of the Youth Basketball League and served as its first president for the first two years.

He likewise founded and was president of Student Activities, Inc., which raised considerable funds to pay the fees the Santa Barbara School District charged under its "Pay for Play" policy.

Blythe also was part of the original committee to start Las Positas Park and served on the board of directors. In addition, he was host for the local TV sports show "Athletic Round Table with Bill Blythe" for two years.

An active horseman, Blythe was a member of various riding organizations, including Santa Barbara Trail Riders and Rancheros Vistadores. And those are just some of Blythe's many activities in the community.



Louise Lowry Davis

Louise Lowry Davis admits today she always had a bit of "showmanship" in her.

"I wanted class ... the tops ... the best for anything I did," confessed Davis, who served as a supervisor for the City's Recreation Department for 30 years before retiring in 1966. "I loved my job. I felt a great responsibility for my work because I was representing the city of Santa Barbara through the Recreation Department and I felt I had to give my best. The pride I had in my city wouldn't allow me to give any less."

With that kind of attitude, it's no wonder Santa Barbara Recreation Department's women's programs under the direction of Davis became the envy of other cities all around the country. The success of today's women's recreational programs sponsored by the city are due in large part to Davis.

As director of the Women's Sports League, which was sponsored by the Recreation Department, Davis turned women's sports activities into one of the biggest draws in the city back in the 1930s and 40s.

As many as 5,000 fans would turn out at Pershing Park for the opener of the softball season. The women's softball league drew over 200,000 people over an eight-year period. To draw interest in the