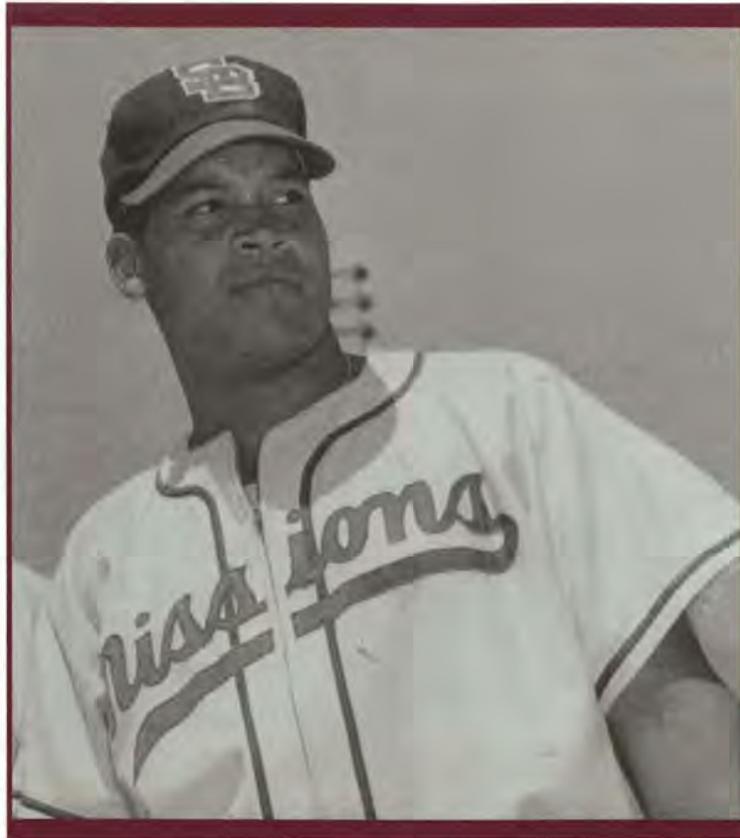


2008

HALL of FAME



NEILL WRIGHT *Special Achievement*

Neill Wright served 30 years (1969-99) as a high school and college official in basketball, baseball and volleyball. He umpired three CIF Final baseball games – two in Dodger Stadium and one at Anaheim.

Known for his calm under pressure, a certain game presence and a complete knowledge of the rules, Wright was highly respected by his peers and coaches. He did his job in a quiet manner, realizing that the games were only about the players. Wright also dedicated 12 years as the baseball instructional chairman for the Channel League.

A 1953 graduate of Santa Barbara High School, Wright played football, basketball and baseball. He was the starting quarterback in his senior year and the starting catcher as a junior and senior. As a senior he was selected to the All-CIF All-Star team as the catcher and played for the Southern Section Championship. Attending SBCC, he was the starting catcher and played varsity basketball from 1953-54. He was UCSB's starting catcher in 1956. Wright spent his summers playing catcher for the Missions from 1953-58.

From 1992-98, Wright served on the Board of Directors of the Endowment for Youth – an organization of community leaders dedicated to helping black youth.

Wright notes his proudest achievements as 30 years of officiating and 35 years of teaching. His proudest moments are when ex-students greet him and tell him what a positive role model he was for them.