



SRJC Alumni & Friends



A 12-0 winning record brought the SRJC 49-50 Football Team together, but their love of SRJC, the team and football has kept them connected for the last 63 years.

The 1949-1950 SRJC Football Team won the conference championship and state championship and their undefeated records have withstood the test of time in the annals of SRJC athletic history. In these two impressive seasons, the two teams scored 909 points with just 180 points scored against them. The Santa Rosa press named the 1950 Football Team the “best team in all sports in the history of athletics in the Redwood Empire”. This determined group of young men developed into a strong team with lifelong bonds to each other.

The seed of togetherness was planted in the huddle and on the field, where they worked together for a common goal. A ritual was started during the first football game of the season – the players met in front of gym and walked to the Coop and ate together before the game. The dinner included a baked potato, roast beef and peas. Following dinner, the team walked back to the gym together to dress for the football game.



In 1980, the 49-50 Football Team held their first reunion at the Sonoma County fairgrounds. With the encouragement and support of President Ran Newman, they formally kicked off a scholarship intended for an SRJC athlete upon transfer to a four year university to continue a major in physical education/kinesiology. To date, 35 scholarships have been awarded totaling \$14,300. Members of the 49-50 Football Team attend the Circle of Honor scholarship reception each year to meet their scholarship recipients and convey the stories about the unique players and team from 1949-1950.

In 1998, The Annual Huddle commenced to raise money for the scholarship. This annual reunion brings together the former players, wives, children, grandchildren and friends. Part fundraiser and part social, the players enjoy the opportunity to reconnect, catch up and reminisce about their unique season. Their strong connection has endured over the years, as they’ve managed to track 78 out of 92 players. Team members who have died are known to enter the “Locker Room”. The 49-50 Football Team has had eight individuals, as well as Coach Bob Mastin, inducted into the Santa Rosa Junior College Hall of Fame. In 1999, the entire 49-50 Football Team was inducted.

In 2009, *A Team to Remember* was published. This unique historical retrospective written by the team includes first person memories from many of the players, photos from games, clippings from newspaper articles and more.

According to Bob Taylor, a fullback for the team, the best part of The Annual Huddle has been the creation of an extended family unit. Although many players have passed on, their wives and children continue to attend the reunion each year.

63 years of close friendship and accomplishments speaks highly of the character of the men on these two SRJC football teams. They worked together on the football field and this attitude carried over into their lives, families and careers as through their friendship, they have shared the past decades together.