

## RON MORRIS



Natl record vault at 13-11 1/8 5/8/1953 measuring record

**Born:** April 27, 1935 Glendale, CA

**Died:** May 31, 2024 Burbank, CA (89-years old)

### **Burroughs High School, Burbank, CA**

- 1953 National high school pole vault record 13-11 1/8
- Cleared record on his third attempt on May 8, 1953 in Foothill League Finals at Glendale High
- 1953 SPA AAU open PV champion 13-11 1/2
- 1952, 1953 California state pole vault champion
- 1952 CIF Southern Section pole vault champion
- 1952, 1953 Foothill League pole vault champion
- 1951 CIF SS "B" pole vault 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 1952 Foothill League "B" pole vault champion

### **University of Southern California**

- USC Heritage Award Winners (1990 inaugural class)
- 1954 set USC freshman school record at 14-1 in triangular vs Pasadena CC and Compton JC on April 23
- 1955, 1956, 1957 Pacific Coast Conference pole vault champion
- 1955 NCAA pole vault tie for 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 1956 NCAA pole vault tie for 5<sup>th</sup>
- 1957 USC did not compete in NCAA meet

- 1956 became sixth vaulter in history to clear 15-0
- Won USC-UCLA dual meet pole vault in 1956 and 1957
- 1957 USC co-captain
- June 1, 1956 set school record at 15-0 1/4 in tying Bob Richards for first at Compton Invitational
- April 13, 1957 broke own school record with mark of 15-2 1/2 in dual meet at Stanford
- During off-season did strength work with USC gymnastics team

#### **Southern California Striders**

- 1960 US Olympian
- 1960 Olympic Silver medalist
- 1959 Pan American Games 4<sup>th</sup> place
- 3 time National AAU pole vault champion, 8-time AAU All-American between 1956-66
- Ranked in Top 10 in world by Track and Field News 10 straight years 1955-64
- Ranked Number 1 in world by Track and Field News in 1961 and 1962
- 1978 Track & Field News ranked him 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest vaulter for longevity in history at the time
- 1962 transition from steel pole to fiberglass
- Won SPA AAU pole vault seven times
- Mt.SAC Relays pole vault champ five times
- West Coast Relays pole vault champion four times
- Competed in USA vs USSR dual meets in 1958, 1959 and 1962
- Won 1962 USA vs USSR dual meet setting meet record of 16-0 3/4

#### **Coaching**

- USC freshman coach 1958
- Cal State Los Angeles assistant coach 1960-67; 1976-78
  - 1978 NCAA Division II champions with his vaulters finished 1, 2 and 4
- Cal State Los Angeles head coach 1968-75
  - Cal State LA Hall of Fame

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Owner, operator of OnTrack, which manufactured and sold track and field equipment to schools across the nation
- Built business from his own home and increasingly expanded to six larger facilities from 1978 through 2020
- Motto was: Excellence Thru Experience

**Best Marks**

1951 Burrough HS	PV 12-10
1952 Burrough HS	PV 13-3 1/4
1953 Burrough HS	PV 13-11 1/2
1954 USC Frosh	PV 14-1
1955 USC	PV 14-9 3/4
1956 USC	PV 15-0 1/4
1957 USC	PV 15-2 1/2
1958 Striders	PV 15-3
1959 Striders	PV 15-3
1960 Striders	PV 15-5 1/4
1961 Striders	PV 15-8
1962 Striders	PV 16-1
1963 Striders	PV 16-5 3/4
1964 Striders	PV 16-4 1/2
1965 Striders	PV 16-0
1966 Striders	PV 16-6

**High School**

1951 Foothill Lea "B" PV 1st 12-6  
1951 CIF "B" quarters PV 1tie 10-6  
1951 CIF "B" semis PV 1tie 11-0  
1951 CIF "B" PV 2tie 12-0  
1952 Easter Rlys PV 1st 13-2  
1952 Foothill Lea PV 1st 12-9  
1952 CIF quarters PV 1tie 11-6  
1952 CIF semis PV 1tie 12-4  
1952 CIF PV 1st 13-3  
1952 State PV 1st 13-3 1/4  
1953 SoCounties PV 1st 13-3  
1953 Easter Rlys PV 1st 13-6  
1953 West Coast Rlys PV 1st 13-3 1/2  
1953 Foothill Lea PV 1st 13-11  
1953 CIF quarters PV 1st 13-2  
1953 CIF semis PV 1tie 13-3  
1953 CIF PV 5th 12-6  
1953 State PV 1st 13-9 1/2

<p><b><u>Open</u></b>  1953 SPA AAU PV 1st 13-11 1/2  1954 Calif Rlys PV 3tie 13-6  1954 Compton Invit PV 4tie 14-0  1954 SPA AAU PV 2tie 13-6  1955 Easter Rlys PV 3tie 14-0  1955 Dallas Invit PV 1tie 13-6  1955 West Coast Rlys PV 2nd 14-8  1955 vs UCLA PV 2nd 14-2 1/2  1955 Coliseum Rlys PV 3tie 14-6  1955 Calif Rlys PV 2nd 14-8  1955 Compton Invit PV 2tie 14-9  1955 PCC PV 1st 14-7  1955 vs. Big Ten PV 1tie 14-6 1/4  1955 NCAA PV 2tie 14-6  1955 SPA AAU PV 4tie 14-0  1955 AAU PV 4tie 14-0</p>	<p><b><u>Open cont.</u></b>  1956 SPA AAU Rlys PV 1tie 14-0  1956 vs UCLA PV 1st 14-7 1/2  1956 Calif Rlys PV 2tie 14-8  1956 Compton Invit PV 1tie 15-0 1/4  1956 NCAA PV 5tie 14-0  1956 PCC PV 1st 14-6  1956 SPA AAU PV 2tie 14-4  1956 AAU PV 4tie 14-0 1/2  1956 Olympic trials PV 5th 14-8 1/2  1957 vs UCLA PV 1st 14-6  1957 West Coast Rlys PV 2tie 14-6  1957 Coliseum Rlys PV 3tie 14-6  1957 Calif Rlys PV 3rd 15-0 1/4  1957 Compton Invit PV 2tie 14-6  1957 PCC PV 1st 15-0 1/4  1957 SPA AAU PV 1tie 14-6  1957 AAU PV 3tie 14-7 1/2  1958 Apple Valley Rlys PV 1tie 14-5  1958 Oxy Invit PV 2nd 14-6  1958 Easter Rlys PV 2tie 14-6  1958 West Coast Rlys PV 1tie 15-0 1/4</p>	<p><b><u>Open cont.</u></b>  1958 Coliseum Rlys PV 2nd 15-0 1/4  1958 Calif Rlys PV 2tie 14-6  1958 Compton Invit PV 2nd 15-1 1/4  1958 AAU PV 1st 14-9  1958 vs USSR PV 2nd 14-5 1/4  1959 SPA AAU Rlys PV 4tie 14-0  1959 Easter Rlys PV 1st 14-4  1959 Mt.SAC Relays PV 1st 14-10  1959 SPA AAU PV 1st 14-10  1959 AAU PV 2nd 15-3  1959 Pan Am Games PV 4th 14-2  1959 vs USSR PV 4th 14-0  1960 LA Times Indoor Games 2tie 14-6  1960 SPA AAU Rlys PV 2nd 14-6  1960 Easter Rlys PV 2nd 14-11 1/2  1960 Mt.SAC Relays PV 1st 15-4  1960 West Coast Rlys PV 1tie 15-3  1960 Coliseum Rlys PV 1st 15-1  1960 Calif Rlys PV 2tie 15-0 1/4  1960 Compton Invit PV 3rd 15-0 1/2</p>	<p><b><u>Open cont.</u></b>  1960 SPA AAU PV 1st 15-1  1960 AAU PV 5th 15-0 3/4  1960 Olympic trials PV 2nd 15-5 1/4  1960 Olympics PV 2nd 15-1  1961 LA Invit PV 2tie 14-6  1961 LA Times Indoor Games PV 1st 15-1  1961 Mt.SAC Relays PV 1st 15-0 1/2  1961 West Coast Rlys PV 2tie 15-1 3/4  1961 Calif Rlys PV 2tie 14-6  1961 Compton Invit PV 1st 15-4  1961 SPA AAU PV 1st 15-0  1961 AAU PV 1st 15-8  1962 LA Times Indoor Games PV 1st 15-3 1/2  1962 West Coast Rlys PV 1tie 15-2 1/2  1962 Coliseum Rlys PV 3rd 15-6 1/4  1962 Calif Rlys PV 2nd 15-6  1962 Compton Invit PV 2tie 15-6 1/4  1962 SPA AAU PV 1st 15-8 1/2  1962 AAU PV 1st 16-0 1/4  1962 vs USSR PV 1st 16-0 3/4</p>
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