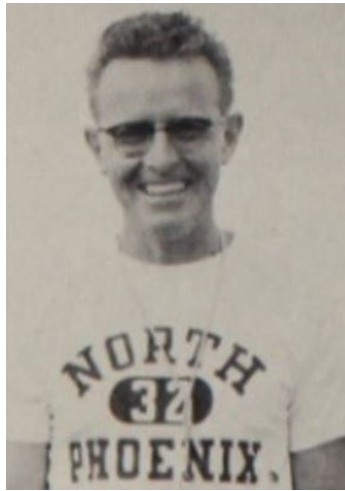


## VERN WOLFE



Born: July 14, 1922 Garber, OK  
Died: October 25, 2000 Vista, CA (78 years old)

Gardena High School, CA

- Class of 1940
- 2-time Marine League pole vault champion

USC

- Pole vaulter 1941, 1945, 1946, 1947

### Coaching

Torrance HS, CA head coach 1952-54

- 1953 Bay League cross country champions

North Phoenix HS, AZ head coach 1955-60

- 3 national record holders -- pole vaulter Jim Brewer, shot putter Dallas Long and discus thrower Karl Johstone
- was succeeded as head coach at USC by one of his former North Phoenix pole vaulters Ernie Bullard
- North Phoenix High School Hall of Fame

San Jose State assistant varsity coach, head freshman coach 1961

- 1961 first school to have three 15-0 vaulters in one season  
Dick Gear (15-4), Jeff Chase (15-2), Dick Kimmel (15-1 3/4)

Foothill College head coach 1962

- 1962 Coast Conference champions
- Triple jumper Mahoney Samuels broke national record by going 51-10 3/4 (old record 50-1)

USC head coach 1963-84

- 5 NCAA outdoor championships -- 1963, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1976
- 2 NCAA indoor championships -- 1967, 1972
- 8 conference championships
- dual meet record of 105-17-1
- 4 T&F News dual meet national championships -- 1971, 1976, 1977, 1978
- retired as third winningest coach of all-time
- 30 world record holders
- 6 Olympic gold medal winners that he trained  
Rex Cawley, Mike Larrabee, Dallas Long, Donald Quarrie, Bob Seagren, Randy Williams
- At one time his athletes held every USC individual school record
- USATF Hall of Fame
- USTFFCCA Hall of Fame
- USC Hall of Fame
- Mt.SAC Relays Hall of Fame

1937	Gardena HS	PV	11-6
1938	Gardena HS	PV	10-9
1939	Gardena HS	PV	12-0
1940	Gardena HS	PV	12-6
1946	USC	PV	13-0
1947	USC	PV	13-8

**High School**

1939 Marine Lea PV 1st 12-0  
1940 Marine Lea PV 1st 12-0

**Open**

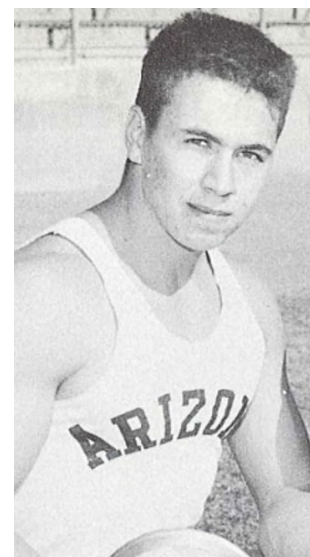
1946 Oxy Relays PV 4tie ---  
1946 vs.UCLA PV 1tie 13-0  
1947 vs UCLA PV 3rd 13-6



Three athletes from Wolfe's first North Phoenix HS team in 1955, from left to right, pole vaulter Ernie Bullard (who succeeded Wolfe as head coach at USC); high jumper Jerry Robertson; and future Trojan Jim Brewer. Bullard went on to win 1956 national JC pole vault for Phoenix JC and then lettered three years at USC. Robertson competed for Arizona State and was the 1959 Border Conference high jump champion. In 1955, Brewer became the first prep to vault over 14-0 and then the first over 15-0 in 1957. He was three-time state champion. Brewer won three letters at USC and tied for first in 1961 NCAA meet.



Dallas Long was Wolfe's second national high school record holder. In 1958, he broke the record by 5 feet, 3 inches with a mark of 69-3. He also was the first prep athlete with a toss over 60-feet using a 16-lb shot by going 61-0 1/2. Long went on to finish third in the 1960 Olympics at 62-4 1/2 and earned the gold medal in 1964 at 66-8 1/2.



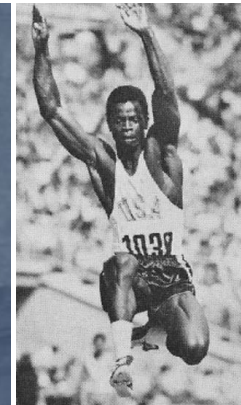
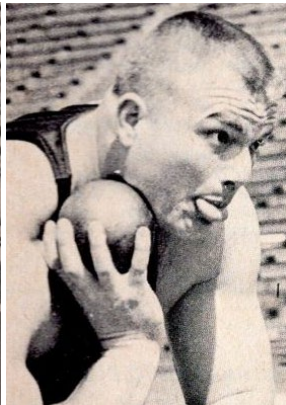
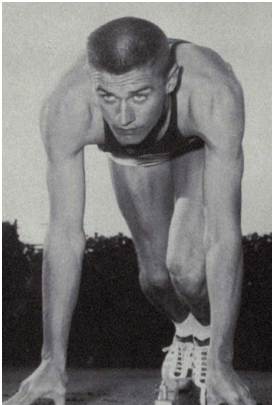
Karl Johnstone became Wolfe's third national record holder in three years by breaking Al Oerter's record. Johnstone recorded a mark of 194-5 to break the high school record by 10 feet, 3 inches.



With Wolfe as field event coach at San Jose State in 1961, the Spartans became the first school to have three 15-foot vaulters in one year with, from left-to-right, Dick Gear (15-4), Jeff Chase (15-2) and Dick Kimmel (15-1 3/4).



In 1962, Wolfe moved to Foothill JC and the records kept coming as Mahoney Samuels set JC triple jump record of 51-10 3/4.



Wolfe trained six Olympic gold medal winners. From left-to-right, Rex Cawley, 1964 400m Hurdles winner; Mike Larrabee, 1964 400m winner; Dallas Long, 1964 shot put winner; Donald Quarrie, 1976 200m winner; Bob Seagren, 1968 pole vault winner; and Randy Williams, 1972 long jump winner.