



SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



RICH FISHER Head Varsity Football Coach

Personal Biography

Santa Margarita Catholic Head Varsity Football Coach Rich Fisher begins his third season at the helm of the Eagles. During his first two campaigns, Fisher led SMCHS to an overall record of 14-9-0 -- a .609 winning percentage. Regarded as one of the bright young and up-and-coming head coaches in Southern California, Fisher has guided the Eagles to the CIF-Southern Section Division 1 Playoffs each of his first two seasons. This achieved as the school is a member of the toughest prep football league in the entire nation (as per MaxPreps.com) -- the Trinity League.

Coach Fisher's 2017 squad proved to quite a potent and balanced offensive force in the highly competitive Trinity League. The Eagles set numerous team and individual offensive marks during the season -- both for a single-game and full season. The 478 points scored (43.5 per-game average) was one of the highest in school history. In addition, Fisher's bunch set a record for average total offensive yards-per-game with 486.2. This shattered the previous record by 36 yards-per-game.

All along his coaching path, Fisher has demonstrated the ability to be an effective leader in guiding players and programs to gridiron success. Coach Fisher is especially proud to be a strong mentor in the development of well-rounded scholar-athletes who have moved on to enjoy success, on the field and in the classroom, at the next level. Numerous SMCHS players have been se

The receipt of the 2017 CIF-Southern Section Large School Academic Achievement Team Award for Football (overall 3.43 grade-point average) represents one of the most successful seasons in school history, in any sport, when combining academic and athletic achievement.

Fisher joined SMCHS after four successful seasons as the Receiver Coach at Nebraska. With the Cornhuskers, Fisher's receivers were a strength of the team. Fisher's wideouts helped NU post two of the top eight receiving seasons in school history. At the Division I level, Fisher has 12-years of coaching experience. During his tenure at the collegiate level, he has worked with numerous players who went on the play in the NFL.

The Huskers receiving corps jumped from ninth in the Big-10 in 2011 to tied for second the following season. This was on the strength of 24 touchdowns. From 2012 through 2014, Nebraska enjoyed 24-or-more touchdowns scored via the air. Fisher also coached eight players who earned Academic All Big-10 honors.

One of the most exciting moments in Lincoln occurred on November 3, 2013. Jordan Westerkamp's dramatic grab of a deflected 49-yard pass with 0:00 remaining on the clock helped the Huskers defeat Northwestern, 27-24. Westerkamp was named the Big-10 Conference's "Receiver of the Week" and "Freshman of the Week."

Prior to Nebraska, Fisher enjoyed two highly successful seasons in the prep ranks. He spent the 2009 and 2010 seasons as the head coach at Rivers School in Weston, Massachusetts, where he compiled a 12-5 record. In 2010, he coached the school to a perfect 8-0 regular season, the school's first undefeated regular season since 1915 and its only ISL championship.

Prior to coaching at Rivers, Fisher spent several years in private business, including owning and operating New England Gridiron Football Camps from 2004 to 2009.

In addition to Nebraska, Fisher's collegiate coaching experience includes stops at Idaho, Colorado and Oklahoma State. He has had the opportunity to work with some of the finest coaches in the game during his coaching career. At Idaho, Fisher worked alongside Northwestern Head Coach Pat Fitzgerald and three of his fellow Vandal assistants now coach in the NFL. At Colorado under Rick Neuheisel, Fisher coached alongside future college head coaches Karl Dorrell (UCLA),

Jon Embree (Colorado) and Bobby Hauck (UNLV). Fisher also coached with former Oakland Raiders Head Coach Tom Cable. During his time at Oklahoma State, Fisher coached with current Division I head coaches Les Miles (LSU) and Mike Gundy (Oklahoma State).

Fisher tutored the wide receivers during his first two seasons at Idaho in 1999 and 2000, then handled the inside and outside linebackers during his final three seasons. Prior to his five seasons at Idaho, Fisher spent two seasons as a graduate assistant at Colorado, his alma mater, working with the wide receivers in 1997 and 1998. Fisher also spent two seasons as a graduate assistant at Oklahoma State in 1995 and 1996.

Fisher was a three-year letter winner at Colorado. An outside linebacker, Fisher lettered in 1990, 1991 and 1992 and was part of CU's 1990 National Championship team (11-1-1). During his playing time, he also contributed to Big Eight title teams in 1989, 1990 and 1991.

Prep Head Coaching Career Record				
Season	School	Record (Pct.)	League	Season Notes
2018	Santa Margarita Catholic	0-0-0 (.000)	Trinity	TBD
2017	Santa Margarita Catholic	7-4-0 (.800)	Trinity	CIF-SS Playoffs
2016	Santa Margarita Catholic	7-5-0 (.583)	Trinity	CIF-SS Playoffs
2010	Rivers School (Weston, MA)	8-1-0 (.889)	Independent SL	NEPSAC "Norm Walker Bowl" at Gillette Stadium (Foxboro)
2009	Rivers School (Weston, MA)	4-4-0 (.500)	Independent SL	
Career Totals:		26-14-0 (.650)		

Coaching Experience

Nebraska

- Wide Receivers (2011-14)

Idaho

- Linebackers (2001-03)
- Receivers (1999-2000)

Colorado

- Graduate Assistant (1997-98)

Oklahoma State

- Graduate Assistant (1995-96)

High School Head Coach

2017 Season Recap & Highlights

- Registered two shutouts, both on the road, to start the season (at Downey and Loyola).
- Defense allowed just 10 points in the first four games of non-league play (2.5 points-per-game average).
- To start 2017, SMCHS scored early and often, winning by scores of 56-0, 35-0, 61-7 and 49-3 (50.3 average). The 201 points were school record for the first four games of a season.
- With just 10 points allowed in their first four games, the Eagles were well on their way to a solid defense. The 10 points combined allowed in the first four games of the season is a new school record for that time frame. The previous low was 20 points allowed in 2012.
- With their 4-0 start to the 2017 season, the Eagles reached the threshold for the eleventh time in their 29-year history of football.
- Boasted four games in which team gained 500 yards-or-more of total offense. This was capped-off by a new school record in the postseason loss at Murrieta Valley with 736.
- In the Fisher-era, a span of 23 games, the Eagles have broken the 500-plus yard offensive threshold five times -- once achieving 600-plus and once 700-plus yards.
- Nearly upset nationally ranked powerhouse St. John Bosco before suffering a two-point loss, on the road, 40-38.
- Scored 35 points versus league, section, state and national champion Mater Dei. This was the most against the Monarchs since November 27, 2015 (Centennial-Corona). It was also the most in Trinity League play since Orange Lutheran scored the same number on October 9, 2015.

- Enjoyed a gutsy 36-35 road win at JSerra Catholic at the Lions' new on-campus football stadium. Coach Fisher decided to play for the win, rather than a potential tie, and his gamble proved successful.
- Awarded the CIF-Southern Section Large School Academic Achievement Team Award for Football (overall 3.43 grade-point average).
- As a team, the Eagles were ranked No. 3 in Orange County (*Orange County Register*), No. 7 (Cal-Hi Sports) in the state and No. 49 nationally (MaxPreps.com) at the close of the season.
- Pushed their current consecutive-game scoring streak to 154 games. (The last time the Eagles were shutout was in September 2004 at Orange Lutheran, 19-0 and have only been shutout four times in their existence -- one time each in 1999, 2002, 2003 and 2004).
- The Eagles had a point-differential of plus-177 for the season, the best mark for the school since the 2012 season (plus-218).
- For two-consecutive seasons, the school record for highest quarterback pass completion percentage was broken.
- The team has enjoyed back-to-back 2,000-yard-plus passers.
- The past two quarterbacks have finished in the top ten for passing yards in a single season in school history.
- There were 19 individual or team school records broken or tied in 2017. In all, twenty-nine team or individual records have been broken in the past two years.
- From the 2017 team, 12 players went on to play college ball. This is the most SMCHS has ever had from any year in school history. This surpassed the 1998 CIF/State Championship team (with Carson Palmer), which had eleven.
- The two-year total of 19 players who have gone on to play at the college level is the second-highest for a two-year stretch in school history. The 2007-2008 teams had twenty-one.

Individual Honors from 2016 & 2017 Teams

- All-American Selections: 2
- All-State Selections: 4
- All Orange County Selections: 9
- All Trinity League Selections: 10
- All Trinity League Most Valuable Players (Position): 2
- Postseason All-Star Game Selections: 4
- Cal-Hi Sports "Athlete of the Week": 5
- Orange County Register "Athlete of the Week": 1
- National Combine Participants: 10
- National Football Foundation Scholar Selections: 3
- Zug Cup Award Winners: 2
- Brad Dillahunty Award Winners: 1
- Broadcasted Games: 19 (17 Web and 2 Local Television)

2018 Regular Season Schedule Analysis

- 2018 Opponent Records in 2017: 101-29-0 (.777 winning percentage)
- All 10 opponents qualified for playoffs
- All 10 had an overall record of .500-or-better
- Two were state champions
- Six of 10 opponents won ten-or-more games