



2025 Sports Honoree - Glenn Davis

One of La Verne's greatest and most decorated athletes, Glenn Davis, graduated from Bonita High School in 1943. Davis was a multi-sport star at Bonita, earning 13 letters in football, baseball, basketball and track. In 1942, he led the Bearcats to an 11-0 record and the school's first ever championship and was named the CIFSS Football Player of the Year. That year, Davis and his team also set a Southern California scoring record.

Davis was All CIFSS in baseball. The following year, he won the Knute Rockne Trophy as Southern California's best track star.

In his senior year at Bonita High, Davis scored 236 points in football and led the team to a CIFSS Class A title, running in five touchdowns in a 39-6 win over Newport Harbor High School. During that playoff run, Davis earned the moniker "The Claremont Comet" after throwing 3 consecutive touchdown passes to his twin brother Ralph - all 3 of which were called back for offsides. On the 4th play, Davis ran it in himself for the score. In 1986, in honor of his achievements, Bonita High School renamed their football field "Glenn Davis Stadium."

Davis went on to play college football at West Point, becoming part of a dynamic duo "The Touchdown Twins," with his teammate Doc Blanchard. Davis was given the nickname "Mr. Outside" while Blanchard was called "Mr. Inside."

In 1944, during his sophomore year, Davis set and holds NCAA records for average career yards per carry at 8.3 yards, the single season average yards per carry at 11.5 yards, as well as scoring 20 touchdowns in 9 games. It was this year that he won the Maxwell Award and Walter Camp Trophy as player of the year and was the runner up for the Heisman Trophy. During his time at West Point, Davis ran for nearly 3,000 yards, had 850 receiving yards, and even passed for 1,172 yards. He finished his career at West Point as Army's all-time leading rusher with a 27-0-1 record, 3 national titles in 1944, 1945 and 1946, and finally became the 12th winner of the Heisman Trophy in 1946. In 1961, he was voted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Davis also played baseball and ran track for West Point, one day completing a 9-inning game of baseball before rushing to the track field to compete. As the story goes, in borrowed shoes, that day Davis ran a 100 yard dash in 9.7 seconds, and the 200 yard sprint in 20.9 seconds.

After serving in Korea until 1950, Davis eventually joined the Los Angeles Rams, helping the team to 2 National Championship games and won the title in 1951. After retiring from professional football, Davis worked at the Los Angeles Times for over 30 years. From 1987 to 2017, the Times gave out the Glenn Davis Award, which was given annually to the best high school football player in the Los Angeles area.

Despite all of his collegiate and professional success, Davis held his time at Bonita High School close to his heart, even having the school's name engraved on his Heisman Trophy. Davis quietly donated his Heisman Trophy to Bonita High School, where it is still proudly displayed today.

Davis died on March 9th, 2005 and was buried near his coach on the grounds of West Point. He is survived by his wife Yvonne, his son Ralph and their families.