



NATYCAA | CORNER

NATYCAA is a very special organization, and a lot of it has to do with the following people. I would like to give a special thank you for the hard work and dedication of many, but especially John Volek, 1st Vice President; Gary Broadhurst, 2nd Vice President; and Jim Cox, 3rd Vice President. Volek and Broadhurst currently reside on the NACDA Executive Committee, while Cox served from 2005-09. I would like you all to get to know them better as well.



Carl Heinrich



John Volek began his relationship with Sierra College 42 years ago as a student and football player for the Wolverines from 1965-67. A Placer High School graduate, he was recruited to play football at Sierra by Buzz Ostrom, who became his mentor. Volek received his Master of Education from UC Riverside in 1972.

Volek began coaching young athletes in 1968 as the head wrestling coach and assistant football coach at UC Riverside. This was the beginning of a long and illustrious career of teaching and coaching student-athletes that led him from the beaches of Santa Cruz High School to Mt. San Jacinto College and then to Walla Walla Community College in Washington, where Volek received coach of the year awards in 1985, 1986 and 1987. In 1986, the football team, under his leadership, won a National Championship. In 1988, he moved back to California and directed the Recreational Leadership Program and was the head coach for Fresno City College until 1995, again that year receiving a coach of the year award. Later that same year, Volek took the position as head football coach at California State University Sacramento, and held it until 2003. In his first year as head coach, his team won the American West Conference.

In 2003, Volek was offered and accepted the position as dean of physical education and athletics at Sierra College. Back home again on the familiar soil of his days as a "gritty lineman," Volek has developed the Wolverines athletics teams into national contenders. The first year that he undertook his role as dean, the California Community College Commission on Athletics and NATYCAA named Sierra College first in the nation for overall athletics excellence. Since then, Sierra College athletics has ranked in the top-four positions each year. In 2006, Volek and his teammates were inducted into the Wolverine Athletic Association (WAA) Hall of Fame for their win of the 1966 Lettuce Bowl that landed them the Golden Valley Conference Championship.

Sierra College has been at the heart of so many beginnings for Volek. This is where he met Vicki Merle. He and Vicki, now married for 41 years, have three successful children.

Since 1996, **Gary Broadhurst** has been serving as the director of athletics at Mohawk Valley Community College. During this time, Mohawk Valley student-athletes have received 489 all-conference, 603 all-region, 75 academic all-region, 248 All-American and 46 academic All-American awards. Under his leadership, Mohawk Valley boasts 23 academic All-American teams, 60 conference championships, 34 Region III championships, 92 individual national champions and 10 national championships. Mohawk Valley took home the NATYCAA Cup in 2003-04, while earning runner-up honors in 2004-05 and 2005-06.

Since his tenure began, Broadhurst has increased institutional athletics publicity through the development of a website, men's and women's basketball media guides, individual sport brochures, athletics recruitment video and televised men's and women's basketball games on public access channels. Broadhurst has also overseen a \$250,000 track renovation and assisted with the development and design of a \$4.5 million joint athletics stadium with a neighboring high school. Broadhurst initiated Mohawk Valley's first college-wide athletics retention program and during his first four years as AD, he achieved budgetary increases of 78 percent in the college's budget and 50 percent in the activity fee budget.

Broadhurst is also the head of the physical education department, a member of the NATYCAA Executive Committee, chair of the NJCAA Region III Board of Directors and treasurer of the Mountain Valley Collegiate Conference.

James Cox is the director of athletics at Miami Dade College, located in Miami, Fla. and the largest educational institution in the world with an enrollment of more than 150,000. Cox has served the college for more than 31 years as sports information director, assistant athletics director, and currently as director of athletics since 1997. The Sharks of Miami Dade College are considered a premier program in the NJCAA, with Shark teams winning several national, district, state and conference championships, while also ranking among the nation's top programs in the number of All-Academic honorees.

Cox has served in many leadership roles within the Florida Community College Activities Association as well as the NJCAA, including Chair of the Florida Council for Athletic Affairs; Chair of the Southern Conference; and Chair of the Men's Basketball Committee. He served on the Executive Committee of the Florida Community College Activities Association from 2003-07. Currently, he serves on the Executive Committee of NATYCAA. Cox also serves as assistant region director for men's athletics for the NJCAA and serves on the NJCAA Men's Basketball and Swimming and Diving committees.

A native of Miami, Cox has also worked as Crew Chief for the Miami Heat since its inception in 1987, as well as working as the offensive statistics chief for the Miami Dolphins since 1989, working in four Super Bowls. He is also on the Editorial Board of *Athletic Management* magazine and is a member of the Sports Council for the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce.

Cox is a graduate of St. Thomas University's sports administration program (undergraduate) and received a master's degree in human resources management, also from St. Thomas.

These are the guys that help make NATYCAA such an outstanding Association. When you all come to Anaheim, please look these guys up and thank them for their hard work and dedication! I appreciate what they do for all of us!

Thanks for this article to Carl Heinrich, director of athletics at Johnson County Community College and NATYCAA President.

