

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Pete Lavorato Named The King's Academy Head Football Coach**

SUNNYVALE, Calif, March 21, 2017 — Pete Lavorato has been selected Head Varsity Football Coach for The King's Academy and will officially begin his duties as both teacher and coach, starting with the new school year on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Since 2003, Pete Lavorato has coached football and taught English and drama at Sacred Heart Preparatory in Atherton, California. Lavorato turned the small Atherton private school into a Central Coast Section (CCS) powerhouse. With Lavorato as the head coach for 14 years, his teams achieved a record of 123 wins, 46 losses, and 1 tie. The Gators were the League Champions six times; won five CCS championships, four consecutively; became the NorCal Champions in 2013 and 2015 and had two state championship game appearances. *The San Mateo Daily Journal* (3/21/17) wrote a beautiful article, "[Family, faith, and football](#)," that details his accomplishments, his commitment to his Christian faith, and reasons why he chose to come to TKA: *"I'm a Christian and I'll be able to share my beliefs about a God who loves with a bunch of new kids. I feel very blessed," Lavorato said. "I'm going to be able to share my love for Christ. That's what my whole life is really about, sharing the good news that Jesus loves us. It's not a religion, it's a relationship. That's kind of what drives my life since I was 33 years old."*



**Pete Lavorato**  
Photo: Guy Kawasaki

In 2015, Lavorato was honored at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual National Youth Sports Awards with the [Double-Goal Coach Award](#) for reflecting the Positive Coaching Alliance's mission of "better athletes, better people." [Watch the video tribute](#) honoring him at this event (2:30 min). He explains his coaching philosophy was influenced greatly by the book *Season of Life: A Football Star, a Boy, a Journey to Manhood*, written by Jeffrey Marx, a minister and coach.

The King's Academy Knights have been growing a strong program over the years, playing in the CCS tournament the last three years under the direction of Michael "MJ" Johnson, who recently left to become the receivers coach for the Oregon Ducks. TKA is excited about how Coach Lavorato will build upon the foundation of excellence and attention to cultivating Christian character in the lives of young men that has always been central to TKA's football program. Athletic Director, Joe Maemone commented, *"We are so honored and blessed to have Pete Lavorato join our teaching and coaching staff at TKA. His record and legacy at Sacred Heart Preparatory speaks for itself. He is a man of exemplary character on and off the football field. Most importantly, his commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ is his prime motivation in life. I am confident that he will have a wonderful, lasting influence not only on the young men he coaches, but the entire TKA community."*

Born in Edmonton, Alberta, Pete Lavorato is a former professional Canadian football player who played in the Canadian Football League for ten years. Lavorato played defensive back for the Edmonton Eskimos, BC Lions and Montreal Concordes from 1975 to 1984 and was part of five Grey Cup-winning teams for the Eskimos. Lavorato was an All-Star in 1977. He was a theatre arts major and played college football at Utah State University and acted in professional theatre during his football career.

The King's Academy, an independent, college preparatory school for grades 6-12, is a Christ-centered school that inspires academic excellence, servant leadership, and enduring relationships. The King's Academy is accredited by both the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). For more information, please visit the website at [www.tka.org](http://www.tka.org).

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