JAMIE (PAWID) HAAS

When Jamie (Pawid) Haas sorts through the memories of her tennis career, she surely recalls winning the North Coast Section championship for Castro Valley High, competing at the highest level in junior tournaments and upsetting some top players at Cal and Stanford.

But as much as anything else, she thinks about how lucky she was having two great coaches -- her dad, David Pawid, and St. Mary’s College’s Lisa Alicaz.  And it was with those two influential people in mind that Haas chose to give back as a coach rather than go for the glory as a player when she graduated from the college ranks at St. Mary’s four years ago.

  After moving from Alameda to Castro Valley in eighth grade, Pawid found a home at the Palomares Hills Rec Center, where her dad was the tennis instructor.  But it wasn’t only at Palomares.  You might have found Pawid wherever there was a tennis court, whether it be at Canyon Middle School, where she attended eighth grade, Castro Valley High, where she was a three-year standout and a Class of 2011 graduate, or even the Castro Valley Community Center at nights or on weekends.

       Haas is now the assistant tennis coach at St. Mary’s, which she finds fitting. It was where she played the final three years of her college career, and it was also on those Moraga courts where she became a part of Castro Valley High sports history by winning the NCS singles championship as a freshman.

After a year at the University of Hawaii, where she was the Western Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year and first team All-WAC singles and doubles, Pawid returned to St. Mary’s, where she twice earned All-West Coast Conference honors. She did well enough to earn national Division I rankings as high as 45th in singles and 59th in doubles.

Haas is a Certified Elite Professional by the United States Professional Tennis Association.