MARIE GRAY

 Marie Gray is in her 24th season as the Trojans’ softball coach (including a few years as co-coach with Melanie Alkire) and in that span her teams have won 15 Hayward Area Athletic League championships, including the last eight in a row. Frequently, Castro Valley has progressed deep into the North Coast Section tournament and once (1993) won it all.

 Gray was named All-East Bay Coach of the Year in 1993 and North Coast Section Honor Coach in 1997.

 Gray began competing in organized sports at Redwood High in Visalia shortly after the implementation of Title IX, the law that guaranteed equal rights for women in fields of education, including sports. She started in volleyball and track, then added basketball as a junior and softball as a senior when Redwood began offering those sports to girls.

 From Redwood, Marie went on to College of the Sequoias, where she played softball, volleyball and basketball, then to Cal State Hayward where she competed in the same three sports while earning a degree in kinesiology and later a Masters’ in physical education curriculum and athletic administration.

 Gray began her teaching career in 1984 at Gonzales High School, where she coached three sports, then came to Castro Valley in 1987. She coached girls’ basketball her first eight years at Castro Valley and for four of those years she was also the softball coach.

 Gray became CVHS athletic director in 1994 when John Brosnan retired, sharing the role with Bill Davies for three years before taking over the position exclusively. She served in that capacity until 2010.