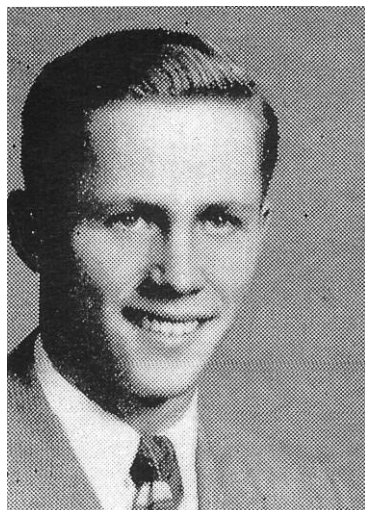


2011 ALHS Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee



Pete Veldman was a three-sport athlete at Albert Lea High School and graduated in 1951.

On the track and field team, Veldman was a three-time letterwinner and competed in the high hurdles, 440-yard dash, shot put and discus throw. He qualified for the state meet in the high hurdles in 1951.

Veldman was a two-year letterwinner in football and wrestling and was state heavyweight champion in 1951.

Veldman attended the University of Minnesota where he played football from 1951 to 1953. Following his sophomore season, Veldman served military duty in Korea for 16 months before returning to college.

Back at the U of M, Veldman wrestled from 1957 to 1959 and won two Big Ten Conference team championships. Individually, Veldman placed third and fourth in the Big Ten and wrestled in three NCAA Championships.

Veldman went on to teach physical education and health in the South St. Paul School District and won district championships in 1963 and 64 as the high school's head wrestling coach.

Veldman was named South St. Paul's athletic director in 1964 and was a leader in the fight to add women's athletics in the early 1970s.

Veldman has been inducted into athletic hall of fames including the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2009.

Veldman currently lives in South St. Paul.