

## VINCE STANICH

BY BILL CONLIN

Vincent F. Stanich, who died October 27 (1995) at age 88, was a hale fellow of many facets—federal employee, restaurateur, accountant, bar owner, auto dealer, sales manager, beverage general manager, thrift bank director, and baseball historian.

But the object of his greatest enthusiasm, and his only non-professional activity other than his deep involvement with the Church, was his enthusiasm for the **La Salle Club** of Christian Brothers High School.

Vince was the dominant force in organizing and perpetuating the La Salle Club's **Hall of Fame**. This was truly a labor of love. It brought recognition—and elation—to ten individuals each year, and now includes more than 100 honorees who have been selected on their contribution to sports, either amateur or professional.

As we say, Vince's enthusiasm for the Hall of Fame knew no bounds. As soon as one class had been installed at an annual banquet in the CBS gymnasium, the perennial chairman started planning for the next year.

This planning took the form of regular breakfast sessions in **Joe Marty's El Chico** bar & grill. Vince presided, and in similar solemnity secretary **Bill Svlich** wrote down and transcribed the minutes.

It is a concern of all of us what will happen to the Hall of Fame. The La Salle Club itself, thanks to **Don Gillott** and **Brother Stephen** (Rusyn), is on firmer footing than ever before. But the Hall of Fame?

The electric light, to be sure, survived Thomas Edison and so, perhaps will the CBS Hall of Fame continue after its founder's focus, but it won't be the same. Vincent F. Stanich literally invented this highly-publicized adjunct of the school, and who is there with the dedication and enthusiasm to keep it going?

This lone vote would be for **Jim Keating** ('55), who is already over-extended on behalf of the school.

Assuredly, and as we've previously noted, our friend of almost 60 years will be missed. Vince leaves a huge void.



# Vincent Stanich, sports historian and columnist

By Steve Gibson  
Bee Staff Writer

The group of old-time sports fans who refer to themselves informally as the El Chico Chowder Society mourned one of their own this week.

Vincent F. Stanich, Sacramento businessman, civic leader and sports historian, died Tuesday morning at Sutter General Hospital of complications stemming from recent surgery. He was 88.

"He never missed one of our meetings," said Bill Conlin, retired sports editor of The Bee, of



Vincent Stanich

the Tuesday luncheon gatherings at Joe Marty's El Chico, a bar and restaurant at 1500 Broadway. "We all lost a good friend."

For more than three decades, Mr. Stanich wrote a column about amateur and semi-pro baseball that ran each Sunday in the now-defunct Sacramento Union. The column was called "Behold the Bushers."

"He was an authority on baseball and boxing," Conlin said.

A native of Sacramento and a graduate of Sacramento High School, Mr. Stanich was involved in sports all his life. He was a past president of the old Placer Nevada Baseball League, a semi-pro league with teams from Grass Valley, Colfax, Lincoln, Auburn and Roseville.

He once worked as sales manager for the old E.A. Boyd Chrysl-

er dealership, which later became Vandenberg Motors. At another point in his career, he was sales manager for Rainbow Liquor Co.

In the 1950s, he was a fight announcer for boxing matches at Sacramento Memorial Auditorium.

Mr. Stanich was a past president of the Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau, the local chapter of the Serra Club and the La Salle Club. He was a member of the Sacramento Valley Boxing Association's Hall of Fame and the Baseball Hall of Fame, sponsored by the La Salle Club of Christian Brothers High School.

In 1991, he was named Slavic Man of the Year by the American Slavic Club.

He is survived by his wife, Alma; sons Vincent Jr. of Sacra-

mento and Dr. Miles Stanich, an internist who lives in San Diego; a daughter, Christine McCarty of Rockford, Ill.; a brother, Stanley Stanich of Sacramento; and nine grandchildren.

The family said a scholarship fund in Mr. Stanich's memory has been established at Christian Brothers High School. Contributions can be sent to: Vincent Stanich Scholarship Fund, c/o Christian Brothers High School, 4315 Martin Luther King Blvd., Sacramento, 95820.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday at Holy Spirit Church, 3159 Land Park Drive.

Friends are welcome for visitation starting at 5 p.m. today at Culjis, Miller, Skelton & Herberger Chapel of the Valley, 1525 Alhambra Blvd.

