



**Heather
Greenwood Harper**

HEATHER GREENWOOD HARPER: Overcoming the absence of a 50-meter pool in Fresno at the time, Heather Greenwood left many of the world's finest swimmers in her wake during the mid-1970s.

Among her most notable achievements was setting a world record of 4 minutes, 17.33 seconds in the 400-meter freestyle June 28, 1974 in the Santa Clara Invitational at the age of 16. Four months earlier, the Hoover High School student set American short-course records in the 200, 400 and 800 freestyle at Bremen, West Germany.

In the summer of 1975, Greenwood continued to rank among the world's best — becoming the American long-course record holder in the 800 free and placing second in the same event at the World Championships in Cali, Colombia. That fall, she followed her brother Mark, also a world-class swimmer, to the University of Southern California.

The Olympics beckoned in 1976, but Greenwood failed to make the U.S. team and announced her retirement shortly thereafter.

Coached by her father, Ron, and Gene Stephens, Greenwood set numerous age-group records with the Fresno Swim Club.