A trip down memory lane at SCC

Now if someone can persuade the old coach to slip on those weathered short pants, the snug ones with the circular mark of his chewing tobacco can on the back pocket, then you’ll really have some comedic value.

As it stands, that garment is retired. But the coach – Jerry Sullivan – is about to lead the charges again. Sacramento City College’s snarling, triumphant throwback football firebrand of the 1980s will headline a 25-year reunion of the Panthers’ 12-0 squad of 1981. The event is Nov. 10 at the Dante Club. Those Panthers will be inducted into the SCC Hall of Fame to celebrate their mythical national championship and their legacy as the most dominant community college outfit in regional history.

Best known as Sully, he worked tirelessly this summer with SCC basketball coach and noted Panthers history buff Andrew Jones to put together a DVD from game footage. The memories came flooding back: Donald Evans at quarterback, (a smaller version of a Michael Vick); receiver Kevin Bowman of Burbank; tailback Bucky Sumpter of South Carolina; linemen Dale Cogan of Casa Roble; Bernardo Valenzuela of Encina; Joe Carter of Placer; and defensive back Sean Thomas of Burbank, among others.

Sully inherited a program that had lost 22 consecutive games.

“Watching all this old stuff, great memories,” Sully said. “We may have to suit up one last time.”