SPORTS HALL OF FAME NUAL INDUCTION BANQUET NEW MEXICO EL SP **ROB EVANS** KANSAS STATE NICK PINO CAROLYN THOMPSON DANNY ROMERO 451 **JIMMY COLLINS** PATRADTS HOLLY **PRESENTING PARTNER** HOLM MARTY SAIZ'S ALAN BRANCH **STATE FARM AGENCY**

AUGUST 15, 2021



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET AGENDA

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HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE Alan Branch HIGH SCHOOL MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR Connor O;Toole, La Cueva - Football & Track HIGH SCHOOL FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR Carnen Corley, Eldorado - Tennis

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE Nick Pino

COLLEGIATE MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR Nick Gonzales, New Mexico St - Baseball PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Pascal Siakim, Toronto Raptors HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Carolyn Thompson HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF THE YEAR West Mesa Girls Basketball

HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

Manny Otero, West Mesa Girls' Basketball

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COLLEGIATE TEAM OF THE YEAR **UNM Women's Cross Country** COLLEGIATE FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR Weini Kelati, University of New Mexico - Cross Country & Track COLLEGIATE COACH OF THE YEAR Joe Franklin, University of New Mexico Women's Cross Country & Track Coach HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE Danny Romero HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF THE YEAR

Albuquerque Boys Soccer PROMOTION OF THE YEAR National Senior Games

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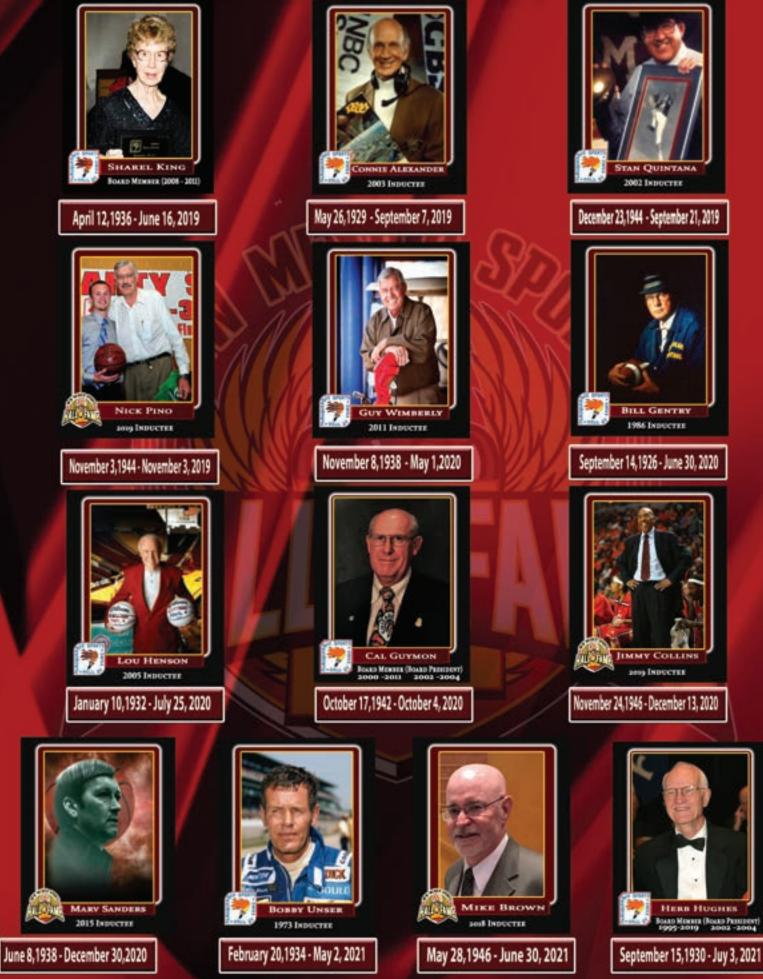
Dick Johnson, Board President

SOUVENIR PROGRAM Marty Saiz & David Lansa, Designers & Mark Smith, Editor

INDUCTEE PORTRAITS Anthony Griego

ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS PLAQUES All Sports Trophies - Kent Mathis

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🕷 CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE 📠

Born: December 29, 1984 **Rio Rancho, New Mexico** High School : Cibola High School 2005 College: University of Michigan

High School

He was a phenomenal athlete. He was a 4-year letterman in football and basketball, which is rare in high school sports

Football

- · Alan displayed tremendous versatility by playing defensive tackle, tight end, tailback and punt returner in high school.
- 2001 State Farm/Albuquerque Journal First Team Tight End and First Team Defensive Tackle
 2001 Only sophomore on the First Team All-State Offense and Defense
- 2002 6-5 4-1 District playoff team
 2002 State Farm/Albuquerque Journal First Team Defensive Tackle
- · 2002 1st Team All State as a Defensive Tackle,
- 2003 State Farm/Albuquerque Journal First Team Tight End and First Team Defensive Tackle
- 2003 First Team All-State as Defensive Tackle and Second Team All-State Tight End, despite only playing half the season at the position. Alan was moved to the fullback position for the second half of the season. · He scored three touchdowns from the running back position in his senior year. He also caught two touchdown
- passes from the tight end position in that same time period.
- The Cougars were defeated in the semi-final game against Carlsbad.
- · His biggest honor was the Gatorade Player of the Year announcement in his senior season, which signified him being the best football player in New Mexico for the 2004-05 year.
- Highly regarded recruit coming out of high school, ranked as high as #6 nationally among defensive tackles
 Selected to the ESPN All-American Bowl in December of 2014 as a defensive tackle. During that All-Star game, he officially announced that he would be attending the University of Michigan, at that time, under the coaching helm of Lloyd Carr.
- Basketball
- Three-year starter on the varsity basketball team/
- Starting center when the Cougars advanced to the NMAA State Finals in March of 2005. Unfortunately, the Cougars were defeated by Eldorado in that championship game.
- · Earning all-district honors as a sophomore and was second team all-state as a junior.
- Named the Cibola High School's Athlete of the Year in 2004-05.

College:

- 2005 Immediately earned a starting spot on the defensive line at Michigan in his freshman year and continued to star in his sophomore year.
- He had 57 tackles, 17 tackles for loss, and nine sacks in 35 career games at Michigan. I
- · 2006 Played against Nebraska in the Alamo Bowl during his freshman season.
- 2007 sophomore year, Alan played in the Rose Bowl against USC.
- In his two years at Michigan, the Wolverines were 20-3 with two bowl appearances.
- · 2006 Earned ESPN All-America Honors and 1st Team All Big-10 Honors .
- · Declared for the NFL Draft after his junior year.

Professional Football

Alan was the first pick in the second round in the 2007 NFL Draft , where he was selected by the Arizona Cardinals. Alan earned two Super Bowl rings during his 10-year career in the National Football League (NFL). He played for four NFL Teams. In his career, he had 279 total tackles, 10.5 quarterback sacks, 14 Pass deflections, 5 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery, which was in the Super Bowl LI win over the Atlanta Falcons. Arizona Cardinals

· Alan played four years with the Arizona Cardinals, appearing in a Super Bowl against the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 2008 season

Pro Football Writers Associations All-Rookie Team

Seattle Seahawks

After the 2010 season, Branch signed a two-year contract with the Seattle Seahawks. He started 31 games in his two years with the Seahawks, where he recorded 63 tackles and 4 sacks from the tackle position. **Buffalo Bills**

 In 2012, he signed a one-year contract with the Buffalo Bills. After a brief one-year stint with the Bills. **New England Patriots**

- · 2014 Alan signed a 1-year contract with the New England Patriots.
- 2015 Re-signed with the Patriots on a two-year deal worth a maximum of \$6.6 million
- · 2016 Helped the Patriots win 14 games and earn the top seed for the AFC playoffs
- 2017 February 5th Able to duplicate the Super Bowl feat when the Patriots beat the Atlanta Falcons 34-28 in overtime. The Patriots trailed 28–3 in the third quarter, but rallied all the way back to win the game, which fea tured the first overtime game in Super Bowl history and the largest comeback in the Super Bowl. Branch record ed three tackles, 0.5 sacks, and a crucial fumble recovery in the game.
- 2017 March 9, 2017, Branch signed a two-year, \$12 million contract extension with the Patriots. Branch played 12 games in the 2017 season and recorded 12 tackles. Branch was inactive for the playoffs, but the Patriots s made it to the Super Bowl without him only to fall to the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl LII.
- 2018 March 6the Patriots declined the option on Branch's contract, making him a free agent in 2018.
- 2017 New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame Special Recognition Award
 2017 Inducted into the Cibola Athletic Hall of Fame







Proviewnetworks.com

distan



CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE

NICK PINO JR.

he 7-foot, 1-inch basketball sensation was known for a few nicknames, including "Nick The Stick" and "The Gentle Giant."

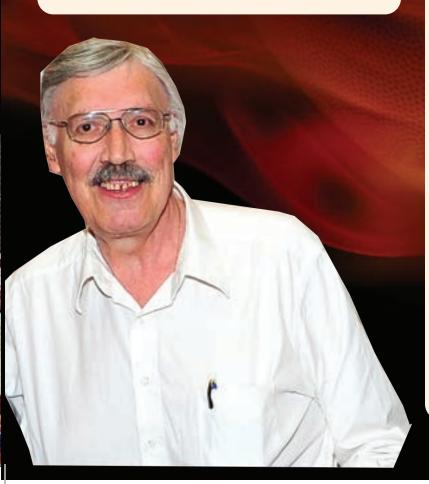
His family closest friends might best remember him as "The Dash," for his philosophical nature, as well as he talents and good-hearted nature.

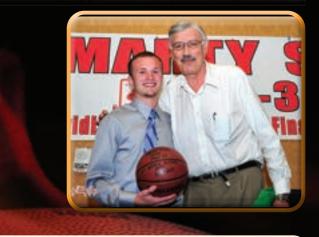
Nick often talked about the "dash" being so important. "You're given a birth date, and upon death you are given a death date," he said. Therefore, you must fill your dash in between your birth date and your death date with as many positive life events (as possible), doing the best in all that you do."

Nick had plenty of positives during his dash; Nov. 3, 1944 – Nov. 3, 2019.

As a sophomore at Santa Fe St. Michael's High School, basketball coach Dick Shelley realized Nick's basketball potential and began working on his individual skills. Nick developed into one of the most prolific prep players in the country, garnering high school All-American honors and receiving more than 100 college scholarship offers.

In his senior year (1962-1963), he broke the state's





record for points in a game with 80 against El Rito High School. He still holds the state record for made free throws in a game with 26 against Espanola Valley.

He held the state record for most points in a season for 50 years (1,033 points) until it was broken by Bryce Alford at La Cueva (1,050) in 2013. At the State Farm Insurance Metro Banquet honoring Albuquerque area basketball players in 2013, Nick presented Alford the basketball that he was given in 1963 when he set the previous record.

In college, Nick became one of the most successful players in Kansas State history, developing an unstoppable sky hook while playing post in the famous Tex Winter "Triangle Offense."

In 1968, Kansas State won the Big 8 Conference championship and went to the NCAA Tournament where it finished in fourth place in the Midwest Regional. Nick was drafted by the Los Angeles Lakers and had a tryout with the 1968 USA Olympic Team, but an unfortunate knee injury in the Lakers' preseason brought a temporary halt to Nick's career.

In 1971-72, Nick played professionally in Mexico for the Santo de San Luis Basketball Organization, which won the Mexico National Title. Nick called his professional career in Mexico one of the most rewarding times in his career.

Upon retiring from basketball, Nick opened an insurance agency in Manhattan, Kan., that turned out to be highly successful.

In 1985, Nick returned to Santa Fe to care for his parents and be closer to the rest of his family. He is continued in the insurance business.

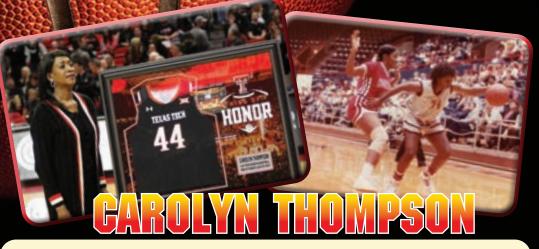
Nick Pino, without a doubt, filled in his dash positively throughout his wonderful life!

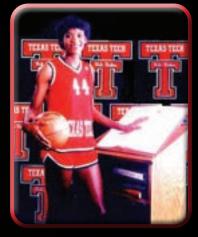




Car Crafters has been an official partner of the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame for the past 8 years and we are proud to continue to support such a wonderful event.

Congratulations to this year's inductees as well as all the current members of the HOF. Thanks for making New Mexico athletics something we can all be proud of! CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE





arolyn Thompson is one of the greatest players in both Texas Tech women's basketball and New Mexico high school sports history. And one of the greatest athletes, period. She proved that time and time again while growing up in the place in which she takes so much pride – Hobbs.

"It's almost a rite of passage," she says of playing sports and being a Hobbs native. She excelled in three sports: basketball, volleyball and track and field.

The records that Carolyn set at Hobbs High and Texas Tech will be hard to ever match.

She was so phenomenal in all three sports at Hobbs, that it was volleyball – not basketball – that originally took her to Texas Tech.

She also won a high school state title in the high jump as a senior and was the Lady Eagles' leading scorer in basketball as a junior and senior. She led the team to the semifinals of the state tournament in her final year.

Carolyn is Texas Tech's all-time leading scorer. When she graduated in 1984, she was the fourth-leading scorer of all time in women's college basketball. She currently ranks 28th. She set 18 school records at Tech and led the Red Raiders to a 23-7 record and the first Division I tournament appearance in school history. She was a three-time All-American.

She said her greatest thrills at Tech were to lead the Red Raiders to be a "better-than-ever competitive team" and being "the first female athlete at Texas Tech to have my number retired." She was her team's MVP all four years at Tech, made all-Southwest Conference for three years, from 1982-1984, and was the league's MVP her senior year.

In 1992, Carolyn was named the Southwest Conference Player of the Decade and in 1996 was named the Southwest Conference "all-time player."

Carolyn has been inducted into the Texas Tech Hall of Honor, the Southwest Conference Hall of Fame and the Texas Tech Lady Raider Ring of Honor.

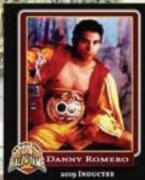
Carolyn has been a head coach at Lubbock Estacado for 10 years. She has been a school administrator for her entire career since graduating from Texas Tech and is principal at an alternative school in Lubbock.

Carolyn's philosophy as an educator is "every day that I come through the door, I say to myself that I am going to do something to change a student's life for the better."





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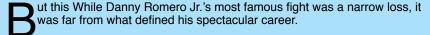
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CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE





Nicknamed "Kid Dynamite," Romero was a national Golden Gloves champion at age 8 and won his first of three world titles at 20.

The Albuquerque native, who owns Hideout Boxing Gym and works as a trainer and mentor to so many -- including underprivileged and troubled youth -- learned the business from his coach, manager and father, Danny Romero Sr.

"What did he mean to me?" Danny says of his late father. "Everything. He was my world."

Danny Sr. passed away from a rare liver disease in 2019 -- but not before he saw his son become a Burque boxing legend.

Danny Jr. won his first eight professional fights -- seven by knockout -- and devastated one opponent after another on the way to capturing the IBF's world Flyweight title in April of 1995 with a 12-round unanimous decision over Francisco Tejedor at the MGM Grand Arena in Las Vegas.

Romero lost the title later that year when he had a fight stopped due to an eye injury, despite being ahead on all scorecards. But he soon started back toward the top, and won back his world title as well as one in another weight class -- despite the lingering effects of the eye injury.

Meanwhile, Albuquerque and much of the boxing world were buzzing about its two boxing greats -- Romero and Johnny Tapia -- and wanted to see them in the ring against each other.

Loyalties for the fighters divided so many in the Duke City, and there was fear that holding the fight in town could lead to chaos - or worse.

On July 18, 1997, the two finally met in Las Vegas to unify the IBF and WBO world Super Flyweight championships.

Tapia won a close 12-round decision in a spectacular fight on HBO.

The two never met again, but in 2003, in front of his hometown crowd, Danny took a 12-round unanimous decision over Trinidad Mendoza to win his third world title in three different weight classes, this time the IBA's Super-Bantam-weight title.

His final bout was a TKO victory on July 1, 2006, giving him a career record of 45-5-2 -- and ensuring his place as one of the very greatest athletes in New Mexico sports history.











CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE

n December 6, 2015, then New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez held a Holly Holm Day at Civic Plaza in Downtown Albuquerque.

Thousands of New Mexico citizens lined the streets to celebrate one of the greatest mixed martial arts upsets of all time:

Holly had defeated undefeated and renowned fighter, Rhonda Rousey, in Melbourne, Australia on November 15, 2015.

The victory earned Holly the UFC Women's Bantamweight Championship. It was considered by many news outlets as the national sports headline of the year.

It also placed Albuquerque on the mixed martial arts map for both Holly and her trainer Mike Winklejohn.

Holly is a 2000 graduate of Manzano High School where she was a multisport athlete. She first gained national fame as a boxer.

Ring Magazine's named her the female fighter of the year in 2005 and 2006. Holly earned championship belts in weight divisions from 140-to-154. She concluded her professional boxing career in 2011 and pursued a new career in mixed martial arts later that year.

This successive run in MMA over a course of four years led to Holm landing the fight with Rousey. The shocking upset also gave Holly the distinction of holding world championship belts in both boxing and MMA -- a truly remarkable feat.

Holly, arguably, has been one of the most successful professional women athletes in the history of New Mexico.

She continues to train and fight professionally.







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CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE

immy Collins said that his most significant sports achievement was accepting a basketball scholarship at New Mexico State.

"Because that's truly where basketball became my profession," he said.

It was also one of the most significant achievements in Aggies history, as Jimmy became one of the school's greatest players and helped it to its greatest hoop moment – reaching the 1970 Final Four.

Coming from the rough neighborhoods of Syracuse, N.Y., Jimmy dreamed of being a disc jockey or a singer. While at NMSU, he was a part-time disc jockey at the local radio station. Jimmy had a great high school career at Corcoran High School where he was three-time, first-team All-City. In 2018, Syracuse.com voted Jimmy the greatest high school player ever from Central New York.

In 1966, Jimmy was part of the first recruiting class for legendary NMSU coach Lou Henson. Henson recruited Collins without ever seeing him play in high school.

Collins had been identified as a top prospect by the father of Aggies assistant coach and Syracuse native, Ed Murphy.

Collins spent four days on a bus traveling from Syracuse to Las Cruces, "Because I'd never been on an airplane and no one in my family ever had," Jimmy said. "The tales of the horrors of airplane crashes got larger as the flight came closer, so I took a bus.

"When I got there, coach said, 'Let's see how high you jump and how you shoot the ball.' After four days on the bus, I couldn't do either. I imagine he was asking Murphy why he brought me there."

Jimmy led the Aggies to the NCAA Tournament three times, including the historic Final Four appearance. He was team captain his junior and senior years and is the only Aggie in program history to earn multiple All-America honors. Jimmy left NMSU as the school's leading scorer and still ranks third on the Aggies' alltime scoring list with 1,734 points.

Jimmy was the 11th pick in the first round by the Chicago Bulls. He played two seasons for the Bulls.

In 1973, Henson hired Jimmy as a graduate assistant at NMSU, and in 1983, he joined Henson's staff at the University of Illinois. In 1989, the two were back to another Final Four as coaches at Illinois.

Jimmy landed his first head coaching job at the University of Illinois-Chicago in 1996. He retired in 2010 as the school's winningest coach and took it to the NCAA Tournament three times.

Jimmy says his biggest influence was his mother, Lorraine Collins, who "gave me the courage to always fight and work hard for what I wanted, and to do the right thing."







CONGRATULATIONS!

NM Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

Holly Holm, Carolyn Thompson

Danny Romero, Rob Evans

Jimmy Collins, Alan Branch

& Nick Pino



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CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE







Bade Evants

ROBERT EVANS

Represent the legendary Hobbs High School coach Ralph Tasker in 1963-1964. As the team captain, he led the Eagles to a 26-2 record and the 2A championship game, losing to Roswell High 80-79.

Rob was also a three-year letterman on the baseball team and was drafted out of the high school by the Colt 45s, which eventually became the Houston Astros.

Rob played two years at Lubbock Christian Junior College, was the school's first All-American and was voted the team's best defensive players both years.

He became close friends with teammate Gerald Turner, who would later impact his career.

He finished his collegiate career at New Mexico State and twice led the Aggies to the NCAA Tournament. He was team captain and MVP his senior year.

The 1967-1968 Aggies went 23-6 and made it to the Far West Regionals in Albuquerque where they lost to Lew Alcindor and UCLA before beating host New Mexico in the consolation game.

In 1968, Rob signed a free agent contract with the Oakland Raiders, despite only playing on the junior varsity on his high school football team. The Raiders sent a promising assistant coach named John Madden to Las Cruces to convince Evans that he could be a top-flight wide receiver. Instead, Rob became the first black coach in NMSU athletic history when he became the freshmen basketball coach.

"It goes back to my high school coach, Ralph Tasker," Evans said. "I saw the impact he had on young people. The impact he had on all those young people in the classroom and basketball court, that's what I wanted to do. That's why I got into coaching."

In 1992, Turner, his old Lubbock Christian teammate, was the chancellor at the University of Mississippi and was a driving force behind hiring Rob to his first head college coaching job. Turner was convinced the time was right for the school's first black coach. Rob was his man.

The Rebels went to the NCAA Tournament in 1997 and 1998. They were nationally ranked for the first time in school history in the 1997-98 season, getting as high as No. 10. Rob was named the 1997 College Hoop Insider.com National Coach of the Year.

After six years at Ole Miss, Rob was head coach at Arizona State for eight years.

Today, Rob works as an Assistant Athletic Director at SMU for President and LCU teammate, Gerald Turner. Rob and his high school sweetheart, "best assistant coach ever," Carolyn, have been married for almost 50 years and have two children, Damon and Amber.











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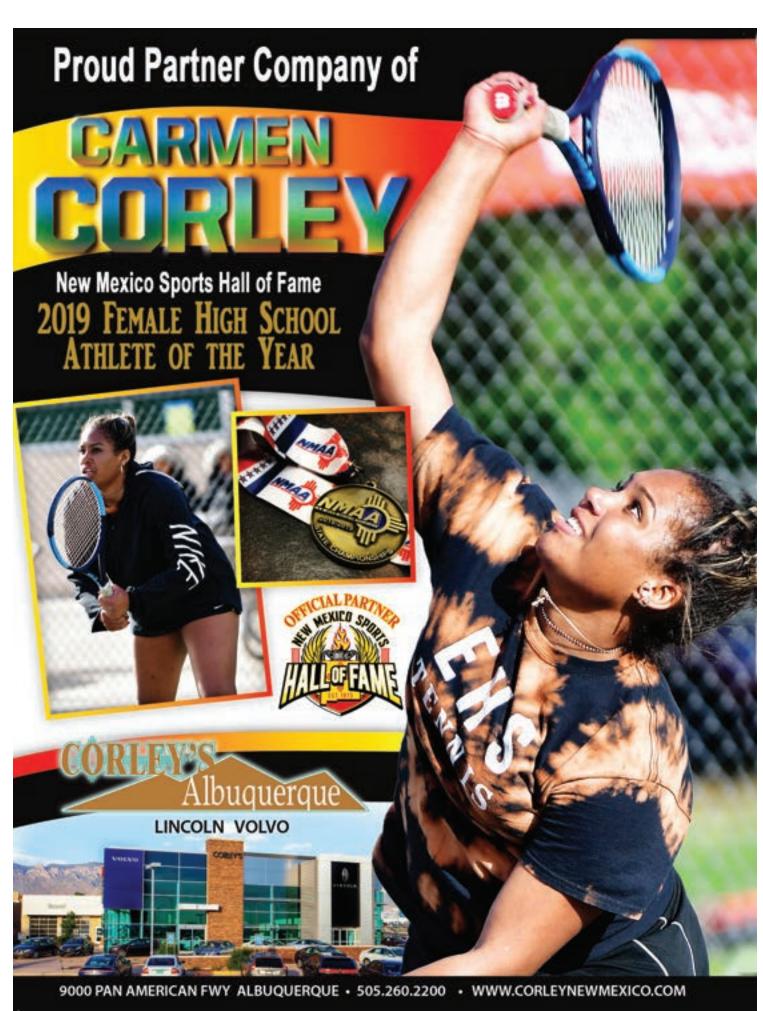


onnor is a two-sport star for the La Cueva High School Bears. He was a two-time 5A All-State first team wide receiver and instrumental for the Bears' 2018 state championship team.

SEAMATHONTPHOTO

Connor, a 3.8 GPA student, was the most highly recruited football player in the state the past two years and had offers from the likes of LSU, Baylor, Arkansas and UNM among many others. He eventually chose the University of Utah.

Connor was outstanding during the 2019 spring track season. He was 5A state champion in the 300-meter hurdles, finished second in the 100 meters, third in the 200 meters and fourth in the long jump. He ran the anchor on the Bears' third place 4x100 relay team.





ELDORADO HIGH SCHOOL

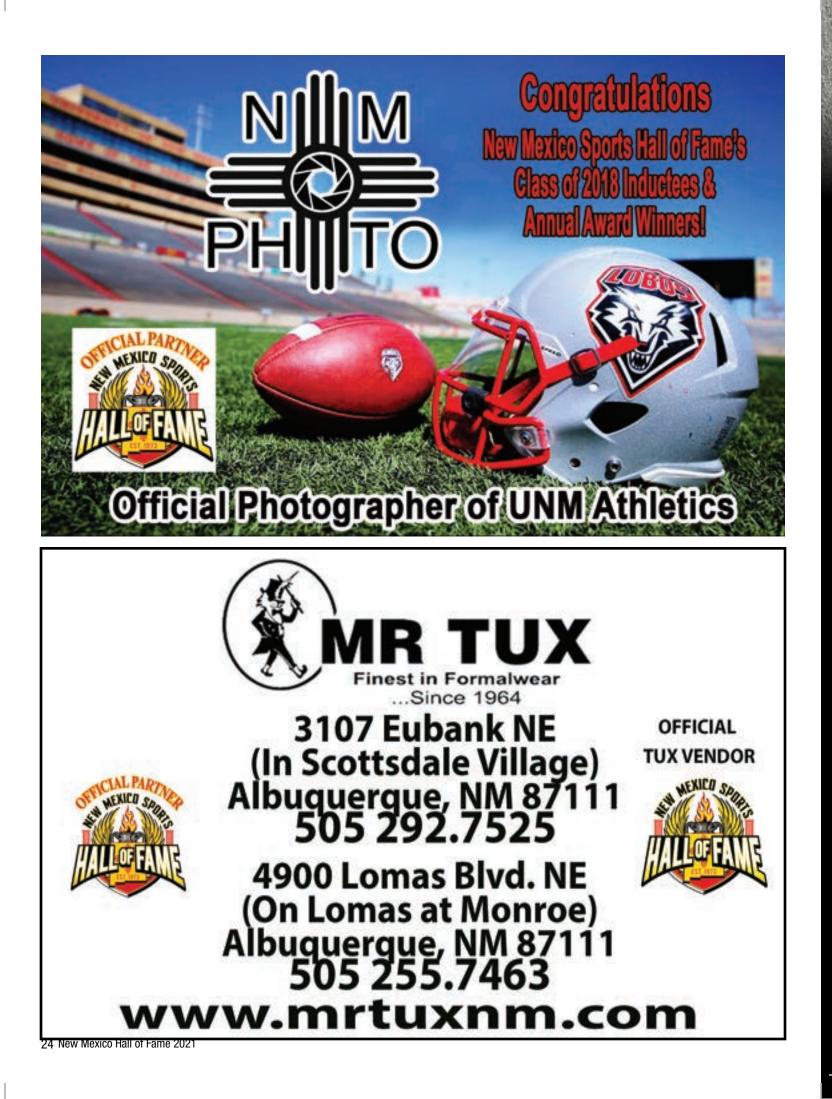


he name Corley has been synonymous with women's tennis in Albuquerque and New Mexico for many years. For the past three years, Carmen Corley has been the sport's dominant female in the high school ranks in New Mexico.

During that period, she won two 5A individual state championships for Eldorado High School. Her first title came as a freshman in 2017, and she took it again as a junior in 2019. The Albuquerque Journal named Carmen the 2019 Metro Tennis Athlete of the Year, and she was ranked as high as ninth nationally by tennisrecruiting.net.

Carmen has also been very successful in regional tennis tournaments, winning the singles and doubles titles at the 2019 ITA Summer Circuit in Denver; a doubles title in Tyler, Texas; and advanced through qualifying to the quarterfinals at the Norman 15K.

In December, Carmen graduated a semester early from Eldorado in order to attend the University of Oklahoma on a tennis scholarship with her sister, Ivana. In a recent press release, Oklahoma women's tennis head coach says, "Carmen has proven that she has the level to have an immediate impact on our singles and doubles lineups, all while still having a lot of room to grow. I'm sure you won't hear too many complaints from tennis coaches in New Mexico."





UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO



Www. Weini Kelati put together a season for the record books in track and cross country. As as sophomore, she broke three school records (mile, 3,000-meter, 10,000-meter), won a Mountain West indoor championship in the mile and won an outdoor title in the 10,000-meter. She also was runner-up in the 5,000-meter at the indoor championship and claimed five All-American honors - one in cross country, two in indoor and two in outdoor.

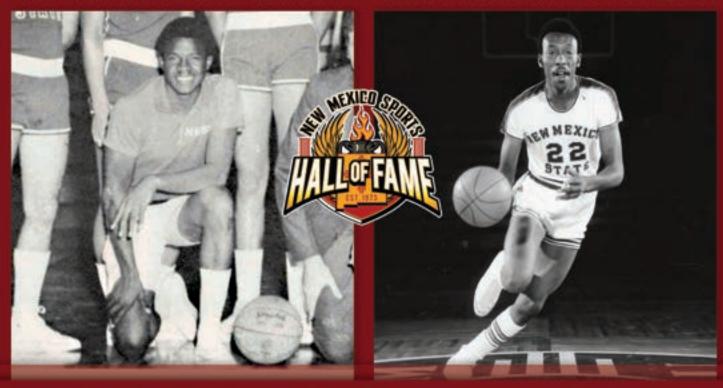
However, there may have been no bigger moment on the track than on June 6, 2019, when Kelati won her first national championship in the 10,000-meter and became just the second Lobo to win a championship on the women's side, breaking a facility record in the process.

The success continued to the 2019 cross country season where Kelati cruised to a MW championship, an NCAA regional title and the national championship. Kelati was named the Honda Sports Award winner for cross country, the highest honor for a cross country student-athlete.

Other accolades for the Lobo were the USTFCCCA National Women's Athlete of the Year, Women's Conference Athlete of the Year for the second straight year and the Mountain Region Athlete of the Year. She was twice named the USTFC-CCA NCAA Division I National Athlete of the Week and twice named the MW Women's Peak Athlete of the Week.

ROB EVANS 2019 NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

JIMMY COLLINS 2019 NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



CONGRATULATIONS



NICK GONZALES 2019 NEW MEXICO SPORTS COLLEGIATE MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR PASCAL SIAKAM 2019 NEW MEXICO SPORTS PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



NICK CONZALES NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY



Automatical and the season in a season in a season in addition to finishing with the fifth-highest batting average and fifth-most runs scored (80) in school history for a season.

The second basemen led the nation in batting average while also ranking in the top ten nationally in slugging percentage (third), hits (fourth), runs (fourth), RBI (fifth), OBP (fifth), total bases (sixth) and sacrifice flies (eighth). He was a finalist for the Bobby Bragan Collegiate Slugger Award and a semifinalist for the Golden Spikes National Player of the Year Award.





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he former New Mexico State basketball star was instrumental in the Toronto Raptors' NBA Championship last year, the first in franchise history.

The 25-year-old forward introduced himself to NBA fans with a 32-point performance in Game 1 of the NBA Finals. He put an exclamation mark on that with a 26-point, 10-rebound performance in Toronto's championship-clinching Game 6 win.

Siakam's numbers in his third NBA season jump off the page. In 80 starts, he averaged career-highs with 16.9 points, 6.9 rebounds and 3.1 assists, while shooting 54.9 percent from the floor and 36.9 percent from beyond the arc.

He was honored as the NBA's Most Improved Player for the 2018-2019 season. Siakam became the first player in NBA history to win the NBA's award in the same season he was an NBA champion. It is impossible not to root for the tenacious Siakam while watching him play, but his motivations run deeper than seeing his name surrounded by accolades in print.

Siakam lost his father, Tchamo, in a car accident in 2014. He often speaks of his father's impact, and how he motivated him to play in the NBA.

"For people that know my story, they know how important my dad is," Siakam said. "He had this crazy dream ... he always believed this would be possible one day. Me being here, I'm just blessed to make his dream become a reality and have an opportunity to keep it alive."

Pascal had another great season following his breakout year, and was named as a starter in the NBA All-Star Game.

Pascal, nicknamed "Spicy P," was Western Athletic Conference Player of the Year in 2016. Toronto selected him as the 27th overall pick in the first round of the 2016 NBA Draft.

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PROMOTION OF THE YEAR



NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES



2019 National Senior Games Has \$34 Million Positive Economic Impact on Albuquerque

The 2019 National Senior Games (NSG) Presented by Humana and held June 14-25, 2019, in Albuquerque, N.M., attracted 13,712 athletes who competed in 20 events. The record-breaking number of athletes at this event—14 percent more than the previous record and 30 percent higher than the previous year—along with their fans and families used 24,000 room nights and helped create a \$34 million positive economic impact on Albuquerque.

This event was a true collaborative effort across the city. It included 21 venues throughout Albuquerque, 5,500 volunteers and many organizations coming together to support the influx of 25,000 spectators and tourists. These efforts included direct support of the games, in addition to ancillary activities such as a trade show, health and wellness clinics, social outings and community celebrations of the athletes.

In the past several months, the games have won or been nominated for several awards, including the New Mexico Hospitality Association Top Hat Award for 2019 Outstanding Event; the Sport Destination Management Mid-Market Champions, Champions of Economic Impact in Sports Tourism award; and the Event Service Professionals Association Meeting Professional of the Year.

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CARLISLE'S WARRANTY OPTIONS

ACTOR



CF THE YEAR



JOE FRANKLIN



n his 12 years at the helm of The University of New Mexico cross country and track and field program, head coach Joe Franklin reached unprecedented success during the 2018-19 season.

The women's program put together the best finish in program history at both the 2019 indoor and outdoor national championships and combined with a runner-up finish at the 2018 cross country championships, finished second in the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association's Program of the Year Program of the Year for the 2018-2019 season, which is the highest finish in program history. Furthermore, for the second straight year, the Lobo women finished as the top non-Power 5 conference school at the NCAA championships.

The Lobos added 13 All-America honors to the overall program total in track, nine of which were of the first team distinction, and three All-Americans in cross country including a national champion in Weini Kelati. Kelati's individual cross-country national title was UNM's second individual champion in the last three years in the sport. The University of New Mexico women's and men's track and field team qualified 17 student-athletes in 10 events with 21 entries total for the NCAA West Preliminaries.

In 2019, Franklin led the Lobos to their 12th consecutive Mountain West women's' cross-country championship and a fourth-place finish at the NCAA Cross Country Championships, marking its third top-four finish in four years. In addition, and of note, UNM's result continued the streak to 10 straight top-10 finishes, the longest streak in the NCAA. Franklin was named the Women's Conference Coach of the Year for the 11th straight time.



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Ashley Duran State Farm Agent

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DF THE YEAR



MANNY OTERO



anny has a career record of 109-41 in his six seasons as head coach of the West Mesa girls basketball team and led the Mustangs to the state title last year with a 28-3 record.

The third-seeded Mustangs beat top-seeded Hobbs Eagles 63-51 in the title game for the program's first state championship.

The Mustangs also captured the Albuquerque Metro Championships for the third-straight year, beating then-undefeated La Cueva 46-38.

Manny was named 5A Metro Girls Basketball Coach of the Year and the USA Today's New Mexico Girls Basketball Coach of the Year.

When Manny took over the program, it rarely made the state tournament. But it didn't take long for Manny – a former Albuquerque High star who was a standout player at Marist – to build it into a powerhouse.

In 2017, his young team was the No. 14 seed, and it lost in the first round of the state tournament. It was the No. 3 seed in 2018 and lost in the quarterfinals. Then came 2019, and it was all the way to the top.

Otero's father, the late David Otero, played basketball for West Mesa and the University of New Mexico.

"I remember his intensity," Manny told EnchantmentSports.com last year. "He was passionate about what he did and how he did it. There are memories and thoughts, along with his presence, that I feel all the time. Especially on the basketball court."



³⁶ New Mexico Hall of Fame 2021

AWARD OF DISTINCTION FRED HULTBERC

red is well-known for his outstanding job as executive director for the New Mexico Games. What was supposed to be a one-year assignment has turned into Fred serving in the position for more than 28 years.

The New Mexico Games has had up to 30 sporting events with over 6,000 athletes annually. It is the largest multi-sporting event in the state. It has generated more than \$50 million to the New Mexico economy from hotel, restaurant and car rental revenues.

One of Fred's biggest athletic accomplishments was in 1983 when he was game director for the National Association of Basketball Coaches All-American Game. This prestigious contest was held the day before the NCAA Final Four. The All-American Game was in danger of being canceled due to poor attendance; however, under his direction, it was a sold-out game with record attendance.

Since 1973, Fred has given countless hours and tireless service as a volunteer on various sports committees and boards such at the Albuquerque/ New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame. He has been on the NMSHOF board since 1978.

Fred is very involved in the tennis community as an athlete and plays on a competitive tennis team with a 4.0 rating. He serves as the director of the New Mexico National Junior Tennis League, a league tailored to low-income families.

He was also instrumental in the building and managing of the Jerry Cline Tennis and Recreation Center.

Fred volunteered for 21 days at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. Since 2013, he and Marty Watts have been the co-hosts of the "Fred and Marty" sports talk show on ESPN Radio 101.7 The Team each Saturday.







Dr. Ronald & Monica Maestas

Proud Partner of the Award of Distinction - Michael Lujan

Congratulations to the Coach Mike Lujan for his contributions to athletics in New Mexico!



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AWARD OF DISTINCTION MIKE LUJAN

ike Lujan, one of 15 children born in a 1,000-square foot home in Albuquerque's South Valley, started selling newspapers at age 6 to help his family make ends meet.

Mike struggled academically, but didn't let that or the lack of finances hold him back from an incredible career as an educator and wrestling coach.

Lujan barely graduated Rio Grande High School with a 1.3 grade point average, but with the help many -- like his childhood wrestling mentor Jack O'Neill, coaches Ron Tabor and Russell Goff -- he landed a wrestling scholarship at Trinidad State Junior College in Colorado.

He later graduated from Southern Colorado State, and gives much of his academic success to his "guardian angel" Mary Brooks, "who made sure I graduated from college."

Mike made it to the Olympic Trials in 1972, then taught and coached in Santa Fe elementary schools for 10 years. He was later hired at Santa Fe High, and became one of the state's most influential wrestling coaches.

He had 28 individual state champions, five of his former wrestlers are high school coaches and five are in the state's wrestling Hall of Fame.

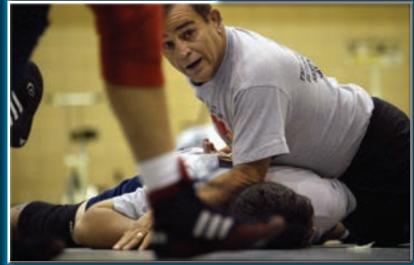
He has been awarded nationally for his achievements as an educator and coach.

Mike, who was also one of the first coaches in America to start girls youth wrestling, and has been instrumental in the success of the sport. He is also the founder and CEO of the immensely successful Santa Fe Junior Wrestling Program.

Lujan is also in the N.M. State Wrestling Hall of Fame.











Congratulation to the Class of 2019 Inductees & Annual Award Winners!



AWARD OF DISTINCTION GIG BRUMMELL

he Santa Fe native was a letterman in basketball, baseball and track at Boonville Catholic High School in Missouri and earned All-American status in basketball in 1957.

At UNM, Gig was lettered basketball and baseball for three years.

He was the basketball team captain in 1959 and 1961 and All-Skyline Conference Honorable Mention in 1961.

As a senior in 1961, he led the conference in pitching with a 9-1 record and 1.80 ERA, was named All-Skyline Conference Pitcher of the Year and UNM Athlete of the Year.

Upon graduation, Gig signed a professional baseball contract with the Kansas City (Oakland) Athletics affiliate, the Albuquerque Dukes, and helped the Dukes to the first half championship.

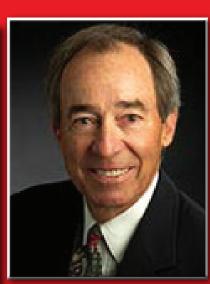
His professional baseball career was highlighted with a Midwest League record 17 strikeouts, which was recognized by The Sporting News.

An arm injury ended Gig's pro baseball career in 1963.

Brummell then went into business, leading the Albuquerque branch of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter to number one in the Southwest for seven years, and one of the top 10 nationwide.

Since retiring, Brummel has applied his financial skills and management experience to numerous boards, including the UNM Alumni Lettermen's Association, UNM Alumni Association, Sandia Foundation, Archdiocese of Santa Fe Finance Council.

In 1985, he was inducted into the UNM Anderson School of Management Hall of Fame. In 1999, he was inducted into the UNM Alumni Lettermen's Athletic Hall of Honor. In 2013, Gig was the recipient of the UNM "Zia Award" for his philanthropic endeavors and service to the University, community and volunteer activities.













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SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE YEAR DENTON FAMILY

PARENTS BRIAN & TRACY, SON, AUSTIN AND DAUGHTER SKYE DENTON

B oth Brian and Tracy Denton are former gymnasts, high school and college cheerleaders and were very successful UNM cheer program coaches for 17 years.

Their son, Austin, grew up around sports and wanted to be involved at an early age. He was diagnosed with a spinal cord tumor at age 2 and underwent chemotherapy and radiation that limited his mobility to the use of crutches and a wheelchair.

That did not keep him from his passion for sports.

The positive outlook always presented by him and his parents helped him pursue his dreams.

The 18-year-old aspiring sports broadcaster nicknamed "The Voice" of La Cueva High School athletics, became well known around the state for the broadcasting of high school sporting events for ProView Networks and ESPN 101.7 THE TEAM.

He interviewed Peyton Manning at Super Bowl 50. He also did a piece for CBS' NFL Today pregame show about then-Denver Broncos coach Gary Kubiak and appeared on set in the network's New York studio as part of that segment. In 2018, Austin attended the NFL Draft in Arlington, Texas, where he announced the Broncos' first-round pick.

After graduating from La Cueva last year and with his cancer in remission for 10 years, Austin planned to attend broadcast journalism school at Arizona State University.

The cancer, however, returned. Austin died in December at age 18 after touching the lives of many.

Tracy has been a UNM Alumni Letterman Board Member and a Realtor at Realty One of New Mexico. Brian is the regional sales manager for Varsity Spirit. Skye was a Level 7 gymnast at Albuquerque Gymnastic School for nine years. She was a cheerleader for YAFL football. She is currently a member of the school choir.





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"Proud Partner of the High School Team of the Year - West Mesa High School's Girls Basketball Team"

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF THE YEAR WEST MESA GIRLS BASKETBALL



Last March, the West Mesa girls' basketball team captured the first state basketball championship in the school's 50-plus year history. The third-seeded Mustangs won the Class 5A crown by defeating top-seeded and defending champion Hobbs 63-51.

On their journey to the championship, the Mustangs also won the Albuquerque Metro Tournament for the third consecutive year, defeating previously unbeaten La Cueva 46-38.

In the state tournament semi-final, the Mustangs found themselves facing rival Piedra Vista, which had handed them all three of their losses during the season. But West Mesa won the biggest game of the season between the teams, defeating PV 59-57 in overtime to move into the finals.

In the title game, the Mustangs trailed 32-27 at the half. But they kept pushing the intensity behind Maiah Rivas – who scored 14 of her game-high 23 points in the second half – and a brilliant defensive effort.

Esperanza Varoz had 15 points while Emily Burk added 10, Jasmine Cordova 9 and Cece Barela 6.

On March 18, 2019, in front of a packed house at their home gym, the Mustangs celebrated by cutting the nets.

They then cut something else they had been waiting for all season.

"At the beginning of the season, our girls thought it would be a great idea that if we won state I would agree to cut my beard off," Otero said. "I said, 'Sure!'

"As our season continued, I actually forgot about what I agreed to. We went on to win the state championship. In the locker room in the Pit after the game, they immediately asked, "When can we shave you?"

"At first, I was a little reluctant to actually do it. But what these girls accomplished for the school, for the community and for the basketball program, I couldn't say no.'

The Mustangs held a championship assembly in their gym the next week in front of the entire student body, and it was trim time.







Congratulations to the 2019 Albuquerque High School boys soccer team for their remarkable, undefeated season; USA Today national ranking; and induction into the 2020-2021 New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame. Thank you for proudly representing the Land of Enchantment.

We're honored to celebrate New Mexico's greatest athletes, coaches, and teams!



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HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF THE YEAR ALBUQUERQUE HIGH SCHOOL BOY'S SOCCER TEAM



he Albuquerque High School Boys Bulldogs won their third state soccer title in the last six years this past fall. The Bulldogs were ranked #25 nationally by Max Preps; #5 in the final USA TODAYS' poll, and #1 in Region VIII (CA, CO, ID, NV, NM, OR).

It was the first undefeated season in State Soccer since 2005 regardless of class by Sandia Prep (24-0) and 2001 in the big class by Eldorado High School (25-0). They are only the sixth undefeated and untied tied team in New Mexico boys' soccer history (1981).

In 2008, a 1995 AHS graduate and soccer player, Lucien Starzynski returned to his alma mater taking over the program after a short stint in Italy trying out for teams. Realizing his shelf life as a player might be too short and needing soccer to be a part of his life, he jumped at the opportunity to return to AHS after getting an email alerting him to the opening.

Fortunately for AHS, Lucien had prepared himself by getting licensed through the US Soccer Federation and was ready to build a program.

In his first year, there were only 16 boys who turned out for tryouts. Today, there are 80-90 that show up and the toughest part of the job for Coach Starzynski is cutting players.

Coach Starzynski says 2011-2012 was the turning point for the program, or a time fans and players begin to believe something special was developing. The 2015 State Championship team featured 5- four year varsity players (part of that 2011-2012 team), two of which went on to play at the college level.



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George Lovato Jr. congratulates all the inductees and award winners in the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame





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COLLEGIATE TEAM OF THE YEAR UNM WOMEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM

NEW MEXICO

IEW MEXICO

969

Bringing back a strong core of runners from the NCAA runner-up 2018 team, the Lobos continued their success with a 12th-consecutive Mountain West Conference championship and trip to the NCAA

NEW MEXICO

NEW MEXICO

Championships, and a 10th-straight top-two finish in regionals.

Junior Weini Kelati won the MW individual title, marking the fourthstraight year a Lobo captured that honor. She also took the regional title for the second-straight year and capped off her brilliant season by winning the NCAA Championship.

It was the second time in three years a Lobo won the individual title, as Ednah Kurgat did so in 2017.

The Lobos have finished in the top four in five of the last six years and have been in the top 10 each of the last 10 years.

The Lobos finished the season with five being named all-conference. Kelati, Kurgat and Hannah Nuttall were named first team while Gracelyn Larkin and Alexandra Harris were second team.

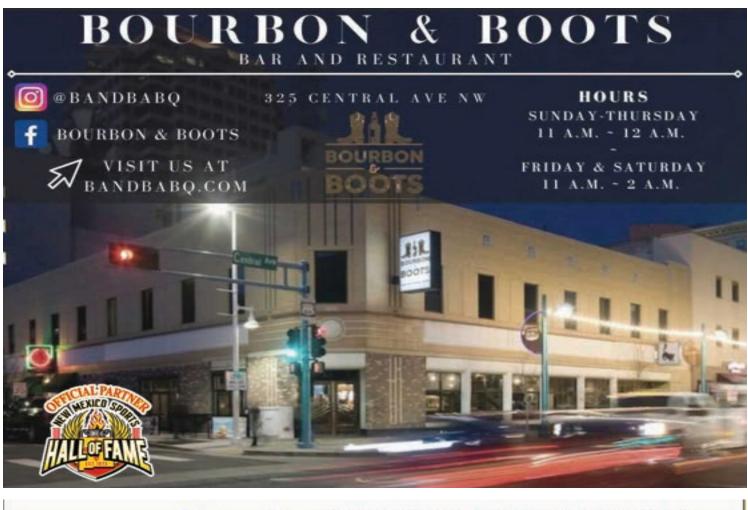
Larkin was the MW's freshman of the year and coach Joe Franklin was coach of the year. The Lobos also had four all-region honorees (Adva Cohen, Kelati, Kurgat and Nuttall) and three All-Americans (Kelati, Kurgat and Nuttall).



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46TH ANNUAL INDUCTION BANQUET









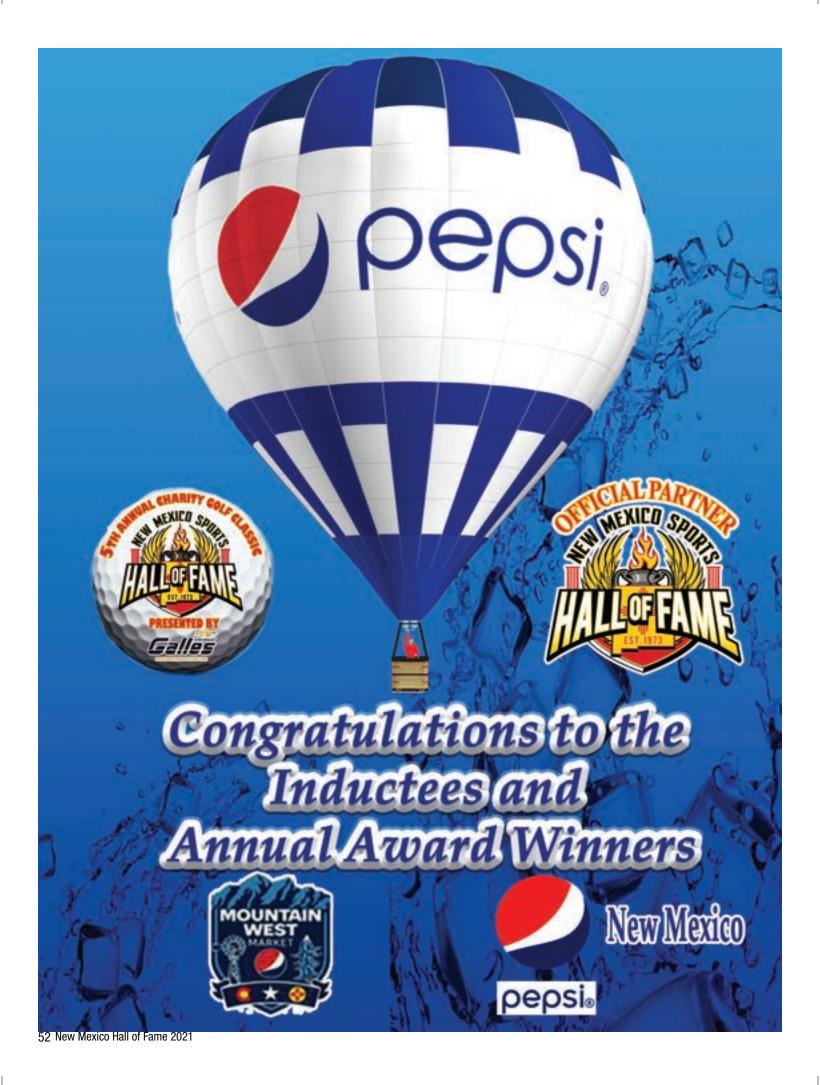














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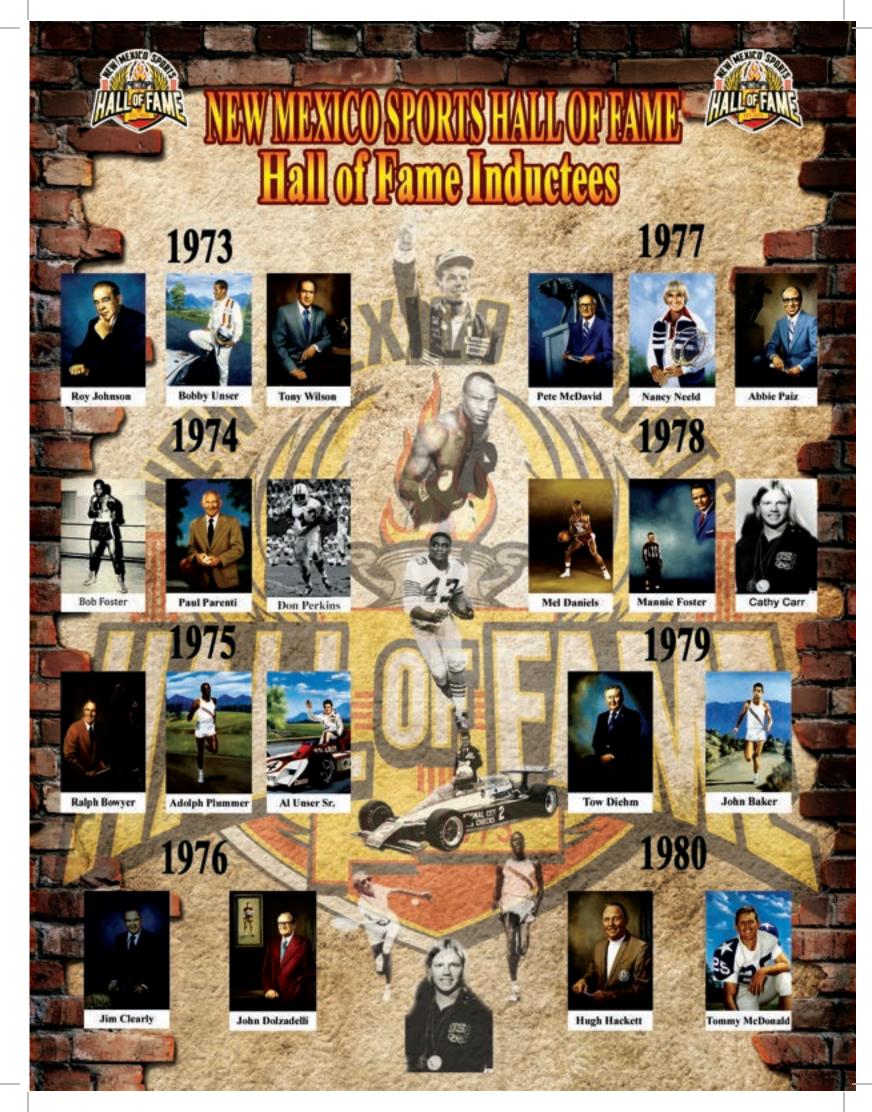
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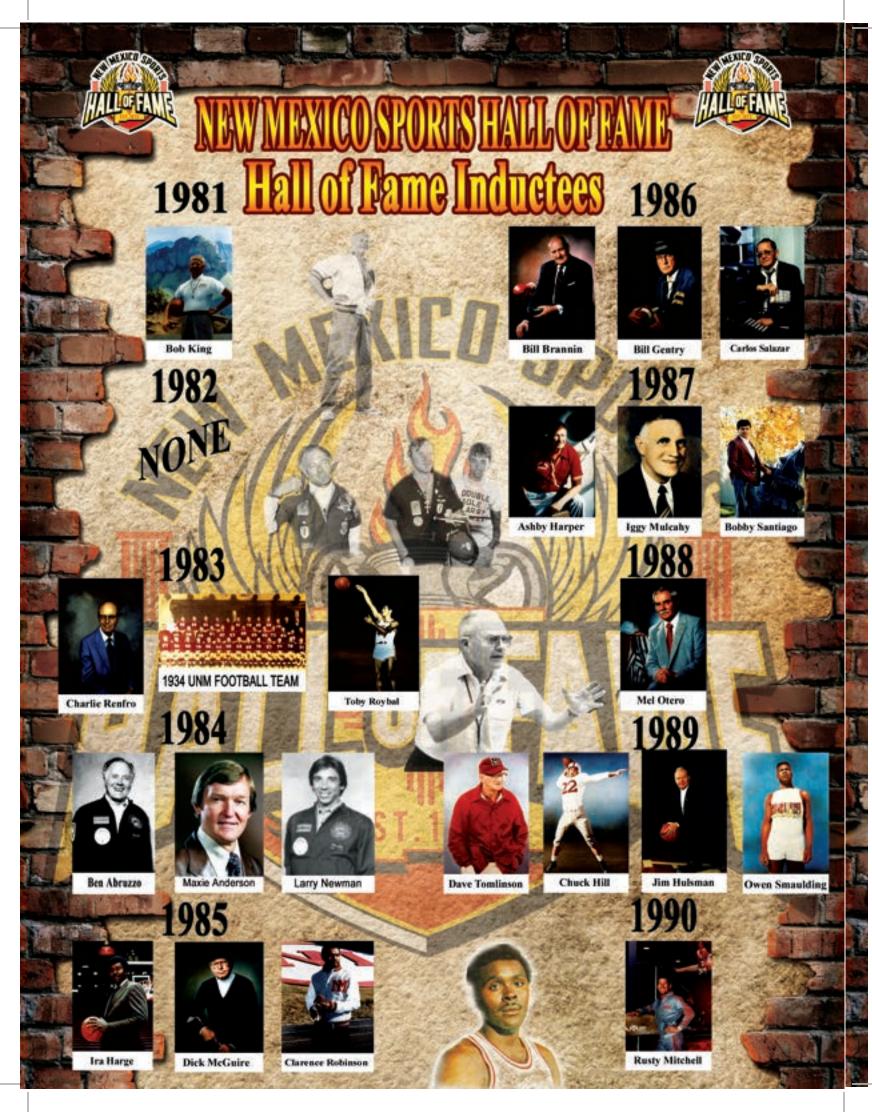
2019 FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE

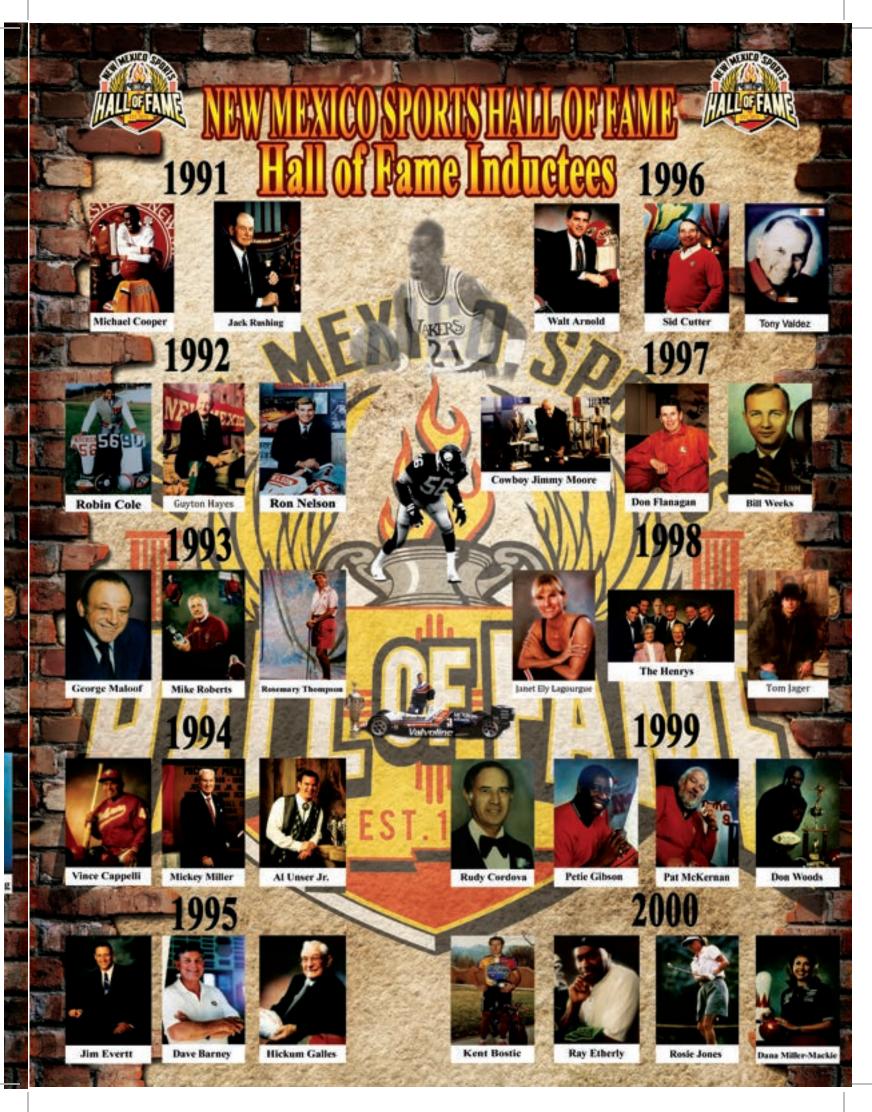




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2001



JD Kailer **Carol Knauber**





2006







Ray Giannini

Val Boyer-Wells



Stan Quintana



Ras Ort

Linda Estes Nancy Lopez







2008

Buddy Robertson

Susan Vigil-MacEache





Connie Alexander

Sally Marquez



Joe Vivian





Sheila Burrell **Bobby Gibbs**

Ralph Tasker Lou Henson



Notah Begay III







Charley Johnson



Chainey Umphrey



Rocky Long





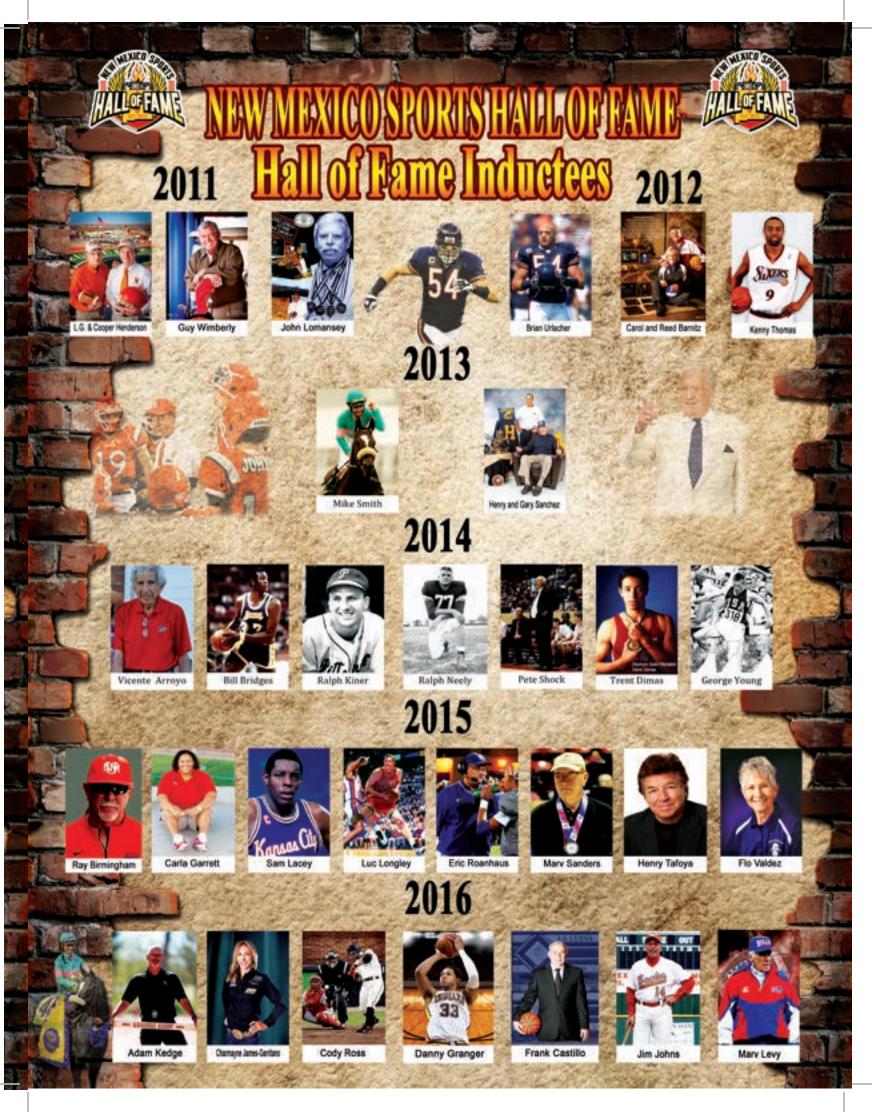
2009











PRAS 2017



Pam Allen



Johnny Tapia







John Wooten





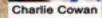
Jim Murphy



New Mexico Sports Hall Of Fame Class Of 2018

Dr. Chuck Aragon

Mike Brown



Susan Craig

Roy Gerela

Brooks "Bubbe" Jennings

Dr. Ron Maestas



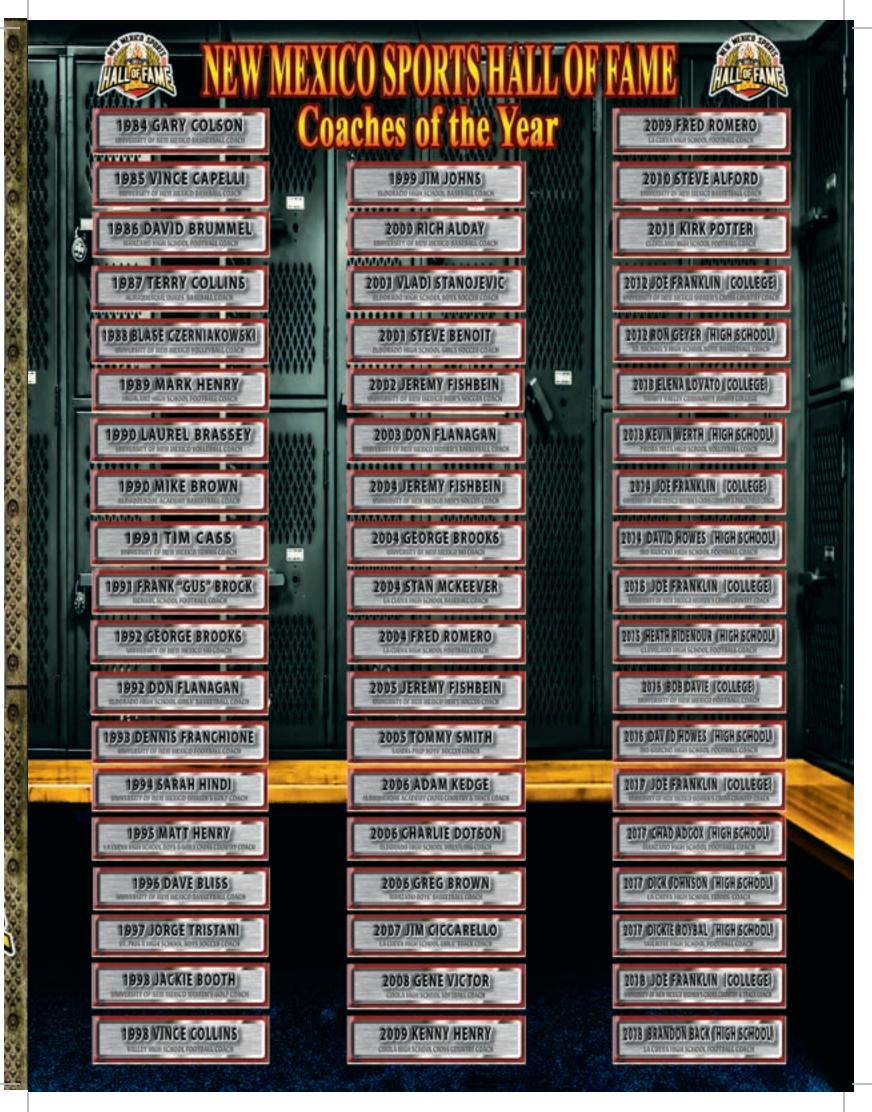














HALLOEAM

New Mexico Sport Hall of Fame Sports Promotion/Sporting Event of the Year

1973 Sid Cutter 1974 -----

1975 Albuquerque Jaycees 1976 Frank Crosby 1977 Mike London **Pro Wrestling** 1978 Willie Sanchez 1979 Arabian International Horse Association 1980 Special Olympics Tennis at the Pit-1981 Albuquerque Journal Gymnastics Meet 1982 Pat McKernan **Albuquerque Dukes** 1983 City of Albuquerque **Final Four** 1984 Rusty Mitchell USA Olympics 1985 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta 1986 Sunwest Bank Charlie Pride Golf Tournament 1987 Albuquerque Journal Duke City Marathon 1988 McDonald's All- American High School Basketball Game

1989 Virginia Slims/ 1st National Bank Women's Tennis Tourney 1990 Pat McKernan Albuquerque Dukes 1991

1992 Larry Ahrens's Presidential Scholarship Golf Tournament 1993 UNM Lobo Club Kickoff Committee 1994 Coca Cola New Mexico Games 1995 New Day Shelter Shootout **Golf Tournament** 1996 UNM Athletics "Pack the Pit" 1997 APS Golf Extravaganza 1998 Sandia Cup Soccer Tournament 1999 Paralyzed Veterans of America Jr. Wheelchair Championship 2000 The American Bowling **Congress Championship** Tournament 2001 Amateur Athletic Union's Grand National Sanction Wrestling Tournament 2002 Erin Trujeque Memorial **Golf Tournament**

2003 Marty Saiz - State Farm Insurance High School Sports **Recognition Program** 2004 Great Southwest Track and Field Classic 2005 All-American High School **Baseball Game** 2006 New Mexico Bowl - College Football Game 2007 Triple A Pro Baseball All-Star Game 2008 New Mexico Sports Authority 2009 New Mexico Activities Association "Dig Pink" 2010 U.S. Youth Soccer Far West **Regional Soccer Championship** 2011 USA Indoor Track & Field Championships 2012 Ty Murray Professional Bull **Riders** Invitation 2013 Connie Mack World Series 2014 Carrie Tingley's Mudd Volleyball 2015 Cameron Bairstow's Lobo Alumni All-Star Basketball Game 2016 Gilden New Mexico Bowl -**College Football Game** 2017 20th Annual Coleman Vision **Tennis Tournament** 2018 Kevin McGrath - Burger Time Charity Golf Event

Marty Saiz's State Farm Insurance Agency

Multi-Sports High School Student-Athletes

2003-2013 Albuquerque Metro

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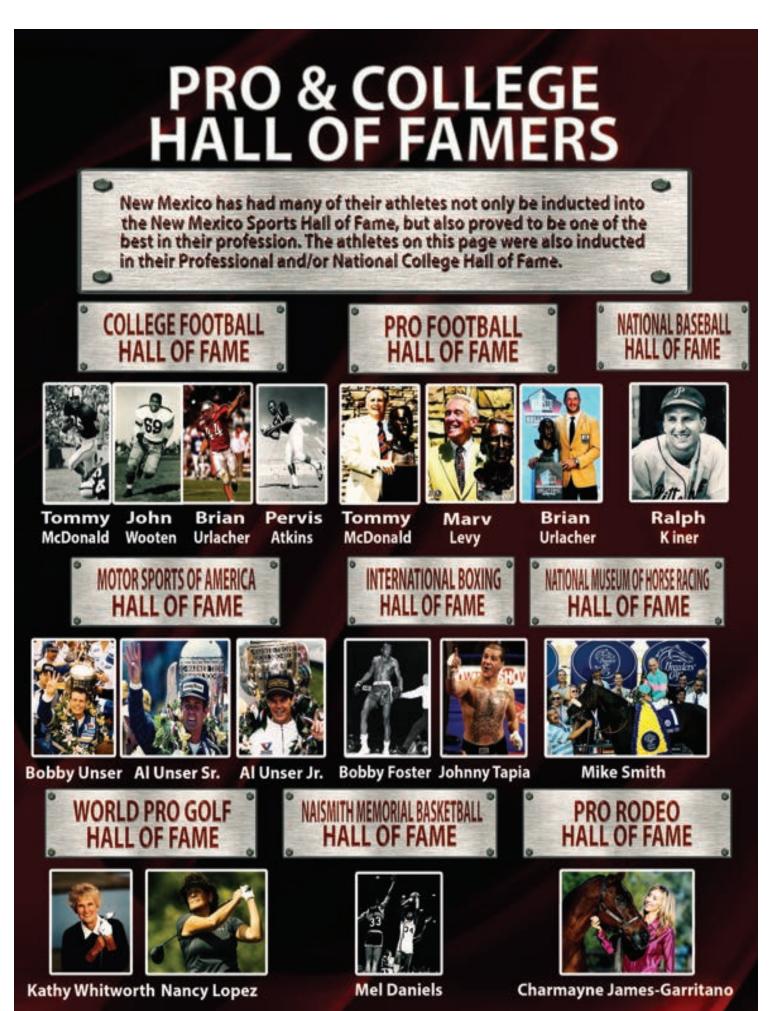
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Since 2014 the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame has donated over **\$14,000** to help those living with ALS in New Mexico.









Gene Pino ALS Hero

For the fifth year, NMSHOF is raising money for ALS families and our good friend, Gene Pino. Gene impacted athletics in New Mexico for over 40 years and was the recent NMSHOF President. He has been battling ALS for the last nine years. He has difficulty communicating and most timesis wheelchair bound. His positive spirit still exists as he continues to live with ALS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

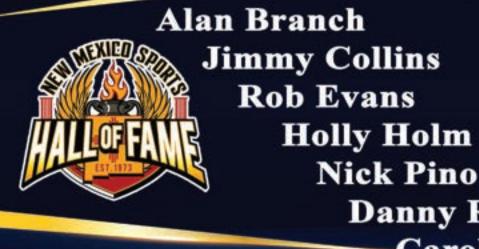
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2019 New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame Inductees





Danny Romero —Carolyn Thompson



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