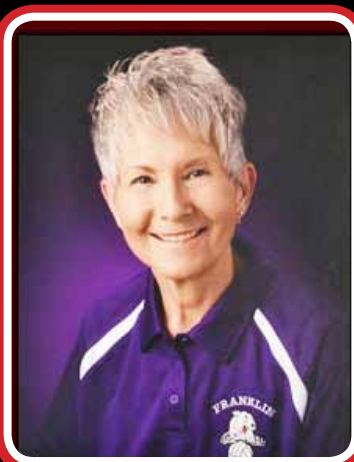


NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME



ERIC ROANHAUS



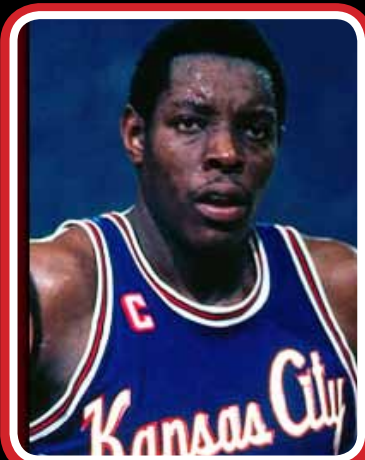
FLO VALDEZ



CARLA GARRETT



HENRY TAFOYA



SAM LACEY



LUC LONGLEY



MARV SANDERS



RAY BIRMINGHAM



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HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

- Ray Birmingham
- Carla Garrett
- Sam Lacey
- Luc Longley 
- Henry Tafoya
- Eric Roanhaus
- Marv Sanders
- Flo Valdez

AMATEUR TEAM OF THE YEAR

Over 80 Senior Dogs Women's Basketball Team

PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Holly Holm, UFC World Champion

HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

Heath Ridenour, Cleveland High School Football Coach

COLLEGIATE COACH OF THE YEAR

Joe Franklin, University of New Mexico Cross Country/Track Coach

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF THE YEAR

La Cueva High School Volleyball Team

COLLEGIATE TEAM OF THE YEAR

University of New Mexico Women's Cross Country Team

PROMOTION OF THE YEAR

Cam Bairstow's Inaugural UNM Alumni All-Star Game

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Greg Jackson

Michael Winkeljohn

HIGH SCHOOL MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Marcus Williams, Cleveland High School - Football & Basketball

HIGH SCHOOL FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Lauren Wilmert, Volcano Vista High School - Softball & Volleyball

COLLEGIATE MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

C.J. Maestas, University of Illinois - Gymnastics

COLLEGIATE FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Shelby Pendley, University of Oklahoma - Softball

CLOSING REMARKS

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ABQ Sports Magazine & Marty Saiz (Program Designers), Gary Herron (Writer)



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



CARLA GARRETT



Carla Garrett: One of the most-distinguished athletes hailing from the state, this 1984 Santa Fe High graduate – who was a 2 sport All-American in basketball and an First Team All-State selection in soccer as a goalie -- went on to become a 10-time All-American in track & field at the University of Arizona, and was the 1989 NCAA national champion during the indoor season (shot put) and outdoor season (shot put and discus).

Ever since she was young, Carla Garrett played baseball, softball, tennis, track & field and basketball. Basketball was her first love. At Santa Fe High School (Class of 1984), she played basketball, competed in track events, and specialized in the 100-meter dash.

Although her Demonette team didn't qualify for the state tournament, it didn't stop her from becoming an All American and leading the state in scoring at 23pts per game, and a leading rebounder at 11 per game.

In the spring she was tossing the discus 51meters and putting the shot 15meters, becoming a 7-time state champion, including a state track relay championship, which if you ask her may be her most valued high school state championship. She is still the state record holder in both the discus and the shot put. She went on to The University of Arizona, becoming a 10-time All American and a 3-time NCAA Division I champion in 1989, winning the indoor shot put and the outdoor shot put and discus. She was only the 2nd woman in history to win this distinctive trifecta, her coach Meg Ritchie ironically being the first.

She was also a member of the 1991 and 1993 World Track & Field Team, as well as a member of the 1992 Olympic Track & Field Team competing in Barcelona, Spain.

She also excelled in Olympic Style Weightlifting, becoming a 3-time National Champion in the 85+ kilo class, setting what was at the time an American Record in the clean & jerk, while collecting 5 silver medals from the 1991 and 1993 World Weightlifting Championships.

Carla has been inducted into the University of Arizona Sports Hall of Fame, the New Mexico High School Track & Field/Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame, and the USA Weightlifting Hall of Fame. She has been a strength & conditioning coach since 1994 and is currently the strength coach for the University of New Mexico women's basketball and softball teams.





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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

SAM LACEY



Sam Lacey: The first New Mexico State University basketball player to be inducted into the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame, Sam Lacey was one of the best centers in the NBA in the 1970s. It was often overlooked because he played for lackluster teams. He was recruited for New Mexico State by Ed Murphy, an assistant to head coach Lou Henson.

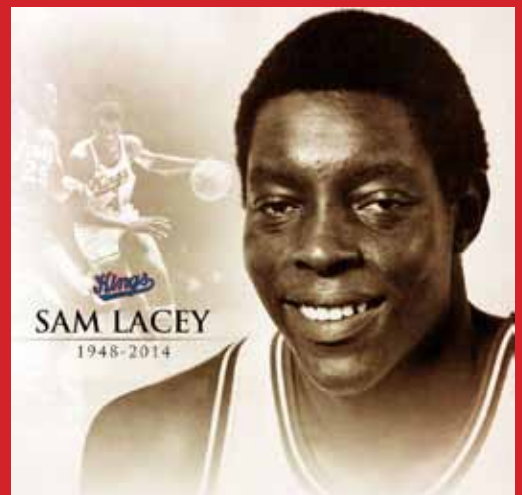
Lacey averaged nearly 18 points and 16 rebounds as a senior for the Aggies, leading them to the only Final Four appearance in their history, a 1970 matchup with UCLA. He injured an ankle early and scored only 8 points as the Bruins -- led by Henry Bibby, Curtis Rowe, John Vallely and Sidney Wicks -- defeated the Aggies 93-77 and went on to win the championship.

Lacey was a rugged rebounder, at 6-10 and 235 pounds, and an outstanding shot-blocker. He also hit timely baskets and was a fine playmaker.

Seeking to rebuild after trading Oscar Robertson to the Milwaukee Bucks, the Royals selected Lacey in the first round of the 1970 NBA draft after he led NMSU to the NCAA tournament's Final Four. In KC, he teamed with guard Nate Archibald to provide some spark for a losing Royals team.

Lacey averaged in double figures in points and rebounds in his first six professional seasons, and he averaged 5.3 assists in 1974-75, when he was an all-star. Lacey averaged 10.3 points and 9.7 rebounds in his NBA career, which concluded with a season apiece with the New Jersey Nets and the Cleveland Cavaliers. He is one of only five NBA players (along with Hakeem Olajuwon, Julius Erving, David Robinson and Ben Wallace) to have registered 100 blocks and 100 steals in six consecutive seasons.

The Sacramento Kings, whose roots go back to the Rochester Royals and the teams that played in Cincinnati, Omaha and then Kansas City, have paid tribute to Lacey. His No. 44 is displayed aloft at the Sacramento Kings arena.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



ERIC ROANHAUS



Eric Roanhaus: Nobody has won more high school football games and coached more in New Mexico than Eric Roanhaus, who has 335 wins in 38 (1978-2015) seasons as the Clovis Wildcats' head coach.

Born in Chicago but raised in California, this 1965 graduate of Hueneme High School in Oxnard, Calif., participated in football, basketball and baseball while in high school. Following high school, he attended Ventura Junior College in Ventura, Calif., competing in football and basketball. He received his AA degree in 1967, and then enrolled at West Texas State University in 1968, where he finished his playing days at quarterback for the Buffaloes and graduated in 1970 with a BS degree. He later received his MS from Eastern New Mexico University and his Administration Certificate, both in 1985.

He came to Clovis as a football assistant in 1973 under head coach Dunny Goode and became Goode's successor when Goode took the head job at Eastern New Mexico University.

His teams have won 10 state championships and been state runners-up eight times.

In 1985, he was named the National High School Coach of the Year by the National Sports Service in Phoenix. He was inducted into the New Mexico High School Coaches Association's Hall of Honor in 1995 and he went into the National High School Coaches Hall of Fame in 2002.

Speaking at the annual New Mexico High School Coaches Association's summer clinic in the Duke City a few summers ago, Roanhaus admitted he once basically used his Wildcats to get what he wanted, more championships. He has plenty under his belt. Clovis won big-school gridiron championships in 1978, 1981-85, 1990-91, 1994 and 2001. The Wildcats have finished second their last three trips to the championship game: 2004, '05 and '07.

"We were really winning-motivated," Roanhaus divulged. "We were 22-3 in the playoffs our first 10 years. Then I decided to become more kid involved. In the last 20 years we haven't won as much — but I sleep better at night."



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



FLO VALDEZ



Flo Valdez: This Roswell native has led volleyball teams to 985 match victories through 42 seasons – 367 matches won at Roswell High School and 618 matches won at El Paso Franklin High School – setting the standard for volleyball success in the Southwest.

Strangely, Valdez never actually played volleyball. But in order to coach her favorite sport, basketball, Valdez had to agree to coach volleyball. She later founded the founder of the South/South volleyball all-star matches and led Roswell High School to three state volleyball championships. Plus, she was the New Mexico High School Coaches Association Volleyball Coach of the Year in 1987 and 1993.

The last of 12 children born to Ramon and Carolina Valdez and a 1963 graduate of Roswell High School, she received her BS from Texas Woman's University and her MS from Eastern New Mexico University.

Her teaching career began at Tatum High School in 1976, where she taught physical education, sponsored the cheerleaders and began GAA teams in volleyball, basketball, softball, badminton and track. Valdez then spent a year at Hobbs High School and another year at Mesa Middle School, returning to Hobbs, which is where she happened to be when the state finally decided to “give girls a shot at competition.” In 1973, Flo became known as “Coach Valdez” and began her coaching career with the “Eaglettes,” coaching softball, basketball and track.

The fall of 1974, Valdez returned to Roswell High as varsity volleyball, basketball and track coach. For the next 22 years, Flo dedicated her life to Roswell High and all the young women athletes who helped build a tradition of excellence in women's athletics.

She headed to the “West Texas town of El Paso” in 1996, where she has been the varsity volleyball coach at Franklin High School ever since. She was inducted into the New Mexico High School Coaches Association Hall of Honor in 1998; she was an inductee of the 2009 El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.



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CLASS OF 2015 INDUCTEES



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Flo Valdez



Eric Roanhaus



Marv Sanders



Henry Tafoya



Sam Lacey



Carla Garrett



Luc Longley

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Mike Winkeljohn
Greg Jackson



Holly Holm



Joe Franklin



Cam Bairstow's Lobo All-Star Game



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE




HENRY TAFOYA



Henry Tafoya: Born and raised in Albuquerque, “Henry T” was a three-sport athlete at Sandia High School, where he was a quarterback and defensive back for the Matadors, as well as an All-City baseball player and the Matadors’ point guard on the hardwood.

While attending UNM, he became the director of the Old Town Boys Club. Having a great youth basketball program gave him a great knowledge of officiating. It was during this time he was invited to visit heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali at his training camp at Deerlake, Pa. This incredible opportunity led to an exclusive interview of the champ on television, which aired successive nights on KOAT-TV. Soon after, station manager Max Sklower offered him a job as a week-end sportscaster at KOAT.

Six months later he was offered a job at KOB-TV, where he became the television voice of the University of New Mexico, sports director and weekday sportscaster. After seven years at KOB, he moved back to KOAT-TV where he continued as the voice of NMSU and he also anchored television sportscasts. In 1997, Henry and his son, Aaron started the one of the first sports talk radio station  the country on KDEF-1150 AM.

In 2013, Tafoya joined ESPN Radio (101.7-FM) to do a weekly call-in show on Saturdays.

“I’m just grateful for the opportunity to work with people who really understand radio,” Tafoya said of ESPN Radio President Joe O’Neill. “He understands how to do radio, and has one of the best radio sports stations in the country. I’m honored they’ve asked me to be a part of it.”

“As a sports broadcaster for 41 years on radio, he has broadcast thousands of games, from Little League to professional sports. While this agenda was very gratifying he put other aspirations on the shelf. . . . Now on a different level, he is pursuing a television and radio play-by-play career  his next exciting challenge,” lauded O’Neill.

Tafoya is a former winner of the New Mexico “Sportscaster of the Year” award and a two-time winner of the Play-by-Play award from the New Mexico’s Broadcasters Association.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



LUC LONGLEY



Luc Longley: One of the most-popular Lobos while playing from 1987-91 for Dave Bliss, the big guy averaged 19.1 points, 9.2 rebounds and 3.6 assists in his senior season, which was highlighted by being a first-round draft pick of the Minnesota Timberwolves in 1991.

As a freshman, he played in but one game, missing the final contest of the season for the Australian Olympic trials. Longley went on to make the 1988 Australian Olympic team, his first of three Olympic Games.

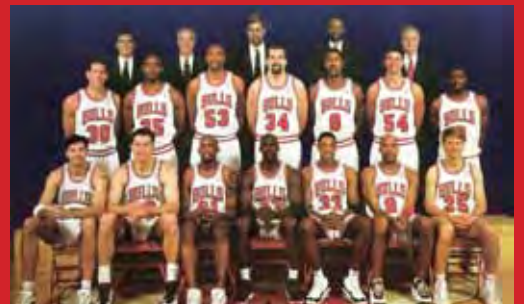
Named honorable mention All-America by the Sporting News in his sophomore season, Longley was beginning to really come in to his own as a player. Following a strong junior season, where he was a candidate for the John Wooden Award, college basketball's top player, he was chosen as a member of the Australian National team and participated in the Goodwill Games and World Games.

A potential lottery pick in the 1990 NBA draft, Longley opted to stay for his senior season at UNM where he averaged 19.1 points, 9.2 rebounds, and 3.6 assists a game. He was the first and only Lobo to record a triple-double in a game – and he did it twice. He had 23 points, 15 rebounds and 10 blocks vs. Hardin-Simmons on November 24, 1989, and 17 points, 14 rebounds and 10 assists vs. Penn State on March 28, 1990.

Longley was first-team All-WAC in his junior and senior seasons. Longley also represented Australia in the Barcelona Olympics that following year (1992).

He played two seasons as the Timberwolves' starting center, then was traded to the Chicago Bulls, where he went on to win three-straight NBA Championships (1996-98) with Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman as teammates.

He was the first Australian to play in the NBA, the first to win an NBA title and he played more NBA games than any Australian who followed him. Longley played in 567 games, scored 4,090 points, grabbed 2,794 rebounds and blocked 549 shots.



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We would like to congratulate all of this year's HOF inductees, award winners, and current Hall of Famers. We salute you for your hard work and dedication to your individual sports. You are all an inspiration to young athletes across New Mexico. Thank you and congratulations!

NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



MARV SANDERS



Marv Sanders: Coach Sanders, a 1960 graduate of Western New Mexico University, has bounced around more than a basketball when it comes to coaching in the Land of Enchantment. Only two coaches, Ralph Tasker and Pete Shock, have amassed more victories, but Sanders won titles at three stops, and at three classifications: Hatch Valley (1964), Silver High (1975) and Farmington High (1982, '86). Sanders “retired” in 2003, completing a 41-year career with 787 victories, about 20 wins per season. FHS honors him annually with its Marv Sanders Tournament every December. In 2010, Sanders was inducted into the WNMU Athletic Hall of Fame; as a Mustang, he’d twice been named an all-conference basketball player. “After graduation (from WNMU), I went back to Indiana for two years, but after going three weeks without seeing the sun, I made the decision to make my way back to New Mexico.”

His first coaching job was in Indiana, at Mentone High School, but he returned to coach at Hatch Valley High School, where he won the school’s first-ever Class B state championship in 1964, his second year at Hatch.

Two years later he was an assistant coach at Alamogordo under a former WNMU teammate, Dick Drangmeister; he then became head coach at Silver High for nine years, winning the Colts’ first-ever championship in 1975.

Moving to Portales, his team made it to the state finals in 1976; he moved on to Lovington for a four-year stint, including an overtime loss to Bernalillo in the 1979 finals.

He headed to Farmington in 1980 for the better part of the next 23 years — winning a championship in his second year there when his son, Mike, scored the winning free throws with five seconds left. He won again in 1987 with future UNM Lobo great Rob Robbins on board.

In his last year with the Scorpions, the team made the finals again, losing to Kirtland Central.

In the 2014-15 season — he said it was his last — Sanders was an assistant coach at Capitan High.





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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



RAY BIRMINGHAM



Ray Birmingham: University of New Mexico head baseball coach Ray Birmingham is being inducted tonight into a hall of fame for the third time. In his 29 years, he has won his 1100th win vs. Grand Canyon on March 16, 2106 vs. Grand Canyon University. His overall record as of March 21, 2016 is 1103-536-3.

Prior to the 2011 baseball season, he was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame following his 18 years as the head coach at New Mexico Junior College, where he led the Thunderbirds to 765 wins and two trips to the NJCAA World Series, including the 2005 National Championship.

In 2012, the Lea County Hall of Fame honored him with induction. Lea County is home to Hobbs, home to NMJC and College of the Southwest, where Birmingham began his collegiate coaching career, leading the Mustangs to a No. 23 national ranking and 53 wins in two seasons.

“I’m humbled by the honor, I really am,” Birmingham said after being informed he’d completed the trifecta. “I’m proud to represent the great state of New Mexico. People from every corner of this state have helped me with baseball for over five decades.”

“Not only is he a great ambassador for our state, but he is also one of the premier college baseball coaches in the country,” said UNM Vice President for Athletics Paul Krebs.

In his ninth season at UNM, Birmingham has led the Lobos to four NCAA Tournament appearances, including the first for the program since 1962. UNM has also won three regular-season Mountain West titles and two Mountain West Tournament championships.

Known as one of the best hitting minds in the game, Birmingham consistently leads the Lobos to top 10 NCAA batting averages. For four straight years, and in six of seven, the Lobos have placed inside the top 10 in the nation.

His final destination this spring, he hopes again, is Omaha for the College World Series.



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At the Eighth Annual Fighters Only World MMA, Jackson/Winkeljohn MMA Academy was named the 2015 “Gym of the Year” area. The duo has been featured in Sports Illustrated Magazine and numerous other documentaries, radio shows, television programs, articles and news features.





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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME PROMOTION OF THE YEAR



UNM ALUMNI BASKETBALL ALL-STAR

Last June's Inaugural UNM Lobo All-Star Basketball Game presented by Cameron Bairstow on June 28, 2015 drew nearly 9,500 fans, which enjoyed a night of Lobo History at the famous WisePies Arena aka "THE PIT". The exhibition event was the brainchild of former Lobo and Chicago Bulls player Cameron Bairstow and former UNM assistant Brandon Mason. The loud PIT crowd watched 21 former players participate in All-Star Game. Cam was joined by current NBA players, Danny Granger and Tony Snell, plus former NBA players, Kenny Thomas, Alex Kirk, Drew Gordon, and JR Giddens. Other former Lobos that were showing off their basketball talents included Deshawn Delaney, who won the dunk contest over Tony Dandridge; and Ruben Douglas, who led the nation in scoring in 2003. Former Lobos Daniel Faris and Emmanuel Negedu will serve as coaches for the event. The Cherry roster, led by a game-high 32 points from Alex Kirk (2010-14) and 31 from J.R. Giddens (2005-08), topped the Silver roster, 127-124. Cameron donated \$16,000 to the Lobo Club and to his former Lobo teammate Hugh Greenwood's "Pink Pack" fund.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



HOLLY HOLM



Holly Holm stepped into the octagon in Melbourne, Australia, November for a UFC 193 showdown with unbeaten bantamweight champ Ronda Rousey and KO'd the champ in the second round, shock-in the UFC world but not surprising anyone in the Duke City who'd been a fan of the "Preacher's Daughter."

More than a million pay-per-view purchases were made for the historic fight, and another 50,000 fans were in attendance. Although Holm may have been unknown beyond the borders of New Mexico before that historic knockout, she's well known now, making the TV circuit with virtually every talk show and staying in shape for the expected rematch, probably (hopefully, anyway) in July, with Rousey, out of the fight game while recovering from injuries inflicted on her by Holly.

The City of Albuquerque celebrated with a parade in her honor; City Councilor Dan Lewis signed a proclamation recognizing November as "Holly Holm Month."





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COLLEGIATE MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



C.J. MAESTAS



C.J. Maestas, a 2010 graduate of Cibola High School, capped the Fighting Illini gymnastics season, and a stellar Illinois career, by claiming a national title on high bar at the 2015 NCAA Men's Gymnastics Championships, as he earned four of the eight All-America honors for the Illini.

Maestas finished his Illinois career with two national titles (Rings 2012; High Bar 2015) and 10 All-America honors. As a freshman, C.J. became Illinois' first-ever national still rings champion at the 2012 NCAA Championships, where he also finished second in the all-around to help the Illini to their first NCAA team title in more than two decades. He also was named Big Ten Gymnast and Freshman of the Year in 2012.

C.J. will train full-time at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs after he graduates in May, focusing on making the 2016 U.S. Olympic team. He also will sign a deal with Under Armour.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME COLLEGIATE FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



SHELBY PENDLEY



Shelby Pendley had one of the greatest softball seasons ever in NCAA history, as the 2011 Rio Rancho High School grad closed out her eligibility at the University of Oklahoma.

After playing one season at the University of Arizona, Shelby became a three-time NFCA All-American, three-time First Team All-Region, a two-time Big 12 Player of the Year in 2013 and 2015 and led the Sooners to a national championship in 2013.

She capped her OU career with 84 career home runs, sixth in NCAA history, starting in 54 games, 47 at shortstop and seven in the circle, last season, when she led the team in batting average, at-bats, hits, doubles, homers, RBIs and total bases, and led the Big 12 in homers.

Following her OU career, Shelby was drafted second overall in the 2015 National Pro Fastpitch College Draft by the USSSA Pride, named the NPF Rookie of the Year at season's end.

She is now an assistant softball coach at UNM.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HIGH SCHOOL MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



MARCUS WILLIAMS

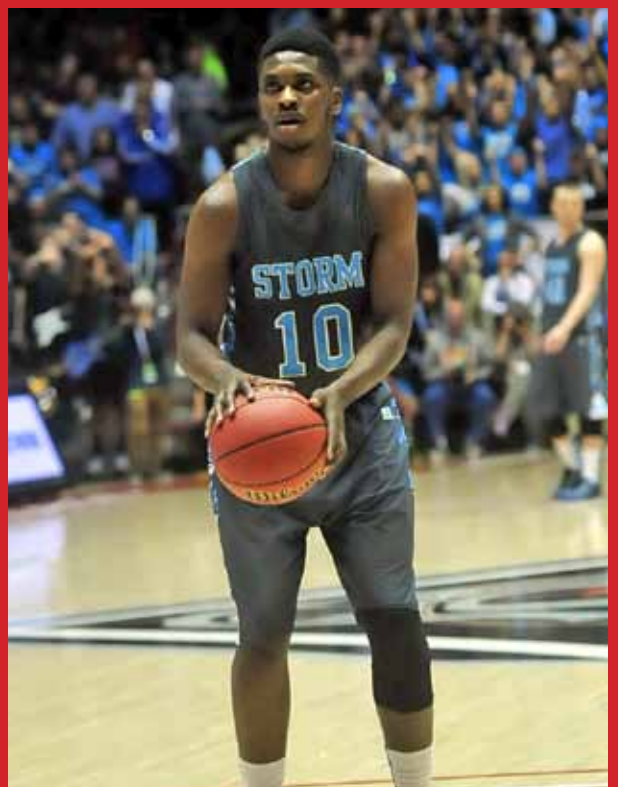


Cleveland High School senior Marcus Williams wasn't merely one of the best wide receivers in the state during the 2015 football season, many consider him the best prep basketball player in New Mexico in the current 2015-16 campaign.

At 6-4 and with great "hops," Marcus could out-leap most of his defenders on the gridiron, and he uses that same skill to out-leap opponents in the paint on the hardwood, pulling down what seems to be countless rebounds in every game. His boarding and scoring helped lead the Storm basketball team to the APS Metro Championships title in early January and state runner-up in the 2015 6A State Basketball State Championship. He was First Team All-State, All-Metro and All-District

After scoring a total of 14 touchdowns in his sophomore and junior seasons combined, Marcus found the end zone 13 times last fall.

Playing on the undefeated state champion Storm football team, Williams made First Team All-State teams on offense and defense. Yeah, that big size made him a key member of the Storm's secondary, too.



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HIGH SCHOOL FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



LAUREN WILMERT



Lauren Wilmert, a Volcano Vista High School senior, had the unique accomplishment of socking three home runs against Rio Rancho last spring, although her Volcano Vista Hawks came out on the short end of the scoreboard vs. the Rams in the Class 6A championship game at Lobo Field.

The Metro and District 1-6A Player of the year, Lauren also made as a catcher First-Team All-State, All-Metro and All-District teams after swatting 16 home runs last season and closing in on the state career record for HRs.

As catcher, she has committed to extending her career at the University of New Mexico.

Lobos coach Erica Beach said, "Lauren Wilmert is one of the best ballplayers in her class in all of New Mexico. Not only is she strong behind the plate but she is a great hitter that will provide power to our lineup."

She was also named Second Team All-State & All-Metro and First Team All-District selection in volleyball last fall. . She led the Hawks to their first District Championship and State Final Four ever in volleyball.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME AMATEUR TEAM OF THE YEAR



NEW MEXICO CRUISIN' BIG DOGS



The New Mexico Cruisin' Big Dogs, a women's 80-plus basketball team from Albuquerque, captured the gold medal at the National Senior Games in Minneapolis in July. With all its members in the 80's or 90's, the New Mexico Cruisin' Big Dogs prove age is nothing but a number. They appeared on a feature on the NBC nightly news. This was the first gold for the New Mexico women in the National Senior Games, which are held every two years.

Coached by Denis Porter, the Cruisin' Big Dogs went undefeated against the two other teams entered in their division, the San Diego Splash and the Louisiana Slammers. The Albuquerque women, who won six games in all, beat rival Splash in the gold medal game, 24-12. Upon their return from the tournament, a contingent of cheering fans greeted the team at the Albuquerque International Sunport. Mayor Richard Berry was on hand to declare the occasion "Cruisin' Big Dogs Day."

The New Mexico Cruisin' Big Dogs are Katherine Dolce, Claire Hanson, Barbara Loveless, Arlene Mayer, Mickey Sutton, Shiela O'Neil, and Jan Ward, who also finished the 2013 Senior Games by winning silver.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME COLLEGIATE COACH OF THE YEAR



JOE FRANKLIN



Joe Franklin was an easy choice by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association as its NCAA Division I National Women's Coach of the Year. For Franklin, named Mountain Region Women's Coach of the Year for the third time, it was his second national coach of the year honor; he was the USTFCCA National Men's Coach of the Year in 2004 while coaching Butler University.

In his ninth year at UNM, the entire 2015 season featured exceptional and historic success for the UNM women, as they won four times in five chances and finished the season with perhaps the best performance at an NCAA cross country meet ever, as the Lobos registered the lowest team score by any team since 1982, the smallest team spread (29.5 seconds) in the history of the six-kilometer championship, the most All-Americans (five) since 2009 and the most top-25 finishers (five) since 2001.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR



HEATH RIDENOUR



Heath Ridenour, in his fourth year at the helm of the Cleveland High football team, came out of the 2015 season the same way his Storm went into  the No. 1 team in Class 6A.

Cleveland went 10-0 in the regular season, won the District 1-6A championship, set a scoring record (645 points, to opponents' 208) and had just one close game all season – a seesaw battle with Eldorado, the team it would defeat in the championship game at Lightning Bolt Stadium in early December. In his four seasons at Cleveland, where the former Lovington High and ENMU quarterback was the offensive coordinator for the first Perfect Storm – the 13-0 team in 2011 – Ridenour is 36-11.

It didn't hurt to have a bevy of All-State players, including three Division I commits, which included UNM-bound and the state's Gatorade Player of the Year, Gabe Ortega and Marcus Williams plus, Stanford-bound offensive lineman Henry Hattis.



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME COLLEGIATE TEAM OF THE YEAR



UNM WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY



The UNM women's cross country team turned in one of the most-dominating performances in NCAA history, as the No. 1 Lobos won the national title in November at the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships.

The Lobo women placed all five of their scorers in the top 25, making each an All-American, in Louisville and combined to score 49 points, the lowest team score by any team since 1982. The Lobos lived up to their No. 1 billing, running through the 31-team field to an 80-point victory – the fifth-largest in NCAA history -- over runner-up Colorado.

Courtney Frerichs led UNM over the women's 6-kilometer course, placing fourth in 19:48. Courtney was the Lobos' top runner at four of the five meets at which they ran in 2015; her finish is the best in program history. Rounding out the Lobos' score were Alice Wright (fifth/19:53.1), Rhona Auckland (13th/20:07.01), Calli Thackery (15th/20:07.03) and Molly Renfer (24th/20:17.5).



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NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF THE YEAR



LA CUEVA HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM



The La Cueva High School volleyball team claimed the school's first state volleyball title in November at Santa Ana Star center, beating Cleveland three games to one.

Head coach Steven Archibeque led the Bears to a perfect 22-0 record, which included eight wins over its District 2-6A foes to claim the district title. By season's end, the Bears were ranked 20th in the nation. La Cueva had registered runner-up finishes three times (2007, '09 and '12) before running the table in 2015 and becoming the first undefeated big-schools champ to go undefeated since Santa Fe High in 1996.

The Bears became the last sports program at LCHS, boys or girls, to win a state championship.

And, losing only three seniors last fall – Madison Harris, Sophia Masuda and Abigail Stomp, the Gatorade Player of the Year in the state – Class 6A teams should watch out for the Bears in the 2016 season.



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Hall of Fame Inductees



1973



Roy Johnson



Bobby Unser



Tony Wilson

1977



Pete McDavid



Nancy Neeld



Abbie Paiz

1974



Bob Foster



Paul Parenti



Don Perkins

1978



Mel Daniels



Mannie Foster



Cathy Carr

1975



Ralph Bowyer



Adolph Plummer



Al Unser Sr.

1979



Tow Diehm



John Baker

1976



Jim Clearly



John Dolzadelli

1980



Hugh Hackett



Tommy McDonald



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Hall of Fame Inductees



1981



Bob King



1986



Bill Brannin



Bill Gentry



Carlos Salazar

1982

NONE

1987



Ashby Harper



Iggy Mulcahy



Bobby Santiago

1983



Charlie Renfro



1934 UNM FOOTBALL TEAM



Toby Roybal

1988



Mel Otero

1984



1989



Ben Abruzzo



Maxie Anderson



Larry Newman



Dave Tomlinson



Chuck Hill



Jim Hulsman



Owen Smaulding

1985



Ira Harge



Dick McGuire



Clarence Robinson



1990



Rusty Mitchell



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Hall of Fame Inductees



1991



Michael Cooper



Jack Rushing



Walt Arnold



Sid Cutter



Tony Valdez

1992



Robin Cole



Guyton Hayes



Ron Nelson



Cowboy Jimmy Moore



Don Flanagan



Bill Weeks

1993



George Maloof



Mike Roberts



Rosemary Thompson



Janet Ely Lagourgue



The Henrys



Tom Jager

1994



Vince Cappelli



Mickey Miller



Al Unser Jr.



Rudy Cordova



Pettie Gibson



Pat McKernan



Don Woods

1995



Jim Evertt



Dave Barney



Hickum Galles

2000



Kent Bostic



Ray Etherly



Rosie Jones



Dana Miller-Mackie



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Hall of Fame Inductees



2001



Preton Denard



Ray Giannini



JD Kailer



Carol Knauber

2006



Jim Ottman



Lionel Taylor



Jorge Tristani



Kathy Whitworth

2002



Val Boyer-Wells



Terry Landrum



Stan Quintana

2007



Linda Estes



Nancy Lopez



Buddy Robertson



Susan Vigil-MacEachen

2003



Connie Alexander



Sally Marquez



Henry Sanchez

2008



Notah Begay III



Greg Brown



Jim Bradley



Charley Johnson

2004



Paul Smith



Joe Vivian

2009



Pervis Atkins



Chainey Umphrey



Terrance Mathis



Duane Ward

2005



Sheila Burrell



Bobby Gibbs



Lou Henson



Ralph Tasker

2010



Curtis Williams



Jim Ciccarello



Rocky Long



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Hall of Fame Inductees



2011



L.G. & Cooper Henderson



Guy Wimberly



John Lomansey



2012



Brian Urlacher



Carol and Reed Barnitz



Kenny Thomas



2013



Mike Smith



Henry and Gary Sanchez



2014



Vicente Arroyo



Bill Bridges



Ralph Kiner



Ralph Neely



Pete Shock



Trent Dimas



George Young

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Sheila Burrell |
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| 1976 S.Y. Jackson Sr. | 1990 Joe Zeni | 2004 Sheila Burrell |
| 1977 Frank Schifani | 1991 Dr. John F. Boyd M.D. | 2005 ----- |
| 1978 Chet Caldwell | 1992 Art Gardenswartz | 2006 ----- |
| 1979 Gwinn (Bub) Henry | 1993 Kent Mathis | 2007 Doug Zembiec |
| 1980 H. I. (Iggy) Mulcahy
George Baldwin | 1994 Greater Albuquerque
Medical Association | 2008 Larry Waters |
| 1981 Carlos Salazar | 1995 Dick Terwilliger | 2009 Abe Estrada |
| 1982 ----- | 1996 Don Flanagan | 2010 Alex Bregman
Michael S. Sanchez
Justine Schluntz |
| 1983 Mrs. Ruth Wilson | 1997 Dr. James Bradley | 2011 Kendra Stern
Gene Pino |
| 1984 W.D. (Bill) Brannin
Jim Schumacher | 1998 Pat McKernan | 2012 Johnny Tapia |
| 1985 Lloyd McKee | 1999 Bobby Gibbs | 2013 Henry Tafoya |
| 1986 ----- | 2000 Sheila Burrell
Elva Dryer
Heather Moody
Jackie Lance
Falilat Ogunkoya | 2014 Scott Grady
Frank Maestas
Cindy Roybal |



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

PROMOTION OF THE YEAR



1973	Sid Cutter	1987	Albuquerque Journal Duke City Marathon	2001	Amateur Athletic Union's Grand National Sanction Wrestling Tournament
1974	-----	1988	McDonald's All-American High School Basketball Game	2002	Erin Trujeque Memorial Golf Tournament
1975	Albuquerque Jaycees	1989	Virginia Slims/ 1st National Bank Women's Tennis Tourney	2003	Marty Saiz/State Farm High School Recognition Program
1976	Frank Crosby	1990	Pat McKernan - Albuquerque Dukes	2004	Great Southwest Track And Field Classic
1977	Mike London	1991	-----	2005	All American High School Baseball Game
1978	Willie Sanchez	1992	Larry Ahrens' Presidential Scholarship Golf Tournament	2006	New Mexico Bowl College Football Game
1979	Arabian International Horse Association	1993	UNM Lobo Club Kickoff Committee	2007	Triple A All-Start Game
1980	Special Olympics Tennis at the PIT	1994	Coca Cola New Mexico Games	2008	New Mexico Sports Authority
1981	Albuquerque Journal Gymnastics Meet	1995	New Day Shelter Shootout Golf Tournament	2009	NMAA "Dig Pink"
1982	Pat McKernan Albuquerque Dukes	1996	"Pack the Pit' UNM Athletes	2010	U.S. Youth Soccer Far West Regional Soccer Championship
1983	City of Albuquerque NCAA Final Four	1997	APS Golf Extavaganza	2011	USA Indoor Track & Field
1984	Rusty Mitchell (US Olympics)	1998	Sandia Cup Soccer Tourney	2012	Ty Murray Invitation
1985	Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta	1999	Paralyzed Veternans of America Jr. Wheelchair Championships	2013	Connie Mack World Series
1986	Sunwest Bank Charlie Pride Senior Golf Tournament	2000	The American Bowling Congress Championship Tournament	2014	Carrie Tingley's Mudd Volleyball



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Athletes of the Year



1973 Cathy Carr
Bob Foster
Al Unser Sr.

1983 Dana Miller
Mike Winters
Laurie Hegedom

1991 Pauline Manser
Dana Miller-Mackie
Luc Longley
Lance Little

1974 Don Woods

1984 Jim Everett
Rosie Jones

1992 Lisa Escobedo
Shelly Steely
Trent Dimas
Tom Jager
Al Unser Jr.

1975 Janet Ely
Bob Berg

1985 Terry Landrum
Al Unser Jr.
Claudia Schleyer

1976 Jesse Casteneda

1986 Chad Fox
Johnny Brown
Caroline Keggi

1993 Melissa Moore
Mike Nesbitt

1977 Val Boyer
Chuck Walter

1987 Caroline Keggi
Ibrahim Hussein

1994 Terrance Mathis (Pro)
Stoney Case
Janet Trujillo
Greg Brown

1978 Darlene Anaya
Mike Williams

1988 Laurel Kessel
Lance Ringnald
Gary Kinter

1979 Diana Silva
John Whitson

1989 Sheila Burrell
Terrance Mathis

1995 Winslow Oliver
Olga Apoell

1980 Kathrin Keill

1990 Maria Gurreri
Pauline Manser
Rosemary Thompson
Al Unser Jr

1996 John Wetteland (Pro)
Travis Young
Bobby Newcombe
Tamika Stukes
Leslie Hammond
Darrington Hobson

1981 Steve Jennings

1982 John Jackson
Alexandra Reinhardt



NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Athletes of the Year



1997	Paul Konerko (Pro) Graham Leigh	2004	Matt Gonzales Jeff Rowland Chris Williams Jennifer Delich Elva Dryer	2010	Arian Foster (Pro) Julie Foster Anika Newell Ronnie Daniels Lee Emanuel
1998	Luc Longley (Pro) A.J. Herrera Abb Garcheck Andrea Goldberg	2005	Jeff Rowland Danny Granger Jordan Pacheco Holly Holm	2011	Sarah Hattis Ashley Williams Cole Gautsche Luis Martinez Blake Swihart
1999	Brian Urlacher Katie Kern Notah Begay	2006	Brian Urlacher (Pro) Alan Branch Matt Tebo Donnie Marsh	2012	Chris Williams (Pro) Landry Jones (College - Male) Jarrin Solomon (College - Male) Shelby Pendley (College - Female) Bryce Alford (High School - Male) Madison Bridges (High School - Female)
2000	Brian Urlacher (Pro) Grace Galagan Mike Mohoric	2007	Alex Darling Marlin Hemmingson Curtis Beach John Sullivan	2013	Matt Moore (Pro) Alex Bregman (College - Male) Chantale Riddle (College - Female) Koery Windham (High School- Male) Anika Apostalon (High School - Female)
2001	Brian Urlacher (Pro) Donita Harmon Jarrod Baxter Erik Hinterbichler	2008	Danny Granger (Pro) Jennie Fairchild Katie Coronado Joey Hagerty	2014	Kenny Giles (Pro) Curtis Beach (College - Male) Chantale Riddle (College - Female) Zach Gentry (High School - Male) Alexa Romano (High School - Female) Alex Bregman (Amateurr)
2002	Brendan Donnelly (Pro) Dontrell Moore Natasha Lee	2009	Jody Ewert Savannah Whitaker Curtis Beach Ronnie Daniels		
2003	Kenny Thomas Jason Lenzmeier Jordan Adams Dontrell Moore				

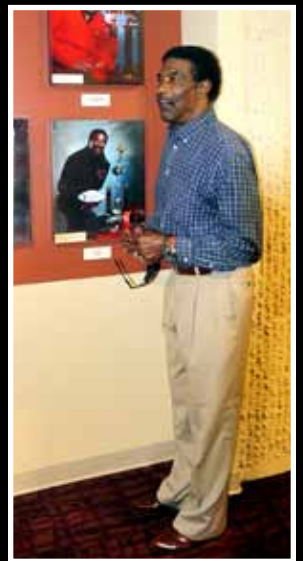
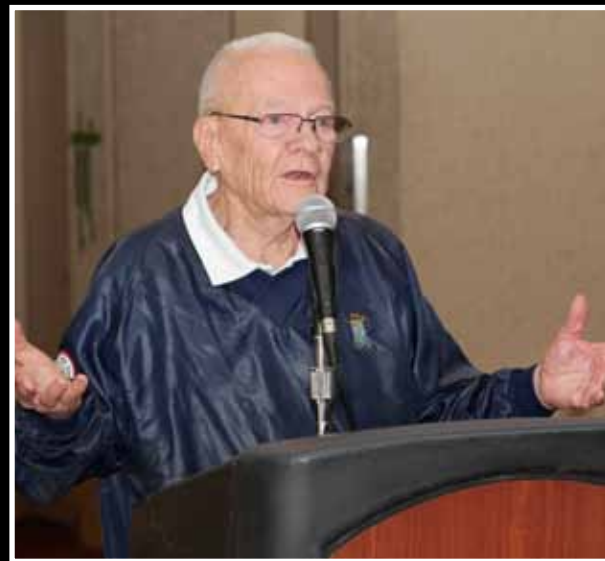


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Coaches of the Year



1984	Gary Colson	1997	Jorge Tristani	2010	Steve Alford
1985	Vince Capelli Vince Collins	1998	Jackie Booth	2011	Kirk Potter
1986	David Brummel	1999	Jim Johns	2012	Joe Franklin (College) Ron Geyer (High School)
1987	Terry Collins	2000	Rich Alday	2013	Elena Lovato (College) Kevin Werth (High School)
1988	Blasé Czerniakowski	2001	Vladi Stanojevic Steve Benoit	2014	Joe Franklin (College) David Howes (High School)
1989	Matt Henry	2002	Jeremy Fishbein		
1990	Laurel Brassy	2003	Don Flanagan Mike Brown		
1991	Tim Cass Gus Brock	2004	Stan McKeever Fred Romero Jeremy Fishbein George Brooks		
1992	Don Flanagan George Brooks	2005	Jeremy Fishbein Tommy Smith		
1993	Dennis Franchione	2006	Adam Kedge Charlie Dotson Greg Brown		
1994	Sarah Hindi	2007	Jim Ciccarello		
1995	Matt Henry	2008	Gene Victor		
1996	Dave Bliss	2009	Kenny Henry Fred Romero		



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PROMOTION OF THE YEAR
Cam Bairstow's Lobo All-Star Game



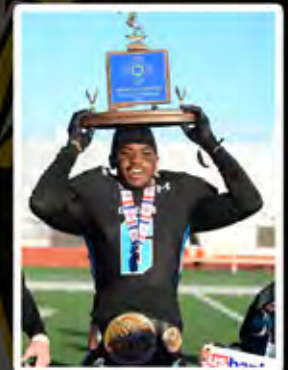
COLLEGIATE FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
Shelby Pendley



COLLEGIATE MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
C.J. Maestas



HIGH SCHOOL FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
Lauren Wilmert



HIGH SCHOOL MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
Marcus Williams



COLLEGIATE COACH ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
Joe Franklin



AMATEUR TEAM OF THE YEAR
New Mexico Cruisin' Big Dogs



COLLEGIATE TEAM OF THE YEAR
UNM Women's Cross Country



HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF THE YEAR
La Cueva High School Volleyball



HIGH SCHOOL COACH ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
Heath Ridenour