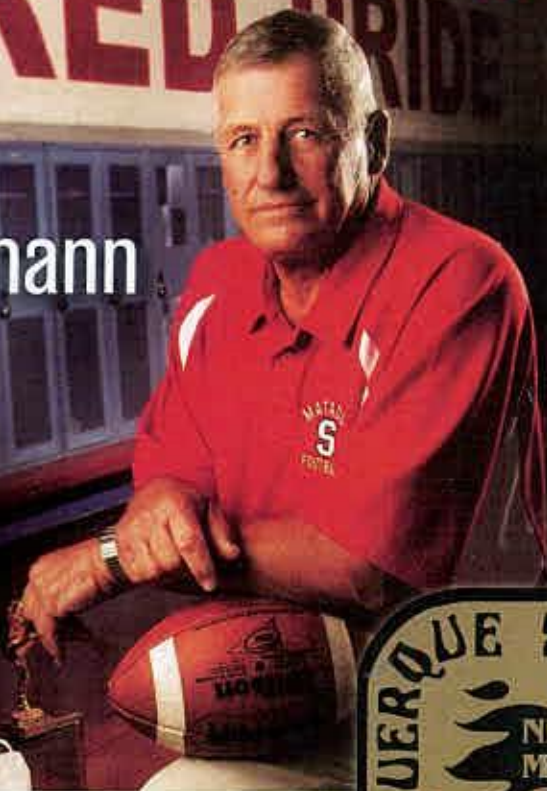


ALBUQUERQUE / NEW MEXICO SPORTS

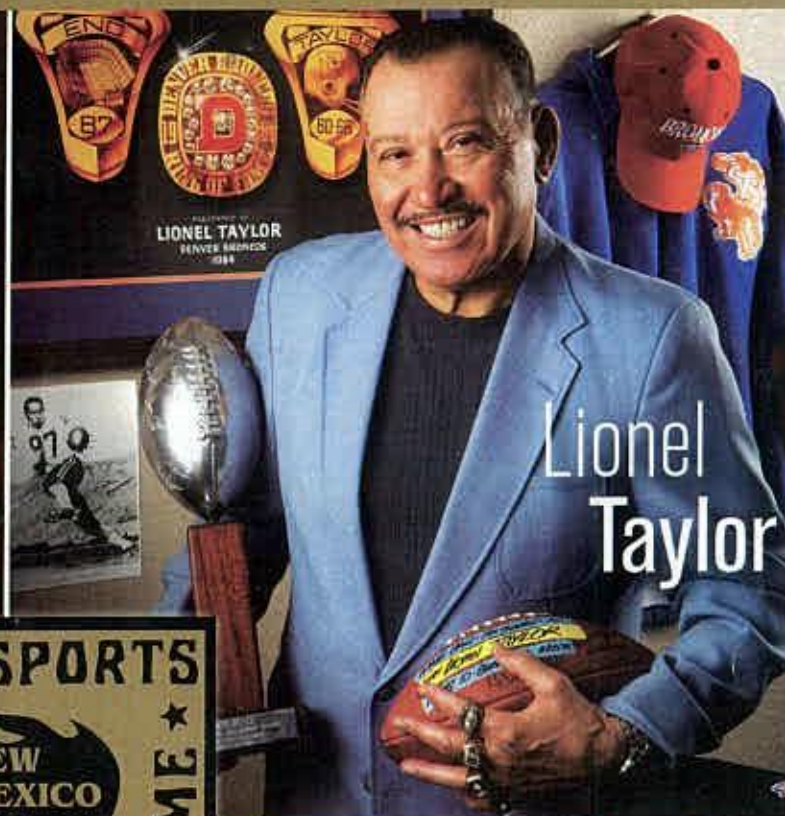
Hall of Fame

Jim
Ottmann

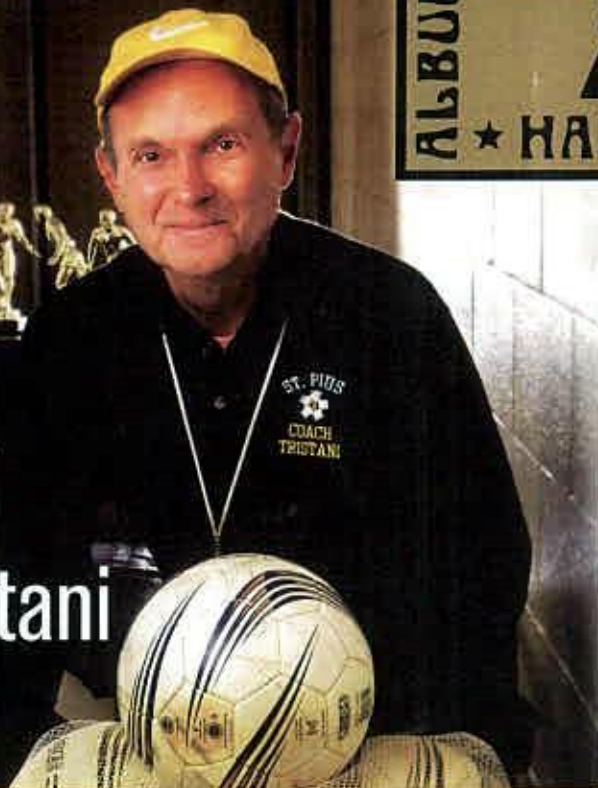


LIONEL TAYLOR
DENVER BRONCOS
1984

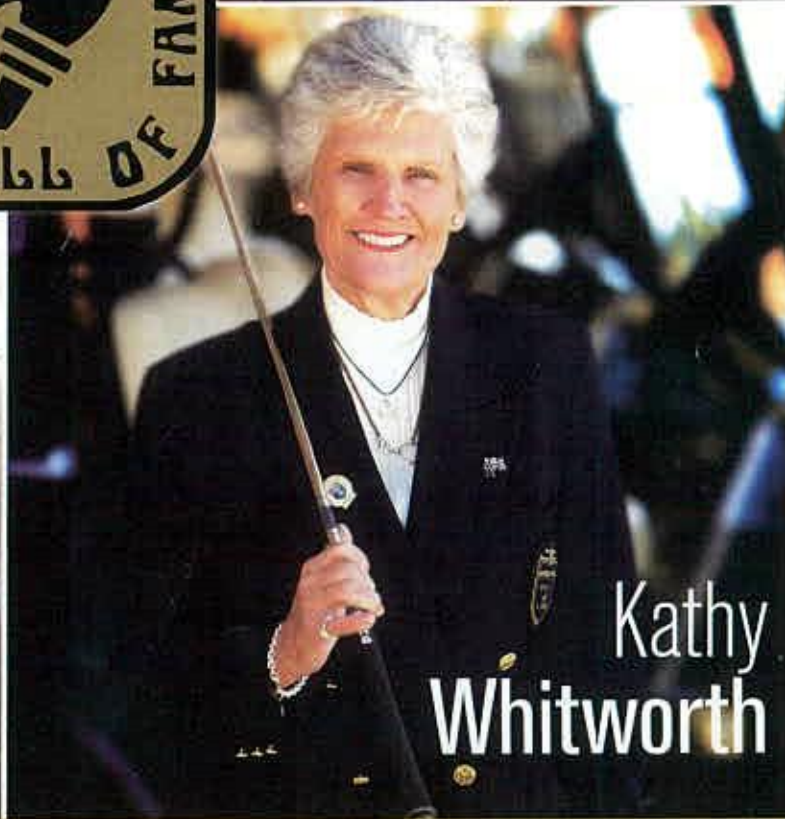
Lionel
Taylor



Jorge
Tristani



Kathy
Whitworth



34th Annual Banquet
February 27, 2007 • Hotel Albuquerque

Program

PROCESSION

Albuquerque / New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors

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SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Cottonwood Printing

✓ Multi-Sport High School Student Athletes

Females:

Lindsey Shepard - Albuquerque Academy - Volleyball,
Basketball, & Track
Natalie Arvizu - Manzano - Volleyball, Basketball & Track
Jessie Green - Eldorado - Soccer, Basketball, & Track
Serina Griego - Menaul School - Soccer & Basketball

Males:

Chris Voller - Valley - Football, Basketball, & Baseball
Adrian Baca - Rio Grande - Football, Wrestling, & Track
David Nuñez - Eldorado - Soccer & Basketball
Richard Bohlken - La Cueva - Football & Baseball

✓ SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Jim Pappan (posthumous)
St. Pius - Boys and Girls Soccer and Basketball

✓ PROMOTION OF THE YEAR

New Mexico Bowl

✓ TEAMS OF THE YEAR

Albuquerque Thunderbirds
Manzano Boys Basketball

COACHES OF THE YEAR

Adam Kedge - Albuquerque Academy Cross
Country & Track
Charlie Dotson - Eldorado Wrestling
Greg Brown - Manzano Boys Basketball

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Male:

Matt Tebo - Eldorado Cross Country
Alan Branch - Michigan Football

Female:

Dionne Marsh - UNM Women's Basketball

✓ PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Brian Urlacher - Chicago Bears

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Jim Ottmann
Lionel Taylor
Jorge Tristani
Kathy Whitworth

CLOSING REMARKS

H. Russell Goff

PORTRAITS

Kim Jew Photography

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The Year's Award Winners

Female Athlete of the Year

Dionne Marsh – UNM Women's Basketball

UNM's leading scorer (15.9) and rebounder (4.8) for the 2005-2006 season. Named to the All Mountain West First Team. Dionne was invited to the USA Basketball Under 20 Trials. She led the Lady Lobos in their win against Florida in the NCAA tournament, scoring 17 points. She was also the leading scorer with 25 points against Baylor in the second round. Dionne broke the all time record for free throws made with 165, breaking Abby Garchek's old record of 136. She also earned MWC Academic All-Conference Honors.

Male Athlete of the Year

Matt Tebo – Eldorado Cross Country

Most dominant distance runner in New Mexico during 2006. He won both the 1600 and 3200 at the Class 5A State meet in May and did not lose at these distances to a New Mexico athlete the entire 2006 track and field high school season. Matt won the 2006 state cross-country Class 5A championship for the third consecutive year in November. He has not lost to a New Mexico runner for the past two years. Recently he won the Foot Locker Western Regionals and finished fifth in the Foot Locker Nationals.

Alan Branch – Michigan Football

Started for the Michigan Wolverines 23 consecutive games. He was often double teamed because of his size and speed. While playing at defensive tackle in 2006 he had 28 stops, 7 tackles for losses, 2 pass breakups, 2 forced fumbles, 3 fumble recoveries and 2 interceptions. During his Michigan career, he recorded 64 tackles, 19 tackles for losses, 10 sacks, 4 fumble recoveries, 2 interceptions and 2 breakups. In his junior year he has received many honors. He was named ESPN's First Team All America, Associated Press Second Team All America and Rivals.com Second Team All America. Alan will enter the 2007 NFL draft as a junior. He is predicted to go in the first round, anywhere from 3rd to 10th.

Team of the Year Albuquerque Thunderbirds

They took advantage of a balanced scoring attack and held off a late Fort Worth rally to defeat the Flyers 119-108 and win the 2006 NBA Developmental League Championships at the Fort Worth Convention Center. The Thunderbirds' title gives coach Michael Cooper a championship at every level under the NBA umbrella. He won 5 NBA rings as a player for the Los Angeles Lakers and two more titles as head coach of the WNBA's Los Angeles Sparks. Despite not having a First Team or Second Team player in the league, the Thunderbirds proved that team stability and chemistry can overcome talent. All eight players that played in the deciding game scored double figures.

Manzano Boys Basketball

Having unexpectedly lost two starters, Manzano started the 2005-2006 season 5-2. But during the final three months of the season, the Monarchs seemed to do everything right. Finishing the season with a near flawless performance at The Pit, Manzano won 23 straight games, the last one being the class 5A Boys Championship, defeating Alamogordo 64-53. At 25-2, the Monarchs earned their first boys basketball championship since 1974.

Coach of the Year

Adam Kedge – Albuquerque Academy Cross Country and Track

Kedge led Albuquerque Academy to a 4A State Championship in cross country and track in 2006. This is his third consecutive cross-country championship. The cross-country team was invited this year to the Nike Team Nationals and finished 7th. In track it was their 5th consecutive state track championship. Kedge has been coaching track and cross-country for 17 years. He was at Eldorado from 1991-1995 and at Albuquerque Academy from 1995-present. Overall he has won 13 state titles as head coach (8 cross-country and 5 track). He has coached 5 All-Americans and 5 state record holders.

Charlie Dotson – Eldorado Wrestling

Eldorado used a strong semi final performance to unseat three-time wrestling champ, Rio Rancho, 222.5 - 215.5. The Eagles earned their first state title since 1987 and their first under head coach Charlie Dotson, who was a state champion for Eldorado in 1987. The win also marked the peak of a long uphill battle Dotson fought when he came from Del Norte five seasons ago on the heels of back-to-back titles for the Knights. Eldorado had 11 of 13 wrestlers medal in the 20-team state tournament.

Greg Brown – Manzano Boys Basketball

The Monarchs won a state title in Greg's fourth year as head coach. He won three state championships as a player for Albuquerque Academy and now he joined one of the most exclusive fraternities – someone who has earned titles as a player and a coach. He took the tournament's second seeded team to a state championship, beating Gadsden, Las Cruces, Santa Fe and Alamogordo to get Manzano its first big school basketball title in 32 years.

Professional Athlete of the Year

Brian Urlacher – Chicago Bears

The five time Pro Bowl selection was named the 2006 Associated Press Defensive Player of the year, becoming the second Bears player to win the award (Mike Singletary 1985, 1988) in franchise history and just the fifth player in NFL history to be named Defensive Rookie of the year and Defensive Player of the year in their career. He received the award by receiving 34 of 50 votes in the AP voting. For the 2006 Pro Bowl, he received the most votes of any defensive player. This was his fifth selection and fourth as

a starter after tallying 171 tackles on a Bears defense that allowed the fewest points and second fewest total yards in the NFL. His 956 career tackles are the most for a Bears player in his first 6 seasons.

Promotion of the Year

New Mexico Bowl

The snow capped Sandia Mountains and crystal blue southwestern sky served as the perfect backdrop for the inaugural New Mexico Bowl at University Stadium. With a national television audience tuning in, Albuquerque put its best foot forward as the state played host to its first major college post season football game. The festive atmosphere proved especially appealing to San Jose State. The Spartans went on to a 20-12 victory over the University of New Mexico.

More than 34,000 people witnessed the bowl. Fans were treated to tailgate parties, Acorn Sky City fanfest, a jumbo screen featuring 2006 Lobo highlights, tattoos for the kids, free pompons, free hats to the first 5000 fans, door prizes, UNM marching band and a banquet for the players. Players participated in several events in the days leading up to the big game, including a chile cook off, bowling and visiting a children's hospital.

Special Recognition

Jim Pappan (posthumous)

Jim was an outstanding athlete at Sandia High School from 1960 through 1963. He was a three sport letterman in football, basketball and baseball. His claim to fame in basketball was when he made the winning basket to defeat St. Michael's in the state championship game in 1962 as a junior. As a senior at Sandia, he made the North All-Star football team and played in it in July of 1963. After he graduated from Sandia in 1963, Jim received a baseball scholarship at UNM and played under Coach Bob Leigh in the seasons of 1964 and 1965. In 1965 he signed a professional baseball contract and played in the Cleveland Indians organization for three years. After his professional baseball career came to a halt because of a knee injury, Jim returned to Albuquerque and was employed in the sporting goods business from 1969 through 2001 when he retired due to illness. Jim Pappan passed away on December 16, 2006 as a result of this illness. It is truly amazing how many people in various walks of life that he touched.

St. Pius Boys and Girls

Soccer and Basketball

St. Pius has done something not many teams have done. Its boys soccer and basketball teams and girls soccer and basketball teams all won state championships in the same year. The boys soccer team beat Albuquerque Academy 2-1 in four overtimes. The girls soccer team beat the Albuquerque Academy 3-0. The boys basketball team beat Del Norte 72-64 and the girls basketball team beat Aztec 74-56.

HALL OF FAME



Jim Ottmann

Sometimes, a man's life can be summed up in one sentence. If so, here's Jim Ottmann's take on Jim Ottmann: "When I get somewhere," he says with a lighthearted laugh, "I stay."

Ottmann remained long enough at Sandia High School to win 143 football games, one state football championship and influence thousands of Matador players and students with his combination of high volume, huge passion and big heart.

His time on the Albuquerque sports scene reads like an athletic to-do list. Ottmann coached football, wrestling and golf at Sandia. He became a notable wrestling official on both the high school and collegiate levels, and officiated the NCAA tournament for several years. And when that wasn't enough, he could be seen at the scorer's table at Matadors basketball games, running the clock or keeping the book. Still does, in fact.

His passion for sports was so great that years after retiring from Sandia, where he had a 143-102-3 record in 23 years as head coach, he returned to the field as an official. "Since I can remember athletics was my life," Ottmann says. "It's all I've ever done."

Ottmann came to Albuquerque as a football player. He arrived at the University of New Mexico, recruited by the staff of Marv Levy. Only problem was, Levy had left months before practice was to begin. The staff of the new head coach, Bill Weeks, agreed to honor Ottmann's scholarship, but nobody knew anything about the junior college transfer from Austin, Texas.

They found out soon enough: Ottmann became a key member of the last Lobo team to win a postseason game, the 1961 Aviation Bowl. Upon graduation in 1963, he took an assistant coaching job at Sandia.

By the 1970s, Ottmann was at the helm. His Matador teams were physical and tough, always relying on ball control and defense. His most notable team, the state championship outfit of 1976, had two of the best Albuquerque players ever to compete: running backs Phil Trent and Mike Carter. One went to Nebraska. The other was a Parade Magazine All-American and played at URM.

Those memories are sweet ones, but Ottmann says he had other years, just as enjoyable, with teams that didn't win it all. It was the games he loved most. "I look back, and I enjoyed everything about it," says Ottmann. "I liked working with the kids. Win or lose. I was a guy who liked to win and work hard."



Jorge Tristani

Fifteen state championships. Fifteen. The number is so improbable, so far off the charts, that even Jorge Tristani can barely believe it. "It's absurd," he says. "But it was a joyride."

An architect by training and a coach by choice, Tristani built a wonderful flying machine called St. Pius X boys' soccer. From 1983 to 2007, the Sartans did loop-the-loops around their competition, establishing a standard of excellence, victories and titles that may never be approached, let alone broken. At the helm through it all was the quiet, reserved Tristani, who calmly guided St. Pius to victory after victory without much fanfare, but with plenty of precision.

A small, unimposing man, Tristani looks nothing like Vince Lombardi. But Tristani's inner drive set the stage for his players' triumph.

Example: At a time when 10:30 p.m. was the beginning of a long, lost evening for many high school kids, the coach imposed a curfew that stuck. "During soccer season, it's all about soccer," former Sartan Matt Lamb once told a reporter. "If there's a curfew, then you're in by curfew."

Nobody much cared about curfew or, for that matter, soccer in 1983, when Tristani, prompted by a St. Pius parent who'd liked his coaching methods in AYSO, interviewed with then-Sartans athletics director Ray Giannini about running the program. Tristani, then an architect who'd hoped to coach part-time, showed up dressed to the nines. Giannini, never one for formality, and a football coach to boot, gave him the job before Tristani ever took off his coat. The rest was victory. And history.

After winning his 15th title in November 2006, Tristani announced he would retire from coaching, though he remains at St. Pius as a Spanish, drafting and advanced placement art history teacher. He acknowledges the load had begun to weigh heavily on him toward the end. "The expectations are so high," he says, "that finishing third or fourth was beginning to seem like failure."

Tristani, 58, helped develop some of the best local talent the sport has seen, including Mike Strati and A.J. Herrera, among others. It's instructive to note that when Tristani took the helm at St. Pius, neither the program, nor the sport itself, got much attention. That's all changed now. Thousands watch the state tournament each fall, and a title in soccer means as much as a basketball, football or baseball championship. Jorge Tristani was in on the ground floor. But then, where else would an architect be?

E I N D U C T E E S

Lionel Taylor



At 5 a.m., he stepped off the bus in Las Vegas, N.M., with nothing more than \$13 in his pocket and fear in his mind. Lionel Taylor, the kid from the backwoods hollers of West Virginia, can still recall asking: "Oh, my God, what did I do?"

That gamble, the gamble of a lifetime, paid off handsomely. Taylor parlayed the bus trip west, to a little college that needed some football players, into a career that helped change the face of pro sports.

At a time when few in pro football had truly grasped that the passing game would enchant fans and make players and owners rich, Taylor was catching footballs by the dozen. The little-known kid from New Mexico Highlands University was among the best pro receivers in the 1960s.

As the AFL pioneered high-volume, high-return passing while the stodgier, more entrenched NFL stayed on the ground, Taylor was the man to watch in his Denver Broncos uniform. In the early '60s, he put together 92- and 100-catch seasons at a time when most fans thought 30 receptions was living large. After leading Highlands to prominence in the late 1950s, Taylor began his pro career in the NFL. But he jumped to the upstart league as part of a long-range career plan.

"My feeling was I'd go to the AFL," he recalls. "I didn't think they would really make it, but if they didn't, I could come back to the NFL. It turned out to be my greatest move."

The AFL of Joe Namath and Len Dawson and Bobby Bell made room for Taylor. He was a three-time all-AFL selection, and his popularity in Denver helped turn the Broncos into a religion. He was inducted into the team's Ring of Fame in 1984, and still returns to Denver at the team's behest once a year to re-live the glory days.

Taylor turned to coaching in retirement. He had stints as an assistant with the Los Angeles Rams and Pittsburgh Steelers, and remains involved in the game as a scout and mentor for an agency that represents collegiate players getting ready to make the jump to the pros.

He has long called New Mexico home, and lives in Rio Rancho with his wife, Lorenita. They have two daughters, Loretta and Lavern. He laughs a bit when he thinks about how a kid from Lorado, W. Va. (it's all about the L's with Lionel Taylor) could end up in Las Vegas and build a life. "I adopted New Mexico," he says, "and it looks like New Mexico adopted me back."

Kathy Whitworth



Think about it: Four years after picking up a golf club for the very first time, Kathy Whitworth turned pro. She was THAT good.

As she describes her rise from small-town girl in Jal to enduring legend in women's golf, Whitworth makes it all sound like she was blessed by good luck, good friends, good timing. That's true, of course, but it doesn't change the fact that she had a talent and a drive that belied anyone's imagination.

"When I look back on my career," she says, "I wouldn't trade it for the world. I didn't initiate any of it. But when you talk about it, you think, Yeah, maybe it was meant to be." In Whitworth's case, it was meant to be first. As in, first place.

Her golf résumé is just short of outrageous. She won six Ladies Professional Golf Association major titles; established the sport's victory record with 88 tournament titles; became the seventh member of the LPGA Hall of Fame; remains one of the best-known and best-liked ambassadors of the game. In other words, she was Nancy Lopez before there was a Nancy Lopez. Or an Annika Sorenstam. Or a Michelle Wie.

Whitworth, 67, gives great credit to Jal for helping her find the game that would make her famous. Jal Country Club, a nine-hole course carved into the desert, was the perfect place to learn for a 15-year-old. She also ran across the pro there, Hardy Lowdermilk, who would recognize and refine her talent and eventually send her to golfing legend Harvey Penick.

"The beautiful part about growing up in a small town was that golf wasn't expensive and I had access to a golf course where I could learn to play," she says. "Now, if you're at a country club or in a big town or city, it's hard for a young player, especially if their family doesn't live on a golf course and isn't affluent. It was a fortunate thing for me." Whitworth took to the game immediately. "I practiced and played, practiced and played," she recalls.

Soon, she was good enough that she knew she had to leave Jal to truly hone her gift. She says people in town got together, formed a corporation to sponsor her career, and, poof, she was gone: M.C. and Dama Whitworth's kid had a legend to create.

Whitworth now lives in Flower Mound, Texas, and says she doesn't get back to Jal as often as she'd like. But the feelings, the memories, are still there. "Jal was where it all started," she says. "There were so many wonderful people who went through Jal. It will always be close and dear to my heart forever."

P A S T I N

Previous Years	Hall of Fame Inductees	Athlete of The Year	Award of Distinction	Promotion of the Year
1973-1974	F.M. (Tooy) Wilson Bobby Unser Roy W. Johnson	Cathy Carr Bob Foster	H.L. (Hickum) Galles, Jr.	Sid Cutter
1974-1975	Don Perkins Paul (Babe) Parent Bob Foster	Don Woods	George Melof	-
1975-1976	Ralph Bowyer Al Unser, Sr. Adolph Plummer	Janet Ely Bob Berg	Don Kirby	Albuquerque Jaycees Invitational Track Meet
1976-1977	Jim Cleary John Dolzadelli	Jessa Castaneda	S.Y. Jackson, Sr.	Frank Crosby
1977-1978	Nancy Neald Pete McDavid Abbie Paiz	Val Boyer Chuck Walter	Frank Schifani	Mike London
1978-1979	Mannie Foster Cathy Carr West Mel Daniels	Darlene Anaya Mike Williams	Chet Caldwell	Willie Sanchez (Albuquerque Dukes)
1979-1980	L.F. (Tow) Diehm John Baker	Diana Silva John Whitson	Gwinn (Bub) Henry	Arabian International Horse Association
1980-1981	Tommy McDonald Hugh Hackett	Kathryn Kell	H.I. (Iggy) Mulcahy George Baldwin	Special Olympics
1981-1982	Bob King	Steve Jennings	Carlos Salazar	Albuquerque Journal Gymnastics Meet
1982-1983	-	Alexandra Reinhardt John Jackson	-	Pat McKernan (Albuquerque Dukes)
1983-1984	Toby Roybal 1934 UNM Football Team Charlie Renfro	Dana Miller Mike Winters	Mrs. Ruth Wilson	-
1984-1985	Ben Abruzzo Maxie Anderson Larry Newman	Rosie Jones Jim Everett	W.D. (Bill) Brannin Dave Tomlinson	Rusty Mitchell (U.S. Olympic Gymnasts, Exhibition)
1985-1986	Ira Harge Dick McGuire Clarence Robinson	Claudia Schleyer Terry Landrum Al Unser, Jr.	Lloyd McKee	Albuquerque International Balloun Fiesta
1986-1987	W. D. (Bill) Brannin Bill Bentry Carlos Salazar	Caroline Keggi Chad Fox Johnny Brown	-	Sunwest Bank Cherley Pride Sr. Golf Tourney
1987-1988	Bobby Santiago H.I. (Iggy) Mulcahy Ashby Harper	Al Unser, Sr. Caroline Keggi Ibrahim Hussein	Dr. Jerome Greenblatt, M.D.	Albuquerque Journal Duke City Marathon
1988-1989	Mel Otero	Lance Rignold Gary Kinder Laurel Kessel	Mike Roberts	McDonald's All-American High School Basketball Game
1989-1990	Dave Tomlinson Chuck Hill Jim Hulsman Owen Smaulding	Terance Mathis Jill Shaver Sheila Burrell	J.D. Kailer	Virginia Silms, 1st. National Bank Women's Tennis Tourney
1990-1991	Rusty Mitchell	Al Unser, Jr. Pauline Manser Maria Gurreri Rosemary Thompson	Joe Zani	Pat McKernan (Albuquerque Dukes)
1991-1992	Michael Cooper Jack Rushing	Pauline Manser Dana Miller-Mackie Luc Longley Lance Little	Dr. John F. Boyd, M.D.	-

U C T E E S

Previous Years	Hall of Fame Inductees	Athlete of The Year	Award of Distinction	Promotion of the Year
1992-1993	Robin Cole Guyton Hays Ron Nelson	Lisa Espinosa Shelly Stealy Trent Dumas Tom Jager Al Unser, Jr.	Art Gardenswartz	Larry Ahrens (Presidential Scholarship Golf Tournament)
1993-1994	George Malool Mike Roberts Rosemary Thompson	Melissa Moore Mika Nesbitt	Kent Mathis	UNM Lobo Club Kickoff Committee
1994-1995	Vinco Cappelli Al Unser, Jr. Mickey Miller	Terance Mathis (Pro) Stanley Case Greg Brown Janet Trujillo	Greater Albuquerque Medical Association	Coca Cola New Mexico Games
1995-1996	Jim Everett Dave Barney H.L. (Hickum) Galles, Jr.	Winslow Oliver Olga Appell	Dick Terwilliger	New Day Shelter Shootout Golf Tournament
1996-1997	Walt Arnold Tony Valdez Sid Cutler	John Wetteland (Pro) Travis Young Bobby Newcombe Leslie Hammond Tamika Stokes	Don Flanagan	"Pack the Pit" UNM Athletics
1997-1998	Bill Weeks Don Flanagan "Cowboy" Jimmy Moore	Paul Konarko (Pro) Graham Selph Laura Hegedorn	Dr. James Bradley	Albuquerque Public Schools Golf Extravaganza
1998-1999	Janet Ely Lagourgue Henry Family Tom Jager	Luc Longley (Pro) Andrea Goldberg Abay Garchuk A.J. Herrera	Pat McKernan Jim Schumacher	Sandia Cup Soccer Tourney
1999-2000	Rudy Cordova Patie Gibson Pat McKernan Don Woods	Notah Begay III (Pro) Katie Korn Brian Urlacher	Bobby Gibbs	Paralyzed Veterans of America - Jr. Wheelchair Championships
2000-2001	Karl Bostik Ray Etherly Rosie Jones Dana Miller-Mackie	Brian Urlacher (Pro) Grace Galagan Mike Muharic	Sheila Burrell Elva Dryar Heather Moody Jackie Lance Fallat Ogunkoya	The American Bowling Congress Championship Tournament 2000
2001-2002	Preston Dannerd Ray Giannini John "JD" Kaller Carol Hudson Knauber	Brian Urlacher (Pro) Erik Hinterbichler Jarrod Baxter	Backlog Albuquerque Baseball Committee	Amateur Athletic Union's 2001 Grand National Sanction Wrestling Tournament
2002-2003	Valerye Boyer-Walls Terry "Tita" Landrum Star Quintana	Brendan Donnelly (Pro) Dontrell Moore Natasha Lee	Tommy Long Sheila Burrell	Erin Trujague Memorial Golf Tournament
2003-2004	Donnie Alexander Sally Marquez Henry D. Sanchez	Kenny Thomas (Pro) Jason Leitzmeier Dontrell Moore Jordan Adams	Jim Johnson	Marty Saiz/State Farm Player of the Week
2004-2005	Joe F. Vivian Paul Smith	Matt Gonzales Jeff Rowland Chris Williams Jennifer Delich Elva Dryer	Sheila Burrell	Great Southwest Track and Field Classic
2005-2006	Sheila Burrell Bobby Gibbs Loo Henson Ralph Tasker	Jeff Rowland Danny Granger Jordan Pacheco Holly Holm		All American Baseball Game
2006-2007	Jim Ottmann Lioral Taylor Jorge Tristani Kathy Whitworth	Matt Tebo Alan Branch Dionne Marsh		New Mexico Bowl

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Rio Rancho HS: Zia Graphics
Sandia HS: Albuquerque Baseball & Softball Hall of Fame
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