

TONY SANDOVAL

Born: October 24, 1945, in Albuquerque, New Mexico

High School: Albuquerque High School 1963.

College: University of New Mexico

Bachelor's degree from UNM was in Physical Education. Finished in December 1967 but graduation was in May 1968. I missed because I was in the NM National Guard for basic and advanced training at Ft. Bliss, Texas

Master's degree from UNM in 1973 was in Physical Education with a concentration in Exercise Physiology and a minor in Guidance and Counseling.

High School Accomplishment

- 1961 Coached by Ed Garvanian, who is in the New Mexico Track & Cross-Country Coaches Association's Hall of Fame.
- 1962-1963 Coached by Jim Hulsman, who is 1989 Albuquerque Sports Hall of Fame Inductee.
- Ran track and cross country for the Albuquerque High School (AHS) Bulldogs and lettered in both sports for three years.
- 1962 Set the AHS's school record in the 880-yard race, which it still stands at AHS.
- 1962 Won the Class A Cross Country State Meet. He won every cross-country meet.
- 1963 Won NM State Division One 880-yard title.
- 1963 Ran the mile one time and broke the AHS record.
- 1963 Received a scholarship from the University of New Mexico (UNM) to compete in track and cross country.

College Accomplishments

- Lettered his freshmen and soph year at UNM in XC and twice in track and field.
- Was the fifth man on UNM's first WAC XC title in 1963 in Salt Lake City
- 1966 left track and field and cross-country due an Achillis tendon injury.
- Coached by Hugh Hackett, who is 1980 Albuquerque Sports Hall of Fame Inductee.
- Competed in the mile, two-mile and steeplechase events.
- Was an all-time top 10 performer in the two-mile run.

Professional Accomplishments

- **Duke City Dashers (DCD)**
 - 1969 Summer after Tony's first year of teaching Physical Education (PE) at Montgomery Elementary School, Rex Clemmer gave up coaching the Duke City Dashers and turned over the small club to Tony. Coach Clemmer and Dan Dehart were the men who started DCD in 1968. Rex's daughter, Cheryl and others were planning to go to college away from Albuquerque. DCD competed with a small handful of girls that November at the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Cross-Country Championships in Los Angeles. In December, Tony invited his former Lobo track teammates to merge into a "super club" but retaining the name Duke City Dashers. John Baker (1979 Albuquerque Sports Hall of Fame Inductee), John Haaland, and Pat Cox were also Elementary PE teacher. They invited Elementary PE teacher, Jim Ciccarello (2010 Albuquerque/New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame Inductee) to join and DCD became a force in AAU competition. The DCD became a club to contend with, breaking record after record at meets throughout New Mexico and bordering states. The Dashers won many city, state, and national titles for at least a decade. Tony was instrumental in developing successful athletes during their formative years, several of whom continued to compete before, during and after college.

- In 1970 DCD won three age group National Cross Country Champions in Cleveland, Ohio
- Three DCD athletes competed in the 1972 Olympic trials. Linda Stecker (800), Alice Watson (Long Jump and 200), Kathy Hart (high Jump).
- Coached Lynn Bjorklund, DCD's most accomplished runner, winning three AAU cross country championships and two AAU two-mile championships. Bjorklund was world ranked in the two mile/3000 meters in 1974 and 1975 and remained until it was broken in 2013 the national high school record holder for the 3000 meters race.
- NM Sports International Track Club was a small breakaway group of older athletes (Bjorklund, Vigil, Stecker, Bear and Lucero) from DCD that competed in the fall 1975 at the USA AAU cross country championships in Belmont. CA. Lynn Bjorklund won the individual title and qualified for the world cross-country championship in the winter of 1976. In June 1976 Susan Vigil won the USA Jr 800 and beat the Russian in the USA versus USSR junior meet.
- Advocated for Title IX and Intercollegiate Athletics Inclusion to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).
- Member of the NCAA Track & Field Rules committee 1981-1989.
- Interim Chairman NCAA Rules committee (Jan – June) that merged men's and women's committee into one 1983.
- Member of the USA Olympic Long Distance Development Committee 1974 – 1982.
- **University of New Mexico**
 - 1974-1981 Taught in the undergraduate physical education department at UNM while working on a M.S. and Ph.D.
 - 1975-78 Assistant Coach for women's track & field and cross country.
 - 1976 Team finished 9th in the 2nd Annual Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women National Women's Cross-Country Championships. AIAW was the precursor to the NCAA.
 - 1977 Team finished 3rd in AIAW Regionals Cross-Country Meet
 - 1978 Took over the reigns as UNM's Women's Head Track & Field Coach. His initial salary was \$12,000.
 - 1978 Team finished 2nd in the AIAW Women's Cross-Country Regional's Championships.
 - 1978 Team finished 19th in the AIAW Women's Cross-Country National Championships.
 - Tony Sandoval: 1979-82:
 - 1979 Team finished 6th in the AIAW Women's Cross-Country National Championships.
 - 1980 Team finished 7th in the AIAW Women's Cross-Country Regional's Championships
 - 1981 Team finished 11th in the AIAW Women's Cross-Country National Championships.
 - 1981 Team finished 1st in the NCAA Region 7 Women's Cross-Country Championships.
 - 1982 Team finished 2nd in the NCAA Region 7 Women's Cross-Country Championships.
 - Developed 10 All-Americans
 - Karen Crammond, long distance, and cross-country runner.
 - Regina Dramiga of Uganda, middle distance runner.
 - Tecla Chemabawi of Kenya, middle distance runner.
 - Susan Vigil, 1979 800 meters AIAW National Champion (a former DCD runner, UNM Athletic Hall of Honor, and 2007 Albuquerque Sports Hall of Fame Inductee)
 - Other athletes' accomplishments
 - AIAW Women's Cross-Country National Championships finishes.
 - 1976 Karen Crammond
 - 1977 Susan Vigil 56th; Janet Wroblewski 58th; Virginia Middleton 150th.
 - 1978 Susan Vigil 107th; Patti Kaufman 117th; Regina Dramiga 167th; Lynn Brasher 215th; Katy Huff 233rd.
 - 1980 Loretta Chavez 70th

- 1981 Linda Mitchell 65th
- AIAW Women's Cross-Country All-Region and Region finishes.
 - 1976 Karen Crammond & Jean Rostermundt.
 - 1977 Janet Wronbleski 6th; Susan Vigil 9th; Patti Kaufman 14th.
 - 1980 Loretta Chavez
 - 1981 Lisa Mitchell 1st; Joan Sterrett, & Kristi Rapp
 - 1982 Sylvie Velay 17th; Cynthia Valdez 23rd; and Lisa Mitchell 25th.
- University of California, Berkeley 1982-2019
 - 37 years as a member of the California coach staff and 12 years overseeing the men's and women's program as Director of Track & Field.
 - 1982-1991 Became the head coach the women's cross-country / track & field program.
 - 1984 NCAA Women's Cross-Country Championship – finished 15th.
 - 1988 NCAA Women's Cross-Country Championship – finished 9th.
 - 1987-1990 Women finished in the top 20 three times.
 - 1990 Taking fourth at the NCAA Women's Indoor Championships.
 - 1990 Cal scored a school-record 23 points at the NCAA outdoor meet to claim 11th place, tying the 1987 team for the program's highest finish ever.
 - 1992 Became Associate Director of Men's and Women's cross-country coach and assistant coach to Erv Hunt in 1992 with the merger of the men's and women's athletic departments. He specialized in coaching the mid-distance group, specializing in the 800 meters.
 - 2007 Named Intern Director of Men's and Women's Track and Cross Country.
 - 2007, he guided the men's team to its first appearance as a team to the NCAA championships, where they placed 16th.
 - 2008 Director of Men's and Women's Track and Cross Country until retirement in 2019 where he produced dozens of All Americans, National Champions, World Champions, and Olympians during his tenure.
 - 2008 NCAA Men's Track & Field championships, where they placed 22nd.
 - Developed an All-American in every event from 800 meters-10,000 meters, including the steeplechase for both men and women.
 - Over the course of his tenure, Sandoval has developed a host of All-Americans, national champions and Olympians.
 - 2011 Produced a national champion in the decathlon (Mike Morrison)
 - Men finished in the top 25 for three consecutive seasons from 2009-11.
 - Coached David Torrence who holds the American record in the indoor 1000m with a time of 2:16.76. Torrence went on to run at the 2016 Rio Olympics where he took 15th in the 5000m.
 - Under his tutelage, members of the Cal women's team have had three NCAA winners in recent years: Alysia Johnson (800m, 2007), Kelechi Anyanwu (discus, 2007) and Katie Morgan (pole vault, 2008). They have also earned All-America honors on 46 separate occasions. Chloe Jarvis earned indoor All-American honors in the 800 in 2005, while Erin Belger finished third in the 800 at the 2002 NCAA meet.
 - Coached cross country runners to All-America honors 18 times:
 - Yosef Ghebray
 - Marilyn Davis
 - Elissa Riedy
 - Kirsten O'Hara (three times)
 - Bridget Duffy

- Deborah Maier (twice)
- Chelsea Reilly
- Richie Boulet (twice)
- Sabrina Han
- Kelsey Santisteban
- Sally Wood
- Bethan Knights (twice)
- Chris Walden
- All-Americans in Track & Field
 - Sheila Hudson won two of her Cal-record six national titles in the long jump and triple jump.
 - Louise Romo six-time All-American and AIAW 800 champion
 - Kirsten O'Hara, in the 5000- and 10,000-meters races
 - **Bolota** Asmeron NCAA runner up 5,000 - 2002
 - Richie Boulet; three-time middle distance All-American
 - Elissa Riedy, a two-time All-American in the 1500
 - Laura Baker, an All-American in the 800
 - Sally Wood, All-American in the 5000
 - Sabrina Han, All-American in the 10,000
 - Magdalena Lewy, an All-American in the 5000
 - Tenaya Soderman in the 10,000
 - Lisa Lopez was an indoor All-American in the mile.
 - Kevin Davis in steeplechase
 - Steve Sodaro in steeplechase
- His athletes hold every school record from the 800m, 1500m, mile, 3000m, Steeplechase, 5,000m and 10,000m, in **both** indoor and outdoor competitions except the men's 800m.
- Olympians
 - Bolota Asmerom 5000m in 2000
 - Magdalena Lewy marathon in 2008
 - Kari Karlsson Iceland marathon in 2012
 - David Torrence (US record holder of 1000m), 5,000m 2016 for Peru
- Alysia Johnson – Montano
 - His most decorated athlete.
 - Two bronze medals 800m outdoor world championships
 - Bronze medal 800m indoor world championships
 - 5th place 800m at 2012 London games that should have been a bronze medal since two Russian were banned for steroid use.
 - 6-time Senior USATF 800 meters race champion.
 - 2007 won three championships. NCAA indoor and outdoor and USATF 800 champion.
 - Ran 1:57 800m 4 years in a row 2012-15.
- 1978 Head Coach of the USA team at the International Amateur Athletic Union Federation Cross-Country Men and Women Championships in Glasgow, Scotland.
- 1981 Head Coach of the USA Women's Cross-Country team that competed in the World Championships in Madrid, Spain.
- 1987 Head Coach of the USA Women's Junior Track and Field Team that competed in Havana, Cuba, which was the first time since Fidel Castro came to power in 1959.

- 1991 Assistant Coach of the USA Women's Junior Track and Field Team that competed in the Pan American Games in Havana, Cuba.
- 1995 - Head coach for the 1995 U.S. Junior women's track and field team, which competed in Santiago, Chile in the Pan American Games.
- Following his retirement, Tony has continued to advise professional athletes and young coaches. He has a consulting business teaching mental skills to post college and professional athletes. His expertise extends to meet management, as he has a wealth of experience conducting major cross-country and indoor and outdoor track invitationals.
- Number of former athletes or assistant coaches across the USA
 - Devon Martin, his first female assistant coach, and currently the head coach of Central Park Track Club and Atlantic Track Club in NYCity
 - Shayla Houlihan new cross-country coach at Grand Canyon University
 - Ann Dunn at Formula Track Club, VA coached at Kentucky and Oklahoma U
 - Cindy Scannella at Heathwood Hall Episcopal HS in North Carolina. Former UNM Cross Country coach
 - Magdalena Lewy-Boulet was a professional coach with Hoka. Twice assistant cross-country coach at Cal
 - Susan (Vigil) MacEachen at UNM (1991-2000).
 - Two former grad students that trained or competed at Cal: Georgia Bell - World Indoor 2024.
 - Louise Shanahan – 2021 Olympian 800m and Irish National record holder.
 - Chelsea Sodaro - Ironman - National Champion Hawaii 2023.

Honors

- The 1986 NorPac Conference Track & Field Coach of the Year. NorPac was the women's sports conference prior to merger into the Pac – 10.
- 2014 NCAA West Region and MPSF Coach of the Year honors.

Community

- Community work: In conjunction with St. Mary's HS in Berkeley added youth running events to its winter all-comers series track meet in January and February.
- In conjunction with the USA Pacific Association track officials - trained, fortified, and certified new high school track & field officials.
- Added masters' events including race walking to the winter all comer series.

Family

- 1976 Married the love of his life, Barbara, in Albuquerque.
- Two daughters, Lisa (Seth) and Marcy (David), and two grandsons. Lisa and Marcy both graduated from Cal. Lisa was a two-time letterwinner in the 3000m steeplechase for the Bears while Marcy served as the team manager during her time on campus.