

CAROL HUDSON KNAUBER

Carol Hudson Knauber, a graduate of Highland High School and native of Albuquerque, has devoted much of her life to the sport of Track and Field. At age of 10, Carol joined the Albuquerque Olympette Track Club under the supervision of Coach Floyd Highfill and Stan Hayes. During the mid 1960's and early 1970's, the Albuquerque Olympette Track Club was one of the primary athletic clubs for young girls in the Albuquerque area.

From the age of 14-18, Carol dominated the Track & Field scene in the 440 and 880 yd. dashes at both the city and state levels. She established New Mexico state age group records from 1969 to 1973 in both indoor and outdoor track. Carol was also prominent at the national level by breaking National Age Group Records for 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16 year olds in various events. At the age of 15, Carol not only set the American Record in the women's 600 yd. run of 1:22.5 at the 8th Annual Jaycee Indoor Invitational in Albuquerque, but this was also a World Record time for her age group! She also broke Age Group World Record times in the 880 yd., with her fastest being 2:06.9 for 15 year olds.

In 1972, at only 16, Carol went on to win the AAU National Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Canton, Ohio. This was the first National Championship ever won by a New Mexico woman in the sport. By winning this Championship, Carol qualified to compete at the USA Olympics Trials in Frederick, MD. She finished 3rd in the 800 meters, qualifying her for the Olympic Trials Camp. She just missed making the Olympic Team by .1 of a second, running 2:05.1.

During the course of her racing career, Carol set five world records, eight national records and at least 14 state records for her age group in various events. She competed on a number of National teams representing the USA against Russia, Canada, and several European countries. She anchored several 1600 meter relays, winning for the US. Her best personal split for the 400m was clocked at 50.9!

After graduating from the University of New Mexico, Carol continued her track career by taking on the coaching reigns at Eldorado High School. Her team was the District winner 7 out of 8 years from 1980-1986. Carol then coached at La Cueva High School from 1987-1996. In 1987, Carol's Cross Country team won the first State Championships of any sport in the school's history. Her team beat out Santa Fe, who had won the State Championships five times in a row. In track, Carol's teams took first place honors in City and District from 1987 through 1996. In 1995, her team won the State Championships.

Carol, currently teaches at Sandia High School, along with her husband, Tom. They have three children, Adrienne, 19; Ted, 16; and Justin, 11.