

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."

