

# NEW MEXICO SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



# LUC LONGLEY



**L**uc 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.

