

RALPH BOWYER



Ralph Bowyer rates as one of the greatest all-around athletes of all-time at UNM. During his four years as a Lobo, the Albuquerque native won letters in three sports - football, basketball and track. But more amazing is the fact that during the span (1933-37), Bowyer twice achieved All-Border Conference selection in football and basketball.

Ralph started his athletic career under the watchful eyes of F.M. (Tony) Wilson, all-everything coach at Albuquerque High and a 1974 inductee into the Sports Hall of Fame, gaining All-State

recognition in football, basketball, track and baseball.

Bowyer then turned to a coaching career.

After stops at Grants, Belen and El Paso's Austin high schools, Ralph moved on to Carlsbad High where he attained some of the greatest records in New Mexico prep history.

At Carlsbad, Ralph led the Cavemen to eight state titles in football (a modern-day record that still stands), three state basketball crowns and two New Mexico track and field championships. In the 1946-47 year, Bowyer's teams gained a sweep of all three major sports. Following his retirement from the coaching ranks, Bowyer was named athletic director at Highlands University. He remained at HU until 1973 when he retired with a rating of Professor Emeritus. Ralph lives in Las Vegas with his wife Maxine, where he has turned his full attention to one-man art shows. The Bowyers have two married daughters, Nancy Dingess and Dot Hester.