

TOW DIEHM

Scores of great athletes in all sports have worn the colors of UNM the past 23 years. Not one has attained success without coming under the influence of L.F. "Tow" Diehm.

The tow-headed Kansan has been head trainer at UNM since 1957 which gives him the longest tenure of anyone in the athletic department. Tow's name has cropped up twice as candidate for Lobo athletic director, and more recently as assistant AD.

Born in Paoli, Kansas, the 55-year-old Diehm started his training career at Santa Rosa, Calif., Jr. College following graduation from Pittsburg, Kan., College where he gained his bachelor of science degree in 1955. He then joined his alma mater as trainer before becoming assistant at Michigan State a year later. His long marriage with UNM followed.

A charter member of the National Athletic Trainers Assn., Tow holds more than 100 awards for his contributions to sports training. One of his greatest achievements is the establishment of a student trainers school at UNM which has seen his pupils placed at more than 50 high schools in New Mexico.

Diehm was inducted into the prestigious Helms (Citizens Savings) Hall of Fame in 1976 after his years as board member of Nat. Athletic Trainers Assn.

Almost as important as his activity in sports medicine is Diehm's contribution to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes both as officer and director of Albuquerque's chapter as well as speaker nationally. The FCA's growth in New Mexico is a credit to Tow Diehm's efforts.

The quiet, knowledgeable Diehm has dedicated his life to guaranteeing that every athlete receives expert medical attention and does not return to competition until free of injuries.

No higher tribute is possible than the invitation to serve as a trainer for the U.S. Olympic team. Twice Tow Diehm has been invited; twice he has declined because "it would take me away from my job of being near my players."

