

## OKLAHOMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME NOMINEES LIST

(Last Updated 10/8/26)

### AUTO RACING

Bud Carson\*  
Jimmy Nix\*  
Jimmy Reece\*

### BASEBALL

Jerry Adair\*  
Hugh Alexander\*  
Jack Baer\*  
Randy Bass  
E.B. "Chief" Bender\*  
Al Benton\*  
Murl Bowen  
Jim Brewer\*  
Chet Bryan\*  
Ray Burris  
Brett Butler  
Larry Cochell  
Danny Doyle\*  
Josh Fields  
George "Rube" Foster\*  
Ryan Franklin  
Ron Gardenhire  
Jim Gentile  
Sunny Golloway  
Toby Greene\*  
Jap Haskell\*  
Ray Hayward  
Bobby Jones  
Frank Linzy  
Carl Mays\*  
Jordy Mercer  
Durwood Merrill\*  
Bobby Morgan\*  
Bob Muncief\*  
Russ Ortiz  
Dr. Donald Parham\*  
Dr. Joe Record\*  
Mark Redman  
Earlene "Beans" Risinger\*  
Steve Rogers  
John Russell  
John Schwartz\*  
Bob Shirley  
Lloyd Simmons  
Joe Simpson  
A. Ray Smith\*  
Marvin Stokes\*  
Tom Sturdivant\*

### BASEBALL CONT.

Jerry Walker\*  
Milt Wilcox  
Bobby Witt  
Moses YellowHorse\*

### BASKETBALL

Tony Allen  
Sam F. Babb\*  
Leota Barham\*  
Jim Barnes\*  
Willie Biles  
Mookie Blaylock  
Liz Brown  
O.M. "Bud" Browning\*  
Arlen Clark  
Nick Collison  
Belinda Candler Copeland  
Jo Darrow\*  
Jack Dobbins\*  
Dr. Betty Scott Edgley  
Terry Evans  
Stephanie Findley  
Jerry Finkbeiner  
Varryl Franklin  
Wayne Glasgow\*  
Doll Harris\*  
Nate Harris\*  
Jack Hartman\*  
Garfield Heard  
Charles Heatly\*  
Gary Hill\*  
Don Johnson\*  
Skinny Johnson\*  
Darryl "Choo" Kennedy  
Jim "Country" King  
Bud Koper  
Lester Lane\*  
Hugh "Spike" Leonard\*  
John Loftin\*  
William F. "Bill" Martin\*  
Boney Matthews\*  
Bob Mattick\*  
Jay Mauck  
Gale McArthur\*  
Mickey McBride\*  
Tim McCalister  
Jimmy McNatt\*  
Raymond "Red" Miller\*

### BASKETBALL CONT.

Pam Mindemann\*  
Eduardo Nájera  
Courtney Paris  
Doyle Parrack\*  
Bob Patterson\*  
Kathleen Peace\*  
Don Penwell\*  
Paul Pressey  
Hollis Price  
Krista Ragan  
Nolan Richardson Jr.  
Kelvin Sampson  
Shea Seals  
Linda Sharp  
Grady Skillern\*  
Robert "Bingo" Smith\*  
Jim Spivey\*  
Larry Steele  
Doug Tolin  
Kenneth Trickey Sr.\*  
Phylesha Whaley  
Louis G. Wilke\*  
Rankin Williams\*  
Teresa (Endicott) Willis  
Warren Womble Jr.\*

### BOXING

Herschel Acton\*  
Ike Bayouth\*  
Tony Calvi  
Virgil Franklin\*  
Jimmy Earle Keel\*  
Kelly Dee Burden ("Brian Kelly")  
Earl W. "Jeep" O'Neal\*  
Jess Willard\*

### CONTRIBUTORS

Lee K. Anderson\*  
Jean Barrett  
Dean Blevins  
Frank Boggs\*  
John Brooks  
Bob Carpenter  
Mike Carter  
Dr. Donald L. Cooper\*  
Dr. Kenneth H. Cooper  
Cy Curtis\*

\*Deceased

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### CONTRIBUTORS CONT.

Jimmy Dixon\*  
Donnie Duncan\*  
John Dunlap\*  
Al Eschbach  
Hugh Finnerty\*  
Bus Ham\*  
Bill Hancock  
Leo K. Higbie\*  
Ned Hockman\*  
Alberta (Williams) Hood\*  
Marita Hynes  
Mike Knopp  
Carl Lowrance\*  
Don McClanen\*  
Thurman Medley\*  
Monte Moore  
Dr. Don O'Donoghue\*  
Harold "Pee Wee" Park\*  
Cecil Perkins\*  
Terry Don Phillips\*  
Bill Platt\*  
Ross Porter  
Patty Cox Hampton  
    Rolloff\*  
Dave Sittler  
C.B. Speegle Jr.\*  
Berry Tramel  
Jim Walton\*  
Otis Wile\*  
Carl Wooten\*

### FOOTBALL

Stephen Alexander  
Johnny Allen\*  
Claude Arnold\*  
Tony Banfield  
Bobby Boyd\*  
Max Boydston\*  
Tom Brahaney  
Jammal Brown  
Ryan Broyles  
Dez Bryant  
Buddy Burris\*  
Henry Burris  
Brad Calip  
Rocky Calmus  
Mark Clayton  
Jack Cloud\*

### FOOTBALL CONT.

John Cooper  
Terry Crouch\*  
George Cumby  
Otis Delaporte\*  
Rickey Dixon\*  
Jimbo Elrod\*  
Albert Exendine\*  
Chuck Fairbanks\*  
Mike Fanning\*  
Henry Frnka\*  
Reuben Gant  
Forest "Spot" Geyer\*  
Jason Gildon  
Derrel Gofourth  
Kelly Gregg  
Harvey Griffin\*  
Billy Grimes\*  
Cale Gundy  
Tommie Harris  
Bob Harrison Jr.\*  
Gus Henderson\*  
Thomas "Hollywood"  
    Henderson  
Zac Henderson\*  
Josh Heupel  
Eddie Hinton  
Gary Howard  
Randy Hughes  
Daryl Hunt\*  
Frank "Pop" Ivy\*  
Ellis Jones\*  
Jimmy Johnson  
Merv Johnson  
Jerry Keeling\*  
Reggie Kinlaw  
Buddy Leake\*  
Clyde J. LeForce Jr.\*  
Teddy Lehman  
John "Skee" Levi\*  
Granville Liggins  
Mike Little\*  
Guy Lookabaugh\*  
Earl "Earthquake" Lunsford\*  
Dewey "Snorter" Luster\*  
Doug Matthews  
Marv Matuszak\*  
Carl McAdams

### FOOTBALL CONT.

Craig McBroom\*  
Buck McPhail\*  
Dale Meinert\*  
Jack Mitchell\*  
Derland Moore\*  
Ralph Neely\*  
Jerry Ostroski  
James "Jim" Owens\*  
Tony Peters  
Sherman Plunkett\*  
Claude Reeds\*  
Robert "Horse" Reynolds\*  
Jim Riley  
Greg Roberts  
S.A. "Red" Robertson\*  
Leodis Robinson\*  
Woody Roof  
Gary Rose  
Joe Ross\*  
Spec Sanders\*  
Francis A. Schmidt\*  
Jerry Sherk  
Jeremy Shockey  
Lovie Smith  
Pete Smith\*  
Tom Stidham\*  
Bobby Jack Stuart\*  
Hugh "Bones" Taylor\*  
Spencer Tillman  
Keith Traylor  
James Orville Tuttle\*  
Mike Vaughan  
Pappy Waldorf\*  
Wade Walker\*  
Bobby Warmack  
Brandon Weeden  
Stan West\*  
Jay Wilkinson  
Kevin Williams  
Rashaun Woods

### GOLE

Jody (Rosenthal) Anschutz  
Betsy Cullen  
Walter Emery\*  
Kyle Flinton  
Janice Burba Gibson  
Patricia "Pat" Grant\*

\*Deceased

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### GOLF CONT.

Mark Hayes\*  
Jerry Hrciar  
Betty Jameson\*  
Melissa McNamara Luellen  
Linda Melton Morse\*  
Stacy Prammanasudh  
Val Skinner  
Bill Spiller\*  
Francis “Bo” Wininger\*  
Jimmy Wright

### GYMNASTICS

Todd Bishop  
Dan Fink  
Daniel Furney  
Kelly Garrison  
Jarrod Hanks  
Jonathan Horton  
Maggie Nichols  
Steve Nunno  
Mark Williams  
Paul Ziert

### HOCKEY

Joe Burton  
Mike McEwen  
Monte Miron\*  
Ray Miron\*  
M. “Sonny Boy” Wakeford\*

### HORSE RACING

John Lively  
Pat Steinberg\*  
Bobby Ussery\*  
David Vance  
Bill Warren

### MARTIAL ARTS

Dr. Joel E. Holloway  
Brenda Lee Rouse

### MISCELLANEOUS

Buddy Bomar\* - Bowling  
Don Butler\* - Fishing  
Dana Johnson -Trampoline &  
Tumbling  
Lt. Col. Thomas D. Smith III\* -  
Pistol Shooting  
Joe Tindle Thornton\* - Archery  
Don Wallace\* - Outdoorsman

### MULTI-SPORT

Bryce Bliss - Football,  
Baseball & Basketball  
Jim Browning\* - Speed Skating  
& Hockey  
Dale Hamilton\* - Athletic  
Director & Coach  
Cecil Hankins\* - Football,  
Basketball & Track

### RODEO

Willard Combs\*  
Dan Dailey  
Roy Duvall  
Tom Ferguson  
Howard Chouteau “Shoat”  
Webster\*  
Bodacious\* - Bucking Bull  
Bruiser\* - Bucking Bull

### SOCCER

Billy Caskey  
Brian Harvey\*

### SOFTBALL

Lauren Chamberlain  
Kenny Gajewski  
Phil McSpadden  
Melanie Roche  
Vanessa Shippy  
Gladys Griffin Zukerman

### SWIMMING

George Harman\*  
Ludy Harman\*  
Matt Mann II\*

### TENNIS

Patsy Rippey Bond\*  
Jacque Croft  
Larry Simmons  
Kathy Kraft West

### TRACK & FIELD

Brittany Borman  
Everett Bradley\*  
Tia Brooks  
James Butler  
George Davies  
Ira (Nelson) Davenport\*  
Kaela Edwards  
Clyde Ellis  
Ralph Higgins\*  
Bill Lantz  
Gary Lower\*  
Madeline Manning-Mims  
Tim McMichael  
Bob Peoples\*  
Dave Roberts  
Orville Rogers\*  
Glen Stone\*  
Charlie Strong  
Ralph Tate\*  
Ray Vaughn\*  
Riley Williamson\*  
Randy Wilson

### WRESTLING

Stan Abel\*  
David “Buddy” Arndt\*  
Conrad Caldwell\*  
Randy Couture  
Dick Delgado\*  
Alex Dieringer  
Zack Esposito  
Aaron Ross Flood\*  
Dean Heil  
Johnny Hendricks  
Stanley Henson Jr.\*  
Dick Hutton\*  
Paul V. Keen\*  
Rod Kilgore  
Dale Lewis\*  
Frank Lewis\*

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Michael Lightner  
Mickey Martin\*  
David Matthews\*  
Earl “Moose” McCready\*  
Joe McDaniel\*  
Leroy McGuirk\*  
Andre Metzger  
Mark Muñoz  
Gene Nicks\*  
Bobby Pearce\*  
Rex Peery\*  
Chris Pendleton  
Chris Perry  
Greg Ruth\*  
Dave Schultz  
Mark Schultz  
Mike Sheets  
Mark Smith  
Johnny Thompson  
Arnold “Swede” Umbach\*

## AUTO RACING

**\*Bud Carson, Choctaw, 12/2/1926 – 10/1/1991** – A 2003 inductee into the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame, Carson helped transform Oklahoma City into a regional racing hotbed. He helped develop a drag strip at the State Fairgrounds in 1955 before founding MAR-CAR with his wife, Mary, to promote racing at State Fair Speedway beginning in 1957. A founder of the National Championship Racing Association, Carson later returned to the Fairgrounds in 1986 and was credited with revitalizing the city's racing program.

**\*Jimmy “the Grin” Nix, Oklahoma City, 7/2/1938 – 5/21/1994** – A pioneering drag racer who won Top Gas at the 1965 NHRA Winternationals and Top Fuel at the 1966 NHRA Springnationals. Nix set the Top Fuel speed record at 208.32 mph in 1965 and, 25 years later, became the 11th driver to join the Top Fuel Four Second Club. He died following a Top Fuel crash in 1994 and was inducted into the International Drag Racing Hall of Fame in 1996.

**\*Jimmy Reece, Oklahoma City, 11/17/1929 – 9/28/1958** – An Oklahoma City racing standout who won the 1950 Texas State Midget Championship and 1951 Taft Stadium Stock Car title before advancing to championship car racing. Reece made six Indianapolis 500 starts from 1952–58, recording three top-10 finishes and starting third in his final Indy 500. He tied for fourth in the 1954 AAA National Championship standings before being killed in a racing accident at Trenton Speedway in 1958.

## BASEBALL

**\*Kenneth Jerry Adair, Sand Springs, 12/17/1936 - 5/31/1987** – A two-sport standout at Oklahoma State, Adair earned All-American honors in baseball and was a starting guard on the Cowboys' basketball team. He played 13 seasons in Major League Baseball with Baltimore, Chicago, Boston and Kansas City and was considered one of the finest defensive second basemen of his era. He set Major League records for consecutive errorless games by a second baseman (89) and consecutive chances handled without an error (458).

**\*Hugh Alexander, Buffalo, MO/Seminole, 7/10/1917 - 11/25/2000** – After an injury ended his playing career, Alexander became one of baseball's most respected scouts during a career spanning more than six decades. He signed or helped discover more than 60 Major Leaguers, including Allie Reynolds, Don Sutton, Steve Garvey, Davey Lopes, Frank Howard and Bill Russell, and was named Scout of the Year in 1996.

**\*Jack Baer, Shawnee, 10/29/1914 - 3/9/2002** – A three-sport letterman at the University of Oklahoma, Baer returned to OU as head baseball coach and led the Sooners to six conference championships and five NCAA Tournament appearances during his 26-year tenure. His 1951 Sooners captured the program's first national championship, finishing an undefeated run through the College World Series with a victory over Tennessee.

**Randy William Bass, Lawton, 3/13/1954** – After beginning his professional career in Major League Baseball, Bass became a legend with Japan's Hanshin Tigers. He won four consecutive batting titles, captured back-to-back Triple Crowns in 1985 and 1986 and helped lead Hanshin to the 1985 Japan Series championship. His .389 batting average in 1986 remains one of the greatest offensive seasons in Japanese professional baseball history.

**\*E.B. “Chief” Bender, Tulsa** – A pioneer of youth baseball in Oklahoma, Bender organized Babe Ruth Baseball in the state and served 10 years as state director. He coached Tulsa teams to Babe Ruth World Series championships in 1959 and 1963 and became known as the “Grand Old Man” of Tulsa baseball. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1974.

**BASEBALL CONT.**

**\*John Alton “Al” Benton, Noble, 3/18/1911 - 4/14/1968** – A two-time American League All-Star, Benton pitched 14 seasons in the Major Leagues and helped the Detroit Tigers win the 1945 World Series. He compiled a 98–88 career record with a 3.66 ERA and holds the unique distinction of being the only pitcher to face both Babe Ruth and Mickey Mantle during his Major League career.

**Murl Bowen, Asher** – One of the winningest high school baseball coaches in history, Bowen compiled a 2,115–349 record over 40 seasons at Asher High School from 1959–1998. His teams captured 43 spring and fall state championships, establishing Asher as one of Oklahoma’s most dominant baseball programs. He was named National High School Coach of the Year in 1975.

**\*James Thomas “Jim” Brewer, Broken Arrow, 11/14/1937 - 11/16/1987** – A Broken Arrow High School graduate, Brewer became one of the National League’s top relief pitchers during a 17-year Major League career. He recorded 133 career saves, including 126 during 12 seasons with the Los Angeles Dodgers, helped the Dodgers win the 1965 World Series and was selected to the 1973 National League All-Star team.

**\*Chet Bryan, Snyder, 12/21/1915 - 2/17/1986** – After coaching baseball and basketball at Norman High School, Bryan became head baseball coach at Oklahoma State in 1965. He compiled a 247–198–2 record over 13 seasons, leading the Cowboys to three consecutive College World Series appearances from 1966–68, including a national runner-up finish in 1966, and the 1969 Big Eight championship.

**Ray Burris, Idabel, 8/22/1950** – A two-sport standout at Southwestern Oklahoma State, Burris set an NAIA record with 150 strikeouts in 1972 before beginning a 15-season Major League career. The right-hander appeared in 480 MLB games for seven clubs, compiling 108 victories and 1,065 strikeouts over 2,188.2 innings.

**Brett Butler, Los Angeles, California, 6/15/1957** – After playing at Southeastern Oklahoma State, Butler was selected by Atlanta in the 23rd round of the 1979 MLB Draft and went on to a 17-year Major League career. One of baseball’s premier leadoff hitters, he recorded 2,375 hits, 558 stolen bases and a .290 career average, earned All-Star honors in 1991 and received the Lou Gehrig Memorial and Branch Rickey awards in 1996.

**Larry Cochell, Lebanon, 1940** – One of college baseball’s most accomplished coaches, Cochell became the first head coach to lead three different programs—Oral Roberts, Cal State Fullerton and Oklahoma—to the College World Series. He guided OU to the 1994 national championship, earning National Coach of the Year honors, and led the Sooners to three College World Series appearances during his tenure.

**\*Danny Doyle, McLoud, 1/24/1917 - 12/14/2004** – A two-sport athlete at Oklahoma A&M, Doyle later served as head baseball and basketball coach at Auburn before beginning a distinguished scouting career with the Boston Red Sox. Among the players he signed was seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens. Doyle was honored as Major League Baseball’s Scout of the Year in 1988.

**Josh Fields, Ada/Stillwater, 12/14/1982** – A two-sport standout at Oklahoma State, Fields earned All-Big 12 honors in baseball while also starring as the Cowboys’ starting quarterback. The Chicago White Sox selected him 18th overall in the first round of the 2004 MLB Draft, and he went on to play five Major League seasons with the White Sox and Kansas City Royals.

**BASEBALL CONT.**

**\*George “Rube” Foster, Lehigh, 1/5/1888 – 3/1/1976** – A right-handed pitcher for the Boston Red Sox from 1913–17, Foster compiled a 58–33 career record with a 2.36 ERA. He helped Boston win consecutive World Series championships in 1915 and 1916, going 2–0 with two complete-game victories in the 1915 World Series.

**Ryan Franklin, Spiro, 3/5/1973** – A Spiro High School and Seminole State College standout, Franklin pitched 12 Major League seasons from 1999–2011 and earned National League All-Star honors with St. Louis in 2009. He helped Team USA capture the gold medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, going 3–0 without allowing an earned run.

**Ronald Clyde “Gardy” “Ron” Gardenhire, Okmulgee, 10/24/1957** – Raised in Okmulgee, Gardenhire played five Major League seasons before beginning a distinguished coaching and managerial career. As manager of the Minnesota Twins from 2002–14, he led the club to six American League Central Division championships and was named the 2010 AL Manager of the Year. He later managed the Detroit Tigers from 2018–20, finishing with 1,200 career managerial victories.

**James Edward “Jim” Gentile, San Francisco, CA, 6/3/1934** – A three-time Major League All-Star, “Diamond Jim” enjoyed a standout 1961 season with Baltimore, batting .302 with 46 home runs and an American League-leading 141 RBI while finishing third in MVP voting. He hit five grand slams that season, including two in consecutive at-bats in one game. A longtime Oklahoma resident, Gentile finished his nine-year MLB career with 179 home runs.

**Sunny Golloway, Stillwater** – A Stillwater High School graduate, Golloway served as an assistant coach on Oklahoma’s 1994 national championship team before building successful head-coaching tenures at Oral Roberts and OU. He compiled a 335–156 record at ORU, winning six consecutive conference championships and reaching six straight NCAA Regionals, and later led Oklahoma to the 2010 College World Series.

**\*Theodore Elwood “Toby” Greene, Humphrey, MO/Thomas, OK, 3/29/1899 – 10/2/1967** – Greene served 21 seasons as head baseball coach at Oklahoma State, compiling a 318–132 record and leading the Cowboys to the 1959 NCAA national championship and four additional College World Series appearances. Named National Coach of the Year in 1960, he was inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1966.

**\*Lawrence E. “Jap” Haskell, Butler County, KS, 11/18/1898 – 2/10/1964** – Haskell served as Oklahoma’s head baseball coach from 1927–41, compiling a 176–74–2 record and leading the Sooners to eight conference championships. He later served as OU’s athletic director from 1941–47 and was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1973.

**Ray Hayward, Enid, 4/27/1961** – A two-time All-American at the University of Oklahoma, Hayward became the first player in Big Eight history to earn all-conference honors at two positions—pitcher and designated hitter—in the same season. The San Diego Padres selected him 10th overall in the 1983 MLB Draft, and he later pitched in the Major Leagues with San Diego and Texas.

**Robert Oliver “Bobby” Jones, Elkton, MD/Tulsa, 10/11/1949** – A longtime fixture in Oklahoma professional baseball, Jones became the career managerial victories leader for both the Tulsa Oilers and Oklahoma City 89ers/RedHawks. He won 496 games during eight seasons managing Tulsa and later recorded 695 victories over 10 seasons in Oklahoma City as part of a professional baseball career spanning more than four decades.

**BASEBALL CONT.**

**Frank Albert Linzy, Fort Gibson, 9/15/1940** – One of baseball's top relief pitchers of his era, Linzy appeared in 516 games during an 11-year Major League career, recording 110 saves with a 2.85 ERA. His breakout 1965 season with San Francisco included a 9–3 record, 21 saves and a 1.43 ERA as he finished third in National League Rookie of the Year voting.

**\*Carl William Mays, Liberty, KY/Kingfisher, 11/12/1891 – 4/4/1971** – A standout pitcher during baseball's dead-ball era, Mays compiled a 207–126 record with a 2.92 ERA and 29 shutouts during a 15-year Major League career. He was a member of four World Series championship teams—three with the Boston Red Sox and one with the New York Yankees—and won 20 or more games five times.

**Jordy Mercer, Taloga, 8/27/1986** – A three-time All-Big 12 selection at Oklahoma State, Mercer starred as both a shortstop and pitcher, finishing his collegiate career as the Cowboys' all-time saves leader with 17. A third-round selection of Pittsburgh in 2008, he played 10 Major League seasons from 2012–21, primarily as the Pirates' starting shortstop.

**\*Durwood Merrill, Cloud Chief, 3/12/1938 – 1/11/2003** – A Major League Baseball umpire for 23 seasons from 1977–99, Merrill officiated more than 3,000 games during his American League career. His assignments included the 1988 World Series, five American League Championship Series and two All-Star Games, establishing him as one of Oklahoma's most accomplished Major League umpires.

**\*Robert Morris “Bobby” Morgan, Oklahoma City, 6/29/1926 – 6/1/2023** – An Oklahoma City native, Morgan played eight Major League seasons from 1950–58 with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Philadelphia Phillies, St. Louis Cardinals and Chicago Cubs. The versatile infielder appeared in the 1952 and 1953 World Series with Brooklyn and finished his Major League career with 53 home runs and 217 RBIs.

**\*Robert Cleveland “Bob” Muncrief, Madill, 1/28/1916 – 2/6/1996** – A 1944 American League All-Star, Muncrief helped pitch the St. Louis Browns to the franchise's only American League pennant. He later became a World Series champion with the Cleveland Indians in 1948 and finished his 12-season Major League career with 80 victories and a 3.80 ERA. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978.

**Russ Ortiz, Encino, CA, 6/5/1974** – A key member of Oklahoma's 1994 College World Series championship team, Ortiz recorded three saves during the Sooners' national-title season. He went on to win 113 games during a 12-year Major League career, helped San Francisco reach the 2002 World Series and won 21 games in 2003, finishing fourth in National League Cy Young Award voting.

**\*Dr. Donald A. “Doc” Parham, Atoka, 4/3/1930 – 10/17/2008** – Parham transformed Southeastern Oklahoma State into a national baseball power, compiling a 536–162 record over 16 seasons from 1965–80 without a losing season. His teams won nine conference championships and reached three NAIA World Series, finishing national runner-up in 1977. He was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame and Southeastern Athletics Hall of Fame.

**\*Dr. Joe N. Record, Enid, c. 1928 – 9/20/2008** – Record built Phillips University into a small-college baseball power during nearly three decades as head coach, compiling more than 640 victories and leading the Haymakers to multiple NAIA World Series appearances. He was named NAIA Coach of the Year in 1973 and inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1975.

**BASEBALL CONT.**

**Mark Redman, San Diego, CA, 1/5/1974** – A two-time first-team All-American at Oklahoma, Redman went 5–0 in postseason play to help lead the Sooners to the 1994 national championship. A first-round MLB Draft selection, he pitched 10 Major League seasons, won a World Series championship with the Florida Marlins in 2003 and was selected to the 2006 American League All-Star team.

**Helen Earlene “Beans” Risinger, Hess, 3/20/1927 - 7/29/2008** – Only Oklahoma woman to play in the All-American Girls Pro Baseball League – Grand Rapids Chicks, 1948-54, Pitcher – 187 games, 73 wins. Stayed in Grand Rapids after baseball to become an X-Ray technician.

**Steve Rogers, Jefferson City, MO, 10/26/1949** – An All-American at the University of Tulsa, Rogers compiled a 31–5 collegiate record and helped lead the Golden Hurricane to College World Series appearances in 1969 and 1971. He spent his entire 13-year Major League career with Montreal, earning five All-Star selections and recording 158 victories with a 3.17 career ERA.

**John William Russell, Oklahoma City/Norman, 1/5/1961** – A University of Oklahoma standout, Russell was selected 13th overall in the 1982 MLB Draft and played 10 Major League seasons as a catcher and outfielder. He later built a lengthy coaching and managerial career, serving as manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates from 2008–10 and as a longtime Major League coach with Baltimore.

**\*John D. Schwartz, Hennessey, 12/15/1929 – 10/19/2023** – A fixture in Oklahoma high school baseball for more than 50 years, Schwartz was the first president of the Oklahoma Baseball Coaches Association and served more than 40 years as its executive secretary. His coaching career included two state championships, two state runner-up finishes and 16 conference titles. He was inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2003.

**Bob Shirley, Cushing/Putnam City, 6/25/1954** – A Putnam City High School and University of Oklahoma standout, Shirley helped Team USA win gold at the 1974 Amateur World Series before beginning an 11-year Major League career. The left-hander appeared in 434 MLB games from 1977–87, recording 67 victories and a 3.82 ERA over 1,432 innings.

**Lloyd Simmons, Seminole** – One of the most successful junior college baseball coaches in history, Simmons won 1,804 games during two tenures at Seminole State College and led 13 teams to the NJCAA World Series. Forty-three of his former players reached Major League Baseball. He was inducted into the NJCAA Baseball Hall of Fame in 1997 and the National College Baseball Hall of Fame in 2019.

**Joe Simpson, Purcell, 12/31/1951** – An All-American outfielder at the University of Oklahoma, Simpson played professionally for 11 seasons, including nine in the Major Leagues with Los Angeles, Seattle and Kansas City. He joined the Atlanta Braves broadcast team in 1992, was named Georgia Sports Broadcaster of the Year in 1995 and was inducted into the Braves Hall of Fame in 2018.

**\*Albert Ray “A. Ray” Smith, Dugger, IN/Tulsa, 5/1/1915 – 6/28/1999** – A longtime minor-league baseball executive, Smith purchased the Tulsa Oilers in 1961 and owned the franchise through moves to New Orleans, Springfield and eventually Louisville. His Louisville Redbirds set minor-league attendance records, drawing more than one million fans in 1983. Smith was named Minor League Executive of the Year in 1982 and 1983.

**BASEBALL CONT.**

**\*Marvin Stokes, Stratford/Byng, 1914 – 9/6/2005** – Stokes built one of Oklahoma’s premier high school baseball programs during his tenure at Byng High School from 1947–62, leading the Pirates to eight state championships. His success established Byng as a dominant force in Oklahoma high school baseball, and he was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978.

**\*Thomas Virgil “Tom” Sturdivant II, Gordon, KS/Oklahoma City, 4/28/1930 – 2/28/2009** – A Capitol Hill High School standout, Sturdivant signed with the New York Yankees in 1948 and developed into a key member of their pitching staff. He won 16 games in both 1956 and 1957, earned the victory in Game 4 of the 1956 World Series and was a member of two Yankees World Series championship teams during a 10-year Major League career.

**\*Jerry Allen Walker, Ada, 2/12/1939 – 7/14/2024** – After leading Byng High School to the 1956 Class B state championship, striking out 18 in the title game, Walker went directly to the Major Leagues with Baltimore. In 1959, at age 20, he became the youngest pitcher ever to start an MLB All-Star Game. Following his playing career, he spent decades in professional baseball as a manager, coach, scout and front-office executive.

**Milton Edward “Milt” Wilcox, Honolulu, HI/Tulsa, 4/20/1950** – A Will Rogers High School standout in Tulsa, Wilcox pitched 16 seasons in the Major Leagues, compiling a 119–113 career record. He became a mainstay of the Detroit Tigers’ rotation and went 17–8 in 1984, helping Detroit capture the World Series championship. A year earlier, he came within one out of pitching a perfect game.

**Bobby Witt, Arlington, VA, 5/11/1964** – An All-American pitcher at the University of Oklahoma, Witt was selected third overall by the Texas Rangers in the 1985 MLB Draft. He pitched 16 Major League seasons, winning 142 games and recording 1,955 strikeouts, and capped his career as a member of the Arizona Diamondbacks’ 2001 World Series championship team.

**\*Mose “Moses” YellowHorse, Pawnee, 1/28/1898 – 4/10/1964** – A member of the Skidi Pawnee, YellowHorse pitched for the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1921 and 1922 and is widely recognized as the first full-blooded Native American to play Major League Baseball. He compiled an 8–4 record with a 3.93 ERA in 38 Major League appearances and was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1994.

**BASKETBALL**

**Tony Allen, Chicago, IL, 1/11/1982** – An All-American and Big 12 Co-Player of the Year at Oklahoma State, Allen led the Cowboys to the 2004 Final Four before beginning a 14-year NBA career. One of the league’s premier defenders, he earned six NBA All-Defensive Team selections and won the 2008 NBA championship with Boston. His No. 9 was retired by the Memphis Grizzlies in 2025.

**\*Sam F. Babb, Chickasha, c. 1892–1937** – A pioneer of women’s basketball, Babb coached the Presbyterian College Cardinals to consecutive AAU national championships in 1932 and 1933. His teams also finished national runner-up in 1934 after the program moved to Oklahoma City University and again with the Galveston Anicos in 1937. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1979.

**\*Leota Barham, Haworth, 11/1/1915 – 7/2/2011** – One of Oklahoma’s early women’s basketball standouts, Barham earned AAU All-America honors five consecutive years from 1937–41. Recognized among the premier women’s players of her era, she was inducted into the AAU and Helms halls of fame and the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1977.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**\*Velvet James “Jim” Barnes, Tuckerman, AR/Stillwater, 4/13/1941 – 9/14/2002** – A Stillwater High School graduate, Barnes earned All-America honors at Texas Western before becoming the No. 1 overall pick in the 1964 NBA Draft. He helped Team USA capture the gold medal at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics and later won an NBA championship with the Boston Celtics in 1969.

**Willie Biles, Memphis, TN** – One of the most prolific scorers in University of Tulsa history, Biles earned All-America honors in 1973 and 1974 and led the Missouri Valley Conference in scoring both seasons. He scored 40 or more points eight times and twice matched TU’s single-game record with 48 points. Drafted by the Golden State Warriors, Biles had his Tulsa jersey retired in 2010.

**Daron Oshay “Mookie” Blaylock, Garland, TX, 3/20/1967** – A consensus All-American at Oklahoma in 1989, Blaylock helped lead the Sooners to the 1988 NCAA championship game before embarking on a 13-year NBA career. One of the league’s premier defenders, he was a 1994 NBA All-Star, earned six NBA All-Defensive Team selections and twice led the league in steals, finishing his career with 2,075.

**Liz Brown, Roff** – A three-time All-Big Eight selection at Oklahoma State, Brown was named Big Eight Player of the Year in both 1990 and 1991 and earned Kodak honorable mention All-America honors in 1991. She helped lead the Cowgirls to consecutive Big Eight Tournament championships and was named MVP of the 1991 tournament, finishing her OSU career with 1,416 points and 695 assists.

**\*Omar M. “Bud” Browning, Lawton, 10/5/1911 – 9/11/1978** – A two-time AAU All-American as a player, Browning became one of amateur basketball’s most successful coaches, leading the Phillips 66ers to seven AAU national championships, including five consecutive titles from 1944–48. He served as head coach of the undefeated U.S. team that captured the gold medal at the 1948 London Olympics and was inducted into the Helms Amateur Basketball Hall of Fame in 1957.

**Arlen Clark, Colbert** – The 1955 Oklahoma High School Player of the Year, Clark became an All-American at Oklahoma State and one of the Cowboys’ premier scorers. He averaged 20.4 points as a senior in 1958–59 while leading the nation in free-throw percentage and set an NCAA record by making 24 consecutive free throws in a game against Colorado. *“He will go down as one of the all-time greatest Cowboys to ever play the game. Certainly, he was one of the finest shooters I have ever seen in my years as a player and coach. He continues to represent his alma mater and Southeastern Oklahoma in a class manner.” -Eddie Sutton*

**Nick Collison, Orange City, IA/Oklahoma City, 10/26/1980** – The 2003 Big 12 Player of the Year and a consensus first-team All-American at Kansas, Collison was selected 12th overall in the 2003 NBA Draft. He spent his entire 14-year NBA career with the Seattle SuperSonics/Oklahoma City Thunder organization, becoming a cornerstone of the franchise in Oklahoma City. The Thunder retired his No. 4 in recognition of his impact on the organization and community.

**Belinda Candler Copeland, Fort Towson** – A standout basketball player at Seminole State College, Copeland helped lead the Belles to the 1976 national championship under legendary coach Dixie Woodall. She continued her collegiate career at UNLV before being drafted by the Houston Hustle in 1978 and later playing for the Chicago Hustle in the Women’s Professional Basketball League. In 2018, she was recognized among the league’s trailblazers honored by the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**\*Jo Darrow, Vinson, 6/6/1921 – 7/7/2003** – A pioneering Oklahoma athlete, Darrow played six seasons with the nationally known All American Red Heads professional women's basketball team during the 1940s. Also an accomplished golfer, she later devoted her career to teaching and coaching basketball and golf at high schools in Oklahoma and Texas.

**\*Howard Jack "Jack" Dobbins, Coweta, 12/6/1929 – 3/6/2022** – A longtime basketball coach and athletic administrator at Northeastern State, Dobbins compiled a 311–206 record and led the Redmen to multiple NAIA Tournament appearances. He was named NAIA Coach of the Year in 1968, served 25 years as NSU's athletic director and was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1988. NSU's longtime basketball arena was renamed Jack Dobbins Field House in his honor.

**Dr. Betty Scott Edgley, Tonkawa, 4/19/1941** – A standout for Wayland Baptist's famed Flying Queens, Edgley earned AAU All-America honors in 1961 and 1963 and represented the United States internationally, including on the gold medal-winning team at the 1963 Pan American Games in São Paulo, Brazil. She later earned her doctorate from Oklahoma State and spent 27 years as a professor at OSU.

**Terry Evans, Oklahoma City** – A standout guard at Oklahoma and the Sooners' career assists leader with 651, Evans has built one of the state's most successful coaching careers. He won three Class 6A state championships at Midwest City and became the winningest coach in Central Oklahoma history, compiling a 263–124 record and leading UCO to the 2008 NCAA Division II Elite Eight.

**Stephanie Findley, Lexington, OK** – Findley spent 37 seasons as head women's basketball coach at Oklahoma Christian, compiling a 640–484 record and retiring with more victories than any women's basketball coach at a four-year Oklahoma university. She led 13 teams to the NAIA Division I Tournament, earned four Sooner Athletic Conference Coach of the Year honors and was inducted into the Oklahoma Christian Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004.

**Jerry Finkbeiner, Southern California, 1957** – A former Southern Nazarene player, Finkbeiner returned to lead the Crimson Storm to three consecutive NAIA national championships from 1994–96, compiling a 99–5 record during that span and earning three straight National Coach of the Year honors. He later served as head women's basketball coach at Oral Roberts and Utah State during a collegiate coaching career spanning more than three decades.

**Varryl Franklin, Oklahoma City, 3/19/1951** – A Douglass High School graduate, Franklin built Millwood into one of Oklahoma's premier high school basketball programs after becoming head coach in 1978. He guided the Falcons to 12 state basketball championships and contributed to additional state titles as an assistant in football and basketball. Franklin was inducted into the Oklahoma Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2010.

**\*Wayne Glasgow, Dacoma, 1/17/1926 – 12/21/2000** – A two-time All-Big Seven selection at Oklahoma, Glasgow continued his career with the powerhouse Phillips 66ers, helping the club win AAU national championships in 1950 and 1953. He represented the United States at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics, playing in all eight games as Team USA went undefeated and captured the gold medal.

**\*Dollye B. "Doll" Harris, Cement, 8/2/1908 – 6/23/1979** – One of Oklahoma's early women's basketball stars, Harris led Presbyterian College in Durant to consecutive AAU national championships in 1932 and 1933. She earned AAU All-America honors both seasons and was named Most Valuable Player of the 1932 national tournament.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**\*Nate Harris, Tulsa, 6/23/1947 – 4/30/2019** – An All-American basketball standout at the University of Tulsa, Harris became one of Oklahoma's most successful high school coaches during 25 years at Booker T. Washington. He led the Hornets to 10 state championships, establishing the program as a perennial state power, and was inducted into the University of Tulsa Athletics Hall of Fame.

**\*Jack Hartman, Webb City, MO/Shidler, 11/5/1925 – 11/6/1998** – An Oklahoma A&M graduate and Henry Iba disciple, Hartman built a distinguished college basketball coaching career, winning the 1967 NIT at Southern Illinois before becoming Kansas State's all-time winningest coach. He compiled a 295–169 record in 16 seasons with the Wildcats, winning three Big Eight championships and making seven NCAA Tournament appearances. Hartman was named National Coach of the Year in 1981.

**Garfield Heard, Hogansville, GA, 5/3/1948** – An All-Big Eight standout at Oklahoma, Heard played 11 seasons in the NBA after being selected by Seattle in the 1970 NBA Draft. He became part of NBA Finals history with his buzzer-beating "Shot Heard 'Round the World" for Phoenix in the triple-overtime Game 5 of the 1976 Finals. Heard later spent decades as an NBA coach, including stints as a head coach.

**\*Charles Heatly, Lindsay, 3/14/1934 – 10/16/2018** – A pioneering figure in Oklahoma girls' basketball, Heatly coached Lindsay High School for 40 years, leading his teams to 14 state tournament appearances and two state championships. Beyond the court, he helped expand opportunities for girls throughout Oklahoma by establishing a widely attended basketball camp and helping develop the girls' All-State games.

**\*Gary Weir Hill, Rocky, 10/7/1941 – 1/17/2009** – An All-American at Oklahoma City University in 1963, Hill was selected 14th overall by the San Francisco Warriors in the 1963 NBA Draft. He played three NBA seasons with San Francisco and Baltimore after a standout collegiate career that established him among Oklahoma City University's premier basketball players.

**\*Don Johnson, Chickasha, c. 1930 – 4/21/2014** – A Chickasha High School standout, Johnson became a two-year scoring leader at Oklahoma A&M under Henry Iba. He helped the Aggies reach the 1951 Final Four, earned first-team All-Missouri Valley Conference honors and was named a Helms Foundation All-American in 1952. He was selected by the Boston Celtics in the 1952 NBA Draft.

**\*William C. "Skinny" Johnson, Oklahoma City, 8/16/1911 – 2/5/1980** – A Central High School standout, Johnson helped Kansas win three consecutive Big Six championships and earned first-team All-America honors in 1933. He later starred in AAU basketball and was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1977. Kansas retired his No. 33 in recognition of his collegiate career.

**Darryl Keith "Choo" Kennedy, Oklahoma City, 2/5/1965** – A Northwest Classen standout, Kennedy became one of Oklahoma's most productive players, finishing his OU career with 2,097 points and 954 rebounds. He earned first-team All-Big Eight honors in 1986 and was selected by the Boston Celtics in the 1987 NBA Draft. Kennedy later won two World Basketball League championships and was named MVP of the 1990 championship series.

**James Staton "Jim" "Country" King, Tulsa, 2/7/1941** – An All-American at the University of Tulsa, King led the Missouri Valley Conference in scoring in 1962 before beginning a 10-year NBA career. He was selected to the 1968 NBA All-Star Game while playing for San Francisco and later returned to serve as Tulsa's head coach. TU retired his No. 24 and inducted him into its Athletics Hall of Fame.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**Herbert L. “Bud” Koper, Rocky, 8/9/1942** – A first-team All-American at Oklahoma City University in 1964, Koper established himself as one of the program’s premier scorers, including a school-record 50-point performance against North Texas State. He was selected by the San Francisco Warriors in the 1964 NBA Draft and played the 1964–65 season in the NBA.

**\*Lester E. Lane, Purcell, 3/6/1932 – 9/6/1973** – A standout at the University of Oklahoma, Lane scored 1,180 career points before becoming the starting point guard for the undefeated U.S. team that captured gold at the 1960 Rome Olympics. He was named OU’s head basketball coach in 1973 but died before coaching a game. Lane was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2010 as a member of the 1960 Olympic team.

**\*Hugh Henry “Spike” Leonard, Kansas, 9/18/1908 - 1/30/1954** – A multi-sport standout at Phillips University, Leonard excelled in basketball, football and baseball before continuing his education at the University of Oklahoma and playing AAU basketball in Oklahoma City. His accomplishments as an early Oklahoma athlete were recognized with induction into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1973.

**\*John David Loftin, Tulia, Tulia, TX, 1/5/1943 – 8/21/2025** – One of the most successful coaches in women’s college basketball, Loftin compiled a 499–99 record over 19 seasons at Southwestern Oklahoma State and led the Lady Bulldogs to five NAIA national championships. His teams made 14 national tournament appearances, including 10 Final Fours, and he was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 2012.

**\*William F. “Bill” Martin, Blackwell, 3/31/1917 – 11/24/1996** – An All-Conference basketball player and conference tennis champion at Oklahoma, Martin went on to star for the powerhouse Phillips 66ers, earning AAU All-America honors three times. His athletic success launched a lengthy career with Phillips Petroleum, and he was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1975.

**\*Leroy “Boney” Matthews, Roff/Purcell, 8/12/1909 – 3/29/1993** – The winningest coach in Oklahoma boys’ high school basketball history, Matthews compiled a 922–245 career record during four decades on the sidelines. At Purcell, he led the Dragons to 11 state tournament appearances and three state championships in 1950, 1957 and 1961, establishing one of the state’s most successful high school basketball programs.

**\*Bob Mattick, Chicago, IL, 5/30/1933 – 12/23/2018** – A two-time All-American at Oklahoma A&M, Mattick became the first player in school history to average more than 20 points per game and the first to average a double-double in a season, posting 20.7 points and 11.2 rebounds as a senior in 1953–54. He was selected by the Milwaukee Hawks in the 1954 NBA Draft.

**Jay Mauck, Calera, 1978** – A two-time NAIA All-American at Oklahoma Christian, Mauck was named the 1999 NAIA National Player of the Year and Sooner Athletic Conference Player of the Year. He finished his career with 2,135 points and 378 three-pointers, both Oklahoma Christian and conference records at the time, and was inducted into the OC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

**\*Gale Eugene McArthur, Mangum, 3/6/1929 – 1/2/2020** – An All-American guard at Oklahoma A&M under Henry Iba, McArthur helped the Aggies reach two Final Fours, including the 1949 NCAA championship game. He earned first-team All-Missouri Valley Conference honors in 1951 and was selected by the Minneapolis Lakers in the 1951 NBA Draft before choosing a career in dentistry.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**\*Mickey McBride** – One of Oklahoma’s pioneering small-college basketball coaches, McBride coached for 39 years and won more than 600 games, including 412 at East Central. His teams won five state championships and made six appearances in the NAIA National Tournament. He was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1972.

**Tim McCalister, Gary, IN, 11/23/1964** – One of the most prolific scorers in Oklahoma basketball history, McCalister scored 2,275 career points for the Sooners, ranking among the program’s all-time leaders. He was named Big Eight Newcomer of the Year in 1984 and earned first-team All-Big Eight honors in 1987 before being selected by the Los Angeles Clippers in the NBA Draft.

**\*James Carlos “Jimmy” McNatt, Lindsay, CA/Norman, 12/19/1918 – 12/23/2000** – A two-time All-American at Oklahoma, McNatt helped lead the Sooners to the program’s first Final Four in 1940. He later became a four-time AAU All-American with the Phillips 66ers and helped lead the club to four consecutive AAU national championships from 1943–46.

**\*Raymond “Red” Miller, Coopertown/Rocky, 7/12/1921 - 6/30/1998** – Miller built Cameron into a national small-college basketball contender during two tenures as head coach from 1965–67 and 1970–77. His teams won consecutive NAIA Region II championships, finishing national runner-up in 1966 and third in 1967, and his 1973 squad captured the Oklahoma Collegiate Athletic Conference championship. He was inducted into the Cameron Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008.

**\*Pamela Mindemann, Anadarko/Cache, 10/31/1949 – 10/4/2017** – An All-State standout at Apache High School, Mindemann represented the United States at the 1971 Women’s World Basketball Championship in Brazil. A four-time AAU All-American with the Raytown Piperettes, she earned MVP honors in 1972 and 1973. She later starred at Oral Roberts University, shooting 52.3% during her collegiate career, before dedicating more than three decades to education and coaching in Oklahoma.

**Eduardo Nájera, Meoqui, Chihuahua, Mexico, 7/11/1976** – An All-American at Oklahoma, Nájera scored 1,646 career points and earned first-team All-Big 12 honors as a senior in 2000. Selected 38th overall in the 2000 NBA Draft, he became the first Mexican-born player drafted into the NBA and went on to play 12 seasons and 619 games in the league.

**Courtney Paris, San Jose, CA, 9/21/1987** – The most decorated player in Oklahoma women’s basketball history, Paris became the first four-time AP All-American in women’s college basketball and set an NCAA record with 112 consecutive double-doubles. She was the first college player ever to record 2,500 points and 2,000 rebounds, led OU to the 2009 Final Four and later won a WNBA championship with Seattle in 2018.

**\*Doyle Parrack, Cotton County, 12/6/1921 – 9/5/2008** – A member of Oklahoma A&M’s 1945 NCAA championship team, Parrack built Oklahoma City University into a national basketball program, compiling a 137–71 record and leading the Chiefs to four consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances from 1952–55. He later served as head coach at Oklahoma, earning Big Eight Coach of the Year honors in 1959.

**\*Bob Patterson, Kansas City, MO, 4/21/1932 – 11/7/2018** – Tulsa’s first basketball All-American, Patterson led the Golden Hurricane to their first Missouri Valley Conference championship and NCAA Tournament appearance in 1955. He was named MVC Player of the Year after averaging 27.6 points per game and set a school single-season record with 370 rebounds. Tulsa later retired his No. 30.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**\*Kathleen S. Peace, Adairsville, GA/Lawton, 11/18/1908 – 11/6/2010** – A standout during the formative years of women's basketball, Peace earned AAU All-America honors three times, in 1930 and 1933 with the Dallas Golden Cyclones and again in 1938 with the Tulsa Stenos. Her career established her among the premier women's players of the AAU era.

**\*Don L. Penwell, El Reno, 8/13/1930 – 3/7/2012** – A standout at Oklahoma City University, Penwell was named MVP of the 1951 All-College Tournament before continuing his career with the Peoria Caterpillars. In 1954, he helped the Caterpillars represent the United States and capture the gold medal at the FIBA World Championship in Rio de Janeiro.

**Paul Pressey, Richmond, VA, 12/24/1958** – Pressey helped lead Tulsa to the 1981 NIT championship and was named Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Year and an All-American in 1982. He went on to an 11-year NBA career, earning three NBA All-Defensive Team selections, followed by a lengthy NBA coaching career. Tulsa retired his jersey in recognition of his collegiate accomplishments.

**Hollis Price, New Orleans, LA, 10/29/1979** – A first-team All-American at Oklahoma in 2003, Price helped lead the Sooners to the 2002 Final Four and 2003 Elite Eight while earning consecutive first-team All-Big 12 honors. He finished his OU career with 1,821 points and later played professionally for more than a decade before beginning a collegiate coaching career.

**Krista Ragan-Binam, Indianola** – One of the most decorated players in Oral Roberts history, Ragan became the only three-time Mid-Continent Conference Player of the Year and earned All-America honors in 2002. A four-time first-team all-conference selection, she finished as ORU's all-time leading scorer and helped lead the Golden Eagles to two NCAA Tournament appearances.

**Nolan Richardson Jr., El Paso, TX, 12/27/1941** – Richardson revitalized Tulsa basketball, compiling a 119–37 record in five seasons and leading the Golden Hurricane to the 1981 NIT championship. He later won the 1994 NCAA championship at Arkansas, becoming the only coach to win NJCAA, NIT and NCAA Division I national titles. The 1994 National Coach of the Year, Richardson was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2014.

**Kelvin Sampson, Laurinburg, NC, 10/5/1955** – Sampson led Oklahoma to 11 NCAA Tournament appearances in 12 seasons, highlighted by the 2002 Final Four and 2003 Elite Eight, and earned National Coach of the Year honors in 1995 and 2002. He later rebuilt Houston into a national power, reaching the 2021 Final Four and 2025 national championship game, and has surpassed 800 career coaching victories.

**Shea Brandon Seals, Tulsa, 8/26/1975** – A Tulsa native and one of the University of Tulsa's greatest players, Seals finished his collegiate career with 2,288 points and earned All-America honors in 1997. He later played professionally, including with the Los Angeles Lakers, before beginning a coaching career in Oklahoma. He was inducted into the University of Tulsa Athletics Hall of Fame.

**Linda Sharp, Okmulgee, 3/14/1950** – An Oklahoma native who became one of the pioneering coaches in women's college basketball, Sharp led USC to consecutive NCAA national championships in 1983 and 1984 and compiled a 271–99 record in 12 seasons. The 1984 National Coach of the Year later coached in the WNBA and was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2001.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**\*Grady Skillern, El Reno/Tulsa, 1898 – 1/13/1996** – One of Oklahoma’s early high school basketball coaching greats, Skillern compiled a 529–134 career record at El Reno, Oklahoma City Classen and Tulsa Central. He won six state championships, including four at Tulsa Central during the 1930s, and later served as a longtime college football official and Tulsa Public Schools athletic director.

**\*Robert “Bingo” Smith, Memphis, TN, 2/26/1946 – 10/26/2023** – The 1969 Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Year and an All-American at Tulsa, Smith was selected sixth overall in the 1969 NBA Draft and played 11 NBA seasons. A cornerstone of the early Cleveland Cavaliers, he helped the franchise reach its first playoffs in 1976. Cleveland retired his No. 7, while Tulsa retired his No. 32.

**\*James W. “Jim” Spivey, Rush Springs/Bray-Doyle, 1/7/1935 – 11/12/2023** – A three-time NAIA All-American at Southeastern Oklahoma State, Spivey helped lead the Savages to four consecutive NAIA National Tournament appearances and two national runner-up finishes. He set NAIA Tournament records for free throws and was selected by the Minneapolis Lakers in the 1957 NBA Draft.

**Larry Steele, Oklahoma City, 5/5/1949** – As girls’ basketball coach at Northeast High School from 1973–88, Steele became a leading advocate for bringing the full-court, five-on-five game to Oklahoma. He challenged the state’s traditional six-on-six format and helped build momentum for the modern style of girls’ basketball eventually adopted statewide.

**Doug Tolin, Bartlesville/Shawnee** – Tolin built Oklahoma Baptist into an NAIA powerhouse, compiling a 402–120 record in 15 seasons and leading the Bison to 14 consecutive national tournament appearances. His teams won the 2010 NAIA national championship and finished national runner-up twice. The 2010 NAIA National Coach of the Year, Tolin was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame.

**\*Kenneth Franklin “Ken” Trickey Sr., Cape Girardeau, MO/Tulsa, 8/30/1933 – 12/4/2012** – Trickey put Oral Roberts basketball on the national map with his high-scoring “run-and-gun” style. His Golden Eagles made consecutive NIT appearances in 1972 and 1973 before reaching the 1974 NCAA Elite Eight, falling to Kansas in overtime one victory short of the Final Four. Trickey’s ORU teams twice led the nation in scoring.

**Phylesha Whaley, Slaton, TX** – The 2000 Big 12 Player of the Year and a first-team All-American at Oklahoma, Whaley finished her career with 2,187 points and earned first-team All-Big 12 honors three times. She led the Sooners to their first Big 12 regular-season championship and NCAA Sweet 16 appearance and became the first OU women’s basketball player selected in the WNBA Draft.

**\*Louis G. Wilke, Chicago, IL/Alva, Oklahoma, 10/10/1896 – 2/28/1962** – A major figure in the development of amateur basketball, Wilke coached at Phillips University and led the Phillips 66ers to a 98–8 record from 1929–31. He later served seven terms as chairman of the AAU Basketball Committee and held leadership roles with the U.S. Olympic Committee. Wilke was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame as a contributor in 1983.

**\*Rankin Williams, Weatherford** – One of the foundational figures in Southwestern Oklahoma State athletics, Williams began as player-coach of the basketball team in 1922–23 and spent the next 42 years coaching at the school. His teams won 28 conference championships in baseball and eight in basketball, along with two undefeated conference football titles. Williams was inducted into multiple national halls of fame, including the NAIA and Helms Foundation halls.

**BASKETBALL CONT.**

**Teresa (Endicott) Willis, Olive** – The first All-State athlete in Olive High School history, Willis averaged 31.3 points per game as a senior before becoming a two-time All-American at Seminole Junior College. She continued her career at UNLV, earning All-America honors twice, establishing multiple school records and becoming a finalist for the Wade Trophy, one of the highest individual honors in women's college basketball.

**\*Warren Womble Jr., Durant, 3/15/1920 – 3/21/2015** – One of the most successful coaches of the AAU era, Womble led the Peoria Caterpillars to five consecutive national championships from 1952–56 and compiled a 296–28 record. He served as an assistant coach for the gold medal-winning 1952 U.S. Olympic team and as head coach of the United States team that captured the 1954 FIBA World Championship. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1977.

**BOXING**

**\*Herschel Acton, Oklahoma City, c. 1929 – 1974** – One of Oklahoma's premier amateur boxers, Acton captured three National Golden Gloves Tournament of Champions titles, winning at lightweight in 1946 and 1948 and welterweight in 1952. He also won international Golden Gloves competition and multiple Oklahoma championships during a career that established him among the state's most accomplished Golden Gloves fighters.

**\*Issac "Ike" Bayouth, Tulsa, 1914 – 1989** – A pioneering Oklahoma featherweight boxer, Bayouth captured the 1934 Oklahoma Golden Gloves Championship and built an impressive fighting record that reportedly included 67 knockouts, 20 decisions and six draws. Known as "The Assyrian" and "The Kid," he began boxing at a young age and became a notable figure in Tulsa's early boxing history, representing Oklahoma's rich tradition in the sport.

**Tony Calvi, Oklahoma City** – A standout during Oklahoma's Golden Gloves era, Calvi became an Oklahoma state boxing champion and competed as one of the state's leading light heavyweights. His accomplishments in amateur boxing were recognized with induction into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1970.

**\*Virgil Franklin, Lawton, 4/10/1928 – 1/5/1998** – An Arapaho/Kiowa standout, Franklin captured both the National Golden Gloves and National AAU featherweight championships in 1945 after winning multiple Oklahoma titles. While serving in the U.S. Navy, he added Southwest Pacific and All-Armed Forces championships in 1946. A four-sport athlete, Franklin was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1985.

**\*Jimmie Earle Keel, Stratford, 12/12/1928 – 12/6/2013** – A championship amateur boxer and pioneering ring official, Keel won the Oklahoma State Golden Gloves light heavyweight championship while competing for Cameron. He later became a prominent boxing referee and made history in Oklahoma City in 1971 when he became the first American Indian to referee a world championship fight, officiating the Bob Foster-Brian Kelly Burden light heavyweight title bout.

**\*Kelly Dee Burden ("Brian Kelly"), Cushing, 3/21/1938 – 8/31/2016** – Fighting professionally as Brian Kelly, Burden won the 1959 National Golden Gloves light heavyweight championship and was named the tournament's Outstanding Boxer. He compiled a 45–11 professional record with 26 knockouts and became a world-ranked contender, challenging Bob Foster for the world light heavyweight championship in Oklahoma City in 1971.

**BOXING CONT.**

**\*Earl W. “Jeep” O’Neal, Oklahoma City, 9/9/1923 – 1/12/1984** – One of Oklahoma’s leading amateur boxers during the Golden Gloves and AAU era, O’Neal captured a National AAU championship in 1943. His accomplishments in the ring earned him selection to Oklahoma’s All-Time Boxing Team by weight division in 1952.

**\*Jess Willard, St. Clere, KS/Elk City, 12/29/1881 – 12/15/1968** – A working cowboy who began his boxing career in Oklahoma, Willard rose to the pinnacle of the sport when he defeated Jack Johnson in a 26-round bout in Havana in 1915 to become world heavyweight champion. He held the heavyweight crown for four years before losing to Jack Dempsey in 1919 and was later inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

**CONTRIBUTORS**

**\*Lee K. Anderson, Oklahoma City** – A multi-sport standout at Southwestern State Normal before graduating in 1919, Anderson later became the second Executive Secretary of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association. During four decades of leadership, he helped establish consistent rules and administration for Oklahoma high school athletics and oversaw the association’s transition to Oklahoma City.

**Jean Barrett, Tulsa** – Following an All-American career at the University of Tulsa and nine seasons with the San Francisco 49ers, Barrett devoted decades to supporting young athletes throughout Oklahoma. He founded Tulsa’s FCA inner-city camp and the NFL Oklahoma Alumni/FCA golf tournament, raising funds for camp scholarships and athletic equipment for Oklahoma schools. Barrett was inducted into the FCA Hall of Champions in 2020.

**Dean Blevins, Norman, 10/27/1955** – A fixture in Oklahoma sports media for more than four decades, Blevins built a distinguished career across television, radio and national college sports broadcasting. A two-time Emmy Award winner and eight-time Oklahoma Sportscaster of the Year, he served as sports director at KWTW and previously as lead sports anchor at KOCO. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2025.

**\*Frank Boggs, Oklahoma City, 5/1/1928 – 8/10/2017** – A longtime columnist, sports editor and managing editor at *The Oklahoman* and *Oklahoma City Times*, Boggs was named Oklahoma Sportswriter of the Year six times between 1960 and 1971. One of the state’s most respected sports journalists, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1997 and the U.S. Basketball Writers Hall of Fame in 2006.

**John Brooks, Oklahoma City, 9/27/1938** – One of Oklahoma’s most enduring sports broadcasters, Brooks was the radio voice of Oklahoma football and basketball during much of the Barry Switzer era and called Oklahoma City Blazers hockey for four decades. Over a 50-year career, he broadcast more than 2,900 events and was named Oklahoma Sportscaster of the Year six times. He entered the Oklahoma Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2009.

**Bob Carpenter, St. Louis, MO/Tulsa, 3/4/1953** – Carpenter began his professional broadcasting career with the Tulsa Oilers in 1976 before embarking on a 42-year Major League Baseball broadcasting career, including 20 seasons as television voice of the Washington Nationals. He also spent 18 years with ESPN and called University of Oklahoma basketball. A multiple Emmy Award winner, Carpenter was inducted into the Oklahoma Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2017.

**Mike Carter, Tulsa** – A transformative leader in Oklahoma collegiate athletics, Carter served 27 years as athletic director at Oral Roberts University. During his tenure, ORU won 153 regular-season and tournament championships, nine Commissioner’s Cups and sent 84 teams to NCAA Championships. The 2012 NCAA Division I Central Region Athletic Director of the Year, Carter was later honored with ORU’s Mike Carter Athletic Center.

**CONTRIBUTORS CONT.**

**\*Dr. Donald L. Cooper, Columbus, KS, 8/11/1928 – 2/15/2017** – A nationally recognized pioneer in sports medicine, Cooper served for decades as Oklahoma State University's team physician and became a leading voice on athlete health, drug education and physical fitness. He served as a U.S. Olympic team physician in 1968 and spent 12 years on the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. Cooper was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1998.

**Dr. Kenneth H. Cooper, Oklahoma City, 3/4/1931** – Internationally recognized as the "Father of Aerobics," Cooper pioneered the modern fitness movement through his groundbreaking work in preventive medicine and his 1968 book *Aerobics*. The Oklahoma native and OU graduate developed fitness tests and training concepts used worldwide and founded the Cooper Aerobics Center. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1983.

**\*Cy Curtis, Stilwell, 1912 – 1982** – A pioneering Oklahoma wildlife biologist, Curtis was instrumental in restoring the state's white-tailed deer population through an extensive trapping and transplanting program. His work transformed deer conservation and hunting throughout Oklahoma. Established in 1972, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's Cy Curtis Awards Program continues to honor his legacy by recognizing the state's trophy game.

**\*Jimmy Dixon, Marlow/Sulphur, 1950 – 2022** – A fixture in Oklahoma high school football, Dixon spent 48 years leading the Sulphur Bulldogs and built one of the state's most enduring programs. He compiled a 351–197 career record, won two state championships and guided Sulphur to the playoffs 37 times, leaving a lasting impact on generations of student-athletes and coaches.

**\*Donnie Duncan, Greenville, TX, 8/28/1940 – 3/12/2016** – A prominent leader in college athletics, Duncan served as Oklahoma's athletic director from 1986–96, overseeing national championships in men's golf, men's gymnastics and baseball. He played a key role in the formation of the Big 12 Conference and later served as the league's Senior Associate Commissioner and Director of Football Operations, helping shape its football championship, officiating, bowls and television operations.

**\*John Wilson Dunlap, Oklahoma City, 5/4/1902 – 2/19/1999** – Known throughout the state as "Mr. Sporting Goods," Dunlap began selling athletic equipment in 1921 and spent more than six decades serving Oklahoma athletes, coaches and schools through John Dunlap Sporting Goods Company. His Oklahoma City store became a longtime gathering place for coaches and sports figures. Dunlap was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1972.

**Al Eschbach, Jersey City, NJ/Norman, 1945** – A pioneer of sports talk radio, Eschbach began his Oklahoma broadcasting career in 1976 and has spent five decades informing and entertaining sports fans across the state. A longtime host on WWLS/The Sports Animal and sports journalism instructor at the University of Oklahoma, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2019 and Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2020.

**\*Hugh Finnerty, St. Louis, MO, 9/29/1918 – 12/15/1995** – A longtime leader in professional baseball, Finnerty served in numerous roles with the Tulsa Oilers before being elected president of the Texas League in 1965. He returned as Oilers general manager in 1971 and helped rebuild attendance to more than 200,000. Over his career, Finnerty also worked in broadcasting, promotions and sales, becoming an influential ambassador for professional baseball in Oklahoma.

**CONTRIBUTORS CONT.**

**\*Bus Ham, Oklahoma City, DOD 12/1988** – As sports editor of *The Oklahoman*, Ham joined Oklahoma A&M coach Henry Iba in creating the All-College Basketball Tournament in 1935. The Oklahoma City event grew into one of the nation's longest-running college basketball traditions and helped establish the city as a destination for major sporting events.

**Bill Hancock, Hobart, 9/9/1950** – One of the most influential administrators in modern college sports, Hancock became the first full-time director of the NCAA Final Four, first director of the Bowl Championship Series and first executive director of the College Football Playoff. The OU graduate also spent 11 years with the Big Eight Conference. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2015.

**\*Leon “Leo” K. Higbie, Caddo County, 1908 – 1/21/1999** – A longtime leader in Oklahoma high school athletics, Higbie joined the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association as an assistant executive officer in 1947 and became executive secretary in 1967. His decades of service helped guide the administration of interscholastic athletics and activities across the state. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1973 and OCU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1981.

**\*Charles Nedwin “Ned” Hockman, Carnegie, 10/27/1921 – 12/20/2009** – A pioneering filmmaker and educator, Hockman served for four decades as the official cinematographer for University of Oklahoma athletics, documenting one of the most celebrated eras in Sooner sports. He produced *The Bud Wilkinson Show* and founded OU's motion-picture unit, becoming an influential figure in sports filmmaking and journalism education. He entered the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame in 1996.

**\*Alberta (Williams) Hood, Bartlesville, 1915-1991** – Inducted into the Kansas State High School Activities Association Hall of Fame in 1979 and the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1976.

**Marita Hynes, Norman** – A pioneering leader in women's athletics, Hynes coached OU softball before becoming a longtime athletics administrator and advocate for the growth of women's sports. She spearheaded fundraising and development of the OU Softball Complex, helped bring the Women's College World Series to Oklahoma City and served 12 years as its tournament director. OU's softball field was named Marita Hynes Field in her honor.

**Mike Knopp, Oklahoma City** – A driving force behind the transformation of the Oklahoma River into a world-class sports destination, Knopp helped establish the Oklahoma Association for Rowing and became founding executive director of RIVERSPORT. He also established Oklahoma City University's rowing program, the state's first varsity program. His vision helped position Oklahoma City as an international destination for rowing and paddle sports and an Olympic competition venue.

**\*Carl Lowrance, Cushing/Tulsa, 5/16/1913 – 7/10/1995** – An innovator who revolutionized recreational fishing, Lowrance founded Lowrance Electronics and developed the first portable fish finder in 1957. The company's FISH-LO-K-TOR, known as the “Little Green Box,” brought sonar technology to everyday anglers and became one of the most influential innovations in modern sport fishing.

**\*Don McClanen, Trenton, NJ, 2/3/1925 – 2/16/2016** – Founder of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, McClanen developed his vision for a faith-based sports ministry while coaching in Oklahoma. A former Oklahoma A&M student and Eastern Oklahoma A&M coach and athletic director, he led the creation of FCA, which was chartered in Oklahoma in 1954 and grew into one of the world's largest sports ministries serving coaches and athletes.

**CONTRIBUTORS CONT.**

**\*Thurman R. Medley, 11/27/1906 – 4/19/1989** – A charter member of the Oklahoma City All-Sports Association and its president for 12 years, Medley played a major role in the growth of sports in Oklahoma City. He helped establish American Legion baseball, worked to return professional baseball to the city and was a driving force behind the All-College Basketball Tournament.

**Monte Moore, Hollis, 7/26/1930** – An Oklahoma-born broadcasting legend, Moore began his career while attending the University of Oklahoma and later became the longtime voice of the Kansas City and Oakland Athletics. He spent 22 seasons broadcasting Athletics baseball and called the franchise's three consecutive World Series championships from 1972–74 for NBC. Moore was inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame in 2025.

**\*Dr. Don O'Donoghue, Storm Lake, IA/Oklahoma City, 1902–1992** – Internationally recognized as a pioneer and “Father of Sports Medicine,” O'Donoghue helped establish modern treatment of athletic injuries through his work as an orthopedic surgeon, educator and author. He was founding president of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine and directed the nation's first postgraduate sports medicine course in Oklahoma City. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1970.

**\*Harold “Pee Wee” Park, Waurika, 8/2/1931 – 9/25/2014** – A longtime leader in Oklahoma high school athletics, Park spent 29 years coaching at Ryan, Waurika, Okeene, Fox, Cleveland and Sayre, compiling a 174–115–5 football record. He later served 11 years as executive director of the Oklahoma Coaches Association, representing and supporting coaches across the state.

**\*Cecil Gene Perkins, Cooperton, 3/4/1936 – 9/29/2013** – An All-Conference quarterback at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Perkins dedicated more than five decades to collegiate athletics as a coach and administrator. He served as athletic director at Northwestern Oklahoma State and Southwestern Oklahoma State, where he also coached conference championship golf teams. A member of multiple athletic halls of fame, Perkins was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1991 and received the General Robert R. Neyland Award in 2006.

**\*Terry Don Phillips, Longview, TX, 8/29/1947 – 5/25/2026** – A transformative college athletics administrator, Phillips served as Oklahoma State's athletic director from 1994–2002, spearheading the renovation of Gallagher-Iba Arena and laying the groundwork for major football facility improvements. He later served a decade as Clemson's athletic director, where he hired Dabo Swinney and oversaw significant athletic and facility growth. Phillips was inducted into the Clemson Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019.

**\*Bill Platt, 4/22/1923 – 4/7/1997** – A fixture in Oklahoma sports broadcasting, Platt spent nearly four decades behind the microphone for Oklahoma State athletics, including 38 seasons as the voice of Cowboy baseball. A five-time Oklahoma Broadcaster of the Year and former president of the Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters, he entered its Hall of Fame in 1989 and the Cowboy Baseball Hall of Fame in 1996.

**Ross Porter, Shawnee, 11/29/1938** – An Oklahoma-born broadcasting legend, Porter began calling sports as a teenager in Shawnee before graduating from the University of Oklahoma and advancing to national assignments with NBC. In 1977, he joined the Los Angeles Dodgers broadcast team, beginning a celebrated 28-season tenure alongside Vin Scully. Porter was inducted into the Southern California Sports Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2005.

**CONTRIBUTORS CONT.**

**\*Patty Cox Hampton Roloff, Kansas City, MO/Oklahoma City, 7/16/1927 – 10/26/2024** – A pioneering female executive in professional baseball, Hampton Roloff helped preserve professional baseball in Oklahoma City when she and her husband purchased the struggling Oklahoma City 89ers in 1978. She was named American Association Executive of the Year three times and became one of the city's most influential sports and business leaders. She was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame in 2015.

**David G. "Dave" Sittler, Hebron, NE/Tulsa, 11/8/1945** – An award-winning sports journalist whose career spanned more than four decades, Sittler became one of Oklahoma's most respected sports columnists and served as president of the Football Writers Association of America in 2001. A five-time Oklahoma Sportswriter of the Year, he entered the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2005 and received the prestigious FWAA Bert McGrane Award in 2012.

**\*C.B. Speegle Jr., Roosevelt/Oklahoma City, 7/14/1916 – 12/23/2008** – A legendary Capitol Hill High School coach and educator, Speegle spent nearly four decades mentoring Oklahoma City student-athletes in football, basketball and golf. In 1955, he and Douglass coach Moses Miller helped make history by arranging Oklahoma's first integrated high school football game. Capitol Hill's football stadium was later named C.B. Speegle Stadium in his honor.

**Berry Tramel, Norman, 1/20/1961** – One of Oklahoma's most prominent sports journalists, Tramel began his newspaper career at the *Norman Transcript* at age 17 and joined *The Oklahoman* in 1991, serving as beat writer, sports editor and longtime columnist before later joining the *Tulsa World*. A six-time Oklahoma Sportswriter of the Year, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2018.

**\*James Robert "Jim" Walton, Shattuck, 9/5/1935 – 5/14/2023** – A longtime Major League Baseball scout and coach, Walton served as a minor league manager before joining the Milwaukee Brewers' coaching staff from 1973–75. He later worked for the MLB Scouting Bureau and served as an advance scout for Team USA, contributing to its gold medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. Inducted into the Texas Scouting Hall of Fame in 2007, Walton received MLB's Scout of the Year Award in 2009.

**\*Otis Wile, Guthrie, 12/20/1902 – 1/18/1981** – A pioneer in collegiate sports information, Wile spent more than four decades at Oklahoma A&M/Oklahoma State as a student, journalist and longtime athletic publicity director. He helped chronicle and promote generations of Cowboy athletics and became one of the profession's respected early leaders. Wile was inducted into the College Sports Information Directors Hall of Fame in 1973.

**\*Carl Wooten, Rice, TX/Oklahoma Panhandle, 1897 – 3/3/1975** – A coach and administrator who helped build the foundation of athletics at Panhandle A&M, Wooten coached football, basketball and baseball beginning in 1935. He improved equipment and resources for student-athletes and helped establish the school in the New Mexico Conference. His lasting impact was recognized in 1973 when the university named its football field Carl Wooten Field.

**FOOTBALL**

**Stephen Todd Alexander, Chickasha, 11/7/1975** – A high school All-American at Chickasha, Alexander became an All-Big 12 tight end at the University of Oklahoma before embarking on a nine-year NFL career. He played for Washington, San Diego, Detroit and Denver and earned Pro Bowl honors with Washington following the 2000 season.

**\*Johnny Allen, Pawnee, 11/8/1934 – 5/20/2008** – A Tonkawa and Sac and Fox athlete, Allen quarterbacked Northeastern State to an undefeated 11–0 season and the 1958 NAIA National Championship, earning MVP honors in the championship game. A multi-sport athlete at NSU, he was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991 and the Northeastern State Athletics Hall of Fame in 2001.

**\*Claude Arnold, Okmulgee, 11/1/1924 – 12/23/2016** – A quarterback on Oklahoma's first national championship team, Arnold helped guide the Sooners to a 10–1 record and the 1950 national title under Bud Wilkinson. Known for his passing ability in an era dominated by the running game, he engineered several memorable comeback victories before continuing his football career professionally with the Edmonton Eskimos in Canada.

**Tony Banfield, Independence, KS/Broken Arrow, 12/18/1938** – A defensive back at Oklahoma State, Banfield went on to become a standout with the Houston Oilers of the American Football League. He helped Houston capture the first two AFL championships in 1960 and 1961 and earned multiple AFL All-Star selections during his professional career.

**\*Robert Dean “Bobby” Boyd, Garland, TX, 12/3/1937 – 8/28/2017** – An All-Conference quarterback at Oklahoma, Boyd became one of the NFL's premier defensive backs during nine seasons with the Baltimore Colts. A two-time Pro Bowler and multiple-time All-Pro, he recorded 57 career interceptions—still the Colts franchise record—and led the NFL with nine in 1965. Boyd was selected to the NFL's 1960s All-Decade Team.

**\*Max Boydston, Muskogee, 1/22/1932 – 12/12/1998** – A consensus All-American end at Oklahoma in 1954, Boydston helped the Sooners continue their historic winning streak and was named Lineman of the Year by the Washington Touchdown Club. Selected second overall by the Chicago Cardinals in the 1955 NFL Draft, he played professionally in both the NFL and AFL.

**Thomas “Tom” Brahaney, Midland, TX, 10/23/1951** – A two-time consensus All-American center at Oklahoma in 1971 and 1972, Brahaney anchored the Sooners' dominant Wishbone offense and was a finalist for the 1972 Lombardi Award. He played nine NFL seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2007.

**Jammal Brown, Lawton, 3/30/1981** – A two-time All-American offensive tackle at Oklahoma, Brown earned unanimous honors and won the Outland Trophy as the nation's top interior lineman in 2004. The Lawton MacArthur product was selected 13th overall by New Orleans in the 2005 NFL Draft and went on to earn two Pro Bowl selections during his seven-year NFL career.

**Ryan Broyles, Norman, 4/9/1988** – A Norman High School standout, Broyles became one of the most prolific receivers in college football history at Oklahoma. A two-time consensus All-American, he finished his career with an NCAA-record 349 receptions along with 4,586 receiving yards and 45 touchdowns. Detroit selected him in the second round of the 2012 NFL Draft.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**Dez Bryant, Lufkin, TX/Stillwater, 11/4/1988** – A consensus All-American at Oklahoma State in 2008, Bryant was a Biletnikoff Award finalist after recording 1,480 receiving yards and 19 touchdowns. Selected in the first round of the 2010 NFL Draft by Dallas, he became a three-time Pro Bowler and finished his Cowboys career as the franchise's all-time leader with 73 touchdown receptions.

**\*Paul "Buddy" Burris, Muskogee, 1/20/1923 – 11/26/2007** – A dominant two-way guard at Oklahoma, Burris became the first player in school history to earn All-America honors three times, receiving recognition in 1946, 1947 and 1948. A cornerstone of the Sooners during the beginning of the Bud Wilkinson era, he later played professionally and was inducted into the Helms Athletic Foundation Football Hall of Fame.

**Henry Burris, Spiro, 6/4/1975** – An All-State quarterback and multi-sport standout at Spiro, Burris went on to a legendary 18-season Canadian Football League career. He won three Grey Cup championships, twice earned Grey Cup MVP honors and was twice named the CFL's Most Outstanding Player. Burris retired with 63,639 passing yards and was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 2020.

**Brad Calip, Hobart, 12/12/1962** – A record-setting quarterback at East Central University, Calip earned NAIA All-America honors in 1984 while establishing 16 school offensive records. In 2003, he became the first player from an Oklahoma university outside the NCAA's top football division to be inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

**Rocky Calmus, Tulsa, 8/1/1979** – A two-time consensus All-American linebacker at Oklahoma, Calmus helped lead the Sooners to the 2000 national championship and earned back-to-back Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year honors. He capped his collegiate career by winning the 2001 Butkus Award as the nation's top linebacker before playing four seasons with the Tennessee Titans.

**Mark Clayton, Arlington, TX/Norman, 7/2/1982** – A two-time All-American receiver at Oklahoma and Biletnikoff Award finalist, Clayton finished his Sooner career as the school's all-time leader in receptions, receiving yards and touchdown catches. The Baltimore Ravens selected him 22nd overall in the 2005 NFL Draft, beginning a seven-year NFL career.

**\*Jack "The Flying Cloud" Cloud, Britton, 1/1/1925 – 6/19/2010** – A two-time All-American fullback at William & Mary, Cloud set a school scoring record with 102 points in 1947 before playing four seasons in the NFL with Green Bay and Washington. The Oklahoma native later spent more than two decades coaching at the U.S. Naval Academy and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1990.

**John Cooper, Knoxville, TN/Tulsa, 7/2/1937** – Cooper began his head-coaching career at the University of Tulsa, winning five Missouri Valley Conference championships in eight seasons before leading programs at Arizona State and Ohio State. He became the first coach to guide both Pac-10 and Big Ten teams to Rose Bowl victories and won nine conference championships during his career. Cooper was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2008.

**\*Terry Crouch, Dallas, TX, 7/6/1959 – 5/8/2011** – A dominant offensive guard at the University of Oklahoma, Crouch earned All-America honors in 1980 and consensus All-America recognition in 1981 while twice earning first-team All-Big Eight honors. The Baltimore Colts selected him in the fifth round of the 1982 NFL Draft, beginning his professional football career.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**George Edward Cumby, Gorman, TX, 7/5/1956** – A standout linebacker at Oklahoma, Cumby earned All-America honors in 1977 and unanimous honors in 1979 while twice being named Big Eight Defensive Player of the Year. He recorded 437 career tackles and helped the Sooners win four Big Eight titles before an eight-year NFL career. Cumby was selected for induction into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2026.

**\*Otis Delaporte, Luther, 1/6/1919 – 4/1/1981** – A longtime Oklahoma coach and athletic administrator, Delaporte led programs across the state before becoming Southwestern Oklahoma State's athletic director and head football coach in 1963. He compiled a 94–48–2 record, won five conference championships and guided the undefeated 1977 Bulldogs to the NAIA National Championship game.

**\*Rickey Dixon, Dallas, TX, 12/26/1966 – 8/1/2020** – A member of Oklahoma's 1985 national championship team, Dixon became a consensus All-American and the first Sooner to win the Jim Thorpe Award in 1987 after setting a school record with nine interceptions. Selected fifth overall in the 1988 NFL Draft, he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2019.

**\*James "Jimbo" Elrod, Memphis, TN/Tulsa, 5/25/1954 – 12/12/2016** – A Tulsa East Central product, Elrod earned consensus All-America honors at defensive end for Oklahoma in 1975 and helped the Sooners capture consecutive national championships in 1974 and 1975. He finished with a then-school-record 44 career tackles for loss and also lettered in wrestling before playing four seasons in the NFL.

**\*Albert A. Exendine, Bartlesville, 1884 – 1/4/1973** – A Delaware Nation standout at Carlisle Indian School, Exendine earned All-America recognition in 1906 and first-team honors from Walter Camp in 1907. He later built a lengthy coaching career that included stops at Northeastern State and Oklahoma A&M. Exendine was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1970 and the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1972.

**\*Chuck Fairbanks, Detroit, MI, 6/10/1933 – 4/2/2013** – Oklahoma's head coach from 1967–72, Fairbanks compiled a 52–15–1 record, won three Big Eight championships and guided the Sooners to 11–1 seasons in both 1971 and 1972. He introduced the Wishbone offense at OU, helping lay the foundation for the program's dominant run through the following decades, and was named *The Sporting News* Coach of the Year in 1971.

**\*Mike Fanning, Oklahoma City, 2/2/1953 – 10/30/2022** – A John Marshall High School standout, Fanning helped Notre Dame win the 1973 national championship and earned first-team All-America honors in 1974. The Los Angeles Rams selected the defensive lineman ninth overall in the 1975 NFL Draft, beginning a 10-year professional career that included an appearance in Super Bowl XIV.

**\*Henry Edward Frnka Sr., Garwood, TX, 3/16/1903 – 12/18/1980** – In five seasons as Tulsa's head football coach from 1941–45, Frnka compiled a remarkable 40–9–1 record and led the Golden Hurricane to three Missouri Valley Conference championships. After Tulsa had never appeared in a bowl game, Frnka guided the program to five consecutive postseason bowls, including two Sugar Bowls, the Orange Bowl and Cotton Bowl.

**Reuben Gant, Tulsa, 4/12/1952** – A Tulsa Washington standout, Gant became an All-American tight end at Oklahoma State in 1973. The Buffalo Bills selected him 18th overall in the first round of the 1974 NFL Draft, and he spent his entire seven-year NFL career with Buffalo, catching 159 passes for 2,214 yards and 17 touchdowns.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Forest “Spot” Geyer, New Haven, KS, 12/9/1892 – 2/7/1932** – One of Oklahoma’s earliest football stars, Geyer earned All-America honors in 1915 while helping lead Bennie Owen’s Sooners during an undefeated season. A gifted fullback and passer in an era dominated by the running game, he became one of the program’s first great offensive stars. Geyer was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1973.

**Jason Gildon, Altus, 7/31/1972** – An All-American defensive end at Oklahoma State, Gildon set a school record with 16 sacks in 1991 before beginning a standout NFL career. He became a three-time Pro Bowl linebacker with the Pittsburgh Steelers and finished his Steelers career with a then-franchise-record 77 sacks.

**Derrel Gofourth, Parsons, KS, 3/20/1955** – A consensus All-American offensive lineman at Oklahoma State in 1976, Gofourth helped anchor the Cowboys during one of the program’s strongest eras. He went on to an eight-year NFL career, spending six seasons with the Green Bay Packers before finishing his career with the San Diego Chargers.

**Kelly Gregg, Wichita, KS/Edmond, 11/1/1976** – An Edmond North standout, Gregg became a two-time All-American defensive tackle at Oklahoma before embarking on a 12-year NFL career. Best known for his nine seasons with the Baltimore Ravens, he became a durable anchor of one of the NFL’s premier defenses and finished his professional career with more than 500 tackles.

**\*Harvey Lee Griffin, 6/4/1925 – 9/29/1988** – An Oklahoma A&M football letterman in 1945, Griffin went on to a distinguished career coaching Oklahoma high school football. He became best known for his tenure at Enid High School, where his success earned him *The Daily Oklahoman’s* Coach of the Year honor in 1964.

**\*Billy Grimes, Comanche, 7/27/1927 – 3/26/2005** – An Oklahoma A&M standout, Grimes became one of professional football’s premier return specialists with the Green Bay Packers. He earned consecutive Pro Bowl selections in 1950 and 1951 and led the NFL in all-purpose yardage in 1950. In 1999, he was selected as the kick returner on the Green Bay Packers’ All-Century Team.

**Cale Gundy, Midwest City, 4/10/1972** – A standout quarterback at Midwest City and Oklahoma, Gundy finished his Sooner playing career as the program’s all-time leader in passing yards and touchdown passes. He later spent more than two decades on the OU coaching staff, contributing to the 2000 national championship and 14 Big 12 titles while becoming the program’s all-time leader in combined victories as a player and coach.

**Tommie Harris, Killeen, TX/Norman, 4/29/1983** – A two-time All-American defensive tackle at Oklahoma, Harris earned consensus honors and won the Lombardi Award as the nation’s top lineman in 2003. Selected 14th overall by Chicago in the 2004 NFL Draft, he became a three-time Pro Bowler and helped the Bears reach Super Bowl XLI during an eight-year NFL career.

**\*Robert Lucius “Bob” Harrison Jr., Stamford, TX, 8/8/1937 – 2/4/2016** – A two-time All-American center at Oklahoma, Harrison captained the 1958 Sooners and was named UPI Lineman of the Year. He went on to a nine-year NFL career with San Francisco, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. One of the premier centers of his era, Harrison was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2011.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Elmer “Gloomy Gus” Henderson, Oberlin, OH, 3/10/1889 – 12/16/1965** – One of the most successful coaches in Tulsa football history, Henderson compiled 70 victories from 1925–35, a program record that still stands, while winning five conference championships. Previously the head coach at USC, his .865 winning percentage remains the best in Trojan history. Henderson was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1973.

**Thomas “Hollywood” Henderson, Austin, TX/Oklahoma City, 3/1/1953** – A standout linebacker at Langston University, Henderson was selected by the Dallas Cowboys in the first round of the 1975 NFL Draft. During seven NFL seasons, he earned Pro Bowl honors, appeared in three Super Bowls and helped Dallas capture Super Bowl XII. He became one of the most recognizable defensive players of the Cowboys’ championship era.

**\*Zachary Ryall “Zac” Henderson, Jena, LA, 10/14/1955 – 4/20/2020** – A two-time All-American safety at Oklahoma, Henderson helped the Sooners win consecutive national championships in 1974 and 1975 and was named the New York Athletic Club Defensive Back of the Year in 1977. His 299 career tackles remain an OU record for a defensive back. He later earned CFL All-Star honors during his professional career.

**Josh Heupel, Aberdeen, SD/Norman, 3/22/1978** – A consensus All-American quarterback, Heupel led Oklahoma to the 2000 national championship while earning AP Player of the Year and Walter Camp Player of the Year honors and finishing runner-up for the Heisman Trophy. He later returned to OU as an assistant before becoming a successful head coach at UCF and Tennessee, where he has led the Volunteers to national prominence.

**Eddie Hinton, Lawton, 6/26/1947** – A Lawton High School standout, Hinton became an All-American receiver at Oklahoma and set a Big Eight record with 60 receptions for 967 yards in 1968. Selected 25th overall by Baltimore in the first round of the 1969 NFL Draft, he played six NFL seasons and helped the Colts capture Super Bowl V.

**Gary Howard, Fort Smith, AR/Edmond, 1/3/1942** – One of the winningest coaches in University of Central Oklahoma history, Howard led the Bronchos from 1977–2002, compiling a 161–106–6 record. He guided Central State to the 1982 NAIA National Championship and earned National Coach of the Year honors before later leading UCO to consecutive Lone Star Conference championships in 1998 and 1999.

**James Randel “Randy” Hughes, Oklahoma City/Tulsa, 4/3/1953** – An All-American defensive back at Oklahoma in 1974, Hughes recorded 14 career interceptions while also earning Academic All-America and National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete honors. Selected by Dallas in the 1975 NFL Draft, he spent six seasons with the Cowboys and was a member of two Super Bowl championship teams.

**\*Daryl Hunt, Odessa, TX, 11/3/1956 – 7/9/2010** – A two-time All-American linebacker at Oklahoma, Hunt became one of the most productive defenders in school history. His 530 career tackles remain the OU record, and he earned first-team All-Big Eight honors three consecutive seasons. Hunt continued his career with the Houston Oilers, playing six seasons in the NFL.

**\*Frank “Pop” Ivy, Skiatook, 1/25/1916 – 5/17/2003** – A 1939 All-American at Oklahoma, Ivy played professionally with the Chicago Cardinals before returning to OU as an assistant under Bud Wilkinson. He later guided Edmonton to three consecutive Grey Cup championships from 1954–56 and became the only coach to serve as a head coach in the NFL, AFL and CFL.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Ellis Jones, Abilene, TX/Tulsa, 3/16/1921 – 2/24/2002** – Born without a right arm, Jones overcame extraordinary odds to become an All-American guard at the University of Tulsa and a standout in the College All-Star Game against the NFL champion Chicago Bears. Drafted by the Boston Yanks in 1945, he went on to play professionally in the NFL and became one of the most inspirational players in Tulsa football history.

**James William “Jimmy” Johnson, Port Arthur, TX/Stillwater, 7/16/1943** – Johnson began his head-coaching career at Oklahoma State before leading Miami to the 1987 national championship and the Dallas Cowboys to consecutive Super Bowl titles following the 1992 and 1993 seasons. The first coach to win both a major college national championship and a Super Bowl, Johnson was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2012 and Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2020.

**Merv Johnson, King City, MO/Norman, 5/16/1936** – A fixture in Oklahoma football for more than four decades, Johnson joined the Sooners’ coaching staff in 1979 and later spent 20 years as director of football operations. He also served as OU’s longtime radio analyst and worked 513 consecutive Sooner games from 1979–2019, contributing to the program as a coach, administrator and broadcaster.

**\*Jerry Keeling, Enid, 8/2/1939 – 1/19/2018** – An All-State quarterback at Enid High School and All-Conference standout at the University of Tulsa, Keeling went on to a 15-year Canadian Football League career. A three-time CFL All-Star, he helped lead his teams to three Grey Cup championships and was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 1989.

**Reggie Kinlaw, Miami, FL/Norman, 1/9/1957** – A two-time All-American nose guard at Oklahoma in 1977 and 1978, Kinlaw became the anchor of the Raiders’ 3–4 defense during a standout professional career. He played eight NFL seasons and helped the Raiders capture two Super Bowl championships, including victories in Super Bowls XV and XVIII.

**\*John E. “Buddy” Leake, Memphis, TN, 5/25/1933 – 2/18/2014** – A versatile Oklahoma standout, Leake scored a then-school-record 243 points while playing multiple positions and also starred in baseball. After his playing career, he founded the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Football Foundation in 1983 and served as its longtime president, helping provide scholarships to generations of Oklahoma student-athletes. He received the NFF’s Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Football Award in 1993.

**\*Clyde J. LeForce Jr., Pawnee/Bristow, 6/4/1923 – 6/9/2006** – A versatile triple-threat back at the University of Tulsa, LeForce remarkably led the Golden Hurricane in scoring, rushing, passing, punting and punt returns in 1943. An All-Missouri Valley Conference selection in 1946, he went on to play three NFL seasons with the Detroit Lions before returning to Oklahoma to coach. He entered the Tulsa Athletics Hall of Fame in 1986.

**Teddy Lehman, Tulsa/Fort Gibson, 11/18/1981** – A two-time All-American linebacker at Oklahoma and member of the Sooners’ 2000 national championship team, Lehman capped his collegiate career in 2003 by winning both the Butkus Award as the nation’s top linebacker and the Bednarik Award as college football’s top defensive player. Detroit selected him 37th overall in the 2004 NFL Draft.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*John “Skee” Levi, Bridgeport, 6/14/1898 – 1/22/1946** – One of the greatest all-around Native American athletes of his era, Levi earned Walter Camp All-America honors at Haskell Institute in 1924 and was reportedly called “the greatest athlete I have ever seen” by Jim Thorpe. An exceptional football, baseball and track athlete, he later coached at Haskell and played for the famed Hominy Indians. Levi entered the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1972.

**Granville “Granny” Liggins, Tulsa, 6/2/1946** – A two-sport star at Oklahoma, Liggins earned football All-America honors in 1966 and consensus honors in 1967, when he was also an NCAA wrestling All-American and Big Eight heavyweight champion. The dominant defensive lineman was named UPI Lineman of the Year in 1967 before embarking on an 11-year career in the Canadian Football League.

**\*Michael Winfred “Mike” Little, Oklahoma City, 7/13/1942 – 1/28/2001** – One of Oklahoma’s successful high school football coaches, Little built a career around revitalizing programs and developing championship teams. He won state championships at Putnam City West and Putnam City North and also led successful programs at Yukon and Bethany. Over a 23-year head-coaching career, Little compiled a 172–76–3 record.

**\*Guy Howard Lookabaugh, Watonga, 5/26/1896 – 9/10/1981** – One of Oklahoma A&M’s first great multi-sport stars, Lookabaugh excelled in both football and wrestling and helped establish the foundation of the school’s legendary wrestling tradition. A dominant collegiate wrestler, he became known as the first “Super Aggie.” Lookabaugh was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1975 and National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1983.

**\*Earl “Earthquake” Lunsford, Stillwater, 10/19/1933 – 9/3/2008** – An Oklahoma State product, Lunsford became one of the Canadian Football League’s dominant running backs, rushing for 6,994 yards and 55 touchdowns in just six seasons with Calgary. He surpassed 1,000 yards five times and led the CFL with 1,794 rushing yards in 1961. Lunsford was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 1983.

**\*Dewey William “Snorter” Luster, Tahlequah, 2/1/1899 – 10/13/1980** – Captain of Oklahoma’s undefeated 1920 football team, Luster later returned to OU as head football coach from 1941–45. A longtime coach and educator whose career spanned multiple sports, he also contributed to the Sooners’ wrestling program during the 1940s. Luster was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1974.

**Doug Matthews, Picher** – An Oklahoma All-State football player from Picher, Mathews starred at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M before finishing his collegiate career at Vanderbilt. He went on to a lengthy coaching career that included serving as an assistant at Tennessee before becoming a fixture in Nashville sports radio for nearly 30 years. Mathews was inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 2025.

**\*Marvin “Marv” Matuszak, South Bend, IN, 9/12/1931 – 2/28/2004** – A two-time first-team All-American linebacker at the University of Tulsa, Matuszak went on to a 12-year professional football career. He earned two NFL Pro Bowl selections, first-team All-Pro honors in 1957 and an AFL All-Star selection in 1962, and was a member of the Baltimore Colts’ 1959 NFL championship team.

**Carl McAdams, Dumas, TX, 4/26/1944** – A two-time All-American linebacker at Oklahoma, McAdams earned consensus honors in 1965 before being selected eighth overall in the 1966 NFL Draft. He ultimately joined the New York Jets, playing three seasons and helping the franchise capture the AFL championship and its historic victory in Super Bowl III.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Craig McBroom, Ada, 6/21/1925 – 3/9/2003** – One of the architects of Ada High School's storied football tradition, McBroom guided the Cougars to six state championships during two tenures as head coach from 1959–70 and 1973–79. A two-time Oklahoma Coach of the Year, he helped establish a family coaching legacy that made Ada one of the state's most successful high school football programs.

**\*Buck McPhail, Oklahoma City, 12/25/1929 – 3/4/2005** – An All-American fullback at Oklahoma in 1952, McPhail rushed for 1,018 yards while teaming with Heisman Trophy winner Billy Vessels to become the first pair of major college teammates to each rush for 1,000 yards in the same season. A year earlier, McPhail set a national record by averaging 8.56 yards per carry.

**\*Dale Meinert, Lone Wolf, 12/18/1933 – 5/10/2004** – An Oklahoma A&M standout, Meinert became one of the NFL's top linebackers during a lengthy professional career, earning three Pro Bowl selections with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1964, 1966 and 1968. Named to Oklahoma State's All-Century Team, he later returned home to coach eight-man football at Lone Wolf High School.

**\*Jack Mitchell, Arkansas City, KS, 12/3/1924 – 7/6/2009** – Oklahoma's first All-American quarterback, Mitchell directed Bud Wilkinson's Split-T offense and earned MVP honors in the Sooners' 1949 Sugar Bowl victory. His career average of 23.6 yards per punt return remains the FBS record. Mitchell later served as head coach at Wichita State, Arkansas and Kansas, compiling more than 100 collegiate victories.

**\*Derland Paul Moore, Malden, MO, 10/7/1951 – 9/24/2020** – An All-American defensive tackle at Oklahoma in 1972, Moore became a fixture on the New Orleans Saints' defensive line during a 14-year NFL career. He played 170 games for the Saints, led the team in sacks in 1980 and earned Pro Bowl honors in 1983. Moore was inducted into the Saints Hall of Fame in 1991.

**\*Ralph Eugene Neely, Little Rock, AR, 9/12/1943 – 1/5/2022** – A two-time All-American tackle at Oklahoma, including consensus honors in 1964, Neely spent his entire 13-year NFL career with the Dallas Cowboys. A two-time Pro Bowler and three-time All-Pro, he helped Dallas win Super Bowls VI and XII and was selected to the NFL's 1960s All-Decade Team.

**Gerald "Jerry" Ostroski, Collegeville, PA/Tulsa, 7/12/1970** – A first-team All-American offensive lineman at Tulsa in 1991, Ostroski helped lead the Golden Hurricane to a 10–2 season and Freedom Bowl victory. He went on to a nine-year NFL career with the Buffalo Bills. Inducted into the Tulsa Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008, his No. 55 jersey was honored by the university in 2018.

**\*James Donald "Jim" Owens, Oklahoma City, 3/6/1927 – 6/6/2009** – A 1949 All-American end and co-captain at Oklahoma, Owens helped the Sooners complete an undefeated regular season and Sugar Bowl victory. He later served as Washington's head coach from 1957–74, winning three conference championships and consecutive Rose Bowls following the 1959 and 1960 seasons. Owens was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1982.

**Anthony Lemont "Tony" Peters, Oklahoma City/Pauls Valley, 4/28/1953** – A defensive back at Oklahoma, Peters helped the Sooners capture the 1974 national championship before beginning a 10-year NFL career with Cleveland and Washington. He earned Pro Bowl honors with Washington in 1982 and helped the franchise defeat Miami in Super Bowl XVII that season.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Sherman Plunkett, Oklahoma City, 4/17/1933 – 11/18/1989** – A Douglass High School product, Plunkett starred at Maryland State before embarking on a 10-year professional football career. The massive offensive tackle became a fixture with the New York Jets, earning AFL All-Star honors in 1964 and 1966 and first-team All-AFL recognition in 1966 while protecting quarterback Joe Namath.

**\*Claude Reeds, Norman, 11/12/1890 – 4/30/1974** – One of Oklahoma's earliest football stars, Reeds was a three-time All-Southwestern fullback renowned for his running, blocking, passing and punting. His 102-yard punt against Texas in 1911 remains an OU record. He later coached Central Oklahoma State to eight conference championships in 10 seasons and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1961.

**\*Robert Odell "Bob" "Horse" Reynolds, Morris, 3/30/1914 – 2/8/1994** – An Okmulgee High School product, Reynolds became a consensus All-American tackle at Stanford in 1934 and played every minute of three consecutive Rose Bowls. A key member of Stanford's famed "Vow Boys," he later played professionally with the Detroit Lions and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1961.

**James Glen "Jim" Riley, Galveston, TX, 7/6/1945** – An Enid High School standout and defensive lineman at the University of Oklahoma, Riley was selected 29th overall by the Miami Dolphins in the 1967 NFL Draft. He spent five seasons with Miami and helped the Dolphins reach Super Bowl VI following the 1971 season.

**Gregory LaFayette "Greg" Roberts, Nacogdoches, TX, 11/29/1956** – A two-time All-American offensive guard at Oklahoma, Roberts earned consensus honors in 1978 and won the Outland Trophy as the nation's outstanding interior lineman. A dominant blocker in the Sooners' Wishbone offense, he was selected in the second round of the 1979 NFL Draft and played professionally with Tampa Bay and the USFL's Memphis Showboats.

**\*Samuel Albert "Red" Robertson, Cherryvale, KS, 1/27/1911 – 11/15/1987** – Robertson transformed Northeastern Oklahoma A&M into a junior college football powerhouse, compiling a 162–49–7 record from 1945–66. His Norsemen won 11 Oklahoma junior college conference championships, appeared in eight bowl games and captured back-to-back national championships in 1958 and 1959.

**\*Leodis Robinson, 1/30/1940 – 11/17/2009** – One of Oklahoma City's most successful high school football coaches, Robinson spent 23 seasons at Millwood, producing 20 winning seasons and leading the Falcons to the 1990 Class 3A state championship. He later guided John Marshall to the 1995 Class 5A state title before continuing his coaching career at Tulsa Washington.

**Woody Roof, Weatherford** – A legendary Oklahoma high school football coach, Roof amassed 222 career victories and five state championships across three schools. Best known for his four stints leading the Weatherford Eagles, Roof built a lasting legacy through decades of coaching excellence and dedication to student-athletes. His impact on the program was honored with the naming of Woody Roof Field at Weatherford High School.

**Gary Rose, Midwest City** – One of Oklahoma's most accomplished high school football coaches, Rose spent 43 years with Mid-Del Schools, including 22 seasons leading the Carl Albert Titans. He compiled a 219–61 record and captured 10 state championships between 1997 and 2016, building one of the state's premier football dynasties. An Oklahoma Coaches Association Hall of Fame inductee, Rose's legacy is honored by the stadium bearing his name.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Joe Ross, Thomas, 9/22/1917 – 5/2/1980** – After earning a Bronze Star during World War II and participating in the Normandy invasion, Ross returned home and built a football dynasty at Thomas High School. He guided the Terriers to seven state championships and finished his coaching career with 246 victories, establishing Thomas as one of Oklahoma's premier small-school football programs.

**\*Orban Eugene “Spec” Sanders, Temple, 1/26/1919 – 7/6/2003** – A Cameron College product, Sanders became one of professional football's premier two-way players with the New York Yankees, earning first-team All-AAFC honors in 1946 and 1947. After returning from a knee injury, he led the NFL with 13 interceptions in just 12 games in 1950 and earned Pro Bowl honors.

**\*Francis A. Schmidt, Downs, KS, 12/3/1885 – 9/19/1944** – A pioneering offensive strategist, Schmidt began his college head-coaching career at Tulsa, where his undefeated 1919 team outscored opponents 592–27. He later won conference championships at TCU and Ohio State and compiled a 158–57–11 career record. Known for his innovative “razzle-dazzle” offense, Schmidt was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1971.

**Jerry Martin Sherk, Grants Pass, OR, 7/7/1948** – An All-Big Eight defensive tackle and All-American wrestler at Oklahoma State, Sherk became one of the Cleveland Browns' premier defenders during a 12-year NFL career. He earned four consecutive Pro Bowl selections from 1973–76 and was a first-team All-Pro and NEA NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 1976.

**Jeremy Shockey, Ada, 8/18/1980** – An Ada High School and Northeastern Oklahoma A&M product, Shockey earned first-team All-America honors at Miami while helping the Hurricanes capture the 2001 national championship. Selected 14th overall by the New York Giants in the 2002 NFL Draft, he became a four-time Pro Bowl tight end and won Super Bowl championships with the Giants and New Orleans Saints.

**Lovie Smith, Gladewater, TX/Tulsa, 5/8/1958** – A two-time All-American defensive back at the University of Tulsa, Smith went on to a lengthy college and NFL coaching career. As head coach of the Chicago Bears, he earned AP NFL Coach of the Year honors in 2005 and led the franchise to Super Bowl XLI. He later served as head coach at Tampa Bay, Illinois and Houston.

**\*Pete E. Smith, Muskogee** – One of Oklahoma's top players of the 1930s, Smith earned All-America honors at end and first-team All-Big Six recognition in 1937. The Detroit Lions selected him in the third round of the 1938 NFL Draft. Smith was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978.

**\*Thomas E. “Tom” Stidham, Checotah, c. 1904 – 1/29/1964** – Stidham served as Oklahoma's head football coach from 1937–40, compiling a 27–8–3 record and guiding the 1938 Sooners to a 10–1 season, Big Six championship and the program's first bowl appearance. He later served as head coach at Marquette and coached professionally in the NFL. Stidham was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995.

**\*Robert “Bobby Jack” Stuart, Shawnee, 5/7/1926 – 5/30/2022** – A Tulsa football standout who later attended West Point, Stuart earned Associated Press All-America honors at Army while playing for an undefeated Cadets team. Drafted by professional football teams following his collegiate career, he instead fulfilled his military obligations. Stuart was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1976.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Hugh “Bones” Taylor, Oklahoma City, 7/6/1923 – 11/1/1992** – A three-sport standout at Oklahoma City University, Taylor spent eight seasons with Washington after entering the NFL in 1947. One of professional football’s premier receivers of his era, he earned first-team All-Pro honors in 1949 and 1950 and was selected to the Pro Bowl in 1952 before later embarking on a lengthy coaching career.

**Spencer Tillman, Tulsa, 4/21/1964** – A Tulsa Edison standout, Tillman became a first-team All-Big Eight running back and captain of Oklahoma’s 1985 national championship team. He went on to an eight-year NFL career and helped the San Francisco 49ers capture Super Bowl XXIV. Following his playing career, Tillman became a prominent college football analyst and broadcaster.

**Keith Traylor, Little Rock, AR, 9/3/1969** – An All-American linebacker at Central Oklahoma, Traylor was selected by Denver in the third round of the 1991 NFL Draft and developed into one of the league’s most durable defensive linemen. During a 16-year NFL career spanning 229 games, he won three Super Bowl championships—two with Denver and one with New England.

**\*James Orville Tuttle, Licking, MO/Bartlesville, 9/18/1912 – 4/20/1978** – A Bartlesville product who played collegiately at Phillips and Oklahoma City University, Tuttle spent six seasons at guard with the New York Giants. He helped the Giants win the 1938 NFL Championship and was selected to the NFL All-Star Game in both 1938 and 1939 before later serving as head coach at Oklahoma City University.

**Mike Vaughan, Chickasha/Ada, 10/2/1954** – An Ada High School product, Vaughan helped Oklahoma capture consecutive national championships in 1974 and 1975 before earning unanimous All-America honors at offensive tackle in 1976. A two-time first-team All-Big Eight selection, he was selected by the New York Giants in the fourth round of the 1977 NFL Draft.

**\*Lynn O. “Pappy” Waldorf, Clifton Springs, NY, 10/3/1902 – 8/15/1981** – Waldorf began his major-college head-coaching career at Oklahoma A&M, compiling a 34–10–7 record from 1929–33. He later built successful programs at Northwestern and California, where he led the Golden Bears to three consecutive Rose Bowls. One of college football’s respected coaches of his era, Waldorf was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1966.

**\*Wade Walker, Mocksville, NC/Norman, 11/29/1923 – 12/18/2013** – A 1949 All-American tackle at Oklahoma and one of only three Sooners to earn all-conference honors four consecutive years, Walker later served as head football coach and athletic director at Mississippi State. He returned to OU as athletic director from 1970–86, overseeing one of the most successful periods in Sooner athletics history.

**Robert “Bobby” Warmack, Oklahoma City, 12/10/1946** – A three-year starting quarterback at Oklahoma from 1966–68, Warmack helped return the Sooners to national prominence under head coach Chuck Fairbanks. He guided OU to an 8–2 record and Big Eight championship in 1967, capped by a 26–24 victory over Tennessee in the Orange Bowl.

**Brandon Weeden, Oklahoma City/Edmond, 10/14/1983** – An Edmond Santa Fe product, Weeden quarterbacked Oklahoma State to a school-record 12 wins, its first Big 12 championship and a Fiesta Bowl victory in 2011. He finished his career holding nearly every major OSU passing record before the Cleveland Browns selected him 22nd overall in the 2012 NFL Draft.

**FOOTBALL CONT.**

**\*Stanley Byron “Stan” West, Weatherford, Weatherford/Enid, 9/22/1926 – 1/19/2005** – A 1949 All-American at Oklahoma, West was selected 12th overall by the Los Angeles Rams in the 1950 NFL Draft. He became a two-time Pro Bowler, earned first-team All-Pro honors in 1952 and helped the Rams capture the 1951 NFL Championship during an eight-year professional career.

**Jay Wilkinson, Norman, c. 1942** – The son of legendary Oklahoma coach Bud Wilkinson, Jay became a football standout in his own right, starring at Norman High School before attending Duke. He earned first-team All-America honors and was named ACC Player of the Year in 1963 after helping the Blue Devils win two conference championships. Wilkinson was selected by the Chicago Bears in the 1964 NFL Draft.

**Kevin Williams, Arkadelphia, AR, 8/16/1980** – A first-team All-Big 12 defensive lineman at Oklahoma State, Williams was selected ninth overall by Minnesota in the 2003 NFL Draft. During a 13-year NFL career, he earned six Pro Bowl selections and five first-team All-Pro honors and was named to the NFL’s 2000s All-Decade Team. He entered the Vikings Ring of Honor in 2021.

**Rashaun Woods, Oklahoma City, 10/17/1980** – A two-time first-team All-American at Oklahoma State, Woods finished his career as the Cowboys’ all-time leader in receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns. He became the first player in Big Eight/Big 12 history to surpass 4,000 receiving yards and set an NCAA record with seven touchdown catches in one game. San Francisco selected him in the first round of the 2004 NFL Draft.

**GOLF**

**Jody (Rosenthal) Anschutz, Minneapolis, MN, 10/18/1962** – A University of Tulsa standout, Anschutz won the 1984 British Ladies Amateur and represented the United States in the Curtis Cup before turning professional. She was named LPGA Rookie of the Year in 1986 and won twice on Tour in 1987, including the du Maurier Classic, then one of the LPGA’s major championships.

**Mary Elizabeth “Betsy” Cullen, Tulsa, 8/14/1938** – One of Oklahoma’s premier women golfers, Cullen captured the Oklahoma Women’s State Amateur at just 15 years old in 1954 and repeated as champion in 1955 and 1961. She went on to a successful professional career on the LPGA Tour, recording three professional victories and establishing herself among Oklahoma’s most accomplished female golfers.

**\*Walter Emery, Duncan, 12/4/1911 – 1/7/1980** – One of Oklahoma’s greatest amateur golfers, Emery won the 1933 NCAA individual championship while at the University of Oklahoma and finished runner-up in the 1935 U.S. Amateur. A two-time Oklahoma Amateur champion, he represented the United States on the victorious 1936 Walker Cup team, winning his singles match.

**Kyle Flinton, Oklahoma City/Edmond, c. 1965** – A longtime Oklahoma PGA professional, Flinton won the 1986 Oklahoma Amateur, 2006 Oklahoma Open and three PGA National Assistant Championships. He competed in the 2008 and 2010 PGA Championships and helped the United States win the 2009 PGA Cup. Flinton has continued his impact on the game through leadership in Oklahoma junior and amateur golf.

**Janice Burba Gibson, Tulsa** – A two-time junior All-American, Gibson starred at Oklahoma State, winning three collegiate titles including the Big Eight Championship. She went on to a 12-year LPGA Tour career that included five U.S. Women’s Opens before becoming a respected PGA teaching professional and leader in junior golf. Gibson was inducted into the Oklahoma Golf Hall of Fame in 2014.

**GOLF CONT.**

**\*Patricia Ethel “Pat” Grant, Creston, MT/Cushing, 3/12/1921 – 11/26/2013** – One of Oklahoma’s great amateur golfers, Grant won three state high school championships and six Oklahoma Women’s Amateur titles. She later served 22 years in the Women’s Army Corps, rising from private to lieutenant colonel while continuing to excel in military golf competition. Grant entered the Oklahoma Women’s Golf Hall of Fame in 2010.

**\*Mark S. Hayes, Stillwater, 7/12/1949 – 7/17/2018** – An Oklahoma State standout and 1972 Sunnehanna Amateur champion, Hayes won three times on the PGA Tour, highlighted by the 1977 Tournament Players Championship. He also captured three Oklahoma Open titles and represented the United States in the 1979 Ryder Cup. One of Oklahoma’s most accomplished professional golfers, Hayes competed regularly among the PGA Tour’s top players during the 1970s.

**Jerry Hrniciar, Shamrock, TX/Lawton** – In 43 years leading Cameron golf, Hrniciar guided the Aggies to 21 national tournament appearances, 11 Lone Star Conference championships and the 1983 NAIA national championship, earning National Coach of the Year honors. A 13-time District Coach of the Year, he coached 39 All-Americans and was inducted into the GCAA Hall of Fame and Lone Star Conference Hall of Honor.

**\*Elizabeth May “Betty” Jameson, Norman, 5/9/1919 – 2/7/2009** – One of women’s golf’s pioneers, Jameson won consecutive U.S. Women’s Amateur championships in 1939 and 1940 and the 1947 U.S. Women’s Open, becoming the first woman to break 300 over 72 holes in the championship. A founding member of the LPGA in 1950, she was later inducted into the LPGA Hall of Fame.

**Melissa McNamara Luellen, Tulsa, 5/25/1966** – A four-time All-American at Tulsa, Luellen captured the 1988 NCAA individual championship while leading the Golden Hurricane to the national team title. She later competed for 11 years on the LPGA Tour before becoming a successful collegiate coach, highlighted by leading Arizona State to the 2009 NCAA national championship.

**\*Linda Melton Morse, Oklahoma City, 1937 – 5/24/1988** – A dominant figure in Oklahoma women’s golf, Morse won three consecutive state high school championships for Classen from 1952–54 before becoming one of the state’s premier amateur players. In 18 Women’s Oklahoma Golf Association championship appearances, she finished as champion or runner-up eight times and earned medalist honors seven times. She entered the Oklahoma Women’s Golf Hall of Fame in 2008.

**Stacy Prammanasudh, Enid/Tulsa, 9/23/1979** – A four-time first-team All-American at the University of Tulsa, Prammanasudh won 10 collegiate tournaments and earned WAC Player of the Year honors three times. She went on to win twice on the LPGA Tour and represented the United States in the 2007 Solheim Cup. Prammanasudh was inducted into the Tulsa Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017.

**Val Skinner, Hamilton, MT, 10/16/1960** – A two-time All-American at Oklahoma State, Skinner won nine collegiate tournaments and was named both Collegiate Player of the Year and Big Eight Female Athlete of the Year in 1982. She went on to win six times on the LPGA Tour and represented the United States on the victorious 1996 Solheim Cup team.

## GOLF CONT.

**\*William “Bill” Spiller, Tishomingo, 10/25/1913 – 1988** – A pioneering professional golfer, Spiller challenged the racial barriers that prevented Black golfers from competing in PGA events, becoming a central figure in the fight to eliminate the PGA’s discriminatory “Caucasian-only” clause. His efforts helped pave the way for integration of professional golf, and in 2009 the PGA of America posthumously granted him membership in recognition of his historic contributions.

**\*Francis G. “Bo” Wininger, Chico, CA/Commerce, 11/16/1922 – 12/7/1967** – A two-time Missouri Valley Conference individual champion at Oklahoma A&M, Wininger helped the Cowboys win four consecutive conference titles from 1947–50. He went on to win six times on the PGA Tour, including back-to-back Greater New Orleans Open titles in 1962 and 1963, and finished fourth in the 1965 PGA Championship.

**Jimmy Wright, Bentonville, AR/Enid, 12/1/1939** – An Enid High School state champion and All-American at Oklahoma State, Wright went on to a distinguished professional golf career. He competed in 21 major championships, finishing fourth in the 1969 PGA Championship, and became a seven-time Metropolitan PGA Player of the Year and four-time Met PGA champion. Wright also represented the United States on three PGA Cup teams.

## GYMNASTICS

**Todd Bishop, Latham, NY** – A seven-time All-American at Oklahoma, Bishop won consecutive NCAA horizontal bar championships in 1998 and 1999. In 1999, he became the first non-all-around gymnast to win the prestigious Nissen-Emery Award and recorded three perfect 10s on high bar, including the first 10.0 in OU men’s gymnastics history.

**Dan Fink** – A four-time All-American and three-time conference champion at Oklahoma, Fink captured the 1998 NCAA championship on still rings and received the Nissen-Emery Award as the nation’s top senior collegiate gymnast. A standout student as well as athlete, he was named OU’s Outstanding Male Scholar Athlete of the Year in 1998.

**Daniel Furney, New Braunfels, TX, 9/25/1980** – A nine-time All-American at Oklahoma, Furney helped lead the Sooners to consecutive NCAA team championships in 2002 and 2003. As a senior, he won individual national titles in the all-around and parallel bars and received the 2003 Nissen-Emery Award as the nation’s top senior collegiate gymnast.

**Kelly Garrison, Altus, 7/5/1967** – An eight-year U.S. National Team member and captain of the 1988 U.S. Olympic team, Garrison became one of Oklahoma’s greatest gymnasts. She won consecutive NCAA all-around championships in 1987 and 1988, added national titles on bars and beam, and recorded the first perfect 10.0 in NCAA gymnastics history. She entered the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame in 1999.

**Jarrold Hanks, Lafayette, LA, 7/28/1969** – A five-time All-American and two-time conference champion at Oklahoma, Hanks captained the Sooners to the 1991 NCAA team championship. That same year, he received the Nissen Award as the nation’s outstanding senior collegiate gymnast. Hanks later returned to OU as an assistant coach and was also a member of the U.S. Senior National Team.

## GYMNASTICS CONT.

**Jonathan Horton, Houston, TX, 12/31/1985** – One of the most decorated gymnasts in Oklahoma history, Horton earned 18 All-America honors, won six individual NCAA titles and helped the Sooners capture three national team championships. The 2008 Nissen-Emery Award winner became a two-time Olympian, earning team bronze and horizontal bar silver at the 2008 Beijing Games.

**Maggie Nichols, Little Canada, MN, 9/12/1997** – One of the most decorated gymnasts in Oklahoma history, Nichols won six individual NCAA championships, including consecutive all-around titles in 2018 and 2019, and helped OU capture national team championships in 2017 and 2019. A 13-time NCAA All-American, she received the 2019 Honda Sport Award and 2020 AAI Award.

**Steve Nunno, New York/Oklahoma City** – Founder of Dynamo Gymnastics in Oklahoma City, Nunno became one of America's prominent elite gymnastics coaches. He coached Shannon Miller throughout a career that produced seven Olympic medals and nine World Championship medals and served on U.S. Olympic coaching staffs, helping establish Oklahoma City as an important training center for elite gymnastics.

**Mark Williams, Norman** – One of collegiate gymnastics' most accomplished coaches, Williams has led Oklahoma to nine NCAA team championships since becoming head coach in 2000, including four consecutive titles from 2015–18. His Sooners have won more than 600 meets while producing numerous national champions and Olympians. Williams was inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame in 2015.

**Paul Ziert, Hampton, IA/Norman, 10/5/1943** – Ziert transformed Oklahoma into a national gymnastics power, coaching the Sooners to their first two NCAA team championships in 1977 and 1978. He also coached Olympic champion Bart Conner and served on the U.S. World Championship and Olympic coaching staff before becoming an influential gymnastics publisher and promoter. Ziert entered the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame in 2006.

## HOCKEY

**Joe Burton, Garden City, MI/Oklahoma City, 4/23/1967** – An Oklahoma City Blazers legend, Burton scored 565 goals and 985 points in 708 games during 11 seasons with the franchise. He retired as the Central Hockey League's all-time leader in goals and points, and the league later named its scoring trophy the Joe Burton Award. His No. 19 was retired by the Blazers.

**Mike McEwen, Hornepayne, Ontario/Oklahoma City, 8/10/1956** – A veteran of 716 NHL games, McEwen won three consecutive Stanley Cups with the New York Islanders from 1981–83 and was an NHL All-Star in 1980. He later became the first head coach of the revived Oklahoma City Blazers in 1992, guiding the franchise to three consecutive playoff appearances and remaining active in Oklahoma youth hockey.

**\*Monte Kim Miron, Cornwall, Ontario/Tulsa, 1/16/1952 – 12/21/2024** – A former Tulsa Oilers defenseman and longtime hockey executive, Miron helped operate the revived Central Hockey League during its formative years, serving as commissioner from 1992–97. Working alongside his father, Ray Miron, he helped establish a league that successfully returned professional hockey to Oklahoma City and Tulsa and grew professional hockey throughout the central United States.

## HOCKEY CONT.

**\*Ray Miron, Cornwall, Ontario/Tulsa, 11/1/1923 – 12/3/2015** – A driving force in Oklahoma professional hockey, Miron coached both the Tulsa Oilers and Oklahoma City Blazers before helping found the revived Central Hockey League in 1992. He served as league president and helped establish successful franchises in Tulsa and Oklahoma City. The CHL championship trophy was later named in his honor, and he received the NHL's Lester Patrick Trophy in 2004 for outstanding service to hockey in the United States.

**\*Millard "Sonny Boy" Wakeford, Canada/Tulsa, 7/7/1907 – 1/29/2009** – A member of the original Tulsa Oilers beginning in 1928, Wakeford became one of the franchise's earliest stars and a fixture in Tulsa hockey through 1942. He scored more than 200 goals for the Oilers and helped the club reach the postseason 10 times. A longtime Tulsa resident, Wakeford was later honored with the retirement of his No. 12.

## HORSE RACING

**John Lively, Arkansas/Westville, OK, 6/18/1943** – A winner of 3,468 Thoroughbred races during a career spanning nearly three decades, Lively captured the 1976 Preakness Stakes aboard Elocutionist and earned riding titles at tracks across the country. He won the inaugural Remington Park riding championship in 1988 and received the prestigious George Woolf Memorial Jockey Award in 1990.

**\*Pat Steinberg, El Paso, TX/Oklahoma City, 11/19/1961 – 5/4/1993** – One of Remington Park's dominant early jockeys, Steinberg won nine riding titles from 1989 through the spring of 1993, when he set a meet record with 92 victories. His career was cut short by a traffic accident at age 31. Remington Park's annual award for its leading Thoroughbred jockey is named the Pat Steinberg Award in his honor.

**\*Robert Nelson "Bobby" Ussery, Vian, 9/3/1935 – 11/16/2023** – One of Oklahoma's greatest jockeys, Ussery won 3,611 races during a career spanning 1951–74. His major victories included the 1960 Preakness Stakes aboard Bally Ache and the 1967 Kentucky Derby aboard Proud Clarion, along with the Travers, Whitney and Queen's Plate. Ussery was inducted into the National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame in 1980.

**David Vance, Knoxville, TN/Oklahoma City, 8/22/1940** – The founding president and general manager of Remington Park, Vance oversaw the planning, construction and 1988 opening of the Oklahoma City racetrack and led its formative years through 1995. He later served as president of the Thoroughbred Racing Associations and as an executive with Oklahoma City's professional baseball and arena football franchises. Vance entered the Oklahoma Horse Racing Hall of Fame in 2012.

**William K. "Bill" Warren Jr., Tulsa** – A prominent Oklahoma Thoroughbred owner with his wife, Suzanne, Warren campaigned numerous stakes winners highlighted by Saint Liam, winner of the 2005 Breeders' Cup Classic and Eclipse Award as Horse of the Year. The Warrens became nationally respected owners while maintaining their deep Tulsa roots and were inducted into the Oklahoma Horse Racing Hall of Fame in 2011.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**\*Buddy Bomar, Ardmore, 9/27/1916 – 11/17/1989** – One of America's premier bowlers of the 1940s, Bomar captured the prestigious All-Star championship in 1944 and earned Bowler of the Year honors in 1945 and 1947. He also won major doubles championships in 1944 and 1950 during a distinguished competitive career. Bomar was inducted into the American Bowling Congress Hall of Fame in 1966.

### MISCELLANEOUS CONT.

**\*Don Butler, Tulsa, DOD 12/7/2004** – A pioneer of competitive bass fishing, Butler provided crucial early financial support to Ray Scott in establishing the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society and became B.A.S.S. member No. 2. He cemented his own place in fishing history by winning the 1972 Bassmaster Classic, the second championship in the event's history.

**Dana Johnson, Del City** – A longtime leader in trampoline and tumbling, Johnson coached six national championship teams, 55 individual national champions and a world champion while helping develop generations of Oklahoma athletes. He also served the sport nationally as USTA technical vice president beginning in 1991 and received the AAU Volunteer of the Year Award that same year.

**\*Lt. Col. Thomas D. Smith III, Sabinal, TX/Oklahoma City, 10/30/1931 – 5/17/2022** – One of the nation's premier competitive pistol shooters, Smith began competing in 1961 and established 79 national records during his career. In 1962, he became the first shooter to fire a perfect 300 with a .22-caliber pistol over the National Match Course in an officially sanctioned competition.

**\*Joe Tindle Thornton, Stilwell, 8/2/1916 – 2/4/2019** – An internationally accomplished Cherokee archer, Thornton captured the individual world championship at the 1961 World Archery Championships while setting multiple world records. He later won the British International Championship and earned silver medals at the 1963 and 1965 World Championships. Thornton was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978.

**\*Don Wallace, Parsons, KS/Kingston, 5/21/1930 – 11/18/2020** – For more than two decades, Wallace brought Oklahoma's outdoors into homes across the state as producer and host of *The Wallace Wildlife Show* from 1965–88. Through his television work, Wallace became synonymous with fishing for generations of Oklahomans while promoting outdoor recreation, wildlife appreciation and conservation throughout the state.

### MARTIAL ARTS

**Dr. Joel E. Holloway, Norman** – A 20-time National Kata Champion and eighth-degree black belt in judo, Holloway captured the 1994 World Kata Overall Grand Champion Award in Brisbane, Australia. A longtime leader in Oklahoma judo, he headed Norman's Sooner Judo Club for 50 years from 1962–2012, helping develop generations of competitors and instructors.

**Brenda Lee Rouse, Bartlesville, 9/11/1966** – Known as "The Oklahoma Kid," Rouse became an undefeated world kickboxing champion, capturing multiple world titles before transitioning to professional boxing. In May 1999, she won the International Boxing Association women's strawweight world championship and later successfully defended her title against the No. 1 contender, establishing herself as one of Oklahoma's most accomplished female combat-sport athletes.

### MULTI-SPORT

**Dr. Bryce Bliss** – A three-sport athlete at Northeastern State, Bliss competed in football, basketball and baseball before graduating in 1953. He earned varsity letters in all three sports and received Oklahoma Collegiate Conference recognition during his senior year. Bliss later earned his medical degree from the University of Oklahoma and was inducted into the Northeastern State Athletics Hall of Fame in 1999.

**MULTI-SPORT CONT.**

**\*James C. “Jim” Browning, Hooker, 10/17/1909 – 6/20/1995** – A remarkably versatile athlete and entertainer, Browning held the world professional speed skating title for 15 years and set a world record in barrel jumping. He also played professional ice hockey, competed as a boxer, jockey and diver, appeared in seven films with Olympic champion Sonja Henie and toured three continents as a featured ice-show performer.

**\*Dale Hamilton, Mena, AR/Bristow & Edmond, 3/4/1909 – 9/1/2002** – A 12-time varsity letterman in football, basketball and track at Central Oklahoma, Hamilton later spent 44 years at the university as a coach and administrator. He won seven conference football titles, five in golf and three in track while serving as athletic director from 1941–76. Hamilton entered the NAIA Football Hall of Fame in 1959.

**\*Cecil Orgus Hankins, Covin, AL/Ardmore, 1/6/1922 – 6/3/2002** – A standout in football, basketball and track, Hankins starred at Oklahoma A&M and Southeastern Oklahoma State. In 1945, he helped Oklahoma A&M win the NCAA basketball championship and starred at halfback for its Cotton Bowl-winning football team. Offered opportunities in both professional football and basketball, he chose basketball and played two seasons with the St. Louis Bombers and Boston Celtics.

**RODEO**

**\*Willard Combs, Checotah, 5/14/1922 – 7/12/2004** – One of rodeo’s premier steer wrestlers of the 1950s, Combs captured the 1957 World Steer Wrestling Championship and won at many of the nation’s major rodeos. He later served on the PRCA and National Finals Rodeo boards, helping shape professional rodeo beyond competition. Combs was inducted into the National Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2002.

**Dan Dailey, Washington/Tulsa** – One of the most decorated cowboys in International Professional Rodeo Association history, Dailey won 29 IPRA World Championships, including a record 17 All-Around titles, 11 Saddle Bronc championships and one Steer Wrestling crown. Competing across five events, he qualified for the International Finals Rodeo 58 times and became the first IPRA cowboy to surpass \$1 million in career earnings.

**Roy Duvall, Boynton/Checotah, 8/23/1942** – One of rodeo’s most accomplished steer wrestlers, Duvall won two IPRA and three PRCA world championships and qualified for the National Finals Rodeo a record 24 times. His remarkable career included 21 consecutive NFR appearances from 1966–86. A renowned horseman as well as competitor, Duvall also trained many successful steer wrestling and hazing horses.

**Tom Ferguson, Tahlequah/Durant, 12/20/1950** – Nicknamed “The Bionic Cowboy,” Ferguson won six consecutive PRCA All-Around World Championships from 1974–79 along with world titles in tie-down roping and steer wrestling. He became the first cowboy to earn more than \$100,000 in one season and \$1 million in a career. One of rodeo’s greatest two-event competitors, Ferguson entered the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in 1999.

**\*Howard Chouteau “Shoat” Webster, Lenapah, 1/23/1925 – 5/20/2013** – One of the premier steer ropers of his generation, Webster won four world championships in 1949, 1950, 1954 and 1955. He also captured four consecutive All-Around titles at the Pendleton Round-Up from 1949–52. Webster was inducted into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in 1979 and National Rodeo Hall of Fame in 1990.

## RODEO CONT.

**\*Bodacious (Bull), Arbuckle Mountains, OK, 1988 – 5/16/2000** – One of the most legendary bucking bulls in rodeo history, Bodacious was named PRCA Bucking Bull of the Year in 1994 and 1995 and PBR World Champion Bull in 1995. Ridden only eight times in 135 outs during his dominant career, the Oklahoma-born bull became a ProRodeo Hall of Fame inductee in 1999 and received PBR's Brand of Honor in 2019.

**\*SweetPro's Bruiser, Ardmore, 3/2/2011 – 5/17/2022** – Raised by D&H Cattle Company near Ardmore, Bruiser became one of the greatest bucking bulls in PBR history, winning three consecutive World Champion Bull titles from 2016–18. He also earned the 2017 PRCA Bucking Bull of the Year honor and multiple NFR and PBR World Finals honors during a dominant seven-year career.

## SOCCKER

**Billy Caskey, Belfast, Northern Ireland/Tulsa, 12/10/1954** – A standout midfielder and forward, Caskey earned seven international caps for Northern Ireland before becoming a fixture with the Tulsa Roughnecks beginning in 1978. He played more than 150 outdoor NASL games for Tulsa and was a member of the Roughnecks' 1983 Soccer Bowl championship team, helping establish professional soccer as a major part of Tulsa's sports history.

**\*Brian Harvey, Liverpool, England/Oklahoma City, 1/12/1947 – 1/13/2023** – A transformative figure in Oklahoma soccer, Harvey founded the men's and women's programs at Oklahoma City University and compiled 813 combined victories during a 34-year career. He also coached professional teams in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, leading the Oklahoma City Slickers to the 1982 championship game. Harvey was inducted into the NAIA, Oklahoma Soccer Association and OCU Athletics halls of fame.

## SOFTBALL

**Lauren Chamberlain, Orange, CA/Norman, 7/2/1993** – One of college softball's greatest power hitters, Chamberlain was a four-time All-American at Oklahoma and helped lead the Sooners to the 2013 NCAA championship. She finished her career with an NCAA-record 95 home runs and .960 slugging percentage, earned 2015 Big 12 Female Athlete of the Year honors and became the No. 1 overall pick in the 2015 National Pro Fastpitch Draft.

**Kenny Gajewski, Los Alamitos, CA/Stillwater, 10/23/1971** – Gajewski transformed Oklahoma State softball into a national power, leading the Cowgirls to five consecutive Women's College World Series appearances from 2019–24 and the 2022 Big 12 Tournament championship. A member of Oklahoma's 1994 national championship baseball team, he later helped coach Florida to consecutive NCAA softball championships in 2014 and 2015 before taking over at OSU.

**Phil McSpadden, Vinita/Oklahoma City** – The winningest coach in college softball history, McSpadden built Oklahoma City University into an NAIA dynasty, leading the Stars to a record 11 national championships and more than 2,000 victories. Since taking over the program in 1988, he has coached more than 100 All-Americans and earned induction into the NFCA, NAIA, Oklahoma Fastpitch Coaches Association and OCU halls of fame.

## SOFTBALL CONT.

**Melanie Roche, Sydney, Australia/Stillwater, 11/9/1970** – A two-time first-team All-American pitcher at Oklahoma State, Roche helped lead the Cowgirls to two Women's College World Series appearances and remains among the program's career pitching leaders. Representing Australia, she competed in four consecutive Olympic Games and won a medal in each—three bronze and one silver. Roche was inducted into the International Softball Hall of Fame in 2017.

**Vanessa Shippy, Coeur d'Alene, ID/Stillwater, 5/25/1996** – One of Oklahoma State's greatest softball players, Shippy was a three-time All-American, three-time Academic All-American and two-time Big 12 Player of the Year. She finished her career with a .404 batting average and remains OSU's career leader in several offensive categories. Shippy later returned to her alma mater as an assistant coach, helping the Cowgirls reach multiple Women's College World Series.

**Gladys Griffin Zukerman, Oklahoma City/Geronimo** – The only four-time All-American in UCO softball history, Griffin compiled a 77–27 pitching record with a remarkable 0.43 career ERA and 876 strikeouts from 1985–88. She threw three perfect games and 12 no-hitters, and her No. 2 was later retired by UCO. A two-time state champion at Putnam City West, she entered the UCO Athletics Hall of Fame in 1992.

## SWIMMING

**\*George D. Harman, Elmore City/Ponca City, 2/22/1915 – 1/20/2007** – A standout in both swimming and badminton, Harman won the 10-mile Mississippi River swim five times and was named Oklahoma's top swimmer by the *Tulsa World* in 1940. He later ranked among the nation's top badminton players and spent 30 years coaching the Conoco Aquatic Club, developing national-caliber swimmers and helping establish Oklahoma's Junior Olympics program.

**\*Ludy Harman, Ponca City** – A standout backstroke swimmer for Ponca City's nationally recognized Conoco Aquatic Club, Harman competed at the national level and earned top finishes in both senior and junior national competition. Coached by his father, George Harman, he continued a family tradition that helped establish Ponca City as a center for competitive swimming in Oklahoma.

**\*Matthew "Matt" Mann II, Leeds, England/Norman, 12/21/1884 – 8/6/1962** – One of swimming's legendary coaches, Mann won 13 national championships at Michigan before leading Oklahoma to eight consecutive Big Eight titles from 1955–62 without losing a conference dual meet. He served as head coach of the 1952 U.S. Olympic men's swimming team and was among the inaugural inductees into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1965.

## TENNIS

**\*Patsy Rippy Bond, Oklahoma City/Shawnee, 1/24/1948 – 12/3/2019** – A four-time Oklahoma high school singles champion, Rippy became one of the nation's top young players and won the 1967 USLTA National Intercollegiate singles championship. Representing the United States that year, she captured doubles gold and singles silver at the Pan American Games and doubles gold at the Pre-Olympic Championships in Mexico.

**TENNIS CONT.**

**Jacque Croft, Oklahoma City/Overland Park, KS** – A three-sport athlete at Oklahoma City's Harding High School, Croft became a longtime leader in amateur tennis as a player, tournament director, official and administrator. A nationally recognized USTA volunteer, she twice received the USTA Missouri Valley Distinguished Service Award and earned the USTA Volunteer Service Award for 15 years of service. She also directed USTA National Indoor Championships and served in numerous leadership roles throughout the Missouri Valley section.

**Larry D. Simmons, Tulsa** – A nationally accomplished senior tennis player, Simmons won the 1950 U.S. national singles championship in the men's 45 division. His greatest Oklahoma legacy came as an organizer of the Tulsa Tennis Club Invitational, launched in 1958 and developed into a prominent tournament that attracted many of the nation's leading players and rising stars to Tulsa.

**Kathy Kraft West, Oklahoma City/Tulsa, 12/19/1952** – One of Oklahoma's top junior tennis players, Kraft earned national rankings from 1964–72, reaching No. 5 nationally in 16-and-under singles in 1968. She was selected to the 1971 Junior Wightman Cup squad and competed in the 1971 U.S. Open at Forest Hills before playing No. 1 singles and doubles at Vanderbilt. She entered the Oklahoma Tennis Hall of Fame in 2018.

**TRACK AND FIELD**

**Brittany Borman, Festus, MO, 7/1/1989** – A two-time NCAA javelin champion at Oklahoma, Borman captured national titles in 2011 and 2012 and won four Big 12 championships. She won the 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials with a dramatic final throw to earn a spot at the London Games and returned to represent the United States at the 2016 Rio Olympics.

**\*Everett Lewis Bradley, Cedar Rapids, IA/Cherokee, 5/19/1897 – 7/25/1969** – A remarkably versatile track and field athlete, Bradley dominated Oklahoma high school competition before starring at the University of Kansas. He won the prestigious pentathlon at the 1920 Penn Relays and represented the United States at the 1920 Antwerp Olympics, capturing the silver medal in the pentathlon.

**Tia Brooks, Grand Rapids, MI/Norman, 8/2/1990** – One of Oklahoma's greatest throwers, Brooks won three NCAA shot put championships, capturing the indoor and outdoor titles in 2012 and another indoor crown in 2013. She set the NCAA collegiate indoor shot put record and held OU records indoors and outdoors. Brooks placed third at the 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials and represented Team USA at the London Olympics.

**James Butler, 6/21/1960** – A national champion sprinter at Oklahoma State, Butler won the 1982 NCAA outdoor 200-meter championship and established himself among America's premier sprinters. He won the 200 meters at the 1980 U.S. Olympic Trials but was unable to compete at the Moscow Games because of the American boycott. Butler later represented the United States at the 1987 World Indoor Championships.

**George Davies, 11/19/1940** – An NCAA champion pole vaulter at Oklahoma State, Davies made track and field history in 1961 when he cleared 15 feet, 10 1/4 inches to establish a world record. His historic performance made him the first athlete to set a pole vault world record using a fiberglass pole, helping usher in a new era for the event.

**TRACK AND FIELD CONT.**

**\*Ira Nelson Davenport, Winfield, KS, 10/8/1887 – 7/17/1941** – An accomplished sprinter and middle-distance runner, Davenport starred at the University of Chicago before representing the United States at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics. He captured the bronze medal in the 800 meters and also competed in the 400 meters and Olympic baseball demonstration. Earlier, he distinguished himself as one of the nation's top high school and collegiate runners.

**Kaela Edwards, Highlands Ranch, CO, 12/8/1993** – A standout middle-distance runner at Oklahoma State, Edwards won the 2016 NCAA indoor mile championship, earned multiple All-America honors and captured four Big 12 titles. In 2017, she ran 2:40.79 in the indoor 1,000 meters to break the collegiate record and earned national and Big 12 Athlete of the Week honors.

**Clyde Ellis, Oklahoma City, 4/13/1948** – A legendary coach at Oklahoma City's John Marshall High School, Ellis built one of the state's great track dynasties, leading the girls program to 17 state team championships, including 14 consecutive titles from 1976–89. His success extended to football, where he guided John Marshall to the 1995 Class 5A state championship.

**\*Ralph Higgins, El Reno, 3/22/1902 – 9/13/1993** – A three-sport athlete at Oklahoma A&M, Higgins became the school's legendary track and field coach, leading the Aggies to 17 consecutive Missouri Valley Conference team championships and the 1954 NCAA Cross Country title. During 32 years as head coach, he developed Olympic champion J.W. Mashburn and multiple world-record holders and later entered the USTFCCA Hall of Fame.

**William C. "Bill" Lantz, Tulsa** – A prominent track and field coach at Tulsa Central High School during the 1940s, Lantz helped develop one of Oklahoma's historically significant high school athletic programs. Recognized for his contributions to track and field in the state, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame in 1975 and the Tulsa Public Schools Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019.

**\*Gary Lower, Shawnee, 7/17/1935 – 4/17/2021** – A longtime Oklahoma track and field leader, Lower coached cross country at the University of Oklahoma and worked with elite U.S. track athletes during his coaching career. He later devoted more than 28 years to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes as a state and regional director, extending his influence on generations of Oklahoma athletes and coaches.

**Madeline Manning-Mims, Cleveland, OH/Tulsa, 1/11/1948** – A four-time U.S. Olympian, Manning-Mims won gold in the 800 meters at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics and silver in the 4x400-meter relay at the 1972 Munich Games. She captured 10 national titles and set numerous American records during her career. An Oklahoma resident since 1978, she was inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame and Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

**Tim McMichael, Boone-Apache, 2/22/1967** – An NCAA champion pole vaulter at the University of Oklahoma, McMichael captured the 1989 national outdoor title with a championship-record clearance of 18 feet, 6 1/2 inches. His winning performance placed him among the nation's premier collegiate vaulters. He later devoted decades to coaching and developing young pole vaulters throughout Oklahoma.

**\*Robert E. "Bob" Peoples, Oklahoma City, DOD 9/19/1955** – A record-setting javelin thrower at Oklahoma City's Classen High School, Peoples established a national high school record of 220 feet, 1 inch in 1937 that stood for 20 years. He later competed in track and football at USC, setting an American javelin record and helping the Trojans win two Rose Bowls. He entered the National High School Track & Field Hall of Fame in 2020.

**TRACK AND FIELD CONT.**

**David Luther “Dave” Roberts, Stillwater, 7/23/1951** – A three-time NCAA pole vault champion at Rice University, Roberts established world records in 1975 and 1976, including a clearance of 18 feet, 8 1/4 inches at the 1976 U.S. Olympic Trials. Born in Stillwater, Roberts represented the United States at the Montreal Olympics, capturing the bronze medal in the pole vault.

**\*Orville Curtis Rogers, Hubbard, TX/Okemah, 11/28/1917 – 11/14/2019** – A University of Oklahoma alumnus, Rogers became an internationally recognized masters track athlete after taking up competitive running later in life. He established numerous age-group world records in sprint and distance events, continuing to compete beyond his 100th birthday. A World War II veteran and longtime pilot, Rogers became an inspiration for lifelong fitness and athletic achievement.

**\*Glen Stone, Okmulgee/McAlester, 5/23/1934 – 3/6/2018** – One of Oklahoma's most accomplished track coaches, Stone led Eastern Oklahoma State College to 10 NJCAA national championships during his 20-year tenure from 1968–88. He earned 25 NJCAA Coach of the Year awards and coached 192 athletes to All-America honors. A former Oklahoma Baptist University standout, he later coached OBU and was inducted into the NJCAA Track Hall of Fame.

**Charlie Strong** – A standout distance runner for Oklahoma State University during the early 1960s, Strong competed in track and field and cross country, specializing in the two-mile run. He was part of a talented Cowboys distance-running program alongside Billy Stone and Chris McCubbins, helping establish Oklahoma State's tradition of excellence in distance running.

**\*Ralph Tate, Tishomingo/Coleman, 1/10/1921 – 1/9/2008** – A standout multi-event athlete at Oklahoma A&M, Tate returned to coach Oklahoma State's track and field and cross-country programs from 1968–82. He led the Cowboys to consecutive Big Eight championships in 1972 and 1973, coached 29 All-Americans and twice earned District V Coach of the Year honors. Tate was inducted into the Drake Relays Coaches Hall of Fame and OSU Athletics Hall of Honor.

**\*Raymond L. “Ray” Vaughn, Oklahoma City, 9/21/1916 – 9/14/1980** – The founding athletic director and track coach at Oklahoma Christian, Vaughn helped establish the university's athletic programs beginning in 1958. He coached 60 NAIA All-Americans and served as a decathlon coach for the U.S. Olympic Committee. Inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1970, he is honored through Oklahoma Christian's Ray Vaughn Track.

**\*Riley “Mickey” Williamson, Wanette/Shawnee, DOD 1975** – A standout sprinter at Oklahoma Baptist University, Williamson won the national AAU junior 440-yard championship and anchored numerous championship relay teams at the Drake, Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma Relays. Selected to represent the United States in international relay competition in 1930, he also reached the final stage of qualifying for the 1932 Olympics. Williamson entered the OBU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1973.

**Randy Wilson, Knoxville, IA, 9/7/1955** – A five-time NCAA All-American at Oklahoma, Wilson won six Big Eight championships and an NCAA indoor two-mile relay title. He set a world indoor half-mile record and still holds the Drake Relays 800-meter record of 1:45.86, established in 1978. Selected to the 1980 U.S. Olympic team, he was unable to compete due to the American boycott of the Moscow Games.

**WRESTLING**

**\*Stan Abel, Oklahoma City/Putnam City, 4/21/1937 – 6/28/2024** – A three-time All-American and two-time NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma in 1959 and 1960, Abel later coached the Sooners to the 1974 national championship. During 21 seasons as OU head coach, he compiled 279 victories, coached 15 individual national champions and 74 All-Americans, and earned National Coach of the Year honors in 1985. He entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1990.

**\*David “Buddy” Arndt, McAlester/Tulsa, 3/24/1921 – 10/11/2004** – A three-time NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma State, Arndt won national titles in 1941 and 1942 before serving as a fighter pilot during World War II. He returned to capture a third championship in 1946, becoming the only wrestler to win NCAA titles on both sides of the war. Undeclared throughout his 23-match collegiate career, he entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1981.

**\*Conrad C. Caldwell, Commerce, 7/27/1909 – 4/18/1990** – A three-time NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma State from 1929–31, Caldwell won his first national title in just the fifth match of his career. He became only the third wrestler to capture three collegiate championships and later achieved the remarkable feat of winning three weight classes during a single dual meet in 1933. Caldwell entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1981.

**Randy Couture, Everett, WA, 6/22/1963** – A three-time wrestling All-American at Oklahoma State, Couture helped lead the Cowboys to the 1990 NCAA team championship. He represented the United States at four Greco-Roman World Championships and was a three-time Olympic alternate. Couture later became a six-time UFC world champion and was inducted into the UFC Hall of Fame in 2006.

**\*Dick Delgado, Norman, 6/8/1931 – 7/3/1991** – A two-time NCAA wrestling champion at the University of Oklahoma, Delgado captured consecutive national titles at 115 pounds in 1957 and 1958. He helped the Sooners win the 1957 NCAA team championship and was named the Outstanding Wrestler at the 1958 NCAA Championships, establishing himself among the nation's premier lightweight wrestlers.

**Alex Dieringer, Menomonee Falls, WI, 6/6/1993** – One of Oklahoma State's most decorated wrestlers, Dieringer won three consecutive NCAA championships from 2014–16, earned four All-America honors and captured four Big 12 titles. He received the prestigious Dan Hodge Trophy in 2016 as the nation's most outstanding collegiate wrestler. Dieringer finished his Cowboy career with a remarkable 133–4 record and an 82-match winning streak.

**Zack Esposito, Three Bridges, NJ/Stillwater** – A three-time All-American at Oklahoma State, Esposito won the 2005 NCAA individual championship at 149 pounds and helped the Cowboys capture four consecutive national team championships from 2003–06. He finished his collegiate career with a 120–12 record before returning to OSU as a coach, helping develop numerous NCAA champions and All-Americans while continuing the program's championship tradition.

**\*Aaron Ross Flood, Braman, 12/28/1910 – 5/23/1995** – A three-time NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma State from 1933–35, Flood helped lead the Cowboys to three national team titles and earned Outstanding Wrestler honors in 1935. He captured consecutive National AAU championships before winning the silver medal at the 1936 Berlin Olympics and gold at the 1937 Pan American Exposition. He entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1978.

**WRESTLING CONT.**

**Dean Heil, Brunswick, OH, 2/9/1995** – A two-time NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma State, Heil captured consecutive national titles at 141 pounds in 2016 and 2017. He earned three All-America honors and three Big 12 championships during his collegiate career, finishing with 116 victories. Heil established himself among the nation's premier wrestlers while continuing Oklahoma State's championship tradition.

**Johny Hendricks, Ada/Edmond, 9/12/1983** – A three-time Oklahoma high school state champion at Edmond Memorial, Hendricks became a four-time All-American at Oklahoma State and captured consecutive NCAA wrestling championships at 165 pounds in 2005 and 2006. He helped the Cowboys win four consecutive national team championships from 2003–06 before transitioning to mixed martial arts, where he became UFC welterweight champion in 2014.

**\*Stanley Willard Henson Jr., Tulsa, 11/30/1916 – 2/1/2018** – A three-time NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma State from 1937–39, Henson compiled a remarkable 31–1 collegiate record while leading the Cowboys to three consecutive national team championships. In 1937, he became the first sophomore named Outstanding Wrestler at the NCAA Championships. He also captured the 1937 Pan American Exposition title and entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1978.

**\*Richard “Dick” Hutton, Amarillo, TX, 10/4/1923 – 11/24/2003** – A three-time NCAA heavyweight wrestling champion at Oklahoma State in 1947, 1948 and 1950, Hutton earned four All-America honors and lost only one collegiate match. He represented the United States at the 1948 London Olympics before entering professional wrestling, where he captured the world heavyweight championship in 1957. He entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1995.

**\*Paul V. Keen, Norman, 5/4/1898 – 10/12/1983** – A pioneering wrestling coach at the University of Oklahoma, Keen guided the Sooners to the 1936 NCAA championship, the school's first national title in any sport. During 12 seasons, he coached 12 individual NCAA champions and six conference championship teams. His Sooners also ended Oklahoma A&M's historic 70-match winning streak in 1932. Keen entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1977.

**Rod Kilgore, Tulsa** – A standout wrestler at Tulsa Webster High School, Kilgore became a four-time All-American and two-time NCAA champion at Oklahoma, winning national titles in 1974 and 1977. He also captured two Big Eight championships and became the first Sooner wrestler to reach 100 career victories. His 1974 individual title helped Oklahoma secure the NCAA team championship.

**\*Dale Lewis, Little Black, WI, 8/29/1933 – 8/30/1997** – A two-time NCAA heavyweight wrestling champion at Oklahoma in 1960 and 1961, Lewis also captured five consecutive National AAU championships from 1959–63. He represented the United States at both the 1956 and 1960 Olympic Games before beginning a professional wrestling career that spanned more than two decades.

**\*Frank Wiatt Lewis, Cushing, 12/6/1912 – 8/16/1998** – An NCAA champion and Outstanding Wrestler at Oklahoma A&M in 1935, Lewis compiled a 45–5 collegiate record and also captured a National AAU championship. Representing the United States at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, he won the gold medal in freestyle wrestling. Lewis was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1979.

**WRESTLING CONT.**

**Michael Lightner, Marietta, GA/Norman, 8/15/1978** – A four-time All-American and four-time Big 12 champion at Oklahoma, Lightner capped his collegiate career by winning the 2001 NCAA championship at 141 pounds. He compiled a remarkable 144–16 career record and helped lead the Sooners to four top-six NCAA team finishes. Lightner later returned to OU as a longtime assistant coach.

**\*Mickey Martin, Tulsa, 9/25/1941 – 7/6/2020** – A three-time All-American at Oklahoma, Martin captured consecutive NCAA wrestling championships in 1962 and 1963 and was named Outstanding Wrestler at the 1963 national tournament. The Tulsa Central product compiled a remarkable 58–2–1 collegiate record before beginning a 30-year coaching career at the high school and collegiate levels.

**\*David Crockett Matthews, Tupelo/Sulphur, 9/13/1914 – 6/30/1996** – A standout athlete at Sulphur High School, Matthews became a three-time Big Six wrestling champion at Oklahoma and captured the 155-pound NCAA championship in 1938. Following his athletic career, he distinguished himself in military, legal and civic service in Oklahoma, including service during World War II.

**\*Earl Gary “Moose” McCready, Lansdowne, Ontario, 6/15/1908 – 12/9/1983** – Undefeated during his Oklahoma A&M career, McCready won heavyweight titles at each of the first three NCAA Wrestling Championships from 1928–30, becoming collegiate wrestling’s first three-time national champion. He represented Canada at the 1928 Olympics and also lettered three years in football at Oklahoma A&M. McCready entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1976.

**\*Joe Clark McDaniel, Sulphur, 2/16/1917 – 11/4/2011** – Undefeated during his Oklahoma A&M career, McDaniel won three consecutive NCAA championships from 1938–40 and was named Outstanding Wrestler at all three national tournaments. He compiled a 29–0 collegiate record without surrendering a takedown and later enjoyed a distinguished coaching career. McDaniel was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1979.

**\*Leroy Michael McGuirk, Garvin, 12/13/1910 – 1/9/1988** – An NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma A&M in 1931, McGuirk went on to become a world light heavyweight champion and one of professional wrestling’s most influential figures. After an automobile accident ended his in-ring career, he spent decades as a successful promoter, developing generations of wrestling talent and remaining a major force in the sport for more than 50 years.

**Andre Metzger, Bay City, MI, 8/12/1960** – A four-time All-American at Oklahoma, Metzger won consecutive NCAA wrestling championships at 142 pounds in 1981 and 1982 and finished his collegiate career with a 137–7–1 record. He continued his success internationally in freestyle wrestling, earning multiple World Championship medals for the United States and establishing himself among the premier American wrestlers of his era.

**Mark Muñoz, Yokosuka, Japan, 2/9/1978** – A two-time All-American at Oklahoma State, Muñoz completed an undefeated senior season by winning the 2001 NCAA championship at 197 pounds, becoming the first Filipino-American NCAA Division I wrestling champion. He finished his Cowboy career with 121 victories before transitioning to mixed martial arts, where he became a nationally ranked UFC contender and respected coach.

**\*Gene Nicks, Ponca City, 1931 – 1985** – A three-time All-American at Oklahoma A&M, Nicks captured NCAA heavyweight championships in 1952 and 1954 and helped the Cowboys win consecutive national team titles in 1953 and 1954. He dominated the 1954 NCAA tournament by pinning every opponent and was recognized as Oklahoma’s Outstanding Athlete that year.

**WRESTLING CONT.**

**\*Robert Edward “Bobby” Pearce, Wyaconda, MO/Cushing, 2/29/1908 – 3/15/1996** – An NCAA and two-time National AAU champion at Oklahoma A&M, Pearce compiled a 60–4–1 collegiate record before representing the United States at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics, where he captured the freestyle bantamweight gold medal. He later competed professionally and coached wrestling before entering the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1981.

**\*Rex Anderson Peery, Stillwater, 8/8/1910 – 5/19/1999** – Undefeated in collegiate dual competition, Peery won three consecutive NCAA championships at Oklahoma A&M from 1933–35 and captured the 1935 National AAU title. He later enjoyed a distinguished coaching career in Oklahoma and at the University of Pittsburgh and served as head coach of the U.S. freestyle wrestling team at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. He entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1976.

**Chris Pendleton, Lemoore, CA/Stillwater, 1/21/1982** – A three-time All-American at Oklahoma State, Pendleton captured consecutive NCAA championships at 174 pounds in 2004 and 2005 while helping the Cowboys win three straight national team titles. A three-time Big 12 champion, he finished his OSU career with a 118–12 record before beginning a successful collegiate coaching career.

**Chris Perry, Stillwater, 1/5/1990** – A four-time All-American and four-time Big 12 champion at Oklahoma State, Perry captured consecutive NCAA championships at 174 pounds in 2013 and 2014. He finished his Cowboy career with a 122–11 record and helped OSU capture multiple conference championships, continuing one of Oklahoma wrestling’s most accomplished family traditions.

**\*Greg Ruth, Bethlehem, PA, 8/9/1939 – 6/30/1974** – A three-time All-American at Oklahoma, Ruth captured consecutive NCAA individual championships at 167 pounds in 1965 and 1966. His titles helped lead the Sooners to back-to-back NCAA team championships in those same seasons, establishing Ruth as a key figure during one of the greatest periods in Oklahoma wrestling history.

**\*David Leslie “Dave” Schultz, Palo Alto, CA, 6/6/1959 – 1/26/1996** – A three-time All-American who won the 1982 NCAA championship at Oklahoma, Schultz became one of America’s greatest international wrestlers. He captured the 1983 World Championship and 1984 Olympic gold medal and earned seven World Championship medals during his career. Renowned worldwide for his technique and sportsmanship, Schultz entered the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1997.

**Mark P. Schultz, Palo Alto, CA/Norman, 10/26/1960** – A three-time NCAA champion at Oklahoma from 1981–83, Schultz was named Outstanding Wrestler at the 1982 NCAA Championships. He captured freestyle gold at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and added World Championships in 1985 and 1987, becoming one of the few Americans to win three NCAA titles, Olympic gold and multiple World championships.

**Mike Sheets, Tahlequah, 12/6/1962** – A four-time All-American at Oklahoma State, Sheets captured consecutive NCAA championships at 167 pounds in 1983 and 1984 and was named Outstanding Wrestler at the 1984 national tournament. He finished his Cowboy career with a 122–12–1 record and remains one of the most accomplished wrestlers in Oklahoma State’s storied history.

**Mark Smith, Del City** – A three-time Oklahoma high school state champion at Del City, Smith compiled a 105–5 prep record before becoming a three-time All-American at Oklahoma State. He earned three top-five NCAA finishes for the Cowboys and was named Oklahoma’s High School Wrestler of the Century by *The Oklahoman* in 1999, continuing the remarkable legacy of the Smith wrestling family.

## WRESTLING CONT.

**Johnny Thompson, Oklahoma City, 7/27/1981** – A Putnam City West standout, Thompson became a four-time All-American and two-time NCAA wrestling champion at Oklahoma State, capturing 133-pound titles in 2002 and 2003. A three-time NCAA finalist, he helped lead the Cowboys to the 2003 national team championship and finished his collegiate career with a 127–14 record.

**\*Arnold W. “Swede” Umbach, Weatherford, 11/4/1903 – 9/30/1993** – A four-time conference wrestling champion and two-time All-Conference football player at Southwestern Oklahoma State, Umbach coached wrestling for 14 years at Oklahoma high schools before becoming Auburn’s head coach. During 28 seasons at Auburn, he built one of the South’s leading wrestling programs and coached multiple conference championship teams. He was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1981.

## INDUCTION CRITERIA

Induction into the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame recognizes individuals whose outstanding achievements, lasting contributions and impact on athletics have helped shape Oklahoma’s rich sports legacy. Nominees must have a significant connection to the State of Oklahoma. Athletes must have been retired from competition for at least five years or be over 50 years of age, while coaches and contributors may remain active in their respective fields but must be over 50 years of age. No more than two individuals representing the same sport or affiliated with the same school may be inducted in a single year. Beyond athletic accomplishments and professional achievements, consideration is also given to each nominee’s character, integrity, influence and contributions to the people of Oklahoma.

The Honors Committee, composed of respected Oklahoma sports figures and journalists, Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame members actively involved with the organization, and members of the Board of Directors, is responsible for establishing the official nomination ballot. The two nominees receiving the highest number of votes automatically earn induction into that year’s Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame class. The Honors Committee then carefully reviews the voting results and selects the remaining inductees, ensuring that at least one of those selected is deceased.