



El Paso Athletic
Hall of Fame



El Paso Civic Center
Tuesday, May 8, 1984

Program

Call to Order and Welcome John McFall

Invocation Dr. Haskell Monroe

Dinner

Introduction of Head Tables and Honorees John McFall

Remarks by 1984 El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame President Steve DeGroat

Presentation of 1984 Outstanding El Paso High School Athletes:

Clay Cox, Athletic Director, EPISD
Ms. Ruth Meredith, Athletic Director, YISD

Introduction of 1984 El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame Honorees:

Ms. Peggie Birkhead, Athlete's Award
Larry R. Jessee, Athlete's Award
Charles R. Smith, Athlete's Award
Jack McNutt, Coach/Administrator's Award
Albert C. Messer, Posthumous Award

Conclusion

Past Presidents El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1956 — John Phelan | 1971 — Bert Williams |
| 1957 — John Phelan | 1972 — Dick de Bruyn |
| 1958 — John Phelan | 1973 — Frank Porth |
| 1959 — Bob Ingram | 1974 — Ben Collins |
| 1960 — Chuck Whitlock | 1975 — Don O'Neill |
| 1961 — Harry Phillips | 1976 — John Thompson |
| 1962 — Vernus Carey | 1977 — Maynard Haddad |
| 1963 — Thad Steele | 1978 — Harris Hatfield |
| 1964 — John McFall | 1979 — Billy Stevens |
| 1965 — Frank Redman | 1980 — Dr. "Pinky" Edwin |
| 1966 — G.M. (Bill) Green | 1981 — Tee Casper |
| 1967 — Jim Bowden | 1982 — "Lucky" Leverett |
| 1968 — Jim DeGroat | 1983 — Jim Paul |
| 1969 — Bob Goldfarb | |
| 1970 — Bill Woodul | |

PAST HONOREES

Living Awards

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1955 — Andy Cohen | 1974 — Bob Ingram |
| 1956 — Margaret Varner | 1974 — Fred Wendt |
| 1957 — Ken Heineman | 1975 — Lee Trevino |
| 1958 — Dr. Sandy Esquivel | 1975 — Karen Linton |
| 1959 — Jack Harden | 1975 — Dr. John Edwin |
| 1960 — E.E. (Mannie) Ponsford | 1975 — Robert Carson |
| 1961 — Willie Shoemaker | 1975 — John Phelan |
| 1962 — Syd Cohen | 1976 — Billy Stevens |
| 1963 — Mike Brumbelow | 1976 — Thad Steele |
| 1964 — A.L. (Doc) Holm | 1976 — Jim DeGroat |
| 1965 — Javier Montes | 1976 — John McFall |
| 1966 — Clyde Wafer | 1976 — Jim Paul |
| 1967 — Frank Redman | 1976 — Chuck Whitlock |
| 1967 — Ross Moore | 1977 — Oscar Villareal |
| 1967 — Jesse Whittenton | 1977 — Dick Shinaut |
| 1968 — Don Maynard | 1977 — Pete Melendez |
| 1968 — Harry Phillips | 1977 — Bobby Dobbs |
| 1968 — Nemo Herrera | 1977 — Dalton Hill |
| 1969 — George Ball | 1977 — Jud Milton |
| 1969 — Mike Izquierdo | 1978 — Bob Arnold |
| 1969 — Agatha Lee | 1978 — Harris Cantrell |
| 1970 — Dale Waters | 1978 — Margaret Osborne Du Pont |
| 1970 — Ben Collins | 1979 — D.W. Conway |
| 1971 — Paul Barry | 1980 — Jack Curtice |
| 1971 — Vernus Carey | 1980 — Ernest L. Keily |
| 1971 — Don Haskins | 1981 — Chris P. Fox |
| 1972 — C.D. Jarvis | 1981 — Roy Lown |
| 1972 — Paul Lopez | 1981 — Ken George |
| 1973 — Wayne Hansen | 1981 — Ted Banks |
| 1973 — Bobby Goldfarb | 1982 — Bill Cummins |
| 1973 — Dolph Quijano | 1982 — Fred Kriss |
| 1973 — Gene Jordan | 1982 — Vic Clark |
| 1973 — Harrison Kohl | 1983 — Russell E. Ball |
| 1974 — Nolan Richardson | 1983 — Janis Blades Prieto |
| 1974 — Mary Hoover | 1983 — Jim Bowden |
| 1974 — Charles (Red) Harris | 1983 — Tee Casper |
| 1974 — Saul Kleinfeld | |

Posthumous Awards

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1955 — N.A. Ferguson | 1966 — A.S. Valdespino |
| 1956 — Cliff Hill | 1967 — Charles H. Leavell, Sr. |
| 1957 — Luther Coblenz | 1972 — Chuck Hughes |
| 1958 — Asa Porter | 1974 — Raymond B. Ward, Sr. |
| 1959 — Mack Saxon | 1975 — Lee Floyd |
| 1960 — Judge Ballard Coldwell | 1976 — C.M. Hendricks |
| 1961 — Bob Osborn | 1980 — Tony Carvajal |
| 1962 — Carlos Edwards | 1981 — Lawrence (Sag) Shea |
| 1963 — Dr. James Vance | 1982 — E.R. Bowman |
| 1964 — Bob Laraba | 1983 — John C. Birkhead |
| 1965 — W.J. (Chule) Milner | |

El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame Membership List

Robert E. Azar
Russell E. Ball
Harris Cantrell
Vince Carafano
Tee Casper
Tom Chavez
Vic Clark
Andy Cohen
Syd Cohen
Bill Cords
Clay Cox
Bill Cummings
Dick de Bruyn
Steve DeGroat
Derry Eads
John R. Edwin, DVM
Luis Flores
Al Franco
Richard Fritz
Ken George
G.M. (Bill) Green
Wayne Hansen

Charles W. Harman
C.H. (Red) Harris
Harris Hatfield
Ken Heineman
Don Henry
Ms. Mary Hoover
Bob Ingram
Harrison D. Kohl
George L. Kurita
Bud Lassiter
C.W. (Lucky) Leverett
Jim Malone
James G. Mason
Don Maynard
John McFall
Ronald K. McLeod
Pete Melendez
Ms. Ruth Meredith
Flip Morin
Don O'Neill
Sammy Paredes
Rick Parr

Jim Paul
John Phelan
Frank Porth
Ms. Janis Blades Prieto
Bud Quimby
Grady Ray
Yvan Rechy
Frank Redman
Jack Resen
Hawley Richeson
Art Roberts
Neal L. Ross
Dick Shinaut
Tom Starr
Thad Steele
Bill Stevens
Paul Strelzin
Bob Surratt
Oscar M. Villareal
Chuck Whitlock
Fran Wilson

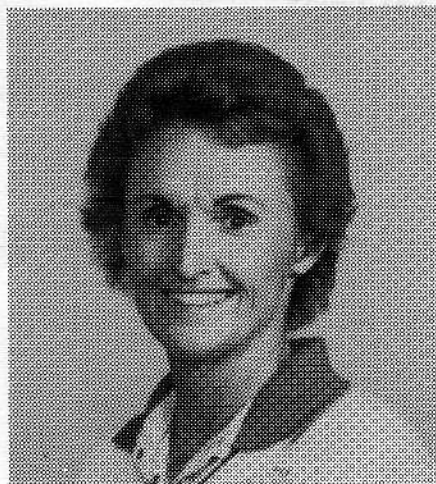
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1984 HALL OF FAME HONOREES



Peggie Robertson Birkhead

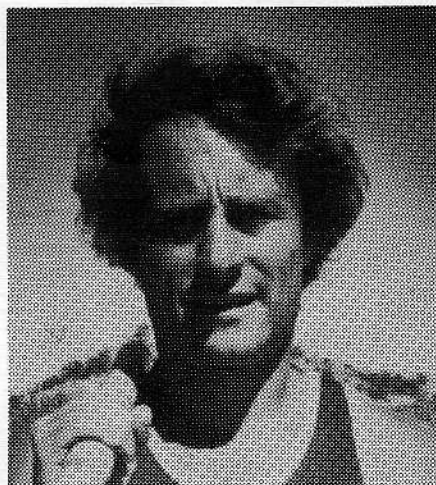
How do you sandwich championship tennis into a schedule which includes full-time teaching and being a mother and confidant to three children?

Ask Peggie Robertson Birkhead, who has been playing competitive and championship tennis since 1946 and is currently ranked first in women's 45 singles for the Southwest.

Peggie has won just about every title in the El Paso and Southwest area as well as gaining championships elsewhere in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

She was recently nominated for Who's Who in Tennis and has been ranked first in women's 45 and over singles for the Southwest for the last four years.

She holds her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Texas at El Paso and is a full-time teacher in the Ysleta Independent School District. She is the widow of John Birkhead, former assistant athletic director for the El Paso Public Schools, who is also a member of the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame. There are three married children: Linda Elliott, Bill Birkhead and Jay Birkhead.

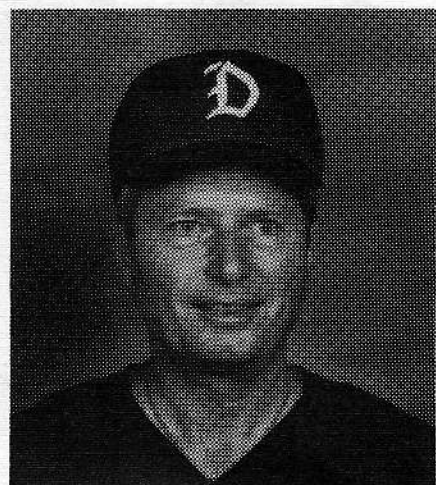


Larry Jessee

Larry Jessee, a three-time All-American in the pole vault and a contestant for the 1984 Olympics, has made a habit of winning.

He was ranked first in the 1970 national and world high school competition and followed up with winning the National Junior AAU title in 1972. He won the 1974 NCAA Indoor Pole Vault, helping the University of Texas at El Paso to its first NCAA team championship in track and field. He helped UTEP repeat its NCAA championship in 1975. He has won two USA national titles, numerous international meets and championships and has been a member of the U.S. national team eight times. In 1982, he set an American record in the pole vault of 18 feet, 8¾ inches. Last year, he was third in the U.S. rankings, 10th in the world and won the bronze medal in the Preolympic games in Los Angeles.

Based on his past performances, Larry Jessee will be the man in the sky to watch when the 1984 Olympics begin in Los Angeles this summer.



Charles R. Smith

Some people are born with a silver spoon in their mouth, but Charlie Smith cut his teeth on a softball bat. He began his softball career in the El Paso Church League at the age of 14 and has been active in the sport for 34 years.

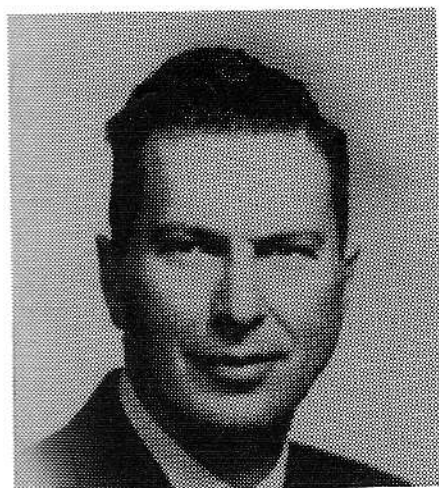
His list of accomplishments are almost endless. He was a member of the International Softball Congress all-tournament teams in 1950, 1962, 1969 and 1971 and played in 12 ISC world tournaments and the All-American softball team in 1962; El Paso City Batting Champion in 1965; on the El Paso all-city team ten times; and is a member of the International Softball Hall of Fame and El Paso Softball Hall of Fame.

Charlie has directed El Paso's Memorial Day Tournament for 12 years, holds office in the El Paso Softball Association and is a member of other organizations dedicated to improving sports in the city of El Paso. All in all, he's a man on the go but his principal goal is softball.



Jack McNutt, Coach/Administrator

Jack McNutt set enviable records as an athlete, coach, educator and administrator. One of the greatest football players in the history of Corsicana High School, Jack went on to athletic greatness at Southern Methodist University where he lettered for two years (1931-32) before a knee operation finished his competitive career. As backfield coach and head track coach at Ysleta High School from 1934 to 1942, he developed outstanding players who later became outstanding citizens. He was a highly respected football and basketball official and holds lifetime memberships in the El Paso Football and Border Conference Officials' Associations. He retired in 1974 from the Ysleta Independent School District as assistant superintendent for administration. He and his wife, the former Elizabeth Duncan, are parents of three children and their family home is in El Paso's Lower Valley.



Albert C. Messer

Al Messer, a quiet man with imagination and determination, was involved in high school athletics for 25 years, with all but two of those years in the El Paso Independent School District athletic department.

His ideas and suggestions were helpful in all areas of high school athletics but he was best known for his scholarly and dedicated attitude toward coaches, players and parents.

He was instrumental in the development of the El Paso high school athletics injury policy and founded the El Paso high schools' wrestling program, which has developed into a varsity sport.

Messer was a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and did graduate work at Butler University, Ohio State University and the University of Texas at El Paso (then Texas Western College). He taught and coached football, wrestling and track in elementary, intermediate and high schools before joining the athletic office of the El Paso Public Schools in 1951, with which he was associated until his retirement in 1974. He died in 1976 and his widow, Dora, still lives in El Paso. Their three children are Joe Messer, deputy chief of police in El Paso; Eugenia Scott, teacher at Clint Elementary School; and Albert Messer, former manager of ICX Truck Terminal in El Paso.

El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame High School Athletes



EPISD

Claudina Navarro
Chris Elliott

YISD

David Futrell
Carol Glover

