

Resume of experience for Mark Miller, candidate for the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame

Personal

Mark Douglas Miller, born March 16, 1952

Married 39 years to wife Laurie

Two daughters: Alexa 20, Shiloh 26

Sports experience, achievements and honors:

Baseball

- Graduated Eastwood High School, 1970 co- MVP Baseball, City of El Paso
- Attended Ranger Jr. College (was ranked #1 baseball jr. college in country) played on baseball scholarship for 2 yrs.
- Drafted 4th round by Chicago Cubs while at Ranger
- Was invited to play in the Illinois Collegiate League and hit .285 and led all shorstops in fielding percentage
- Played UTEP baseball under Andy & Sid Cohen, led team in hitting with batting average of .315
- Hit combined .320 during 2 yrs at UTEP, led team in home runs and triples jr. year
- Listed by Andy Cohen as one of the best players he's seen in college baseball (see attached)
- Played in Dallas Collegiate league, it .340 and signed with with Texas Rangers
- Played 3 years with Texas Rangers: 2 years A ball, one year AA ball hitting .330 when injury brought an end to the season. Was offered player/coach opportunity with the Ranger organization
- Inducted into El Paso Baseball Hall of Fame 2005
- Played baseball in 50+ league 2 yrs
- Played in 3 60 and over baseball world series national championships, hitting .461 over 3 years
- Won senior baseball world series in 2011 competing against senior teams across the country
- See recommendation from Joe Pennies (attached)

Softball

- Inducted into El Paso Softball Hall of Fame 2005
- Played in over 100 tournaments throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico
- Played in 5 open fast pitch World Tournaments
- Played in 3 class A world tournaments
- Was all-state in Texas
- Was named Mr. Softball in 1987
- Was MVP/All Tournament numeous times

"Mark Miller is one THE best players I have ever played with and coached."

Charlie Smith, member International Congress National Softball Hall of Fame

Coaching

- Coached the El Paso Diablos with Jim Saul in 1980. At the time the Diablos were the AA team of the Anaheim Angels.
- Coached UTEP baseball its final year with Bill Kinnenburg
- Was head baseball and asst. football coach, Austin High School
- Coached for the El Paso All Star Football Classic for 7 years.
- Coached Franklin High School summer baseball team 2 years, one year they made it to Texas state sweet 16
- Coached girls softball for 9 years with numerous travel teams
- Coached Franklin High School summer softball 3 years for Rick Perez
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"Coach Miller was my most motivational and inspirational Coach I had in my playing career. Sarge (Coach Miller) always believed in hardwork and dedication which always showed when he was coaching or playing softball at its top level. To this day he is my role model and mentor." *Joe Morales, former player, United States Pan American team.*

Media

- Radio Anncr on KROD Football Friday Night high school football 24years
- Hosted Friday night football 2013 for ESPN/KROD
- Was instrumental in organizing and formating the program for numerous years
- Organized TV Friday night football sponsorship and live broadcasts for KTSM and KVIA

See recommendation from Bob Ludwig, attached

Community

- Board of Directors El Paso Baseball Hall of Frame
- Board of Directors Communities in Schools, 20 yrs, VP, 1 yr.
- President El Paso Exchange Club
- President, MDM Marketing and Communications

Endorsements/Recommendations

Letter of recommendation from Joe Pennies, M.Ed.

Bob Ludwig, Tx. Assn. Sports Officials attached

Various articles of recognition/achievement attached

Andy Cohen's lists:

(Former Miner baseball coach Andy Cohen played for the New York Giants in the 1920s, had a long career as a player and manager in the minor leagues, and was a coach for the Philadelphia Phillies. His lists include players or managers he watched.)

Best major league stars

National League: Frank Frisch, Rogers Hornsby, Jim Bottomly, Paul Waner, Kiki Cuyler, Ernie Banks, Gabby Hartnett, Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, Pie Traynor, Travis Jackson, Glenn Wright.

American League: Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker, George Sisler, Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams, Jimmy Foxx, Carl Yastremski, Al Simmons, Lou Gehrig, Bill Dickey, Mickey Cochrane.



ANDY COHEN

Best managers

John McGraw, Tris Speaker, Donie Bush, Dave Bancroft, Bill Clymer, Del Pratt, Ed Sawyer, Ray Brubaker, Gene Mauch, Al Mauraux.

Best minor leaguers

Joe Hauser, Spencer Harris, Ike Boone, Del Bisenete, Paul Richards, Eddie Robinson, Ted Beard, Enos Slaughter, Stan Rojeck, Hank Sauer, Ab Wright, Buzz Arlett.

Pitchers: Willis Hudlin, Snipe Conley, Paul Wachtel, Joe Pate, Monte Stratton, Sal Maglie, Early Wynn.

Best major league relievers

Fred "Firpo" Marberry, Johnny Murphy, Joe Page, Elroy Face, Rollie Fingers, Bruce Sutter, Mike Marshall, Kent Tekulve, Mark Clear.

Best pitchers

National League: Dazzy Vance, Burleigh Grimes, Carl Hubbell, Bill Hallahan, Warren Sahn, Pat Malone, Larry Benton.

American League: Lefty Grove, Lefty Gomez, Bob Feller, Bob Lemon, Ted Lyons.

Best players, college ranks

Steve Powers, Alan Bannister, Bob Horner, Ron Hassey, Chris Bando, Hubie Brooks, Mark Miller, Charlie West, Brandt Humpury, Ken Reed.

Pitchers: Mark Bombard, Steve Powers, Dave Crutcher, Floyd Bannister, Dan Schatzeder.



MARK CLEAR

TEXAS-EL PASO BASEBALL STATS FINAL 45 GAME TOTALS (18-27: 2-16 WAC SOUTH)

Player	GP	AB	R	H	RBI	Avg.	2B	3B	HR	SB	Sac	HP	BB	SO	PO	A	E	Pct.
Miller, Ma.	31	108	19	34	12	.315	3	3	2	3	0	0	13	17	67	84	5	.968
Villarreal	43	156	30	41	18	.263	5	1	1	5	4	1	11	19	48	98	23	.864
Peden	39	114	12	29	13	.254	5	0	2	0	3	1	13	29	144	34	4	.979
Von Hagen	45	134	19	34	21	.254	5	1	3	5	4	3	23	40	78	102	17	.914
Kuenstler	38	123	15	31	23	.252	4	3	0	0	1	1	27	35	256	9	4	.985
Alvarado	38	118	18	29	14	.246	4	0	1	1	3	0	28	20	55	5	3	.952
McLean	33	117	21	27	6	.231	1	1	0	11	0	0	15	18	71	6	4	.951
Pennies	31	93	12	21	9	.226	3	0	0	2	2	2	12	10	38	2	3	.930
Downing	34	92	8	18	16	.196	4	0	4	0	1	0	5	14	1	2	1	ann

Tucson nets Memorial softball title

By RICHARD LUNA
Times staff writer

The El Paso Ducks and Tucson Lites became good old buddies after going at it for 10 innings Sunday in the fourth round of the Cielo Vista Optimist Club's 11th annual Memorial Day Softball Tournament, the Lites finally coming out with a 5-3 win.

But it probably came as no surprise when the Ducks battled back from the losers' bracket to knock heads again with the seasoned Lites for the tournament championship Monday afternoon at Paisano Park.

This time, though, the well-rested Lites were ready, taking advantage of the Ducks' weathered pitching to walk away with a 12-5 victory for first place and two of the tournament's three individual awards.

"It feels great," said Lites' first-year player-coach Gary Clifford. "We were hitting the ball well and we jumped on them early. Our baserunning was really good. I've been with this team 10 years and this has to be the strongest we've ever been."

The Lites, who had 13 hits and left just four runners stranded, now have an impressive 47-6 record and have claimed first place in five of the seven tournament's they've participated in, taking second place in the other two.

Lites' infielder Manny Sepeda was named the tourney's outstanding defensive player while Greg Hodgeson, despite giving up 11 hits to the Ducks, nabbed the outstanding pitcher for the three-day affair. The Ducks left eight runners stranded.

The third award went to Mark Miller of the Ducks whose six home runs throughout the tournament earned him the outstanding hitter award in a category

that was well-stocked with standout performances.

Miller, a former standout player at Eastwood and with UTEP, also played in the Texas Rangers' minor league organization.

The Ducks, who defeated Tucson Pub 5-4, the tourney's defending champion Albuquerque A's 9-5 and Sierra Vista, Ariz., 8-2 before falling to the Lites 5-3, had to play at noon Monday, taking a 6-2 decision from Wilcox, Ariz., in the loser's bracket to return to the championship contest.

Had the Ducks defeated the Lites, the two would have played again.

But the Lites followed their gameplan to perfection, jumping ahead early after advancing to the championship tilt with wins over Artesia (4-1), the El Paso Jesters (7-2), Sander's Boots (of El Paso, 4-1) and the Ducks.

"We knew their pitching was a little tired," Clifford said. "So we wanted to jump on them early. We knew we'd get our hits, but was wanted to have people on base when we did."

The Ducks went with Rodney Gardner, who is the baseball coach at Alamogordo, in the win over Wilcox and started him against the Lites, but immediately fell in a hole in the bottom of the first.

David Galvez led for the Lites, getting on base on an error, Albert Perquiera was walked and Dennis Triano sacrificed the runners to second and third. Then, Rudy Ortiz banged a double to left, scoring both runners.

Danny Boyd, who finished the tournament with an 11-for-12 performance, singled and Rodney McNeil followed with a run-scoring blooper. Ronnie Herreras popped another run-scoring single and that was all for Gardner as he turned over the pitching duties to Ray Lopez, trailing 4-0.

Lopez got the next batter to pop up only

to have Henry Acevedo drill a double right field to score McNeil before get out of the inning.

The Ducks pulled within two after 11 innings as Oscar Morales had crossed plate on Charlie Smith's double in the end and Miller blasted a homer over center-field fence with former UTEP baseball coach Larry McFarlin aboard.

In the bottom half of the third, the Ducks used some razzle-dazzle for a run as Miller scored from third on a double-steal. McNeil had McNeil tagged out attempted to score.

Trailing 6-3, the Ducks tallied a run the fifth when Bill Birkhead scored Jerry Wright's sacrifice fly. In the bottom half, Lopez had to be relieved by Birkhead after three straight double plays. Ortiz, Boyd and McNeil, all three crossed the plate.

That gave the Lites a 9-4 lead in the sixth, Birkhead got into trouble, hitting a batter with a pitch, giving up a single and walk. With bases loaded, pitcher Danny Wong tried to score from third on a wild pitch, but was tagged at the plate. However, Boyd rapped a home run to give the Lites their final three runs.

The Ducks' final score came in the bottom of the seventh when Miller tagged out the second homer of the game.

"I just had to keep the ball in the park," Hodgeson said. "I didn't think I had pitched that good. They (Ducks) are a good team and I kind of expected them to come back."

Smith, who coaches the Ducks, noted to pitching as the main reason for his squad's downfall. "We just ran out of steam," he said. "Pitching is 85 percent of the game and we didn't have any. It just didn't hold up. Gardner pitched last night (Sunday) and then this morning Mark did a fine job hitting, he must tremendous."

February 27, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to be writing this letter of recommendation for Mark Miller. He was my team mate while we played at UTEP, and my roommate while we played semi-professional baseball in Dallas, Texas . I was with Mark when he entered the front office of the Texas Rangers and he fulfilled his lifelong dream by signing a professional baseball contract.. After 37 years of coaching and teaching in El Paso, Mark is one of the most unique and special people that I have ever met.

As a rival, I remember Mark as a fierce competitor and a gifted athlete.....one of those gladiators of sport that would accept death before defeat!!! As his teammate at UTEP I found him to be a tremendous baseball player both offensively and defensively. Win or lose, Mark gave his best, demanded our best, and was always there to praise us, encourage us, and scold us when we needed it. By his example he raised the entire team up to a new level of performance. In one of our most memorable wins, versus the University of Arizona (they were the #2 rated team in the nation), Mark was the hero. He hit a 2 run homer in the top of the 7th inning and made a game saving catch in the bottom of the 7th to secure the win. We handed U. of A. their first loss, ever, on their brand new baseball field.

As my friend, Mark has always been there for me and my family. A friend that makes me want to be a better person. A person I can always count on and confide in. In a clutch situation, on or off the field, I want Mark at bat....any day!! cannot think of a more worthy recipient. Please feel free to contact me at any time. _____

Joseph Pennies M.Ed.
Head Boys and Girls Golf Coach
Montwood High School

To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to hear that Mark Miller will be nominated for induction to the El Paso Hall of Fame.

My first association with Mark was with the Football Friday Night Radio program on 600 AM radio as a reporter. Last year he was given the lead position in the studio to anchor the program.

Mark's professional approach, commitment and involvement to the program was immediately evident to me as well as those associated with the program.

It was in this initial regard that our interaction would continue to expand and gave me the opportunity to appreciate his approach and commitment to every endeavor he undertakes.

Having been heavily involved in the El Paso baseball/softball programs from the amateur to the college level, gave me the opportunity to really understand how committed he was to this environment as well. I was not in any surprised to find out that Mark had played at very level of baseball, from Little League to Professional baseball. He excelled at each and every level and later would continue to play not only baseball but softball in the Men's League at the National level as well. He continues to participate and most recently was a member of a National Championship Men's Baseball team.

I further had the pleasure to be involved with Mark as a softball Coach. It was also evident to see his commitment with the product that he consistently put on the field in the form of well-coached athletes. His athletes displayed abilities to compete at a level necessary to participate and more importantly to excel at those levels. Equally important to me as an Umpire was the approach, attitude and respect that his athletics had for the sport in which they were participating.

Lastly, it is my belief that a person's true legacy is not only the pursuit of excellence in a sport or activity. Equally important is the continued participation and commitment to excellence in the their field of participation...simply said, what a person gives back to their sport as well. Mark played, coached and continues to play at a very high level. This involvement and commitment should be the benchmark of all athletes and more importantly be the example of everyone that truly cares what they choose to be involved in.

It has been my pleasure to be associated with Mark Miller. His commitment and passion truly has and will continue to be the example of an Athlete worthy of induction to the El Paso Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Bob Ludwig
Past President – El Paso Umpires Association
Texas Association of Sports Officials-Softball State Director- District