**Athlete of the Year Scholarships**

As a commitment to the legacy of athletic excellence in the Phoenix Union High School District, a male and female Athlete of the Year scholarship will be established by the PUHSD Sports Hall of Fame.

Any donation is appreciated. Donations for the event and scholarships can be made to:
Phoenix Union Foundation for Education*

  c/o PUHSD Sports Hall of Fame
  7949 E. Acoma Drive, Suite 207
  Scottsdale, AZ 85260

For more information, please contact Dr. Zachary Muñoz at zmunoz@phoenixunion.org or 602-764-1334.

*The Phoenix Union Foundation for Education is a 501c(3) non-profit organization.

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Inaugural

**SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY**

**December 17, 2015**

“Old Phoenix Union High School Auditorium”
(Virginia G. Piper Auditorium on the campus of the University of Arizona College of Medicine)
Welcome to this evening’s Inaugural Phoenix Union Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Tonight’s ceremony focuses on historical honorees (1913-1981) and modern era (1950 - present) honorees. Each future ceremony will honor both new, contemporary and historic honorees from modern eras. For example, in 2016 we will celebrate the recent year as well as inductees from the 1950s and 1960s. This process will continue in 2017, when we recognize the recent year as well as the inductees from the 1970s and 1980s, etcetera. 

This ceremony is the result of eleven dedicated committee members’ research and ongoing dialogue, focused on selecting tonight’s honorees from among the hundreds of qualified candidates. Beginning in June, the Hall of Fame Committee initiated a rigorous process to review potential inductees who represent the Phoenix Union High School District’s standards of excellence. We are committed to continue objectively reviewing potential inductees for election into the contemporary and historic Hall of Fame Classes.

We are grateful for the privilege of participating in the honors of this historic evening. We extend our gratitude to everyone who has contributed to tonight through their efforts in Phoenix Union athletics. Most importantly, we humbly extend our thanks to you for attending this inaugural ceremony.

**Hall of Fame Committee Members:**
Dr. Zachary Muñoz (Chair),
Kevin Belcher, David Cruickshank, Brian Fair, Natasha Foster,
Victor Mena, Erica Parra, Ray Pino, Ron Scott, David Smithers,
and Tom Williams (Secretary)

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**PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS 1912-1949**

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<th>Year</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Royal Heidenreich
Royal Heidenreich coached track at Phoenix Union High School to two State Championships. He won the State Championship in 1921 and again in 1922.

### Jesse McComb
Jesse McComb coached at Phoenix Union High School in the 20's and 30's and won a remarkable seven State Championships in baseball. He won in 1925, 1928, 1929, 1931, 1933, and 1934 and in 1936.

### Ralph R. Robinson
Ralph R. Robinson came to Phoenix Union in 1920 and changed the landscape of Arizona prep sports. He coached for 29 years, winning 32 State Championships, and another 15 Southwestern Interscholastic Conference titles, in a league that included schools from Southern California, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado and West Texas. “Robby” won 14 state titles in football, including nine in a row, 13 track and field championships over 26 years, and had five state titles in basketball, and a 305-115 record over 21 years. His football record of 101-35 and 18 ties included 22 losses to college teams. His 1930 team went 13-0 and was considered the “mythical” national champions, prompting legendary Notre Dame coach Knute Rockne to say about Phoenix Union, “They have the greatest high school sports program we have ever seen.” His program’s success helped support the construction of Montgomery Stadium in 1925, and with its 10,500-capacity, gate receipts paid for the stadium in 10 years.

### Izer Turner
Izer Turner was one of the early coaches to coach at Phoenix Union High School. During his tenure he won a remarkable 12 State Championships in boys and girls tennis. He won championships in: 1917 (boys), 1918 (girls), 1920 (boys and girls), 1921 (boys), 1922 (boys and girls), 1923 (boys & girls), 1924 (boys and girls), 1926 (girls) and 1927 (girls).
COACHES

Modern Era: 1950-Present

Hector Bejarano - North
Vernon Braasch - West
Clement Chapman - South
David Cruickshank - South
Joe Ehlers - South
Gretchen James - Camelback
Gerald “Wimpy” Jones - Phoenix Union
Phil Kemp - Alhambra
Ray Laing - Central
Ed Long - Phoenix Union
Bill Mitton - Trevor Browne
Hugh Morrison - Alhambra
Argie Rhymes - Carl Hayden
Nadine Sass - Camelback
Robert Schuster - South
Gil Trejo - Maryvale
Verne Wolfe - North
Royce Youree - East

Historical Era: 1913-1949

John Black
John Black was an outstanding football coach at Phoenix Union High School, leading the 1948 team to an undefeated season and State Championship. That year, he was voted “Coach of the Year.” Later he attended the University of Arizona, and became a three-year letterman in football (captain) and basketball. He was first team All-Border Conference in 1939 and 1940. Black was a three-year starting guard on the Arizona Wildcats basketball team, and was drafted by the New York Giants. He coached the University of Arizona freshman football team in 1941. He also served as an assistant football coach from 1946 to 1947.

Lorette Brinegar
Lorette Brinegar coached Phoenix Union High School girls to three State Championships in tennis. She won state championships in 1939, 1940 and 1941.

W.W. Carpenter
W.W. Carpenter coached Phoenix Union High School to two State Championships in basketball. He won state championships in 1919 and then again in 1921.

Gene Doyle
Gene Doyle coached Phoenix Union High School to two State Championships in Boys Tennis in 1939 and then again in 1942.

Bill Gates
Bill Gates coached Phoenix Union High School to a State Championship in Boys Tennis in 1936.

Francis Geary
Francis Geary coached at Phoenix Union High School from 1912 to 1920, winning five consecutive State Football Championships, and seven Track and Field Championships (1912, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1918). The 1977 Phoenix Union High School yearbook was dedicated to him as “the man who put Phoenix Union High School athletics on the map.”
**Carl “Moose” Mulleneaux (1914-1995)**

Carl Mulleneaux starred at Phoenix Union High School. Mulleneaux played end for six seasons for the Green Bay Packers (1938-1945), and was inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame in 1983. After retiring from the Packers in 1946, Mulleneaux coached football at the University of St. Louis, Texas Tech, Arizona, Fullerton College and finally Santa Monica College. He was part of the coaching staff that took the SMCC Corsairs to an undefeated season and the Junior Rose Bowl Championship in 1958.

**Bill Saunders**

Bill Saunders was a star quarterback at Phoenix Union High School, and went on to play at ASU. He returned later to serve as a football coach at Coolidge, Phoenix Union and Phoenix Camelback before retiring in 1985. He accumulated 117 career victories. Saunders coached NFL players Fred Carr and Larry Gordon at Phoenix Union, in addition to halfback turned basketball player, Rudy White (Houston Rockets, Golden State, and Seattle Supersonics). They helped him earn induction into the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame. Saunders’s game strategy had an influence on a young protégé named Jesse Parker, who joined Saunders at Phoenix Union in 1968 as his junior-varsity coach. Parker later became the head coach at Phoenix Camelback. Saunders joined him as an assistant helping Camelback win a State Championship in 1974. Bill Saunders was revered by all coaches in the state of Arizona.

**Morrison Warren**

Morrison Warren attended Carver High School. He later attended Phoenix College and then served in World War II. When he came back from the war, he enrolled at Arizona State University and played two years of football, 1946-1947, and 1947-1948. Warren became a Principal at Washington Elementary. With a Doctorate in Education, Warren became a professor at ASU. He also served on the Phoenix City Council.

**Rudy White**

Rudy White was a 1972 graduate of Phoenix Union High School. The following year he attended Arizona State University, and was eventually drafted in 1975 in the 3rd Round, by the Houston Rockets. During his professional career, White played for three different teams: the Houston Rockets, Golden State Warriors, and the Seattle Supersonics.

**ATHLETES**

**Historical Era: 1913-1981**

- Fred Carr - Football
- Steve Colter - Basketball
- Conrad Flippen - Football
- Larry Gordon - Football
- George Greathouse - Football
- Elmer Green - Basketball
- Allen “Stretch” Holmes - Basketball
- Bill Kajikawa - Football
- Sonny Karnofsky - Football
- Hank Leiber - Baseball
- Carl Mulleneaux - Football
- Cecil Mulleneaux - Football
- Bill Saunders - Football
- Henry Tompkins - Basketball
- Morrison Warren - Football
- Rudy White - Basketball

**COACHES**

**Historical Era: 1913-1949**

- John Black - Football
- Lorette Brinegar - Girls Tennis
- W.W. Carpenter - Boys Basketball
- Gene Doyle - Boys Tennis
- Bill Gates - Boys Tennis
- Francis S. Geary - Boys Track and Field
- Royal Heidenreich - Boys Track and Field
- Jesse McComb - Baseball
- Robbie Robinson - Football / Boys Track and Field / Boys Basketball
- R. Izer Turner - Boys and Girls Tennis
Hector Bejarano  
*Basketball Coach, 1984-1996*  
*North High School*  
- North Boys Basketball head coach: 1984-1996  

Vernon (Vern) Braasch  
*Phoenix Union High School Alumnus, 1948*  
*Football and Wrestling Coach*  
*Phoenix Union and West high schools*  
- West High School State Wrestling Champions: 1954; City Wrestling Champions: 1961  
- West High School State Football Champions: 1956, 1958  
- First wrestling coach in the Phoenix Union High School District (West)  
- First wrestling coach at Glendale Community College

Allen “Stretch” Holmes  
*Phoenix Union High School Alumnus, 1948*  
*Football and Wrestling Coach*  
*Phoenix Union and West high schools*  
- West High School State Wrestling Champions: 1954; City Wrestling Champions: 1961  
- West High School State Football Champions: 1956, 1958  
- First wrestling coach in the Phoenix Union High School District (West)  
- First wrestling coach at Glendale Community College

**Bill Kajikawa (1912-2010)**  
William (Bill) Kajikawa was a Phoenix Union High School student athlete in football, basketball, and baseball. He graduated in 1933 and went on to coach at Arizona State University (ASU) for over five decades.

In the early days, Bill Kajikawa was head coach for ASU’s early baseball programs and also head basketball coach. He was the only Japanese American head coach in major sports at any U.S. college. In 1954, Kajikawa was voted Border Conference Basketball Coach of the Year. Until his retirement in 1978, he was intercollegiate coach under nine head coaches, from “Bulldog” to “Sun Devil” days. Known as “Mr. Sun Devil,” Kajikawa was inducted into the Arizona Basketball Hall of Fame in 1968 and the ASU Hall of Distinction in 1982. In 1976 the American Legion selected Kajikawa for the Americanism Award for service to young people.

**Sonny Karnofsky (1922-2015)**  
Abraham “Sonny” Karnofsky played at Phoenix Union High School and was an All-State running back. He then played college football at the University of Arizona. Sonny played in the NFL with the Philadelphia Eagles in 1945 and the Boston Yanks 1946.

**Hank Edward Leiber**  
Henry Leiber was born January 17, 1911, and attended Phoenix Union High School, competing in baseball. He attended the University of Arizona and was a pitcher for the Arizona Wildcats baseball team. He began his professional baseball career in 1932 for the New York Giants. Leiber was named to the Major League All-Star team in 1938. In a 10-year major league career, Leiber played in 813 games, accumulating 808 hits, in 2,805 at bats for a .288 career batting average. Leiber managed the Tucson Cowboys of the Arizona-Texas League for one season (1950). He eventually became a successful real-estate developer.

**Cecil Lee Mulleneaux**  
Nicknamed “Brute” Mulleneaux was a four-year All-State lineman in football, including First Team as a freshman, sophomore and senior. He was Player of the Year in 1927. He graduated in 1928. In 1999, he was named to the Arizona Republic’s High School Football All-Century First Team as a lineman. He also was an All-State pitcher in 1927 and 1928. Mulleneaux’s Phoenix Union teams won state championships in both sports. He was the Republic’s 87th Athlete of the Century. He became the first Arizonan in the NFL - playing 10 years of professional football at center and fullback for the Giants, Packers, Steelers and Cincinnati Reds (football). Cecil played college ball at Northern Arizona University and is in the NAU Athletics Hall of Fame.
Conrad Flippen
Conrad Flippen was a four-sport star at Phoenix Union High School. As quarterback and defensive back, he led the Coyotes’ “Wonder Team” to a 13-0 season and mythical National Championship in 1930. He also starred in basketball, earning state Player of the Year honors as a senior, and was a three-time All-State infielder in baseball. He played one year at the University of Notre Dame and at Phoenix College, before a six-year minor league baseball career, playing and coaching. He later played for the Funk Jewels of Phoenix, a nationally-acclaimed fast-pitch softball teams. He was an inaugural inductee into the Arizona High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Larry Gordon (1954-1983)
Larry Gordon was an All-State football player at Phoenix Union High School and played four seasons at Arizona State University (ASU). During his college career at Arizona State, he played alongside future All-American and Dallas Cowboys linebacker, Bob Breunig. Together, they are viewed as the best linebacker tandem to ever play the position at ASU. Gordon was an All-American football linebacker who played seven seasons in the National Football League for the Miami Dolphins. He was in the Dolphin’s starting lineup from his rookie season until his death, when he collapsed while jogging in the desert outside Phoenix, Arizona.

George Greathouse
George Greathouse is a member of the Arizona Sports Hall of Fame. He attended Carver High School in Phoenix for two years, and then transferred to Phoenix Union High School after Phoenix Union schools were integrated in 1954. He was a two-time Arizona Republic Player of the Year while attending Phoenix Union. His junior year at PU, he scored a 45-yard touchdown run the first time he touched the ball. The second time he touched the ball, he ran a 75-yard touchdown. Greathouse played an integral role in taking Phoenix Union High School to two State Championships in 1954 and 1955, scoring 37 touchdowns in these two years. Greathouse lettered as a sophomore at Arizona State University in 1957, before stepping away to raise a family and become owner of a popular Phoenix barber shop and salon. In his five year playing career, Greathouse’s teams finished with a 47-3-2 record.

Elmer Green
Elmer Green starred in basketball and football for Phoenix Tech. He was All-State in football in 1954, despite the Hornets winning only two games. He played wide receiver and defensive end. He played guard on the basketball team, which won State in his sophomore year, 1953, and lost in the finals to West High School in 1954. He was selected to play in the Arizona Basketball All-Star game. He turned down a scholarship offer from New Mexico A&M in basketball, to play both sports at Phoenix College (PC). He was a Junior College Football All-American at PC, and was elected to go to the JC All-Star game in Mississippi in 1956, but was denied participation because he was African-American. Green went to University of Arizona to play basketball, but left school after one semester to get married.

Clement Chapman
Clement Chapman was an All-State football player at Phoenix Union High School and played four seasons at Arizona State University (ASU). During his college career at Arizona State, he played alongside future All-American and Dallas Cowboys linebacker, Bob Breunig. Together, they are viewed as the best linebacker tandem to ever play the position at ASU. Gordon was an All-American football linebacker who played seven seasons in the National Football League for the Miami Dolphins. He was in the Dolphin’s starting lineup from his rookie season until his death, when he collapsed while jogging in the desert outside Phoenix, Arizona.

David Cruickshank
Coach Cruickshank is considered a ‘living legend’ within the cross country and track and field community. He is still coaching and is in his 36th year. His South Mountain Boys’ Cross Country team placed fourth in the state this year. His many accolades include Runner’s Magazine “Golden Shoe Award;” ESPN’s Feature Presentation as the top National Coach in Track and Field, and the Arizona Republic’s Coach of the Year. Coach Cruickshank is a member of the Arizona Coaches Hall of Fame. His 1986 Trevor Browne Boys’ Cross Country team set an all-time AIA State record with a low score of 32 points for big schools. After 29 years, the record still stands.

Joseph Ehlers
Coach Ehlers revolutionized the sport of cross country in Arizona by implementing interval work using desert trails, dirt roads, and the track. He was instrumental working with the Native American teams in Northern Arizona and promoted and established the Arizona All-Star Cross Country teams. As a coach at South Mountain and Trevor Browne, he accumulated ten State Championships combined. His meet record at South Mountain was an amazing 149-11. Coach Ehlers retired after 47 years of coaching.
Gretchen James 
Archery Coach 
Camelback High School, 1958 -1987 
• 10 State Championships, Record 222 -- 1 
• 29 National Championships in 5 Divisions

Gretchen James rallied to have physical education offered to girls at her high school in WI. She graduated from Arizona State and became a P.E. and Health teacher. She had one of the most successful coaching careers in Arizona high school history, coaching golf, tennis, and archery at Camelback from 1958 until 1987. Annually, her teams won multiple district and state championship titles. Always forging changes for female athletes, in 1993, Coach James was one of the first five women inducted into the Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame for the sport of archery. Her archery teams dominated the sport. Coach James also was awarded the 1979 National Coach of the Year, inducted into the Arizona High School Coaches Hall of Fame and named in Hammett's Sports Arizona magazine as one of the top 12 coaches of Arizona from 1900 to 1998. In 2006, Coach James was recognized again – first by the Arizona Coaches Association and then, as inductee into the National High School Athletics Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Royce Youree 
Basketball Coach 
East High School 
• 54 Game winning streak in 1974-1975 
• 72 Consecutive regular season wins in 1973-76 
• 13 Consecutive state tournament appearances 
• State Runner-Up, 1974 
• Two State Semi-Final appearances 
• Five East teams ranked in the top 15 teams of the 20th century 1981 Team and Coach Youree were honored by the Arizona Republic as the Number one Team and Coach of the Century.

Royce Youree and East High School basketball Teams 1970’s and 1980’s were honored by South West Sports New Service as the team and Coach of the Decade. The former Arizona State University star was East High School’s only Head Coach (1964-1982). Coach Youree also was part of the Los Angeles Clippers organization for seven years.

Gerald “Wimpy” Jones 
Basketball Coach 
Phoenix Union and Maryvale high schools 

Gerald Jones taught and coached at Duncan High School from 1945-50 where his teams went 79-42. He then moved on to Coolidge and his Bears accumulated a 143-71 record. His last stop - Phoenix Union and Maryvale, the Coyotes amassed a 244-87 record. Besides his passion for high school sports, Jones was one of the greater softball pitchers in Arizona history. His credentials include three perfect games, including one in which he struck out 21 batters. He had 45 no-hitters and participated in ten world championship tournaments in a 31-year career. He attended Mesa High School before earning his Bachelors at Arizona State College. He served in the Coast Guard during World War II. Coach Jones passed away in 2013 at the age of 93.

Phil Kemp 
Phoenix Union High School Alumnus, 1952 
Basketball Coach 
Alhambra High School, 1970-1989 

Phil Kemp graduated from Arizona State University in 1957. He started his teaching and coaching career in the Phoenix Union District at Central High School (1957). In 1970, he moved to Alhambra High School as a P.E. teacher and Head Basketball Coach. He was the head coach for 18 years. The 1974 championship game was a quadruple (4) overtime win over East High School. Steve Malovic and Chuck Faubion led the Lions to victory. The 1985 championship game against Cholla featured future NBA star Sean Elliot and Alhambra’s All-State center-forward Mitch Smith. Coach Kemp retired from PUHSD in 1989 and passed away in 1993, at the age of 60.

Fred Carr
Fred “Freddy” Carr attended Phoenix Union High School and competed in basketball, and track and field in the discus throw and shot put. His senior year, Carr was in the top-ten discus throwers in the USA. He played for Phoenix College before transferring to the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 1965. At UTEP he was considered the “best overall linebacker in school history.” On September 23, 2005, Fred was inducted into the UTEP Athletic Hall of Fame, and would later be elected to the Phoenix College Hall of Fame in its inaugural class of 2007. Carr was drafted by the Green Bay Packers in the first round of the 1968 NFL. Carr’s professional career spanned nine seasons with the Packers. He was a Pro-Bowl Co-MVP in 1971, retired from pro football in 1977 and was inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame in 1983.

Steve Colter
Steve Colter is a Phoenix Union High School graduate, Class of 1980. He attended New Mexico State from 1980-84, and was picked 33rd in the 2nd round of the NBA draft by the Portland Trail Blazers. Colter played in eight NBA seasons for six different teams: Portland Trail Blazers, Chicago Bulls, Philadelphia 76ers, Washington Bullets, Sacramento Kings and Cleveland Cavaliers. In his NBA career, Colter played in 526 games and scored a total of 3,319 points. His best year as a professional came during the 1985-86 season as a member of the Trail Blazers, appearing in 81 games and averaging 8.7 points per game.

ATHLETES
Historical Era: 1913-1981

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Verne Wolfe  
Track and Field Coach  
North High School, 1955-1960  
• Coach Verne Wolfe coached Dallas Long at North, who set the national and state shot put record  
• State Championship in 1955  
• 1963-1984 USC Men’s Track and Field Coach  
• USC Track and Field Teams won seven NCAA Indoor and Outdoor Team Track and Field NCAA Championships  
• His field event athletes, sprinters and runners won 29 NCAA Individual Track and Field Championships, and tied or broke 30 world records  
• Coached five Olympic Gold medalists - His 4x4 100 meter team broke a world record at the Olympics  
• Inducted into USC Hall of Fame

A pole vaulter for the University of Southern California in the late 1940s, Verne Wolfe began his coaching career at Torrance (Calif.) High School in 1952 and spent 1955 to 1960 at North Phoenix High School, where he produced national high school record holders in the pole vault, shot put and discus. Wolfe returned to USC as head coach in 1963 and remained there until retiring in 1984. His Trojan teams won seven NCAA indoor and outdoor titles, as well as eight conference titles and had a dual meet winning record of 87 percent. Six athletes who trained under Wolfe went on to win Olympic gold medals, including Hall of Famers Dallas Long (shot put), Mile Larrabee (400m) and Bob Seagren (pole vault). Wolfe also produced 24 athletes who set or tied world records and 29 individual champions.

Coach Wolfe attracted national attention with his weight training program that, at the time, was only popular with body building. Most sports athletes felt they would become too muscle bound. But Wolfe was an innovator, and he started a weight program by picking up empty cans from a nursery, filling them with cement, and connecting them with rods, thus creating instant barbells. He told The Phoenix Gazette in 1995: “We had fun. We didn’t know what we were doing, but we were trying to make sense out of it. Calling it weight training gave it a stigma in those days because of the name, but there was a certain advantage to being where we were at the time, sort of isolated in some respects. We didn’t have people around us telling us we couldn’t do it.”

Ray Laing  
Football Coach  
Central High School  
• Football State Champions: 1969, 1972  
• 55 consecutive years of coaching football: 1960 - Present

Ray Laing started his coaching career as a position coach in the Army (4th Armory Division). Laing moved to Arizona in 1966 and became the head football coach at Central High School. His teams won two state championships; 1969 against St. Mary's and 1972 against Brophy Prep.

Laing transferred to Phoenix College in 1976 to become the Offensive Coordinator for Head Coach Ken Stites. They won five conference championships in 11 years. They relocated together to Mesa Community College. Coach Laing worked as either offensive or defensive coordinator for Coach Stites, through 2008. From 2009 to the present, Coach Laing has been a defensive line coach for Brophy Prep. This past season was his 55th consecutive year of coaching.

Ed Long  
Basketball Coach  
Carver and Phoenix Union high schools, 1950-1985  
• Carver Basketball State Champions (3A): 1952, 1954  
• Phoenix Union Basketball State Champions: 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959  
• 56-game winning streak during 1955, 1956, and 1957 seasons  
• During his tenure, Phoenix Union High School District won 75 State Championships

Ed Long began his Phoenix Union High School career as a teacher and coach at Phoenix Tech. In 1951-52 he became the head basketball coach at Phoenix Union High School. In 1959-60 he became the head basketball coach at Phoenix College. Concurrent with his teaching and coaching duties at Phoenix College, Long was the supervisor for Physical Education and the District Director of Athletics at PUHSD. During his tenure, he directed and initiated the one-semester health requirement into the state curriculum. In addition, Long served two years as the Supervisor of Special Education.

Bill Mitton  
Football Coach  
Trevor Browne, 29 years  
• 15 Division titles

Bill Mitton graduated from Brigham Young University and played for Lavell Edwards where he was captain of the WAC championship teams of the early 1960s. For 29 years, Bill Mitton and the Trevor Browne Bruins Football teams were synonymous with success. He began his PUHSD career as a PE teacher at Maryvale, but moved to Trevor Browne and started the football program soon after the school opened in 1972. Mitton won 206 games at Trevor Browne, and coined the Bruins, the “Pride of the West Side.” His teams were regulars in the playoffs, winning 15 regional titles, and from 1980-82 the Bruins played in three State Championship games, winning the title in 1981. His teams made the playoffs a record-19 consecutive years. When he retired in 2000, he was only one of four Arizona coaches to have won more than 200 games at the same high school. Mitton is a member of the Arizona Coaches Hall of Fame and was recently named one of Arizona’s best high school coaches by azcentral.com. In Trevor Browne’s 40th Anniversary year, 2012, the football stadium was named in his honor.
Hugh Morrison
Football and Track Coach
Alhambra High School, 1962-1986
- 1988 Olympic Trials official for Track and Field events.
- Renowned International and United States’ track and field coach in the Philippines, Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Korea, England, Germany, and Australia.

Hugh Morrison began his teaching and coaching career in the Phoenix Union District in 1959. He was an assistant football coach at South Mountain, under legendary coach Earl Clupper. In 1962, Coach Morrison moved to Alhambra, becoming its first head football and head track coach. He was the head football coach from 1962 through 1967. He was the head track coach for 24 years, from 1962 through 1986. He retired in 1986.

Coach Morrison has been a renowned Senior Olympic organizer for nearly 30 years. A member of the Hall of Fame at Doan College, Westside High School, Arizona Track, and the Arizona High School Coaches Association. Coach Morrison has been honored by having Arizona Track and Field events named after him. Coach Morrison retired from the Senior Olympics in 2014.

Argie Rhymes
Phoenix Union High School Alumnus, 1965
Basketball Coach
Phoenix Union (1975-1982) and Carl Hayden (1982-Present) high schools
- Four-time Arizona Coach of the Year
- Distinguished Service Award by the Arizona Alliance of Black School Educators, 1992
- Over 700-wins as a Varsity Basketball Coach

Originally from Mt. Pleasant, Texas, Argie Rhymes attended Phoenix Union High School as a multi-sport athlete. He played basketball at Phoenix College and also Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. Rhymes earned his Master’s degree in Education from Arizona State University. He taught history and P.E. at his alma mater, Phoenix Union. When Phoenix Union closed in 1982, he moved to Carl Hayden and won four State Championships. He is a 1999 inductee to the Arizona Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He currently coaches in the Carl Hayden gymnasium named after him, the Argie Rhymes Gymnasium.

Nadine Sass
Volleyball Coach
East and Camelback high schools
- 360 total wins

Nadine Sass was a pioneer in Arizona volleyball coaching. She started her career at East High School in 1975, where she coached for three years before transferring to Camelback High School. During her 22-year coaching career at Camelback, she posted a winning percentage of 85%, 360 total wins, five State Championships, one State runner-up, and eight regional championships. In 1986, Nadine was honored as Women’s Sports Coach of the Year by the Arizona Republic. She was named 5A Metro Region head coach of the year five times. She coached the All-Star team in 1986 and 1990 and served as assistant All-Star coach in 1980. She is well known as a clinic speaker both in Arizona and nationally and often served in a volunteer capacity for the Arizona Association of Volleyball Coaches. In 2000, in honor of Nadine’s unwavering commitment to academic and athletic excellence at Camelback High School, the Phoenix Union High School District Governing Board approved a recommendation to rename the Camelback gymnasium the Nadine Sass Gymnasium. In 2009, Coach Sass was inducted into the Arizona HS Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame.

Robert Schuster
Track Coach
South Mountain and Maryvale high schools
- Maryvale State Girl’s Track Champions: 1982, 1983

Robert Schuster graduated from the University of Missouri and entered the Phoenix Union High School District in 1954, as head track and field coach and assistant football coach. Coach Schuster led the South Mountain track team to six track and field state titles. The latter three titles were earned with 11-time state sprint champion and 1976 Bronze Medal Olympian, Dwayne Evans. Coach Schuster also led the Maryvale girls track team to two state titles. Coach Schuster and fellow Hall of Fame inductee Hugh Morrison directed the prestigious Luke Greenway Track and Field Meet, during their younger years. Coach Schuster was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1984. He passed away in 2014 at the age of 88.