

Texas High School Football Hall of Fame

Class of 2023

1959 & Before

BERT CLARK, LB/C, Wichita Falls High School: Bert Clark, a 4-year letterman at Wichita Falls High School, twice earned All-District honors and once claimed All-State at linebacker as a senior in 1947. He played in the All-Star Oil Bowl Classic following his senior season. He was coached by the legendary Joe Golding. He then went on to play for Bud Wilkinson at Oklahoma, where he lettered three seasons from 1949 to 1951, and twice earned All-Big Eight at linebacker. While at Oklahoma, he was instrumental in helping the Sooners win two Sugar Bowls and capture their first Collegiate National Championship as a Junior. In Clark's senior year, he was voted Co-Captain and played in the 4th Annual Mahi Shriners All-Star game in Miami, FL. Clark's combined win\loss record for both the Coyotes and Sooners is 57 wins, 7 losses, 3 ties. Clark enlisted in the military at Fort Sill Army Base in Oklahoma and won the Military Service Football National Championship game vs. Bolling AFB in the Poinsettia Bowl, San Diego, CA. He had a brief pro-football career with the Dallas Texans and the Calgary Stampeders. As a 7-year Assistant Coach at the University of Washington in Seattle, the Huskies went to three Rose Bowls and were National Champions in 1960. Clark was then named Washington State University Head Coach (1964-67). Clark had a 12-year college coaching career.

1960s

BOBBY WUENSCH, Houston Jesse H. Jones High School: Bobby Wuensch was a two-way starter at center and middle linebacker at Jesse H. Jones High School in Houston, earning First-Team All-State honors for a team that returned to the Class 4A quarterfinals despite a 5-7-1 record. A neck injury ended his hopes of following in Tommy Nobis's footsteps as the next great linebacker for the University of Texas. However, Wuensch converted to tackle as the Longhorns adopted the wishbone and became the anchor of one of UT's greatest offensive lines ever. Texas won 30 straight games and back-to-back national titles with Wuensch in the starting lineup from 1968-70. He earned All-American recognition in 1969 and consensus All-American honors in 1970. Drafted by the Baltimore Colts in 1971, his NFL career ended with a broken leg in his fourth game.

1970s

PATRICK ROCKETT, San Antonio Robert E. Lee High School: As a wide receiver and defensive back, Patrick Rockett helped the Lee Volunteers win the 4A State Championship in 1971, his junior season. Rockett earned First Team All-State honors at wide receiver and defensive back in 1972. During his final two seasons of high school football, he helped the Volunteers post a 27-1-1 record. Rockett accepted a football and baseball scholarship to play at the University of Texas. Rockett was also an outstanding baseball player at Lee. He pursued baseball after high school and was drafted by the Atlanta Braves as the 10th overall pick in the 1st round of the 1973 draft. Rockett went on to play parts of three major league seasons with the Braves. In 2000, Rockett was selected as a defensive back on the All-Time San Antonio High School football team.

1980s

JOHN HENRY, RB, Lorena High School – John Henry was a two-way star for the Lorena Leopards. As a sophomore, Henry led the Leopards to the 1987 2A state title, when he rushed for 1,276 yards and scored 18 touchdowns. That season Lorena had a 14-1-1 record and defeated Refugio 8-7 in the title game. Henry would go on to set multiple school records during his junior and senior seasons. In 1988, he rushed for 1,918 yards and 28 touchdowns. As a senior, he rushed for 2,556 yards scoring 41 touchdowns. Overall, Henry rushed for 5,750 career yards and scored an impressive 533 career points. He twice earned Waco Tribune-Herald Super Centex Offensive Player of the Year and was named All-State three times. He was selected to play for the Whataburger All-Stars in the Astrodome in 1990. Henry signed with Baylor University and rushed for 1,375 career yards and 17 career TDs for the Bears.

1990s

LEONARD DAVIS, Wortham High School: Leonard Davis earned USA Today High School All-American and Fox Sports Southwest Class 1A Player of the Year honors in 1996. He played on both the offensive and defensive lines from his freshman through junior seasons at Wortham, helping the Bulldogs ascend from 0-10 in 1993 to 6-4 in 1995. Then, as a senior in 1996, Davis (6-foot-6, 340) moved to linebacker on defense and led Wortham to an 11-1 campaign and the second round of the playoffs. Davis's highlight of his senior season came on an 81-yard interception return for a touchdown. In the spring, he played on Wortham's 1A state championship basketball team and averaged a double-double in the 1997 state tournament. Davis went on to the University of Texas, where he earned All-Big 12 and All-American honors in 2000. He played 11 seasons in the NFL, earning Pro-Bowl selections from 2007-2009.

2000s

MATTHEW STAFFORD, Highland Park: Matthew Stafford started as quarterback for the Highland Park Scots his sophomore, junior and senior years under Coach Randy Allen. During those three seasons, he threw for 9,000 yards, and 94 touchdowns, leading the 2005 Band of Brothers to a 15-0 record and the first state championship in 48 years for the Highland Park Scots. In his senior season, he threw for 4,000 yards and 38 touchdowns. Stafford's high school awards and accolades include: QB 2005 5A All-State Champions, 2005 5A All-State QB, All-State Team 4A Offensive Player of the Year, and First Team Offense. He was named to the [Parade](#) All-America Team, the [USA Today](#) Preseason Super 25 in 2005, won the MVP and Best Arm awards at the 2005 [EA Sports Elite 11 Quarterback Camp](#), and was named the 2005 EA Sports National Player of the Year. Regarded as a five-star recruit by [Rivals.com](#), Stafford was listed as the No. 1 pro-style quarterback prospect in the class of 2006. Other awards include: Chevrolet Team Player of the Year, Gatorade Texas Player of the Year, All State (AP) First Team Offense, All Area – Offensive Player of the Year, All District – Most Valuable Player of the Year, Texas Sports Writer Assoc.

Stafford went on to star at the University of Georgia, where he threw for 7,731 yards and 51 touchdowns in three seasons. He was the No. 1 pick in the 2009 NFL Draft, chosen by the Detroit Lions, where he played for 12 seasons. Traded to the Los Angeles Rams in 2021, Stafford led the Rams to victory in the Super Bowl LVI Championship. Entering his 15th NFL season, Stafford has passed for more than 52,000 yards and 333 touchdowns.

Matthew and his wife Kelly live in California with their four daughters, Chandler, Sawyer, Hunter, and Tyler.

[Eddie Joseph/THSFHOF Coach](#)

TOM KIMBROUGH, Plano Senior High School: The years that Tom Kimbrough was head coach at Plano will go down in history as one of the greatest tenures in Texas high school football. His record was an incredible 173-28-5. He won more games and more state championships in his head coaching career than any coach in the state (1976-1991). This was accomplished during an era when only one champion was crowned per classification. At the time of his retirement from coaching in 1991, Plano had won more games than any team in the history of Texas high school football. And, only one coach in the largest classification had won more state championships in the previous 60 years. During his years as an assistant coach, head coach, and athletic director (1968-1995), Plano played in seven state championship games, winning five with a record of 298-52-6. Dave Campbell's Texas Football Magazine recognized him as one of the Top Ten Most Memorable Coaches for the previous 50 years in a group that included Tom Landry (1st) and Darrell Royal (2nd), with only four high school coaches in the Top Ten. They also recognized Plano and Brownwood as "The Two Kings" in the 1984 edition based on win-loss record over the last 25 years. His 1977 state championship game vs. Port Neches-Groves set the Texas high school football attendance record for "single site games" at 49,950, which is still a record 46 years later spanning over 100 years of UIL competition. He is a member of five Hall of Fames. Tom Kimbrough Stadium was built and named in his honor in 2003. The Plano Chamber of Commerce and the City of Plano declared "Tom Kimbrough Day" in 1988, recognizing him "as undoubtedly the single greatest contributor in establishing the City of Plano's image as one of a winner." The Texas Sports Writers Association named him Texas High School Coach of the Year three times.

DENNIS ALEXANDER, Daingerfield, Henderson, Harleton, Hughes Springs, & Troup High Schools: Upon graduation from Kilgore High School in 1966 (the last class recruited before Coach Jess Neely retired), Dennis Alexander attended Rice University on a football scholarship. At Rice, he lettered in football and baseball. His coaching career began in 1970, first as a graduate assistant at Rice, and then at East Texas State. He spent one year at Taylor High School as an assistant coach before taking his first head coaching job at Hughes Springs, in 1972. Following his time at Hughes Springs, Alexander began a very memorable thirteen years at Daingerfield.

The 1983 Tigers won the state championship, setting both national and state records—the first team to win 16 games, to have 14 (13 consecutive) shutouts, to have only eight points scored against them, and to score 246 points in the playoffs. Again in 1984, the Tigers returned to the state championship, falling to Medina Valley. In 1985, Daingerfield came roaring back to win the state championship with another 16-0 season. During his thirteen years at Daingerfield, the Tigers amassed a total of 129 wins.

In 1989, Alexander headed to Henderson High School, where he coached for thirteen years. His Lion teams made it to the state quarterfinals four times. From Henderson, Coach Alexander went to Harleton High School for ten years and finally to Troup High School for four years. In his 44 years as a head coach/athletic director at five different high schools, Alexander's teams had an overall record of 340 wins.

Alexander has received numerous coaching awards—Coach of the Year from THSCA, Texas Sportswriters, Kodak, and Harris Poll. He received the "Coach Who Makes a Difference" award from Fox Sports Southwest. He was District Coach of the Year 18 times. He served on the THSCA Board of Directors from 1996-1999. He was in the first class inducted into the East Texas Coaches Association Hall of Honor in 2014, and in 2022, he was inducted into the THSCA Hall of Honor.

Dennis and his wife Missy have been married for 50 years. Together, they have a very large family—2 daughters, Dayna and Deborah and their spouses, 9 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, 2 living brothers and their spouses, a sister-in-law, 2 nieces and 4 nephews and their spouses, 7 great nieces, and 4 great nephews.

Dave Campbell Contributor to the Game

DR. JESSE DELEE, San Antonio: Dr. Jesse DeLee is an Orthopaedic Surgeon who specializes in Sports Medicine. He has provided medical coverage for high school football games in the San Antonio area continuously since 1974 to present. To date, he has provided medical coverage for more than 1,000 games. He has served as team physician for Sam Houston High School since 1974 and Tom C. Clark High School since 1982.

Dr. DeLee became interested in Sports Medicine as a result of the influence of his high school football coach, Clarence “Buckshot” Underwood in Port Arthur, Texas. Dr. DeLee started the first Saturday morning Sports Medicine Clinic in San Antonio and South Texas at the Nix Hospital in 1982. This was the second such clinic for athletes in the State of Texas. This clinic served athletes in San Antonio and South Texas until 2019, when it moved to its current location at Christus Santa Rosa Healthcare System and continues to provide care for athletes.

In 2000, Dr. DeLee was asked to chair the newly formed medical advisory committee for the University Interscholastic League. This committee provides oversight for medical issues regarding all students participating in UIL-sponsored activities. This committee is the first of its kind in the US and has been instrumental in such activities as the concussion protocol, cardiac screening, and prevention of heat-related injuries. He continues in this role currently.

Since 1978, Dr. DeLee has been actively involved in training medical students and orthopedic surgery residents at UT Health in San Antonio. In 1989, Dr. DeLee established a postgraduate Fellowship in Orthopedic Sports Medicine at UT Health in San Antonio. This Fellowship provides training for board-eligible Orthopedic Surgeons in the subspecialty of Sports Medicine. Fifty Fellows were trained in this program under Dr. DeLee’s direction.

In 1994, Dr. DeLee and Dr. David Drez co-authored “Orthopaedic Sports Medicine,” which is recognized as the gold-standard textbook in this field and is now in its fifth edition.

In 2017, Dr. DeLee was inducted into the American Society of Sports Medicine “Hall of Fame.” This coveted award is the highest honor awarded by the American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine. In 2020, Dr. DeLee received the Thomas A. Brady Award from the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine for over forty years of service to high school athletes.