

MEAD HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Mead High School Hall of Fame is to recognize former outstanding teams, student-athletes, coaches, faculty and Mead community members who have made significant contributions to Mead High School and the Mead community.

Our goal is to formally perpetuate the memory of those teams, student-athletes, coaches, faculty and supporters who have brought distinction, honor and excellence to Mead High School.

Do you know someone who should be nominated? If so, you can find more information and a nomination form on our Mead High School webpage @ meadhsmead354.org. Once there choose 'Athletics' and the 'Hall of Fame' link is just below the **Panther Athletics – News and Announcements** link on the right side of the page. You can also email nominations to Mead Athletic Director, John Barrington @ john.barrington@mead354.org

Congratulations to this year's inaugural inductees – **Becky (Nelson) Clark** and **Gary Baskett**.

Mead High School is thankful and proud of your accomplishments and contributions to the Mead community.



MEAD HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME

February 6, 2020

Becky (Nelson) Clark



Gary Baskett

Mead High School Hall of Fame Becky (Nelson) Clark



A 1968 Graduate of Mead High School, Becky (Nelson) Clark set the Panther High Jump record (5' 8") her senior year at the Spokane County Girls' Track Meet held in Medical Lake, Washington. She was 2nd in the high jump at the U.S. National Jr. Olympic Championships and 5th at the U.S. National Championships in 1967.

She worked with coach Joanne Christopher to form the first Mead Girls Track Team and they won the All-County Track Meet, earning Mead its first-ever girls' sports trophy.

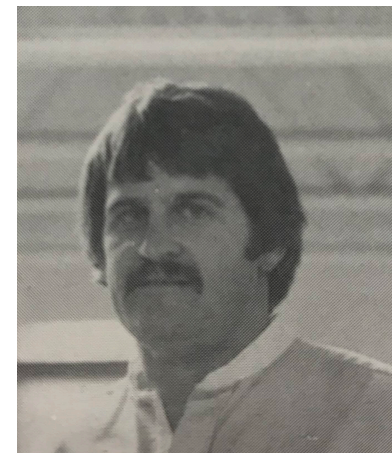
Clark was the NCAA High Jump Champion in 1971. She helped the Eastern Washington University track team place 5th at the NCAA's by running legs on the 3rd place 400 relay, 6th place 800 medley relay and winning the High Jump. In 1970 Becky was 2nd in the High Jump at the NCAA Championships. Clark competed in seven events of the heptathlon and was West Coast Champion in 1970. While at Eastern, she also held the school record in the high jump, long jump, heptathlon, 100-meter hurdles and played basketball for the Eagles. Becky competed for three seasons at Eastern before transferring to the University of Washington in 1973 where she competed for the Huskies while earning her Physical Therapy Degree.

Becky coached track and field at Mead High School in the late 1970s and gave her time as a Physical Therapist /Athletic Trainer in multiple sports at Mead and Mt. Spokane High Schools for 25 years. Her son Casey Clark, a 7' High Jumper and three-sport athlete at Mead and Mt Spokane also ran track at Arizona State University and was inducted into Mt Spokane's first Hall of Fame in 2020. Her daughter Chelsea, was a three-sport athlete at Mead and played basketball for Gonzaga University.

Becky (Nelson) Clark was an early pioneer for high school and college-level women's sports, fighting for equal rights for girls and women before Title IX. She worked tirelessly to bring women's sports to higher levels and develop programs for highly-skilled female athletes as well as treating Olympians and nationally ranked athletes as a Physical Therapist.

February 6, 2020

Mead High School Hall of Fame Gary Baskettt



Gary Baskettt graduated from West Seattle High School where he was the school record holder in the shot put. He attended Wenatchee Valley Community College and then graduated from Central Washington University. He competed in track and field at both colleges. While at CWU, he set the school record in the shot put and placed 9th at the NAIA National Championship Meet. He was selected as the team captain for his Central Washington University track and field team.

His coaching career started with a position as a graduate assistant coach at Central Washington. He had coaching stints at Ilwaco, West Seattle, Lincoln, Federal Way and Wenatchee Valley College before ending up at Mead High School in Spokane. Gary was the head boys track coach at Mead for twenty years. He took a well-established and successful program to new heights setting an example that raised many other programs to great heights along the way.

While at Mead, Gary built what was already a successful team into one of the most dominant track and field teams in Washington state history. The Panthers won five state championships, placed second four times and third twice in the 3A & 4A classifications. His teams produced thirty-three individual State Champions and twenty-three High School All-Americans. His Mead High School track teams were ranked 3rd in the nation two times and 4th once. One of the more remarkable accomplishments during his coaching career at Mead, was the 17-year period where Mead won over 159 straight Greater Spokane League dual meets. This continues to be one of the longest unbeaten streaks in state history and it raised the bar for GSL track and field to a point where it is one of the most competitive dual meet leagues in the nation. Gary was twice named Coach of the Year in the GSL and was recognized as a Washington State Coach of the Year three times. In 2001, Gary was inducted into the Washington State Track Coaches Hall of Fame.

Gary is a National Masters Shot-Put Champion as well as a National Masters Track & Field Official. He has worked as an assistant coach at the Community Colleges of Spokane, Mt. Spokane High School & Whitworth University and he has spoken at various coaching clinics over the years.

February 6, 2020