

Athletic Hall of Fame

Est. 2023



In the 1960-1961 school year, Millsap found themselves with a “gem” of a basketball coach from the small town of Graford, Texas by the name of Bob Derryberry. Although he was only a few years older than his players, Coach Derryberry had a mindset and philosophy concerning basketball that superceded those that came before and after him in the sport.

In his first coaching position during the 1960-1961 school year, he quickly made a name for himself as a Millsap Assistant Coach and moved up the following year into the Head Coach position. In 1961-1962, he completed his first season ever as a Head Coach with an impressive 24-5 record and as Bi-District Champions.

The following season of 1962-1963, found this young coach leading his team to the UIL State Basketball Championships where they finished 3rd place and recorded a remarkable season record of 33-6. Currently, he remains the only Millsap Basketball Coach to have a team qualify for the UIL State Tournament.

Derryberry invested in his players not only as a player but also as individuals. His recorded philosophy of the game and of his coaching career had an impact on many athletes and future coaches. Bob is quoted as saying “Winning is very important to me and I want winning to be very important to the players in our program. However, I WILL NOT sacrifice the principles that I feel important in helping the individual under my guidance in reaching their fullest potential as a person, solely for the sake of winning”. He believed that it was important to teach his athletes to deal with adversity in sports which will also reflect their abilities to deal with adversity in everyday life and give them the tools necessary to be a success in the everyday world.

Coach Derryberry’s impact on Millsap basketball remained at MHS many years after he left as his past players became successful coaches themselves for the Bulldogs using many aspects of what was taught to them by a legendary Coach by the name of Bob Derryberry. Some of these coaches include - Ronnie Hearne, Charles Hearne, Tommy Wilson, Darrell Hearne, Royce Wright, Bill McDonald, and David Rice to name a few.

During his distinguished coaching career, Bob never had a losing season. He won over 500 games, 6 High School District Champions, 4 Regional Playoffs, 2 State Tournaments. At the Jr. College level, he had 2 Regional Berths and coached nationally ranked teams. At the Sr. College level, he won 4 Conference Championships, District IV NAIA Playoffs – 4 times, District IV NAIA Champions – 1 time, NAIA National Tournament – 1 time and nationally ranked teams. He was Conference Coach of the Year – 2 times, Dist IV Coach of the Year Nominee and Coach of the TABC 1986 All-Stars.

Coach Derryberry passed in 2022, leaving behind his wife, Kathy of 37 years and their two children: Donna and Daryl.

Bob Derryberry ~ Basketball Coach 1963