

## 2024 TTFFCA Hall of Fame Names Released



Wylie, Texas  
September 4, 2023

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Track & Field Coaches Association Hall of Fame class will welcome another great roster of Texas Track & Field legends.

### James Barr

“Barr [worked 19 years] in the University of Texas athletics department, where he rose to the position of Associate AD for Events and Game Operations.

“Texas promoted Barr to an assistant AD position in 2012, at which time he assumed oversight of the Texas Relays—the second-largest annual track & field meet in the United States.

“A 2019 recipient of the University of Texas President’s Outstanding Staff Award, Barr was named the 2013 USA Track & Field Meet Director of the Year. He also was selected as the Honorary Referee at the 92<sup>nd</sup> annual Texas Relays in 2019.” – University of Tennessee website

### Chris Beene

“Beene led the SPC (South Plains) track and field program from 2004-2016, compiling one of the most dominant stretches on the track in collegiate history. Under Beene's guidance, SPC captured 32 combined national titles, including a collegiate record of 10 consecutive Men’s Outdoor National Championships.

“During his tenure in Levelland, Beene was named the NJCAA National Coach of the Year 14 times and was named the National Coach of the Meet at NJCAA Championships 25 times. Beene was named the 2016 Texas Track and Field Coaches Association Coach of the Year.” – South Plains website

### Willie Blackmon

"Blackmon ran the third leg on A&M's indoor mile relay that set the world record with a time of 3:05.7 in 1970. He helped the Aggies to the SWC title that season and earned All-America honors in the 880-yard dash in 1971. Blackmon once owned 16 school records." – A&M website

### Billy Foster

"Billy Foster won four state titles at Sunset and five Southwest Conference titles at SMU and tied a world record in the indoor 60-yard dash, qualifying him for the relay of celestial sprinters who blazed across Dallas from the 1950s through '80s.

"Foster's dominance showed early when he won state in the long jump as a junior at Sunset in 1960. His senior year, he hit the trifecta in Austin: the 100-yard dash (9.5), 220 (20.94) and long jump (24 feet, 4 inches).

"A sore hamstring at the '64 NCAA Championships denied Foster a legitimate shot at qualifying for the Olympics, Hill said. But he came back in '65 to win SWC titles in the 100 (9.2 wind-aided) and 220 (20.7), just as he'd done in '63." – Kevin Sherrington, *Dallas Morning News*

### Wes Kittley

Now entering his 25<sup>th</sup> season at the helm of the Texas Tech program, Coach Kittley has compiled an impressive resume: 1 National Championship (2019), 30 NCAA Champions, 283 First Team All-American, 203 Big 12 Champions, 9 Big 12 Team Championships, 20 Olympians, 8 Olympic Medalists, 7 Top-5 NCAA Team Finishes, and 15 Top-10 NCAA Team Finishes. – Texas Tech website.

### Ellen (Smith) Robinson

"Ellen and her twin sister Evelyn started the girls track program at Fort Worth's Green B. Trimble Technical High School. They recruited several friends and the school won four consecutive Class 4A state championships from 1976-79.

"Ellen and Evelyn are the first Black women signed by Texas A&M's track and field program. Ellen a 3-time All-American, finishing third in the nation in the 400 hurdles in 1981. Her career-best time of 58.75 in the 400 hurdles from 1981 ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in school history upon her graduation." – A&M website

### Raevyn Rogers

Rogers won 11 gold medals at Houston Kinkaid, 7 individual and 4 relays before embarking on a successful collegiate and professional career.

Rogers ran on the University of Oregon Ducks women's track and field team until 2017, when she went professional.

Rogers was a six-time NCAA Division I champion and ten-time All-American at University of Oregon. She won three consecutive outdoor 800 meters NCAA and Pac-12 Conference titles (2015, 2016, 2017) as well as the 2017 Women's Bowerman Award.

Raevyn Rogers won a bronze medal in the 800 meters at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, becoming the fourth fastest woman in U.S. history in the event. – Wikipedia and Oregon websites

### Darold Williamson

Williamson not only won the 200 and 400 as a senior at Business Careers HS in San Antonio, but also US and World Junior 400-meter titles. "During a golden era that established Baylor as 'Quartermiler U.,' Darold Williamson was the anchor leg for 4x400 relay teams that won a combined seven Big 12 titles (indoors and outdoors), national indoor titles in 2002 and '04 and the 2004 NCAA Outdoor championship.

“Williamson also had individual success, winning four-straight Big 12 Outdoor 400-meter titles, earning a total of 13 All-America honors and winning the 400 meters at the 2005 NCAA Outdoor Championships with a time of 44.51. In the semifinals, he was clocked in 44.27, which still ranks as the fastest ever run a Baylor sprinter at a collegiate meet.” – Baylor University website

The TTFCA Hall of Fame Induction will take place at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in Waco on January 5, 2024, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

For tickets to the event, please visit <https://www.ttfca.org/hall-of-famers> for information about TTFCA Hall of Famers and attending the 2024 Hall of Fame Induction. If you need further information, please email at [ttfca@hotmail.com](mailto:ttfca@hotmail.com).

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