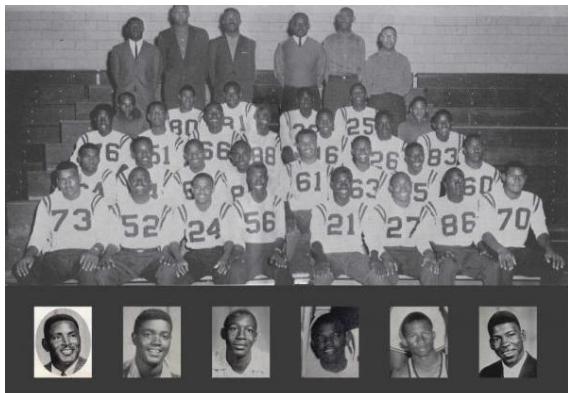


Surprise of the Class: Thetford to be inducted into LISD Hall of Honor with four others

Three teams also set to be inducted Saturday

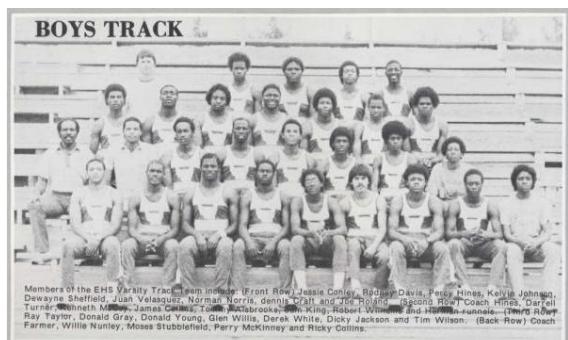
Posted: June 11, 2015



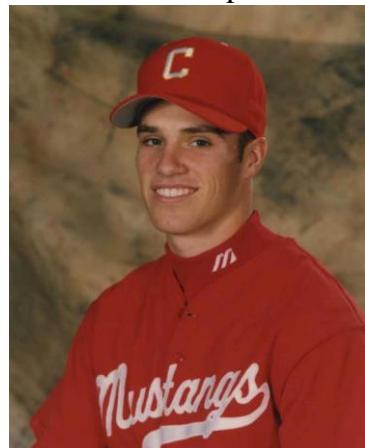
1963 Dunbar High School Football
“State Champions”



1972 Monterey High School Baseball
“State Champions”



1983 Estacado High School Boys
Track and Field
“State Champions”



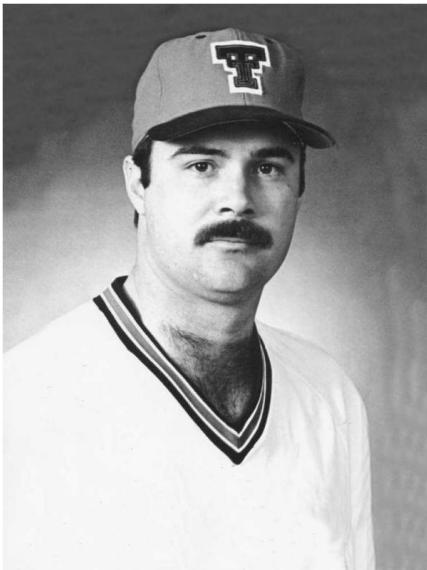
Brad Ralston



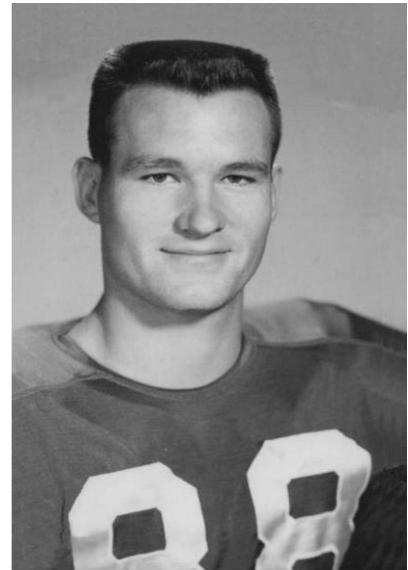
Celestine H. Kyle



David Thetford



Gary Ashby



Pat Hartsfield

By [KRISTA PIRTEL](#)
A-J MEDIA

David Thetford thought this year's Hall of Honor class had already been finalized.

What Thetford, the Chairman of the Board, didn't know was the Board of Directors added his name to the list behind his back.

"I was totally surprised," Thetford said. "At the announcement luncheon, one guy wanted to make an announcement. Then they read my bio and said I was going in the class."

Thetford was inducted under the title of LISD Community Supporter. The Monterey grad hosts a weekly radio show and has broadcast local athletics on radio and television since 1984.

"I couldn't be more pleased and proud to be a part of this," Thetford said. "Working with it like I do, I know how important it is to people. It's so important to me."

While Thetford is pleased to be inducted, he's more so impressed with the rest of this year's LISD class that will be honored at this year's Hall of Honor Award Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center on the Texas Tech campus.

Pat Hartsfield, in his senior season as a Lubbock High football player in 1953, Hartsfield played every minute of every game as a two-way player.

"He was called the 'Iron Man' because he never left the field," Thetford said. "He was one of the all-time greats at Lubbock High, especially during that era. That's really saying something because they had a lot of great players back in that day."

Coronado baseball standout from 1993-95 Brad Ralston finished with a 26-3 high school pitching career and an 18-9 record over 236 innings for Texas Tech. Celestine Hatchett Kyle coached basketball, volleyball and tennis at Dunbar high from 1950-66 and was recognized for not being paid for her work organizing female extracurricular activities during her entire career.

"She was getting girls together to play sports before they had anything to play with," Thetford said. "She was really a pioneer of women's sports."

Rounding out the individual inductees is Gary Ashby who was a part of the state title baseball team at Monterey.

Ashby batted .429 as a sophomore and as a senior in 1973, becoming the only LISD baseball player named to the all-state team.

He went on to start for four seasons at Texas Tech and played five seasons for the San Diego Padres organization. Ashby was inducted into the Texas Tech Athletic Hall of Honor in 1999.

Ashby isn't the only Plainsmen set to be inducted in this year's Hall of Honor. The entire 1972 state title Monterey baseball team is being inducted as well.

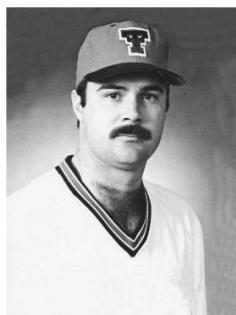
Two more state champion teams — the 1963 Dunbar High football team and the 1983 Estacado boys' track and field team — round out the fifth class for the LISD Hall of Honor.

"This brings honor to the people that distinguish themselves," Thetford said. "Not only individuals but the teams that set themselves apart. Our main thing (we look for) is that they did it with excellence. We hope to inspire young people to want to be in the Hall of Honor someday."

As Thetford prepares for this year's ceremony, his routine won't change much, even though this time around he's more than the emcee.

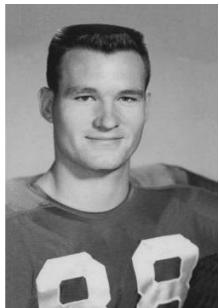
"That's the way I want it to be," he said. "We'll have more family and friends coming in, so that will make it really special."

GARY ASHBY



Ashby was a three-year starter for Monterey under Coach Bobby Moegle. He helped lead the Plainsmen to a state title his sophomore season as he hit .429 on the season. It was the first-ever state championship in Monterey baseball history. Ashby was the first-ever Plainsman, and Lubbock ISD baseball player, to receive first-team all-state honors. He went on to start for four seasons at Texas Tech and played five seasons for the San Diego Padres organization. Ashby was inducted into the Texas Tech Athletic Hall of Honor in 1999.

PAT HARTSFIELD



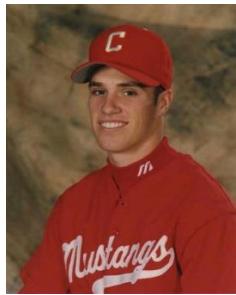
Hartsfield, a two-way player for Lubbock High from 1951-53, never stepped off the field in his final high school season. He helped lead the Westerners to their second consecutive state title in 1952 while garnering a variety of postseason honors. In his career, he was named an All-State performer in both 1952 and 1953. As a starter for two seasons, he led Lubbock High in tackles. His senior season, Hartsfield also led the team in receptions. Hartsfield played college ball at Texas Tech and was among eight honored at the Texas Tech Athletic Hall of Fame and Hall of Honor inductions in 2013.

CELESTINE HATCHETT KYLE



Kyle introduced and organized girl's athletics at Dunbar High School. The science and health teacher, who later taught physical education at the school, also coached basketball, volleyball and tennis. She also helped with the pep squad, flag team, cheerleaders and band majorettes. At the time when she was helping to get the girls involved, there were no after-school activities for girls to take part in. During her 32-year career at Lubbock ISD, she was never hired, nor paid, for her hours of performing her coaching duties. She even used her own money to purchase basketballs. Kyle, a former standout tennis player on the college level, retired from Lubbock ISD in 1981.

BRAD RALSTON



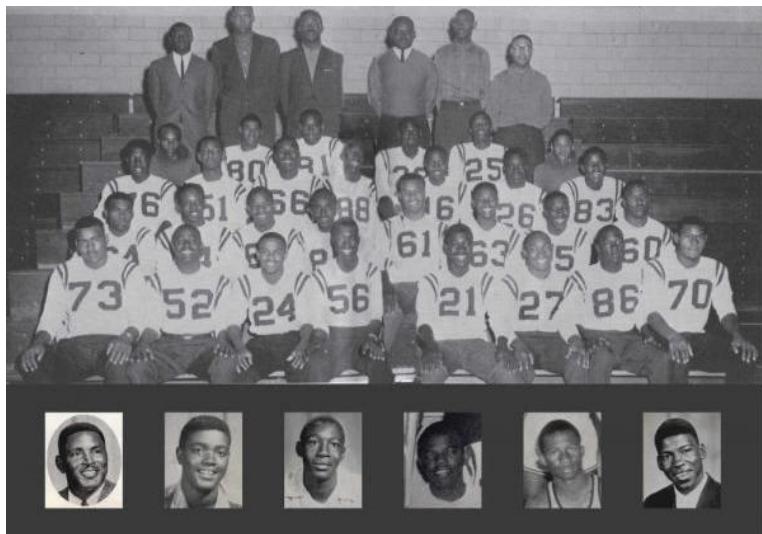
A three-year letterman from 1993-95, Ralston helped lead Coronado to the state tournament in 1995. Over his final two years for the Mustangs, Ralston had a 26-3 overall record, including the 16-2 mark his senior season. As a senior, he posted a 1.21 ERA in over 91 innings of work with three one-hit contests. He received All-State honors his final two seasons as well. Ralston played his college ball at Texas Tech, appearing in 85 games and posting an 18-9 record with 14 saves over his four-year career. He was a 1999 draft pick of the Milwaukee Brewers.

DAVID THETFORD



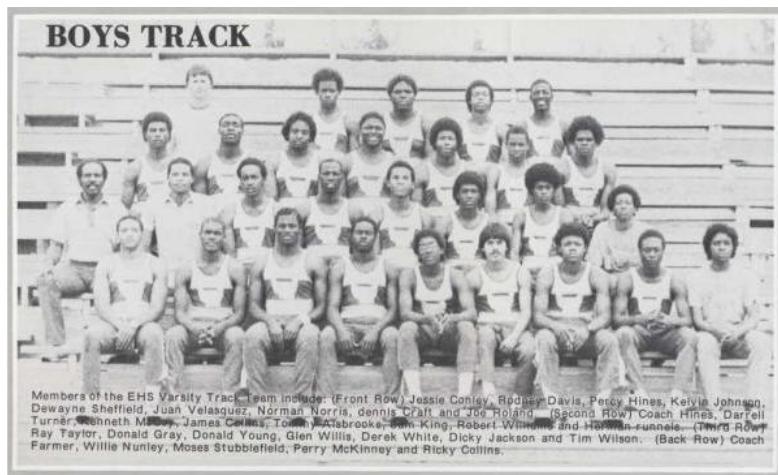
Thetford began broadcasting LISD athletics in 1984 and has had a hand in promoting the schools in the community since that time. He began a radio sports talk show career in 1992 when he was a guest host for Jack Dale's show. He, along with Ashby, began their own "Sportstalk with Thetford and Ashby" in 2009. Thetford is currently the President of the Board of Directors for the Greater South Plains Fellowship of Christian Athletes and is the Chairman of the LISD Hall of Honor Board.

1963 DUNBAR HIGH FOOTBALL TEAM



On December 14, 1963, the Dunbar Panthers claimed the first and only state championship in football in the school's history by defeating Conroe Washington 19-14 to claim the Prairie View A&M Scholastic League Class 2A title. The Panthers were in the state title game for the second straight year, ready to avenge their 40-6 loss to Wharton Training School the year before.

1983 ESTACADO HIGH BOYS' TRACK AND FIELD



Members of the EHS Varsity Track Team include: (Front Row) Jessie Conigly, Rodney Davis, Percy Hines, Kelvin Johnson, Dewayne Sheffield, Juan Velasquez, Norman Norris, Dennis Cason and Joe Roland. (Second Row) Coach Hines, Darrell Turner, Kenneth Murray, James Collins, Tom Atabrook, Steve King, Robert Williams and Herman Daniels. (Third Row) Ray Taylor, Donald Gray, Donald Young, Glen Willis, Derek White, Dicky Jackson and Tim Wilson. (Back Row) Coach Farmer, Willie Nunley, Moses Stubblefield, Perry McKinney and Ricky Collins.

The Estacado High School boys' track and field squad won the state title in 1982, 1983 and 1986. To claim the school's second consecutive UIL State Championship under coach Percy Hines, the Matadors won the state track meet with an overall team total of 54, yet not a single individual title was won. Contributions from the entire team were needed to win in 1983.

1972 MONTEREY HIGH BASEBALL



Monterey won its first state championship in 1972 under Coach Bobby Moegle, who went on to be named the National High School Baseball Coach of the Year. The Plainsmen returned only three starters from a 1971 squad that went 33-3 and fell in the state title game to Houston Bellaire. To win the title in 1972, Monterey had to take on Houston Bellaire once again in the state title game.

krista.pirtle@lubbockonline.com

• 766-8735

Follow Krista on Twitter

@AJ_KristaPirtle