



PENSACOLA  
STATE COLLEGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 4, 2019

CONTACT: Sheila Nichols at 850-484-1428

or [snichols@pensacolastate.edu](mailto:snichols@pensacolastate.edu)

# Five honorees to be inducted into PSC's 2020 Athletics Hall of Fame

Five of Pensacola State's most-accomplished Pirates will make up the College's 2020 Athletes Hall of Fame class.

The inductees – Doug Bates, former PSC baseball player and president of the PSC Foundation; Vicki Carson, former Lady Pirates basketball coach; Dr. Donn Peery, former PSC athletic director; Brenda Pena, former PSC softball player and softball coach; and Dan Shugart, longtime PSC supporter and WEAR-TV 3 sports director – were announced Wednesday, Dec. 4, at a press conference in the Donn Peery Room at Hartsell Arena on the Pensacola campus.

The second Hall of Fame class will be inducted at a ceremony set for approximately 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, between the men and women's basketball games in Hartsell Arena.

Hall of Fame inductees include student-athletes, participants, advisers, coaches, directors, administrators, contest officials, media personnel, sports medicine personnel, athletic trainers or distinguished volunteers who exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship, moral character and ethical conduct.

The 2020 inductees:

- Bates, a Pensacola Junior College standout first basemen and outfielder, is an attorney with Clark Partington, Attorneys at Law in Pensacola.

A Pensacola native, he is a 1998 PJC graduate – playing two years on the Pirates baseball squad under head coach Bill Hamilton. From PJC, Bates joined the Birmingham-Southern College Panthers, where he played in the 1999 and 2000 NAIA World Series tournaments. He also set a national record in hits by pitches for the NAIA in 2000.

While a student-athlete, Bates was selected an NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American in 1997 and 1998, received the national Lea Plarski Award in 1998, chosen for All Conference Teams in 1998 and 2000 and named an NAIA Academic All-American in 2000 while playing for Birmingham-Southern College.

An active member of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, Bates serves on the section's Executive Council as well as several substantive committees. He also is a member of the Florida Bar Standing Committee on Student Education and Bar Admissions, and numerous other local, state and national organizations.

An AV Rated Lawyer by Martindale-Hubbell, Bates was included in the Florida Trends Elite, Florida Super Lawyers, Chambers and Partners USA Leading Business Lawyers and Best Lawyers in America listings.

In 2018, Bates received the Pensacola Chamber's PACE Award as the city's Emerging Business Leader of the Year. And in 2019, he was named Member of the Year by the Florida Bar Business Law Section.

A graduate of Pensacola Catholic High School, Bates earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Birmingham-Southern College and his Juris doctorate from the University of Florida's Levin College of Law.

A staunch community advocate, he is a member of the Pensacola Sports Association and is active with Bill Bond Baseball League, First Tee of Northwest Florida and the American Cancer Society.

Bates and his wife, Lisa, have four children and live in Pensacola.

- Carson spent nearly 35 years at Pensacola State with 25 of those years (1985-2005) as the Lady Pirates' head basketball coach.

During her tenure, the Lady Pirates won the 1985 Florida College Athletic Association (FCAA) State Basketball Championship and she was named FCAA Coach of the Year. She compiled a 515-189 record and had a national tournament appearance.

The Lady Pirates under Carson's helm also made 15 State Final Four appearances, was a state championship runner-up and won nine Panhandle Conference Championships. Her Lady Pirates included four NJCAA All-Americans, 29 FCAA All-State Players, 50 FCAA Academic All-State Players, two Sandy Miller FCAA Academic Award winners and 100 Panhandle All-Conference Players.

She placed 100 percent of her student-athletes in universities, and her players had a 98 percent graduation rate.

After stepping down as head basketball coach, Carson was an associate professor and human performance and recreation coordinator at Pensacola State from 2005-2015.

An Arkansas native, Carson earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 1975 and a master's degree from the University of Alabama in 1976.

A pioneer on many sports fronts, Carson was the first woman to receive an athletic scholarship in the state of Arkansas – she was a four-year starter on the Arkansas women's volleyball and basketball teams. She was a member of Arkansas' 1974 state championship volleyball squad.

Carson also was a member of the Arkansas tennis team and was the No. 2 singles player and a member of the No. 1 doubles team.

While at Alabama, she served as the university's assistant basketball and volleyball coaches and was a graduate assistant in the physical education and women's athletics departments. She also taught personal fitness, sports officiating and activity classes.

Before coming to Pensacola State, she was a teacher and the head volleyball and basketball coach at Central High School in West Helena, Arkansas. She won one state championship as a volleyball coach, three district championships and one overall state championship. And Carson started the basketball program at the high school.

Carson also was an assistant track coach, and won two district track championships and made three appearances at the state championship.

The Panhandle Conference Trophy was named in her honor and she has been inducted into the Pensacola Sports Association Hall of Fame, the FCCAA Hall of Fame in 2006, the Florida Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2007, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Hall of Fame in 2007 and the NJCAA 500 Win Club.

She was once recognized as having the most wins in FCCAA Women's Basketball history and was ranked No. 6 by the NJCAA for Most Basketball Wins.

Carson and her husband, Matt, live in Pensacola.

- Peery is a 1957 Pensacola Junior College graduate, and a military veteran – having served in the U.S. Army as a police officer.

After leaving PJC, Peery went on to Florida State University, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. He then taught physical education in Miami public schools for seven years before joining Miami-Dade Community College.

While at Miami-Dade, Peery earned his doctorate in administration of higher education from the University of Miami.

In 1978, he returned to Pensacola State as the Director of Athletics. Over the next 21 years, he also served as Physical Education Chairman, District Dean of Student Affairs, Interim Vice President of Academics and Provost of the Community Campus.

Peery also was the Panhandle Conference Chairman of Athletics for 15 years, vice president and president of the FCAA, a member of the executive board for National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators and the founding president of the Florida Council of Athletic Affairs.

Peery retired from Pensacola State College in 2000. He had worked 37 ½ years in Florida's public education system – 31 ½ of that time in the Florida Community College System.

He and his wife, June, have two children and two grandchildren. The Peerys now live in The Villages, Florida.

- Pena, a trailblazer, is a Pensacola native and a Woodham High School and Pensacola Junior College graduate.

A former PSC softball player, Pena served as the head softball coach and academic adviser at Pensacola State from 1997 to 2015. She also taught at Woodham High from 1985 to 1987 and was the head softball coach there.

Over her tenure at Pensacola State, Pena was the 2003 Panhandle Conference Softball Coach of the Year when she led the Pirates to a conference championship. She has recorded more than 924 combined wins during her career.

At Woodham High, Pena holds the record for the most varsity letters – 12 – among male and female students. She earned four letters in softball, four in basketball, two in track and field and two in volleyball.

Pena also was the first student to sign a softball scholarship with PJC in 1982.

After graduating from the College in 1982, she transferred to the University of Florida where she played softball and was a member of the state championship Gators softball team, which finished third in the nation and received NCAA All-American honors.

In 1985, Pena earned a bachelor's degree in health, exercise science and kinesiology from Florida. In 1994, she earned her master's degree in Health and Life Sciences and physical education from the University of West Florida.

Pena was a member of the Key Ford Mustangs Women's Major Open Softball Team, which won national championships in 1985 and 1987 and All-American Honors in 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1988.

She also was a member of the Nashville, Tennessee-based UPI Women's Major Open Softball Team that was the 1992 and 1993 national champions. She also won All-American Honors there in 1991 and 1993.

Over her career, Pena recorded 924 coaching wins, was a seven-time All-American and five-time national champion. In 2019, the Panhandle Conference Softball Academic Award has renamed the Brenda Pena Academic Trophy.

Active in the community, Pena currently serves on the board of directors of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She was the first female inducted into the Pensacola North Rotary in 1999 and was named Rotarian Paul Harris Fellow in

2001. She also received a special award from the Florida Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Pena is married to Pete Pena, PSC's head men's basketball coach. The couple has one daughter, Rebecca.

- Shugart has covered Pensacola State College athletics since 1981.

He began his broadcasting career in 1980 when he took a part-time reporting job at WBSR-1450 AM in Pensacola. That fall, he was the play-by-play announcer for the Pensacola Wings semi-pro football team, which led to his hiring at WEAR in March 1981.

At the television station, Shugart worked as a weekend sports anchor and general assignment news reporter. He was promoted to sports director in December 1982.

Shugart's interest in sports comes from his father, an All-America basketball player at the U.S. Naval Academy. Like most Navy kids, Shugart moved a lot as a child, living in Maryland, California, Rhode Island, Hawaii and Virginia. After graduating from a San Diego high school where he played baseball and basketball, he went on to UCLA in time to witness the final two years of the great John Wooden basketball dynasty. In 1979, he graduated from UCLA with a degree in history

In addition to his WEAR duties, Shugart provided play-by-play commentary for high school football games on WSRE-TV in the 1980s, where he covered Emmitt Smith and Derrick Brooks.

He freelanced for WSRE's broadcasts of Pensacola State basketball and baseball; was the radio voice of the Pensacola Tornados pro basketball team for five years, and Pensacola Ice Pilots hockey games on WEAR. He also has called WEAR's broadcasts of Pensacola Blue Wahoos baseball games.

In 2015, he received the Southern League Media Award, has twice earned the Associated Press award for the top story in Florida, and was cited by Special

Olympics as Florida's Broadcaster of the Year. Shugart coached youth basketball and joined his father in the Pensacola Sports Hall of Fame with his election in 2006.

Shugart and his wife, Beth, live in Pensacola.

**CUTLINES:** Doug Bates.jpg, Vicki Carson.jpg, Donn Peery.jpg, Brenda Pena.jpg, Dan Shugart.jpg