

## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



# TOP 150 SPORTS MOMENTS

The 150 significant moments in Colorado's sports history will be announced weekly leading up to the state's sesquicentennial (150th) birthday on August 1, the date Colorado was admitted to the Union as the 38th state in 1876. A committee with over 275 years of involvement in Centennial State sports is selecting the moments we will count down at a rate of five per week, then daily for the top 10 by the end of July. Colorado. David Plati, the Colorado Sports Hall of



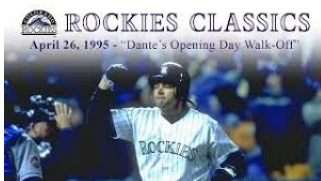
Fame historian, has identified more than 1,930 of these moments, all listed chronologically by date to indicate their importance at the time. The Denver Gazette has partnered with the CSHOF to publicize Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Plati and Denver Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on the CSHOF podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](https://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 46 - October 22, 1973.** Declared "Orange Monday", the Broncos finally made their first appearance on Monday Night Football (the 25th out of 26 teams in the league at the time to be selected for the primo prime time slot). The opponent was the arch-nemesis, the Oakland Raiders. Billy Thompson returned a fumble 80 yards for the game's first score; Oakland countered with an 80-yard play of its own, a TD pass from Ken Stabler to Mike Siani. But field goals ruled the roost on this night, with Oakland's George Blanda making three as did Denver's Jim Turner, whose 35-yarder with three seconds remaining forged a 23-23 tie. At the time, it was the most-watched Bronco game locally and nationally.



**No. 47 - March 30-April 1, 1990.** In one of the last cities to host a Final Four in a basketball setting at McNichols Arena, Duke beat Arkansas in the first semifinal, 97-83, with UNLV defeating Georgia Tech in the second, 90-81. In the championship game, UNLV routed Duke, 103-73. Coach Jerry Tarkanian's Runnin' Rebels averaged 95.2 points for the six tournament games and finished with a 35-5 record.

**No. 48 - December 20, 2014.** Just six years after coach John Wristen and devout donors resurrected the program, the CSU Pueblo won the NCAA Division II title with a 13-0 win over No. 1 Minnesota State. The T-Wolves (14-1) held the Mavericks to just 265 yards, nearly 200 under their season average. Chris Bonner threw for 191 yards and a touchdown, and Cameron McDondle ran for 113 yards to lead the offensive attack. CSU Pueblo reached the title game with three home wins in the playoffs, defeating Angelo State (52-14), Ohio Dominican (31-28), and West Georgia (10-7).



**No. 49 - April 26, 1995.** In their first game at Coors Field, the Colorado Rockies had to rally from a run down three different times. Trailing 7-6 in the ninth, Larry Walker doubled to right field, scoring Walt Weiss to tie the game. Then, behind 8-7 in the 13th, Jim Tatum lined a double to left field, scoring Mike Kingery, tying the game once again. With the Mets ahead 9-8, Dante Bichette hit the first home run by a Rockies at Coors, a three-run shot with one out, scoring Joe Girardi and Andres Galarraga for an 11-8 Colorado win in 14 innings.

**No. 50 - December 14, 2024.** The second Heisman Trophy winner in the state was awarded to Colorado's two-way star, Travis Hunter. He caught 96 passes for 1,258 yards and 15 touchdowns, with four interceptions and 11 pass deflections on defense. The first player in history to be named first-team on both offense and defense on the Walter Camp Foundation's All-America team, he followed Deion Sanders to Colorado from Jackson State in 2023. In the closest Heisman race since 2009, he bested Boise State's Ashton Jeanty by 217 points.



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



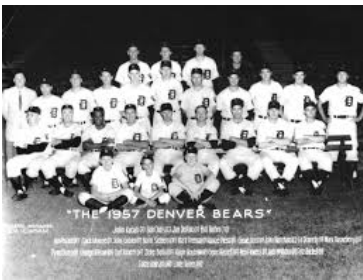
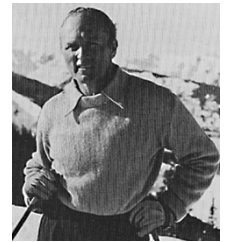
**No. 51 - December 1, 1984.** The Denver Bears are sold to the Dikeou brothers - John, George, and Deno - by longtime owners Gerald and Allan Phipps for an estimated \$2.5 million. The team will begin play the next season under a new name – the Denver Zephyrs. John Dikeou was an original - and influential - member of the Metro Sports Committee, and the Dikeou's purchase of the Bears began a seven-year pursuit to land major league baseball in Denver. The brothers had attended major league baseball's summer meetings in Philadelphia to plant seeds for Denver with the expansion committee. (The team would move to New Orleans after the 1992 season once the Colorado Rockies were set to begin play in 1993.)

**No. 52 - July 7, 1998.** Coors Field hosted Denver's first major league All-Star game, and with 51,267 in attendance, the scoring-fest transpired as predicted, with the American League outslugging the National League, 13-8. Alex Rodriguez and Roberto Alomar hit home runs for the AL, with Barry Bonds knocking one out for the NL. Trailing 2-0 after three innings, the AL scored at least one run in every remaining frame, including four in the fourth and three in the ninth to seal the win. Baltimore's Alomar was the MVP, as he was 3-for-4 with a home run, two runs scored, an RBI, and a stolen base.



**No. 53 - August 23, 2001.** In one of the most impressive debuts in major league history, Colorado pitcher Jason Jennings pitched a complete game, 10-0 shutout of the New York Mets at Shea Stadium. He allowed five hits and struck out eight; at the plate, he went 3-for-5 with two runs batted in while capping the scoring with a home run hit deep to right field in the top of the 9th. Jennings would spend six seasons with the Rockies, compiling a 58-56 record before finishing his career with Houston for one season and Texas for two.

**No. 54 - March 7, 1954.** The University of Denver won the inaugural NCAA Ski Championship, held over three days in Reno, Nev. In the final competition of the event, DU's Billy Olson and John Cress finished one-two in the jumping, enabling the Pioneers to pull away from the pack with 384 points. Seattle University was next (349.6), followed by Colorado (348.6), Idaho (348.5), and Wyoming (347.8) in the hotly contested battle for second. Coach Willy Schaeffler's DU teams would win the first four titles (and 13 of the first 17, finishing second in the four it did not win). Overall, through 2026, DU has won the most ski titles (24), with Colorado second (20).



**No. 55 - September 21, 1957.** In just its third year competing in triple-A baseball, Denver won its first American Association title with a 14-3 win over St. Paul, as the Bears bested the Saints four games to two. Denver finished second in the regular season with a 90-64 record, three games back of Wichita, and then swept Minneapolis in four games to reach the championship series. In the title-clincher in Denver, Marv Throneberry led the attack with two home runs and four driven in, while Zack Monroe pitched a complete game 9-hitter. With the win, Denver advanced to the Little World Series against International League champion Buffalo. The Bears, the AAA affiliate of the New York Yankees, were

managed by future N.Y. manager Ralph Houk.

**No. 56 - September 30, 1983.** The inaugural "Denver Dream" old-timers game was played before 56,818 fans at Mile High Stadium; the Barry Fey-produced exhibition drew over 40 prominent former major leaguers to town to play and participate in a home run-hitting contest (won by Harmon Killebrew). The American League bested the National League, 17-10, with Baltimore Orioles third-base legend Brooks Robinson leading the way, going 3-for-5 with a home run and five runs batted in. Others who appeared in the game included Hank Aaron, Ernie Banks, Bob Feller, Whitey Ford, Willie Mays, Tony Oliva, Warren Spahn, and former Denver Bear, Marv Throneberry, with Joe DiMaggio and Leo Durocher on hand to sign autographs.



**Star gazing**  
 They right prior to the sign of "The Denver Dream" Old-Timers All-Star game at Mile High Stadium. The American League (left) and National League (right) players sign autographs for fans prior to the start of the game.



**No. 57 - November 4, 1989.** "Things Have Changed" remained lit on the Folsom Field scoreboard through the weekend after No. 2 Colorado defeated No. 3 Nebraska, 27-21, paving the way for CU's first Big Eight title since 1976 and the Orange Bowl berth that went with it. The Huskers scored a touchdown on their first play, the only lead they would have had all afternoon; the Buffs tied it on one of the most memorable plays in school history, a 70-yard touchdown where Darian Hagan ran for the first 40 and then pitched it to J.J. Flannigan for the remainder.

## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments

**No. 58 - March 20, 2012.** The Broncos dipped into the free agent market and landed four-time league MVP Peyton Manning. He missed the entire 2011 season with a neck injury after he started 208 straight games with Indianapolis to begin his career. Manning would lead Denver to a 13-3 record, passing for 4,659 yards and 37 touchdowns in completing a career-best 68.6 percent of his passes.



**No. 59 - March 26, 2014.** The Regis Jesuit girls' basketball team was ranked No. 3 in the nation in the final polls by both USA Today and MaxPreps. Coach Carl Mattei's team was the highest-ranked team from the state ever, topping the No. 8 ranking that ThunderRidge achieved in 2005. The Rangers finished 26-2 (both losses to out-of-state teams), won their second straight 5A state title, won their games by an average score of 70-38, defeated No. 1 Riverdale Baptist 61-48 and were the first prep team in the country to have two Gatorade Players of the Year in Diani Akigbogun and Justine Hall. Unfortunately, Regis, one of four teams invited to battle for the

National Championship at Madison Square Garden, was denied the opportunity by the CHSAA (which changed its rules a year later), but six of its players went on to play in college.

**No. 60 - March 20, 1937.** The Denver Safeway's defeated the top-ranked Phillips Oilers from Bartlesville, Okla., 43-38, to win their first National AAU basketball title. The 6,500-plus in attendance at the downtown Auditorium Arena witnessed Denver break a 37-all tie with seven minutes remaining and never trail again: after a free throw from Jack McCracken and a Ter Colvin tip-in of a missed shot – he was fouled, made the free throw for a 41-37 lead and the Safeways went on to win (and again in '39 and '42). The tournament had moved to Denver from Kansas City three years earlier. Later in the year, the inventor of basketball, Dr. James A.



Naismith, visited Denver and saw the Safeways deal Oklahoma City a 55-34 drubbing in AAU play. Naismith, 76, said afterward, "I think that is the greatest team I've ever seen."



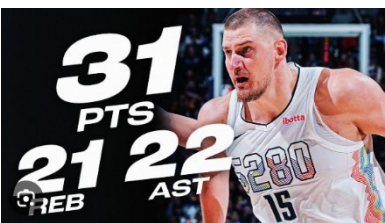
**No. 61 - December 13, 1969.** Though the credit for integration for Alabama and the SEC always falls to USC after it blew out the Crimson Tide, 42-21, in 1970, Bear Bryant got a taste of an integrated team in the '69 Liberty Bowl. CU walloped Alabama, 47-33, with several black players, including a team captain, **Bill Collins**. In a tasteless move, Alabama sent over 40 players out for the coin toss. Not to be intimidated, the two other tri-captains, **Bobby Anderson** and **Mike Pruett**, stopped a few yards short and let Collins take the last few steps to

midfield. Racist 'Bama fans were yelling the "N" word at CU all game long, prompting the normally reserved **Bill Brundige** to explode at halftime, screaming in the locker room, "Did you hear what they are calling our Black brothers?" But in the end, Colorado scored 16 fourth-quarter points, Brundige had five of CU's eight quarterback sacks, Collins was in on 14 tackles, and **Eddie Crowder's** Buffs got the best of the Bryant and the Tide.

**No. 62 - January 23, 2024.** The second Colorado Rockies got *the* call, as **Todd Helton** learned he would join Larry Walker in the Baseball Hall of Fame. Helton played all 17 of his major league seasons in Denver, finishing with a career batting average of .316 with 369 home runs and 1,335 runs batted in; he also belted 592 doubles and owned a career fielding percentage of .996, winning three Gold Glove awards. Through 2025, only 193 players in MLB history who played 10 or more seasons spent their entire career with one team; Helton is tied for 41st on that list with his 17 years as a Rockies player.



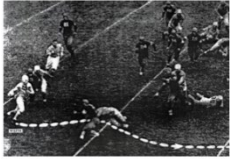
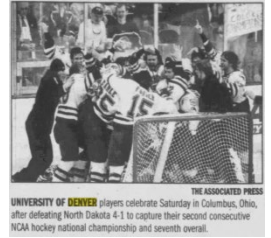
## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



**No. 63 - March 7, 2025.** In Denver's 149-141 overtime win over Phoenix at Ball Arena, **Nikola Jokic** recorded the first-ever "30-20-20" triple-double in NBA history: 31 points, 21 rebounds and 22 assists – and in fact, it was just the third-ever 20-20-20 game, previously done by Wilt Chamberlain and Russell Westbrook (and was actually the first 24-18-18 game and only the eighth-ever 20-15-15 game, Jokic's second of his career; his first was against Sacramento six weeks earlier). Also, the 22 assists were an NBA record for a center.

## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments

**No. 64 - April 9, 2005.** The University of Denver claimed its seventh NCAA hockey title with a 4-1 win over North Dakota; the Pioneers had advanced to the final after defeating rival Colorado College, 6-2, two days earlier. DU's **George Gwozdecky** was named the national coach of the year for leading DU to back-to-back titles after not claiming one since 1969. It was the third time the Pioneers were crowned back-to-back champions, having done so in 1960-1961 and 1968-1969, and just the fourth repeat titlist in the NCAA's 58-year history.



**No. 65 - November 6, 1937.** CU All-American **Byron White** single-handedly beats Utah at Salt Lake City, 17-7, in one of his greatest games ever. He returned a punt 95 yards, scored another touchdown on a 57-yard sprint, kicked a 15-yard field goal, and kicked both extra points in accounting for all of CU's points; the previous year in Boulder, he scored 25 of CU's points in a 31-7 win over Utah. The win prevented Utah from tying CU for the league title and vaulted CU into the Associated Press Top 20 for the first time at No. 16.

**No. 66 - August 14, 1948.** A record Western League crowd of 10,884 watched the Denver Bears defeat the Sioux City Soos, 9-5, in the inaugural game in Bears Stadium, which was readied for play just days before. Willie Skeen went 3-for-5 with two doubles and a triple, driving in three runs to pace the Bears. The new ballpark had lights installed from the get-go, and the inaugural game was played under the lights. The next day, in the second game of a doubleheader, Sioux City centerfielder Billy Pavlick hit the first home run in the new park. On Sept. 3, in a 5-0 loss to Des Moines, a new attendance record was set – 12,752. It had several updates throughout its 62-year history and was renamed Mile High Stadium in 1968.



**No. 67 - March 15, 1940.** The University of Colorado returned to the N.I.T. for the second time in three years, but this time won the trophy with a 51-40 win over Duquesne. CU's Bob Doll was named the tournament's most valuable player, as he led all scorers with 31 points. The Buffaloes defeated DePaul in the semifinal two nights earlier, 52-37, to force a rematch with the Dukes, who beat CU at home, 47-45, two months earlier and advanced to the final by beating Oklahoma. Coach Frosty Cox was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 2014.

**No. 68 - February 14, 1950.** Dubbed Denver's "Queen of the Fairways," the Associated Press named Babe Zaharias as the Greatest Female Athlete of the first half of the 20th Century. Living in the Denver area for much of the 1940s and spending time at the Zaharias family farm in Pueblo, she was cited for prowess in both track & field and golf. During her time living in Colorado, she won 17 straight golf tournaments - including the U.S. Women's Amateur and the Ladies' British Open Amateur (on June 24 at Cherry Hills Country Club, she won what was considered a major at the time, the Women's Western Open for the fourth time).



**No. 69 - March 13, 1969.** In the only postseason match-up of two Colorado Division I basketball programs, Colorado State defeated No. 18 Colorado, 64-56, in the NCAA Midwest Regional in Manhattan, Kan. The Rams, who earned an at-large entry, had four players in double figures, led by Cliff Shegogg with 20, while Cliff Meely scored 32 points for CU, the Big Eight Conference champion, but had little support otherwise. Two days later, in the Elite Eight, the Rams lost to Drake, 84-77.

**No. 70 - October 6, 1968.** After Steve Tensi was injured early on and other quarterbacks were sidelined, the Broncos turned to Marlin Briscoe to start in the fourth game of the season against the expansion Cincinnati Bengals at Bears Stadium. Briscoe, a rookie from Omaha University, was selected by Denver in the 14th round of the '68 AFL-NFL Draft. He became the first African-American to start a game at quarterback in professional football, whether in the AFL or the NFL. It was a defensive battle, and Tensi wound up coming off the bench to throw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Mike Haffner late in the game to rally Denver to a 10-7 win.



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



**No. 71 - October 15, 1984.** In one of the more memorable Monday Night Football games - the 200th televised by ABC - Denver defeated Green Bay in blizzard conditions at Mile High Stadium. The Packers fumbled on their first two plays, **Steve Foley** recovering the first and returning it 22 yards for a touchdown, with **Louis Wright** doing the same from 27 yards to give the Broncos a 14-0 lead 37 seconds into the game. Denver held on to win, 17-14, as a 30-yard second-quarter field goal by the bare-footed **Rich Karlis** was the difference for the

62,546 that braved the elements to attend in person. Foley (2026) and Wright (1992) are Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductees as well as in the Broncos Ring of Fame.

**No. 72 - November 19, 1994.** Less than two years after hiring Sonny Lubick as the head football coach on December 21, 1992, Colorado State earned its first Western Athletic Conference win since joining the league in 1968 with a 44-42 win at Fresno State. The Bulldogs jumped out to a 24-3 second-quarter lead, but three touchdown runs by **E.J. Watson** pulled CSU even in the third quarter. A 30-yard blocked punt return for a score by **Raymond Jackson** put the Rams ahead for good at 31-27, and some distance was created when **Antoney Hill** and **Paul Turner** connected on a 78-yard TD pass. The No. 10 Rams improved to 10-1 with the win and are 7-1 in WAC play. CSU's first league title since 1955 (Skyline) secured a Holiday Bowl berth opposite Michigan. Lubick was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 2009.

### Rams get a Holiday



**No. 73 - May 31-June 1, 1974.** In the NCAA baseball District 7 playoffs in Greeley, Northern Colorado swept the series against No. 1-ranked Arizona, defeating the Wildcats 6-5 in the first game and 6-2 in the second to earn a trip to the College World Series. The Bears, who swept Gonzaga to reach the finals, improved to 31-11 on the season and ended Arizona's season with a 58-6 record in one of the all-time upsets in NCAA history. **Rick Thoren** (7-1) scattered five hits, and UNC broke a 2-2 tie with two runs in both the sixth and seventh innings in the series finale for Coach Tom Petroff, a 2002 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee.

**No. 74 - June 9, 2018.** CU women's basketball coach Ceal Barry was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. In 22 seasons coaching the Buffaloes, she compiled a 427-242 record, leading CU to four conference titles, 12 total NCAA tournament berths, with six NCAA Sweet 16's and three Elite Eighths. Hired on April 12, 1983, to replace Sox Walseth, Barry coached her last game at CU on March 2, 2005. She was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.



**No. 75 - October 29, 1922.** In what was billed at the time as "the biggest thing in the history of Denver baseball," **Babe Ruth** came to Denver (with fellow New York Yankee **Bob Meusel**) to play in an exhibition at Merchants Park. Ruth played on Carl Milliken's "Whiz-Bangs" while Meusel suited up for the Denver Bears. Ruth went 5-for-5 with two home runs, a double, two singles, and a stolen base, leading the Whiz-Bangs to a 9-6 win (Meusel was 2-for-4 with two singles). Prior to the game, Ruth and state golf champion **Larry Bromfield** attempted to break the world record for driving a golf ball (350 yards), but cold temperatures (in the 40's) prevented a new record.

**No. 76, September 9, 1960.** A 59-yard pass play from 1983 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Frank Tripucka to Al Carmichael and a 76-yard punt return by **Gene Mingo** gave the underdog Denver Broncos a 13-10 win over the Boston Patriots as the American Football League ushered in its initial season before 21,597 fans at Boston University Field. In the preseason, the Broncos lost 43-6 to the Patriots. Mingo, a 2014 Bronco Ring of Fame inductee, also became the first Black placekicker in professional football during this game.



**No. 77, July 11, 1949.** The grand opening of the Mile High Kennel Club took place, officially bringing greyhound dog racing to the Denver metro area. Built on property in Adams County, the grandstand seated 3,800 people. That same year, the Rocky Mountain Kennel Club in Colorado Springs (July 1) and the Pueblo Kennel Club (Aug. 1) also began operations, with two others emerging in later years (Cloverleaf in Loveland, Interstate in Byers). Dog racing would cease in 2008 and eventually be officially outlawed in the state in 2014.

## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments

**No. 78, June 21, 1975.** The first Red Zinger Bicycle Classic, sponsored by Boulder's Celestial Seasonings (and later the Coors Brewing Company in 1979), is run for the first time. The race attracted the top cyclists in the world; three-time Olympians John Howard and Hannah North won the first men's and women's titles. In later years, Tour de France champions Greg LeMond (1981, 1985) and Bernard Hinault (1986) won Coors men' titles; Connie Carpenter (1995 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee), a 1984 Olympic gold medalist, won three Zinger/Coors crowns (1977, 1981, 1982), with her husband, Davis Phinney (2006 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee), winning the last men's title in 1988 before the race went defunct. At its peak, it was the fourth-largest race in the world.



**No. 79, March 26, 1949.** The Regis Rangers won the inaugural National Catholic Invitational Basketball (NCIB) tournament in its only appearance, defeating St. Francis, N.Y., 51-47. Held in Denver, Regis defeated Iona (63-51), St. Francis, Pa. (66-49), and Loyola, Md. (67-60) to reach the championship game. Coached by 1997 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Larry Varnell, Regis finished with a 34-3 record; the tournament went defunct after 1952. The first NCAA championships in any sport were held in the state when Colorado A&M hosted the 19th NCAA Wrestling Championships in its South College Gymnasium. Oklahoma A&M won its 16th wrestling title; the host Aggies finished 10th. A&M also hosted the 1952 event - CU tied for sixth.

**No. 80, December 9, 1979.** Bruce Ford (1996 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee), from Kersey, won his first of five world titles in rodeo bareback riding. He went on to capture the titles in 1980, 1982, 1983, and 1987. During his career, he shattered or tied every bareback riding record: all-time bareback earnings; most NFR bareback qualifications (18); and tied for the most world bareback champion titles with five. In 1982, he became the first cowboy to win more than \$100,000 in a single event in one year and had over \$1 million in career earnings.



**No. 81 - May 28, 1979.** The first BolderBOULDER is held, starting and ending on the streets of Boulder. The co-creation of Bank of Boulder president **Steve Bosley** and Olympic medalist **Frank Shorter**, the inaugural race had 2,200 finishers. In 1981, in cooperation with the University of Colorado, the race's finish was moved to Folsom Field, with Olympic medalist **Frank Shorter** the winner, and in the years since, has annually drawn anywhere from 40-50,000 runners (over 1.5 million finishers through 2025); the event is the third largest 10k race in the nation and ends with the country's largest Memorial Day celebration.

**No. 82 - November 21, 2010.** The Colorado Rapids claim their first (and only to date) Major League Soccer Cup title, defeating FC Dallas 2-1 in extra time in Toronto. Forward **Macoumba Kandi's** shot was deflected by a Dallas defender and scored as an "own goal." The Rapids finished 12-8-10 for fifth place in the more competitive Western Conference but were actually seeded third in the playoffs in the East; they defeated Columbus and San Jose to reach the final.



**No. 83 - August 14, 1986.** The first regular PGA Tour stop in the state since the Denver Open (1947-63), debuted in Castle Rock, as Denver oilman **Jack Vickers** created "The International at Castle Pines," which featured the unique Stableford scoring format. **Ken Green** won the inaugural event over **Bernhard Langer**, but not all players liked the format; **Jack Nicklaus** for one, thought it was "stupid and silly," and he was good friends with Vickers.

**No. 84 - March 25, 2000.** The Metro State Roadrunners dealt favorite Kentucky Wesleyan a 97-79 setback to claim the NCAA Division II men's basketball championship, avenging a loss to the them in the '99 finals. All-American and tournament MVP **DeMarcos Anzures** led the way with 32 points and **Mike Dunlap** was honored as the NABC National Coach of the Year as Metro finished with a 33-4 record. (Anzures was the first Division II state collegiate to earn first-team All-American honors).



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



**No. 85 - March 26, 2026.** The Colorado Mesa women's basketball team just missed advancing to the Division II title game, falling to Indiana (Pa.) University, 75-70. The Mavericks fell behind 12-0, but rallied to tie the game at 23-all before trailing 36-29 at the half; CMU never got closer than four the rest of the way. **Olivia Reed Thyne** led Mesa with 34 points, 14 rebounds and three blocked shots as the Mavericks finished the season with a 37-2 record, having won 34 in a row – the longest in state history – prior to the semifinal loss. The 37 wins are also the most-ever in the state by a college team – men or women.

**No. 86 - October 25, 1986.** Colorado's 20-10 win over No. 3 Nebraska in Boulder that sunny afternoon became known as "The Turning Point" in the 13-year Bill McCartney coaching era. Not only was it CU's first win over the Huskers since 1967, but it was also the highest-ranked opponent the Buffaloes had defeated in 14 years. The Buff defense shone, holding Nebraska to 123 yards rushing; the Huskers finished second in the nation that year with 306 per game. The fourth quarter opened with a 52-yard touchdown pass on a halfback option, O.C. Oliver to Lance Carl, giving CU a two-score lead at 17-7.



**No. 87 - March 28, 2026.** Before a National Women's Soccer League record crowd, the Denver Summit FC played its first home game, dueling to a scoreless tie with the Washington Spirit before 63,004 in attendance at Empower Field at Mile High. It topped the league-best 40,061 set by Bay FC – also versus Washington last August. It was the second-largest crowd ever for an inaugural home game by a state team, behind the 80,227 at the Rockies-Expos opener in 1993.



**No. 88 - July 22, 1984.** Boulder's Marianne Martin won the inaugural women's Tour de France. The 26-year-old University of Colorado graduate, who didn't make the U.S. Olympic Cycling team, completed the 616-mile, 18-stage course in 29 hours, 39 minutes, and 2 seconds, besting Helen Hage of the Netherlands by three minutes and 17 seconds. Crowned champion in Paris, over two million people lined the course for the final stage.



**No. 89 - September 27, 1970.** The Denver Broncos played their first home game after the AFL-NFL merger, defeating the Pittsburgh Steelers, 16-13. The game was played before a sellout crowd of 50,705, starting a professional sports record sellout streak that has reached 464 at the end of the 2025 season - 440 regular season games and 24 playoff; the streak was not paused during the 2020 season when the COVID-19 pandemic limited Attendance - the maximum people allowed in continued the streak.



**No. 90, January 27, 1996.** Colorado Springs resident Judy Bell was named president of the United States Golf Association (USGA), elected to a two-year term (1996-97). A member of the World Golf and Colorado Golf Halls of Fame, she was the first woman to serve as president of the organization since its founding in 1894; she had previously served as vice president.



**No. 91 - October 19, 1968.** University of Colorado track All-American and graduate **Bill Toomey** won the gold medal in the decathlon at the Mexico City Summer Olympic Games. He won three of the 10 events, the 100-meter run, the long jump, and the 400-meter run, for which he set a world decathlon record. He racked up an Olympic record 8,193 total points, winning by 82 over East Germany's Hans-Joachim Walde in the 33-man field. Toomey won 23 of the 38 decathlons he competed in, including the '67 Pan American Games leading up to the Olympics, and held the world record for the most points in a decathlon for nearly three years. He was inducted into the CSHOF in 1971.



**No. 92 - July 21, 1952.** Denver native and East High School and University of Denver graduate Jerome Biffle won the gold medal in the broad (long) jump at the Summer Olympics in Helsinki, Finland. In claiming the gold with a jump of 7.57 meters (24-feet, 10.03 inches), the 23-year-old was the city of Denver's first Olympic gold medal winner and second medalist. He beat Cornell graduate Meredith Gourdine, who earlier had beaten him in the Olympic Trials, for the gold by an inch-and-a-half.



**No. 93 - November 24, 1892.** One of the state's oldest high school football rivalries was born on Thanksgiving Day when Pueblo Central defeated Pueblo Centennial, 4-0 (touchdowns were worth four points at the time; the conversion was missed). Cited previously as one of the greatest moments in Pueblo sports history, the touchdown was scored by Marvin, his first name unknown. They have played 125 times overall, the most of any high school rivalry in the state, and along the way, the game became known as the Bell game," the 75th of which was played last September. Central leads the series 63-53, with 9 ties.

**No. 94 - May 31, 1948.** A native of Denver, 37-year-old **Johnny Mauro** became the first Coloradan to race in the Indianapolis 500. He started 27th with his Alfa Romeo chassis and engine and completed 198 laps before being flagged, finishing eighth. His average speed was 121.79 miles per hour. Mauro raced in Indy cars for Ferrari in the 1940s and 1950s – his family owned several car dealerships and was the only Ferrari importer in Denver for many years. He passed away due to a car accident in 2003 at the age of 92.



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



**No. 95 - May 1898.** Town and Gown Golf Club opened in Colorado Springs; to this day, it is one of the oldest continuously operated 18-hole public golf courses west of the Mississippi (the third-oldest overall). The course was purchased by William Jewett in 1910 and renamed the Colorado Springs Golf Club. On June 25, 1919, it was renamed in honor of his wife, Patty Jewett, after he deeded the property to the city for \$1.

**No. 96 - December 6, 2025.** Cherry Creek sprinted to a 28-0 lead and went on to defeat Ralston Valley, 56-28, giving head coach **Dave Logan** his 13th state championship, his sixth with the Bruins. The only coach to win titles at four different schools (no one else has more than two), he moved into a tie for the 29th-most nationally. He added to his winningest total in the state of Colorado, as earlier in the decade, he passed Limon's Floyd Gaskill, who won 10. Logan's 355 wins are second all-time in the state, as is his .833 winning percentage through the 2025 season.



**No. 97 - January 30, 2025.** The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) awarded an expansion franchise to Denver, the league's 16th, which would begin play in 2026. The expansion fee was \$110 million, and the team was officially named "Denver Summit FC." It made its debut on March 14, 2026, losing 2-1 to Bay FC at PayPal Park in San Jose. **Melissa Kossler** scored the first goal in franchise history in the 20th minute that tied the game at 1-1.

**No. 98 - October 29, 1930.** **Ken Pearson** scored a national high school record that still stands - 12 rushing touchdowns in Hugo's 176-6 win over Vona at home. The 12 TD's remain a state record and tied for the second-most in the history of schoolboy football nationally. The 182 combined points were the most in a Colorado prep game at the time and, almost a century later, are still second; the margin of victory is still first. Hugo scored over 100 points two other times that season (106-0 over Flagler, 104-0 versus Burlington). Pearson died in 2008 at the age of 96.



**26. Ken Pearson, Hugo (Colo.)**

**Date:** Oct. 29, 1930

**Stat Line:** 12 touchdowns.



**No. 99 - December 14, 1975.** **Floyd Little** capped his nine-year professional career by leading Denver to a 25-10 win over Philadelphia in his final home game. After the Eagles tied the game at 10-10 in the third quarter, he scored what proved to be the winning points with a 66-yard touchdown reception on a screen pass from **Steve Ramsey**. He then scored the final points of the game on a 2-yard TD run with 1:57 to play, finishing the game with 56 yards on 19 carries and five receptions for 94 yards. Fans, who braved the 15-degree temperatures to watch the NFL's seventh all-time leading rusher in his final home appearance, gave him standing ovations every time he left the field and carried him off as

he blew kisses to the spectators in Mile High Stadium's fabled South Stands.

**No. 100 - August 22, 1948.** **Ben Hogan** won the Denver Open at Wellshire Golf Course, defeating Fred Haas, Jr., by one stroke; his 18-under par 270 scorecard earned him \$2,150. It was his sixth straight win on the PGA Tour, the second-longest streak at the time and still tied for the third-longest to this day (and not matched until 2000 by Tiger Woods). Wellshire opened in August 1926 and will celebrate its 100th anniversary this summer. Its history includes the longest active continuous tournament in Colorado (the Wellshire 4-ball), **Arnold Palmer** finishing third in the '58 Denver Open, two years before returning to the state to win the U.S. Open, and **Bill Wright** winning the '59 Public Links title, the first African American to win a major golf tournament.



**No. 101 - November 29, 1954.** After weeks of speculation and negotiation, Bob Howsam purchased the defunct Kansas City franchise (for \$75,000), which elevated Denver to the American Association and triple-A baseball, while the New York Yankees remained the parent club of the franchise in its move to Denver. The banner headline on the Denver Post's sports page screamed in all caps: DENVER GETS TRIPLE A!

**No. 102 - September 19, 1959.** The U.S. Amateur was held for the first time in the state, with 19-year-old Ohio State University junior Jack Nicklaus emerging as the winner on the Broadmoor East Course, defeating Charlie Coe, 1-up. It was the first USGA championship of his career.



**No. 103 - April 10, 2004.** The Denver Pioneers won their sixth NCAA hockey title - their first in 35 years - with a 1-0 win over the University of Maine in Boston. Gabe Gauthier took a pass from Connor James and scored on a power play for the game's only goal at the 12:26 mark of the first period; Adam Berkhoel stopped 24 Black Bear shots on goal to earn the shutout, including two in the final 90 seconds when Maine had a rare 6-on-3 man advantage.



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments

**No. 111 - December 13, 1983.** The wildest - and highest scoring - game in NBA history took place at McNichols Sports Arena in Denver: 370 total points were scored in a three-overtime thriller. The visiting Detroit Pistons left town with a 186-184 victory. It was tied at 74 at halftime and 145-all at the end of regulation. At another time, while the Nuggets and Pistons combined to take 251 shots, each team was just 1-of-2 from 3-point range; thus, 140 of the 142 field goals were traditional two-point baskets. Six players scored 28 or more points - four over 40, with Denver's **Kiki Vandeweghe** leading all scorers with 51, with Alex English adding 47 and Dan Issel 28; Detroit was led by Isaiah Thomas with 47 and John Long with 41.



**No. 112 - April 5, 1924.** Tiny **Windsor High School**, the two-time state champ from the town with the same name northeast of Loveland and a population of 1,290, won the National Interscholastic Basketball Championship in Chicago, defeating Yankton, S.D., 25-6. The event started with 40 teams, and in the end, the Bulldogs beat four other state champions and won five games in all, leaving them the only undefeated team standing. **Arthur Law** led the way in the title game with 12 points. The school

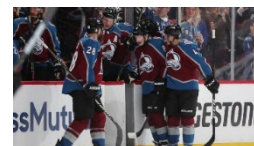
changed its nickname to Wizards following the win after being referred to as such in media accounts.

**No. 113 - July 29, 1984.** Boulder's **Connie Carpenter-Phinney** became the first American woman to win the gold medal in Olympic road cycling, winning the 79-kilometer race at the Los Angeles Summer Games. Neck-and-neck with fellow American **Rebecca Twigg**, the two accelerated into a frantic sprint over the last 50 meters, with Carpenter winning by all of two inches to claim the gold. It would be 40 years before the next American woman won gold. Her husband, **Davis Phinney**, won a bronze medal in cycling in the same L.A. games.



**No. 114 - March 18, 1961.** In Hutchinson, Kan., Pueblo Junior College won the National Junior College Athletic Association's (NJCAA) basketball title, completing a four-game tourney sweep by defeating Tyler (Texas), 79-66. **Bob Warlick**, named the tournament's MVP, led the Indians in the tournament, scoring 86 points; he had 26 in the title game. The team was coached by the late **Harry Simmons**, a 1982 inductee into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame.

**No. 115 - April 15, 2019.** Three days after **Cale Makar** was named winner of the Hobey Baker Award as the top collegian and two days after his UMass Minutemen lost to Minnesota in a Frozen Four semifinal, Makar made his professional debut in game three of the first round of the Stanley Cup playoffs. The first (and to date only) defenseman in NHL history to make his debut in the playoffs and score a goal in his very first game - and on his very first shot-on-goal - in Colorado's 6-2 win over the Calgary Flames.



**No. 116 - October 6, 1990.** Not exactly the greatest moment, but certainly a memorable one since it has occurred three times in history: CU's 33-31 win at Missouri made major headlines. Trailing 31-27, the Buffs had a first-and-goal at the Mizzou 3. The chain crew failed to move the down marker from second to third. Mizzou's Omni-Turf was also in terrible condition, and the correct shoe was needed to avoid slipping; MU never informed CU of that fact, and coaches documented 92 slips and falls by Buff

players - 16 of which were documented and shown on ESPN's GameDay the next Saturday. But Fifth Down was the bigger controversy.

**No. 117 - February 1, 1965.** Until Gerald H. and Allan R. Phipps purchased undisputed control of the Denver Broncos for \$1.5 million on February 14, 1965 - to increase their ownership of the team to 94 percent by gaining 52 percent with the immediate cash payment, the voting trust headed by spokesman and team president Calvin Kunz was seriously flirting with selling the team to the Atlanta-based Cox Broadcasting Company. Kunz and the trust had an offer from them of slightly over \$4 million to purchase all of the stock, until the Phipps brothers and their firm, Empire Sports Inc., took full control of the franchise and saved pro football in Denver (they purchased the Denver Bears the same day).

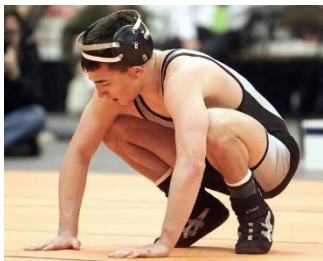


## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



**No. 118 - November 30, 1899.** The first meeting in the “Border War” took place when Colorado Agricultural College (Colorado State) and the University of Wyoming met. It was the first game CSU had ever played outside the state, and it won 12-0 by forfeit after a controversial ending involving the officials, who were provided by both schools. They have played 117 times, with CSU leading 60-52-5. The two will be in different conferences for the first time in over a century beginning this fall, but meet on September 5 in Fort Collins.

**No. 119 - October 8, 1911.** Voted one of the top 100 minor league teams of all-time in 2001 (No. 22); the Denver Grizzlies of the Class-A Western League finished with a 111-54-3 record. Games were quicker (no radio or television, or lights); Denver won 6-0 at Topeka that was played in 1 hour and 15 minutes; it had a 13-inning game played at 2:10. Games were called because of darkness or if one or both teams needed to catch a train to their next location. A pitcher on that team was named Ed Kinsella - no idea if his name was utilized in 1989’s Field of Dreams (Kevin Costner played Ray Kinsella, who had a dysfunctional relationship with his major league father, John). President Taft witnessed a Grizzlies home game with the Sioux City on October 3 when the Packers won 13-2.



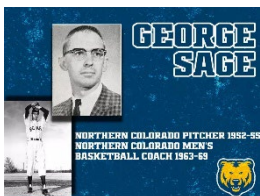
**No. 120 - February 17, 2001.** In what many called the biggest prep wrestling upset in state history, Wasson’s Brett Roller defeated Pomona’s Tom Clum, 13-12, in the Colorado 5A 125-pound state wrestling championship before over 17,000 in attendance at Pepsi Center. At the time, Clum was an undefeated, three-time state champion with a 148-0 career record and was seeking to become the first-ever state champion in Colorado history. Roller earned five points in the final seconds (two for a takedown, three for back points) to win the match; he finished the season with a 39-1 record.

**No. 121 - December 8, 1996.** The Colorado Xplosion’s Debbie Black became the first woman and only the fifth professional ever to record a quadruple-double, with 10 points, 14 rebounds, 12 assists, and 10 steals in a 91-75 home win over the Atlanta Glory (40-minute game as compared to the NBA’s 48-minute game). It has occurred only four times officially in the NBA, all before Black’s – by Nate Thurmond, Alvin Robertson, Hakeem Olajuwon, and David Robinson. It is likely that Wilt Chamberlain did it before blocked shots were tracked. Black’s is the last quadruple-double in pro ball; Grambling’s Shakyla Hill had two, one each in 2018 and 2019.



**No. 122 - November 30, 1985.** In what many consider to be one of the greatest upsets ever in Colorado high school football, Lakewood, with all of 27 players on its roster, manhandled heavily favored Cherry Creek, 47-8, in the 4A championship game. It wasn’t a fluke; Lakewood finished 13-1 with the Tigers’ average margin of victory being 22 points. On a frigid day at CU’s Folsom Field, Lakewood zoomed to a 31-0 halftime lead and never looked back; the Tigers outgained the Bruins, 401-194 in total offense in what is still one of – if not the – most lopsided title games in state prep history.

**No. 123 - May 3, 1972.** The Denver Spurs, regular-season Western Hockey League champions, won the Lester Patrick Cup by defeating the Portland Buckaroos 6-0 in five games of the championship series. Denver had swept the San Diego Gulls, four games to none in the semifinals. Frank Huck, the league MVP, scored 9 goals and added 4 assists in the playoffs; rookie defenseman Glen Patrick was the first to receive the Patrick Cup, named after his grandfather. It was the city’s first professional hockey title, some 24 years before the Colorado Avalanche won the Stanley Cup.



**No. 124 - June 11, 1955.** In its third appearance in the College World Series, the University of Northern Colorado recorded the first win by a state college in the event, upsetting top-ranked Southern California, 2-1. Wayne Coates doubled home, George Sage in the fourth inning, giving the Bears a 2-0 lead; Sage pitched a complete game and allowed only six hits, striking out three. UNC would then be eliminated by Wake Forest and Arizona. Northern Colorado has the most appearances of any state school in the College World Series, as the Bears have won 10 District VII and/or Regional titles to advance to the Series, the last time in 1974; the Bears are 3-20 in CWS games.

## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



**No. 125 - August 25, 1920.** The state's first Olympian, Denver native and Longmont High School graduate and 1966 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Eddie Eagan, won the gold medal in the light heavyweight competition at the 1920 Summer Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium. Twelve years later, he made Olympic history that still hasn't been matched: he became the first and only athlete to win gold medals in the Summer and Winter Olympics – on February 15, 1932, he was on the U.S. team that won the gold in the four-man bobsled at Lake Placid, N.Y.

**No. 126 - November 28, 1889.** The first game in one of college football's longest rivalries was played in Colorado Springs, with Colorado Mines defeating Colorado College in a Thanksgiving Day battle, 14-6.



**No. 127 - KDKA-Radio in Pittsburgh** was the first to broadcast sporting events on radio in 1921, beginning with a prize fight and then expanding into team sports. The "first" sports broadcast in Colorado was on an experimental station owned by H.H. Buckwalter and located at 713 Lincoln Street. While not a truly complete broadcast in the sense, on **February 10, 1922**, constant live updates were provided for CU's 32-20 win in basketball at DU. On **April 15, 1926**, the first full game involving a team from the state was broadcast, as 5,000-watt KOA-Radio, which began broadcasting in 1924 and was then located at 830 am on the dial, picked up the Denver Bears' season opener at St. Joseph (Denver lost, 6-2). The first full game originated locally was on **November 25, 1926**, once again on KOA, which selected the annual CU-DU Thanksgiving Day clash at

DU Stadium. The station remained off the air from the previous night until the 2 p.m. kickoff – Denver won the game, 20-9.

**No. 128 - May 22, 1914.** University of Colorado freshman pitcher Bob McGraw - a future major leaguer - struck out what remains a state collegiate record 20 batters in the Silver & Gold's 7-1 win versus Colorado College in Boulder. In throwing a 2-hitter, McGraw also went 2-for-4 at the plate with a home run. It was the second-most strikeouts at the time in all of college baseball, and the win also clinched the RMAC title for CU. In 1917, he signed with the Philadelphia Phillies and became the state's first player to reach the major leagues. (By the way, CU batters struck out 13 times, for 33 total whiffs in the game).



**No. 129 - August 1, 1934.** The 19th Denver Post Baseball Tournament, later known as the "Little World Series of the West," was integrated for the first time. Post sports editor Poss Parsons wanted the tournament to feature the most competitive teams, thus he invited Negro League players to participate for the first time, starting with the Kansas City Monarchs (the Negro League champions) and the Denver White Elephants. The White Elephants featured the only Colorado-born player in the Negro League, Theodore "Bubbles"

Anderson, a 2025 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee. The tournament started in 1915 and attracted the top semi-pro teams in the sport until it was discontinued in the mid-1940s.

**No. 130 - January 29, 1906.** The recently completed National Western Stock Show was born from several stock fairs and exhibits, originally called the Western Livestock Show, and was held in the stockyards in North Denver. Three local businessmen were credited for organizing the initial gathering of no less than six associations: Elias Ammons and George Ballantine of the Denver Union Stock Yard Company, and Fred P. Johnson (publisher of the Record-Stockman). When all was said and done, 351 cattle, sheep, and hogs were shown over the six-day event. One of the actual early precursors to the National Western was on June 30, 1874 - Denver Blood Stock Association's Blood Stock Fair opened, five days of showing thoroughbred cattle divided into five groupings of purebred cattle: Shorthorns, Herefords, Devons, Jerseys & Ayrshires, and Galloways (a purse offered \$15,000 in prizes).

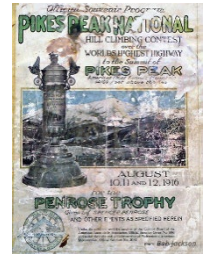


## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



**No. 131 - January 8, 2012.** After heavily favored Pittsburgh battled back to force overtime with the Denver Broncos after tying the game at 23-all in this AFC wild-card contest. Denver got the ball first at its own 20 to start the extra session, which would last all of 11 seconds. Tim Tebow threw a play-action pass to 2023 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Demaryius Thomas, who caught the ball at the Denver 38 and then outdistanced Steeler defenders to the end zone for an 80-yard score, a 29-23 Bronco win that culminated in the quickest ending to an overtime in NFL history.

**No. 132 - August 10-12, 1916.** The Pikes Peak International Hill Climb is run for the first time. Originally intended to stimulate tourism in the Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak region, it drew tremendous crowds from the start. Initially called the Pikes Peak Auto Hill Climb, Rea Lentz in a Romano Special won the inaugural race that covered 12.42 miles in 20 minutes and 55.6 seconds, with Floyd Clymer winning the motorcycle class in a time of 21:58.41. Over the years, the legendary Unser family (Louis, Bobby, Al, Robby, and Al Jr.) won a combined 25 titles racing the course, which climbs 4,725 feet from 9,390 feet to a summit of 14,115 feet, with 156 turns in between.



**No. 133 - March 15, 1999.** Playing in her final home (a second-round NCAA tournament game), Colorado State senior and 2015 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Becky Hammon scored 30 points to lead the Rams to an 86-70 win over Southwest Missouri State to advance to the Sweet 16. Hammon was 6-of-12 from the field and 16-of-17 from the line and had eight assists. CSU finished the season 33-3 after dropping the next game to UCLA. She scored 21 points in the 77-68 loss to the Bruins, finishing as the state's all-time leading scorer by a woman's collegian (2,740 points).

time leading scorer by a woman's collegian (2,740 points).

**No. 134 - April 15, 1970.** Spencer Haywood scored an ABA record 59 points in the regular season finale, leading the Denver Rockets to a 152-116 win over the Los Angeles Stars in Denver. He also grabbed 25 rebounds (and had three assists); the record would stand for two years. The 152 points matched Denver's most in an ABA game at that point, first done just a week before (April 8) against the Dallas Chaparrals in a 152-113 home win. Denver would top 152 points three times in future ABA play, 156 and 153 in overtime games, and in a 155-128 regulation win over Virginia in the league's last season, when all 10 players scored in double figures.

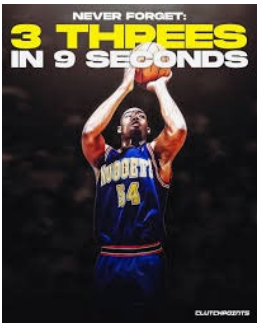


**No. 135 - July 13, 1984.** The second "Denver Dream" old-timers baseball game drew 38,899 to Mile High Stadium, with the highlight being Vice President George H.W. Bush not only in attendance but also playing in the game. Donning a Denver Bear uniform, he went 1-for-2 from the plate; he first faced Warren Spahn, popping up to second baseman Milt Pappas (who intentionally dropped the ball) before singling to center of Pappas his next time up. He also played a couple of innings at first base, where he robbed Tony Oliva of a single, guarded by Secret Service agents. The 60-year old Bush was in town for the state's GOP convention that weekend. On hand to sign autographs among many Hall-of-Famers were Joe DiMaggio and Billy Martin.

**No. 136 - June 16, 1996 (Father's Day).** 2013 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Steve Jones is the second Colorado high school alum (Yuma) and second Colorado Buffalo to win the U.S. Open, as he turned in a 2-under par performance (74-66-69-69-278) at Oakland Hills Country Club in Michigan, defeating Tom Lehman and Davis Love III by one stroke. The three battled it out over the back nine, and all were tied at 2-under down the stretch, Love on the 18th green and Jones and Lehman on the 18th tee. Love three-putted, Lehman hit a bad drive and would bogey. Jones hit his approach to 12 feet and two-putted for the win. The win wasn't a fluke—only 51 subpar rounds were recorded over the four days, and Jones was the only player with three. In the process, he became the first sectional qualifier to win the U.S. Open in 20 years and the second Coloradan to attend high school and college in the state to win a U.S. Open, the other, of course, being Hale Irwin.



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



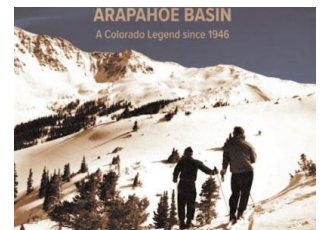
**No. 137 - February 8, 1994.** Though Denver lost to Utah, Nuggets forward Rodney Rogers accomplished a feat unmatched before or since. He scored nine points in as many seconds on three 3-point field goals. He made the first from the top of the key with 29.4 seconds to play; Robert Pack stole the ball and fed it to him, and Rogers drilled the second from the same spot with 24.9 seconds on the clock. He then stole the in-bounds pass himself and strutted to the three-point line on the right baseline and sank his third three-pointer with 20.9 seconds to go – the crowd at McNichols Sports Arena went bananas. But Jeff Malone made the game-winner for the Jazz with 12 seconds left for a 96-95 win. Rogers suffered a paralyzing accident in 2008 and passed away this past November at the age of 54.

**No. 138 - February 14-15, 1912.** The Winter Sports Club of Hot Sulphur Springs hosted the state's first Winter Sports Carnival, which drew 8,000 spectators, including competitors. The competitions included sledding, skating, cross-country skiing, and jumping. Norwegian transplant Carl Howelsen, who moved to the state a year earlier, was the star, winning the jumping event with a 79-foot leap. Hot Sulphur Springs is halfway between Kremmling and Granby, so it begs the question: in 1912, how did 8,000 people get there, and where did they stay?



**No. 139 - Jim: May 10, 1967.** In perhaps the greatest single game in state collegiate baseball history, Air Force senior outfielder John McBroom had a career in the Falcons' 38-7 win over Colorado College. He set what still stand as NCAA records as he batted 1.000 – going 9-for-9, the most hits in a single game and the highest 1.000 average that a player did not make an out. He scored six runs and had 12 runs batted in and 19 total bases (the latter two still AFA marks). He almost hit for the cycle twice – he hit two home runs, with one triple, three doubles, and four singles. He would go on to become a flight instructor, among other accomplishments, and retire as a Major General.

**No. 140 - November 1, 1946.** Arapahoe Basin is the first ski area after World War II to begin operations in the state; it borders the Continental Divide and has a summit elevation of 13,050 feet, making it one of the highest ski resorts in the world. The original cost was estimated at \$150,000, which included two lifts, a rope tow, and trails; lift tickets for the '46-'47 ski season were just \$1.25. A year later, it added its first chair lift, and attendance soared to over 12,000 (70,000 by the '61-'62 season).



**No. 141 - July 3, 1982.** Denver entered the national record books again, as the Bears' annual Fireworks Night drew a minor-league record 65,666 fans - as announced at the time. The Denver fire marshal told team officials the crowd had to be capped at that number, but the true attendance was 73,155 as confirmed years later by business manager **Bobby Burris** (not to mention by looking at an aerial photo of the Mile High Stadium from that night - in no way were there 10,000 empty seats). Omaha spoiled things with a 7-4 win in a strange game, outhitting the Bears 17-5, with the contest scoreless through five and then each team scoring in their remaining four frames. In fact, Omaha's Bill Kelly had a no-hitter entering the sixth and had it broken up with a triple by Denver native and Abraham Lincoln High School grad **Nick Capra**. 1990 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Jim Burris was the Chief Executive Officer of the Denver Bears.

**No. 142 - August 5, 1967.** The Denver Broncos became the first AFL team to defeat an NFL team, downing the Detroit Lions, 13-10, at DU Stadium in what some called "The Little Super Bowl." The Lions' Alex Karras stated prior to the game that there was no way Denver would win, and if it did, he'd walk back to Detroit. Did he? Of course not. Two weeks later, the Broncos defeated Minnesota 14-3 at DU Stadium. It was the first year the two leagues played preseason games ahead of the 1970 AFL-NFL merger; of the 15 games that year, the AFL won three, two by the Broncos.



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments



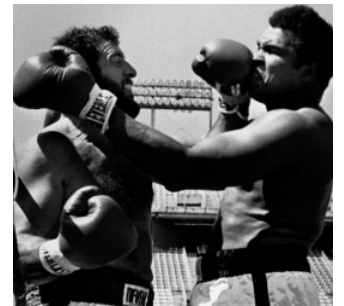
**No. 143 - January 5, 1982.** Colorado State senior guard Kathy Lightfoot scored 45 points in a 118-54 win over Southern Colorado in Fort Collins, to date the most points in a single game by a Division I player in the state. Lightfoot had 21 field goals and made 3-of-4 from the free-throw line. The state's collegiate best for women, across all divisions, is a 51-point effort by the late Carroll Lillie of Southern Colorado (now CSU Pueblo), in an 82-80 overtime loss to St. Mary's of the Plains on December 3, 1979.

**No. 144 - September 4, 2004.** At 12:30 p.m. MDT, the **Altitude Sports & Entertainment Network** went on the air, a property of Kroenke Sports Enterprises (KSE). Over \$10 million was spent on building a studio, installing production equipment, hiring personnel, and marketing the channel. The first program? A 30-minute special on the making of the network; there were 850,000 to one million subscribers at its launch. The first game was supposed to be the Colorado Avalanche's season opener at home (on Oct. 1), against San Jose, but the NHL lockout on Sept. 16 canceled the season.



**No. 145 - June 2, 1987.** The Denver Zephyrs' **Joey Meyer** hit what many have documented as the second-longest home run in all baseball history - 582 feet - in the Zephyrs' 14-7 win over the Buffalo Bisons. Meyer's shot landed in the upper deck in left field of Mile High Stadium's massive east stands. Meyer hit three homers that night, driving in seven runs; the longer blast came on a 2-2 pitch from Mike Murphy in the bottom of the seventh inning. On September 10, 1960, in Detroit, Mickey Mantle hit a homer estimated at 643 feet that coined the phrase, "tape-measure home run" in the Yankees' 5-1 win over the Tigers, universally considered the longest home run ever hit.

**No. 146 - July 14, 1979.** It was only an exhibition, as former heavyweight boxing champion **Muhammad Ali** fought an eight-round match against Denver Broncos defensive lineman **Lyle Alzado**. Around 20,000 fans attended the event at Mile High Stadium, which wasn't officially scored but went on all eight rounds; most, if not all, thought Ali won easily. About 600 miles to the East that same night, Jamie Easterly of the Denver Bears pitched a perfect game in the Bears' 10-0 win over the Iowa Oaks in Des Moines. That was the last of seven no-hitters in Denver's minor league history that spanned over 100 years.



**No. 147 - September 13, 2000.** In high school **boys' tennis**, Wheat Ridge defeated **Cherry Creek**, 5-2, ending the Bruins' remarkable dual-match winning streak at 316, the longest in the nation. The streak ended when **Paul Tinetti** ripped a forehand winner down the line to give him and partner **Brian Fisher** a 7-6 (7-2), 6-2 victory at No. 2 doubles. In 1991, it was Wheat Ridge that ended Cherry Creek's run of 19 straight national record state championships. The streak, which began in 1972 during Richard Nixon's first term as president, was and remains the second-longest in the country, behind only the Brandon, Fla., wrestling team, which won 459

consecutive dual meets from 1973 to 2008.

**No. 148 - August 26, 1974.** The first championship by any Denver professional team (other than minor league baseball) was claimed by the Denver Racquets. They won the inaugural World Team Tennis league title. The Racquets defeated the top-seeded Philadelphia Freedoms, two games to zero in the best-of-three finals. Denver won the Pacific Section with a 30-14 record and beat the San Francisco Golden Gators and the Minnesota Buckskins to reach the finals. The teams were composed of half men and half women; Philadelphia was led by Billie Jean King, the league MVP; Australian **Tony Roche** (pictured right) was Denver's player-coach; and the team also had the playoffs MVP, **Andrew Pattison** (pictured left).



## Colorado's Top 150 Sports Moments

**No. 149 - April 12, 1965.** 1991 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee **Bob Martin** hosted the first sports talk show in the state (and possibly the nation) on this April Friday, when he aired "Sports Line," interviewed Bronco head coach Mac Speedie, and took public calls. It aired for one hour (6-7 p.m.) on KTLN Radio (1280 AM). Speedie was named interim head coach the previous October when Jack Faulkner was fired, and the interim tag was removed in an announcement on December 12.



The Colorado Springs team beat the Denver University nine at foot-ball on the 11th, by a score of 12 to 0.

**No. 150 - April 11, 1885.** In the first intercollegiate football game played west of the Mississippi River, Colorado College defeated the University of Denver Ministers, 12-0. Early newspaper

accounts never listed any stats or even most of the scoring plays, instead focusing on who played in the game and who was the stoutest. Both institutions had been around for a while, DU since 1864 and CC since 1874, as the first intercollegiate football game took place in 1869 (Rutgers 6, Princeton 4). The game methodically spread west.

46

53

Rockies pitcher Jason Jennings shines in MLB debut



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).  
**No. 53**  
**Aug. 23, 2001**  
In one of the most impressive debuts in major league history, Colorado pitcher Jason Jennings threw a complete game, 10-0 shutout of the New York Mets at Shea Stadium. He allowed

five hits and struck out eight. At the plate, he went 3 for 5 with two runs batted in while capping the scoring with a home run hit deep to right field in the top of the ninth inning. Jennings would spend six seasons with the Rockies, compiling a 68-56 record before finishing his career with Houston for one season and Texas for two.  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026

47

54

SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Denver Pioneers skiing wins inaugural NCAA Ski Championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).  
**No. 54** — **March 7, 1954**  
The University of Denver won the inaugural NCAA Ski Championship, held over three days in Reno, Nev. In the final competition of the event, DU's Billy Olson and John Cress finished 1-2 in the jumping, enabling the Pioneers to pull away from the pack with 384 points.

Seattle University was next (349.6), followed by Colorado (348.6), Idaho (348.5) and Wyoming (347.8) in a hotly contested battle for second. Coach Willy Schaeffer's DU teams would win the first four titles — and 13 of the first 17, finishing second in the four it did not win. Overall through 2026, DU has won the most ski titles (24), with Colorado second (20).  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026

48

55

SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Denver Bears baseball club wins American Association title



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 55** — **Sept. 21, 1957**  
In just its third year competing in Triple-A baseball, Denver won its first American Association title with a 14-2 win over St. Paul, as the Bears bested the Saints four games to two. Denver finished second in the regular season with a 90-64 record, three games back of Wichita, then swept Minneapolis in

four games to reach the championship series. In the title clincher in Denver, Marv Throneberry led the attack with two home runs and four driven in, while Zack Moore pitched a complete game-nine-hitter. With the win, Denver advanced to the Little World Series against International League champion Buffalo. The Bears, the AAA affiliate of the New York Yankees, were managed by future NY manager Ralph Houk.  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

49

56

SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

MLB legends play in 'Denver Dream' old-timers game



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 56** — **Sept. 30, 1983**  
The inaugural "Denver Dream" old-timers game was played before 26,888 fans in attendance at Mile High Stadium. The Barry Fey-produced exhibition saw over 40 prominent former major leaguers come to town to play in the game and participate in a home run hitting contest won by Harmon Killebrew. The American League beat

the National League, 17-10, with Baltimore Orioles third base legend Brooks Robinson leading the way going 3-for-5 with a home run and five runs batted in. Others who appeared in the game included Hank Aaron, Ernie Banks, Bob Feller, Whitey Ford, Willie Mays, Tony Oliva, Warren Spahn and former Denver Bear Marv Throneberry, with Joe Dimaggio and Leo Durocher on hand to sign autographs.  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

50

57

Colorado football beats Nebraska on way to Big Eight title



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 57**  
**Nov. 4, 1989**  
"Things Have Changed" reared back lit on the Folsom Field scoreboard through the weekend after No. 2 Colorado defeated No. 3 Nebraska, 27-21, paving the way for CU's first Big Eight

title since 1976 and the Orange Bowl berth that went with it. The Huskers scored a touchdown on their first play in the only lead they would have all afternoon. The Buffs tied it on one of the most memorable plays in school history, a 70-yard touchdown on which Darian Hagan ran for the first 40 and then pitched it to J.J. Flannigan for the remainder.  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

51

SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Dikeou brothers - John, George and Deno buy the Denver Bears



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 51** — **Dec. 1, 1984**  
The Denver Bears are sold to the Dikeou brothers - John, George and Deno - by longtime owners Gerald and Allan Phipps for an estimated \$2.5 million. The team will begin play the next season under a new name - the Denver Zephyrs. John Dikeou was an original - and influential - member of the Metro Sports Committee, and the

Dikeou's purchase of the Bears began a seven-year pursuit to land major league baseball in Denver. The brothers had attended major league baseball's summer meetings in Philadelphia to plant seeds for Denver with the expansion committee. (The team would move to New Orleans after the 1992 season once the Colorado Rockies were set to begin play in 1993).  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

52

Coors Field hosts Denver's first MLB All-Star Game



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 52**  
**July 7, 1998**  
Coors Field hosted Denver's first major league All-Star Game. With 51,267 in attendance, the scoring-fest transpired as predicted. The American League outslugged the National League, 15-8. Alex Rodriguez and

Roberto Alomar hit home runs for the AL, with Barry Bonds knocking one out for the NL. Trailing 2-0 after three innings, the AL scored at least one run in every remaining frame, including four in the fourth and three in the ninth, to seal the win. Baltimore's Alomar was the MVP, as he was 3-for-4 with the home run, two runs scored, an RBI and a stolen base.  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

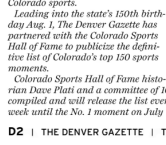
D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026

58

SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Hall of Fame QB Peyton Manning signs with Broncos



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 58** — **March 20, 2012**  
The Broncos dipped into the free agent market and landed four-time NFL MVP Peyton Manning. He missed the entire 2011 season with a neck injury after he started 208 straight games with Indianapolis to begin his

career. Manning in the 2012 season would lead Denver to a 13-3 record, passing for 4,659 yards and 37 touchdowns in completing a career-best 68.6% of his passes. Across four years, he helped the Broncos to a 45-12 regular-season record, a pair of Super Bowl appearances and a Super Bowl 50 victory.  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026

59

SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Regis Jesuit girls basketball earns No. 3 national ranking



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**No. 59** — **March 26, 2014**  
The Regis Jesuit girls' basketball team was ranked No. 3 in the nation in the final poll by both USA Today and Max Preps. Coach Carl Mattea's team was the highest one from Colorado that has ever been ranked, topping No. 8 Thunder Ridge in 2005. The Rangers finished 26-2 (with both losses to out-of-state teams), won their second straight Class 5A state

title, won games by an average score of 70-38, defeated No. 1 Riverdale Baptist 61-48 and was the first prep team in the country to have two Gatorade Players of the Year in Dani Askigbon and Justine Hall. Unfortunately, Regis, one of four teams invited to battle for the national championship at Madison Square Garden, was denied the opportunity by CHSAA. (It changed its rules a year later. It had six players go on to play in college.)  
—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

60 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Denver Safeways claim their first National AAU basketball title



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 60 - March 20, 1937 The Denver Safeways beat the top-ranked Phillips Oilers from Bartlesville, Okla. 53-38 for their first National AAU basketball title. The 6,500-plus in attendance at the downtown Auditorium Arena witnessed Denver break a 37-all tie with 7 minutes remaining and never trail again. After a free throw from Jack McCracken and a Ter Colvin

three-point play built a 41-37 lead, Safeways went on to win (and again in 1939 and 1942). The tournament had moved to Denver from Kansas City three years earlier. Later in the year, the inventor of the game of basketball, Dr. James Naismith, visited Denver and saw the Safeways defeat Oklahoma City a 50-34 drubbing in AAU play. Naismith, 76, said afterward, "I think that is the greatest team I've ever seen." —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

61 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Colorado routs Alabama 47-33 in Liberty Bowl



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 61 - Dec. 13, 1969 Though the credit for integration for Alabama and the SEC always falls to USC after it blew out the Crimson Tide 42-21 in 1970, Bear Bryant got a taste of an integrated team in the 1969 Liberty Bowl. CU walloped Alabama 47-33 with several Black players, including a team captain, Bill Collins. Alabama sent over 40 players out for the coin toss. Not to be intimidated, the two

other tri-captains, Bobby Anderson and Mike Priddy, stopped a few yards short and let Collins take the first few steps to midfield. In response to racist taunts, the normally reserved Bill Bryant exploded at halftime: "Did you hear what they are calling our Black brothers?" Colorado scored 16 fourth-quarter points. Brundage had five of CU's eight sacks. Collins was in on 14 tackles and Eddie Crowder's Buifs got the best of Bryant and the Tide. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026

62 Rockies' Todd Helton gets Baseball HOF call



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 62 Jan. 23, 2024 The second Colorado Rockies player ever to get the call, as Todd Helton learned he would join Larry Walker in the Baseball Hall of Fame. Helton played all 17 of his major league seasons in Denver, finishing with a career batting average

of .316 with 369 home runs and 1,466 runs batted in. He also belted 592 doubles and owned a career hitting percentage of .308, winning three Gold Glove awards. Through 2025, only 193 players in MLB history who played 10 or more seasons spent their entire career with one team. Helton is tied for first on that list with his 17 years in Colorado. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

63 Jokic records first 30-20-20 triple-double in NBA history



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 63 March 9, 2025 In Denver's 149-141 overtime win over Phoenix at Ball Arena, Nikola Jokic recorded the first "30-20-20" triple-double in NBA history: 31 points, 21

rebounds and 22 assists. It was just the third 20-20-20 game, previously done by Hall of Famers John Havlicek and Westbrook. It was actually the first 24-18-18 game and only the eighth 20-15-15 game, Jokic's second of his career. His first was against Sacramento six weeks earlier. Also, the 22 assists were an NBA record for a center. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

64 Gwozdecky leads Denver to seventh NCAA hockey championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 64 April 9, 2005 The University of Denver claimed its seventh NCAA hockey title with a 4-1 win over North Dakota. The Pioneers had advanced to the final after defeating rival

Colorado College, 6-2, two days earlier. DU's George Gwozdecky was named the National Coach of the Year for leading DU to back-to-back titles after not claiming one since 1969. It was the third time the Pioneers were crowned back-to-back champions, having done so in 1960-1961 and 1968-1969, and just the fourth repeat titles in the NCAA's 58-year history. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026

65 - November 6, 1937. CU All-American Byron White single-handedly beats Utah at Salt Lake City, 17-7, in one of his greatest games ever.



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

do Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 65 - Aug. 14, 1948 A record Western League crowd of 10,888 watched the Denver Bears defeat the Sioux City Soos, 9-5, in the inaugural game in Bears Stadium, which was rededicated for play just days before. Willie Sheen went 3-for-6 with two doubles and a triple, driving in three runs to pace the Bears. The new ballpark had lights installed from the get-

go, and the inaugural game was played under the lights. The next day, in the first game of a doubleheader, Sioux City center fielder Billy Patek hit the home run in the new park. On Sept. 3, in a 5-0 loss to Des Moines, a new attendance record was set — 12,752. It had several upgrades throughout its 62-year history and was renamed Mile High Stadium in 1968. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026

66 Denver Bears win first game at Bears Stadium in front of record crowd



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 67 March 15, 1940 The University of Colorado returned to the NIT for the second time in three years and this time won the trophy with a 51-40 win over Duquesne. CU's

Bob Doll was named the tournament's most valuable player, as he led all scorers in the tournament with 31 points. The Buffaloes defeated DePaul in the semifinal two nights earlier, 52-25, to force a rematch with the Dukes, who beat CU at home, 47-45, two months earlier and advanced to the final by beating Oklahoma A&M. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026

67 Colorado basketball wins NIT title over Duquesne



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 67 March 15, 1940 The University of Colorado returned to the NIT for the second time in three years and this time won the trophy with a 51-40 win over Duquesne. CU's

Bob Doll was named the tournament's most valuable player, as he led all scorers in the tournament with 31 points. The Buffaloes defeated DePaul in the semifinal two nights earlier, 52-25, to force a rematch with the Dukes, who beat CU at home, 47-45, two months earlier and advanced to the final by beating Oklahoma A&M. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026

68 Babe Zaharias named AP Greatest Female Athlete



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 68 Feb. 14, 1950 Dubbed Denver's "Queen of the Fairways," Babe Zaharias was named by The Associated Press as the Greatest Female Athlete of the first half of the 20th century. She lived in the Denver area for much of the 1940s (and also spent considerable time at the Zaharias family farm in Pueblo) and was cited for her prowess in both track and field and golf. During her time living in Colorado, she won 17 straight golf tournaments, including the U.S. Women's Amateur and the Ladies' British Open Amateur. At Cherry Hills Country Club, she won for a fourth time what then was considered a major, the Women's Western Open. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

69 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

CSU beats CU in state's only NCAA Tournament matchup



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 69 - March 13, 1969 In the only postseason matchup of two Colorado Division I basketball programs, Colorado State defeated the CU, 18-16, 64-56, in the NCAA Midwest Regional in Manhattan, Kan.

The Rams, who earned an at-large entry, had four players in double figures, led by Cliff Shegossy with 20 points. Cliff Meely had 32 points for CU, the Big Eight Conference champion, but had little support otherwise. Two days later, in the Elite Eight, the Rams lost to Drake, 84-77. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

70 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Broncos' Marlin Briscoe becomes first Black starting QB in AFL or NFL



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 70 - Oct. 6, 1968 In the only postseason matchup of two Colorado Division I basketball programs, Colorado State defeated the CU, 18-16, 64-56, in the NCAA Midwest Regional in Manhattan, Kan.

selected by Denver in the 14th round of the 1968 AFL-NFL Draft. He became the first African American to start a game at quarterback in professional football, be it the AFL or NFL. It was a defensive battle, and Trist came off the bench to throw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Mike Haffner late in the game to rally Denver to a 10-7 win. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026

71 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Broncos beat Packers in Monday Night Football blizzard game



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

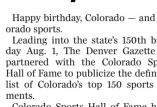
do Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 71 - Oct. 15, 1984 In one of the more memorable "Monday Night Football" games, the 200th telecast by ABC, Denver defeated the Packers in a blizzard conditions at Mile High Stadium. The Packers fumbled on their first two plays, Steve Foley recovering the first and returning it 22 yards for a touchdown, with Louis Wright doing the same from 27

yards to give the Broncos a 14-0 lead 37 seconds into the game. Denver held on to win, 17-14, as a 30-yard second-quarter field goal by the barefooted Rich Karlis was the difference for the 62,544 that braved the elements. Foley (2026) and Wright (1992) are among Sports Hall of Fame inductees as well as in the Broncos Ring of Fame. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

72 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

Sonny Lubick leads Colorado State to its first WAC title



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

man will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 72 - Nov. 19, 1994 Less than two years after hiring Sonny Lubick as head coach on Oct. 21, 1992, Colorado State earned its first Western Athletic Conference title by defeating the league in 1998 with a 44-42 win at Fresno State. The Bulldogs jumped to a 24-3 second-quarter lead, but three touchdown runs by E.J. Wat-

son pulled CSU even in the third quarter. A 30-yard blocked punt return for a score by Raymond Jackson put the Rams ahead for good at 31-27. The No. 10 Rams improved to 10-1 with the win and were 7-1 in WAC play. CSU's first league title since 1951 (Skyline) secured a Holiday Bowl berth opposite Michigan. Lubick was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 2009. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026

73 Northern Colorado shocks, earns trip to College World Series



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 73 May 31-June 1, 1974 In the NCAA baseball District 7 2-2 tie in Greeley, Northern Colorado swept the series against No. 1-ranked Arizona, defeating the Wildcats 6-5 in the first game and 6-2 in the second to earn a trip to the College World Series.

ries. The Bears, who swept Gonzaga to reach the finals, improved to 31-11 on the season and ended Arizona's season with a 58-6 record in one of the all-time upsets in NCAA history. Rick Thoren (7-1) scattered five hits, and UNC broke a 2-2 tie with two runs in both the sixth and seventh innings in the series finale for coach Tom Petroff, a 2002 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

74 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

CU icon Ceal Barry inducted into Women's Basketball Hall of Fame



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 74 - June 9, 2018 University of Colorado women's basketball coach Ceal Barry was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. In 22 seasons coaching the Buffaloes, she compiled a 927-242 record,

leading CU to four conference titles and NCAA Tournament berths, with six NCAA Sweet 16 and three Elite Eight appearances. Hired on April 12, 1983, to replace Suz Walletha, Barry coached her final game at CU on March 2, 2005. She was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 2006. —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026

75 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Babe Ruth and 'Whiz-Bangs' play at Denver's Merchants Park



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 75 - Oct. 28, 1922 In what was billed at the time as "the biggest thing in the history of Denver baseball," Babe Ruth came to Denver (with fellow New York Yankee Bob Meusel) to play an exhibition at Merchants Park. Ruth played on Carl Milkens' "White-Bangs," while Meusel suited

up for the Denver Bears. Ruth went 5-for-5 with two home runs, a double, two singles and a stolen base, leading the "White-Bangs" to a 6-0 win. Meusel was 2-of-4 with two singles. Before the game, Ruth and state golf champion Larry Brundfield attempted to break the world record for driving a golf ball (350 yards), but cold temperatures (in the 40s) prevented a new record. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

76 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Broncos beat Boston Patriots in American Football League's debut



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/. No. 76 - Sept. 3, 1960 A 30-year pass play from 1983 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee Frank Tripsica to Al Carmichael and a 76-yard punt return by Gene Mingo gave the underdog Broncos victory in

13-0 win over the Boston Patriots as the American Football League ushered in its initial season before 21,597 fans at Boston University Field. In the preseason, the Broncos lost 43-6 to the Patriots. Mingo, a 2014 Ring of Fame inductee, also became the first Black player to kick a professional football during this game. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026

77 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Mile High Kennel Club brings dog racing to Denver



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 77 - July 11, 1949 The grand opening of the Mile High Kennel Club took place, officially bringing greyhound dog racing to the Denver metro area. Built on property in Adams County, the grandstand

seated 8,800 people. That same year, the Rocky Mountain Kennel Club in Colorado Springs (on July 1) and the Pueblo Kennel Club (Aug. 1) also began operations, with two others emerging in later years (Cloverleaf in Loveland, Interstate in Bowers). Dog racing would cease in 2006 and eventually be officially outlawed in the state in 2014. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026

78 - June 21, 1975 - The first Red Zinger Bicycle Classic, sponsored by Boulder's Celestial Seasonings (and later the Coors Brewing Company in 1979), is staged for the first time.

79 Regis Rangers win National Catholic Invitational Basketball tournament



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 79 - March 26, 1949 The Regis Rangers won the inaugural National Catholic Invitational Basketball (NCIB) tournament in their only appearance, defeating St. Francis, N.Y., 51-47. Playing in Denver, Regis defeated Iona (63-51), St. Francis, Pa. (66-49) and Loyola, Md. (67-60) to reach the championship game. Coached by 1997 Colorado

Sports Hall of Fame inductee Larry Varrell, Regis finished with a 34-3 record. The tournament went defunct after 1952. The first NCAA championships in any sport were held in the state when Colorado A&M hosted the 19th NCAA wrestling championships in its South College Gymnasium. Oklahoma A&M won its 16th wrestling title, the host Aggies finished 10th. Oklahoma A&M also hosted the 1932 event when CU tied for sixth. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

80 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Kersey's Bruce Ford wins bareback rodeo world title



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 76 - Dec. 9, 1979 Bruce Ford (1996 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee), from Kersey, won his first of five world titles in rodeo bareback riding. He went on to capture the titles in 1980, 1982, 1983, and 1987.

During his career, he shattered or tied every bareback riding record: all-time bareback earnings; most NFR bareback qualifications (18); and tied for the most world bareback champion titles with five. In 1982, he became the first cowboy to win more than \$100,000 in a single event in one year and had over \$1 million in career earnings. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

81 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

BOLDERBoulder hits streets for first time



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 81 - May 28, 1979 The first BOLDERBoulder was held, starting and ending on the streets of Boulder. The co-creation of Bank of America president Tom Heston and Olympic medalist Frank Shorter, the inaugural race had 2,200 finishers. In 1981, in cooperation with the Univer-

sity of Colorado, the race's finish was moved to Folsom Field, with Shorter the winner, and in the years since, has annually drawn anywhere from 40.00 to 50,000 runners (over 1.5 million finishers through 2025); the event is the third-largest 10K race in the nation and ends with the country's largest Memorial Day celebration. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

82 Colorado Rapids win first MLS championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 82 - Nov. 21, 2010 The Colorado Rapids claimed their first Major League Soccer Cup title, defeating FC Dallas, 2-1, in Toronto

in extra time. Forward Macoumba Kandji's shot was deflected by a Dallas defender and scored as an own goal. The Rapids finished 12-8-10 for fifth place in the more competitive Western Conference, but were actually seeded third in the playoffs in the East. They defeated Columbus and San Jose to reach the final. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026

83 The International debuts at Castle Pines



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 83 - Aug. 14, 1986 The first regular PGA Tour stop in the state since the Denver Open (1947-63) debuted in Castle Rock, as Denver col-

umn Jack Vickers created The International at Castle Pines, which featured the unique Staberoff scoring format. Ken Green won the inaugural event over Bernhard Langer. But not all players liked the format. Jack Nicklaus, for one, thought it was "stupid and silly," and the Golden Bear was close friends with Vickers. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026

84 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Metro State wins NCAA Division II national championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 84 - March 25, 2000 The Metro State Roadrunners dealt future Kentucky Wesleyan a 97-79 setback to claim the NCAA Division II men's basketball championship, avenging a loss to them in the 1999

finals. All-American and tournament MVP Marcos Azares led the way with 32 points and Mike Dunlap was honored as the NABC National Coach of the Year as Metro finished with a 35-4 record. Azares was the first Division II state college player to earn first-team All-American honors. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026

85 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Colorado Mesa women reach NCAA Division II Final Four



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 85 - March 26, 2026 The Colorado Mesa women's basketball team just missed advancing to the NCAA Division II title game, falling to Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 75-70. The Mavericks fell behind 12-0 but rallied to tie the game at 23-all before trailing 36-29 at the half. CMU

never got closer than four the rest of the way. Olivia Reed Thryne led with 34 points, 14 rebounds and three blocked shots as the Mavericks finished the season with a 37-2 record, having won 34 in a row — the longest streak in state history — prior to the semifinal loss. The 37 wins are also the most in state by a college team — men's or women's. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026

86 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Colorado's Bill McCartney gets first win over Nebraska



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 86 - Oct. 25, 1986 Colorado's 20-10 win over No. 3 Nebraska in Boulder became known as "The Turning Point" in the 13-year Bill McCartney coaching era. Not only was it CU's first win over the Huskers since 1967, but it was also the high-

est-ranked opponent the Buffaloes had defeated in 14 years. The Buffs defense shined, holding Nebraska to 123 yards rushing. The Huskers later finished second in the nation that year with 308 per game. The fourth quarter opened with a 52-yard touch-down pass on a halfback option, O.C. Oliver to Lance Carl, giving CU a two-score lead at 17-7. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026

87 Denver Summit FC plays in front of record home crowd



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 87 - June 23, 2026 Denver Summit FC played its first home game, ducking to a scoreless tie with the Wash-

ington Spirit with 63,004 in attendance at Empower Field at Mile High. It topped the league best of 40,061 set by Bay FC — also versus Washington in August 2025. It was the second-largest crowd ever for an inaugural home game by a state team, behind the 80,227 at the Rockies-Espinos opener in 1995. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026

88 Boulder's Marianne Martin wins first women's Tour de France



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 88 - July 22, 1984 Boulder's Marianne Martin won the inaugural women's Tour de France. The 26-year-old University of Color-

ado graduate, who didn't make the U.S. Olympic Cycling team, completed the 616-mile, 18-stage event in 29 hours, 39 minutes, 2 seconds, besting Helen Haage of the Netherlands by 3 minutes, 17 seconds. Crowned champion in Paris over 2 million people lined the course for the final stage. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026

89 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Broncos start record sellout streak with win over Steelers



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 89 - Sept. 27, 1970 The Denver Broncos played their first home game after the AFL-NFL merger, defeating the Pittsburgh Steelers, 16-13. The game was played before a sellout crowd of 30,705, starting a professional sports-record

sellout streak that has reached 464 games at the end of the 2025 season — 440 regular-season games and 24 postseason games. The streak was not paused during the 2020 season when government restrictions around COVID-19 limited attendance. The maximum people allowed in continued the streak. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

90 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Colorado Springs' Judy Bell named president of USGA



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

No. 90 - Jan. 27, 1996 Colorado Springs resident Judy Bell was named president of the United

States Golf Association (USGA) and elected to a two-year term (1996-97). A member of the World Golf and Colorado Golf halls of fame, she was the first female president of the organization since it was founded in 1894. She had been its vice president. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

91 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

Colorado grad Bill Toomey wins gold medal in decathlon



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 91 - Oct. 19, 1968

University of Colorado track All-American and graduate Bill Toomey won the gold medal in the decathlon at the Mexico City Summer Olympic Games. He won three of the 10 events: the 100-meter run, the long jump and the 400-meter run, for which he set a world decathlon record.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

92 Denver's Jerome Biffle wins city's first Olympic gold medal



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 92

July 21, 1952 Denver native, East High School and University of Denver graduate Jerome Biffle wins the gold medal in the broad (long) jump at the Summer Olympics

in Helsinki, Finland. In claiming the gold with a jump of 23.7 meters (78 feet, 10.43 inches), the 23-year-old was the city of Denver's first Olympic gold medal winner and second medalist. He beat Cornell graduate Meredith Gourdin, who earlier had beaten him in the Olympic Trials, for the gold by an inch-and-a-half.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

93 Pueblo Central, Pueblo Centennial football rivalry begins



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 93

Nov. 24, 1992 One of the state's oldest high school football rivalries was born on this Thanksgiving when Pueblo Central defeated Pueblo Centennial, 4-0 (touchdowns were worth four points at the time; the conversion was missed). Cit-

ed previously as one of the greatest moments in Pueblo sports history, the touchdown was scored by Marvin, his first name unknown. They have played 125 times overall, the most of any high school rivalry in the state, and along the way, the game became known as the Bell Game, the 75th of which was played last September. Central leads the series, 63-53, with nine ties.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

94 Denver native Johnny Mauro races in Indianapolis 500



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 94 - May 31, 1948

A native of Denver, 37-year-old Johnny Mauro became the first Coloradan to race in the Indianapolis 500. He started 27th with his Alfa Romeo chassis and engine and completed

198 laps before being flagged, finishing eighth. His average speed was 112.0 miles per hour. Mauro raced in Indy cars for Ferrari in the 1940s and 1950s; his family owned several car dealerships and was the only Ferrari importer in Denver for many years. He passed away due to a car accident in 2003 at the age of 92.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

95 Town and Gown opens — and remains third-oldest public golf club in U.S.



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 95 - May 1898

Town and Gown Golf Club opened in Colorado Springs. To this day, the course is one of the oldest continuously oper-

ated 18-hole public golf courses west of the Mississippi and the third-oldest overall. The course was purchased by William Jewett in 1910 and renamed the Colorado Springs Golf Club. On June 25, 1910, it was renamed in honor of his wife, Patty Jewett, after he died of the property to the city for \$1.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

96 Dave Logan wins 13th state football championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 96 - Dec. 6, 2025

Cherry Creek sprinted to a 28-0 lead and went on to defeat Ralston Valley, 56-28, giving head coach Dave Logan his 13th state championship, his seventh with the Bruins. As the only coach

to win titles at four schools (no one else has more than two), he moved into a tie for the 20th-most nationally. He added to his winnings total in Colorado, as earlier in the decade, he passed Lincoln's Lloyd Caskey, who won 10. Logan's 355 wins are second all-time in the state, as is his .833 winning percentage through the 2025 season.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

97 NWSL awards Denver expansion franchise



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 97

Jan. 30, 2025 The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) awards an expansion franchise to Denver, the league's 10th fran-

chise, which began play earlier this month. The expansion fee was \$110 million and the team was officially named Denver Summit FC. The team made its debut last Saturday, dropping a 2-1 decision to Bay FC at PayPal Park in San Jose. Melissa Kossler scored the first goal in franchise history in the 20th minute.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

98 Hugo's Pearson scores high-school record 12 rushing TDs



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 98

Sept. 26, 1990 Ken Pearson scored a national high school record that still stands — 12 rushing touchdowns in Hugo's 176-6 win over Vona at home. The 12 touchdowns remain a state record and are tied for the second-most in the his-

tory of high school football nationally. The 182 combined points were the most in a Colorado prep game at the time, and almost a century later is still second; the margin of victory (106-0 over Flagler, 104-0 versus Burlington) Pearson died in 2008 at the age of 96.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

99 Broncos icon Floyd Little blows kisses to fans in Mile High goodbye



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 99 - Dec. 14, 1975

Floyd Little capped his nine-year professional career by leading Denver to a 25-10 win over Philadelphia in his final home game. After the Eagles tied the game at 10-10 in the third quarter, he scored what proved to be the winning points with a 66-yard touchdown reception on a screen pass from Steve Ransley. Little then scored the final

points of the game on a 2-yard TD run with 1:57 to play, finishing the game with 66 yards on 19 carries and five receptions for 94 yards. Fans, who braved the 45-degree temperatures to watch the NFL's seventh all-time leading rusher in his final home appearance, gave him standing ovations every time he left the field and carried him off as the blue kisses to the spectators in Mile High Stadium's fabled South Stands Plaza. Little, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026

100 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL Ben Hogan wins Denver Open at Wellshire Golf Course



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 100 - Aug. 22, 1948

Ben Hogan won the Denver Open at Wellshire Golf Course, defeating Fred Haas Jr. by one stroke. Hogan's 18-under par 279 scorecard earned him \$2,150. It was his sixth straight win on the PGA Tour, the second-longest streak at the time and still tied for the third-longest streak. (It was not matched until 2000 by Tiger Woods).

Wellshire opened in August 1926 and will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year. Its history includes the longest active continuous tournament in Colorado (the Wellshire 4-bally Arnold Palmer finishing third in the 1958 Denver Open, two years before returning to the state to win the U.S. Open) and Bill Wright winning the 1959 Public Links title, the first American to win a major golf tournament.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

101 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL Bob Howsam brings minor league baseball to Denver



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 101 - Nov. 29, 1954

After weeks of speculation and negotiation, Bob Howsam purchased the defunct Kansas City franchise for \$75,000

that elevated Denver into the American Association and Triple-A baseball, simultaneously with the New York Yankees remaining the parent club of the franchise with its move to Denver. It would trigger a series of events over the next 40 years for the city to get a major league franchise.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

102 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN Jack Nicklaus wins U.S. Amateur at The Broadmoor on Sept. 19, 1959



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 102 - Sept. 19, 1959

The U.S. Amateur was held for the first time in the state, with 19-year-old Ohio State University junior Jack

Nicklaus emerging as the winner on the Broadmoor East Course, defeating Charlie Coe, 1 up. It was the first USA championship of his career. He won all eight matches over the grueling weeklong test, starting with a 7-and-6 win over Robert Terry Jones III, son of iconic golf star Bobby Jones.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

103 Denver Pioneers hockey wins sixth NCAA title



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 103

April 10, 2004 The Denver Pioneers won their sixth NCAA hockey title — and first in 35 years — with a 4-0 win over the Univer-

sity of Maine in Boston. Gabe Gauthier took a pass from Connor Jones, defeating Charlie Coe, 1 up. It was the first USA championship of his career. He won all eight matches over the grueling weeklong test, starting with a 7-and-6 win over Robert Terry Jones III, son of iconic golf star Bobby Jones.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

104 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL Rockies hockey club debuts vs. Maple Leafs at McNichols Sports Arena



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at coloradosports.org/podcast/.

No. 104 - Oct. 5, 1976

Hockey was back but in the NHL for the first time. The Kansas City Scouts had relocated to Denver as the Colorado Rockies. They won their first

game, defeating the Toronto Maple Leafs, 4-2, before a sparse crowd of 7,359 at McNichols Sports Arena. Rookie Larry Skinner scored the first Colorado goal, which was assisted by Chuck Arnason and Wil Fajenent, who had a goal and two assists. Two Rockies goalies combined to stop 39 of 41 shots.

—Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026

## 105 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Thanks to Suplezio, JUCO World Series lands in Grand Junction



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 105 • May 24, 1959**  
The driving force behind Grand Junction landing the Division I Junior College World Series was Sam Suplezio, who settled there after his professional playing days. The inaugural event the year before was

held in Miami, but the former major league sold the baseball congress on relocating the tournament in 1959 to Grand Junction, where it has been held ever since and played on the field that has been named in his honor. Paris (Texas) Junior College won the first one held in Grand Junction, beating Northeastern Oklahoma in the title game, 14-4.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

## 106 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Air Force football earns first New Year's Day bowl berth



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 106 • Jan. 1, 1955**  
The Air Force Academy, the football program in just its fourth year of existence and ranked No. 6, earned its first New Year's Day bowl berth, opposite No. 10 TCU in the Cotton Bowl.

On a cool, 48-degree day in Dallas, the teams battled to a scoreless tie, combining for 458 yards of offense, as well as fumbling the ball 13 times and turning it over eight times. AFA, in its first season under coach Ben Martin finished 9-2 and was undefeated against state schools (CU, CSU and DU).  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026

## 107 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

# Colorado College erupts for 13 goals in NCAA championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 107 • March 17, 1950**  
Colorado College won the state's first NCAA championship, played in Colorado Springs, as the Tigers' hockey team defeated Boston University, 13-4. Chris Ray led the offensive explosion with four goals and two assists, with Dany Frasca scoring twice and assisting on

two others. CC poured it in on the third period, scoring 10 goals. Coach Cheddy Thompson's team beat Boston College, 10-3 in the semifinals. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati said there was a number of that team. CC (18-5-1) scored 190 goals in 24 games, including 10 or more on nine occasions. The 13 goals remain the most in a championship game, matched just one time — by CU in 1957.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

## 108 Forsberg leads largest comeback in Avalanche history



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 108 • March 3, 1999**  
Peter Forsberg led the largest comeback in Avalanche history, scoring three goals with three assists for six points in Colorado's 7-5 win in Miami. With the Panthers ahead 5-0,

Forsberg got the A's on the board at the 18:11 mark of the second period. Colorado trailed for a team record-high six goals in the third period, with Forsberg scoring the third and final goals, with the other four put in the net by four different players. He was the sixth in Forsberg tied the Avalanche's single-game record set by Joe Sakic in 1996.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

## 109 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# CSU basketball wins surprise WAC title after 'Lean on Me' viewing



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 109 • March 4, 1989**  
Heading into the final day of the regular season, Colorado State men's basketball was 11-4 in Western Athletic Conference play, tied atop the standings with New Mexico and one game up on Texas-Idaho State. Coach Boyd Grant, seeking to ease the tension among the

team, took the Rams to a Friday night movie: "Lean on Me." Pat Durham scored 31 points to lead CSU to a 89-72 win. The Rams shot 78% from the field in the second half (44-of-58, including six 30s) to pull away for a decisive triumph. Later that day, New Mexico was upset at home by Hawaii (71-70). CSU won its first conference title since the Mountain States in 1954.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026

## 110 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Lewis 'Dude' Dent dies in World War II after star career at Craig High



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 110 • Aug. 25, 1944**  
One of the top athletes from northwest Colorado, Lewis "Dude" Dent, was gunned down by Nazi forces near Troyes, France, in World War II. He earned eight letters combined in football, basketball and track at Craig High School and earned a football scholarship

to Colorado A&M, where he earned all-conference honors and the Mountain States Conference "best all-around athlete" honor in 1943. Four credits shy of earning his degree in mechanical engineering, he was called up to fulfill his officer commission. He was awarded the Silver Star posthumously for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

## 111 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Boulder's Carpenter-Phinney wins Olympic gold medal in cycling



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 111 • July 29, 1904**  
Boulder's Connie Carpenter-Phinney became the first American woman to win a gold medal in Olympic road cycling, winning the 78-kilometer race at the Los Angeles Summer games. Neck-

and-neck with fellow American Rebecca Twigg, the two accelerated into a frantic sprint for the final 50 meters, with Carpenter winning by all of 2 inches to claim the gold. It would be 40 years until the next American woman would win the gold. Her husband, Davis Phinney, won a bronze medal in cycling in the same L.A. games.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

## 112 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

# Windsor High School wins national basketball championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

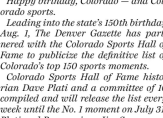
**No. 112 • April 5, 1924**  
Tiny Windsor High School, the two-time state champ from the town with the same name northeast of Loveland and a population of 1,200, won the National Interscholastic Basketball Championship in Chicago, defeating

Yankton, S.D., 25-6. The event started with 40 teams, and in the end the Bulldogs beat four other state champions and won five games in all, the only undefeated team left standing. Champ-ions led the way in the title game with 12 points. The school changed its nickname to Wizards following the win after being referred to as such in media accounts.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

## 113 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

# Nuggets play in the highest-scoring game in NBA history



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 113 • Dec. 13, 1983**  
The highest-scoring game in NBA history took place at McNichols Sports Arena in Denver. The Nuggets and Detroit Pistons combined for 370 points in a three-overtime thriller. The Pistons left town with a 186-184 win. It was tied at 78 at halftime and 145 at the end of regulation. While the Nuggets and

Pistons combined to take 251 shots, each team was just 1-of-2 from 3-point range. Thus, 140 of the 142 field goals were traditional two-point baskets. Six players scored 28 or more points. Four had over 40, with Denver's Kirk Vandeweghe leading all scorers with 51. Alex English added 47 and Dan Issel 28. Detroit was led by Isiah Thomas with 47 points and John Long 41.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

## 114 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Pueblo Junior College wins NJCAA basketball title | March 18, 1961



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 114 • March 18, 1961**  
In Hutchinson, Kan., Pueblo Junior College won the National Junior College Athletic Association's (NJCAA) basketball title, completing a four-game tournament sweep by defeating Tule (Texas), 79-66. Bob Warlick, named the tournament's MVP, led the Indians, scoring 80 total points. He had 26 in the title game. The team was coached by the late Harry Simmons, a 1982 inductee into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame.  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

## 115 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Avalanches' Cale Makar makes history in his NHL debut



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 115 • April 15, 2019**  
One of the great debuts in local hockey history, and it happened in the arena just three days after Cale Makar was named winner of the Hobey Baker Award as the top collegian and two

days after his UMass Minutemen took to Minnesota in a Frozen Four semifinal. Makar made his professional debut in Game 5 of the first round of the Stanley Cup playoffs. The first (and to date only) defenseman in NHL history to make his debut in the playoffs, he scored a goal in his very first game — and on his very first shot-on-goal — in Colorado's 4-1 win over the Calgary Flames. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026

## 116 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# CU Buffs win 'Fifth Down Game' against Missouri



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 116 • Oct. 6, 1990**  
Not exactly the greatest moment in CU Buffs history, but a memorable one since it has occurred three times in history: CU's 39-31 win at Missouri made major headlines. Trailing 31-27, the Buffs had a first-and-goal at the Mizzou 3; quarterback Charles Johnson spiked the ball, and then Eric Bienemy rushed up the middle to the 1; he was stopped short on his next try, and Johnson spiked the ball to stop the clock with

two seconds left. Johnson then scored on a dive up the middle — on what turned out to be fifth down. What happened is that the chain never moved the down marker from second down to make his debut in the playoffs, he scored a goal in his very first game — and on his very first shot-on-goal — in Colorado's 4-1 win over the Calgary Flames. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D4 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

## 117 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Gerald H. and Allan R. Phipps keep pro football in Denver



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 117 • Feb. 14, 1965**  
Until Gerald H. and Allan R. Phipps purchased undisputed control of the Denver Broncos for \$1.5 million on Feb. 14, 1965, to increase their ownership of the team to 94% by gaining 52% with the immediate cash payment, the voting trust headed by spokesman and

team president Calvin Kunz was seriously struggling with selling the team to the Atlanta-based Cox Broadcasting Company. Kunz and the trust had an offer of slightly over \$4 million from the franchise and saved pro football in Denver (they purchased the Denver Bears the same day).  
—Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

## 118 CSU, Wyoming football meet in first 'Border War'



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments. Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31.

**No. 118 • Nov. 30, 1899**  
On Nov. 30, 1899, the first meeting in the series that would eventually be known as the "Border War" took place in Fort Collins Agricultural College (now Colorado State) and the University of Wyoming met for the first time. It was the

first game CSU ever played outside of the state, and it won 12-0 by forfeit after a controversial ending with the officials, who were provided by both schools. They have played 17 times, with CSU leading 60-52 with five ties. They will be in different conferences for the first time in over a century beginning this fall, but the schools have agreed to keep the series alive — it's the opener for both on Sept. 5 in Fort Collins.

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

# 119 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

## 1911 Denver Grizzlies put together one of the best minor-league seasons



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 119**  
 The 1911 Denver Grizzlies of the Class-A Western League were voted one of the top 100 minor league teams of all-time in 2001. The team finished with a 111-54-3 record. Games were much quicker (no radio or television, or lights) as Denver won a game 6-0 at Topeka that

was played in 1 hour and 15 minutes; it had a 14-minute game played in 2:10. Games were called because of darkness or if one or both of the teams needed to catch a train to their next location. A pitcher on that team was named Ed Kinsella — no idea if his name was utilized in 1899's "Field of Dreams" (Kevin Costner played Ray Kinsella, who had a dysfunctional relationship with his major-league pitcher, John).  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

# 120 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

## Wasson's Brett Roller upsets Pomona's Tom Clum at state wrestling



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 120** • Feb. 17, 2001  
 In what many called the biggest prep wrestling upset in state history, Wasson's Brett Roller defeated Pomona's Tom Clum, 13-12, in the Colorado 5A 125-pound state wrestling champion-

ship before over 17,000 at Pepsi Center. At the time, Clum was an undefeated, three-time state champion with a 148-0 career record and was seeking to become the first four-time state champion in Colorado history. Roller earned five points in the final seconds (two for a takedown, three for back points) to win the match. He finished the season with a 9-1 mark.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

# 121 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

## Xplosion's Debbie Black becomes first woman to record quadruple-double



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

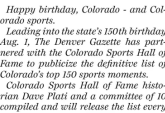
**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 121** • Dec. 8, 1996  
 Colorado State's Debbie Black became the first woman to record a quadruple-double with 10 points, 11 rebounds, 12 assists and 10 steals in a 91-76 home win over the Atlanta Glory. It has occurred only four times officially in the NBA, all before Black's — by Nate Thurmond, Alvin Robertson, Hakeem Olajuwon and David Robinson. However, it's likely Walt Chamberlain did it before blocked shots were tracked. Black's was the last quadruple-double in pro ball. Collectively, Grambling's Shakyla Hill had two, one each in 2018 and 2019.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

win over the Atlanta Glory. It has occurred only four times officially in the NBA, all before Black's — by Nate Thurmond, Alvin Robertson, Hakeem Olajuwon and David Robinson. However, it's likely Walt Chamberlain did it before blocked shots were tracked. Black's was the last quadruple-double in pro ball. Collectively, Grambling's Shakyla Hill had two, one each in 2018 and 2019.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026

# 122 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

## Lakewood upsets Cherry Creek in 4A football title game



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

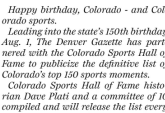
**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 122**  
**Nov. 30, 1985**  
 In what many consider to be one of the greatest high school football games in history, Lakewood, with all of 27 players on its roster, maulheaded heavily favored Cherry Creek, 47-8, in the Class 4A championship game.

It wasn't a fluke. Lakewood finished 13-1 with the Tigers' average margin of victory being 22 points. On a night day at CU's Folsom Field, Lakewood zoomed to a 31-0 halftime lead and never looked back. The Tigers outfought the Bruins 401-194 in total offense in what is still one of — if not the best — most lopsided title games in state prep history.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026

# 123 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

## Denver Spurs win Western Hockey League championship



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 123**  
**May 3, 1972**  
 The Denver Spurs, regular-season champions of the Western Hockey League, went on to win the Lester Patrick Cup by defeating the Portland Buckaroos, 6-0, to clinch the championship series in five games. Denver had

swept the San Diego Gulls in the semifinals. Frank Huck, the league MVP, scored nine goals with four assists in the playoffs. Rookie defencemen Glen Patrick was the first to be presented with the Patrick Cup, as it was named after his famous grandfather. It was the first of three firsts: Patrick was the first to be presented with the Stanley Cup, some 24 years before the Colorado Avalanche won the Stanley Cup.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

# 124 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

## Northern Colorado records state's first College World Series win



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 124** • June 11, 1955  
 In its third appearance in the College World Series, the University of Northern Colorado recorded the first win by a state college in the event, upsetting top-ranked Southern California, 2-1. Wayne Gates doubled home George Sage in the fourth inning giving the Bears a 2-0

lead. Sage pitched a complete game and allowed only six hits, striking out three. UNC then would be eliminated by Wake Forest and Arizona. Northern Colorado has the most appearances of any state school in the College World Series, as the Bears have won 10 District VII and/or Regional titles to advance into the Series, the last time in 1974. The Bears are 3-20 in CWS games.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

# 125 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

## Denver boxer Egan, state's first Olympian, wins gold medal



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 125**  
**Aug. 23, 1920**  
 Denver native and Longmont High graduate Eddie Egan, the state's first Olympian, won the gold medal in the

light heavyweight boxing competition in the 1920 Summer Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium. Twelve years later, he made Olympic history that still hasn't been matched; he became the first and only athlete to win gold medals in the Summer and Winter Olympics in different sports. On Feb. 15, 1932, he was on the U.S. team that won the gold in the four-man bobsled at Lake Placid, New York.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026

# 126

## Colorado Mines, Colorado College meet for first time in football



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list

every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

The first game in one of the longest rivalries in college football was played in Colorado Springs, with Colorado Mines defeating Colorado College on Thanksgiving Day, 14-6. The two would meet 89 times through 1960, with Mines winning the last 11 to lead the series 46-8-8 before it was discontinued.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026

## 127 Sports broadcasting debuts on Denver airwaves



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 127**  
**Feb. 10, 1922**  
 KDKA-Radio (Pittsburgh) was the first to broadcast sporting events on radio in 1921, beginning with a prize fight between Jim Braddock and Gus Moran. The "first" sports broadcast in Colorado was on an experimental station owned by H.H. Buehler and located at 713 Lincoln St. While not a true complete broadcast in the sense, on Feb. 10, 1922, constant live updates were provided for CU's 29-20 basketball win on DU. On April 15,

1926, the first full game involving a team from the state to broadcast, as 5,000-watt KOA-Radio, which began broadcasting in 1924, then located at 830 AM on the air, picked up the Denver Bears' season opener at St. Joseph (Denver 6-1) in 1921, beginning with a prize fight before expanding into sports. The "first" once again was KOA, which selected the annual CU-DU Thanksgiving Day clash at DU Stadium. The stage was set for the first live-air from the previous night until the 2 p.m. kickoff. Denver won the game, 20-9.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026

## 128 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

### CU Buffs pitcher Bob McGraw sets college strikeout record



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 128**  
**May 22, 1914**  
 University of Colorado freshman pitcher Bob McGraw — a future major leaguer — struck out what remained a state strikeout record 20 batters in the Silver and Gold's 7-1 win against Col-

orado College in Boulder. In throwing a two-hitter, McGraw also went 2-for-4 at the plate with a home run. It was the second-most strikeouts at the time in college baseball, and the win also clinched the RMAC title for CU. In 1917, he signed with the Philadelphia Phillies and became the state's first player to reach the major leagues. CU Buffers struck out 13 times for 33 total whiffs in the game.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

## 129 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

### 'Little World Series of the West' integrates Negro League players



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 129**  
**May 22, 1934**  
 The 19th edition of the baseball tournament that came to be known as the "Little World Series of the West" was integrated for the first time. Organizers wanted the tournament to feature the most competitive teams. Thus, they invited Negro

League players to participate for the first time, starting with the Kansas City Monarchs (the Negro League champions) and Denver White Elephants. The White Elephants featured the only Colorado-born player in the Negro League. Theodor "Bub" Anderson, a 2025 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame inductee. The tournament started in 1915 and attracted the top semi-pro teams in the sport until it was discontinued in the mid-1940s.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

## 130 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

### National Western Stock Show born in Denver on Jan. 29, 1906



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 130**  
**Jan. 29, 1906**  
 The National Western Stock Show was born out of a few stock fairs and exhibits. It was originally called the Western Live Stock Show and was held in the stock yards in North Denver. Three local businessmen were credited with organizing the initial gathering of no less than six associations: Elias Ammons and George Ballantine of the Denver Union Stock Yard Company

and Fred P. Johnson (publisher of the Record-Stockman). When all was said and done, 351 cattle, sheep and hogs were shown over the six-day event. One of the early precursors to the National Western was on June 30, 1874, when the Denver Blood Stock Association's Blood Stock Fair opened. It was five days of showing thoroughbred cattle divided into five groupings of purebred cattle: Shorthorns, Herefords, Devons, Jerseys & Ayrshires and Galloways. A purse offered \$15,000 in prizes.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

## 131 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

### Tebow, Thomas lift Broncos to OT playoff win over Steelers



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 131**  
**Jan. 8, 2012**  
 The heavily favored Pittsburgh Steelers battled back from a 20-6 deficit to force overtime with the Denver Broncos after tying the game at 21-21 in an AFC wild-card game. Denver got the ball first at its own 20 to start the extra session, which would last all of 11 seconds. Tim Tebow threw a

play-action pass to Demaryius Thomas, who caught the ball at the Denver 38 and outran Steelers defenders to the end zone for an 80-yard score and a 29-21 Broncos win that culminated in the quickest ending to an overtime in NFL history. The previous quickest involved a former Colorado Buffaloes quarterback's battering Day 1980, David Williams returned the overtime kickoff after tying the game at 21-21 with a 25-yard punt that landed in the end zone. Tebow threw a 25-7 win at Detroit — 16 seconds into the extra session.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026

## 132 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

### Pikes Peak International Hill Climb makes its debut in 1916



**Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports.**  
 Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.  
 Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Platt and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Platt and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/).

**Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:**  
**No. 132**  
**Aug. 10-12, 1916**  
 The Pikes Peak International Hill Climb was run for the first time. Originally intended to stimulate tourism in the Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak region, the race drew tremendous crowds from the start. Initially called the Pikes Peak Auto Hill

Climb, Rex Lertz in a Romano Special won the inaugural race that covered 12.42 miles in 20:55.6, with Floyd Oymer winning the motorcycle class with a time of 29:50.41. Through the years, the legendary Unser family (Louis, Bobby, Al, Robbie and Al Jr.) won a combined 25 times racing the course, which covers a 4,725-foot elevation gain — starting at 5,900 feet to a summit of 14,315 feet — with 15 turns in between.  
 —Dave Platt, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026

# 133 CSU Rams' Becky Hammon scores 30 in final home game



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 133, March 15, 1999** Playing in their final home (a second-round NCAA Tournament game), Colorado State senior Becky Hammon scored 30 points to lead the Rams to an 86-70 win over Southwest Missouri State to advance to the Sweet 16. Hammon was 9-of-22 from the field and 16-of-17 from the line and had eight assists. CSU finished 33-3 that season after dropping the next game to UCLA. She scored 21 points in the 77-68 loss to the Bruins, finishing as the state's all-time leading scorer by a woman's collegian (2,740 points). —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

# 134 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN Denver Rockets' Haywood sets ABA scoring record with 59 points



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 134, April 15, 1970** Spencer Haywood scored an ABA-record 59 points in the regular-season finale, leading the Denver Rockets to a 123-116 win over the Los Angeles Stars in Denver. He also grabbed 25 rebounds (and added three assists). The record would stand for two years. The 152 points matched Denver's most in an ABA game at that point, first done just a week before (April 8) against the Dallas Chaparrals in a 192-113 home win. Denver would top the 152 points three times in future ABA play, 156 and 151 in overtime games and in a 155-128 regulation win over Virginia when all 10 players scored in double figures. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

# 135 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL VP George H.W. Bush surprises in 'Denver Dream' game at Mile High



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 135, July 13, 1984** The second "Denver Dream" old-timers baseball game took place behind closed doors at Mile High Stadium. The highlight was Vice President George H.W. Bush not only in attendance, but playing in the game. Donning a Denver Bears uniform, he went 1-for-2 from the plate. He first batted Warren Spahn, popping up to second baseman Milt Pappas (who intentionally dropped the ball) before singling to center his next time up. He also played a couple of innings at first base, where he robbed Tony Oliva of a single — guaranteed by members of the Secret Service. The 80-year-old Bush was in town for the state's GOP convention that weekend. On hand to sign autographs among many Hall of Famers included Joe DiMaggio and Billy Martin. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

# 136 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL Former Colorado Buffalo Steve Jones wins 1996 U.S. Open



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 136, June 16, 1996** The second Colorado high school annual (Yuma) and the second Colorado Buffalo to win the U.S. Open, turning in a 2-and-putt performance (71-66/69-69-79) at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., defeating Tom Lehman and Davis Love III by one stroke. The three battled it out over the back nine, and all were tied at 2-under down the stretch. Love and Jones and Jones and Lehman and Lehman at the 18th tee. Love 3-putted, Lehman bogeyed. Jones hit his approach to 32 feet and 3-putted for a 2. The win wasn't a fluke; only 51 under-par rounds were recorded over the four days, and Jones was the only player with three. In the process, he became the first sectional qualifier to win the U.S. Open in 20 years. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026

# 137 Denver Nuggets' Rodney Rogers scores nine points in 9 seconds



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 137, Feb. 8, 1994** Though Denver lost the game to Utah, Nuggets forward Rodney Rogers accomplished a feat unmatched prior to or since. He scored nine points in as many seconds on three 3-point field goals. He made the first from the top of the key with 29 seconds to play. Robert Pack stole the ball and fed it to him, and Rogers drilled the second from the same spot with 24 seconds on the clock. He then stole the inbound pass himself and struted to the 3-point line on the right baseline and sank his third 3-pointer with 20 seconds to go. The crowd at McNichols Sports Arena went bananas. But Jeff Malone made the game-winner for the Jazz with 12 seconds left for a 96-95 win. Rogers suffered a paralyzing accident in 2008 and died in November at the age of 54. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026

# 138 Hot Sulphur Springs hosts first Winter Sports Carnival



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 138, Feb. 14-15, 1912** The Winter Sports Club of Hot Sulphur Springs hosted the state's first Winter Sports Carnival that drew 8,000 spectators, with competitors included. The competitions included sledding, skating, cross-country skiing and jumping. Norwegian transplant Carl Howchen, who moved to the state a year earlier, was the star, winning the jumping event with a 79-foot leap. Hot Sulphur Springs is halfway between Kremmling and Granby. So, it does beg the question: In 1912, how did 8,000 people get there, and where did they stay? —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026

# 139 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL Air Force's John McBroom goes 9-for-9 with 12 RBIs in 38-7 win



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 139, May 10, 1967** In perhaps the greatest single game in Colorado baseball history, Air Force senior outfielder John McBroom had a career day in the Falcons' 38-7 win over Colorado College. He set what still stands as NCAA records as he batted 1,000 — going 9-for-9, the most hits in a single game and highest 1,000 average when a player did not make an out. He scored six runs, had 12 runs batted in and 19 total bases. (The latter two are still Air Force records.) He almost hit for the cycle twice — to become a one, one, triple, three doubles and four singles. He would go on to home runs, in addition, among several accomplishments, in retiring as a major leaguer. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026

# 140 SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL Arapahoe Basin ski area begins operations after World War II



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 140, Nov. 1, 1946** Arapahoe Basin is the first ski area after World War II to begin operations in the state. It bordered the Continental Divide with a summit elevation of 13,050 feet, one of highest ski resorts in the world. The original cost was estimated at \$100,000, which included two lifts, a rope tow and trails. Lift tickets for the '46-47 ski season were just \$1.25. A year later, it added its first chair lift and attendance soared to over 12,000 (70,000 by the '61-62 season). —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

# 141 Denver Bears set minor-league attendance record



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **July 3, 1962** Denver entered the national record books again, as the Bears' annual fireworks night drew a minor-league record 65,666 fans, as announced at the time. The Denver fire marshal told team officials the crowd had to be capped at that number; in actuality, the true attendance was 73,135, as confirmed years later by business manager Bobby Burris. (Not to mention by looking at an aerial photo of the Mile High Stadium from that night. In no way were there 10,000 empty seats. Omaha's Bill Kelly had a no-hitter entering the sixth and had it broken up with a triple by Denver native and Abraham Lincoln High School grad Nick Capra.) —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026

# 142 SESQUICENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN Denver Broncos become the first AFL team to beat an NFL team



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **No. 142, Aug. 5, 1967** The Broncos became the first AFL team to defeat an NFL team, downing the Detroit Lions, 19-10, at J.F. Shuttlesworth in what some called "The Little Super Bowl." The Lions' Alex Karras stood prior to the game there was no way Denver would win, and if it did, he'd be back to Detroit. Did he? Of course not. Two weeks later, the Broncos beat Minnesota, 14-3, also at J.F. Stadium. It was the first year the Broncos began playing the pre-season ahead of the 1970 AFL-NFL merger. Of the 15 preseason games that first year, the AFL won three, two by the Broncos. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

# 143 CSU's Lightfoot scores most points by a Colorado Division I player



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **Jan. 5, 1962** Colorado State senior guard Kathy Lightfoot scored 45 points in a 118-44 win over Southern Colorado in Fort Collins — to date the most points in a single game by a Division I player in the state. Lightfoot made 21 field goals and was 3 of 4 from the free-throw line. The state's best for women encompassing all divisions is a 61-point effort by the late Carroll Little of Southern Colorado (now CSU Pueblo) in an 82-80 overtime loss to St. Mary's of the Plains on Dec. 3, 1959. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

# 144 TOP 150 COLORADO SPORTS MOMENTS Altitude Sports Network launches — with NHL in lockout



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **Sept. 4, 2004** At 12:30 p.m. Mountain Standard Time, the Altitude Sports & Entertainment Network went on the air, property of Kroeber Sports Enterprises (KSE). Over a million was spent on building a studio, installing production equipment, hiring personnel and marketing the channel. The first program, a 30-minute special on the making of the network. There reportedly were 800,000 to 1,000,000 subscribers to its launch. The first game was supposed to be the Colorado Avalanche's season opener at home (on Oct. 1, against the San Jose Sharks, but the NHL lockout on Sept. 16 canceled the season). —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

# 145 TOP 150 COLORADO SPORTS MOMENTS Zephyrs' Meyer blasts 582-foot home run at Mile High Stadium



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **June 2, 1967** The Denver Zephyrs' Joey Meyer hit what many have documented as the second-longest home run in baseball history — 582 feet — in the Zephyrs' 14-7 win over the Buffalo Bisons. Meyer's shot landed in the upper deck. In left field of Mile High Stadium's massive east stands, Meyer hit three homers that night, driving in seven runs. The longest ball came on a 2-2 pitch from Mike Murphy in the bottom of the seventh inning. On Sept. 10, 1969, in Detroit, Mickey Mantle hit a homer estimated at 643 feet. Mantle's shot in the Yankees' 5-1 win over the Tigers is universally considered the longest home run. —Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026

# 146 Muhammad Ali, Lyle Alzado battle in boxing exhibition at Mile High



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, The Denver Gazette has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publish the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccamano

will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast/](http://coloradosports.org/podcast/). Today's top moment in Colorado sports history: **July 14, 1975** It was only an exhibition, as former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali fought an eight-round match against Denver Broncos defensive lineman Lyle Alzado. Around 20,000 fans attended the event at Mile High Stadium, which wasn't officially scored but went all eight rounds; most, if not all, thought Ali won easily. About 600 miles to the east that same night, Jamie Festerly of the Denver Bears pitched a fastball game in the Bears' 10-0 win over the Iowa Oaks in Des Moines. That was the last of seven no-hitters in Denver's minor-league history that spanned over 100 years.

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026

# Wheat Ridge boys tennis snaps Cherry Creek's record streak



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [csu-coloradosports.org/podcast](http://csu-coloradosports.org/podcast).

Sept. 13, 2000

In high school boys tennis, Wheat Ridge defeated Cherry Creek, 5-2, ending the Bruins' remarkable dual-match winning streak at 316, the longest in the nation. In 1991, it was Wheat Ridge that ended Cherry Creek's run of 19 straight state championships, a national record. The streak, which began in 1972, remains the second longest of any sport in the country, behind only the Brandon, Fla., wrestling team that won 439 consecutive dual meets from 1973 into 2008.

— Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026

# Denver Racquets win state's first pro championship



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [csu-coloradosports.org/podcast](http://csu-coloradosports.org/podcast).

do Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast](http://coloradosports.org/podcast).

Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:

No. 148

Aug. 26, 1974

The first championship by a Denver professional team, excluding minor league baseball, was claimed by the Denver Racquets, who won the inaugural World Team Tennis league title. The Racquets defeated the top-seed-

ed Philadelphia Freedoms, 2-0, in the best-of-three finale. Denver had won the Pacific Section with a 20-14 record and defeated the San Francisco Golden Gators and the Minnesota Huskies to reach the finale. The teams were coed. Philadelphia was led by Billie Jean King, the league MVP. Australian Tony Roche was Denver's player-coach. The team also had the playoffs MVP in Andrew Pattison.

— Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026

- 45 - To be announced
- 44 - To be announced
- 43 - To be announced
- 42 - To be announced
- 41 - To be announced
  
- 40 - To be announced
- 39 - To be announced
- 38 - To be announced
- 37 - To be announced
- 36 - To be announced
  
- 35 - To be announced
- 34 - To be announced
- 33 - To be announced
- 32 - To be announced
- 31 - To be announced

- 30 - To be announced
- 29 - To be announced
- 28 - To be announced
- 27 - To be announced
- 26 - To be announced
  
- 25 - To be announced
- 24 - To be announced
- 23 - To be announced
- 22 - To be announced
- 21 - To be announced

SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL

# Bob Martin hosts the state's first sports talk show



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's 150th birthday Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast](http://coloradosports.org/podcast).

do Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast](http://coloradosports.org/podcast).

Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:

No. 149

April 12, 1965

Bob Martin hosted the first sports talk show in the state — and possibly the nation — when he hosted "Sports Line" and interviewed Broncos head coach Mac Speedie and took calls from the public. It aired for one hour

(6-7 p.m.) on KTLN-Radio (1280 AM). Speedie had been named interim head coach the previous October when Jack Faulkner was fired, with the interim tag removed with an announcement Dec. 12, 1965. Speedie played pro ball for the Cleveland Browns (1946-52), Saskatchewan Roughriders (1953-54) and BC Lions (1963) before coaching the Houston Oilers (1960-61) and Broncos (1964-66).

— Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

# Colorado College football defeats University of Denver Ministers, 12-0



Happy birthday, Colorado — and Colorado sports. Leading into the state's sesquicentennial (150th) birthday on Aug. 1, *The Denver Gazette* has partnered with the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame to publicize the definitive list of Colorado's top 150 sports moments.

Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian Dave Plati and a committee of 10 compiled and will release the list every

week until the No. 1 moment on July 31. Plati and Broncos icon Jim Saccomano will unveil the list weekly on a Colorado Sports Hall of Fame podcast at [coloradosports.org/podcast](http://coloradosports.org/podcast).

Today's top moment in Colorado sports history:

No. 150

April 11, 1885

In the first intercollegiate football game played west of the Mississippi River, Colorado College defeated the

University of Denver Ministers, 12-0. Newspaper accounts early on never listed any stats or even most of the scoring plays, opting to mostly write about who played in the game and who was the stoutest. Both institutions had been around for a while — DU since 1864 and CC since 1874, with the first intercollegiate football game taking place in 1869 (Rutgers 6, Princeton 4). The game methodically spread west.

— Dave Plati, Colorado Sports Hall of Fame historian

D2 | THE DENVER GAZETTE | TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026

- 20 - To be announced
- 19 - To be announced
- 18 - To be announced
- 17 - To be announced
- 16 - To be announced
- 15 - To be announced
- 14 - To be announced
- 13 - To be announced
- 12 - To be announced
- 11 - To be announced

- 10 - To be announced
- 9 - To be announced
- 8 - To be announced
- 7 - To be announced
- 6 - To be announced
  
- 5 - To be announced
- 4 - To be announced
- 3 - To be announced
- 2 - To be announced
- 1 - To be announced

