

Mary Osborne

Billings West High School



Mary Therese Osborne excelled in sports at Billings West High School, at Stanford University and reached the pinnacle of amateur sports by qualifying for the 1980 U.S. Olympic team.

At Billings West, Osborne lettered three years in basketball and three years in track, earning All-State honors in both sports all three years. As a senior in high school she was also a *Parade* All American and Carnation/National High School Association "Prep All-American Girl Athlete." She also received the Hertz No. 1 award as the top high school athlete in the state both as a junior and senior - the only athlete from any state to ever win the award twice in the national program deigned to honor the top athlete in each state.

In basketball she helped Billings West to second place in the state as a senior. In track she won five individual state titles, including the javelin championship three years plus the shot put and discus titles as a senior. She was third at state in both the shot put and discus as a junior after placing third in the shot put and fourth in the discus as a sophomore.

As a junior in 1978, Osborne had the best javelin throw in the nation by a high school girl with a toss of 175 feet, 6 inches.

As a senior, she received the AAU Little Sullivan Award as the outstanding amateur athlete in the state.

Osborne balanced out athletics and academics. She was the salutatorian of the graduating class of 750 students, served as president of National Honor Society, was a Montana Girls' State delegate and was the 1979 Exchange Club Youth of the Year.

Osborne entered Stanford University in the fall of 1979 and completed an undergraduate degree in three years and a graduate degree in her fourth year. During that time she earned four varsity letters in track and one in basketball. She was a two-time college All-American in track and field, was the Western Collegiate Athletic Association javelin champion in 1983, AIAW national runner-up in the javelin in 1980 and was named Stanford's Female Athlete of the Year in 1980.

Osborne made the 1980 U.S. Olympic track and field team in the javelin, but did not get to compete in the Olympics because that was the year the United States boycotted the Olympic Games held in Russia to protest the Russian invasion of Afghanistan.

Osborne now lives in Boulder, Colorado, where she is total quality coordinator at the University of Colorado.