

# Coalgate Record Register

Volume 136 Number 1 COALGATE, OKLAHOMA 74538 Coal County (USPS 120140) 50¢ Wednesday, MARCH 13, 2019

## Tisha Martin: Under the goal doing her part - then and now

—By Bonnie Lemons

One of the four named to the 2019 Coalgate Hall of Fame is Tisha Martin, a 1987 graduate and outstanding athlete of Coalgate High School.

“Tisha was an exceptional athlete,” Tisha’s teammate and lifelong friend Kerry Manning pointed out. “There was literally no sport that she didn’t or couldn’t excel at from the hardwood, on the diamond, to leaping over the high jump bar.”

It’s hard to tell which sport she excelled the most in – basketball or track! Her former coach, the late George Heck, is remembered for telling Tisha to “suck that butt up or you are never going to clear that bar!”

Probably her most outstanding statistic is the fact she still holds the all-time scoring record in a single basketball game with 56 points. She earned that during a game against Antlers in her senior year under the coaching of Gary Hummingbird.

The list of accomplishments for this great lady during her high school career goes on and on. These are a few:

### **Basketball**

Little Dixie Conference Team: Sophomore, junior and senior years

Named Little Dixie Conference Forward of the Year, 1987

Ada and Kiamichi All Area Senior Antlers Tournament MVP, junior and senior years

Murray All-Tournament Team, senior year

### **Track**

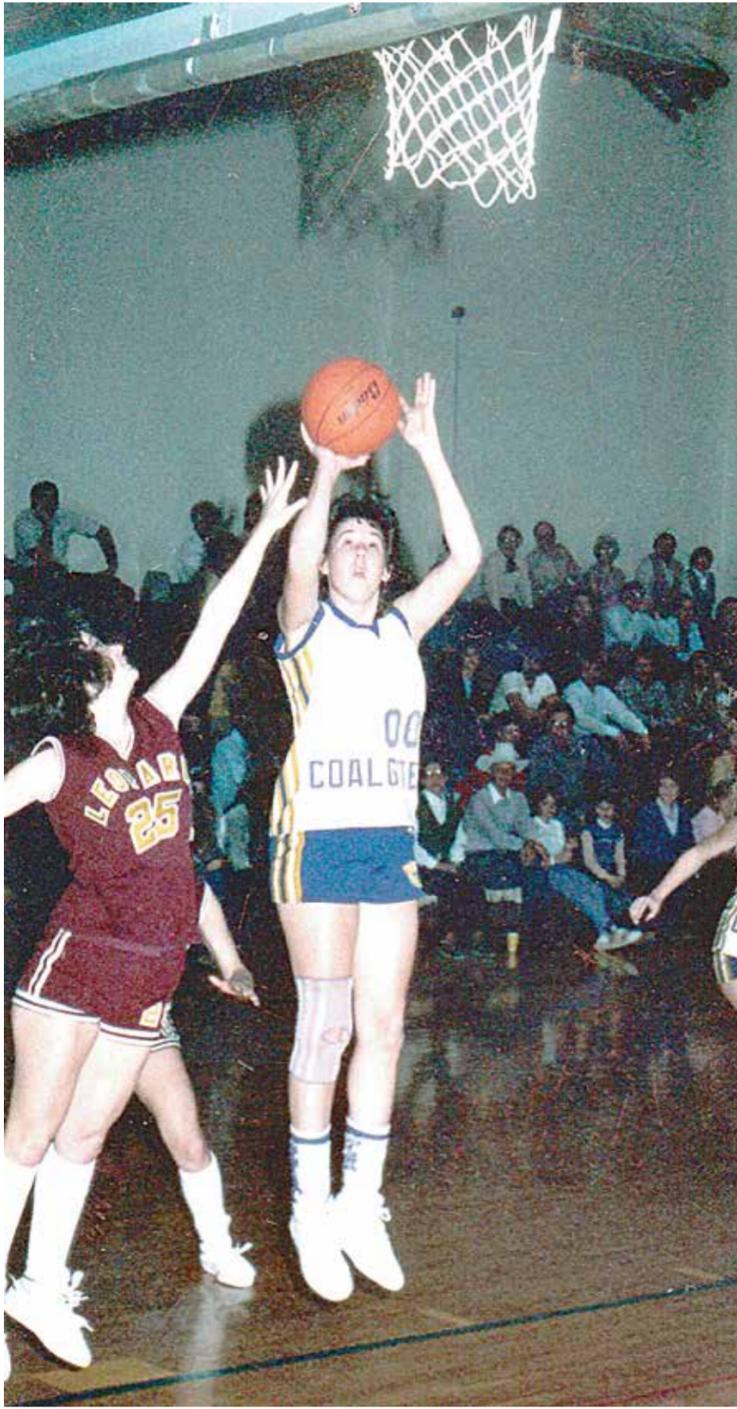
Qualified for State ALL four years of high school

State Champion High Jump: Freshman year

All-State Track 1984, putting Coalgate High on the map as the First All-State Athlete in Track

State Runner Up High Jump: Junior year

In talking with some of her school teammates it is easy to tell how much



Tisha Martin holds the Coalgate HS all-time basketball scoring record in a single game with 56 points.

she was and is still thought of.

Still a good friend, Jamie Massie Mathews recalls, “...it didn’t seem quite as impressive then as it does to me now, because we were a team and we were friends. Tisha was most definitely an outstanding

athlete but was always a team player.” Mathews remembers, “just having fun.”

Kerry Manning’s most memorable basketball game was playing Rattan in the Antlers tourney finals.

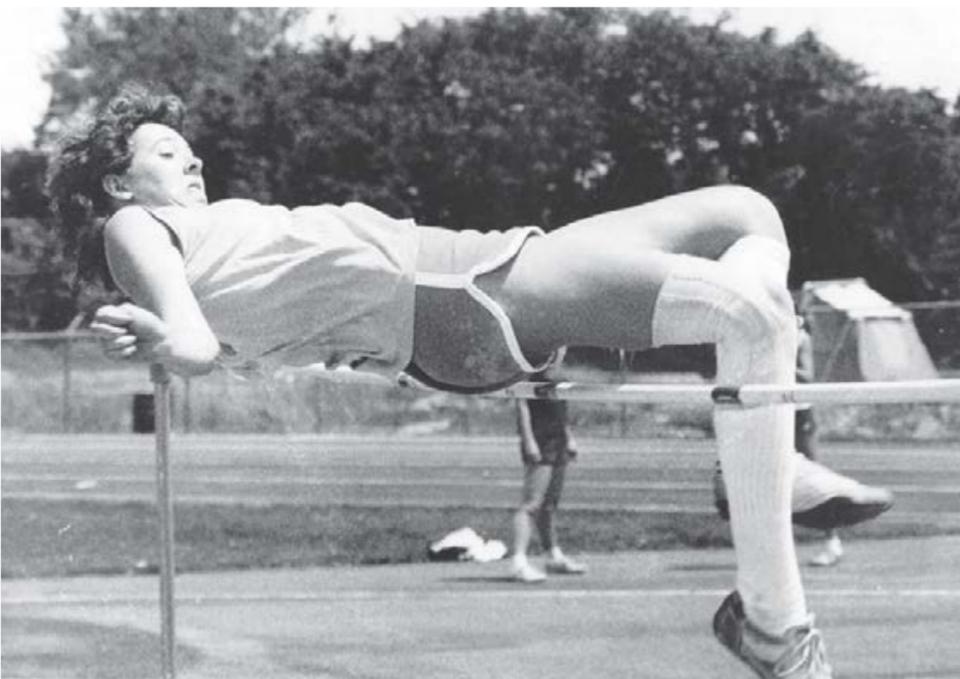
Back in those days, the girls played 6 on 6 and Tisha was the team’s All Star forward. With only seconds remaining on the clock, Rattan made the go ahead shot and their players and fans all went wild thinking they had just won. However, as the ball went through the net, Manning had called a timeout. Manning brought the ball out, chunked it to Tisha on the circle at half court, and in one motion Martin jumped up, caught the ball, turned in the air, and shot! SHE MADE IT!!!! I really suspect those girls still hear the crowd today!

“You deserve this honor,” teammate Tanya Standridge Branam commented. “It was most definitely my honor to be on the same team as you and be able to tell people what an amazing person you were and how great of an athlete you were!”

Following her high school graduation, Tisha went on to continue her athletic history while attending Seminole Junior College and playing under Coach Mike McGaha.

Following many offers and signing a letter of intent with a full scholarship to the University of Missouri, Tisha decided to attend East Central University in Ada, 1989-93. She was All Conference Honorable Mention in 1990.

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Tisha Martin competing in high jump during her freshman year at Coalgate High School.



**SMART COOKIE CLUB** — Stella Ward was the Smart Cookie of the Day after winning a drawing for a beautiful world globe. (Photo submitted by Coal County Public Library.) (Full story and more photos pages A-7 and B-8)

## Coal County Chamber of Commerce Announces Date for Annual Meeting & Banquet

The annual meeting and Chamber Banquet will be held on March 28, 2018 @ 6:00 o’clock p.m. @ the Coal County Fair Barn located at 1618 S.W. Railroad Street, Coalgate, OK. The theme this year is “A Taste of Italy”. The guest speaker will be

Coalgate’s own, Cindy Byrd, the 13<sup>th</sup> Oklahoma State Auditor & Inspector, and the only woman in Oklahoma history to hold this office.

Entertainment this year will be provided by Richard Hart, a jazz artist.

Two individuals and one organization will receive our annual community awards. Recipients of those awards are: Cindy Byrd – Lifetime Achievement Award, James Elkins – Community Service Award, and the Hurley Manor

Volunteers – Community Service Award.

An election will be held for several officers and directors positions. Anyone interested in running for an officer or director position should call the Chamber to have their name listed on the election ballot.

Tickets for this event are as follows: Individual tickets are \$25.00 per person or a table sponsorship is \$300.00. The reserved table sets eight (8). You may reserve a table, ticket or purchase tickets by calling the Chamber @ (580) 927-2119.

# Tisha Martin: Under the goal doing her part - then and now

Continued from Front Page  
Shandell Steckman Sears, a college teammate, recalls a "rebounding and jump shot maniac!"

Plagued with knee injuries and several surgeries, Tisha graduated in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in Education with an endorsement in Physical Education.

During the 2011-2012 school year, Tisha was named Latta Teacher of the Year where she has

taught special education since 1994.

Current fellow employee/contractor Gaytha Ziegelmeier says of Martin: "She is hands down absolutely one of the BEST special education teachers I've had the pleasure of working alongside in my 16 years in the school systems! I visit over 12 districts and Tisha outshines soooo many others! Her heart, grace, mercy, compassion and tenderness for her students is remarkable!"

If you know Tisha, you know her love for her family.

Her number one fans were her parents, E. C. and Emma Martin. Her sister, Linda Sizemore, and Linda's two small children, Shavon and Zach, traveled all over the state to watch her play ball. Linda didn't know much of the time where she was driving the group to, but with E. C.'s navigation they always arrived in time to find a seat and cheer their favorite player on. Her brother, Gary Martin, keeps the family farm going and many weekends Tisha can be found at "home" enjoying her family time.

Pat (Shores) Coleman may have summed it up the best:

"What fun she was to watch! Very athletic, good attitude, shared the ball well and was always ready under the goal to do her part."

In the game of life, Tisha is still under the goal...doing her part!



Tisha Martin was a basketball standout on the ECU Tiger team. She was awarded All Conference Honorable Mention in 1990.

## LEGAL NOTICE

(Published in the Coalgate Record Register March 13 & 20, 2019, 2t)  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF COAL COUNTY  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Patsy Ann Walters, Deceased.  
Case No. PB-2018-16

NOTICE OF HEARING FIRST AND FINAL ACCOUNT, PETITION FOR DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION, APPROVAL OF ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS AND EXPENSES, AND DISCHARGE OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Notice is hereby given that, Jesse Yother, the duly appointed and qualified Special Administrator of the Estate of Patsy Ann Walters, Deceased, has filed his Final Account, Petition for Decree of Distribution, Approval of Attorneys' Fees, Costs and Expenses, and Discharge of Personal Representative. A hearing has been fixed by the Judge of the Court for the 11th day of April, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in the District Courtroom, County Courthouse, 4 N. Main St., Coalgate, Coal County, Oklahoma, and all persons interested in the Estate are notified to appear and show cause, if any they have, why the Account should not be settled and allowed, the Estate distributed, the Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Expenses approved, and the Personal Representative discharged.

DATED this 6th day of March, 2019.

SJD, Clay Mowdy  
JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT

Johnny Sandmann, OBA #32110  
Complete Legal

28 North Main  
Coalgate, OK 74538  
P: 580-927-2314  
F: 580-927-2315

302 E Court St  
Atoka, OK 74525  
P: 580-889-9428  
F: 580-889-9430

LPXLP

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