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Former CU standout Haldorson named to Colorado Springs hall of fame

By TOM KENSLER | No Comments

Former University of Colorado men's basketball standout Burdette Haldorson was named today to the 2011 class of the Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame.

Among those joining Halderson in the 12th class are former Air Force quarterback Dee Dowis, high school basketball coaching legend Dan McKiernan, USA Hockey executive Dave Ogrean, disabled athlete Jeni Armbruster and the 1961 U.S. Figure Skating Team.

Formal induction will be Oct. 25 at the Colorado Springs World Arena.

Here is the bio of Haldorson supplied by the Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame:

Burdette Haldorson

Haldorson, a Colorado Springs resident for over forty years, left an amazing imprint in the University of Colorado basketball record book. The Austin, Minnesota, native still holds four school rebounding records some five decades after his CU playing days, including the most in a half (21), game (31) and season (346). As a senior in 1954-55, he led the Buffs to the Big Seven title by averaging 23.9 points per game, and was also named as a first-team All-American.

CU eventually went on to finish third in the nation, losing at the Final Four to eventual champion San Francisco and the legendary Bill Russell. Haldorson earned two gold medals in 1956 and 1960 as a member of the U.S. Olympic team, went on to have a brilliant career in the National Industrial Basketball League as a member of the Phillips 66ers, the team entry for Phillips 66, which hired him after his playing career. He moved to Colorado Springs to form his own gas and oil distribution business in the late 1960s. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame last summer with the 1960 Olympic Team, and is a member of the CU Athletic Hall of Fame and the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame.

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