

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Roland Oscar and Carolyn Gregory Conrad**

Roland and Carolyn met in the 6th grade and both are very athletic. Roland got a football scholarship at Sam Houston State College. His team was the only undefeated football team at the university.

Carolyn excelled in softball and volleyball. She traveled to Paris France in 1956 to play in the World's Volleyball tournament and was an All-American for 6 years. Both are in Halls of Fame for their athletic skills.

Roland and Carolyn spent 63 years together in the education field, mostly in Needville. Roland was coach for 20 years and voted into the Texas High School Coaches Hall of Honor. Then transitioned into administration, retiring in 1992. Carolyn was a teacher and a volleyball coach.

They share stories about sports, attending games, outstanding players, teachers, coaches, administrators, and living in Needville.

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Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Hilda Conrad – Roland’s mother
 Willie Conrad – Roland’s father
 Daniel Conrad – Roland’s brother
 Clinton Conrad – Roland’s brother
 James Graeber – Roland’s classmate
 Leroy Wenzel – Carolyn’s classmate
 Louis Ludwig – Needville Superintendent
 Mr. Rutledge – Texas High School Coaches Association
 Tim Teykl – Terry HS football coach
 Ron Pope – football player, judge
 Neal Kalinowski – football player
 Tom Stavinoha – football player
 Kelly Kaluza – football player
 Cassius Clay – World Champion boxer
 Joe Yelderman – Needville physician
 John Harrison – teacher & principal
 Leroy Deiss – school employee
 August Konvicka – classmate
 Bubba Gregory – Carolyn’s father
 Louise Kneitz Gregory – Carolyn’s mother
 Barbara Roanes – Louise’s sister
 Mr. Kneitz – Carolyn’s grandfather
 Russell Lee Conrad – adopted son
 Fred Grahman – retired principal
 Bradley Stavinoha – student and friend
 Ronald Warncke – football player, West Point graduate, physician

Leroy Miksch – basketball coach
 Coach Eudiy– football coach
 Tim Weighats – student

Places / Businesses

Lavaca County, Texas
 Rosenberg, Texas
 Beasley, Texas
 World War II
 Houston, Texas
 Pleak, Texas
 Germany
 Hallettsville, Texas
 Shiloh, Texas
 Needville, Texas
 Amegy Bank
 Richmond, Texas
 Corpus Christi, Texas
 Delmar Junior College
 Texas A & I
 Florida State
 University of Houston
 Sam Houston State Teacher’s College
 Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas
 Refrigerator Bowl, Evansville, IN
 El Campo, Texas
 American Softball Association
 Paris, France
 United States Volleyball Association
 Nebraska
 California

Helms Athletic Foundation Volleyball	Freeport, Texas
Huntsville, Texas	Southwestern Bell
Falfurrias, Texas	Damon, Texas
Needville School	Austria-Hungary
Lamar Consolidated	Ellis Island, New York
Texas High School Coaches Association Hall of Honor	Galveston, Texas
Terry High School	Kneitzville/Fairchilds
Yokem, Texas	World War I
Tyler Junior College, Texas	New Waverly, Texas
Kilgore Junior College	Crosby, Texas
Colorado County	Sheridan, Texas
Guy, Texas	Katy, Texas
Alvin, Texas	Rice High School, Colorado County
Angleton, Texas	Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD
	West Point, New York

Events

Roland's college football team was the only undefeated team at Sam Houston State at that time. He is also in the Texas High School Coaches Hall of Honor.

Carolyn was All-American for 6 years including playing a World volleyball tournament in Paris, France. She is in the Volleyball Hall of Fame and was Woman Player of the Year in 1956.

They share family history, growing up in a small, farming community, meeting in 6th grade; and attending lots of sporting events.

They married in 1957 and later adopted a son.

Both enjoyed teaching and coaching and especially getting to know the students and parents.