

**INTERVIEW WITH TERRY HULL CRAWFORD  
CONDUCTED BY TOM SCOTT AND COPPLEY VICKERS  
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- TS:** Terry, I know you grew up in Greenville, Tennessee. I'm assuming that back in the '60s when you went to high school, they didn't have a girls' track team. Why don't you talk about how you got involved in track?
- TC:** Well, that is a unique story. I feel like it's a great example of part of my life story in terms of being in the right place at the right time and then having some really supportive individuals who helped me go down the path that I wanted to take and was made available to me. I came to the University of Tennessee in 1966 after graduating from Greenville High School. Early on, even in my high school career, I loved sports. There were no organized women's sports at my high school. We watched the men play football and baseball and basketball and track, but there were no interscholastic sports for the women. Fortunately for me, there was a very passionate woman who taught our physical education and developed an extensive intramural program for the girls at our high school. I was majorly involved in that. Thanks to the Rotary club that had a once-a-year field day that included the girls in various running and jumping events I had a once-a-year occasion to shine and sort of be inspired by the excitement of being competitive and getting to test my athletic skills. So that is really what intrigued me.

Then my senior year the Knoxville Track Club here, under the guidance of coach [Chuck] Rohe and Charlie Durham and a few other founders of the Knoxville Track Club, decided to create a women's team. At that time they had been supporting for several years some of the men track athletes who wanted to compete in the summer or after graduation. Some of you may have competed with the Knoxville Track Club.

**TS:** We both did.

**TC:** And so they made the decision that they wanted to include women on their team, and they advertised for people to come out. There was a young man in our town who had gone to the University of Tennessee and had really been on the track team for, I think, his first two years. His name was J. Kent Bewley. He's a very successful businessman in Greenville today. He had graduated from the University of Tennessee and come back to Greenville to get involved with his family business, and he saw that article and thought of me. Really, he is the person who started me down this path that I have walked all of my life because he came to my parents and offered to bring me to Knoxville and introduce me to the Knoxville Track Club people and have a conversation about getting me involved. I was coming to the University of Tennessee that next fall in September of 1966 as a freshman. I actually majored in physical education because I knew I wanted to be attached to sports and wanted to teach. That's the beginning of my story in athletics.

**TS:** Do you have any idea when Kent Bewley would have graduated from UT and about roughly how old he was?

**TC:** I'm not sure of that. I stay in touch with him. I can certainly find that information out. He didn't continue on the track team. I think he ran one or two years, so it wasn't necessarily his number one priority in being at the university. But to this day he has a great love of track and field. He has supported the Volunteers and supported the local community there to improve their programs and helped in building a track in Greenville. So he's a great supporter of sport, and he's also an adamant volunteer and continues to support the university to this day. [Editor's note: According to the website of Junior Achievement of Tri-Cities TN/VA, Kent Bewley attended Wake Forest University on a track scholarship and graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1966 with a BS in Business Administration.]

**TS:** So what did your parents think when he knocks on the door and says he wants to take you to track meets?

**TC:** Well, I think I was very fortunate that where probably my parents didn't quite understand my enthusiasm for sports, they were willing to support it. I was confident that if it was really something I wanted to do, they were going to be behind me. I think that my parents were really maybe a little different from how

parents have to operate today. To listen to this young man, I'm not sure parents would be so agreeable in this day and age.

**TS:** Of course, I went through that period you're talking about when the girls were watching the boys participate in sports. It's really remarkable in thinking back about it how I just assumed that that was the way things were supposed to be. I never questioned. But from the perspective of 2016 it seems so weird that there wouldn't have been sports for girls as well as boys. I think maybe they swam on a team at Fulton High School in Knoxville where I attended. But we didn't have any other sports for girls. So let me just ask you, how did you feel about it at the time? Did you feel that there was a great injustice or was that just the way things were? How did you react?

**TC:** I have to say at that point in my life I wasn't very politically astute. I pretty much accepted that was the way it was. In Greenville they actually had girls' basketball in the county schools.

**CV:** Half court.

**TC:** Yes, so as far as my participating in an interscholastic sport, my parents could have allowed me to go to a county school and participate in basketball, although I can't say that I would have been a star player or even have made the team. But I chose, and I was comfortable, to stay at Greenville High School. When I came to the University of Tennessee, I didn't come with the priority to participate in sports. I had no idea what sport could become for me. I came because I had been engrained in the tradition of Tennessee sports. My dad brought me to football games every fall. Nothing I loved better than being in that stadium and cheering for the Volunteers. I was very impressed and pleased with the education that I could get in the College of Education. I wanted to go on to become a teacher. Those were my aspirations in coming to Tennessee in 1966. I hadn't really given it a lot of thought as to what I was being denied, and I hadn't done a lot of research to know what was happening in other parts of the country as far as women's athletics. In California and up in the Northeast there were some really thriving track clubs that were producing Olympians. Just three hours from here over in Nashville Ed Temple had already put Tennessee State on the map.

**TS:** Wilma Rudolph was already famous.

**TC:** Yes, Wilma Rudolph and many of his Tigerbelles were running all over the world, and they made a great name for the United States in the area of women's track and field. I just wasn't aware of all of that. So I really came to UT as a freshman pretty naïve about what were the opportunities. Again, going back to what I said, I think if Kent Bewley hadn't come into my life and if I hadn't had the opportunity that was opened up to me through the Knoxville Track Club, I wouldn't be sitting here today.

**CV:** We have some “ancients” here at the University of Tennessee that embraced the name, the Ancients. Alf Homberg who was a great runner [1950-1952 outdoor seasons] . . .

**TC:** I know the name.

**CV:** From Sweden. In any event, they adopted the name the Ancients from ancient Greece when they were young fellows and had a logo of a Greek decathlete. They called themselves the Ancients not because they were old at the time, but because of their reverence for the Greek beginning of the Olympics. So we embraced the Ancients. They’ve moved from that era in the early 1950s to the Ed Murphey era [1954-1957 outdoor seasons], and we call the Ed Murphey era the Ancients. I met some of the Ancients last night, and one of them ran with Ed Murphey. Unbeknownst to me for a long, long time, they won the SEC cross country meet in 1956. I had no idea. I didn’t think they even knew how to run track at UT in 1956.

**TC:** You know there was a track in the stadium.

**CV:** Yes. I’m well acquainted with that.

**TC:** Yes, you ran quite a bit on that track, right?

**TS:** So, Terry, you got here right about the time Tom Black Track opened up, I guess.

**TC:** I did. I remember when I came to the first meeting of the Knoxville Track Club it was in Neyland Stadium where we met. They showed us the cinder track where we would practice and run meets. I believe there were four other girls that showed up beside myself.

**TS:** Do you remember who any of them were?

**TC:** Yes, a young lady, a high school/junior high athlete named Judy Pennington, and then there was another young girl I think still in junior high school at the time named Donna—something. Charlie Durham knows all these people. And then Chuck Rohe had recruited one of the UT cheerleaders that was really athletic and had convinced her to come out for the track club. Those were the initial people.

**TS:** So you met at a Knoxville Track Club meeting?

**TC:** Right. We had an initial meeting in the spring of 1966. At that point in time the Knoxville Track Club was going to a number of area summer meets in Georgia and North Carolina and so forth. Tom, you may remember those. So they said that they would start to include the women. We really started out as real novices, not knowing what we were doing. But obviously everything about it intrigued me. It obviously was somehow in my DNA. Again thanks to Kent, we went to the Athletic House [a Knoxville sporting goods store]. He bought me my first pair of track shoes. So I was on my way.

- TS:** Okay, so I guess when you went to the meets we used to go to at Furman University in the summertime and other places.
- TC:** Jimmy Carnes was over there [as head track coach 1962-1964].
- TS:** That's right. So they had begun to have events for women obviously and you started out as a sprinter, I think, didn't you?
- TC:** I did. I started out as a sprinter and quarter miler. Just to add to that story, you were talking about what was the place of women in athletics at that point in time. The construction of Tom Black track started during my freshman year. As you remember, it was built in stages. They built the track, and the team was able to start to train on it. By the spring of '66 the Knoxville Track Club had really gotten a direction on what their women's team should be participating in. I had a coach by then. Every afternoon after class I would put on my cotton sweat pants and pull them above my knees and put on my penny loafers and put my track shoes and sweatshirt in a bag and put on my London Fog trench coat and walk across campus from Clement Hall [student dormitory] so that I looked like any other co-ed walking through campus and then walk over to the track. I did that pretty much my whole time at UT because women weren't even out exercising in the afternoons in those days. Now you don't walk across campus without seeing probably 80 percent of the co-eds in exercise or running gear. So that was sort of an anomaly at the time to see a woman certainly out on the streets.
- TS:** And you didn't want to stand out.
- TC:** Exactly, no. There was no way that I wanted to be like the sore thumb as I walked across campus, so I walked across campus and sat in the stands and put on my track shoes, pulled my sweat pants down, and then went out to warm up as the Volunteer men's team was finishing up.
- TS:** Oh, you didn't work with them? You waited?
- TC:** Not initially. My coach was Roger Gum who was a member of the Knoxville Track Club and very graciously agreed to coach me. He had been a very successful half-miler at the University of Kentucky, and he was in the insurance business. So he volunteered his time after work to come and be with me. So, again, just another stroke of luck for me was to fall into the hands of someone who really loved the sport and had a great deal of knowledge. He guided me from being a 200 and 400 meter runner up to the 400 and 800 where I had my most success.
- TS:** You were running in summer meets and whatever, but I think I saw in your bio that you had All-American status while you were a student at UT. Is that right? Did you actually ever run for the University of Tennessee?
- TC:** Yes, I did.
- How did that come about?

**TC:** My junior and senior year. In terms of the time that I started in athletics, I like to consider myself a pre-Title IX [of the Higher Education Act of 1972] athlete. But I was right on the cusp of all of that. The momentum and the discussion were really being generated at that point in time. In my junior year there was an organization called AIAW. It was really through the women's athletics division of AAHPER [American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation] that AIAW was created, the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women [in 1971]. They started a collegiate track championship, and the first one was [at Texas Woman's University] in Denton, Texas [sponsored by the successor to AIAW, the Division for Girls' and Women's Sports (DGWS)]. The track club agreed that I should go. I was having some pretty good success as I was running AAU meets, and so they went to the Physical Education Department at UT and got through the paperwork that it would entail to make me an official UT athlete.

**CV:** What year was that?

**TC:** It was 1969.

**TS:** Yes, your junior year was in '69.

**TC:** Right, in '69. I actually went to Denton, Texas, and I'll never forget that I wore a warm-up suit of the men's track team. I had UT gear, and they were the white warm-up suits that you guys wore with orange piping and just state of the art equipment at that point in time. Then we created a singlet that had UT on it. So I actually ran under the flag of the University of Tennessee, a one person team. As I recall, I ended up fourth in the meet for the University of Tennessee. I ran the 200, the 400 and the 800.

**TS:** Tennessee came in fourth?

**TC:** Yes, I believe I won the 800, and I can't remember the place I was in the 400 and the 200.

**TS:** How many teams were involved in the meet?

**TC:** That I can't remember, but there was a good variety of teams from all over the country. I met some people that I'm still friends with to this day from the University of Illinois. At that point one of the great pioneers in women's track and field was leading that team at the University of Illinois. You have to realize most of the women that were involved in any kind of women's athletics in that era were out of the physical education departments, and Dr. Nell Jackson was a real pioneer at the University of Illinois. She was very involved in the AAU program at that point in time, so she had a team. I met some great people from California that were there, very similar to me in terms that they were really participating on track clubs. But because this all of a sudden was an intercollegiate championship, they had done the same thing I had to get permission from their respective universities that they could come and represent their universities. So people from California. Some of the great track clubs of that time that were based in New York like the Atoms Track Club and the New York Pioneers. There's a

great track club out of Chicago. These were the girls that were running in club situations that were really the athletes that were competing and earning spots on our Olympic teams and our national teams during that era. The Tigerbelles were not there. They were competing solely as a track club because Tennessee State University did not recognize any women's athletics teams. Ed Temple, a great pioneer and supporter of women's athletics all his life, never really coached men until the last years of his life when they added a men's team at Tennessee State. But he did not have an opportunity, even though he taught at Tennessee State, to really have an athletic team for women there.

**CV:** Ralph Boston commented that he was kind of a second class citizen to the women.

**TC:** Yes.

**TS:** You confused me on something you said about the Tigerbelles. They weren't officially a team at Tennessee State at that time?

**TC:** Early on they ran as a club. They weren't supported by the university very much like I wasn't. The Knoxville Track Club was willing, as I started on the Knoxville Track Club. The Knoxville Track Club continued to recruit women to their women's team. I think fortunately for me as we talk about that whole Title IX era, several members of the staff of the Physical Education Department really got behind the fact that there should be some women's teams. The women's basketball team was functioning as a club team at that point. There was a women's volleyball team that was functioning as a club team.

**CV:** Intramural?

**TC:** Intramural, and they played some intrastate competitions. That was all supported and organized out of the Physical Education Department. But again, fortunately, it's all about people. Within that Physical Education Department there were some really wonderful people like Dr. Ben Plotnicki and Dr. Andy Kozar who had real visions of what women's athletics could become and were very supportive of taking those intramural teams like volleyball and basketball and moving them forward into an intercollegiate atmosphere. That's where the Knoxville Track Club ladies fell into that too.

**TS:** Were there any women in the Physical Education Department back then on the faculty?

**TC:** No, I think I was the only one that was majoring in physical education that was on the Knoxville Track Club at that point.

**TS:** I was thinking in terms of mentors.

**TC:** Well, you know, people like Dr. Helen B. Watson who is in the Lady Vol Hall of Fame was the head of the Physical Education Department for many years. She really championed the cause of taking that Title IX position and pushing it

through the university at the executive and administrative levels. Dr. Helen Watson, Dr. Nancy Lay, and interestingly at that point, Joan Cronan and her husband Tom were graduate students in the Physical Education Department. Joan actually started coaching the women's [basketball] team [in 1969] as a club team. Then as they finished their graduate work [in 1970] they left and went [to Charleston where Joan was director of athletics for ten years at the College of Charleston and Tom taught at The Citadel].

**CV:** Who was the prime person in the Knoxville Track Club that helped the women advance?

**TC:** I would say the number one administrator was Charlie Durham. He really took the women under his wing and really supported us and organized things. He was the guy that was crunching the numbers, getting us organized to go on meets, and so forth. Then as my career expanded he was really the guy behind the door that was always organizing things for me, and Roger Gum was my daily coach.

**CV:** I remember seeing you and Roger working out.

**TC:** Yes. And the other thing about that, you talk about the construction of Tom Black Track. I remember many afternoons waiting for Roger to come to the track from work, and I would walk the track with Tom Black. We would talk track because as that track was being built—and I don't know if you guys remember this—he spent many afternoons coming over from his work and just walking the track and watching the project evolve. He was very committed to that. Of course Chuck Rohe was very instrumental in creating that relationship and getting that donation. Heaven forbid that track should ever be called anything but Tom Black Track.

**TS:** Absolutely.

**CV:** And Coach Roach took Tom Black on many, many of the trips.

**TC:** Yes, he would travel with you guys.

**CV:** Yes.

**TC:** He was a great benefactor of that. I don't know that any of us would have had the careers we had if it hadn't been for him.

**TS:** Did the Knoxville Track Club pay your way to Denton and to these different meets?

**TC:** Yes, they did. They financially supported me. Again, I was a young person. My parents were just struggling to pay for my college education and didn't really have the disposable funds to send me all over the U.S. to run. So the Knoxville Track Club was my benefactor.

**TS:** So you went to the meet in '69. That was your first time to represent the University of Tennessee. Then I guess you went also in '70.



- TC:** I went back in '70 as a single person representing the University of Tennessee. I think I won the 880 that year or was second. I think I won, but I can't remember now. Either myself or Nancy Shafer. She was one of my big competitors. She was a young lady from Ohio. I ran the 800 and I think I ran the 1500, which was a stretch for me, and was All American in both of those events. That meet was at the University of Illinois in Urbana. I went two years. [Editor's note: According to her biography at the time of her 1989 induction into the College of Wooster athletics hall of fame, Nancy J. Shafer was second in the 880 at the 1970 championships].
- TS:** So basically you represented the University of Tennessee twice, and then all the other meets you were representing the Knoxville Track Club?
- TC:** Right.
- TS:** Where all did you go during your undergraduate years?
- TC:** I ran the Mason-Dixon games every year. I ran the Melrose games. I ran in Chicago. I went to Toronto and ran a big Maple Leaf indoor meet. In the outdoor season we ran all throughout the AAU circuit in Georgia and South Carolina and Alabama. I went out several times to Missouri to run. At that point they had what they called the USTFF meet. Do you remember that?
- CV:** That's when the USTFF [United States Track & Field Federation] and the AAU [Amateur Athletic Union] were at odds.
- TC:** They were fighting, yes. I ran that championship several years.
- CV:** For the track club?
- TC:** For the track club.
- CV:** Did that impact anything with the AAU for you?
- TC:** No, you could still do both at that time.
- CV:** Did you run in the Melrose and in the Penn Relays?
- TC:** I ran the Penn Relays every year. In fact I ran Quantico Relays every year. Typically, and this was the great relationship that the Knoxville Track Club had with the UT track team, I oftentimes jumped in the UT van and road with the team. I remember going to the Quantico Relays, and I ran the Pan Am trials at the Quantico Relays and made the Pan Am team. I was second behind Madeline Manning [1968 gold medal winner in the 800 meters at the 1968 Olympics and former Tennessee State University Tigerbelle] and stayed in the dorms there. The guys were great. They accepted me as one of them and sort of watched out for me. I have really fond memories of all of that.
- CV:** I was one of the people at Quantico in '68 and '69 running the Quantico Relays as a Marine.

- TC:** Oh, okay, yes. Were you based there?
- CV:** Yes, when I got back from Vietnam. It took me a little while, but they finally moved me back to Quantico, so I could train for the Olympics.
- TC:** Yes. Then one of the years that I ran the Penn Relays I won the 800 and Richmond [Flowers] won the hurdles that year. So we swapped watches because I wanted a male watch, and he wanted a female watch, so we traded.
- CV:** Richmond said something about that in the last year or two. [He wanted the watch for his girlfriend].
- TS:** Okay, so you graduated in '70. What did you do for those four years before you became the women's track coach? Did you keep running?
- TC:** Yes, I immediately started graduate school. I had a graduate assistantship in the Physical Education Department, and I taught physical education classes and did my graduate work and completed my master's in the spring of 1972.
- TS:** And '72 I guess is when Title IX becomes the law in all of the country.
- TC:** Right.
- TS:** Was there any discussion yet about creating a women's track program at Tennessee? Were you thinking about maybe being the coach?
- TC:** No, I wasn't really thinking about being the coach at UT at that point, but there was ongoing discussion about starting more and more women's programs. They had gotten the basketball program organized and had designated a coach, and they had a volleyball program. But they were all running out of the Physical Education Department. So the coaches that they picked were instructors in the Physical Education Department. As I finished my graduate degree in 1972 I was offered a teaching job at Halls High School [Knoxville, Tennessee]. So I went out to Halls High School and taught two years at Halls High School and actually started a girls' track team at Halls High School. We ran around the parking lot that was paved to do our workouts in the afternoon. In the spring of 1974 Helen Watson called me and said, "We want you to come back to the university and start the track team." Officially. Because it had sort of been unofficial up to that point.
- TS:** Pat Summitt started in '74 too didn't she?
- TC:** Right. The year I started she came to Tennessee as a graduate assistant, and they let her take over. That's how she got started. They already had that women's basketball team organized, but, again, as I said, they had an instructor within the Physical Education Department [Margaret Hutson] doing the coaching [1971-1974]. She ended up taking a sabbatical and moving. [Editor's note: After leaving Tennessee, Dr. Margaret Hutson spent a career as professor of physical education at Emory & Henry College in Virginia, coached the volleyball team from

1977 to 1992, and was inducted in 2011 into the Emory & Henry Sports Hall of Fame]. So they sort of said, to Pat, “You’re here. You’ve been playing AAU ball all over the world. You obviously know the game. Will you just become the coach?” So she started out coaching as a GA.

**TS:** Were you an instructor in the Physical Education Department while you were a coach at Tennessee?

**TC:** Yes. For the very first few years I taught classes just like the other instructors. I taught classes and then started on a campaign to build the track team. I actually started that by putting an ad in *The Daily Beacon* just like the Knoxville Track Club did. I put an ad in *The Daily Beacon* for interested ladies to come out in the spring. A couple of the members that walked onto that team are going to be here this weekend [for UT’s first-ever Track and Field Alumni Reunion and a special ceremony to honor Terry and her 1981 AIAW women’s outdoor national championship team].

**CV:** Super.

**TC:** Yes, and that’s also when Missy Kane Bemiller was a freshman at Tennessee that year. She had gone to Harpeth Hall, a private girls’ school in Nashville. Her mom had said when she came to college that she couldn’t join a sorority because she thought that would be too wild and distract Missy. She said, “You have to join something, but it can’t be a sorority.” So Missy saw this ad in *The Daily Beacon*, and she wasn’t sure what it was, but she decided she would come out it. So she came out for the track team and ended up becoming an Olympian [in the 1500 meters in 1984].

**TS:** Missy Bemiller, did you say?

**TC:** Well, her married name is Bemiller now. When she walked onto the team she was Missy Austin. Then she married a young man that was a very outstanding runner named Phil Kane. After they divorced and she was here in Knoxville, she actually had a very brief but very successful run as the distance coach under Dorothy Doolittle [UT head women’s track and field coach 1989-1997]. Then she met Jim Bemiller, who was a pole vaulter, and they married.

**CV:** And he came on as a coach.

**TC:** Yes, he’s been a pole vault coach for the men’s team [1986-2005, where he coached 2000 Olympic silver medalist Lawrence Johnson and 2004 Olympic gold medal winner Tim Mack]]. He’s a professor now in the Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies Department [teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in sport law and sport governance].

**CV:** He got his law degree.

**TC:** Yes, he got his law degree from UT [JD in 1993].

- TS:** You mentioned that Dr. Watson contacted you to coach the team. Then I guess the Physical Education Department offered you an instructorship at the same time, so that coaching became part of your job as an instructor.
- TC:** Right.
- TS:** That's how that worked out? I guess Stan Huntsman was the men's coach at that time [1971-1985]. What was your relationship with the men's team? Did you have to fight over who gets the track at two o'clock in the afternoon?
- TC:** No, that was all very mutual. I consider Stan Huntsman as one of my mentors. As a young coach I watched everything he did. He came to Tennessee with a winning record [at Ohio University, 1956-1969]. He was really well respected throughout the nation with the programs he had built. I was very fortunate to be in that atmosphere and watch everything that he did. I learned so much from him in terms of his leadership ability and his organizational skills because, where I had been a successful runner, I hadn't been on the administrative side of track and field. He welcomed me. He actually for a while wrote some workouts for me as a middle distance runner. I was always welcome in his office. Our teams immediately blended. We did everything together. We'd have Halloween parties together. Our Christmas party was always together. We'd oftentimes blend our schedules, but we weren't trying to go exactly everywhere together. We did our own thing, but yet certainly when there were meets here at UT we were in the mix to organize and help and be an integral part of that—even though our offices were two hallways away. He was on one end of Stokely Athletic Center, and I was on the other end of Stokely after we moved into the Stokely Athletic Center. It was the year that they hired Gloria Ray as a full time women's athletic director [1976]. They decided that the women's coaches should be like the men's coaches and not teach. We gave up our instructorships and became full time employees of the Athletic Department.
- TS:** What kind of budget did you have?
- TC:** Minimal. I don't remember the exact amount, but it was one of those things that I remember as the Women's Athletic Department got started that pretty much our traditional Saturday morning activity was to go to Krispy Kreme donuts as soon as they opened and buy multiple dozens of Krispy Kremes. Then our athletes went down the halls and sold donuts as fundraisers. We did that for a long time to raise money.
- TS:** What about scholarship money? Did that start immediately?
- TC:** No, those first Lady Vols like Missy Bemiller had no scholarships. So that was a very slow progression of how scholarship money was introduced to women's athletics.
- CV:** With lots of support from Uncle Bob [Bob Woodruff, Men's Athletics Director, 1963-1985].

**TC:** I was going to say that Bob Woodruff's attitude was to tolerate the women. He didn't welcome them. I think it wasn't that he was against women athletes or women's athletics, but he had great fear in terms of how it could infringe on the Men's Athletic Department and that he would be asked to totally assume the funding and support. Initially, the Women's Athletic Department was funded through Student Affairs. When you look at the chain of command, we didn't go through Bob Woodruff. We went through Gloria Ray as the athletic director, and we went through **Charles Almond** I believe was his name. He was a great guy, very supportive of the women's athletics. He was the dean of student affairs, and then from his office [the chain of command went] to the chancellor, Jack Reese [1973-1989], and then up to the president.

**TS:** I was very surprised when we interviewed Bud Ford yesterday just how separate everything was up until 2009.

**TC:** Yes. Originally, our offices were in the Physical Education Building right behind the track because the women had been instructors. So that's where we were based. We stayed there, and we captured a locker room that was a women's physical education locker room. Then there was a men's bathroom on the bottom floor where the handball courts were. We decided we needed our own athletic training room because we weren't allowed to go into the men's athletic training room in Stokely. In fact, in all the years I ran, if I had a need, and Tim Kerin was the head trainer then, he would sneak me in after hours and treat me if I had an injury or needed something. What I would say is that they provided a great support system for me. Regardless of the structure, everywhere I went at the University of Tennessee men supported me. The only thing that was a struggle was the funding. People were supportive and encouraging and helpful all the way along, but obviously the women needed their own athletic training facility. So we captured a men's restroom. At that time they had decided they would build a new student health center. If you remember, the old health center was in a house that was right across from the women's dorms on, what is that street?

**TS:** Volunteer Boulevard?

**TC:** Yes, Volunteer Boulevard now that crossed Cumberland. It was in a house. That was about the time they brought Ralph [Boston] back to start the Black Student Union because they were housed in a building right next to the student health center. They were going to build a new student health center, so they got rid of that structure and all the equipment in it. The women's coaches went over and captured all of that old health clinic equipment, you know, tables, cabinets, and so forth that was from the pre-World War II era and brought it over . . .

**TS:** You captured it because they were going to throw it away anyway?

**TC:** Yes, and we removed the lockers and the benches in that men's restroom/locker room, and we built cabinets around the urinals. We created a women's athletic training room and locker room. We had training tables in it and a whirlpool and

so forth. And then they were really starting to discuss how they could hire an athletic trainer.

**CV:** When was the first year you won the national championship?

**TC:** Well, the year we won the national championship was 1981 in Austin, Texas. That was still AIAW.

**TS:** If I could just pursue the funding, Bud Ford said yesterday that this was when they started an athletic fee that students had to pay that brought in about \$1.2 million, somewhere along that line, to support women's athletics. I assume that the men hadn't needed student fees to support their program. I may be assuming more than is reality, but I think there was a student activities fee all along, but not an athletic fee before Title IX.

**TC:** Right. Well, the university was forced to do that. As Title IX gained momentum and universities were having Congress put them under the eyeglass, then they had no choice because . . .

**TS:** They would lose federal funding.

**TC:** The momentum had gathered to the point that, yes, Congress said they would lose federal funding. So then at that point regardless of universities' true feelings about including women's athletics, they were mandated to.

**TS:** But it sounds to me from what you're saying that for a long time after Title IX women didn't get equal funding with men.

**TC:** Oh no, not at all.

**TS:** How did they get around the law on that?

**TC:** Well, initially as Title IX was interpreted, there were some ways to interpret the policies so that didn't necessarily mandate equal funding. So obviously universities used every loophole they could find because it was going to be a huge investment in terms of finding new money to fund these women's programs. It was very controversial.

**TS:** New funds or take funds away from the men?

**TC:** Yes. Do we take it away from the men? What are new sources of revenue? In terms of just creating new [women's] teams] what will the initial costs be? Then there was also the discussion about, "Do women really deserve the same kind of funding in terms of what their performance will be? Will they be able to generate any revenue?" So it was a very controversial issue across the country in terms of how universities chose to deal with it. The position they took, a lot of it, had to do with just what was the stability of their men's athletic program and how was it being funded? Fortunately, our administration at the University of Tennessee was maybe not overwhelmingly supportive and eager, but it jumped in, and we were one of the leading schools, I would say the leading school in the SEC to

start supporting women's teams. The other SEC schools came along much slower than Tennessee.

**CV:** When you started coaching, had the racial segregation hurdle been completed? It had been completed obviously with the men's track team, and you started in '74 about eight years after the first black male athletes came to UT. Was that already in place or was there a transition with the women's team to bring it in?

**TC:** You know, that was never really an issue. As we started our women's team and we were asking for volunteers and walk-ons, the racial issue was never a discussion.

**CV:** You had a mixture then?

**TC:** Whoever walked on to that team could participate as long as they wanted to. We immediately had African American athletes on our team. A young lady that's going to be here from Oak Ridge tonight, Pam Pettus [1976-1979], was a great sprinter. She really had a chance to extend her career beyond college, I think, and could have really made a name for herself. And two young ladies who are twins from Chicago are going to be here, and they walked onto that team. It wasn't a question. It was never an issue. It was never sensationalized. They were all a group of young ladies who wanted some opportunities to participate in athletics and test themselves.

**CV:** Terry Scott's wife, was she in that?

**TC:** She wasn't in that first group. She was actually recruited. I recruited her out of Atlanta.

**CV:** What was her name?

**TC:** Menka Scott [1985, 1987-1989].

**CV:** Menka. She was so excited that you were going to be here.

**TC:** I haven't seen her in a long time.

**TS:** It sounds like from what you're saying, at least for that era, you were a whole lot better off having a separate women's athletics' department than the men's in part because you didn't have to take orders from Bob Woodruff.

**TC:** Well, that may be true.

**TS:** Am I reading too much into what you're saying?

**TC:** You know, I very much as a young coach at the University of Tennessee respected Bob Woodruff. I very much admired what he had built. He was leading UT athletics as one of the top programs in the nation across all sports. Again, I was a true Volunteer fan. I bled orange. I attended every athletic event. I loved to sit and watch Ray Mears' teams play basketball. I never missed a football game

throughout my years here as a student and throughout my years here as a coach. So I certainly hold a high regard and respect for Bob Woodruff. I very much admired what he did and accomplished as well as the other men coaches. I looked up to people like Bill Battle and Doug Dickey and Chuck Rohe and Ray Bussard who built the swim program. Those were my role models as a young coach. I watched how they built teams, and they are the ones that molded my philosophy as a coach. I give them so much credit for me becoming the coach that I became.

**TS:** How did you go from advertising in *The Daily Beacon* to winning a national championship in seven years?

**TC:** A lot of hard work, a lot of passion, a belief, probably some cockiness that was overrated in terms of just believing that we could do this and not looking at the path ahead as having obstacles. Being committed to maneuver through whatever was brought to us. Focusing on the possibilities as opposed to dwelling on the lack of support and of the lack of funding. Also gathering in a group of young women that were as enthusiastic and passionate about what this could become and the whole process of creating this team environment. I felt like our women's athletic department had a group of young coaches that were really excited about what it could become. We had this great model around us with men's athletics, and we simply wanted to say, "Hey, we can do it too." We all started down that path and just whittled away at it. Then you can't certainly not mention the fact that as far as the track and field team was concerned, we worked diligently at recruiting. We sold the attributes of the University of Tennessee, its location, its education, what it had become. We had some great support from people here in the Knoxville community that embraced women's athletics like Ann Furrow [first woman golfer at the University of Tennessee and first woman to play on a men's team in 1964 and 1965 and to receive a full men's athletic scholarship; also a member of the UT Board of Trustees for eighteen year and a generous donor to the university] and other people.

We got some great recruits. We had a young lady who came to us [1980-1983] that made the Olympic team out of high school [in 1980 and won the gold medal in the 100 meter hurdles in 1984], Benita Fitzgerald [Mosley], and you got a real blue chipper there. Then we had a young lady whose dad was the ambassador from Jamaica. They were based in Washington, D.C., and she had that great heritage and DNA from all the success of Jamaican runners. She chose to come to the University of Tennessee. Then we had some local talent right over from Oak Ridge like Sharrieffa Barksdale [1981-1984; member of the 1984 Olympic team in the 400 meter hurdles] whose brother Val Barksdale [defensive back, 1977-1980] was making a name for himself on the football team. She said, "I don't want to go anywhere but the University of Tennessee. I want to follow my brother." So when you start to have great athletes come, then certainly the path gets easier, and that's how it happened.

**TS:** How many full scholarships did you have by that time?



- TC:** Probably we had about five or six, as I recall.
- TS:** What is it, eighteen nowadays isn't it for women's track and field?
- TC:** Yes.
- TS:** Five or six, which you divided many ways I'm sure.
- TC:** Yes, absolutely. I have to give much credit to people's parents for supporting their daughters to be here without full scholarships. As we look at athletics nowadays, parents start to think about their children getting athletic scholarships about the time they hit junior high school, and they're working diligently to make that happen. That wasn't the case in the late '70s and '80s in women's athletics.
- TS:** What kind of relationship did you have with Pat Summitt?
- TC:** We had a great relationship. As we all moved into Stokely her office was across the hall from mine, and we were close colleagues, visited a lot, and compared notes. I cheered her on, and she cheered me on. We worked together some on recruiting. We both recruited Holly Warlick [current Tennessee Lady Vols basketball coach]. I ended up signing Holly Warlick on a track scholarship.
- TS:** That's right, she was running the hurdles, wasn't she?
- TC:** She came from Bearden High School to be a little bit of a jack of all trades. She was probably the best athlete in the State of Tennessee her senior year. Pat didn't think she could really make the basketball team, so I offered her a full scholarship in track and field and told her she could go out for basketball. I was hoping after her first year she would decide to only do track, but as it turned out after her first year she decided to only do basketball because Pat had convinced her she was going to be so good that she offered her a full scholarship.
- TS:** Was she 400 meters?
- TC:** Yes, she was a sprinter and long jumper.
- TS:** Wow.
- TC:** Her freshman year she walked on to the basketball team and made the basketball team and performed much better than what Pat ever imagined she would. Then she came out for track after the basketball season, and the transition was difficult for her. She dove right into it and tried to do workouts. She was trying to keep up with the other ladies on the team at that time and trying to go to the meets we were going to and competing. It was tough because she just hadn't had that year-round training, that basic training. That helped her make the decisions too in terms of how difficult it was to transition from a winter sport to a spring sport.
- TS:** Sure. Well, it was kind of like Chuck Rohe the way you became the track coach and immediately started winning SEC championships. I guess you won everything there was to win for the last several years of your career at Tennessee.

**TC:** Like I said, Tennessee was really a forerunner in supporting women's athletics compared to a lot of the other SEC schools. Due to Title IX they started championships for women in the SEC, and the meets were run at the same time [as the men's meets]. I'd like to think that our success was a catalyst that said to some of these other SEC administrators, "Well, hey, we can't not try to be competitive with Tennessee." I remember going to places like Alabama and LSU and walking over their teams. I'd like to think that was sort of a catalyst to help some of these administrators say, "We can't just have a walk-on team. We've got to support these teams and give our women athletes the same opportunities and support."

**CV:** How many consecutive SEC championships did you win?

**TC:** You know, I have to tell you, throughout my career I have never dwelled on stats. I always left those kind of things up to Debby Jennings [director of media relations for women's athletics and eventually associate athletics director, 1977-2012] and Bud Ford [member of Sports Information Department, 1966-2011] who were the statisticians. They could quote my record much better than I could. As I did something, I was thrilled and was pleased for my athletes, enjoyed it for the moment, and then moved on to the next thing. I'm not very good at quoting my statistics. [Editor's note: Tennessee won the first four SEC women's outdoor championships, 1981-1984, the first ever women's cross country championship in 1983, and the first ever women's indoor championship in 1984].

**CV:** When did you leave for Texas?

**TC:** I left for Texas in the fall of 1984. The reason I left was mainly because I was very frustrated. You talk about the support. At that time the only reason I left was I was really struggling. As other programs throughout the country were starting to support women's athletics better from a funding standpoint, I was very frustrated that my female athletes could not get any support for summer school scholarships. That was the bottom line that broke the camel's back for me. I was so frustrated because it was hurting my women athletes. It was also hurting us as we recruited. In those years our women's budget was creeping slowly up, very slowly, and we were struggling to get to \$2 million. At that point in time Texas had a budget of \$4 million for women's athletics. They offered full scholarships, full summer school funding. That's why I left.

**CV:** No brainer. When you were there, and to this day, you were the only female coach to have a national championship in cross country, indoor and outdoor track in the same calendar year [1986].

**TC:** Right. I do remember that one!

**TS:** We've been going for well over an hour. I don't know your schedule. Can we go on a little further or would you prefer to end at this point now that we are leaving Tennessee?

**TC:** It's up to you guys. I'm available.

**TS:** Well, if you're available let's keep going.

**TC:** It's up to you, Tom, in terms of what you're looking for. I appreciate the work you do, and I think all of this information is of value. I love the fact that you guys are committed to hanging on to the legacy and the tradition. That speaks volumes for what a program can sustain. If a program gives up its history, then it is going to flounder and not know how to go forward. It must use its history and its traditions to mold what it does. It's my philosophy. I look at other great programs, and as a coach I tried to be a student of the sport all my life. Not only did I study the coaches who were here at the University of Tennessee, but I looked at other programs around the country. When you look at the great legacy of what the University of Southern California had and what they've continued to do with their teams in track and field and the coaches that they've brought in there, that legacy just keeps repeating itself. It has never gone away when you talk about the great teams that Vern Wolfe had [1963-1984]. Then one of my other great mentors was Jim Bush at UCLA [1965-1984]. He was a colleague of Stan Huntsman, and they went head to head many times. So I've followed those programs. Another great mentor of mine and great role model was Payton Jordan at Stanford [1957-1979]. I loved how he coached and the way he treated people. I learned so much from just hanging out with him. It's so important what you are doing as an alumni group. Also I'm very pleased that the current coaching staff and the administration are embracing what your group and our Lady Vol group are doing. I hope they recognize not only the significance but the meaning that it brings to this group of people in bringing them together, supporting them, and continuing to offer them methods to communicate, to stay in touch, and to continue those relationships. I think it's a great story, and so I very much appreciate what you're doing.

**TS:** Thank you.

**CV:** Your career is fascinating and I would thoroughly enjoy hearing the rest of it.

**TS:** Well, let's keep on. Our focus is primarily on the University of Tennessee for this project, but why don't we talk about some other things too. You were an Olympic coach in 1988 while you were at the University of Texas [1984-1992]. You were at Tennessee as coach for about ten years and then I guess about eight years at Texas. Why don't you talk in general terms about how your career progressed and women's track progressed during that next decade of the late 1980s to the early 1990s?

**TC:** Well, I have to tell you, I left Tennessee with a good feeling that we left on a high note. We had actually won the AIAW national outdoors championship in 1981. Then that next year AIAW sort of imploded, and the NCAA adopted all of women's athletics and started sponsoring national championships. That's when it really started getting competitive and men's athletic departments realized that, "This is part of the game now, and we need to really get on board." Women's athletics went into a whole different competitive arena in terms of the funding and the support and the competitiveness. That ran throughout the country. It was

certainly challenging as we finished out those early '80s years in terms of being competitive with other teams. I know I battled those early '80s years with Florida State, which had a great program that we competed against. In 1984 as we finished that era and had had great success, our goal and my personal goal at Tennessee and then at Texas was to always be a top five team. We weren't going to be happy unless we finished there.

[Before the interview began] we talked about the great success that Beth Alford-Sullivan's team has had in the last year [with the men finishing third and the women seventh at the NCAA Division I indoor championships]. You finish in the top five, and that's a mandate that your staff and your athletes can take on in, I think, a good and sincere effort. Then after that it has a lot to do with just how the chips fall. I met with Beth last night, and she was telling me that after the first day at the indoor NCAA meet the guys were in twelfth place. They had missed out on some points that she was counting on. They lost their really good pole vaulter [Jake Blankenship, who had a groin injury]. She said she was really having to rethink what their expected goal was for that next day. Then all of a sudden some points they weren't expecting materialized with some great performances. So that's the nature of athletics, and that's what makes it so fun and so challenging and why people really become so engrained in it and so passionate about it, all those elements. So that's where I felt like we had to have a bottom line, and then obviously the ultimate goal was to shoot for the top of the podium. We were able to do that. Then in 1984 we capped that year off when Benita Fitzgerald won the gold medal in LA in the [Olympic 100 meter] hurdles. At that point in my career, as I looked at the opportunity I had at Texas, I did not want anything to stand in my way of building a track dynasty. I was that compulsive/obsessive about it.

TS: It's called being competitive.

TC: And I really think successful coaches have to have that mentality. Then you instill that in your athletes in a healthy way. I felt like I had the opportunity to do that at Texas. So we went to Texas. I took one of my staff with me, John Millar, who is a great sprint/ hurdle coach [and later the head coach at Notre Dame and then Wake Forest]. We had some immediate success and went on a run there and dominated the Southwest Conference. Just like the rest of the athletic department there, we became the flagship track and field program for women's athletics. So it was a great atmosphere.

Every coach there was a national championship coach. I had the opportunity to work with Jody Conradt who is a legend in women's basketball and also Richard Quick was the swim coach for women there who became a head Olympic coach for swimming numerous times [1988, 1996, and 2000], multiple championships. Mick Haley was an Olympic coach [in 2000] for volleyball and had a great championship program. So I had the opportunity to surround myself with other world-class coaches. Although I loved my Volunteer family that was really intriguing to me as I looked at a career path. We had a great camaraderie of coaches there. So it was a great experience for me there.

We kept a very positive relationship with Tennessee. We ran them a dual meet every year. We obviously were in different conferences, so we pulled for them in the SEC and cheered them on at national championships and watched that program very closely after I left because I left that program with some great All-American athletes. LaVonna Martin [Floreal] came to Tennessee the fall after I left and went on to be the nucleus of that team for the next four years [1985-1988] where they continued to be tops in the SEC and win national championships. She was the national champion in the [100 meter] hurdles [in 1987], and their team did well. That was a great recruiting class. It was very difficult for me to leave that recruiting class. But the women's track program stayed very strong here, and that was my goal as I left.

Nothing was more exciting for me than to be named head Olympic coach in 1988. I felt like that was the pinnacle of my coaching career. I think, just like every athlete, if you're committed to your sport, and it's an Olympic sport, nothing can surpass the fact that you earned that spot on a USA team and earned a USA jersey. I didn't get to do that as an athlete, and I was very disappointed. I went to two Olympic trials as an athlete and didn't make the team. So to make the team as a coach was what I considered the pinnacle of my career. That was a great experience in itself. I felt I'd done everything in coaching that I ever wanted to do. Then winning the Triple Crown, which still stands today.

The top women's track and field team is presented an award every year that's named after me. What they do now is they calculate the placement of your team in all three seasons, and then they give that out as an award every year. So my name is on the women's trophy. I'm very honored to stand alongside John McDonnell at Arkansas whose name is on the men's trophy. I have to say I have had a very blessed career, but when I look at it, I attribute a lot of that to being at the right place at the right time and having the opportunity to surround myself with people that were really helpful and supportive all the way through.

**TS:** You stayed at Texas until '92. Why the move to Cal Poly [California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo]?

**TC:** Well, that was very interesting. When you go through an athletic career, you have to be compulsive/obsessive, and it's your focus twenty-four/seven. By the time I got to 1992 I was just starting to reflect on my life. At that point athletics departments were just starting the transition [to unified programs] and looking at how they managed men's and women's programs and the funding opportunities and stresses of funding dual programs. You started to see this transition of particularly similar sports being combined, and that was really an effort to consolidate and streamline funding.

**TS:** So you became the coach of both the men's and the women's teams at Cal Poly?

**TC:** When I was at Texas those departments were totally separate just like at Tennessee. They had totally separate administrative staffs, total separate funding. Texas was very much structured like Tennessee in that the men's

athletic department did not contribute any funding to the women's. The University of Texas with its large oil endowments and resources totally funded women's athletics and had the resources to continue to fund it. It wasn't at the level of how men's athletics was funded. But it was at the top of how women's programs were funded throughout the nation. So they were totally separate. But by 1992 there was this conversation within athletic circles of going forward over the next decade into the 21<sup>st</sup> century how athletic departments were going to manage. Certainly the pressure of Title IX was not diminishing. It was increasing. When Title IX was implemented in programs like Tennessee [in the 1970s], women's athletics were initiated. Like I said, there were loopholes in terms of how the funding compared [between men's and women's programs], but over time, as there was more activity and advocacy for women's athletics, the discrepancies were now out in public and were being talked about. Now also there were a lot of male athletes who had daughters that wanted to do athletics in college. They wanted the same opportunities for their daughters that they had had as athletes and what they saw male athletes getting. So that was a great boost to fund women's athletics on the same level as men's athletics.

They looked at methods to streamline resources, and more and more athletic departments were starting to look at combined programs. As they started to combine programs, what happened? Male coaches were given the opportunity to run both programs, and female coaches were being pushed to the sidelines. At that point in my career I had scratched all the surfaces in coaching women. I got this bee in my bonnet, you might say, to coach men. As a student of the sport I saw no differences in coaching. The same workouts that Stan Huntsman gave his guys I used with my women. My belief and coaching philosophy was always you coach the individual. You didn't coach a gender. You coached the individuals on your team in terms of what their abilities were and what their attributes were. So I saw really no difference in gender lines in terms of how you coach.

I was really intrigued to coach men, and I knew that was not anywhere close to happening at big programs like Texas or Tennessee. It just so happened that Cal Poly had been a really successful program at the Division II level and was transitioning to Division I. They knew though because they had been a D-II program that they weren't immediately going to have the funding to fund all their programs at a Division I level. Wanting to maintain the credibility of their track and field program, which had been really successful for both the men and the women, they made the decision that they would combine the programs. They went looking for coaches that could coach across the board. We talked, and the opportunity sounded great. If you've ever been to that part of California, it's a wonderful place to live. It also offered me a new adventure in a beautiful place to live, and the chance to start over. It reminded me of how I started the program at Tennessee. So that was really intriguing. I went in there to be the head coach for the women, and they hired another guy who was a very close colleague of mine who came from Stanford [where he had been head coach from 1979 to 1992], Brooks Johnson. We were close colleagues, and we made a pact that we would

blend the teams and coach together. They called us both head coaches. After three years he left [collegiate coaching to focus on his work with elite athletes] and they named me the director of track and field for both programs.

**CV:** What city is Cal Poly in?

**TC:** It's in San Luis Obispo. It's just about three hours north of LA on the coast and a great college town, a small college town a lot like probably Knoxville in the late 1950s and 1960s.

**CV:** Is that anywhere near Pebble Beach?

**TC:** Yes, it's about an hour from Pebble Beach.

**CV:** North?

**TC:** North, yes, Pebble Beach is north of San Luis Obispo.

**TS:** So you were a pioneer again as a woman coaching a combined team. How many women were doing that at that time?

**TC:** I think at that time there were three other women that were in combined programs. Another one in D-II, and I think there was a school in the Northeast that had a female coaching both programs.

**TS:** So cutting edge.

**TC:** It was early on, yes. Now what's really interesting, as these big jobs opened, whether it was at the University of Tennessee or the University of Southern California or various other programs that have opened up over the last five or six years, the ADs are calling me to get a recommendation of females that could lead their programs. So you see where the transition has come as opposed to in the early 1990s where women coaches were not even being considered for combined programs. Now ADs are almost seeking women out.

**TS:** Did you get a call from Tennessee when J.J. Clark was let go?

**TC:** I did.

**TS:** To make a recommendation?

**TC:** I did.

**TS:** I won't ask you who you recommended unless you want to tell, but at least you were consulted on it?

**TC:** I was, and I was very pleased.

**TS:** Well, that's fantastic. Now you stayed at Cal Poly until 2009. Why don't you talk about what you've been doing for the last seven years?

**TC: Yes, it really happened at a great time again. My career path has just fallen into place for me. I just can't say how thankful I am. USA Track and Field is our national governing body. I had always been very involved from the time that I was an athlete and made several international teams. Then I was always very involved in the organization as a coach, serving on various committees and being a part of their international programs. As they hired a new CEO [Douglas G. Logan, from July 2008 to September 2010], he felt like it was really important to make a statement about coaches and their contribution to the organization. He felt like they needed a person that would really spearhead coaching programs and continue the work that was already in place at a much more recognized level. He actually created the position of director of coaching. That person would come in and take over the coaching education program, which was the coach certification program that the federation is responsible for as part of its mission as a governing body, which is spelled out in our work with the USOC [United States Olympic Committee]. It's required of all federations to have a coaching education program, and it's also mandated in the Ted Stevens [Olympic and] Amateur [Sports] Act which was an Act of Congress [in 1998, which revised the previous Amateur Sports Act of 1978].**

**So I was the chosen one [in 2009] and felt very excited about a new aspect to my career. I would move out of coaching, [no longer] going to the track every day at 3:00 o'clock and working hands-on with athletes, but I would take on a role to mentor coaches and administer programs that would support coaches. I was thrilled and felt like it was at an appropriate time in my life. I think every coach has to come to [the decision] that there is an appropriate time when you hand over the reins or you segue. I think that's typical of every profession. I'm sure you guys have been through that in your careers when you feel something in your soul that says, "Okay, I've done what I wanted to do. The job is finished, and I'm ready to take on something new or sit on the sidelines and watch other people continue my work." I felt like this was the perfect opportunity for me to stay attached to the sport that I loved and had spent my life in and to give back to it in a different way. So I took the job. Very fortunately for me, they said, "We'd like for you to continue to do some work with our Olympic Training Center that's based in [Chula Vista] California. We don't need for you to be based in [USA Track and Field headquarters in] Indianapolis. Sort of the 21<sup>st</sup> century job model, I work remotely. I continue to live in California and go back and forth from our corporate office.**

**I feel that our coaching programs have taken on some new recognition. We've started several new initiatives that I'm very pleased with and that our administration in USA Track and Field has been very sportive of. We've got a great new award that we give every year that is selected by our group of coaches that are involved at the federation level. It recognizes a coach that has produced Olympic medals, and it's called the Legend Coach Award. We're in our third year of giving that award, which I helped create and develop. It just so happened that our first Legend Coach was Ed Temple. We celebrated his career in 2014. Ed Temple's athletes earned twenty-three Olympic medals. Then last year our**



**Legend Coach was Dr. Joe Vigil whom you may have heard of who was one of the all-time great coach educators and endurance coaches who had tremendous success at Adams State College as a D-II coach. His programs were phenomenal in terms of [nineteen total] national championships [in cross country and track]. At the age of 86 he's an active coach, and he's put an athlete on the Olympic team every year over the modern era of the Olympics. His athletes [Mebrahtom Keflezighi and Deena Kastor] in Athens [2004] won a [silver and bronze] medal [respectively, in the men's and women's marathon]. He really was the creator of our high altitude training program for marathon runners. Typical every top elite endurance runner now goes to altitude to train at some point during their year. He's from Colorado and grew up in altitude and very much believes in altitude training. He has been the founder of our modern marathon training program. We'll name a new coach in July again. [Editor's note: The 2016 recipient of the Legend Coach award, announced after the completion of this interview, is Tom Tellez, former coach of the University of Houston and two-time national team head coach].**

**So the work I do now is very gratifying to me. It is very rewarding. I hope I'm making an impact with the coaching profession, and I hope I'll leave some programs in place at USA Track & Field that will continue well past my time.**

**TS: I'm out of questions. Thank you very much for a wonderful interview.**