

Paul Pedersen, Ph.D.

Dr. Paul Pedersen, who is an East High graduate of the Class of 1988, is a renowned scholar and researcher in sports communication and sport management at Indiana University-Bloomington. After graduating from East High, Dr. Pedersen earned his bachelor of science degree *cum laude* in business administration from Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida in 1992. He then earned two master of arts degrees in business administration and public relations from Emerson College in 1993 and in American History from University of Central Florida in 1997. Dr. Pedersen earned his Ph.D. in sport management from Florida State University in 2000.

Beginning his sport communication career as a sportswriter and sports business columnist, Dr. Pedersen quickly gained a reputation in his professional field as a winner. He has researched, published, and presented on the activities and practices of many sport organization personnel, particularly those associated with the print media and affiliated with intercollegiate and interscholastic sports.

Known for his extraordinary work ethic and meticulous attention to detail, Dr. Pedersen is held in high esteem among his colleagues and graduate students of being one of the premier sport management professors in the United States. In addition, he was inducted as a North American Society for Sport Management Research Fellow in 2009. This honor was bestowed on Dr. Pedersen for his contribution to the sport management field by his publication of five scholarly books and over 55 peer-reviewed articles in such refereed publications as *Journal of Sport Management* and *Journal of Sport Economics*.

Dr. Pedersen's first book, *Build It and they will Come: The Arrival of the Tampa Bay Rays* (1997), is an historical work that examines various aspects of baseball, including spring training, stadium construction, urban politics, relocation, expansion, ownership, and team development. He is the founding editor of the *International Journal of Sport Communication*. In addition to his professional and scholarly publications and journal articles, Dr. Pedersen has made over 60 refereed presentations at professional conferences. He has also given lectures on sport communication and sport management around the world, including China and Korea.

As a distinguished college professor, Dr. Pedersen currently is a doctoral dissertation chairman and doctoral dissertation committee member for 20 Ph.D. candidates at Indiana University and other universities. In addition to his work with doctoral graduate students, Dr. Pedersen teaches sport communication courses at the undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels at Indiana University.

While attending East High School, Dr. Pedersen was active in the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA), specialized in vocational electronics, under the tutelage of the late, popular Adrian Gonzales. He placed second and first, respectively, in Colorado electronic job skill demonstrations at state competition in 1987 and 1988; in addition, he placed fifth in district competition in extemporaneous speaking in 1986.

Dr. Pedersen's scholarly development throughout his educational pursuits and subsequent successes in his professional education career have earned him Who's Who recognition among American High School Students in 1987 and 1988; Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges (1992-93); Who's Who Among America's Teachers and Educators (2005, 2006, 2007); Who's Who of Merging Leaders (2007); Who's Who in America (2005 through 2009).

Professional activities outside of the classroom and university environment include Editor of the *International Journal of Sport Communication* (2007 to Present); Editor, *Sport and Law Press* (2004); Sports Business Columnist, *The Treasure Coast Business Journal*, Stuart, Florida (2003-2005); Member, Board of Directors, Center for Minority Leadership in Sport Management (2004-Present).

Admiral D. Gordon Russell

East High School graduate, Class of 1968, D. Gordon Russell currently serves in two significant career roles as University of Colorado Associate Registrar and as a U.S. Navy (Reserve) Rear Admiral, Commander of the Navy Intelligence Reserve Command.

Gordon Russell graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor of arts degree in 1972. After graduation, he served as an employee of the University of Colorado-Boulder in the Student Recreation Center until 1980. It was at this stage in his career that Russell enlisted in the active U.S. Navy at the Navy Aviation Officer Candidate School. He received his officer commission in May, 1981 and reported to a Navy aviation training squadron, where he finished basic and intermediate flight training as the top Naval officer in his class.

After serving on active duty in the U.S. Navy for two years, Russell requested release from active duty to return to the University of Colorado-Boulder as Director of the Student Activities Finance Office for approximately three years. While employed at the University of Colorado-Boulder, Russell remained in the U.S. Navy (Reserve), affiliated with the Navy Intelligence Reserve Command.

During his two-track careers as an employee at University of Colorado-Boulder, Russell served his country and his state simultaneously. From 1984 through 1990, Russell was on active duty as a reserve officer with the U.S. Navy Intelligence Command. He generated a distinguished Navy career serving as an intelligence analyst and imagery interpretation officer. He progressed to various division and department head assignments. He also served briefly as an assistant intelligence officer aboard the USS *Carl Vinson*, a U.S. Navy nuclear aircraft carrier.

Meanwhile, Russell advanced in his career at the University of Colorado-Boulder as Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Services from 1985 to 1988, as Acting Registrar from 1988 to 1989, and as Associate Registrar from 1990 to the present. From January, 2002 to May, 2003,

Russell was recalled to active duty with the U.S. Navy in support of *Operation Enduring Freedom*, where he served as Chief, Operational Intelligence Division, Joint Intelligence Center, United States Southern Command in Miami, Florida.

Upon release from active duty in May, 2003, Russell was assigned as Chief Staff Officer at the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in Fort Worth, Texas. In October, 2004, he assumed command of Naval Reserve Intelligence Area 13 at the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Florida. In January, 2007, Russell was promoted to Chief of Staff, Navy Intelligence Reserve Command with the rank of a U.S. Navy four-stripe Captain.

In April, 2008, Russell was deployed in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*, where he served as the Strategic Intelligence Officer for the Multi-National Force in Iraq. Russell remains on active duty serving as Commander, Navy Intelligence Reserve Command. Upon assuming his advanced position, Captain Russell was promoted to Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Reserve), where he leads a force of 4,000 Navy reserve intelligence personnel. He currently is stationed on active duty in Little Creek, Virginia, adjacent to the Norfolk Naval Base.

Admiral Russell's personal decorations include the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal.

Sandra L. Harbert

Ms. Sandra L. Harbert, affectionately known as "Sandy," has served, and continues to serve, as a passionate booster and advocate for East High School. Most of her entire educational career was devoted to the goal of being there for East High School students, their parents, the East High faculty, and the eastside community. In addition, her passion for East High was to make East High School the best school in the then School District 60.

Ms. Harbert's roots at East High go back to her days as a student at East High, where she spent all of her high school years and graduated with the Class of 1965. She was a cheerleader at East for the three years she was a student. Upon graduating from Southern Colorado State College (now Colorado State University-Pueblo), in 1969 with a bachelor of arts degree in secondary education, Ms. Harbert began her teaching career as an English instructor at Keating Junior High School. She took time off to raise her two children, Jeff and Jody, then returned to classroom teaching at Riskey Middle School as a language arts and reading teacher.

The fall of 1975 at East High School was Ms. Harbert's next teaching assignment, a dream come true-- to teach at her alma mater. She continued at East High as an English teacher for five years, where she was also the cheer leading sponsor. Although Ms. Harbert spent the next 13 years as an English teacher at Centennial High School, she raised her son and her daughter as East High Eagles. Both graduated from East High School. During her years as an East High parent, however, Ms. Harbert was active in the East High Booster Club. She was also the "Team Mother" for the East High gymnastics team from 1987 to 1990, bringing flowers to each home meet for every East High gymnast. She spearheaded the drive to secure funds to buy new warm-ups for the team.

During Ms. Harbert's teaching career, she took time out to earn a master of arts degree in education administration at the University of Wyoming. This career strategy prepared her to be appointed as the first female administrator at East High, where she assumed the role of Assistant Principal the fall of 1995. She served in that role until retirement in 2004, although, after retirement, Ms. Harbert was occasionally called to serve as an Assistant Principal at East High when the District needed her. Ms. Harbert did return to teach English the following school year.

Dedication and passion for East High Eagles always made the students and the eastside community her highest priority. She gave freely of her time and talents to make East High excellent in all areas of academics and athletics. Her work day hours never ended at 3:00 p.m. Her honesty, integrity, and strong character were and continue to be respected by students, staff, and parents.

The administrative team at East High was effective because of Ms. Harbert's strong work ethic and leadership in several areas beyond the traditional role of an assistant principal. She provided herculean leadership in coordinating East High's seven-year North Central Accreditation Evaluation, which resulted in high marks for East's academic, athletic, and activities programs. She worked with the East High Bond Committee by coordinating several seriously needed capital improvement projects, including renovation of the media center. In addition, she worked tirelessly with the Booster Club to improve all athletic and activity programs.

Since Ms. Harbert's retirement in 2004, she has continued her dedication, passion, and service to East High as an active member of the Pueblo East High Alumni Association. She has served as board member, secretary, and vice-president, prior to assuming the presidency of the Pueblo East High Alumni Association in 2009.

When East High School celebrated its 50th Anniversary activities, Ms. Harbert played a key role in orchestrating the opening and furnishing of the new East High Heritage Hall on the same day of the 50th Anniversary celebration. She acquired a suitable safe to be used as a time capsule. She coordinated and assured that all available memorabilia were professionally displayed. Finally, she presided over, and was master of ceremonies, for the formal 50th Anniversary Ceremony, which brought together past principals and other former dignitaries.