



## Roger Barnhart

*"In 28 years, we've never had a (player) cut"*

Roger and his wife, Jean, moved to Cashmere in 1961 when he accepted a position as a science teacher at Cashmere Middle School. He was also hired as the CHS head tennis coach and the 9<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball coach. During his 28 years as the CHS head tennis coach, Coach Barnhart built one of the top tennis programs in the state. Throughout his coaching tenure, Cashmere consistently competed against larger schools throughout the region. You have to wonder how many state titles (individual & team) Cashmere would have won if they were competing against schools their own size? Despite that fact, Coach Barnhart led the Bulldogs to numerous championship seasons, and had 24 players that moved on to play tennis at four-year college programs.

**4 District AAA-B Championships**  
**6 League AAA-B Championships**  
**5 District AA-B Championships**  
**9 Caribou Trail League Championships**  
**Career Record: 449-168**

He received numerous awards for his coaching achievements throughout the years.

- **1985- Washington State Coaches Association – Tennis Coach of the Year**
- **1985- National High School Coaches Association Regional Coach of the Year**
- **2012- North Central Washington Don Elliston President's Award for his dedication as a coach, organizer and promoter of tennis.**

Roger competed in tennis and basketball at Wenatchee Valley College. In 1954, his WVC tennis team won the state junior college championship, and in 2012, his team was inducted into the WVC Hall of Fame. Following his two-year stint at WVC, he attended Western Washington College where he held the #1 singles position on Western's varsity tennis team his senior year. He also lettered in varsity basketball.

He was one of the original members of the Wenatchee Racquet & Athletic Club and organized senior and super-senior tennis teams that competed in United States Tennis Association Tournaments. He was also the founder of the Apple Barrel Doubles Tournament which became a popular competitive tournament that drew players from all over the Pacific Northwest and Canada.

Much of Coach Barnhart's family life centered around his three sons (Phil, Mike & Chris), and watching them compete in basketball games and tennis matches. His immense passion for the game of tennis never wavered, neither did his desire to spread his enthusiasm for the sport and teach its fundamentals to others, so that one day they might get as much satisfaction from the game as he did.