



LAUREN LOYLESS
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
Phone: (903) 881-4001 ext. 1015
Fax: (903) 881-4004
loylesslh@lisdeagles.net
www.lindaleeagles.org

THE LINDALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
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PRESS RELEASE

Lindale ISD Coach Inducted Into Texas Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame

Coach Ike Anders is a lifelong East Texan who has dedicated his life to the sport of tennis. Graduating from Lufkin High School in 1975, Anders went on to play tennis at the collegiate level for several schools. He played for Tyler Junior College from 1976-77 under Fred Kniffen, for Hardin Simmons in 1978, and made the All Lone Star Conference team while playing for Stephen F. Austin in 1979.

Anders is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. He also holds a Masters Degree in Education from Stephen F. Austin.

His past professional experience before coming to Lindale ISD includes time as a Head Tennis Pro at the Crown Colony Country Club in Lufkin, Tx and as the Head Tennis Coach for Grand Saline High School. Anders came to Lindale High School in 1993 as the Head Tennis Coach and has since set breaking records under his leadership.

Teams at Lindale reached the 3A Team Tennis Championship Finals 6 times, winning the State Championship in 1999, while finishing second in 1996, 2002, 2003, 2006, and 2011. Lindale also won the Regional Team Tennis Title 11 of 12 years when they were in the 3A competitive division. When Lindale was in 4A, they finished in the top 25, five times.

“I am indebted to Fred Kniffen, John Kniffen, Novice Kniffen, and Ike Groce, for all the methods of teaching tennis that I learned from them,” said Coach Ike Anders. “I also give credit to any success at Lindale to my fellow head Coach Kirk Kniffen.”

Along with his induction into the Texas Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame, Anders has also received the following awards from the Texas Tennis Coaches Association:

- 2A Coach of the Year 1992 Grand Saline
- 3A Coach of the Year 1995 Lindale

“This is an individual award, but it took a team to earn it,” said Anders. “So many players, parents, and coaches all deserve a piece of the award. I am thankful for everyone that helped this become a reality.”

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