Orrin E. Hills was born in Twin Falls, Idaho on November 27, 1926. He enrolled at Northwest Nazarene College in 1942 and played basketball for four years, leading the team in scoring his last three years. After graduation in 1946, he coached basketball and taught school at both New Plymouth and Boise, Idaho, and at Crane and Sutherlin, Oregon. He received a M.S. degree from the University of Oregon in 1955.

In 1954 Orrin began his coaching career at Northwest Nazarene College. He coached basketball and was athletic director at NNC for 19 years. During this time he also coached track and field, served as intramural director, and director of health and physical education. In 1992 Orrin was inducted into the NNU Athletic Hall of Fame and is a member of the NAIA District II Coaches Hall of Fame.

Hills considers the Montgomery Field House to be the prize achievement of his tenure at NNC. Under his direction, the complex was completed in 1971. On November 26, 1993, the basketball arena in the Kenneth Montgomery Physical Education Building was named the Orrin E. Hills Center Court in his honor.

Criteria for the Award

1. Recipients are to be students who are prospects for intercollegiate basketball, meet general scholastic requirements and show potential for academic success and degree completion;

2. Financial need shall be a consideration in the awarding of the scholarship;

3. Recipients may receive the award in successive years, not to exceed four years;

4. Nominations for this award are to be made through the Athletic Director and the Office of Financial Aid.

Northwest Nazarene University