

## DAVID BOLEN



Born: December 23, 1923 Heflin, LA

Died: December 10, 1992 Scottsdale, AZ (98 years old)

Louisiana Normal HS, Grambling, LA  
Southern

- Attended Southern prior to joining Army Air Force 1943-46

Colorado

- University of Colorado Hall of Fame
- Bolen Award presented to CU Olympians
- 1947 Skyline Conference 440 & 880 champion

1948 Olympian

2-time AAU indoor 600m champion

Served as a US Ambassador under three Presidents

1943 Southern 440 49.1m  
1946 Southern 440 47.7  
1947 Colorado 440 46.7  
1948 Colorado 440 46.7m  
1949 unatt 440 46.9

1947 Colorado 880 1:55.8  
1948 Colorado 880 1:50.6m

1948 Colorado 440H 53.0m

### Open

1942 SWAC 440 3rd ---  
1943 AAU heat 400m 4th 49.1m  
1946 NCAA 440 2nd 47.7  
1946 AAU 400m 4th ---  
1947 Pas Games 440 1st 48.1  
1947 Comp Invit 400m 1st 46.9m  
1947 Skyline Conf 440 1st 47.4  
1947 NCAA 440 2nd 46.7  
1947 AAU 400m 2nd 47.5  
1948 Olympic Trials 400m 2nd 47.0m  
1948 Olympics heat 400m 1st 50.1m  
1948 Olympics quarterfinals 400m 1st 48.0m  
1948 Olympics semis 400m 3rd 47.9m  
1948 Olympics 400m 4th 47.2m  
1949 Coliseum Relays 440 2nd 47.5  
1949 Colorado Relays 440 1st 46.9

### Open cont.,

1948 AAU indoor 600m 1st 1:11.8m  
1949 AAU indoor 600m 1st 1:11.6  
  
1947 Skyline Conf East 880 1st 1:55.8  
1947 Skyline Conf 880 1st 1:58.8  
1948 Comp Invit 880 1st 1:51.4  
1948 AAU 800m 5th ---  
  
1948 Kansas Relays 400mH 1st 53.0

**Miscellaneous**

- US Ambassador to Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland under Richard Nixon & Gerald Ford 1974-76
- US Ambassador to East Germany under Jimmy Carter 1977-80
- Worked in Foreign Service as diplomat stationed in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Yugoslavia, Ghana, Monrovia
- Coached University of Karchi track team while in Pakistan
- Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard
- Credited with assisting to free Nelson Mandela from prison
- Father served as postmaster in Grambling, LA