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MEDIA RELEASE

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14th ANNUAL DR. JIM STAUNTON CHAMPIONS FOR CHARACTER AWARDS

LOS ALAMITOS -- On Monday, September 25, 2017 the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section (CIF-SS) is proud to host its 14th Annual Dr. Jim Staunton Champions for Character Awards Dinner at The Grand in Long Beach.

Seventeen years ago the State CIF and all 10 sections partnered to promote the 16 principals of coaching, competing and teaching called "Pursuing Victory with Honor." Since that time we have seen school boards, superintendents, principals, athletic directors athletic trainers, media members and students embrace these principles in an effort to give our athletes tools for success on the playing field and in life.

As a way to recognize those athletes that can combine a fierce competitive nature with the Six Pillars of Character; trustworthiness, responsibility, respect, fairness, caring and citizenship; the CIF-SS Ethics in Sports Committee created these awards. Athletes, coaches, administrators, officials, schools athletic trainers and media members who demonstrate these qualities are honored at the dinner and highlighted for their achievements. Additionally, all student winners receive scholarship money for their achievements.

"We are very proud to recognize our Champions for Character award winners this year and looking forward to a great celebration of their accomplishments on September 25," stated CIF-SS Commissioner of Athletics Rob Wigod. "They are individuals who truly represent outstanding sportsmanship, ethics and character in our section and we appreciate them very much for doing so each and every day."

Media members interested in covering the awards ceremony must RSVP by email to Anita Fopma (anitaf@cifss.org) no later than Noon Wednesday, September 20.

ABOUT THE CIF-SS

The CIF-SS is a non-profit corporation organized to direct and administer athletics in secondary schools within its membership and geographical boundaries. The Southern Section is one of 10 sections in the state of California. Not only is it the largest in the state (representing nearly one half of the state's high schools – 586 schools), but it is the 10th largest association of its type nationally. Each of the state sections operate independently, but all within the framework of the state federation.

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2016-2017 CIF Southern Section Champions for Character Award Recipients

Students

Timothy Andreolli – Royal HS
Brianna Cabrera – Don Lugo HS
Victoria Cinquegrani – Mesrobian HS
Steven Comstock – Northview HS
Colby Corcoran – St. John Bosco HS
Daniel Dolan – University HS
Riley Dungan – Capistrano Valley Christian HS
Louis Farrar – Charter Oak HS
Genevieve Fraipont – La Canada HS
Vanh Kurkjian – Pilibos Armenian HS
Dayra Leal – Heritage HS
Malena Martinez – Alta Loma HS
Aaron Pena – Azusa HS
Meera Sood – Chadwick HS
Christian Swint – Compton HS

Administrators

Martin Dusold – A.D. – Beaumont HS
Daniel Guzman – A.D. – Santa Paula HS
Ann Pettit – A.D. – Oak Park HS
Misty Sano – A.D. – Coastal Christian HS
Jonathan Schild – Principal – Crespi HS
Rod Tilton – A.D. – Glendora HS
Tim Walsh – A.D. – Ocean View HS

Schools

Arroyo Valley HS
San Geronio HS

Athletic Trainer

Mike Fernandez - Mater Dei HS
Chase Paulson - Diamond Bar HS

Media

Dan Albano, Sports Writer, Orange County Register

Official

Tracy McFate, Football

Coaches

Clemente Bonilla – Baseball, Capistrano Vly Chr HS
Carl and Lakeisha Buggs – Girls Basketball, Poly/LB HS
Diane Chiappone – G Volleyball/Track, San Dimas HS
Doug Fairchild – Boys Tennis, Heritage HS
Shawn Koehler – Girls Basketball, Templeton HS
Henry Lobo – Boys Tennis, Oxnard HS
Pete Smolin – Football, Citrus Valley HS
Bob Walton – Boys and Girls Tennis, Brea Olinda HS

Commissioner's Award

William Bauman – Girls Basketball – Mammoth HS
Andrew Jones – Boys Basketball – Mammoth HS
Tucker Gross – Arrowhead Christian Academy 10th
Pete Rettinger – Boys Basketball – Elsinore HS
Donna Wolter – Dir. of Special Ed., Lake Elsinore USD
Rick Wolter – Boys Basketball – Elsinore HS
Ross Wolter – Basketball, Football, Volleyball – Lakeside HS

