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PRESS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION - SOUTHERN SECTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CIF SOUTHERN SECTION ANNOUNCES 40TH HALL OF FAME CLASS

LOS ALAMITOS, CA - The CIF Southern Section is proud to announce the 40th class of inductees into the section Hall of Fame.

Twelve impressive and deserving educators will be honored at a luncheon at The Grand Conference Center in Long Beach on Wednesday, October 16 starting at 11:30 a.m.

Additionally, four outstanding individuals will be honored with a CIF Southern Section Distinguished Service Award for years of dedicated contributions toward the student-athletes of the CIF-SS.

"It will be an honor to induct the class of 2024 into the CIF Southern Section Hall of Fame and to recognize our Distinguished Service Award winners," said CIF Southern Section Commissioner of Athletics Mike West. "Our Hall of Fame inductees have set a standard of excellence over their career that is matched by few. And our Distinguished Service Award recipients have demonstrated tremendous support for education-based athletics throughout their career" added West. "We are proud of each and every one of them."

Media members interested in attending must RSVP by Friday, October 11 to Taylor Martinez (taylor@cifss.org).

CIF SOUTHERN SECTION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS – 2023-2024

Iran Novick

Iran has been a member of the Baseball Advisory Committee for 30 years. He has coached for over 30 years at El Dorado and Foothill High Schools. His emphasis has been on the All CIF-SS Team. He is also the head of the California Baseball Coaches Association, which has united CIF coaches across the state.

Dr. Monica Colunga

Monica has been the principal of Irvine High School since 2007-2008. Prior to coming to Irvine High School as an assistant principal in the 2006-2007 school year, she was at University High School for 20 years as an assistant principal, athletic director, activities director, certified athletic trainer, classroom teacher and coach. Monica worked as an adjunct faculty member at Chapman University from 1997-2002 where she taught a course in curriculum and administration in physical education/athletics. Since 1995, she has been working as an assistant softball coach for Chapman University. Monica earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Chapman University in Movement and Exercise Science with an emphasis on athletic training and a teaching credential in physical education in 1983. She earned her Master of Education Degree from Azusa Pacific University. She earned both Tier I and Tier II Administrative Credential from the University of California, Irvine and earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership through the UCI/UCLA joint doctoral program.



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Todd Arrowsmith

Todd Arrowsmith is in his tenth year as Director of Student Activities at West Ranch High School. He was Saugus High School’s Director of Student Activities for six years and served as a teacher and Activities Director at Sierra Vista Junior High School for five years. Prior to coming to the Hart School District, he taught at Pinecrest School in Van Nuys. Todd currently serves on the State CIF Federated Council as a representative of California Association of Directors of Activities. He also is an administrator for California Association of Directors of Activities High School/Middle School Camps held at the University of California Santa Barbara every summer. Todd is a strong supporter of education, athletics, and student activities. He believes in the correlation between involvement in extra-curricular activities and a student’s academic success.

Ed Prange

Prange spent 33 years as a basketball coach at Loara High School men's program as well as two years at Orange High School women's program. He was the 1998 Orange County Coach of the Year, All-star game coach, and five times league coach of the year, with five league titles and nearly 500 wins. Ed served at the SCBCA (Southern California Basketball Coaches Association) president for several years in the 2010s. He was also voted “Teacher of the Year” by his faculty peers in 2018. Prior to Loara, Ed coached the women’s team at Orange High School for two great seasons. His 1990 team went to the semi-finals.

CIF STATE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS – 2023-2024

Anita Fopma

Anita was a program coordinator in the communications department for nearly 26 years. She began working at the CIF -SS office on November 17, 1997, as the assistant to Sports Information Coordinator at the time, Thom Simmons, who was hired just seven days prior. While in the office, Anita handled All-CIF-SS Certificate, the CIF-SS Quarterly Bulletins, CIF-SS Media Relations, press releases, the championship football luncheon, and so much more.

HALL OF FAME AWARDS – 2023-2024

Arnold Alpert

Alpert wrestled at Edison High School and was 3rd in the State of California. He then wrestled at Santa Ana College where he was a State Champion and third in the country in Senior Nationals. Arnold went on to wrestle at Cal State Fullerton, and competed at the National Level in Freestyle He organized club wrestling in the Temecula area, where he runs local and national summer wrestling camps. Alpert coached at El Dorado in 1990-1991, Arroyo in 1992-1993, Temecula Valley from 1994-2022 where he compiled a record of 510-43 Dual matches, 31 League titles in a row and 36 CIF-SS championships. He had eight runners-up up in CIF State Individual Championships as well as seven champs and Individual Runner ups, 47 Masters Champions, 21 Master Placers and 125 CIF-SS individual champions. He is a member of the California Wrestling Hall of Fame, the Santa Ana College Hall of Fame, the California Wrestling Hall of Fame and the CIF-SS Wrestling Advisory Committee for the past 25 years.

Bob Ferguson

Coach Ferguson was the head girls’ volleyball coach from 1983-1999 and head boys’ volleyball coach from 1988-2001 at Royal High School. He led his teams to 6 CIF Championship wins, 4 of which were with boys’ volleyball. Coach Ferguson and his wife Sandy started the boys’ volleyball program in 1988 and won the first of four CIF Championships in 1989. Following that first championship Ferguson won a CIF Championship with his Royal Girls team in the Fall of 1989, another boys Championship in 1990, a boys' CIF Finals appearance in 1991, another boys' CIF Championship in 1992, a CIF Finals appearance in 1993 and another CIF win in 1994. His last CIF Championship was won, guiding his girls’ team in 1998. During the span from 1989-2001, Coach Ferguson led his boys’ teams to 8 Finals appearances. In league play, Ferguson guided his boys' teams to two different and remarkable 250+ consecutive set (game) win streaks. By the time of his retirement from coaching the boys' team, he amassed an incredible record of 267-29 overall and 157-1 in league along with 13 consecutive league championships, 4 CIF titles, and 8 Finals appearances. He also added the 2 CIF Championships during his tenure as the girls coach, as well as 8 league championships. He was also a Ventura County Sports Hall of Fame inductee in 1995. Ferguson was inducted into the Ventura County Sports Hall of Fame in 1995 and named CIF Coach of the Year 6 times. He has one of the best overall league win percentage/records and one of the longest consecutive set wins streaks in league in CIF boys’ volleyball history, 157-1 in league over 14 seasons.



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Glenn Prater

Glenn started his at Woodcrest Christian in the fall of 1991 as a high school English teacher and baseball coach. After teaching English for several years, he transitioned to teaching PE classes and became the middle school AD for 25 years. During his career at Woodcrest, Glenn also coached JV basketball for 5 years. He coached both girls' and boys' volleyball for several years on and off depending on where the school needed a qualified coach to fill in. His Hall of Fame coaching began and ended with baseball. He was the varsity head coach from 1992 through 2023 season. Glenn help lead over 40 high school athletes to play college or professional baseball during his legendary career. Most of these athletes were pitchers because of his tremendous experience and expert knowledge in that field. During his 31 legendary year career of baseball coaching, Glenn won league titles 17 times and guided his team to the CIF finals 7 times where he won CIF 4 times and won a total 560 games during the 31-year career. Voted by the league as Coach of Year 5 times, he also received Coach of the Year honors by CIF one time. Multiple times his team won the Sportsmanship Award as voted on by the league. Glenn was on the CIF baseball committee for most of his career at Woodcrest Christian. He was president of the middle school Mountain Valley League for numerous years. He served as a primary bus driver for the school for 10 years. In 2017 Glenn Prater was elected by the Riverside Sports Hall of Fame to be inducted with the Wall of Distinction award.

Steve Yancey

Steve Yancey competed in swim and water polo at Tustin and Foothill High Schools. He was a CIF-SS finalist in 500 free. Then he competed in Swim and Polo at CSULB. He was hired at San Clemente in 1981 as a teacher and coach (water polo and swim) from 1981 to 1995 South Coast League Champion - Eight years, three CIF-SS Finals appearance with 1 CIF-SS Championship in 1991. Coach of the Year in 1986, and 1991, he coached the CIF player of the year in '87 and '91. In 2001 he was hired at Capistrano Valley as head Water Polo and Swim coach. His teams were CIF-SS finalist in 2015 and claimed 6 Sea View League Championships in water polo. In swimming, they were CIF-SS champions in 2009, '10, '12, '13 2011 and CIF-SS runner-up in 2013. He is a six-time Orange County Swim Coach of the Year. In 2015 he was named California State Swim Coach of the Year. By 2012 he had coached over 100 All American swimmers and 45 All American Water Polo Players He also coached 16 National Team Players (male and female) and an Olympian Water Polo Coach of the Year in 1986, and 1991. He was named CIF State Coach of the Year in 1991, 2009, 2013, 2015 and in 2012, National Dual Meet Champions. In 213 his overall Water Polo record as 50 6-312. Yancey is a CIF-SS Advisory Committee member and has refereed 12 CIF-SS Championships.

Don Cholodenko

Don began coaching as an assistant coach in 1974 at Santa Ana Valley as a walk-on coach. While going to college, Don stepped away for one season to be the assistant water polo coach at Villa Park High in 1979. He served as head water polo and swimming coach at Santa Ana Valley High School from 1980 to 1985. His Valley teams were ranked in the county top 10 for water polo four years straight, they made it to the CIF-SS playoffs in 1984 and '85, the Century League title in 1985 and league Coach of the Year that same year. In December of 1985 he was hired by Capistrano Valley as the head aquatics coach for boy's water polo, and boy's and girl's swimming. He continued to serve as head girl's swimming coach through 2001. His Capo Boy's water polo teams won 2 South Coast League titles, during 7 straight CIF-SS appearances, including 4 CIF-SS semis and two CIF-SS Finals. Don was the Orange County Register Coach of the year in 1989. His swim teams won four CIF-SS championships at Capistrano Valley, one boy's and three girls'. His boy's teams were CIF-SS runner-up three times, two -time South Coast League Championships, and the girl's claimed a runner-up finish. The 1986 boy's swimming team took 2nd in the national mythical championship that year. Cholodenko became water polo coach at Mission Viejo from 2002-2004 and led them to 3 CIF-SS appearances. He was water polo Coach of the year in 1985 and 1988, and 1989. He claimed the Orange County Water Polo Coach's Association 20 Year Recognition in 1993, National Interscholastic Coaches Association Distinguished Service Award for 25 years 2000, He was certified as a Level 5/Top 2% in the Nation by American Swimming Coach's Association. Cholodenko was a two-time Orange County All Star Water Polo Game Head Coach. During his career he coached over 100 All American swimmers and over 30 All CIF water polo players. During one five-year period, he had more of his players playing D1 water polo than any coach in the nation. Including 5 Capistrano Valley players participating against each other for the NCAA Championship during the 1995 title game featuring UCLA and California. The Santa Ana Valley water polo team held the CIF-SS record in 1985 for longest winning streak at 22 games in a row. He has an overall career water polo coaching record of 317 wins, 109 losses.



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Bill Redell

Redell was named the Inaugural Oaks Christian Head Football Coach when the school was founded. He mentored young men at Oaks Christian from 2000 through 2011, and again during the 2014 season. His overall record at Oaks Christian included 149 wins, 22 losses, and 1 tie. During his time at Oaks Christian, Coach Redell posted an 87% winning percentage, 1 CIF State Championship, and 7 CIF Southern Section Championships. Prior to Oaks Christian, Bill served as the head football coach at Crespi, where he posted a record of 43 wins, 16 losses, and 1 tie, which equaled a 72% winning percentage. He led Crespi to a CIF Southern Section Championship. Coach Redell also posted a 58% winning percentage at St. Francis. His overall coaching record is 238 wins, 70 losses, 3 ties. He holds a 77% winning percentage as a head coach. Bill Redell was a College All-American Football Player at Occidental College. In addition, he played six seasons in the Canadian Football League. He was a Canadian Football All-Star in 1966 and led the Hamilton Tigers to a Grey Cup title in 1967. Bill was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2001. Most recently, Bill Redell was an Inaugural Class Inductee for the California High School Football Hall of Fame.

Rafa Villasenor

Rafa Villasenor was known by his peers at Paramount for his dedication and creating the best environment for his student-athletes. Villasenor, along with co-head coach Juan Navarro, started during the 2009-2010 season, and for the next five years their record was 103 wins, 22 losses and 17 ties. The team won the San Gabriel Valley League Championship in 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2013. During those years their playoff record was the following: 2009-10 CIFSS D-3 Champions; 2010-11 CIFSS D-3 Champions; State CIF D-1 Regional Champions; 2011-12 CIFSS D-3 Champions; State CIF 1st Round; 2012-13 CIFSS D-3 Champions; State CIF D-1 Regional Champions; and 2013-14 CIFSS 2nd Round. In 2014 Coach Villasenor took over the solo head coaching duties to the end of the 2019-20 season. During these years, his record was 109 wins, 27 losses and 14 ties. The team won the San Gabriel Valley League Championships in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2019. They finished as CIF-SS quarterfinalists in 2014, 2015 and 2016. They ended the season in 2016-17 as CIF-SS Semifinals. Villasenor's teams were CIF State D-1 Regional Champions in 2019-20 and made the CIF-SS 1st round playoffs 11 years, as Villasenor varsity head soccer coach. He finished with a combined record of 212 wins, 49 ties and 31 losses. His teams appeared in 8 CIF-SS playoff tournaments and 4 CIF State playoff events. In he was named 2012 California Coach of the Year, South/West Coach of the Year and made it to the top 5 finalist, for the National Coach of the Year. Coach Villasenor has been a member of the CIF-SS Advisory Committee from 2009 to present. In addition to being the Head Soccer Coach, Coach Villasenor also coached football from 2004 – 2014 as an assistant special team's coach, defensive backs coach and kicking coach. at Paramount he served as assistant soccer coach in 2008/2009. Currently Rafa Villasenor is serving in administration as an Assistant Principal at Paramount School.

Tim Devaney

Tim Devaney started coaching at his alma mater, Servite High School, in 1972. In 1974 he became the varsity baseball head coach and assistant varsity football coach at Sunny Hills High School in Fullerton. In 1980 he was selected as the head varsity football coach at Sunny Hills. At the same time, he also was chosen as the co-ed golf coach. He never asked for time off from teaching assignment to help with coaching duties because his students always came first. In his positions as head coach of three varsity sports (football, baseball, and golf), what he accomplished spoke to the quality of his work. As the varsity head football coach at Sunny Hills High School for 19 years, Tim's outstanding record of 164 wins, 54 losses and 4 ties is one of the best records in all of Orange County. Sunny Hills annually qualified for the playoffs and made it to the semifinals eight times, winning three CIF-SS titles in 1983, 1990, and 1992. Along with these three CIF-SS championships his team won 12 Freeway League championships. To be clear, in 1983 Sunny Hills came in second in the Freeway League and then went on to win their first CIF Championship. So, in 19 years his team won a total of 13 different championships in 19 seasons. In 1984 Sunny Hills was rated as high as second in Division 2 in the CIF-SS and second in the state's overall ratings. In his time, they did not have a state play-off system in place. Tim was selected as Coach of the Year three times during his tenure. He was also recognized as Orange County Register's Coach of the Year. He was selected to be the coach of Orange County's North All Star team twice. Tim was selected to coach two Orange County All Star Games for the North. In addition to the above, Tim took three Sunny Hill's football teams to Hawaii to compete with Hawaiian teams. He also took three different teams to Canada to play

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Tim Devaney (continued)

football under Canadian rules. This was exciting for all coaches and players from both countries. Canada was so pleased with this experience that they brought their teams down to California on six different occasions. Golf was not an approved sport for the Freeway League, but the Freeway League was made up of all district's high schools, so they allowed Sunny Hills to participate in golf independently. Tim combined girls with the boy's golf team. He called it Sunny Hills Golf--not co-ed golf. The following is a list of the golf team's accomplishments under Tim Devaney: 1994 CIF-SS Champions 1994, 1996, 2007, and 2008; 2008 CIF State-Southern California Golf Association Regional Runner-up; 2008 CIF State Champions (Devaney was named CIF State Coach of the Year); 2013 CIF-SS Southern Division Champions; 2013 COF State-SCGA Champions; 2013 CIF State Runner Up; 2015 CIF-SS Southern Division Runner Up. Once the Freeway League sanctioned golf as a league sport, Sunny Hills claimed 13 straight championships.

Michael Pronier

Michael Pronier spent 34 years as the varsity head coach of San Clemente High School Boys' Soccer. There is no doubt that his successes over the span of his career merit Hall of Fame consideration, but it was how he conducted his program, promoted the sport, and provided a pathway for many student-athletes to be the 1st in their families to go to college. His teams always pursued victory with honor, and they won "the right way" which taught character while competing on the field. He developed a program that was so successful that it demanded respect on campus, within league play, the CIF-SS, and the CIF State. During a nine-year stretch toward the end of his career, his teams won 3 CIF-SS D1 Championships, appeared in the CIF-SS D1 Final four times, won two CIF State CIF D1 Regional Championships and appeared in the CIF State Regional Championship 3 times all from 2011-2019. Coach Pronier has had his successes in CIF soccer, but during his thirty-four years, he has challenged others in the CIF Southern Section to be better following 33 seasons and 451 victories at San Clemente High School, he has made a mark on High School soccer in the CIF-SS. As the Head Coach of such a highly successful soccer program, arguably one of the most successful in the State of California over the last decade of his career, an advocate and developer of high school soccer in the CIF-SS. He was named the 2019 CIF-SS Division 1 Coach of the Year; 2019 OC Register Coach of the Year; 2019 USA Today Sports National High School Boys Soccer Coach of the Year Nominee; 2019 United States Soccer Coaches (Large School) State Coach of the Year; 2018 United States Soccer Coaches Award for 400 Career Victories; 2013 All CIF-SS Division 1 Coach of the Year; 2013 NSCAA Far West (Large School) Coach of the Year; 2013 OC Register Coach of the Year; 2011 OC Register Coach of the Year; 2011 CIF-SS Division 1 Coach of the Year. Between 2005 and 2021 his teams made 17 straight appearances in the CIF Playoffs. From 2009 to 2020 they claimed 9 of 12 South Coast League Championships. His coaching record from 1988 to 2021 is 451-229-156. His teams made Division 1 Finals in 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2019. During that time, they claimed 3 CIF-SS Division 1 Championships in 2011, 2013, and 2019. The Tritons also played in 4 State CIF Division 1 Finals in 2011, 2013, 2018, and 2019 and claimed 2 State CIF Division 1 Championships in 2011 and 2019.

Tim O'Rourke

Tim coached cross country and track and field at Arroyo High School from 1978 to 1998 after being a cross-country, basketball and track and field athlete at Arroyo High School. His boy's cross-country teams were 139-7 in dual meets and his boys track and field squads were 146-9. His cross-country teams were undefeated for 14 straight teams and won 15 league titles, four CIF SS championships plus won the first ever California State Championship in 1987. His Arroyo team was recognized as the #1 team in nation by Harrier Magazine. Tim was Gatorade National Cross Country Coach of the Year in 1995. His track and field teams were CIF-SS team title winners in 1988 1997. He was California Coach of the Year for track and field in 1997. He was the longtime Director of Cross Country and Track and Field coaching programs for LA84 where over 40,000 SS coaches have been mentored. Tim was meet director for numerous meets including Mt. Sac Cross Country Meet and Relays plus Arroyo MOC. He is the long-time announcer for CIF-SS Cross Country and Track Championships and is the state meet announcer for both sports. He was the recipient of the 2015 Jim Brownfield Mentor Award from the California Coaches' Association, and he has been inducted into six different Hall of Fames including the Mt. Sac Cross-Country Hall of Fame, the Mt. Sac Track and Field Hall of Fame, Footlocker Cross Country Hall of Fame and the California Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He coached 6 CIF SS championship teams, 1 state championship team and 1 mythical National Championship team. Gatorade National HS CC COY 1995. California State T&F coach of the year in 1997. CCA award winner as state coach of the year, the Jim Brownfield Mentor Award and Hall of Fame. He is a former member of the California Coaches' Alliance, California Coaches Association,



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Tim O'Rouke (continued)

Southern Section Cross-Country Coaches Association, LA84 Director of Cross-Country and Track and Field Coaching Programs, Co-author of LA84 Cross-Country and Track and Field Coaching Manuals, former Meet director of Mt. Sac Cross-Country Invitational, Mt. Sac Relays and founder and meet director of the Arroyo Meet of Champions, one of the largest and most competitive distance meets in the nation. He is still deeply involved with the sport over 25 years after retiring as a coach at Arroyo High School, he continues to mentor young coaches and has helped coach at a variety of different high school programs while helping improve the sports of both cross-country and track and field. He has volunteered countless hours to helping make the CIF SS programs and championship events positive experiences for the athletes of Southern Section.

Melissa Hearlihy

Melissa Hearlihy leaves Harvard-Westlake as one of the most distinguished coaches in California Interscholastic Federation history. Hearlihy led the Wolverines to two State Championships, four Southern Section Championships, two Open Southern Section Division finals and nine Mission League titles. Her 839 career wins places her second all-time in California state history among all girl's high school basketball coaches. Hearlihy has been named the CIF Southern Section, LA Daily News, and LA Times Coach of the Year on six occasions along with Cal-Hi state coach of the year in 2010. In 2023, Coach Hearlihy received the highest honor in being named the Women's Basketball Coaches Association National High School Coach of the year. Hearlihy began her coaching career at Bishop Alemany High School in Mission Hills in 1985. At Alemany, she led the Warriors to three CIF Southern Section Championships, six CIF section finals, and a CIF state final appearance in 1998. Hearlihy's success at Harvard-Westlake included the mentorship of countless athletes who reached their full potential both on and off the court. Under her guidance, 18 Harvard-Westlake student-athletes went on to play college basketball.

Mike Schade

Mike was head Coach for 35 years at Sunny Hills (Coached for a total of 38 seasons). His record in the last 35 seasons was 475-244-117 (836 games). In league play he was 219-89-42 (350 games). Schade coached the Lancers to 29 CIF Tournaments and 5 CIF-SS finals games. His squads claimed CIF-SS Championships in 2016 and 2022. The Lancers were CIF-SS Runners Up in 1998, 2018 and 2023. Schade's teams reached the CIF-SS semifinals in 2015, and the quarterfinalists in 1995, 2009, and 2020. He coached the Lancers to the State Regional Tournament in 2015, 2016, 2018, 2022, and 2023. Schade was Orange County Register Coach of the Year in 2016 and 1998. He was CIF-SS Coach of the Year in 2016 and 2022. He coached 21 All Orange County Players including the Orange County Player of the Year in 2016. He also coached 32 First Team All CIF-SS players including 2 CIF-SS Players of the Year. Schade's teams earned 17 Freeway League titles and finished 2nd nine times. He went undefeated in the Freeway League seven times and was the only Freeway League Soccer team to win 4 consecutive league titles (2015 - 2018). His is the only Freeway League soccer team to go 10-0-0 (2023), He coached 212 All Freeway League Players including 18 Freeway League Players of the Year.

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