



EAST SUBURBAN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Athletics

**BENET ACADEMY • CARMEL CATHOLIC • JOLIET CATHOLIC • MARIAN CATHOLIC
MARIAN CENTRAL • MARIST • NAZARETH • NOTRE DAME • ST. PATRICK • ST. VIATOR**

ESCC Hall of Fame to induct eight on April 7

Along with some highly successful prep and collegiate athletes, veteran coaches highlight a Hall of Fame Class of eight when the East Suburban Catholic Conference inducts its 11th class on Thursday, April 7 at Crystal Sky Banquet Hall in McCook, Ill.

Basketball mentors headline the class, including Saint Patrick current head coach Mike Bailey, a member of multiple Halls of Fame who is approaching the 500 career wins. Bailey has led the Shamrocks to nine IHSA Regional titles and two sectional crowns.

A successful player and coach at Marist, Gene Nolan has guided the RedHawks to four regional titles in 16 campaigns. He also still holds Marist career records for free throw and three-point percentage. Former Marian Catholic head coach and current round ball staff member Jim Mendenhall has also made his mark for more than 25 years as a head track and golf coach, winning five ESCC golf titles and 11 IHSA regional titles.

Longevity and success characterize Carmel Catholic boys golf Coach Jim Nolan, who guided the Corsairs to five ESCC titles and two top-five IHSA state finishes in 35 years. Nolan has also coached hockey for 17 years. St. Joseph soccer Coach Brother Peter Hannon, FSC, developed the Chargers into a state power, claiming four ESCC crowns, two sectional titles and an Elite Eight appearance in 11 seasons.

The Class is rounded out by three standout athletes, including Notre Dame's John Bowler, who was a four-year starter at Eastern Michigan University, where he earned All-Mac honors and led EMU in scoring and rebounding in 2006. Before wrestling at University of Illinois, St. Viator's Paul Ducato was a three-time All-ESCC wrestler. Lissa Vogley dominated in cross country and track at Benet Academy, winning three ESCC and IHSA regional cross country titles and capturing all-state honors in the 3,200 in 1996-98.

Tickets reservations (\$50) for the 7 p.m. dinner (6 p.m. reception) on April 7 may be made through any of the ESCC school athletic departments and more information and history are also available on the ESCC web site at www.eastsuburbancc.com.

The 1976 Joliet Catholic football state champions will be recognized at the April 7 event as well. The 11th ESCC Hall of Fame class brings the number of current inductees to 116, representing nine of the current 10 member schools and former members Fenwick, Holy Cross, Providence Catholic and Saint Joseph.

More information about the ESCC Hall of Fame or induction dinner may be obtained by contacting Chair Mike Hennessey, Notre Dame High School Athletic Director, at 847-779-8652.