

EAST SUBURBAN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE



BENET ACADEMY • BISHOP MCNAMARA • CARMEL • FENWICK • JOLIET CATH • MARIAN CATH
MARIAN CENTRAL • MARIST • NAZARETH • NOTRE DAME • PROVIDENCE • ST. PATRICK • ST. VIATOR

ESCC Hall of Fame to induct 13 on April 16

Marian Catholic graduate Tim Kelly of the NFL's Houston Texans and highly successful former Notre Dame men's basketball coach Dennis Zelasko will highlight a Hall of Fame Class of 13 when the East Suburban Catholic Conference inducts its 10th class on Thursday, April 16 at Crystal Sky Banquet Hall in McCook, Ill.

The group will also include multi-time IHSA state champions in Marian Catholic's Casey Taylor '05 (three triple jump titles) and Marist's Maurice Mitchell (two hurdle crowns), as well as NCAA Basketball champion at Indiana Tony Freeman (St. Joseph '86). Three inductees have at least 30 years in coaching, including Carmel Catholic's Michael Fitzgibbons (football, wrestling), Saint Patrick's Rudy Presslak (baseball) and Saint Viator's Pat Mahoney (baseball, football).

Marian's Kelly '01, whose younger brother Dennis plays for the Philadelphia Eagles, handles quality control for the Texans and has also held college coaching posts at Penn State, Ball State and Minnesota State after his playing career at Eastern Illinois.

Zelasko guided the Dons on the hardcourt from 1988 to 2006, winning six regional titles and making an IHSA Elite Eight appearance en route to more than 200 victories. Freeman will be inducted with his son Tony Freeman, Jr., who was a four-year starter and earned two ESCC MVP honors for the Chargers before playing at the University of Iowa.

The 2015 class will be rounded out by two former Benet Academy standouts in Philip Goforth (football ESCC MVP, basketball) and Justin Pierro (baseball), Carmel Catholic women's basketball standout Jennifer Eckhart and longtime ESCC soccer officials assignment chair Diana Morrow.

Tickets reservations (\$50) for the 7 p.m. dinner (6 p.m. reception) on April 16 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 1975 Joliet Catholic football state champions will be recognized at the April 16 event as well. The 10th ESCC Hall of Fame class brings the number of current inductees to 108, representing 10 of the current 13 member schools and former members Holy Cross 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.

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