

San Jose Sports Hall of Fame announces high school, amateur, Special Olympic Athletes of the Year

For Immediate Release

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SAN JOSE (Sept. 7, 2006) – Athletes from two South Bay high schools and two universities will be honored by the San Jose Sports Hall of Fame at its 2006 Induction Ceremony and Dinner on Nov. 1 at HP Pavilion along with the Special Olympian of the Year.

The Hall of Fame board has selected Palo Alto High basketball star Jeremy Lin and Mt. Pleasant High sprinter Jeneba Tarmoh as its 2006 Male and Female High School Athletes of the Year. It selected San Jose State defensive tackle Kinji Green and Santa Clara volleyball player Cassie Perret as 2006 Male and Female Amateur Athletes of the Year. Stephanie Ching, a multisport athlete, was named Special Olympian of the Year.

Earlier the Hall announced its 2006 Class of Inductees: basketball player Jennifer Azzi, football coach Bill McPherson, college coach and administrator Walt McPherson and swimmer Mark Spitz.

The induction ceremony, presented by Hewlett-Packard, begins with a VIP reception and silent auction followed by dinner. Tickets begin at \$200 each and may be reserved by calling (408) 288-2936. Sponsorship packages range from \$2,500 to \$15,000.

The annual dinner is an event of the San Jose Sports Authority, San Jose Arena Authority, HP Pavilion Management/San Jose Sharks and the City of San José . The event benefits Special Olympics Northern California and high school sports programs.

The San Jose Sports Authority is the sports marketing agency for the City of San José and supports youth and amateur athletics throughout the community as well as bringing premier sports events to the city. Visit our website at www.sjsa.org.

Honoree biographies

Jeremy Lin

Lin, Palo Alto 's point guard, led the Vikings to a 32-1 record and the CIF State Division II basketball championship. He is now at Harvard and expected to play for the Crimson this season.

Jeneba Tarmoh

Tarmoh became the first Mt. Pleasant athlete to win a state championship by sweeping the 100 and 200-meter sprints at the state track and field finals. She is now a Mt. Pleasant senior.

Kinji Green

Green was a San Jose State football walk-on in 2001 who finished his career as a defensive tackle last season as the Spartans' most valuable player as well as the recipient of several academic awards. He was penalized only once in his collegiate career.

Cassie Perret

Perret became Santa Clara's first volleyball All-America in a season in which she led the Broncos to their first victory over Stanford and first appearance in the NCAA semifinals. She was named West Coast Conference Player of the Year.

Stephanie Ching

Ching has qualified for state-level Special Olympic competition every year since 1993 and last year competed in four sports. She attends DeAnza College and works at Stanford University . She is a Global Ambassador for Special Olympics Northern California.