

CAPITAL ONE/CoSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

By Roger Horne, Director of Athletic Communications, Pepperdine University

In the fall of 2012, I nominated Terry Schroeder for the Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-America Hall of Fame. He ended up being inducted during his first year on the ballot. In an effort to help show other schools how easy it is to nominate their all-time greats, I was asked to put together a little “how-to” sheet. Here’s what I did.

- 1) As a reminder, Academic All-America Hall of Fame inductees are people that earned Academic All-America status during their college careers (or meet honorary induction standards), graduated with at least a 3.00 GPA, graduated at least 10 years ago, and have “achieved lifetime success in their professional careers and are committed to philanthropic causes in the communities where they reside.”
- 2) Thankfully, CoSIDA has a page that lists all of a school’s Academic All-Americans: http://cosida.com/media/documents/2012/4/alltime_aaa_individual_byschool_Feb_2012.pdf If you don’t already have a comprehensive list, it’s a great place to start to narrow down prospective candidates.
- 3) Pepperdine hasn’t had a whole lot of luck accumulating Academic All-Americans over the years. This past spring we only got our 10th entry on the list. Unfortunately, none of them have yet accomplished enough post-college that I felt there would be much sense in nominating them. There are probably a lot of schools out there in a similar situation.
- 4) Still, I felt it was important to try to get someone from Pepperdine into the Hall of Fame. So I looked at the honorary induction category. The rules state that “honorary designation may be awarded to a former scholar-athlete whose collegiate career pre-dated the Academic All-America program in his/her particular sport.”
- 5) I tracked down the start dates for the various Academic All-America programs: Football (1952), Men’s Basketball (1963), Baseball (1970), Women’s Basketball (1979), Women’s Volleyball (1982), At-Large (1983) and Softball (1983).
- 6) Jackpot. We’ve had a number of people that were outstanding student-athletes prior to those years that have also gone on to do great things. Terry Schroeder stood out among them: an All-American in men’s water polo, an NCAA-championship winning coach, an iconic figure for USA Water Polo and at the Olympics (both as a player and as a coach) plus a practicing chiropractor. After checking with our registrar to make sure he graduated with a 3.0 GPA, I was off and running.
- 7) Putting together the nomination itself wasn’t difficult. There are three sections that need to be filled out: College Achievements, Professional Career and Community Service. I was lucky enough to have a bio and news clippings on Terry Schroeder because he had coached here for 20 years, but outside sources like internet searches and USA Water Polo also helped fill in the blanks.

- 8) I probably didn't spend a whole lot more time putting together this nomination biography than I do on a typical men's basketball player bio. I sent what I wrote to Coach Schroeder and got his help with some of the community service items. The nomination was submitted online, and that was it (until I got the call a few months later saying that he was being inducted). What I submitted is at the end of this document.
- 9) Although he wasn't an Academic All-American during his playing days, I think Coach Schroeder truly enjoyed and appreciated the honor. The Hall of Fame ceremony is a wonderful event and extremely memorable for those involved. It was great publicity for Pepperdine and it's a terrific thing to have our school represented. Based on my experience, I highly recommend that other schools think about their possibilities and take a little time to nominate those that are deserving.

Terry Schroeder nomination:

COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENTS

Academics: Graduated magna cum laude ... Earned a \$2,000 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship in 1981 ... Pepperdine Dean's List ... Selected for "Who's Who in America's Colleges" three times (1978, 1979, 1980) ... 1976-77 recipient of the President's Award for Academic Achievement.

Athletics: Three-time All-American (1977, 1978, 1980) ... Pepperdine's all-time leading goal scorer in a career (392) and a season (138 in 1978) ... Holds the first three spots on the school's list of the top single-season goal scorers ... Led the nation in scoring in both 1977 and 1978 ... Helped Pepperdine to three fourth-place finishes at the NCAA Championships (1977, 1978, 1980) ... Made the NCAA All-Tournament Team all three times ... The 1980 Pacific Coast Athletic Association Player of the Year and a three-time all-conference first team selection ... Helped Pepperdine to its first league championship, the 1977 PCAA conference tournament title ... Redshirted the 1979 season to prepare for the 1980 Olympics ... First played for the U.S. National Team in 1977 after his sophomore season at Pepperdine ... Won a gold medal at the World University Games in Mexico City in 1979.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Current Employer: Pepperdine University
Job Title: Head Men's Water Polo Coach (2013)

Achievements/Awards: One of the most iconic figures in the history of American water polo ... A six-time Olympian as a coach or athlete and was part of three silver-medal winning teams ... Received the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award in 2006 ... Inducted into International Swimming Hall of Fame (2005), U.S. Water Polo Hall of Fame (1998) and the Pepperdine Athletics Hall of Fame (1985) and has been nominated for the USA Olympic Hall of Fame ... Served as the head coach of the Pepperdine men's water polo team for 20 years (1986-2005) and will reclaim the position starting with the 2013 season ... Stepped away from Pepperdine to work with USA Water Polo ... Served as the U.S. men's head coach between 2007 and 2012, including the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games ... Led the Americans to silver medals at the 2008 Olympics and 2008 FINA World Super League, and to eighth place at the 2012 Olympics ... While head coach at Pepperdine, posted a record of 340-220 (.607) in 20 seasons and won the 1997 NCAA championship ... Named the 1997 National Coach of the Year and was the conference's coach of the year in 1989, 1997 and 1998 ... Pepperdine won or shared six regular-season conference

titles and advanced to the NCAA Championships eight times under Schroeder ... Before beginning his coaching career, he was one of the world's all-time most outstanding players ... Swimming World Magazine called him the best all-around player in the world in 1982 ... Was the U.S. National Team captain from 1983-92 and was part of the national team for 16 years ... A four-time Olympian (including the boycotted 1980 Games) who won silver medals as a player in 1984 and 1988 and finished fourth in 1992 ... He was the first American player to be named to four Olympic water polo teams ... Helped the U.S. win its first-ever major international competition in 1991 at the FINA Cup in Barcelona ... Carried the U.S. flag at the closing ceremonies of the 1988 Seoul Olympics ... Modeled for a statue that was unveiled prior to the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics that sits outside of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum ... Received the Southland Olympia Award in 1988.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Info: Earned a doctorate and operates a chiropractic office in Westlake Village, Calif. (www.schroederhealthyliving.com) ... Represented his country with USA Water Polo for more than 20 years as a player or coach ... Worked with Rafer Johnson and the California Special Olympics for many years, including being a "head coach" in aquatics during the 1980s ... Worked with fellow Olympian Evelyn Ashford and Barbara Bush on Project Literacy ... Has worked with Calvary Community Church in Westlake Village, Calif., on many community service projects in the local area ... Volunteered on the local Coastal Cleanup Day on numerous occasions ... Worked with Mattel and the Humane Society on a campaign to save baby seals from being killed for their fur.