

2023-2024 Coaching Excellence Winners

Month	Coach	School	Activity	Description
January 2024	Alyssa Ogle	Silverton	Girls Basketball	In her first year coaching, Alyssa Ogle led the Silverton Foxes to become Mid-Willamette league champions and take 4th place in the 5A state tournament. For her on-court success, she was voted the conference Coach of the Year. Alyssa is involved in youth programs developing future athletes through camps and weight programs. As a local community champion, Coach Ogle raises money for gear and equipment for her team and adopts families through the Local Tree of Giving Program, where she takes the Foxes to shop and wrap presents.
	Tom Johnson	Barlow	Boys Basketball	Coach Tom Johnson has guided the Barlow Bruins Boys Basketball for 37 years and has an astonishing 669 career coaching wins. He is an excellent coach not just for his numerous league titles and state playoff teams, but also his dedication to the team that can be clearly seen by everyone around him. Each week, Tom gives the Bruins a "theme of the week" to focus on, which usually emphasizes different aspects of character growth. Tom has helped shape the lives of countless players and has taught many generations valuable life lessons.
	Shelby Crystal	Gladstone	Cheerleading	Shelby Crystal has built an incredible Cheerleading program at Gladstone. The Gladiators won 3 OSAA State Championship in the 2020, 2022, and 2023 seasons. Outside of OSAA competitions, she led the team to a first-place finish in both the USA Spirit Nationals and JAMZ National Competition in the sideline division. Shelby also contributes a significant portion of time to help fundraise for uniforms, travel expenses, coaching staff, and equipment.
	Daniel Neeway	Sunset	Girls XC	Leading the Sunset Apollos for 19 years, coach Daniel Neeway has cultivated a positive and safe environment for his students. His ability to promote a positive mental state, wellness, sportsmanship, and a supportive team culture is a significant reason why Sunsets XC team averages over 100 athletes every year. Coach Neeway also prioritizes supporting the community surrounding Sunset. He has helped raise a collective \$135,000 for the annual Miles that Matter project with Shriner's Hospital for Children, and also helps promote many other philanthropic projects. His generous involvement in several charities inspires his students to do the same.
February 2024	Julie Bennett	Crosshill Christian	Volleyball	Coach Bennett has dedicated nearly thirty years to coaching Volleyball, 10 of which have been for the Eagles. Her expertise has led the Eagles to an impressive record of 161-81 with 5 1A State Championship appearances. Bennett's coaching is characterized by humility, integrity, and a passion to develop her players on and off the court. Her year-long commitment to the sport and her team also involves summer camps, clinics, open gyms, and much more. Bennett's mentorship builds not only skilled athletes, but also outstanding individuals.
	Desmond Bennett	Harrisburg	Boys & Girls Wrestling	Coach Desmond Bennett has established a Wrestling dynasty, showcasing an impressive track record of success over the past nine seasons. At least 1 of his athletes has become a state champion each year, a feat that speaks to his ability to cultivate excellence on the wrestling mat. Since 2015, he's had an impressive 46 wrestlers earn a place on the all-state team, 18 wrestlers win a 3A state championship, and has won the league championship as a team 3 times. At the 2024 State Championship his boys team score the second most points in championship history and secured the Eagles first 3A team title, with the girls securing state runner-up.
	Jessica Arnsdorf	Newport	Cheerleading	Coach Arnsdorf has coached the Cubs for 14 years. Under her guidance, the Cubs have clinched 4 4A state championships (including the 2024 title) and have been runner-up 6 times. She is passionate about engaging the youth in the cheer community by hosting multiple clinics and ensuring her team's presence at various elementary and middle school events. Her athletes are inspired by her example, modeling respect and care while creating an environment of unity within the team.
	Steve Pyne	Central Catholic	Football	Coach Pyne has coached the Rams for 21 years, creating a legacy of success and mentorship. With an impressive record of 195 wins and 53 losses, a winning percentage of .783, and 5 6A State Championship

				wins, Coach Pyne's strategic brilliance has been a driving force behind the Rams' consistent excellence on the Football field. His impact extends to the next level, as he has assisted countless young men in advancing their Football careers, with 8 of his athletes moving on to play in the NFL. Off the field, his teams consistently finish near the top for team GPA.
March 2024	Reagan Gilbertson	Redmond	Boys Basketball	Coach Gilbertson has coached the Panthers for 8 years. Under his guidance, the Panthers have become state contenders and have shown tremendous growth both on and off the court. Gilbertson's coaching style promotes hustle and toughness, while also prioritizing character growth, integrity, and compassion. He participates in yearly community service events to improve the community, and visits elementary schools to support future Panthers.
	Jordan Carlson	Scio	Cheerleading	Coach Carlson has grown the Loggers Cheerleading program from 3 athletes to 9 in just 2 months. Her enthusiasm and dedication to her team and community have reignited spirit back to the sidelines. She led the Loggers to take 1st place in the 4A/3A/2A/1A OSAA state championships in the Gameday division in her 1st year as head coach. Carlson is also known to be an amazing volunteer in the Scio community.
	Jimmy Watts	Lakeridge	Boys Basketball	Coach Watts is committed to developing the character of his student-athletes. A unique way he achieves this is by creating and teaching a class called "Character Coaching," where his objective is to create a culture of character both on the court and in the student's personal lives. Each week, a player from each of his teams is recognized as exemplifying the character trait taught in the previous lesson. Watts is constantly seen spending his time volunteering and creating new ways to support Lakeridge and its community.
	Tomika Doman	Crane Union	Girls Basketball	Coach Doman led the Mustangs to an undefeated 30-0 season and a 1A State Championship title her first year as head coach. More than just the success on the court, Doman promotes a positive environment and attitude from her athletes which earned the Mustangs the league sportsmanship award. By setting strong expectations at the beginning of the season the team was able to achieve success and do so with strong character.
April 2024	Eric Nichols	Crane Union	Boys Basketball	Coach Nichols has established a high level, well-run Basketball program at Crane Union. He creates a positive environment for student-athletes to thrive and improve. Coach Nichols' excellent mentorship and ability to develop athletes is reflected in the Mustangs performance on the court. In the last 3 years, Nichols has led the Mustangs to an impressive record of 91-2 with 3 back-to-back state titles, making them a powerhouse in the High Desert League.
	Alycia Munoz	South Salem	Girls Basketball	Coach Munoz is in her second year coaching the Saxons. She started as the head JV2 coach last year, immediately making an impact in the program upon her arrival. During the Summer, coach Munoz helped lead the varsity team and supported them at camps. The Saxons instantly recognized the passion she had to help the team grow and improve. After many personal requests from students, coach Munoz was promoted to coach varsity.
	Sam Osofsky	North Valley	Girls Basketball	Coach Osofsky has made a significant impact on the Knights Basketball program both on and off the court. His positive attitude and excellent coaching resulted in an influx of players to their program this year. This allowed the Knights to create competitive JV and varsity squads after only having a total of 7 athletes the previous year. Their recent turn in success on the court directly correlates with his understanding of how to develop student-athlete's abilities and the positive attitude he brings to the team.
	Shannon Maloney	West Linn	Cheerleading	Coach Maloney has coached the Lions for 11 years. Maloney leads by example, always showing respect to other teams in and outside of competitions. Her dedication to the team, positive attitude, and kindness shine through at every practice and competition. Coach Maloney's constant encouragement and supportive coaching style has led many of her student-athletes to develop a higher level of self-confidence in their abilities. Her positive leadership has significantly impacted the program and is revered by many.

May 2024	Scott Bow	Umatilla	Boys Basketball	Coach Bow has been coaching the Vikings Boys & Girls Basketball programs for 17 years. Both teams have been successful under his guidance, with the Boys Basketball team making the OSAA playoffs every year since he started leading the team. This last season, Coach Bow surpassed his 100th win with the Boys Basketball team, while also holding the school record in wins with the Girls Basketball team. Bow is known for building positive relationships with his players and coaching staff while constantly striving to improve the team.
	Kendall Schoolmeester	Banks	Girls T&F	Coach Schoolmeester's commitment and dedication to young athletes is unparalleled. She coaches a wide array of athletes across Banks' Boys & Girls T&F and Boys & Girls XC, while also coaching middle school Boys & Girls T&F, Boys & Girls XC, and Soccer programs. When not coaching, she runs multiple youth programs; Banks Youth Track and XC clubs, and the Banks Youth Soccer Association. Coach Schoolmeester fosters a positive environment for athletes to have fun and improve in, causing both an influx of athletes in the Banks running programs and breaking records along the way.
	Matt Hilgers	Sisters	Baseball	Since taking over the Baseball program a few years ago, coach Hilgers has helped the team improve dramatically. Last year, he led the Outlaws to a 1st place finish in the Mountain Valley Conference. Hilgers is always looking for new and fun ways for his team to improve and compete. An example of this is when he led a fundraising campaign that enabled the Outlaws to travel to Arizona to compete in a tournament. He is also known for facilitating fun bonding activities, such as going to MLB games and Baseballism.
	Kasima Hodge	Westside Christian	Girls Basketball	Over the last 5 years, Coach Hodge has completely changed the Eagles Girls Basketball program. After not making it to the state tournament in 17 years, coach Hodge led the Eagles to finish 1st in the Lewis & Clark League, and eventually a spot in the State Championship Tournament. Off the court, coach Hodge holds the team accountable in the classroom and promotes respect and kindness. While at the state tournament, the Eagles received the sportsmanship award, which is a testament to Hodge's coaching.