

Girls Assistant Coaches of the Year – 2010

Cam Jackson – Leyden High School

Leyden assistant coach Cam Jackson was a three-time state qualifier as a high school player at Eau Claire Memorial High School in Wisconsin and a four-year varsity tennis player at Lawrence University. Along with captaining his college tennis team as a senior and winning a conference singles title, Cam was also a four-year varsity basketball player. He is presently the student services chairman at West Leyden H.S., a position he has held for sixteen years.

Cam has coached at Elmwood Park, Evanston, and, for the past twenty-one years, at Leyden. He has been involved with track and field, basketball (boys and girls), and tennis. In the more than twenty years Cam has coached tennis, he has worked to grow the game on a grass roots level. Teamwork, integrity, competition, dedication, sportsmanship, and a love of the game are the focal points for a program that is primarily made up of students who have never held, and often can't afford, a racket prior to attending Leyden. With a no-cut policy, his program works to encourage and develop a passion for the sport with all who choose to make the commitment.

He is a firm believer in the intangible lessons that can be learned through competition. Leadership, commitment, perseverance, character, respect and responsibility are themes that run throughout his practices. *Early is on time; on time is late. Listening is a skill. You represent yourself, your teammates, your family, your school and your community. Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.* These are some of the quotes students hear repeatedly throughout their careers when dealing with Cam. Academic achievement, however, is always paramount and it is the true “student-athlete” that Cam is interested in nurturing.

Cam is grateful to his family for all of their support and encouragement over the years. He feels tennis has truly blessed his life in a wide variety of ways and thanks the players, coaches, parents, and mentors who have made it an enriching experience that continues to grow.

Congratulations, Cam, on your award as IHSTCA Assistant Coach of the Year!