

# Girls Coach of the Year

## *Tom Stanhope - Stevenson High School*

Stevenson High School, guided by IHSTCA Coach of the Year Tom Stanhope, had an impressive girls' season. Here are a few of the highlights:

- Season record of 18-0
- North Suburban Conference Champions
- The Patriots also won four other invitationals and the Stevenson Sectional
- Qualified all six players for the state meet
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the state meet; doubles state champions

Coach Stanhope said the following about his Stevenson tennis community:

“The players’ desires to team up and be part of something bigger than themselves has fallen in line with the environment we’re trying to foster; creating a team out of an individual sport. It’s been a good combination since all of our decisions have revolved around what’s best for the overall team. We’ve been lucky to have student-athletes with these qualities, and in essence remind us what’s great about high school athletics.”

Tom’s assistant, Josh Leighton, had the following to say about Coach Stanhope:

“Stevenson has a great deal of talent in both the boys’ and girls’ programs. However, Tom continually finds ways to maximize the talent of both of his teams. During the season, he cultivates a TEAM philosophy that each athlete buys into. He also demonstrates consistent discipline from the top of the varsity team to the last player on the JV team. Each player understands the concept of accountability and this, ultimately, makes the team stronger. Overall, he has built a girls’ program that should be successful for years to come.”

The Stevenson Patriots had a phenomenal season in 2014, and it was in no small part due to the outstanding coaching efforts of Tom Stanhope. Congratulations, Coach Stanhope, on your well-deserved Coach of the Year award!