



NEWS

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El Camino College Athletes of the Year Announced

El Camino College's outstanding student athletes were recently honored for excellence on the field and courts, and in the classroom, with grade point averages near 4.0.

Lauren Simmons and Ramon Marquez were named Warrior Student Athletes of the Year at the recent El Camino College Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet.

A leader on the volleyball team, Simmons was a two-year starter for the Warriors. After graduating from North Torrance High School, she helped the ECC team win its conference her freshman year. As a sophomore, she led the Warriors to victory – the first time a team won the state title from the losers' bracket.

Simmons was unanimously named Conference MVP, First Team All-State, First Team All-State Tournament and First Team American Volleyball Coaches Association. Lauren was third in the conference with 3.71 kills per game. She led the team with nearly 400 kills for the season, and was second on the team in digs. During her time at El Camino College, Simmons maintained a 3.4 grade point average. She plans to transfer to a university in the fall to pursue a degree in business.

As a member of the ECC baseball team and a two-year starter, Ramon Marquez helped lead the Warriors to the 2007 conference title – the first for the team in 20 years. In that first year, he played first base and batted fourth, with a .568 batting average and an on-base percentage of .495. In 41 games, Marquez earned 45 RBIs, four homeruns and 16 BB, in addition to winning First Team All Conference honors.

For the 2008 season, Marquez's top defense (only one error in the field), his incredible batting average, and outstanding on-base percentage have led the team. He has been a leader for the Warriors through the past two seasons and his dedication to excellence in the classroom is just as successful. A first-generation college student, Marquez is looking forward to transferring to a university in the fall.

Securing the annual Norm Verry Scholarship are Clark D. Coble and Lauren Simmons.

Coble is a two-year leader on the men's tennis team, described by head coach Steve Van Kanegan as the team's "unofficial leader, a player with grit, and our best and most consistent performer." Completing his second season as the No. 1 doubles player and No. 2 singles player, he also performed in the college's fall production of "Macbeth." Juggling athletics, community service, family and work, he still managed a GPA of 3.8. Clark was accepted to the University of California at San Diego and Irvine, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, California State University, Long Beach, and is waiting to hear from UCLA.

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