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South Coast Conference Commissioner

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## **FALCONS 11: CERRITOS WINS 08-09 SCC SUPREMACY AWARD**

For the third straight year, Cerritos College won the South Coast Conference Supremacy Award in the most successful calendar sports season by any college in the conference's history. The Falcons captured a record 11 conference titles (out of 19 sports) and the supremacy plaque was awarded to Dr. Daniel Smith, Cerritos Dean of Physical Education/Athletics, during the conference's athletic directors meeting Sept. 30 at Los Angeles Southwest College.

Cerritos, located in Norwalk, won four state titles, including men's and women's soccer, women's water polo and women's track and field. The 11 conference championships came in men's and women's soccer, women's water polo, women's cross country, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's track and field, women's softball, women's swimming, and women's tennis.

## **PASADENA WOMEN HOOPS' PERON AND CERRITOS MEN SOCCER'S ARTIAGA NAMED SCC COACHES OF THE YEAR**

Pasadena City College women's basketball coach Joe Peron and Cerritos men's soccer coach Benny Artiaga were selected as the SCC Coaches of the Year for 2008-2009.

Women's Coach of the Year Peron directed the 33-4 Lancers to the first state championship in women's sports history at PCC. His Lancers came in as an underdog at the CCCAA Final 8 Tournament in March as the South's No. 4 seed, but proceeded to defeat North No. 1 City College of San Francisco, 34-0 and then undefeated Ventura, and San Joaquin Delta in the finals to secure the championship at Fresno's Selland Arena.

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In 13 years running the program, Peron's teams have won six SCC titles and made a current streak of six consecutive appearances at the state tournament. Peron's career record is 324-86 for a .790 winning percentage.

Men's Coach of the Year Artiaga directed his Falcons to first the conference title on the last day of the regular season in 2008, then guided his team to its second state title in the last three seasons. The 22-4-1 Falcons defeated SCC rival Mt. San Antonio in the CCCAA championship match, 1-0, at College of the Canyons in December.

In four head coaching seasons (10 years at Cerritos overall), his coaching record is a sparkling 72-19-15.

*--Robert Lewis, SCC Publicist, 626-585-7018, rmlewis@pasadena.edu*