

# **Boys Coach of the Year - 2012**

## *Pete Freischlag - Downers Grove South High School*

Downers Grove South, guided by 2012 IHSTCA Coach of the Year Pete Freischlag, had a wildly successful boys' tennis season in 2012 under very unusual circumstances. Here are a few of the highlights:

- Won 32<sup>nd</sup> conference championship
- Won 4<sup>th</sup> straight IHSA Sectional title
- Set the school record for dual meets won in a season with 21
- Qualified all six players for the state meet for the fourth year in a row
- 12<sup>th</sup> IHSA Top 20 finish
- One singles player and one doubles team named all-state
- One player set the all-time school record with 167 wins
- Three players crossed the 100 win plateau
- Continued “no-cut” policy

Pete Freischlag's Mustangs succeeded in 2012 under the most unusual of circumstances. His team was 21-1, finished 11<sup>th</sup> in the state, and had all eleven players earn All-Conference medals in the West Suburban Conference. DGS won its fourth straight sectional title and qualified all six players for the state meet. Pete upped his career win total to 548.

What made all of these accomplishments all the more noteworthy, however, was that the Mustangs did it all without any tennis courts at their high school! A tornado hit their facility the previous summer, and the new courts were not ready for the spring of 2012. DGS had no home meets, no home practices, and all of their tournaments had to be moved (DGS hosts something every weekend). The Mustangs spent their spring break in Edwardsville, Illinois. They bonded, practiced, went sight-seeing, and won the Edwardsville Tiger Duals while they were there.

Downers Grove South adapted quite nicely to these unique circumstances. Dr. Freischlag's team achieved at a very high level throughout the season, culminating with a deep state run.

Pete Freischlag is one of the most respected, accomplished coaches in Illinois. His award as the 2012 Coach of the Year is a well-deserved one. Congratulations, Pete!