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Esquivel and Foster Named CHS Boys Soccer Coaches

Columbus, MS (June 9, 2009)-Columbus High School Soccer is pleased to announce the hiring of Javier Esquivel as its boys head soccer coach for the upcoming soccer season. He is joined by A.J. Foster as a volunteer assistant coach. Both Javier and AJ bring world class experience to the CHS soccer program with emphasis on technique, training, and conditioning.

“We are very excited to have Javier and AJ as our new coaches,” said Lucy Walker, President of CHS Soccer Boosters. “We are confident they will take CHS soccer to the next level. Both of these men are tremendous instructors in technique as well as the mental part of the game. Our kids are already showing improved soccer skills through our recent summer training camp and practices.”

Javier grew up in Mexico where he played high school soccer and on a U16 state team of Tamaulipas. He later played semi-pro soccer with several teams such as Madero in Tampico and Correcaminos in Victoria, Mexico, which is now a division 1 professional team. Javier was recruited by Tennessee Temple University and played there from 1994-1997. While at Tennessee Temple he started as sweeper but played all positions and was voted team MVP for 3 years, Best Defender, and Best All-star.

Javier will be assisted by A.J. Foster as a volunteer coach. AJ grew up in Jamaica where he played Pepsi Cup Championship level soccer for Dinthill Technical High School. At age 15, he was playing for the Tropical Mystic–Division II team which is only two divisions below the famed Craven A National Premier League, now Cash Plus National Premier League. AJ holds B.S. and Masters Degrees from LSU and is currently pursuing a PhD at Mississippi State University.

Because of his love of the game, AJ began coaching as a volunteer in Starkville in 2005 with Division II U12 Boys. He has subsequently coached Starkville Soccer Association’s U13 and U14 Division I Boys teams. His teams have won a number of major tournaments. In addition, his teams have won two state championships, and finished mid-table in Division I as U13 (2007) and also U14 (2008). In 2009, AJ was voted Mississippi Soccer Associations-Northern District Coach of the Year for Division I as well as Mississippi Soccer Association’s Coach of the Year for 2009.

“Success in soccer, like success in life, is a frame of mind,” says Esquivel when asked about his coaching philosophy. “More players fail mentally than physically. The player who acquires a proper mental attitude towards the sport and along with it, realizes that the most successful players are made, not born, will be on the road to success. He should then have no difficulty in becoming reasonably adept at playing the game at any level.”

Columbus High School Soccer kicks-off the 2009 season on Saturday, November 7th with the Columbus Classic. For more information, visit the www.columbuscityschools.org/chs/.