

## **Inland Sports All-Area Softball Awards:**

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With the season now complete it's time to unveil our Inland Sports all area softball honorees.

**Co-Coaches of the Year (Public Schools):** Mike Smith (Roosevelt) & Jackie Sweet (Santiago)

There's a saying which goes first impressions are everything. It's true in life and softball. This year the Big VIII League had two rookie head coaches and both of them guided their teams deep into postseason action. Both of them earning area coach of the year honors.

Under rookie head coach Jackie Sweet the Sharks have a unique distinction in softball history as the only team to take a game from Norco en route to their CIF-SS Division one quarterfinal appearance.

Most of Roosevelt coach Mike Smith's team was either in elementary or junior high school the last time a Mustang softball team made it to postseason play. That changed this year as Roosevelt made it to a CIF-SS Division two semifinal in Smith's first year at the controls. It was the school's deepest run in their softball history.

**Co-Players of the Year (Public Schools):** Kinzie Hansen & Sarah Willis, Norco

To be able to handle top notch pitching is a gift. Doing so while being one of the area's most feared hitters at any level is crazy. Kinzie Hansen posted a team leading .467 batting average with 14 extra base hits (5 home runs). Behind the plate she guided Cougar pitchers Stevie Hansen & Sarah Willis to a staff ERA of 0.64 while facing arguably the nation's toughest schedule. Next year she'll be headed to the University of Oklahoma on a softball scholarship.

Sarah Willis was the other piece of a formidable one/two punch at the top of Norco's lineup. She posted a .350 batting average from the leadoff spot and matched teammates Kinzie Hansen & Paige Smith for the team lead in extra base hits with 14. In the circle she was near unhittable posting an 0.82 ERA in 153 innings of work while recording 196 strikeouts to just 54 walks. Opponents hit just .168 against her while recording a grand total of 93 hits (0.61 per inning).

**Coach of the Year (Small Schools):** Ryan Anderson, Woodcrest Christian

Woodcrest Christian had its finest campaign in more than a decade reaching the CIF-SS division six semifinals before falling to top seeded Garden Grove/Santiago. It's been a slow but steady rebuild for the Royals under Anderson who guided his first two teams to Wildcard round victories before falling in their openers. This year's team scored a total of 216 runs (9.4 per game) including a postseason average of 8.3 per game. The program also set an Ambassador League era best finish of 2nd place behind Aquinas (perennial league champion).

**Player of the Year (Small Schools):** Ryleigh Carricaburu, Woodcrest Christian

Over the years Woodcrest Christian has produced excellent softball players who have gone on and contributed collegiately such as Alexis Alonzo & Kelli Hennessy (Topp). Ryleigh Carricaburu is another such player destined for that stage and arguably one of the toughest outs as a hitter in our area. The junior catcher hit .615 (2nd-Team) and recorded 18 extra base hits including 12 home runs as Royals softball enjoyed their finest campaign in a decade. More impressive however is the fact that in 65 official at bats she was struck out just four times. She was also 9 for 9 in stealing bases & 4 for 4 in throwing out opposing base stealers.

**Selection Criteria:**

\*Only postseason qualified teams received spots based on the following allocations

Eliminated in 1st or 2nd rounds>>2 picks

Eliminated in Quarter or Semifinals>>3 picks

Championship Game participants>>4 picks

**Public Schools Area Team:**

Norco (4): Sarah Willis, Kinzie Hansen, Paige Smith & Allison Beecher  
Great Oak (4): Ma'ta Faapito, Holly Fisher, Quincee Lilio & Brandi Kinch  
Santiago (3): Savannah Hooks, Hanna Delgado & Amari Harper  
Roosevelt (3): Rylie West, Alyssa Argomaniz & Maddie Thompson  
Rialto (3): Angelica Melendrez, Madeline Gonzalez & Cassandra Solis  
Redlands East Valley (2): Autumn Bennett & Amaya White  
King (2): Amiah Aponte & Kaila Pollard  
Grand Terrace (2): Ashlyn Zermeno & Alycia Flores  
Vista Murrieta (2): Briza Blanco & Alesia Denby  
Riverside Poly (2): Savannah Favre & Megan Delgadillo  
Yucaipa (2): Sydney Huff & Brianna Martinez  
Temecula Valley (2): Shaynne Bustamante & Jaiden Ditimus  
Beaumont (2): Julia Shephard & Aubrey Slider  
Redlands (2): Nahri Tath-Slezak & Maya Holshoe  
Valley View (2): Lauren Feld & Caliyah Thompson  
Patriot (2): Grace Pieson & Brianna Lucero  
Paloma Valley (2): Cassidy Holmgren & Yazmine Mendez  
Ramona (2): Brianna Lopez & Raylena Valencia  
Arlington (2): Brittnee Wimbish & Hannah Lerma  
West Valley (2): Serena Herbranson & Amarah Farley  
Banning (2): Lauryn Garewal & Brianna Garcia  
Rancho Verde (2): Randi Gartrell & Aria Jones  
Jurupa Hills (2): Angela Guerrero & Sophia Guevara  
AB Miller (2): Mia Zamora & Brittney Villalobos  
Heritage (2): Janae Hernandez & Kaitlyn Orona  
Vista del Lago (2): Marina Bujanda & Makayla Ulloa

San Jacinto (2): Andrea Hernandez & Mckaylee Johnson  
San Gorgonio (2): Jesse Martinez & Alexis Cobb-Martinez  
Rubidoux (2): Emily Ortega & Jasmine Molina  
San Bernardino (2): Samantha Calderas & Caelyn Velazquez  
Summit (2): Jaidyn Hamby & Kayla Carter-Thomas

Honorable Mentions (5): Bianca Diamond & Kaitlyn LaFleur (Summit); Lacie Ham & Presiligh Pilon (Murrieta Mesa); Esperanza Coe (Yucaipa)

**Small Schools Area Team:**

Western Christian (4): Keba Vinyard, Allison Lima, Chandler Kerr & Amelia Weber  
Woodcrest Christian (3): Ryleigh Carricaburu, Angelina Allen & Paige Markley  
San Jacinto Valley Academy (3): Ana Gastelum, Noelani Lucero-Akana & Trinity Garcia  
Aquinas (2): Reina Castillo & Bobbiann Pratt  
Nuvview Bridge (2): Halle Nugent & Alejandra Casas  
Public Safety Academy (2):  
United Christian Academy (2): Katherine Morones & Sutton Senalik  
Grove (2): Anabella Milbourne & Ellie Venegas  
Bloomington Christian (2): Raylene Dominguez & Madison Ficarra  
Notre Dame/Riverside (2): Genesis Johnson & Victoria McMains  
Ontario Christian (2): Reese Montgomery & Bridgette Trujillo  
Bethel Christian/Riverside (2): Cheylynd McLucas & Haley Fell-Brackett  
CSDR (2): Lily Desmione & Hannah Weiss  
Santa Rosa Academy (2): Kayla Constancio & Rachel Earlywine  
Cal Lutheran (2): Cambria Ehinger & Amanda Kant  
Redlands Adventist Academy (2):

Honorable Mentions (4): Leti Soria (Woodcrest Christian), Missy Davis (Notre Dame/Riverside), Kylie Bradstreet (Calvary Murrieta) & Kaitlyn Hawkins (Ontario Christian)