



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

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Michael O'Day to Receive NIAAA Award of Excellence

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN (November 4, 2009) — **Michael O'Day**, CMAA, director of student activities for the South Burlington (Vermont) School District, is the 2009 recipient of the Thomas E. Frederick Award of Excellence presented by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA).

O'Day will receive the NIAAA Award of Excellence December 15 in Dallas, Texas, during banquet festivities at the 40th annual National Athletic Directors Conference conducted jointly by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the NIAAA.

The Thomas E. Frederick Award of Excellence is a prestigious award presented each year to an NIAAA member whose loyalty to the association and contributions to the profession represent excellence in achievement.

The award is named after the late Thomas E. Frederick, who served as NFHS assistant and associate director for 22 years before his retirement in 1989. Frederick was responsible for starting the National Athletic Directors Conference in 1971 as well as the NIAAA in 1977.

O'Day has been director of student activities at his alma mater, South Burlington High School, since 1984 after one year as athletic director at Missisquoi Valley Union High School in Vermont and six years as a math teacher and coach at Keene High School in New Hampshire.

O'Day has made significant contributions to both the Vermont Principals' Association (VPA) and the Vermont State Athletic Directors Association (VSADA). He has chaired the VPA Football Committee since 2003 and the VPA Gymnastics Committee since 1988. He also has served on the VPA Tennis Committee and Baseball Committee and has been in charge of the VPA Coaches Education program since 1990.

Within the VSADA, O'Day has held virtually every position, including vice president (1986–87), president (1987–88) and past president (1988–89). He has been on the VSADA Executive Board since 1986 and has served as the state's NIAAA liaison since 1991. He also has been coordinator of the state's athletic directors conference since 1996 and has received the VSADA Athletic Director of the Year Award and Distinguished Service Award.

O'Day also has devoted his time to the Vermont Interscholastic Football League, scheduling state football contests since 1993 and serving as the organization's secretary–treasurer since 1996.

At the national level, O'Day has been an NIAAA member since 1983. He earned his Certified Athletic Administrator (CAA) status in 1990 and the Certified Master Athletic Administrator (CMAA) in 2002. He has attended every National Athletic Directors Conference since 1987, has been a workshop presenter and moderator, and was a member of the NIAAA Blue Ribbon Panel in 1994. He also served as the state's NIAAA Leadership Training Program coordinator for five years.

O'Day, a graduate of the University of Maine, Orono, with a master's from Western Carolina (North Carolina) University, received the NIAAA State Award of Merit two times (1994, 1999), and was the 2006 recipient of the NFHS Citation. In 2005, O'Day received the Outstanding Contributor Award from the Vermont chapter of the National Football Foundation.

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About the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA)

The NIAAA is the largest national organization for high school athletic administrators with more than 7,000 individual members. The NIAAA consists of athletic director organizations in the 50 states plus the District of Columbia and provides an efficient system for exchange of ideas between the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and state athletic administrators organizations as well as individual athletic administrators. The NIAAA, located in Indianapolis, Indiana, strives to preserve the educational nature of interscholastic athletics and the place of these programs in the curricula of schools. The NIAAA is a full and equal partner with the NFHS.

About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and fine arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school

level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.5 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; produces publications for high school coaches, officials and athletic directors; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, spirit coaches, speech and debate coaches and music adjudicators; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information, visit the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.

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