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2014 Americana Men of the Year are Both Cypress College Alumni, NBA Standouts

Two Cypress College alumni — Swen Nater and Mark Eaton — will be honored as the 2014 Americana Awards Men of the Year. Both men played for legendary Cypress College basketball coaches Don Johnson (for whom the college's court is named) and Tom Lubin before continuing to successful careers in the National Basketball Association.

Neither was playing basketball when Assistant Coach Lubin discovered, recruited, mentored, and trained them outside team practices. After completing their studies at Cypress College, both played at the University of California at Los Angeles. Not only did both Nater and Eaton play in the NBA, each still holds league records.

The Cypress College Foundation's 39th Annual Americana Awards. The Americana Awards, sponsored by Union Bank, N.A., will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2014 in the Disneyland Hotel's Grand Ballroom.

Nater started playing basketball in 1969 as a freshman at Cypress College—thanks directly to the effort Lubin. When he first went out for the team he did not own a pair of tennis shoes. He didn't play much that first year but became an All-American in his second season and was recruited to play at UCLA for the legendary John Wooden. He went on to play in the American Basketball Association, where he was named Rookie of the Year, and then the NBA. He's the only player to have led both the ABA and the NBA in rebounding. Nater lives in Issaquah, WA, where he is a buyer for Costco. He is also a much sought-after

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Minds. Motivated.

speaker.

Eaton was 21 years old in 1978 and repairing automobiles in Orange County when he was spotted and persuaded by Cypress College Lubin to resume playing a sport he'd grown to dislike. After completing his time at Cypress College, Eaton also ended up with the UCLA Bruins, where he didn't play much but caught the eye of NBA scouts, primarily because he stood 7-foot-4. The Utah Jazz selected Eaton in the fourth round of the 1982 draft and, over the next 11 seasons, he became an invaluable part of a team that transitioned from laughingstock to championship contender. Now 56, Eaton resides in Park City, Utah, and is a partner in the popular Salt Lake City restaurant Tuscany. He is also a motivational speaker.

Citizens of the Year from the eight cities comprising Cypress College's primary service area are: Dr. June Glenn (Anaheim); Christiane Salts (Buena Park); Maria E. A. Sterk (Cypress); Bill and Sue Catlin (Garden Grove); Ralph D. and Dianna W. Rodriguez (La Palma), Chrysteen and Larry Braun (Los Alamitos/Rossmoor); Seth Eaker (Seal Beach); and Allan and Yvonne Ansdell (Stanton).

Care Ambulance will be honored with the Foundation's Distinguished Business Award, while Mary Bouas and Irv Pickler, both of Anaheim, will each be recognized with Cypress College President Dr. Bob Simpson's Distinguished Service Award.

About the Americana Awards:

Tickets for the Americana Awards are available from the Cypress College Foundation for \$225 per person with various sponsorship levels also available. Information is available by calling (714) 484-7126 or at <http://www.CypressCollege.edu> or <http://www.Facebook.com/AmericanaAwards>. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with no-host cocktails and a silent auction. Dinner is served at 7 p.m.

In July, 2010, Union Bank, N.A., strengthened its partnership with Cypress College, agreeing to serve as the title sponsor of the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Americana Awards. Union Bank has twice since extended its sponsorship of Americana, now through 2018. Union Bank has a long-standing leadership role at the college with representation on the Cypress College Foundation Board of Directors. Union Bank's eight-year commitment to Cypress College is nearly a quarter-million dollars.

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For more information about the Americana Awards, please call the Cypress College Foundation office at (714) 484-7126 or visit: <http://www.cypresscollege.edu/about/Foundation/>.

About Cypress College:

Cypress College has motivated the minds of students since 1966. For nearly a half-million people — including actors, athletes, doctors, executives, mechanics, nurses and teachers — Cypress College has been a springboard to their dreams. For some, Cypress College is the ticket into their university of choice and for others it provides essential training for a rewarding career. Just one Cypress College class is often all it takes to provide cutting-edge skills that lead to a promotion or a new job.

Cypress College's 16,000 students and the highly qualified teaching faculty are proud of the many excellent academic and vocational programs. Cypress College offers 50 university-transfer majors, 137 career-certificate programs, and degrees in 61 areas of study. The college's traditional semesters begin in February and September, while short-term courses start throughout the year. A Cypress College education costs \$46 per unit — \$138 for a typical, full-credit class — California's lowest tuition. Financial aid and scholarships also are available to qualifying students.

Cypress College is one of three campuses in the North Orange County Community College District and a member of the 110-campus California Community College System. The college primarily serves the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Garden Grove, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Seal Beach and Stanton. Bob Simpson is the president.

Located at 9200 Valley View Street in Cypress, the college is easily accessible from several Southern California freeways, including the 5, 91, 605, 22 and 405. The campus is just a stone's-throw from Downtown Disney and Knott's Berry Farm.

More information about Cypress College is available by calling (714) 484-7000 or by visiting the campus Web site at <http://www.CypressCollege.edu>.

About UnionBanCal Corporation & Union Bank, N.A.

Headquartered in San Francisco, UnionBanCal Corporation is a financial holding company with assets

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of \$84 billion at June 30, 2010. Its primary subsidiary, Union Bank, N.A., is a full-service commercial bank providing an array of financial services to individuals, small businesses, middle-market companies, and major corporations. The bank operated 396 banking offices in California, Oregon, Washington and Texas as well as two international offices, on June 30, 2010. UnionBanCal Corporation is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd., which is a subsidiary of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. Union Bank is a proud member of the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG, NYSE:MTU), one of the world's largest financial organizations. Visit www.unionbank.com for more information.

Man of the Year



Swen Nater

If a person never played high school basketball, what are the odds he would play at the college level? What are the odds of him being drafted in the first round of the NBA and going on to stardom? Impossible, right? Not for Swen Nater.

Swen never played high school ball, nor did he ever start a game in college, however, he was selected in the first round of the NBA draft, and went on to play twelve years professionally. He not only started, he led the ABA and NBA in rebounding, became an All-Star, and set several records.

Swen Nater never paid much attention to the odds. He loved basketball and he dreamed of playing the sport at the highest level. That is exactly what he did, thanks to his inexhaustible industriousness and the countless hours he spent in the gym.

Swen enrolled at Cypress College as a math student. By then he was 6' 9" but weighed only 185 pounds. While Swen was eating lunch his first day of school, the assistant basketball coach, Tom Lubin, noticed his height and asked if he was planning on playing basketball. Swen said, "No." Coach Tom asked if he could work with him and Swen agreed. He not only played basketball for Cypress, he became a Community College All-American his sophomore year and helped lead the team to a state title.

After a game in which Cypress College played against the UCLA freshman team at Pauley Pavilion (he scored 25 points and grabbed 25 rebounds), Coach John Wooden recruited Swen to attend UCLA. Coach told Swen that the Bruins had received a commitment from another center by the name of Bill Walton. Swen nonetheless agreed to attend UCLA and was Walton's back-up. Bill Walton said Swen was the best Center he played against in College—which he did every day at practice.

After his senior year, there was talk around the NBA and the ABA about Swen. Word was "He has potential." At a post-season All-Star Game that included the best senior ballplayers in the country, Swen wasn't even slated to start. During pre-game warm-ups the starting center hurt his back, which resulted in Swen starting. Suffice it to say he more than held his own, scoring 34 points, grabbing 25 rebounds, and being named Most Valuable Player.

The Milwaukee Bucks selected Swen in the first round but he chose to play in the ABA instead. That season, Swen was ABA Rookie of the Year, and the following season he led the ABA with 164 rebounds per game. He went on to lead the NBA in rebounds and still holds the all-time record for defensive rebounds in one half at 18. He is one of only five members of the "30/30" club—scoring 30 points and getting 30 rebounds in a single game. The others are Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Kevin Love, Moses Malone, and Robert Parish. Swen still holds the record for most rebounds in one game for the Milwaukee Bucks at 33. He also holds the all-time California Community College single game rebound record at 39.

Swen resides in Issaquah, Washington with his wife, Wendy. He's a buyer for Costco and a motivational speaker.

Man of the Year



Mark Eaton

Eaton's remarkable journey from aspiring auto mechanic to one of the most prolific shot-blockers in NBA history sounds like fiction. He was 21 and repairing automobiles in Orange County when Cypress College Basketball Coach Tom Lubin spotted him and talked to him about attending Cypress College and playing basketball. Coach Lubin learned that wouldn't be easy. Mark hated basketball and sent Lubin on his way.

But Coach Lubin is hardly a quitter. He returned a dozen times, the results of which were a dozen "no" answers from Eaton. Finally, Lubin agreed to go away for good IF Mark would spend an hour or so with him on the basketball court. Coach showed him some things that made Mark want to come back again. They spent a lot of time together (they remain extremely close friends) and Mark agreed to join the basketball team. His Sophomore season, Eaton led Cypress College to a state title.

After Cypress College, Eaton ended up at UCLA, where he didn't play much but caught the eye of NBA scouts, primarily because he stood 7-foot-4. The Utah Jazz selected Eaton in the fourth round of the 1982 draft and over the next 11 seasons he anchored the team as it transitioned from laughingstock to championship contender.

During his twelve year NBA career with the Jazz he was named NBA Defensive Player of the Year twice and All Defensive Team seven times. He still holds the NBA record for most blocked shots in a single season with 456. He was the first player to total 1,000 blocked shots in just three seasons. Mark swatted a total of 3,064 blocked shots in his career, which was the second most in NBA history. In 1989 Mark was selected to the NBA All-Star Game in Houston, Texas, along with his teammates John Stockton and Karl Malone.

The indelible impression that Mark Eaton had on the Utah Jazz is evinced by the fact that they retired his jersey, number 53, in 1996.

Also that year, Eaton became a partner in Tuscan restaurant. He went on to do TV work for the Jazz, served as the President of the NBA Retired Players Association and founded Standing Tall for Youth--an organization that helps at-risk kids in Utah.

In 2008, Eaton embarked on what has become a flourishing second career as a motivational speaker. He uses the lessons learned in basketball and applies them to the concept of teamwork in business. Once again, however, Eaton had to start from scratch. "It was humbling," he said. "I spent 18 months writing my first speech...it just kicked my butt... It was one of the most painful things I've ever done."

The breakthrough came when Mark's speech coach talked to Eaton's old basketball coach from Cypress College, Tom Lubin. Lubin said that Eaton was successful on the court for four reasons: he knew his job, he did what was asked, he protected people and he unselfishly embraced making others look good. That became the foundation for Mark's motivational message, "Four Commitments of a Winning Team."

Mark had identified his message, but presenting it was another matter. "My instincts as an athlete came out," he said. "I went at it with the same intensity as a basketball player. I tried to figure out how the speaking business works [and] what I had to do to get better. I fumbled a few times but eventually figured it out."

Those who know Eaton are not surprised by this. "Mark was an Eagle Scout," says former Jazz coach Frank Layden. "When he sets his mind on something, he goes after it. That's what he's always done."

Mark resides in Park City, Utah. He has two teenage sons, three horses and two dogs. He is an avid skier and looks forward to scouting moose and elk on horseback.