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Bravo: Top teacher, top player among those honored

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Pictured here at the 2013 All-Orange County girls volleyball photo shoot, El Dorado High alum Kelly Claes has since lettered three times in beach volleyball at USC. The Women of Troy recently won the sport's inaugural NCAA championship.

KEVIN SULLIVAN, FILE PHOTO

Elite company: The president of American Technologies, **Gary Moore of Orange**, is one of 18 finalists for the Ernst & Young, or EY, Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Winners will be announced June 17.

Moore began American Technologies in 1989, and has more than 30 years experience in construction management. His company provides catastrophic emergency restoration in residential, commercial and industrial settings. He's also offered his resources to those displaced by natural disasters.

The EY program honors Orange County entrepreneurs for their commitment to business and community.

Take a bow: In front of his students last week, Cal State Fullerton choral director **Robert Istad** was told by school president **Mildred Garcia** that he'd been chosen to receive this year's Outstanding Professor Award, given annually to a faculty member with a stellar teaching record and an influence within the California State University system.

Istad oversees the administration of several CSUF choral ensembles. He also teaches choral conducting and choral literature at the school. The professor's troupes have performed at venues such as Carnegie Hall and the Hollywood Bowl.

This weekend, as the Outstanding Professor Award recipient, Istad will carry the mace during CSUF's commencement ceremonies.

Mindful manager: Forty years after escaping Vietnam with her family, Wells Fargo Orange Central District Manager **My-Ngoc Allred** received the company's Patriot Award for her support of East Chapman Branch Manager **Fernando Lopez**, a member of the National Guard.

Lopez, a 14-year banking veteran, nominated Allred for the award, which recognizes Wells Fargo employees who work around the schedules of servicemen and servicewomen.

"With the support My-Ngoc showed me, I felt like I had a best friend at work," Lopez said in a press release. "Not only did I never have to worry about receiving my paycheck, when I was lonely during training, she and my branch team came through with an awesome letter."

Beach belle: USC junior and El Dorado High School alum **Kelly Claes** recently was named the first-ever Pac-12 Beach Volleyball Player of the Year.

On May 8, Claes and partner **Sara Hughes**, a Mater Dei High School grad, led the Women of Troy to the sport's inaugural NCAA championship.

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The American Volleyball Coaches Association All-Americans and Pac-12 Pair of the Year, Claes and Hughes finished the 2016 season unbeaten.

Also on USC's beach volleyball team is Canyon High School alum **Nicolette Martin**.