

HONOLULU QUARTERBACK CLUB

"The Preeminent Sports Source in Hawai'i, Recognizing All Sports"

55 South Kukui Street

Suite #D2708

Honolulu Hawaii 96813

Herman H. Stern, President

website: honoluluquarterbackclub.com/Telephone 808-531-9930

PRESS RELEASE

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The Honolulu Quarterback Club, celebrating 67 years, is pleased to announce the following Guest Speakers for their luncheon, Monday, August 19th., at the MGR:

- + **Brian McInnis - Sports Reporter - Star-Advertiser**
- + **Yoshi Honda - New Head Coach - Wrestling - Punahou**
- + **Kevin Velasco - New Coach - Girls' Basketball - Punahou**

Brian McInnis – Sportswriter – Honolulu Star-Advertiser - Brian started writing for the Honolulu Advertiser in 2004 where he served as a sports clerk, followed by an internship. In 2006, he moved over to the Honolulu Star-Bulletin as a sports clerk followed by an appointment to the full time staff in 2007 as a sports general assignment reporter. Brian's current assignment covers UH Men's and Women's Basketball, UH Soccer and high school sports. Brian will bring his latest stories.

Yoshi Hona - New Coach Wrestling - Punahou - Coach Yoshi has been named head coach for boys and girls wrestling. Coach Honda, who has been involved in Hawai'i wrestling since 1979, said he's looking forward to coaching at Punahou. "It's an honor to lead such a storied program. It's also a great opportunity to be able to teach the foundation of teamwork and character that will help students throughout their lives," he said. Coach Honda, the HHSAA wrestling state champion from 1981 – 1983, served as an alternate for the Elite World Championship – Greco Roman team and was a member of the All American – First Team for USA Scholastic Wrestling. He went on to compete as a Division I athlete at Syracuse University and at the University of Nebraska. As wrestling head coach for 'Iolani School from 2001 – 2008, Honda captured a state title for the girls in 2005 and for the boys in 2003.

Kevin Velasco -New Head Coach - Girls' Basketball - Punahou - Coach Kevin is the new Head Coach for the Punahou Girls' Varsity Basketball team. In much anticipated return to his alma mater, Coach Kevin looks forward to steering the Punahou Girls Basketball program toward success. For the last 34 years of Velasco's coaching career, 26 of those years have been spent at Punahou School coaching football, girls basketball and boys basketball at the intermediate and high school levels. For the last two years, Velasco shared his expertise with the Kamehameha School's Girls Varsity Basketball team. With Velasco's assistance, the Lady Warriors took the 2013 ILH and State titles. Velasco's coaching skills and athletic acumen stem from his time spent under the tutelage of his father John Velasco, the legendary coach and athletic director of Radford High School. In the early years of his career, Kevin coached football and basketball alongside his father, leading the Radford Rams to a storied and decorated athletic history. A 1975 graduate of Punahou School, Velasco participated in football, basketball, and baseball. A talent on the field, Velasco made the Football ILH and All State First Team as a Defensive Back during his senior year. In the paint, Velasco rallied alongside his teammates to two Basketball State Championship titles in 1974 and 1975. Throughout the years, many of Velasco's former athletes have

become coaches. From Radford High School, Kenny Niumatalolo, Navy Football Head Coach, Brian Norwood, Baylor Football Coach; Joel Seumalu, Oregon State Football Coach. From Punahou: Gibb Arnold, U.H. Head Basketball Coach, Scott Wong, U.H. Volleyball Associate Head Coach; Brandon Brooks, U.C.L.A. Water Polo Head Coach. The HQC welcomes Coach.

The Maple Garden Restaurant is located at 909 Isenberg (near the corner of King and Isenberg directly across from the Old Stadium Park) and there is free parking next to the Restaurant or street parking is available. The entrance to the meeting room is located at the rear of the Maple Garden building through the parking lot. Lunch is at 11:30 am and the program begins at 12 noon. The luncheon cost is \$15.00 per person for members and guests which includes tax and gratuities.

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS INVITED

Come to our meeting & celebrate these speakers!

There is parking next to the Maple Garden Restaurant and plenty of street Parking.