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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SAC-JOQUIN SECTION ANNOUNCES 2013 FALL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD WINNER: VACAVILLE CHRISTIAN BOYS SOCCER**

**LODI (Jan. 14, 2013)** – The CIF Sac-Joaquin Section is pleased to announce that the Vacaville Christian High boys soccer team has been chosen as the fall honoree for the Dick Nelson Community Service Award.

This is the second year for the Community Service Award, which will be given three times a school year – once per season. The VCS boys soccer program will receive a banner and \$500. Representatives from the school and team will be honored at the Board of Managers meeting on Wednesday, January 16.

For the last two years, the entire Vacaville Christian boys soccer team has been volunteering at The Leaven, a religious organization that works with at-risk and underprivileged children from low-income neighborhoods as tutors and mentors. The Vacaville Christian team called it “The Three S’s,” which stands for summer, soccer and success.

Two team leaders organized two summer soccer camps, open to all, and included more than 150 hours of soccer camp and tutoring work. This work included not only tutoring in school-related subjects, but also how to eat healthier, providing day care and after-school meals.

After the camps and tutoring, The Leaven invited the Vacaville Christian team to assist in a grand opening of one of its centers, which it enthusiastically did.

How did this impact their community? By supporting The Leaven’s four goals:

- To increase student success in the classroom academically and behaviorally;
- To inspire and enable students to make better choices for their health and their future;
- To involve and equip parents to positively impact their children and their communities;
- To engage faith-based groups in the work of active community service.

“The Leaven is currently planning to open a seventh center in Vacaville and they have approached our soccer team to help build the program,” Vacaville Christian principal Janet Fogh said. “These outstanding young men have, time and time again, given of their time and talents and have been superb role models for these disadvantaged youth.”

Vacaville Christian is the first of three teams to be honored for community service this school year.

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*CIF Sac-Joaquin Section oversees high school athletics for 195 schools and 225,000 students. Its geographic boundaries stretch from Merced in the south, Grass Valley in the North, Napa to the west and the Nevada state line to the east. The Section is the second largest of California’s 10 athletic sections.*