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THE JOE B. HALL AWARD

April 4, 2016

2016 JOE B. HALL AWARD

HOUSTON, TX -- Hawaii's Eran Ganot is the recipient of the 2016 Joe B. Hall, which is presented annually to the top first-year coach in division I.

Ganot led Hawaii to an historic season, winning both the Big West regular season and tournament titles and recording the most wins in school history (28).

Ganot led the Rainbow Warriors to their first NCAA appearance since 2002 and their first-round win over California was the program to its' first-ever NCAA Tournament victory.

The 2013 CollegenInsider.com VIP Party was held Rooftop 866 and Briza, an Atlanta hotspot. It was one of the premier events in Atlanta, site of the 2013 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship.

The award is named in the honor of Joe B. Hall who was given the task of following the legendary Adolph Rupp. In his first season at the University of Kentucky, Hall finished 20-8, won the SEC and advanced to the NCAA Regional Finals.

From 1972 to 1985 Hall would win two-thirds of his games (297-100), receive four SEC Coach of the Year honors and win a National Championship (1978). Along with the 1978 title, Hall also guided Kentucky to a runner-up finish to UCLA in the 1975 NCAA tournament, a Final Four appearance in the 1984 NCAA Tournament and an NIT championship in 1976. He won 8 Southeastern Conference regular season championships and one Southeastern Conference tournament championship (1984).

Hall is one of only three men to win an NCAA championship as a player (1949- Kentucky) and coach (1978- Kentucky). The only others to achieve this feat are Bob Knight and Dean Smith.

2016 JOE B. HALL AWARD FINALISTS



01:34

Chris Beard, Little Rock
 Linc Darner, Green Bay
 Nathan Davis, Bucknell
 Steve Forbes, ETSU
 Eran Ganot, Hawaii
 Eric Konkol, Louisiana Tech
 Matt McCall, Chattanooga
 Matt McMahon, Murray State
 Nate Oats, Buffalo
 Montez Robinson, Alcorn State

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