



Media Release

For Immediate Release

April 3, 2008

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Texan Gary Kinne to take over head coaching-teaching post at Clovis West

Thursday morning Clovis West announced Texan Gary Kinne will join the school as head football coach and physical education teacher. Kinne, who comes to Clovis Unified from Canton, TX, has a record of successful coaching in large football programs. "Gary is a strong leader, motivator and educator," said incoming Principal Ben Drati. "He is a man of integrity, and understands the value of education and student involvement."

Most recently, he was a linebacker coach at Baylor University since 2006. Before coaching at Baylor, Gary was a head football coach and athletic director at Canton High School in Texas for three years. He also taught and coached for Mesquite Independent School District from 1997 to 2003.

Selected as the 2005 Adams USA National Head Coach of the Year, Kinne guided Canton to a 12-2 record and the regional finals of the 2005 Class 3A playoffs. In addition to the national award, bestowed upon the nation's top prep football coach that has not only won on the field but who also serves as a positive influence to America's youth, Kinne was also named both the 2005 Fox Sports Southwest Class 3A Coach of the Year and the District 15-3A Coach of the Year. His Canton coaching staff was also honored as the 2005 15-3A Staff of the Year and his team received the 2005 Gordon Wood Award from the Texas High School Football of Fame. He has also coached one of the National High School All Star teams.

According to Clovis West's new Athletic Director Joe Aiello, "We believe he is the coach who can take our program to the next level. Mr. Kinne will bring a winning mentality, stability, confidence and a true vision for excellence to the team both on and off the field."

Kinne will begin his coaching responsibilities during the spring football season, and join the school's physical education teaching staff before the end of April. The school has an assistant coaching position still open, and hope to finalize a candidate within the next several weeks. For more information, or to schedule an interview with Coach Kinne, please contact Kelly Avants, Administrator Communications & Board Relations at 327-9092.

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