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EDHS Grad René González-Mejía to be enshrined into Nicaragua's Hall of Fame in 2017

René González-Mejía, EDHS class of 1980, former member of Placerville's Dry Digging Dolphins swimming team and former EDHS record holder, team captain and unrivaled swimming champion during the 1980 season; has been selected for enshrinement into the Nicaraguan Sports Hall of Fame, during a ceremony scheduled to take place on 11 June 2017 at Managua's Crowne Plaza Convention Center.

René attended the University of California at Davis, graduating in June 1986 with a B.A. in economics. From 1981 to 1984 he was a member of the University of California - Davis varsity swim team, earning top honors as an "All American" for three consecutive years. He distinguished himself during this period with outstanding performances at the NCAA College Swimming Championships held in Clarion, Pennsylvania; Long Beach, California; and Hempstead, New York.

René's career has not been solely limited to excelling in sports as an athlete. Rather, he has taken on positions of leadership in the management of sports activities and events, serving as chairman of the Nicaraguan Swimming Federation from 1991 to 2004, and as the head of the Nicaraguan swimming team to four Olympic Summer Games: Barcelona, Spain 1992; Atlanta, Georgia 1996; Sydney, Australia, 2000; and Athens, Greece 2004. He currently serves as an honorary member of the Selection Committee to the International Swimming Hall of Fame, located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

René has further distinguished himself by dedicating a considerable part of his time and boundless energy to serve as a board member on several nonprofit organizations dedicated to improving the community and quality of life of the Nicaraguan public.

For his many contributions to social, sporting, artistic and cultural projects over the years, and his history of exemplary service to the community, René has been the recipient of several important awards from the Army of Nicaragua, the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem and the Meritorious Fire Department of Managua. Of special note is the Spanish Kingdom Order of Civil Merit award, which he received in July 2011 from His Majesty King Juan Carlos I of Spain, in recognition of his extremely effective collaboration with the Spanish government to modernize Spanish cultural cooperation in Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan Sports Hall of Fame was established in 1998 to honor the best that Nicaragua's athletics has to offer. It was conceived and founded on the basis that many individuals have bestowed honor and recognition upon both themselves and the country as a result of their involvement in athletics. The Nicaraguan Sports Hall of Fame is created to appropriately recognize those people who have distinguished themselves and Nicaragua.