Maurice Green To Serve As NCHSAA President For 2015-16 Academic Year

CHAPEL HILL—Maurice Green, superintendent of the Guilford County schools, will serve as president of the North Carolina High School Board of Directors for the 2015-16 academic year.

Green has been elevated to president after serving in the role of vice-president. The Nominations Committee of the NCHSAA made the recommendation, which was approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Terms for Board members and officers in the NCHSAA start on July 1.

Rodney Shotwell, superintendent of the Rockingham County schools, will serve as vice-president for the coming year. Former president Bill Miller, superintendent of the Polk County schools, will return to be the past president.

The Board president has been the Guilford County superintendent since 2008 and before that held various positions in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system, originally joining that district in 2001 as general counsel and progressing to chief operating officer and then deputy superintendent.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in political science and economics and a law degree, both from Duke University.

Under his leadership, Guilford County schools have raised their graduation rates, student achievement on test schools and scholarship dollars for graduating seniors and developed a strategic plan with a number of innovative programs.

Green has received numerous accolades for his work. In 2014, he was named the Distinguished Educator by the North Carolina Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. Three years prior to that, he received the Bob Grossman Leadership in School Communications Award given by the National School Public Relations Association.

New Board members were also approved after being recommended by the NCHSAA’s Nominating Committee, based on the requirements of the Association’s constitution and by-laws. The member schools at eight regional meetings select nominees for consideration across the state, then from among those nominees individuals are selected by the Nominating Committee to fill the available slots. They were also approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

The new Board members are either filling vacancies produced by members going off the Board due to completion of their terms or those who are off due to retirement or leaving public school work. They include coach/athletic director from region 3, 4-A: Scarlett Steinert, Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools; coach/athletic director from region 4, 2-A: Patty Evers, East Bladen; superintendent from region 5, 1-A: Ronnie Mendenhall, Stokes County; superintendent from region 6, 3-A: Sherry Hoyle, Lincoln County; superintendent from region 7, 4-A: Darrin Hartness. Davie County.

The North Carolina Athletic Directors Association is one of the organizations that has a representative on the Board as an affiliate member, and the NCADA has appointed Jeff Morris of Gray Stone Day School to that position to replace Rex Wells of Asheville High, who is retiring.

“These individuals will continue to provide outstanding leadership,” said NCHSAA interim commissioner Que Tucker. “We look forward to Maurice Green serving as president and the direction he will provide.

“We are also excited about the new members who will be joining our Board of Directors, which should help us to maintain an outstanding Board to serve our membership.”
2014-15 Wells Fargo Cup Final Standings Announced

CHAPEL HILL—Wells Fargo, along with the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, has announced the final standings in the Wells Fargo Cup competitions for the 2014-15 academic year.

The Wells Fargo Cup is sponsored by Wells Fargo and the NCHSAA. The award recognizes the high schools that achieve the best overall interscholastic athletic performance within each of the state’s four competitive classifications. The Cup program is in its 36th year.

Two of last year’s Wells Fargo Cup champions repeated the feat, and the races were among some of the closest in history. Apex caught defending champion Cary Green Hope to finish in a dead heat in the 4-A standings. Raleigh Cardinal Gibbons held off defending champion Waxhaw Marvin Ridge in the 3-A classification, while Carrboro was the Cup winner among 2-A schools for the fourth straight year. Kernersville Bishop McGuinness took top honors in the 1-A classification, overcoming a challenge from Community School of Davidson.

“We sincerely appreciate Wells Fargo’s commitment to our overall program in recognizing our champions,” said Que Tucker, NCHSAA interim commissioner. “The schools which win the Wells Fargo Cup do a tremendous job with their overall athletic programs, and we are grateful for Wells Fargo’s desire to recognize the achievements of these members of the NCHSAA.”

In the 4-A classification, last year Green Hope had held off a spring-season charge by Apex to win the title by 17.5 points. This year, however, the Apex surge in the spring was just enough, enabling the Cougars to tie Green Hope as each finished with a total of 400 points. Wake County schools did very well, as five of the top eight finishers are from Wake County.

Apex scored more than half of its points in the year—215 of its total of 400—in the spring, scoring playoff points in five different sports. That included a Cougar state championship in 4-A track, a third-place finish in women’s outdoor track and a top four finish in softball. Green Hope’s spring playoff points came from a top-eight placement in men’s dual team tennis.

Charlotte Catholic took third overall with 377.5 points, followed by Charlotte Myers Park (372.1) and Raleigh Broughton (362.1).

Among 3-A schools, Marvin Ridge finished second to Cardinal Gibbons in the 2012-13 Cup standings, won the title last year with Gibbons second, and then wound up finishing a close second to Gibbons this year. Gibbons held off a late charge by Marvin Ridge to take the title by five points, 795-790.

Marvin Ridge had another great spring, with state championship finishes in baseball, men’s outdoor track and men’s dual team tennis, earning playoff points in a whopping seven sports. But Cardinal Gibbons prevailed with top finishes in men’s and women’s lacrosse, a runner-up finish in men’s tennis, and strong performances in men’s outdoor track (third place in 3-A) and women’s outdoor track (fourth place).

Weddington finished third at 554.5 points, followed by Chapel Hill at 485 and Northern Guilford with 382.5 points.

Carrboro had an impressive spring to secure its fourth consecutive Cup, rolling up 305 points in the spring for its 677.5 total, well ahead of runner-up Lake Norman Charter at 382.5 points. Carrboro, with playoff points in six different sports, won both the 2-A men’s dual team tennis title and the women’s soccer state crown, was second in women’s outdoor track and then picked up major points as the top 2-A finisher in women’s lacrosse.

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<tr>
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1-A CLASSIFICATION

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3-A CLASSIFICATION

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Runner-up Lake Norman Charter was in the top eight in women’s soccer and also was tied for the top spot among 2-A men’s lacrosse programs.

Newport Croatian took third place, just five points back of Lake Norman Charter, with Durham North Carolina School of Science and Math (372.5) fourth and Franklin (310) in fifth.

In the 1-A classification, Bishop McGuinness had a strong spring, with 210 points in spring sports of the Villains’ 512.5 total. That included a state championship performance in men’s golf, a second-place finish in women’s soccer and then sharing the top spot among 1-A men’s lacrosse teams with Community School of Davidson in the 1-A/2-A/3-A tournament.

Community School of Davidson finished in second with 497.5 points, taking the runner-up spot in women’s outdoor track and third in men’s golf to go with its points in men’s lacrosse and a top-eight placement in women’s soccer.

Raleigh Charter was third in the 1-A standings with 385 points, followed by Lincoln Charter in fourth with 359 and Elkin in fifth at 282.5.

Wells Fargo Cup points are determined by a system based on performance in state championship events. All schools that finish in the top eight positions (plus ties) earn points. In the playoff events involving teams from more than one classification, Wells Fargo Cup points are awarded based on the school’s standing against other schools in its own classification. If fewer than eight schools from a classification compete in a sport, only those schools that are represented are eligible to receive the Cup points.

Points are awarded for all sports as follows: 50 for first, 45 for second, 40 for third, 35 for fourth, 30 for fifth, 25 for sixth, 20 for seventh and 15 for eighth. In the event of a tie, the schools receive an equal number of points based on the number of teams that tie and the number of teams that finish higher in the standings. Five points are awarded for each sanctioned sport in which a school competes.

Wells Fargo Cup standings are announced three times each school year: once after the fall and then the winter sports, and concluding with the winner after the spring sports season ends.

NCHSAA member schools have been required by law to be in compliance with the Gfeller-Waller Act since 2011. The State Department of Public Instruction has been doing audits of school compliance with the act.

The State Board of Education has now taken action which authorizes the NCHSAA to apply and enforce this rule. In anticipation of this action, the NCHSAA Board of Directors, in December of 2014, developed policy for fines and penalties for non-compliance which was included in the minutes of that meeting.

Since this involves health and safety of participants, there would be a $1000 fine for non-compliance and a $500 fine per venue for failure to post venue specific emergency action plans.

The State Board of Education approval of this language did not come in time to make the 2015-16 NCHSAA Handbook, but this will be in effect for the 2015-16 academic year. The entire policy from the State Board of Education is provided below.

Policy Title: Concussion Safety Requirements for Interscholastic Athletic Competition

(a) For purposes of this rule, a concussion is defined as a traumatic brain injury caused by a direct or indirect impact to the head that results in disruption of normal brain function, which may or may not result in loss of consciousness.

(b) All coaches, school nurses, athletic directors, first responders, volunteers, students who participate in middle or high school interscholastic athletic activities, and the parents or guardians of those students shall receive, on an annual basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet.

(1) The information sheet must include:

(A) The definitions and symptoms of concussions and head injuries;

(B) A description of the physiology and the potential short-term and long-term effects of concussions and other head injuries;

(C) The medical return-to-play protocol for post concussion participation in interscholastic athletic activities; and

(D) Any other information deemed necessary by the local board of education.

(2) School employees, first responders, volunteers, and students must sign the sheet and return it to the coach before participating in interscholastic athletic activities, including tryouts, practices, or competition.

(3) Parents must sign the information sheet and return it to the coach before a child may participate in any such interscholastic athletic activities. The signed sheets shall be maintained in accordance with subsection (f).

(c) If a student participating in a middle or high school interscholastic athletic activity exhibits signs or symptoms consistent with concussion, the student shall be removed from the activity at that time and shall not be allowed to return to play or practice that day.

(d) A student removed from play for exhibiting signs or symptoms consistent with concussion shall not return to play or practice on a subsequent day until the student is evaluated by and receives written clearance for such participation from one of the following:

(1) A physician licensed under Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes with training in concussion management;

(2) A neuropsychologist licensed under Article 18A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes with training in concussion management and working in consultation with a physician licensed under Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes;

(3) An athletic trainer licensed under Article 34 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes;

(4) A physician assistant, consistent with the limitations of G.S. 90-18.1; or

(5) A nurse practitioner, consistent with the limitations of G.S. 90-18.2.

(e) Each school shall develop a venue-specific emergency action plan to deal with serious injuries and acute medical conditions in which the condition of the patient may deteriorate rapidly.

(1) This plan must be:

(A) In writing;

(B) Reviewed by an athletic trainer licensed in North Carolina;

(C) Approved by the principal of the school;

(D) Distributed to all appropriate personnel;

(E) Posted conspicuously for community and parental awareness at all athletic-sponsored venues; and

(F) Reviewed and rehearsed annually by all licensed athletic trainers, first responders, coaches, school nurses, athletic directors, and volunteers for interscholastic athletic activities.

(2) The plan shall include:

(A) A delineation of roles;

(B) Methods of communication;

(C) Available emergency equipment; and

(D) Access to and plan for emergency transport.

(f) Each school shall maintain complete and accurate records of its compliance with the requirements of this subdivision pertaining to head injuries.

(g) The State Board of Education authorizes the NCHSAA to apply and enforce this rule.
McGee Scholarship Winners Announced For NCHSAA, NCADA

CHAPEL HILL—Cameryn Smith of West Brunswick High School and Dalton Edwards of West Iredell High School are the winners of the annual Jerry McGee Endowed Scholarships awarded by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

The two outstanding student-athletes were recognized during the North Carolina Coaches Association clinic in Greensboro, at the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association (NCADA) Leadership Academy held as part of the clinic week.

The scholarships are made possible through the generosity of donors to the fund in honor of the long-time NCADA executive director Jerry McGee. McGee is a member of both the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame and the National High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Awarded to two senior year high school student-athletes from NCHSAA member schools each year, this award is unique because it honors both male and female student-athletes who have distinguished themselves by overcoming adversity and returned to excel beyond expectations in their scholastic sport. The NCADA Awards Committee selects recipients with approval by the NCADA Executive Board.

Smith was a women’s golf performer at West Brunswick who served as team captain one year and finished in the individual top 10 twice in four years of qualifying for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state tournament. The first player from her school to qualify for the state event, she also earned conference Player of the Year honors as a junior.

A member of the National Honor Society and Key Club in high school, Smith battled a rare blood disorder discovered after a length hospital stay during her freshman year but was still able to excel in golf. She plans to play collegiately at Queens University in Charlotte.

Edwards played soccer and football during his career, but could not complete his junior year in sports because he needed a liver transplant after two major surgeries as a result of battling cancer. He still managed to be an all-conference performer as a goalkeeper in soccer.

He was a member of the National Honor Society and involved in Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) while also serving as a peer mentor at the school.

He is attending Pfeiffer University this fall.

Each recipient receives a $1,000 scholarship to further his or her education at the college level.

Harding University High School To Rename Football Field In Honor Of NCHSAA Hall of Fame Member Dave Harris

CHARLOTTE—Harding University High School is renaming its football field for former coach Dave Harris during a ceremony at a home game this season.

The formal request for the name change went to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Board of Education in February and has been approved.

Harris, a charter member of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, died in 2010 at the age of 85 after a tremendous career as both a coach and athletic administrator.

A graduate of Statesville High School and then of Wake Forest University in 1946, where he played in the first Gator Bowl, Harris is one of only three members of the NCHSAA Hall of Fame’s charter class in 1987.

An outstanding coach and athletic director, he coached at Thomasboro High School in Charlotte for one year after earning his masters’ degree at Appalachian State, and then embarked on a highly successful 20-year career as head football coach and athletic director at Harding High. Then from 1967 until 1990 he served as the athletic director for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system, where he was considered one of the state’s best athletic directors. The NCHSAA award for Athletic Director of the Year is named in his honor.

Harris coached in the North Carolina Coaches’ Association East-West all-star football game and also served as head coach of the North Carolina Shrine Bowl team in 1956. For many years he also served the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas as its athletic director.

A past president of both the North Carolina Coaches Association and the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association, Harris was the NCADA Athletic Director of the Year in 1977. He was a member of the NCHSAA Board of Directors from 1977 to ’81.

Harris was selected as a member of the charter class of the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame and is in the Wake Forest University Hall of Fame.

South Lenoir Names Facilities For Trio

DEEP RUN—South Lenoir High School has named three facilities on its campus for men who spent the majority of their careers at the Lenoir County school.

The facilities were named and dedicated at prior to South Lenoir’s season opening football game at home against Spring Creek.

The school’s athletic complex is named for Bobby Davis, Jr., while the track is named for Linwood Hartsell. The football stadium now bears the name of Tom Salter.

The trio has combined for a whopping 129 years of coaching and administrative experience at South Lenoir.

South Lenoir, built in 1964, was created through the consolidation of the four community high schools of Deep Run, Moss Hill, Pink Hill and Southwood.

Salter became principal at South Lenoir in 1970 and maintained the position until retiring in 1999. While spending most of his 37 years at South Lenoir as principal, Salter also coached basketball and football early in his time there. He also had a term on the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors from 1991 through ’95.

Davis was a teacher, coach and athletic director at the school who became principal at South Lenoir after Salter’s retirement. He retired in 2005 after 41 years at the school.

Hartsell has been a history teacher at the school and also coached several sports. In all he has had 51 years of service at South Lenoir.
INDIANAPOLIS—The rule prohibiting excessive contact in high school basketball has been expanded to include all ball-handlers on the court, including post players.

This revision in Rule 10-6-12 and a new signal for officials were recommended by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Basketball Rules Committee at its recent meeting in Indianapolis. Both changes were subsequently approved by the NFHS Board of Directors.

Last year, the rules committee added Article 12 to Rule 10-6 in an effort to eliminate excessive contact on ball-handlers and dribblers outside of the lane area. Beginning next season, excessive contact on any ball-handler will be a violation of the rules.

The new language states that “a player becomes a ball-handler when he/she receives the ball. This would include a player in a post position.”

The acts that constitute a foul when committed against a ball-handler are a) placing two hands on the player, b) placing an extended arm bar on the player, c) placing and keeping a hand on the player and d) contacting the player more than once with the same hand or alternating hands.

“The current rule covers the ball-handler/dribbler situations but ignores the action that goes on in the post area with the hands, arm bars, etc.,” said Theresia Wynns, NFHS director of sports and officials. “The additional language will clarify that the illegal acts should be ruled for every position on the floor.”

The rules committee also approved a new signal to be used after a basket is made and when there is a stoppage in play. This signal would be used to restart play when a time-out is called or an injury occurs after a made basket.

In addition to these changes, the Basketball Rules Committee approved four points of emphasis for the 2015-16 season: post play, rebounding, protecting the free-throw shooter and NFHS mechanics and signals.

The committee noted that new information has been added to the rules book that addresses cleaning up post play and urged fouls to be called when violations occur. In addition, the committee emphasized that illegal tactics related to rebounding should be called since these violations are among the leading causes of injury in high school basketball.

Protecting the free-throw shooter is another area of emphasis for next season. The committee noted that the rule change last year allowing a player occupying a marked lane space to enter the lane on the release of the ball by the free thrower calls for added protection of the free-throw shooter.

The final point of emphasis concerns the use of NFHS mechanics and signals.

“Communication is vital to the game of basketball, to the officials and all others involved in the game,” Wynns said. “It is essential for officials to master and use only the NFHS-approved mechanics and signals.”

The rules committee also devoted significant time to updating the NFHS 2015-17 Basketball Officials Manual. Wynns said the revised publication will be improved and expanded to include diagrams helpful to new officials as well as the more experienced ones.

A complete listing of the basketball rules changes is available on the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org. Click on “Activities & Sports” at the top of the home page, and select “Basketball.”

Time Warner Cable SportsChannel has launched its series of Thursday Night Football broadcasts for the 2015 season.

The first one was one of the state’s storied rivalries as A.L. Brown of Kannapolis played host to the Spiders of Concord in what is known as The Bell Game.

According to Jason Lockhart, director/general manager of Time Warner Cable SportsChannel Carolinas, TWC began televising live North Carolina High School Athletic Association state championship games in 2006 as the NCHSAA’s television partner and has expanded to a variety of NCHSAA championships throughout the academic year.

TWC received approval from the Board of Directors of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association this year to do live regular season games. But one of the NCHSAA’s stipulations is TWC will air games played on “non-traditional nights,” meaning live broadcasts won’t compete with the regular Friday night high school schedule.

Here is the Time Warner Cable schedule for the regular season in football:

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<td>Mount Airy at Elkin</td>
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<td>Chapel Hill at Southeast Raleigh</td>
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NCHSAA Bulletin
Rules Changes Approved By NFHS Committees For Baseball, Softball

INDIANAPOLIS—Rules changes for the 2016 baseball and softball seasons were made at recent rules committee meetings in Indianapolis. Those changes were subsequently approved by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Board of Directors.

BASEBALL

Beginning with the 2016 season, umpires will be required to issue a warning to coaches before restriction to the bench/dugout or ejecting them as part of a new penalty progression to promote preventive officiating.

The revision to Rule 3-3-1 Penalty was one of two changes recommended by the NFHS Baseball Rules Committee at its most recent meeting.

Previously, issuing a warning to an offending coach was optional for umpires, who will now restrict to the bench/dugout or eject coaches who commit a violation after previously being warned for a minor offense. However, coaches can still be ejected on a first offense if it is deemed to be major.

Also part of the modification to Rule 3-3-1 Penalty, coaches who receive a written warning (Rule 10-4-3) will be restricted to the bench and/or dugout for the remainder of the game.

“The new rule change has initiated a penalty progression, starting with a written warning, restriction to the bench/dugout and subsequent ejection from the contest,” said Elliot Hopkins, NFHS director of sports and student services and liaison to the Baseball Rules Committee.

The changes to Rule 3-3-1 Penalty will help to de-escalate contentious situations and allow coaches to dictate their status in the game by their behavior, Hopkins said.

“A successful game official practices preventive officiating, and this new penalty progression will allow the official to issue penalties that give the coach the opportunity to remain in the game and teach his players.”

The other change approved by the Baseball Rules Committee is an addition to Rule 3-3-1. Article “q” will state that a coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not “have any physical contact, spitting, kicking of dirt or any other physical action directed toward an umpire.” The addition of article “q” serves to clarify other behaviors that would result in an ejection from the game, Hopkins said.

“Bad behavior that is being imitated from other levels has no place in education-based athletics and will not be tolerated,” Hopkins said. “If we are to continue to use sport to teach life lessons, then we have to ensure that appropriate behavior and conduct are modeled from those adults in the role of coach/teacher.”

In addition to the two rules changes, the Baseball Rules Committee approved three Points of Emphasis for the 2016 season. Points of emphasis are developed by NFHS rules committees and should receive special focus and attention by officials, coaches, players, fans and other leaders within the high school setting.

Points of Emphasis developed by the Baseball Rules Committee for the 2016 season are as follows:
1. INTERMEDIATE PENALTIES/RESTRICTION TO THE BENCH/DUGOUT
2. PROPER CATCHER’S EQUIPMENT
3. SPORTSMANSHIP—CELEBRATIONS AROUND OR NEAR THE PLATE AND POST-GAME EJECTIONS

SOFTBALL

In softball, one rule change was recommended by the NFHS Softball Rules Committee at its June meeting. In the new Article 4 of Rule 2-57, the committee provided a standard definition of a “projected” substitute.

Rule 3-3-3 prohibits the use of a projected substitute, which is now defined in the new article as “a player who does not immediately participate in the game.”

“There has been some confusion among both officials and coaches about substitution procedure,” said Theressa Wynns, NFHS director of sports and officials education and liaison to the Softball Rules Committee. “Therefore, the committee felt it was necessary to clear up that process and provide coaches and officials with a standard definition of a projected substitute.”

The following Points of Emphasis were approved by the Softball Rules Committee:
1. STRIKE ZONE (FP)
2. DP/FLEX EDUCATION
3. PITCHING (FP)

According to the NFHS Athletics Participation Survey, baseball is the fourth-most popular sport for boys at the high school level with 482,629 participants in 15,789 schools. Fast-pitch softball is the fifth-most popular sport for girls with 364,297 participants in 15,225 schools during the 2013-14 season.

North Carolina Coaches Association Works To Benefit Member Schools

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association and the North Carolina Coaches Association enjoy a great relationship—one that is considered a model nationally for how a state association and coaches’ association can work together.

One aspect of that cooperation that directly benefits member schools of the NCHSAA is one of which many people may not be aware. Each year the NCCA pays for the National Federation rule books in football, basketball, baseball and softball that are sent by the NCHSAA to head coaches in each of those sports. In this way the coaches’ association is providing the latest national playing rules to coaches all over North Carolina.

Of course, there are many other ways that the two organizations interact and support one another. A member of the NCCA executive staff has served on the NCHSAA Board of Directors for many years and provides valuable insight for the Board’s discussion. Members of the NCHSA staff are directly involved with presenting rules sessions at the annual NCCA coaches’ clinic in Greensboro, one of the largest of its kind in the country. And there are other examples of how the organizations work together.

Two of the most prestigious awards which are given to schools at the NCHSAA Annual Meeting in May are actually tri-sponsored, by the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association, the NCCA and the NCHSAA. Both the Exemplary School Award and the State Sportsmanship Award are results of the cooperation among the three statewide organizations.

“We are very proud of our relationship with the North Carolina Coaches Association and very much appreciate the many ways that organization supports the NCHSAA and its member schools,” said Que Tucker, interim commissioner of the NCHSAA. “Providing the rule books for coaches at our schools in several sports is a great service.”
Marvin Ridge High School Standout Named Gatorade® Baseball Player of Year For State of North Carolina

CHICAGO—In its 30th year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, announced Max Wotell of Marvin Ridge High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year. Wotell is the first Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Marvin Ridge.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Wotell as North Carolina’s best high school baseball player.

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound senior left-hand- ed pitcher led the Mavericks to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Class 3-A state championship.

A Perfect Game USA Preseason Second Team All-American, Wotell owned an 11-0 record with a 0.54 ERA and 120 strikeouts against just 19 walks in 65.1 innings-pitched through 29 games. Also a centerfielder, he batted well over .400.

Wotell has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth baseball instructor, he has volunteered locally as a youth mentor in association with Baseball For Life as well as on behalf of his church’s youth group and the Second Harvest Food Bank.

“He’s as dominant as any pitcher in the western part of the state,” said Hal Bagwell, head coach of rival Andrey Kell High. “I had (Atlanta Braves starting pitcher) Alex Wood, and Wotell reminds me of him. When he went out, it was over. He chewed us up. He’s the real deal.”

Wotell has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Arizona this fall, but was selected in June’s Major League Baseball draft.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with USA TODAY High School Sports, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.


In Memorium

This is information of which the NCHSAA has been made aware since the publication of the last Bulletin. We appreciate all those who share information with us for the benefit of our membership.

**ALLISON BROWN**

GREENSBORO—Allison Brown, an incoming freshman at Southern Guilford High School, died in early August after collapsing during a training run during tryouts for the cross country team.

The 14-year-old, who had run in middle school, immediately received aid from the school’s athletic trainer and then from nearby EMT’s. She was then taken to the hospital where she died.

Her father Benjie Brown and grandfather Allen Brown both have been outstanding coaches. Allen was the long-time head football coach at Thomasville and Benjie followed in his footsteps and is now principal at West Montgomery.

**PHIL LEGNETTI**

GREENSBORO—Phil Legnetti, a former coach at Page High School, died in early August after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Legnetti, age 66, formerly coached cross country as well as track and field at Page. He was diagnosed about three years ago with cancer.

He was a graduate of Clemson University, which he attended on a track scholarship. He had taught chemistry and other science courses at Page.

**FRANK RADER**

MOORESVILLE—Frank Rader, a great friend to wrestling at both the high school and collegiate levels, died in mid-May at his home in Mooresville at the age of 66.

Born in Newton, he was a graduate of Mooresville High School where he was a standout wrestler and then received his degree in history from Davidson College.

He taught history and coached football and wrestling at the high school level in both Raleigh and Canton before joining Smith Barney as a stock broker. However, he continued his involvement with wrestling and held numerous key roles with USA Wrestling on both the state and national levels.

He was an inductee into the North Carolina chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and was involved in both the 1996 and 1984 Olympics with USA Wrestling.

The National High School Sports Record Book can be purchased from the National Federation of State High School Associations. A number of North Carolinians are among the national record holders. More information is available at (317) 972-6900.
New Faceoff Procedure Among National Federation Rules Changes For High School Boys Lacrosse

INDIANAPOLIS—Beginning with the 2016 high school boys lacrosse season, officials and players will adhere to a new, more clearly defined faceoff procedure.

The revision to Rule 4-3-3 was one of four major changes recommended by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Boys Lacrosse Rules Committee at its recent meeting in Indianapolis. The committee’s recommendations were subsequently approved by the NFHS Board of Directors.

Articles 3 through 6 of Rule 4-3 were condensed into a new Article 3, which clarifies the faceoff procedures and roles for officials and players. When directed, players will go to the faceoff position with their crosses properly placed. If the official is satisfied with the position, then the ball will be placed between the crosses for the faceoff. Previously, the ball was placed on the ground first. Players are still required to remain motionless in the correct position after the official says “set” and until the whistle is blown.

Rules 1-6-1 and 1-8 were also revised to address issues with the ball becoming stuck in the crosse, including the back of the crosse after a faceoff. The change to Rule 1-6-1 alters the dimensions of the crosse and will take effect beginning in 2018 to allow for phased implementation.

Another change (Rule 4-14-3) defines a new “over and back” rule, which states that the offensive team may not carry, pass or propel the ball into its defensive half of the field once it has been advanced into the goal area. An infraction will result in a turnover or play-on.

“We believe lacrosse is moving in the right direction to continue to minimize the risk to our student-athletes and improve the game experience,” said Susie Knoblauch, NFHS director of performing arts and sports and liaison to the Boys Lacrosse Rules Committee. “Our rules changes support that trend and also create more consistent and fair play for everyone.”

In addition to the four major changes, the Boys Lacrosse Rules Committee approved five Points of Emphasis for the 2016 season. Points of Emphasis are developed by NFHS rules committees and should receive special focus and attention by officials, coaches, players, fans and other leaders within the high school setting.

Points of Emphasis developed by the Boys Lacrosse Rules Committee for the 2016 season are as follows:

1. Contact—Penalties for excessive hits to the head and neck, as well as penalties for hits to defenseless players and blindside hits.
2. Helmet Fitting—Helmets shall meet current NOCSAE standards and be properly fitted for each player.
3. Halftime Warm-up—It is recommended that the final three minutes of intermission be used as a team warm-up period.
4. Helmets and Equipment During Pre-Game and Practice Time—Coaches should educate players on the need to be properly equipped at all times.
5. Defending the Crease—It is recommended that coaches not teach nor encourage field players to block the goal when the goalkeeper has vacated the goal crease area.

East Wins Pair In NCCA Basketball All-Star Contests

GREENSBORO—The East put on a spectacular offensive show en route to a wild 122-115 victory over the West in the North Carolina Coaches’ Association men’s basketball all-star game at the Greensboro Coliseum during NCCA All-Star Week.

That gave the Eastern squads a sweep of the all-star doubleheader as the East also won the women’s game.

East Carolina recruit Kentrell Barkley of Northern Durham was the high scorer for the East, pouring in 26 points and grabbing 11 rebounds, but 5-10 guard Jacque Brown was the Most Valuable Player with 25 points for the winners. The former East Carteret star was nine for 13 from the floor and will continue his collegiate career at Mount Olive.

N.C. State signee Shaun Kirk of Whiteville scored 23 points, including some key free throws to help seal the victory late in the game.

The West was led by 22 points from C.J. Bryce from North Mecklenburg, while Malik Moore of Asheville Clyde Erwin and Jerick Haynes of Crest in Cleveland County had 17 apiece.


The game was the highest scoring in the history of the all-star series with 237 combined points by the two squads.

The East women held off the West 84-72, forging a 43-33 halftime advantage and holding off any West comeback attempts.

Hope Mills South View’s Chinyere Bell, with 11 points and a strong presence inside for the East, with nine rebounds and a blocked shot, was named the game’s Most Valuable Player. Kaila Ealey of Raleigh Broughton led the East scoring with 18 points and Kianna Wynn of East Wake and Southeast Raleigh’s Amber Richardson had 11 each.

Hickory’s Yazmen Hannah had 16 points to lead the West.

New Member Orientation Held At NCHSAA Offices

CHAPEL HILL—The North Carolina High School Athletic Association hosted 40 school administrators from across the state during the summer for a special workshop.

The workshop/orientation is designed for personnel at new member schools joining the NCHSAA or for athletic directors new to their role at a member school. The 40 individuals represented 34 different schools or school systems.

Several members of the NCHSAA staff presented information to the group, covering a huge variety of topics. The history of the NCHSAA, realignment, officiating program, finances, special programs and additional opportunities for schools were all discussed.

A special emphasis was provided on rules and regulations of the NCHSAA, along with a number of tools that schools can use at the local level to help with administration and compliance.

In addition, a group of over 20 took Leadership Training Courses (LTC) offered by the National Interscholastic Athletic Association (NIAAA) following the orientation session. The NIAAA courses are part of that organization’s certification process for athletic administrators.
Durham Jordan Women’s Soccer Player Earns Gatorade Award

CHICAGO—In its 30th year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, announced Brianna Pinto of Jordan High School in Durham as its 2014-15 Gatorade North Carolina Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Pinto is the first Gatorade North Carolina Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Jordan High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Pinto as North Carolina’s best high school girls soccer player. Pinto has maintained an A average in the classroom. A member of the John Hope Franklin Young Scholars program, she has volunteered locally with Habitat for Humanity and on behalf of her local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

“It’s hard not to notice Brianna Pinto—she’s a fantastic player,” said Michele Miller, head coach of Cardinal Gibbons High. “What makes Brianna so dangerous is that she has speed but she also has tactical awareness. She knows how to utilize her assets to create goals for herself and her teammates.”

Pinto has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of North Carolina beginning in the fall of 2018.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with USA TODAY High School Sports, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.


National Federation Rules Changes Approved for High School Track and Field, Cross Country

INDIANAPOLIS—Beginning with the 2016 high school track and field season, the head starter (or designee), rather than the implement inspector, shall inspect all starting blocks used in the running events.

The addition of Article 4 to Rule 3-6 was one of eight changes recommended by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Track and Field Rules Committee at its recent meeting in Indianapolis. The committee’s recommendations were subsequently approved by the NFHS Board of Directors.

“The committee did significant work in cleaning up some confusion regarding trials and passes by expanding terms contained in definitions,” said Becky Oakes, NFHS director of sports and liaison to the Track and Field Rules Committee. “Likewise, changes were made to include the use of flags in field events and update cross country rules to reflect the current trends in the sport.”

Rules 6-1-1 through 5 were amended to expand and clarify the definitions for trials/Attempts in throwing events. Rule 6-2-9 concerning a competitor’s initiation of a trial was consequently affected by the change. Similar revisions were made to Rules 7-1-1 through 7 and Rule 7-2-12 so the same clarification and expansion of definitions apply.

Other significant track and field rules changes included the revision of Rule 3-10-7. The rule now states that “the head event judge may be equipped with both a white and red flag” to signal whether a throwing attempt is fair or foul. The change will allow for more efficient administration of field events and for improved communication between officials, coaches and fans, Oakes said.

In cross country, Rule 9-3-3 was revised to recommend the use of a video or photograph to verify the order of finish in races in which the timing system indicates a differential of one-tenth of a second or less. Having the video as a back-up and a process in place for problems that may arise from the use of a computerized transponder/chip system is a good solution, Oakes said.

Added to Rule 9-3 is the recommendation of a finish corral at cross country meets where transponders are used for the order of finish.

Other changes to cross country included an addition to Rule 9-1-3, which now allows the use of double painted boundary lines and/or natural or artificial boundary markers as an alternative method to mark the course for both runners and spectators.

The remaining changes to track and field concern equipment standards. Rule 6-5-2 was added, specifying the maximum allowed diameter for indoor shot put to account for the synthetic cover that is not present on the outdoor implement. Rule 6-6-1 was revised to allow for the use of newer javelin materials such as carbon fiber. Finally, Rule 7-6-3 was altered to recommend that the takeoff board for long jump and triple jump be eight inches wide, but still allow for larger boards.

Track and field is the second-most popular sport for boys with 580,321 participants in 16,271 schools and is the No. 1 sport for girls with 478,885 participants in 16,217 schools during the 2013-14 season, according to the NFHS Athletics Participation Survey. Cross country is the seventh-most popular sport for boys with 252,547 participants in 14,473 schools and is the sixth-most popular sport for girls with 218,121 participants in 14,267 schools. ★
Parham’s “Little Green Book of Tennis” Now Available

A book written by an outstanding North Carolina tennis coach may be of interest to coaches, players and fans of tennis in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

The book is entitled “The Little Green Book of Tennis” and is written by Tom Parham, who retired from a career of teaching and coaching in 2004.

A lifelong North Carolinian, Parham amassed a college tennis coaching record of 597-195 and guided teams to three national championships. A professor emeritus at Elon University, he was awarded the Elon Medallion, the university’s highest honor, in 2004. Parham also served as an athletic director at Atlantic Christian College (now Barton).

The book is similar to the format of the well-known “Little Red Book of Golf,” written by Harvey Penick.

This book’s subtitle says it is “For Players, Coaches, Teams, Teachers and Fans.” Drawing from 50 years of teaching and coaching, Parham shares insights from his mentors who helped him craft repeatable techniques for winning. The book includes stories from Parham’s career, drills and techniques, instructions for coaches and players, as well as life lessons which can be learned from athletics.

Dave Odom, former collegiate basketball coach and a member of the NCHSAA Hall of Fame, says, “I have seen this man coach and teach. His words flow off the page much in the same manner as the great teachers and coaches I have known. Coach Parham concludes that ‘this material is, in large part, not mine. I am only the messenger. I believed in it and benefited from the masters. I did write it down. I don’t think anybody has done it better.’

Former teacher and coach Eddie Gwaltney says, “The best book I have ever read on the game of tennis—from teaching techniques, to drills, to strategy. A must read for players and coaches.”

The book is available from Amazon.com, including in e-book form. More information is available by contacting Tom Parham at 202 Blue Crab Court, Emerald Isle, NC 28594.

East All-Stars Record NCCA Football Victory By 27-13 Score

GREENSBORO—The East pulled away from a 6-6 deadlock at halftime and went on to record a 27-13 victory over their counterparts from the West in the North Carolina Coaches Association football all-star game at Jamieson Stadium.

The game was part of the NCCA’s all-star game and clinic week.

For the East, Eric Hoy of Clayton was named the Offensive Most Valuable Player of the game with 68 receiving yards and a pair of touchdowns. Garrett Cloer of Orange threw for 106 yards and those two scores, while Antwone Harper of Hope Mills Jack Britt was named the Defensive Most Valuable Player after leading the East’s defense with ten tackles.

The West took a 6-0 lead in the second quarter on an 11-play, 77-yard drive capped by a one-yard scoring run by West Forsyth’s Kedlin Huntley. The East came back to tie 33 seconds before halftime when Cloer hit Hoy on an eight-yard scoring toss.

Ge’Dari Liverman of Elizabeth City Northeastern gave the East the lead for good with an 80-yard touchdown scamper late in the third quarter, one of two touchdowns he scored. High Point Central’s Jamiel Mack rushed 10 times for 43 yards and passed for 88 yards with a touchdown and an interception for the West, and Corey Patton of North Mecklenburg was the team’s leading rusher with 55 yards. Tim Perkins of Morganton Freedom led the West on defense with 12 tackles.

West Sweeps Coaches’ Association Soccer Games By 2-1, 4-1

GREENSBORO—Tresor Mbuyu of Charlotte’s Garinger High School scored two goals and added an assist to lead the West All-Stars to a convincing 4-1 triumph over the East in the North Carolina Coaches Association men’s soccer all-star game at MacPherson Stadium during NCCA All-Star Week.

It gave the West a sweep of the soccer all-star games, as the West scored a 2-1 victory in the women’s game.

The West also got goals from Hector Gutierrez of Asheville A.C. Reynolds and Seth Jones of Gastonia Hunter Huss.

The East goal was scored on a header by Jamiel Mack of High Point Central’s Jamiel Mack.

In the women’s game, the West rallied for a 2-1 victory, led by game Most Valuable Player Megan McCullister of Asheville A.C. Reynolds, who will be going to Charlotte to play collegiately. She scored one of the two West goals, although the winners were outshot 19-9.

After a scoreless first half, the East women had taken a 1-0 lead on a tally by Swansboro’s Kimberly Moore in the game’s 57th minute. But the West tied it on McCullister’s goal three minutes later, off an assist from Emily Cowie of Cornelius Hough, and then struck for the tiebreaker four minutes after that with Cowie tallied on a header.

RECORD BREAKERS?
Don’t forget, if you have any potential state or national listings for the record book, there is a form on line to send that information for consideration. Help us to make our state and national books as inclusive and complete as possible.

Any questions call Rick Strunk at (919) 240-7367.
And don’t forget to check the latest version of the state record book on line!
FALL SPORTS

VOLEYBALL
1A—PRINCETON (Paige Renfrow)
2A—HENDERSONVILLE (Erica Cantrell)
3A—CARDINAL GIBBONS (Logan Barber)
4A—ROSE (Norman Cabacar)

WOMEN'S GOLF
1A/2A—SALISBURY (Dale Snyder)
3A—CARDINAL GIBBONS (Greg Greska)
4A—GREEN HOPE (Michael Robinson)

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
1A—COMM.SCHOOL OF DAVIDSON (Mike Good)
2A—CARRBORO (Mimi O'Grady)
3A—CARDINAL GIBBONS (Nick Mangum)
4A—GREEN HOPE (Mike Miragliuolo)

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
1A—BISHOP MCGUINNESS (Russ Tremblay)
2A—N.C. SCIENCE AND MATH (Charlie Payne)
3A—CARDINAL GIBBONS (Nick Mangum)
4A—BROUGHTON (Dave Christian)

WOMEN'S TENNIS (DUAL TEAM)
1A—BISHOP MCGUINNESS (Catherine Lasiter)
2A—LAKE NORMAN CHARTER (Jenny Gomez)
3A—CARDINAL GIBBONS (Andrew Tuttle)
4A—PANTHER CREEK (Nathaniel Blalock)

MEN'S SOCCER
1A—WALLACE-ROSE HILL (Michael Graybar)
2A—NEWTON-CONOVER (Angelo Falozzi)
3A—CARDINAL GIBBONS (Tim Healy)
4A—RONALD REAGAN (Paul Hicks)

FOOTBALL
1A—ROBBINSVILLE (Dee Walsh)
1AA—WALLACE-ROSE HILL (Joey Price)
2A—SHELBY (Lance Ware)
2AA—EAST LINCOLN (Mike Byus)
3A—CREST (Mark Barnes)
3AA—NORTHERN GUILFORD (Johnny Roscoe)
4A—NEW BERN (Bobby Curlings)
4AA—MALLARD CREEK (Mike Palmieri)

WINTER SPORTS

WRESTLING (DUAL TEAM)
1A—MCCASLIN (Ed Duncan)
2A—WEST LINCOLN (Butch Ross)
3A—FRED T. FOARD (Mike Carey)
4A—JACK BRITT (John DeWeese)

WRESTLING (TOURNAMENT)
1A—MCCASLIN (Ed Duncan)
2A—HUNTER HUSS (Michael Kennedy)
3A—J.M. MOREHEAD (Daniel Bradford)
4A—JACK BRITT (John DeWeese)

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK
1A/2A—HUGH CUMMINGS (Donald Davis)
3A—MARVIN RIDGE (Cameron Starr)
4A—PARKLAND (Antwan Hughes)

MEN'S INDOOR TRACK
1A/2A—NORTHERN GUILFORD (Garry Bishop)
3A—MARVIN RIDGE (Cameron Starr)
4A—SOUTH VIEW (Jesse Autry)

WOMEN'S SWIMMING
1A/2A—RALEIGH CHARTER (Matthew Mosher)
3A—MARVIN RIDGE (Melissa King Pierce)
4A—CHARLOTTE CATHOLIC (Brian Gross)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
1A—WINSTON-SALEM PREP (Eugene Love)
2A—WILKES CENTRAL (Scott Waugh)
3A—HICKORY (Barbara Helms)
4A—MYERS PARK (Barbara Nelson)

BASEBALL
1A—WHITEVILLE (Brett Harwood)
2A—SOUTH GRANVILLE (Curt Watkins)
3A—MARVIN RIDGE (Mark Mennitt)
4A—PROVIDENCE (Danny Hight)

SOFTBALL
1A—NORTH DUPLIN (Ricky Edwards)
2A—SOUTH GRANVILLE (Jackie Day)
3A—ENKA (Jennifer Krutk)
4A—D.H. CONLEY (Wayne Deans)

SPRING SPORTS

MEN'S GOLF
1A—BISHOP MCGUINNESS (Scott Savage)
2A—NEWTON-CONOVER (John Echerd)
3A—FORESTVIEW (Dan Ghent)
4A—PINECREST (Sandy Sackmann)

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD
1A—NORTH STOKES (Mike Williams)
2A—NORTH BRUNSWICK (Garry Bishop)
3A—MARVIN RIDGE (Cameron Starr)
4A—MALLARD CREEK (Donald Littlejohn)

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD
1A—WINSTON-SALEM PREP (David Lindsay)
2A—CUMMINGS (Donald Davis)
3A—SOUTHERN GUILFORD (Jamal Willis)
4A—PARKLAND (Antwan Hughes)

MEN'S TENNIS (DUAL TEAM)
1A—RALEIGH CHARTER (Ryan Griffin)
2A—CARRBORO (Jon Noyes)
3A—MARVIN RIDGE (Julie Van Olden)
4A—WAKEFIELD (Ken Stewart)

WOMEN'S SOCCER
1A—RALEIGH CHARTER (Steven Grosso)
2A—CARRBORO (Jared Drexler)
3A—A.C. REYNOLDS (Patrick Gladys)
4A—PANTHER CREEK (David Grant)

MEN'S LACROSSE
LAKE NORMAN (Chris Schiemer)

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
LAKE NORMAN (Chris Schiemer)

MEN'S LACROSSE
LAKE NORMAN (Chris Schiemer)

1A/2A/3A—CARDINAL GIBBONS (Alex Buckley)

NCHSAA Bulletin
NFHS Offers New “After-School” Emergency Response Training Program For High Schools

INDIANAPOLIS—To address a potentially dangerous gap in medical- response planning for after-school practices and events, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has announced a new initiative.

NFHS officials have announced that it is encouraging every high school in the country that does not have an existing emergency action plan in place to prepare its teams to utilize the Emergency Action Planning Program, “Anyone Can Save a Life.”

Developed in 2008 by the Minnesota State High School League and Medtronic Philanthropy, “Anyone Can Save a Life” is a first-of-its kind, emergency action planning and training program for after-school practices and events. It is designed to provide a coordinated team response to every major medical emergency.

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association enthusiastically supports this effort and has worked with the National Federation to provide the “Anyone Can Save A Life” guides for member schools. Many NCHSAA athletic directors picked them up at the North Carolina Coaches’ Clinic during the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association Summer Leadership Academy, which is part of the NCCA week.

“The reality is that every day we send thousands of students out to fields and gyms for practice and events where there is a lack of systemic support for emergencies,” said Jody Redman, associate director of the Minnesota State High School league (MSHSL) and co-developer of the program. “One coach cannot provide a coordinated response alone. “

“If you are prepared to respond to Sudden Cardiac Arrest, a deadly condition, you are better prepared to respond to every emergency,” said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. “We are encouraging all athletic administrators, appropriate health-care professionals and coaches to take the time during their season to implement the plan. It only takes a few minutes, and we have seen that these actions can save lives.”

After successful pilots in Minnesota, Arizona, New York and Washington, the NFHS Foundation provided funding to expand the scope of this program to distribute training guides nationally to its member state associations and their member schools. “Anyone Can Save A Life” training materials are available at no cost at http://www.anyonecansavealife.org/.

Using the program guide, coaches assign specific “emergency response” roles to students on every team at every level. If a student suffers a serious injury, or life-threatening event, teammates immediately spring into action with the information they need to call 911, assist with CPR and retrieve the automated external defibrillator. ★

UPDATE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Schools are urged to keep this information current throughout the year to make sure email notices go to the appropriate personnel, so if you have changes, please make sure you make the appropriate adjustments in your school information on line with the NCHSAA.
South Granville Downs Randleman 8-4
To Win NCHSAA 2-A Baseball Crown

RALEIGH—South Granville erupted for five runs in the third inning to come from behind and then held off Randleman 8-4 in the decisive third game of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 2-A baseball championship series at Doak Field at Dail Park on the campus of N.C. State University.

South Granville jumped in front with three runs on four hits in the second, but Randleman countered by scoring four in its half of the second, all with two outs to take a 4-3 lead. But the Vikings got a two-run double by Cameron Willis, one of three hits he had on the day, and a run-scoring double by Tucker Britt as the big blows in the five-run third.

Willis, Britt, and Austin Bailey all collected three hits for the winners.

Justin Brown, who came on to pitch in relief in game three, was selected as the Most Valuable Player of the championship. He had pitched four effective innings in the opener as South Granville took a 9-2 win, and then hurled five innings in the clincher and did not allow a run, shutting down the Tigers.

Randleman had tied the series earlier in the day with an 11-1 victory shortened by the 10-run rule with a nine-run fifth inning.

In the final game, Caleb Webster and Tyler Adams each had two hits for the Panthers last won the NCHSAA title in 1995.

The Panthers got a run in the fourth and then exploded for their seven runs in the sixth. For the game, Providence wrapped out 12 hits in a balanced attack and seven different Panthers drove in runs on the night.

Andrew Moritz had three hits in four trips for the winners, while Logan Davidson and Trevor Rhyne each hit safely twice.

Millbrook made its first visit to the NCHSAA baseball championship series and has been a great playoff story, as the Wildcats were the 21st seed in the Eastern bracket. Millbrook wound up 21-12 overall.

Providence, in its third trip to the championship series, finished 31-4. The Panthers last won the NCHSAA title in 1995.

The Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance served as a host city sponsor for the championship.

NCHSAA STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
Doak Field at Dail Park, N.C. State

Class 2-A: Game One
Randleman 0 1 0 0 0 1—2
South Granville 0 5 3 1 0 x—9
WP—Clay Walters. LP—Tanner Routh.

Class 2-A: Game Two
South Granville 1 0 0 0 — 1
Randleman 0 2 0 9 — 11
Game halted by 10 run rule.
WP—Zac Kemp. LP—Justin Bullock.

Class 2-A: Game Three
South Granville 0 3 5 0 0 0 — 8
Randleman 0 4 0 0 0 0 — 4
WP—Justin Brown. LP—Tyler Adams.

Providence Downs Millbrook To Take 4-A Baseball Crown

ZEBULON—Charlotte Providence blew open a close game with a seven-run sixth inning and coasted to a 10-2 victory over Raleigh Millbrook in the final game of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 4-A baseball championship series at Five County Stadium.

Providence took the series two games to one, with the Panthers evening the series earlier on the final day with a 10-0 win, called in the fifth by the 10-run rule. Millbrook had rallied to win the opener 4-3.

In the decisive game, Providence took a 2-0 lead in the third on a run-scoring triple by Tucker Jones, who later scored on a wild pitch. Jones, who had three hits in the other Providence victory, was selected as the Most Valuable Player of the championship series.

The Wildcats battled back with a pair of runs in their half of the third to knot the score at 2-2, with run-scoring singles by Bryce Carnevale and Spencer Williams. Williams had two hits in three trips for the Wildcats.

The Panthers got a run in the fourth and then exploded for their seven runs in the sixth. For the game, Providence wrapped out 12 hits in a balanced attack and seven different Panthers drove in runs on the night.

Andrew Moritz had three hits in four trips for the winners, while Logan Davidson and Trevor Rhyne each hit safely twice.

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NCHSAA STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
Five County Stadium

Class 4-A: Game One
Providence 0 2 0 0 1 0—3
Millbrook 1 0 0 1 0 2 x—4
WP—Reid Herring. Save—Alex Royalty. LP—Josh Hiatt. HR—Andrew Moritz, Providence.

Class 4-A: Game Two
Millbrook 0 0 0 0 — 0
Providence 4 1 0 0 5 — 0
Game halted by 10-run rule.
WP—Austin Leonard. LP—Alex Royalty.

Class 4-A: Game Three
Providence 0 0 2 1 0 7 0 — 10
Millbrook 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 — 2
WP—Zach Brown. LP—Andrew Strickland. HR—Josh Hiatt, Providence.

Marvin Ridge Uses Big Innings To Sweep Charles B. Aycock

RALEIGH—Waxhaw Marvin Ridge used a couple of big innings to rally for a 7-3 win over Pikeville Charles B. Aycock and a sweep of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 3-A baseball championship series at Doak Field at Dail Park on the campus of the N.C. State University.

Down 2-0, the Mavericks scored three in the fifth and then four runs in the sixth to take command.

Max Wotell's run-scoring single broke a 2-2 tie in the fourth and gave Marvin Ridge the lead for good and helped him earn Most Valuable Player honors in the championship. Wotell, the Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year, fanned eight and allowed just one hit on Friday night to earn his 14th pitching victory of the year in a 2-0 triumph.

All nine Maverick starters hit safely in the balanced attack, although Mark
Glover's run-scoring double was a key hit in the sixth. Hank Smitherman and Bobby Hampton each had three hits for the Golden Falcons, who outhit the Mavericks 11-9.

Marvin Ridge was in the NCHSAA baseball finals for the first time since the school opened in 2007, while Aycock had won state 3-A crowns in 1974 and 2007 and was the runner-up to Weddington in 2012. The Mavericks finished 29-5 while Aycock slipped to 23-7 overall.

The Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance served as a host city sponsor for the championship.

NCHSAA STATE BASEBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
Doak Field at Dail Park, N.C. State

Class 3-A: Game One
Marvin Ridge  0  0  1  0  0  0  0  2 —  2  0  5  0
Charles B. Aycock  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0 —  0  1  1  1
WP—Max Wotell (14-0).  LP—Bobby Hampton (10-3).

Class 3-A: Game Two
Charles B. Aycock  0  0  0  1  1  0  0  1 —  3  11  2
Marvin Ridge  0  0  0  0  3  4  x —  7  9  3
WP—Jake Kuchmaner.  LP—Jacob Naughton.

Mundy Leads South Granville
To 2-A Softball Sweep

RALEIGH—Hunter Mundy hit a pair of home runs and pitched effectively in relief to lift North Duplin to a 7-3 triumph over Hiwassee Dam in the third and decisive game of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 2-A softball championship series at Dail Softball Stadium on the campus of N.C. State.

Mundy, a junior shortstop, was named the series Most Valuable Player. South took both games in the best of three series, winning the opener by outlasting Forbush 2-1 in 11 innings.

South's second baseman, was named the series Most Valuable Player. South took a 1-0 lead in the first with an unearned run and then a Mundy two-run homer made it 3-0 in the third. Forbush countered with a two-run shot by Allison Mitchell to cut it to 3-2.

Mundy's second homer, a solo blast, put South Granville ahead 4-2 and the Vikings held on to win.

Erin Boone also had two hits for the winners, while Mitchell had two hits for Forbush.

The Vikings finished 25-2 and last won a state softball championship in 1998. Forbush was in the finals for the first time since 2004 and has five previous state championships, including two when the sport was slow pitch.

The Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance served as a host city sponsors for the championship.

NCHSAA STATE SOFTBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
Dail Softball Stadium, N.C. State

Class 2-A: Game One
Forbush  0  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0 —  2  10  0
South Granville  0  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  1 —  2  10  0
WP—Miranda Barker.  LP—Sydney Miller.

Pate Leads North Duplin
Past Hiwassee Dam For 1-A Title

GREENSBORO—Sophomore Rylee Pate had a couple of hits and pitched effectively in relief to lift North Duplin to a 7-3 triumph over Hiwassee Dam in the third and decisive game of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 1-A softball championship series at the UNCG Softball Stadium.

Pate was selected as the championship series Most Valuable Player. North Duplin had won the opening game 7-0 behind a one-hit shutout by Haylie Shope. North Duplin evened the series earlier on the second day of play when Haley Brogden pitched a two-hitter and had two hits in a 2-1 victory.

North Duplin jumped in front with four in the top of the first and the Rebels made it stand up. Soph Brooke Cottle helped the North cause with two hits in three trips and drove home three runs.

Morgan Helton paced the Hiwassee Dam attack with two hits and a pair of runs batted in.

Shope was the losing pitcher, yielding nine hits and striking out 11.

Both teams were in their initial appearance in an NCHSAA state softball championship. Hiwassee Dam finished 25-5 overall while North Duplin, a young team with only two juniors and the rest of the roster freshmen and sophomores, wound up 20-4-1.

NCHSAA STATE SOFTBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
UNC Greensboro Softball Stadium

Class 1-A: Game One
Hiwassee Dam  1  3  3  0  0  0  0  0 —  7  12  2
North Duplin  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0 —  0  1  4
WP—Haylie Shope.  LP—Rylee Pate.

Class 1-A: Game Two
North Duplin  0  0  1  0  1  0  0  0 —  2  4  2
Hiwassee Dam  0  0  0  1  0  0  0  0 —  1  2  2
WP—Haley Brogden.  LP—Haylie Shope.

Class 1-A: Game Three
North Duplin  4  0  0  0  2  1  0 —  7  9  1
Hiwassee Dam  1  2  0  0  0  0  0 —  3  6  1
WP—Rylee Pate.  LP—Hailey Shope.
Conley Blanks North Davidson 1-0 In 4-A Series Clincher

RALEIGH—Emily Kirby tossed a two-hit shutout in the decisive third game of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 4-A softball championship series as Greenville D.H. Conley nipped North Davidson 1-0 at Dail Softball Stadium at North Carolina State University.

Conley manufactured a first-inning run with a base hit, a bunt single, a ground out, fielder’s choice and a dropped third strike, and the Vikings made it stand up. Championship Most Valuable Player Madison Maloney and Makenna Matthijs each had hits in the inning for the Vikings, with Matthijs later scoring the run on the dropped third strike.

Hailey Coles had two of North Davidson’s three hits.

Katie Taylor of North Davidson doubled in the seventh to give the Knights some hope, but was off the base and was tagged out to end the threat.

North Davidson scored three unearned runs en route to a 3-2 victory in the series opener. Conley evened the series with a 5-0 victory earlier on the second day of play behind a three-shutout pitched by Rachel Weidner.

D.H. Conley won the championship for the third time in the last five years, with previous crowns in 2011 and ’13. The Vikings wound up 27-3 overall while North Davidson, back in the championships for the first time since 2011, completed a 26-7 season under veteran coach Mike Lambros.

Enka Completes Sweep With 10-0 Win Over Northern Guilford

GREENSBORO—Jordan Harris had two hits and drove in three runs to lead an Enka 13-hit attack in a 10-0 victory over Northern Guilford to sweep the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 3-A softball championship series at the UNC Greensboro Softball Stadium.

The game was halted in the fifth by the 10-run rule.

Harris was selected as the championship Most Valuable Player. She had a single and double in the second game and had three hits, including a home run, and two RBI to lead Enka to a 5-1 victory in the series opener Friday night.

Enka jumped in front immediately with a four-run first, keyed by a solo home run by Payton Trantham and a two-run single by sophomore Mariah Foxworth, and the Sugar Jets were off and running.

The Sugar Jets, the only unbeaten team in the championship field, finished 28-0 and last won an NCHSAA state softball crown in 1996. Northern Guilford made its first trip to the state softball championships and finished 25-4.