

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Students Recognized As Winners Of Lowe's Hometown Hero Awards

WILKESBORO—Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse, in conjunction with the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA), has selected additional winners in the Lowe's Hometown Heroes program.

Megan Stallings, from Perquimans County High School, was chosen as the recipient of the December Lowe's Hometown Hero award. Jacqui Lanningham of North Wilkes was the January winner. Lindsay Dehart of Southern Alamance earned the February award.

Lowe's Hometown Heroes program acknowledges the accomplishments of North Carolina high school students who excel in the combined areas of academics, community service and athletics. Each of the schools of the honorees will receive \$1,000 Lowe's gifts cards on behalf of their student-athlete.

"When you think about a student who is active in athletics, excels in academics and is involved in the community as well, you automatically think of Megan," said Carolyn Rogers, who for four years coached Megan on Perquimans' volleyball team. "Megan is an outstanding student, always willing to go the extra mile for anyone. She is the type of student you want to have helping you."

Second in her senior class, Megan has a 4.2 GPA and is captain of the volleyball team. She attended the North Carolina Governor's School's English program in summer 2002. As a junior, Megan was one of a dozen students selected from across the state to observe the inner workings of state government in the North Carolina Governor's Page Program. As a sophomore, Megan worked 40 hours as a page in the North Carolina House of Representatives. There she saw firsthand how laws are made.

President of the Beta Club, Megan has helped organize food drives. She plays percussion in the school band and is an active member of Corinth Baptist Church. The only senior on Perquimans County High School's volleyball team, Megan rallied the younger players and the team won this year's conference championship.

"Megan Stallings is a one-of-a-kind student who is at the top of her class academically, is a leader and mentor to her peers on and off the volleyball court and makes time to lend a hand in her community," said Gray Abercrombie, Lowe's divisional marketing manager. "She deserves the Lowe's Hometown Hero award and we are pleased to recognize her accomplishments this way."

A junior at North Wilkes, Jacqui has earned straight A's in all but one class and makes the Honor Roll each term. She has lettered in basketball, volleyball and track, and even became track team cocaptain her sophomore year.

"It is unusual for a sophomore to hold this position," said Michael Greene, Jacqui's head

track coach and assistant basketball coach. "Jacqui was selected because she was one of the top scorers in track her freshman year and because of her leadership abilities. Jacqui is very mature for her age. She has the respect of all of her teammates."

Greene, also a regional coordinator for Make-A-Wish of Central and Western North Carolina, has watched Jacqui volunteer countless hours working on two annual Make-A-Wish Reunions as well as raising funds and collecting donations of stuffed animals.

Jacqui has led or been a lead participant in many of the school's Key Club service projects, including the annual Powder Puff Count fundraiser and coat donation projects and stuffed animal drives. The daughter of Ted and Lisa Proffit of North Wilkesboro, Jacqui is active in her church and also works part-time in an area drug store.

A senior at Southern Alamance, Lindsay is a three-sport athlete who spends equal amounts of time on non-athletic school and community activities. Lindsay has held an office on the Southern Alamance student government for four years, and this year was voted student body president. She's helped organize canned food drives and helped coordinate student council efforts to adopt needy families at Christmas.

"Lindsay is a real leader on our campus academically, athletically and in a number of other ways," said Kent Byrd, Southern Alamance's principal. Lindsay aspires to become a high school teacher, he said. "It's wonderful when a child like Lindsay, who has the ability to do so many different things with her life and career, would like to enter a profession where she helps others. But that is very much what Lindsay is about."

As a four-year member of her school's D.R.E.A.M. Team (Daring to Role model Excellence as Athletic Mentors), Lindsay is this year's co-coordinator and a role model and mentor to hundreds of younger students in the community. The team, a select group of scholar/athletes who are committed to academic and athletic excellence and drug and alcohol-free lifestyles, visits elementary and middle schools to extol the benefits of education and athletic participation and also warn students of the dangers of drug and alcohol usage.

Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse, in conjunction with the Carolina Panthers, has joined together with the NCHSAA to offer the Lowe's Hometown Heroes recognition program. This program seeks to acknowledge high school students in North

Carolina who have begun building their own strong foundations through personal commitment to their local community, academics and athletics.

Lowe's, a Fortune 100 company with 2001 sales of \$22.1 billion, has more than 800 stores in 44 states. For more information, visit Lowes.com.



Improving Home Improvement



RECORD BREAKERS? Don't forget, if you have any potential state or national listings for the record book, there is a form in the current edition of the FormsBook 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) 962-7786. And don't forget to check the latest version of the state record book on line.

North Carolina Athletic Directors Association Names Ninth Hall Of Fame Class

Induction at Annual State Conference in April

Five members have been named by the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association as the ninth class for induction in its own Hall of Fame.

The new NCADA Hall of Famers include Tim Brayboy of Cary, Hilda Worthington of Farmville, Roger Thrift of New Bern, Spike Corbin of Wilmington and Richard Murray of Ahoskie.

The five will be recognized at the annual North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association state conference at the Atlantic Beach Sheraton, with the Hall of Fame banquet scheduled for April 8.

The NCADA Hall of Fame has been established to recognize achievement and excellence for athletic administration. The inductees are honored at the NCADA's annual state convention, and a permanent display honoring the athletic directors' Hall of Fame is located in the offices of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association in Chapel Hill. The new class brings to 43 the number in the Hall.

This year's inductees include:

Tim Brayboy

A long-time resident of Cary, Tim Brayboy grew up in Pembroke and was an outstanding athlete at Pembroke State, from which he graduated in 1964.

He taught and coached at both the junior high and senior high levels ,and from 1972 to 1995 worked at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. He worked statewide with middle schools and junior highs on athletic r5ules and regulations and also conducted staff development and in-service training for coaches and administrators.

Brayboy was also an outstanding high school and college game official. He officiated football for 35 years and basketball for 30 seasons.

E.A. "Spike" Corbin

Spike Corbin put together an excellent career in coaching and administration, primarily in the Wilmington area.

He coached Williston High to state championships in football, basketball and baseball in the old North Carolina High School Athletic Conference, and then won an NCHSAA baseball crown, leading Hoggard to the championships.

He served as an athletic director for many years, including serving as the director for New Hanover County from 1974 to 1980. The Hoggard baseball field is named in his honor.

Morehead's Frey Recognized With National Award From Wrestling Organization

KANSAS CITY—A coach from North Carolina was among those recognized at the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I wrestling championships.

Greg Frey of Morehead High School in Eden was selected as one of the eight honorees nationally for the National Wrestling Coaches Association's Scholastic Division. Frey was chosen among the state winners in the Southeast region for the NWCA award.

The Scholastic Division of the National Wrestling Coaches Association works to develop visibility and credibility within the wrestling community by recognizing outstanding coaches at the scholastic level.

Richard Murray

Richard Murray enjoyed a 38-year career at Ahoskie and then Hertford County High School as a teacher, coach and athletic administrator.

A graduate of both Chowan College and Atlantic Christian, Murray has been active in the NCADA, serving on its Board of Directors, as well as on the board of the North Carolina Coaches Association. He also served on the Endowment Board for the NCHSAA.

A member of the Chowan Hall of Fame, Murray has also been busily involved in church and civic affairs in the Ahoskie area.

Roger Thrift

Roger Thrift earned 12 varsity letters as an athlete at Chapel Hill High School before graduating from East Carolina and then a stellar career in athletics.

Thrift was president of the North Carolina Coaches Association in 1976-77 and also served on the NCADA Board of Directors.

He served as an athletic director for almost 30 years, including at Murfreesboro High for two years, Williamston for six, and then had a 20-year stint as AD at New Bern.

Thrift is a member of both the East Carolina University Sports Hall of Fame and the New Bern High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Hilda Worthington

Born in Calhoun, Georgia, Hilda Worthington was an outstanding coach and administrator at Farmville Central from the early 1970's to the late '90's.

A graduate of Broughton High in Raleigh and a 1960 graduate of East Carolina, Worthington served as athletic director of Farmville Central for 17 years, one of the first women to serve in that capacity. She also coached her women's basketball teams to over 300 victories and two state runner-up finishes.

She has served on various NCHSAA committees and also directed numerous conference and sectional tournaments. She is a member of the NCHSAA Hall of Fame.

Honorees in the charter class, inducted in 1995, included NCHSAA executive director Charlie Adams, former Charlotte-Mecklenburg director of athletics Dave Harris, Russ Blunt of Durham's Hillside High School, long-time Greenville Rose athletic director and NCADA executive secretary Richard "Bud" Phillips; former High Point athletic administrator A.J. "Tony" Simeon, and Norma Harbin of Winston-Salem, the first female athletic director at a 4-A school in North Carolina.

Willie Bradshaw of Durham, Mike Brown of Wilmington, Jack Groce of Boone, Red Hoffman of Wilkesboro, Leon Brogden of Wilmington and Homer Thompson of Winston-Salem joined the Hall in 1996. The 1997 inductees included Ruth Pool of Durham, Bill Eutsler of Rockingham, Shu Carlton of Gastonia, Gilbert Ferrell of Wilson and Thell Overman of Wallace, while in '98 the Hall welcomed Jim Blake of Durham, Wat Holyfield of Raleigh, Carroll King of Raleigh, Benny Pearce of Fayetteville, Jerry McGee of Elizabeth City and Dudley Whitley of Rocky Mount.

The 1999 inductees were Dave Johnson of Charlotte, Glenn Nixon of Clayton, Bob Sawyer of Greensboro and George Whitfield of Greenville, while in 2000 Don Patrick of Newton-Conover, Bill Carver of Fayetteville and Simon Terrell of Chapel Hill joined the Hall.

The 2001 inductees included Carl Bolick of Charlotte, Herman Bryson of Winston-Salem, Ed Peeler of Shelby and Chip Gill of Durham. Last year's honorees were Dick Knox of Chapel Hill, Jack Musten of Winston-Salem, Don Saine of Gastonia and Sue Shinn of High Point.



NCHSAA, State Farm Insurance Team Up On Special Program

CHAPEL HILL—The North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) and State Farm Insurance Company have joined together to offer a new awards program recognizing female high school athletes statewide who excel on and off the playing field or court

At the end of the academic year, four student-athletes, one from each of the NCHSAA's four classifications, will receive a plaque and a one thousand dollar scholarship to use toward furthering her education at the college/university level in the State Farm Female Athlete Award of Excellence Program.

The program will be open to any eligible senior female student-athlete during the current school year (2002-2003). The student must be participating in at least one varsity sport during this school year, with a minimum cumulative grade point average for her high school career of 3.0 and at least a 3.5 during the respective semester.

The student-athlete must also demonstrate excellence in other areas, including athletic achievements and honors, school activities and clubs, and non-school activities such as church as community involvement.

Schools Recognized For Outstanding Sportsmanship At NCHSAA Championships

CHAPEL HILL—The North Carolina High School Athletic Association has announced the recipients of the NCHSAA Championship Sportsmanship awards for the fall sports.

The awards are based on exemplary sportsmanship exhibited by players, coaches and fans of schools competing for a state title at one of the NCHSAA's championship venues. Each school receives a certificate noting the accomplishment.

In some cases, the awards are not done by classification; for instance, if all of the championships are held at one site, such as soccer, then one winner is chosen from among all the teams competing there. A special committee on site at each championship makes the recommendations.

"We are pleased to continue our emphasis on sportsmanship and congratulate these teams on their achievements," said Que Tucker, NCHSAA associate executive director and director of the Student Services Program, which administers the program.

2002-2003 NCHSAA Championship Sportsmanship Awards: Fall Sports

Volleyball: Midway

Women's Golf: East Henderson

Individual Tennis

1A - North Stokes

2A – Edenton John A. Holmes

3A - Hickory St. Stephens

4A – Raleigh Wakefield

Dual Team Tennis: Hendersonville

Cross Country

Women – Green Hope Men – Newport Croatan

Men's Soccer: Lejeune

Footbal

At Kenan Stadium, Chapel Hill – Chocowinity Southside At Groves Stadium, Winston-Salem – Catawba Bandys At Carter-Finley Stadium, Raleigh – Greensboro Dudley At the conclusion of each semester during the school year, nominations will be accepted and reviewed by a special committee. One female athlete per classification (1A, 2A, 3A, and 4A) will be recognized and receive a certificate and award letter.

At the end of the school year, a total of eight women will be considered by the committee to receive a plaque and a \$1,000 scholarship to use towards furthering her education at the college/university level, four from each semester.

"We're excited to have State Farm on board as one of the Association's corporate partners and to offer this opportunity for female student-athletes," said Karen DeHart, NCHSAA director of development. "We believe this will be a very positive program and look forward to recognizing these outstanding individuals."

State Farm Insurance is one of the NCHSAA's newest corporate partners.

Keep It Green: Athletic Field Management Practices

Nearly all the athletic fields in North Carolina suffer the devastating effects of heat, drought, flood, and frost on an annual basis. This year seems to be one of the worst in recent memory for damage to athletic fields.

Perhaps even more damaging to ball fields is wear and tear from high school marching bands, extra-curricular activities and vandalism. How does a coach or athletic director ensure the safety of the athletes competing on the fields? By maintaining a high quality turf surface.

The North Carolina Sports Turf Association is a non-profit group of sports turf professionals (university crop science professors, minor-league baseball groundskeepers, and others), which provides agronomic advice to coaches and athletic directors. The association can guide you through the growing season, providing timely recommendations on management practices. The result: you create a safe and beautiful playing surface that your athletes deserve and your rivals will envy.

For more information, simply visit our website (www.EasternNCSportsTurf.org) and fill out the information request form. One of our sports turf professionals will answer your questions and assist you in developing an annual ball field management plan tailored to your site free of charge. Don't forget to register to receive our monthly email sports turf tip. Keep it green!

South View Names Gym In Honor Of Ron Miller

 HOPE MILLS—South View High School's gymnasium is now known as Miller Gymnasium.

The school renamed the facility in honor of Ron Miller, one of the state's most successful basketball coaches, at one of its February home games.

Miller retired from coaching two years ago and compiled a brilliant 624-385 mark as a head coach. That included 26 years at the South View helm with a 413-247 mark at the Hope Mills school and a 1993 North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 4-A championship.

Eddie Dees of South View served as master of ceremonies, and athletic director Ronnie Luck and principal Bob Barnes both spoke.

Macky Hall, chairman of the Cumberland County Board of Education, officially unveiled the plaque.

DON'T FORGET THE WEB SITE! Check out the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's site at http://www.nchsaa.unc.edu for all sorts of important information.

North Carolina Winners Named In Wendy's High School Heisman Program

DUBLIN,OHIO—Two North Carolina high school seniors received national recognition when Darrian Bynum of Weldon High School and Anna Evans of Lumberton High School were named North Carolina State Winners for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award.

The award honors male and female high school athletes who are leaders on their teams and in their classrooms and communities. The award was created in 1994 in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Heisman Memorial Trust.

Bynum and Evans both received a silver medal and competed with 100 other students from across the country-two from each state and the District of Columbia-for a spot as a National Finalist in the competition.

These students have been singled out as some of the most remarkable and inspiring seniors across the country," said Tom Mueller, president and chief operating officer Wendy's North America. "We are pleased to recognize them for their outstanding achievements."

Bynum is a three-sport standout at Weldon, playing football, basketball and baseball. He is assistant editor of the school yearbook, editor of the school newspaper, and an active volunteer with Boys and Girls Clubs and Special Olympics.

Evans has played tennis, basketball and softball during her

career at Lumberton. She has been involved with student government, is secretary of the Beta Club, and has worked as a volunteer for Race for the Cure and Relay for Life.

The journey to the final award winner included five phases:

- 1. Nomination (13,500 students)
- 2. State Finalist (Includes 1,020 students, or 20 per state)
- 3. State Winner (102 students, or two per state)
- 4. National Finalist (12 students)
- 5. National Winner (Two students: one male and one female)

The 12 National Finalists participated in the Heisman weekend festivities in December in New York City.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals - the preeminent organization and the national voice for middle level and high school principals, assistant principals and aspiring school leaders - provides its members the professional resources to serve as visionary leaders. NASSP promotes the intellectual growth, academic achievement, character development, leadership development, and physical well being of youth through its programs and student leadership services. NASSP sponsors the National Honor Society the National Junior Honor Society, and the National Association of Student Councils.

Continued on next page

In Memoriam

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.

Brenda Jernigan

FAYETTEVILLE—Former South View High School women's basketball and volleyball coach Brenda Jernigan died in late November at the age of 53 as a result of injuries suffered in an October automobile accident.

She was an outstanding high school basketball player in Cumberland County at Central High School in the late 1960s and went on to UNC-Greensboro.

Jernigan was named South View women's basketball coach when the school opened and earned 200 career victories in that sport before retiring from coach basketball in 1996. She was an assistant coach in the East-West all-star game in Greensboro in 1979.

In volleyball, her teams won nine conference championships before she stepped away from that sport in 1999.

Everette "Shu" Carlton

GASTONIA—Longtime football coach and athletic director Everette "Shu" Carlton died in early December at the age of 82 after a two-year battle with prostate cancer.

A 1992 inductee into the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, Carlton was Gastonia Ashbrook High School's first football coach when the school opened in 1970.

Carlton coached the football team at the old Gastonia Ashley from 1957 to 1969 and then was Ashbrook High from 1970 to 1972. His record during that 16-year stretch was a brilliant 115-47-9, and he led teams to seven confer-

ence championships and eight state playoff berths.

He got his coaching start at Kings Mountain High School as head football coach and athletic director, where he worked for eight years before going to Ashley.

The graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne College served as a head coach in the East-West Optimist Bowl in 1954 and in the N.C. Coaches Association East-West football game in Greensboro in 1957. He coached in the Shrine Bowl game in 1949 and was North Carolina's head coach in 1964.

He was also honored as a member of the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame and the halls at both Kings Mountain High School and Ashbrook.

After his active coaching career, Carlton served as principal at Ashbrook from 1973-77.

William Curtis Young

DURHAM—William Curtis Young, a longtime teacher and coach in the Durham County school system, died in late January at the age of 70.

Young coached football, wrestling and baseball at both Northern Durham and Jordan High Schools, and also coached at Carrington Junior High in Durham.

He coached from 1957 to 1989 and has been credited with starting the first wrestling program in the Durham County school system.

Bill Taylor

LUMBERTON—Bill Taylor, the ninth-grade men's basketball coach at Lumberton High School, died of a heart attack while returning home following a game in early February.

Taylor was 42 and also helped coach the Lumberton ninth-grade football team.

A memorial service was held at First Baptist Church in Fairmont. The family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Shriners Orphanage in Oxford.

Mr. NCHSAA Football Awards Listed For 2002 Season By northcarolina.ihigh.com

Independence quarterback Chris Leak becomes the first repeat winner in the Mr. NCHSAA Football awards, winning the 4-A Mr. NCHSAA Football award for the second year.

Other winners include Burns quarterback Troy Goss in 3-A, Reidsville quarterback Anthony Crews in 2-A and Williamston QB Brad Roach among the 1-A players.

Leak led Independence to its third straight state title last fall, finishing his season going 336 of 584 for 5,193 yards and 64 touchdowns.

For his career, Leak completed 1,013 of 1,745 for 15,593 yards and 185 touchdowns, all state records and the touchdowns are a national record.

Leak also holds the state record for attempts and his past three years passing performances (4,544 sophomore; 4,521 junior; 5,193 senior) stand as the top 3 in state history. Leak's 1,013 completions nearly double the old record of 585 set by Ernest Tinnin in 1993.

Leak, who also Most Valuable Player of the Shrine Bowl, was selected first on 25 of 27 4-A ballots.

The top six was filled out by Rocky Mount wide receiver Mike Mason, New Bern running back Kory Fisher, Broughton quarterback Daniel Evans, Rose running back Andre Brown and a tie for the last spot between Person running back LaBrayan Street and Butler receiver Kenny Moore.

Burns signal caller Troy Goss is the 3-A Mr. NCHSAA Football winner. The 6-2 senior completed 118 of 224 attempts for 2,326 yards and 28 touchdowns this season with only four interceptions. He also rushed 183 times for 1,668 yards and 25 touchdowns.

Goss led Burns to a 12-2 record as they were eliminated by eventual state champion Winston-Salem Carver in the playoffs.

As a junior, the Burns star threw for 2,405 yards and 27 scores.

Goss was selected first on 13 of 26 ballots.

The top six was rounded out by Carver lineman Isaiah Thomas, Franklin running back Josh Durm, Piedmont wide receiver Dan Brooks, Clayton linebacker/fullback Drew Fowler and a three-way tie for the last spot between Dudley running back Jamaal Edwards, Trinity running back John McEachin and South Point fullback Joe Brown.

The 2-A Mr. NCHSAA Football Anthony Crews from Reidsville had an incredibly productive season.

He completed 197 of 336 passes for 3,551 yards and 28 touchdowns. Also the leading rusher for Reidsville, Crews

North Carolina Winners—Continued from previous page

Wendy's International, Inc. is one of the world's largest restaurant operating and franchising companies, with \$8.3 billion in 2001 systemwide sales, more than 8,400 total restaurants and three quality brands—Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers, Tim Hortons and Baja Fresh. Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers was founded in 1969 by Dave Thomas and is the third largest quick-service hamburger chain in the world with more than 6,200 restaurants in the United States, Canada and international markets.

Wendy's has been a corporate partner of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association for several years.

rushed for 1,104 yards and 30 touchdowns.

In the 2AA state championship game, Crews accounted for 448 yards of total offense and had a hand in all five Ram scores in the 34-14 win over Bandys. Crews completed 16 of 35 passes for 311 yards and three touchdowns while running for 137 yards and two more touchdowns.

Crews was selected on 14 of the 26 2-A ballots. He edged out last year's 2-A winner, Drew Williamson of Burlington Cummings. Williamson was followed by Lexington quarterback Cory Holt, East Duplin running back/defensive back Tion Powell, Bandys quarterback Zach Elliott and Richlands defensive end/tight end Mario Williams.

The 1-A Mr. NCHSAA Football is Williamston quarterback Brad Roach

The 6-4 senior completed 126 of 213 passes for 2,158 yards and 22 touchdowns, while rushing for nine more scores. Last season as a junior, Roach passed for 2,774 yards and 25 touchdowns.

The Williamston standout was selected on 13 of 28 1-A ballots. In the closest race of the four, Roach had a single point more than East Surry's Chris Griggs. The top six is completed with Maiden running back Aaron Burgin, Starmount quarterback/defensive back James Houston, Elkin quarterback Matt Renegar, and a tie between Gates running back Marvin Beamon and Roanoke running back Garrett Baker.

Players were nominated by statewide prep media representatives and then winners were selected following a final round of balloting by media this week. Winners will also receive a trophy from the Mr/Ms NCHSAA Sports Awards trophy sponsor, Trophy Toolbox.

"We are certainly pleased to partner with iHigh to recognize outstanding performances on the football field among our NCH-SAA member schools," said Rick Strunk, NCHSAA associate executive director.

"iHigh is certainly excited to be able to recognize outstanding talent on the gridiron through our partnership with the NCHSAA and support from media statewide," Michelle Hillison, North Carolina State Director said.

Larry Lindsey Honored At Wake Forest-Rolesville

WAKE FOREST—The gymnasium at Wake Forest-Rolesville High School has a new name.

It has been named in honor of North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame member Larry Lindsey, who carved out an outstanding coaching record primarily at Wake Forest-Rolesville.

The dedication ceremonies were held in early January at a Wake Forest-Rolesville basketball game.

Lindsey, who was inducted into the NCHSAA Hall of Fame in 1997, compiled a brilliant 609-156 career mark as a head men's basketball coach and guided his teams to eight NCHSAA state championships.

His Wake Forest-Rolesville teams earned three consecutive 3-A crowns during a run from 1971 through '73, and also won three straight in 1977-79, starting with a 2-A title and then two consecutive 3-A championships as WF-R moved up in classification.

The Story Of A REAL High School Basketball Game

Okay, we went to a real high school basketball game. Let me explain.

My wife wanted an evening out one night in February, so I—being the model husband and wanting to spare no expense to provide the best possible entertainment—quickly noted it was a Tuesday night.

After a lengthy deliberation of several seconds, a great idea occurred to me. "How about a high school basketball game?" I suggested.

And being the wonderful person and former high school cheerleader my wife is, she thought that was a great idea, Well, maybe that's overstated; let's just say that she didn't say no, and went along.

So we traveled to a local game between two schools just a few miles apart, conference rivals and a game with major playoff implications.

It was a closely contested battle, with no more than about six points ever separating the teams. It was enjoyable to watch and pretty intense, even if play from time to time got a little sloppy.

But it was a real high school game, I'm sure, and here are a few reasons why:

—when we came in, there was not a single Hummer parked in the school parking lot; obviously, I didn't even look to see if there were one in the faculty parking lot

—the visiting team arrived in a bona fide, regulation, official activity bus; no limousine or other luxury mode of transportation here

-no highlights of the game will ever be seen on SportsCenter

—there was no posturing, preening, or chest thumping for the television cameras; wait a minute, there WERE no television cameras. The media attending the event were a couple of local newspaper guys who regularly cover this beat

—none of the players—well, there could be possibly one or two—will ever go on to play in college, but still the teams competed just as hard as they could and played an entertaining brand of basketball. Thus the idea of "going on to play at the next level" was not

North Carolina Rolls To 28-0 Shutout Win In Shrine Bowl

ROCK HILL—Independence quarterback Chris Leak was selected as the Most Valuable Player in the 66th annual Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas at District Three Stadium as the North Carolina All-Stars rolled past their South Carolina counterparts 28-0.

Leak, who the week before had led his Independence team to its third straight NCHSAA state football crown and was the championship game MVP for the third straight year, completed 15 of 25 passes for 175 yards and three touchdowns.

Rocky Mount's Mike Mason caught six passes for 54 yards while Ragsdale's Emmanuel Byers had four receptions for 54 yards. Crest's Travis Lee grabbed three for 44 yards, two of which went for scores, and Butler's Kenny Moore had a TD reception among his three catches good for 34 yards.

North Carolina led 14-0 at the half after a three-yard run by Parkland's Jed Bines and an eight-yard TD pass from Leak to Lee. Freedom's Stuart Mull kicked the PAT after each of the four Tar Heel touchdowns.

Richlands defensive end Mario Williams and Wilson Beddingfield defensive back Pierre Parker were among the defensive standouts for North Carolina. Parker was named the Tar Heel defensive MVP after picking off a pass at the goal line to thwart a South Carolina drive and returned it 55 yards.

The Extra Point



Rick Strunk NCHSAA Associate Executive Director

really pertinent to this game, and especially not the astronomically long odds that anybody would ever be able to play professionally

—good sportsmanship was evident; on several occasions players from one team helped up a player from the other team who had gotten knocked to the floor

—there were no representatives of shoe companies, nattily dressed and with cell phones to their ears, anywhere in sight

—concessions were ridiculously inexpensive and served by pleasant people who had volunteered to operate the concession stand

We thoroughly enjoyed the evening and as we drove home, I contemplated what we had witnessed: a REAL high school basket-ball game.

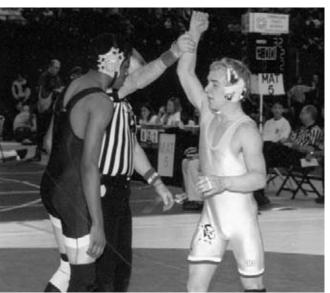
And it hit me. This is the kind of thing we're really all about, because what we had experienced here is our norm: kids playing because they enjoy it, students from their own communities giving their best efforts, being led by teacher-coaches, keeping things in their proper perspective.

Our norm is not teams flying to games, being paid appearance fees, national television, unending hype. That's fine, but that is certainly not the reality for most schools I know.

What I like is REAL high school basketball.

And who knows? Next time my wife wants to go out, maybe it'll be a Friday night during another part of the school year. You know I'll spare no expense to provide the best possible entertainment.

Four-Time State Champion



Drew Forshey (right) of Hickory's St. Stephens High School became only the third four-time North Carolina High School Athletic Association state wrestling champion in action at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. More details are in Championship Review. (NCHSAA Photo by John Bell)

MEN'S SOCCER



T.C. Roberson Stays Unbeaten, Wins 3-A Men's Soccer Crown

RALEIGH-Senior forward Brian Fitzmaurice had a goal and an assist to lead Asheville T.C. Roberson to a 2-0 victory over Jacksonville White Oak and capture the North Carolina High School Athletic Association men's 3-A soccer championship at Broughton High School.

Fitzmaurice was named the Most Valuable Player of the championship as Roberson finished a perfect 28-0 season. It was Roberson's fourth visit to the NCHSAA soccer finals but the Rams' first state title after runner-up finishes in 1992, '93 and '96.

Todd Byard was credited with the first goal, after an assist by Fitzmaurice, less than four minutes in to put the Rams ahead 1-0. Then Fitzmaurice's one-timer in the box after a corner kick, his 30th goal of the season, pushed the margin to 2-0 with just over 24 minutes left to play.

The Rams outshot White Oak 20-12 on the day and both keepers, Ben Barlick of White Oak and Matthew Novchich of TCR, had nine saves apiece.

Veteran T.C. Roberson head coach Rod Wilcher earned his 300th career victory with his team's win.

White Oak, which was also in its fourth NCHSAA men's soccer final, closed the season with a 17-8 record.

NCHSAA MEN'S 3-A SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP Broughton High School, Raleigh

Jacksonville White Oak	0	0	_	0
Asheville T.C. Roberson	1	1	_	2

3:56 TCR—Todd Byard (Brian Fitzmaurice). 55:06 TCR—Brian Fitzmaurice.

Avers' Goal Lifts Mount Tabor To 4-A Soccer In Sudden Death Over Raleigh Millbrook

CARY—Patrick Ayers of Winston-Salem Mount Tabor had both his team's goals, including the clincher in sudden-death overtime, as the Spartans outlasted Raleigh Millbrook 2-1 at SAS Stadium in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 4-A men's soccer championship match.

After regulation had ended in a 1-1 tie, the two teams battled through two scoreless overtimes before going to sudden death. Ayers, a sophomore who was named the Most Valuable Player of the 4-A championship and led his team in scoring this season, blasted a rocket into the left corner of the goal for his 23rd goal of the season and

Millbrook had scored first in the final two minutes of the opening halfas David Boole scored his 28th goal of the season. Mount Tabor got the equalizer at the 53:00 mark after a wild scramble at the goal, with Ayers finally converting on the third Spartan shot of the

Both teams had some good opportunities in the second half, with Spartan keeper Brandon Garner making a great save on a breakaway by Millbrook's Chris Wheaton. With less than three minutes to play, a header by Mount Tabor's Hugh Cronin just missed.



CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW

Mount Tabor completed an unbeaten season with a 22-0-4 record and made its third trip to the NCHSAA soccer championship successful after a pair of runner-up finishes. The Spartans finished second in both 1997 and '99.

Millbrook finished at 22-2 and had its winning streak snapped at 10.

NCHSAA STATE 4-A MEN'S SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP SAS Stadium, Cary

W-Salem Mount Tabor	0	1	0	0	1 - 2
Raleigh Millbrook	1	0	0	0	0 - 1

38:30 Mill-David Boole. 53:00 Mt Tabor—Patrick Ayers. 102:52 Mt Tabor—Patrick Ayers.

Swansboro Overwhelms Charlotte Catholic In 2-A

CARY-Chris Mobley of Swansboro had the hat trick to lead the Pirates to a 4-1 victory over Charlotte Catholic for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's men's state 2-A soccer championship at SAS Stadium.

Mobley, selected as the Most Valuable Player in the championship, staked his team to a 1-0 lead when he knocked in a rebound at the 10:34 mark, and it stayed that way until halftime.

Swansboro took a 2-0 advantage on Mobley's second goal, as he scored again on a rebound, and then blew it open with a pair of goals within a 70-second span.

First Mark Ellington found the back of the net from 18 yards out, his 32nd goal of the season, to move the Pirates in front 3-0 at the 59:53 mark.

Then shortly thereafter Ellington had a perfect centering pass to Mobley, who knocked it in for his 33rd goal of the year to make it 4-0 at 61:03.

Catholic got on the board late in the game on a Scott Penrose goal, with an assist from Brian Lux.

These two schools have established themselves as NCHSAA state soccer powers and have developed a championship rivalry, as they were meeting for the 10th time in the finals. The Pirates have a 7-3 edge in those games.

Swansboro finished the season with a 26-2 record in winning its seventh NCHSAA state men's soccer crown. The Pirates, making their 12th championship appearance and seventh visit in the last eight years, avenged their loss in last year's final to Charlotte Catholic.

Catholic closed its season with a 20-3-2 record. The Cougars were also in their 12th championship game and were making their eighth trip to the finals in the last nine seasons.

NCHSAA STATE 2-A MEN'S SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP SAS Stadium. Carv

Swansboro	1	3 - 4
Charlotte Catholic	0	1 - 1

10:34 S—Chris Mobley. 41:32 S—Chris Mobley.

59:53 S-Mark Ellington.

61:03 S—Chris Mobley (Mark Ellington).

78:17 CC—Scott Penrose (Brian Lux).



Lejeune Outlasts Albemarle In Penalty Kick Shooting To Claim 1-A Soccer Championship

CARY—Lejeune and Albemarle battled into the second round of penalty kicks before Lejeune prevailed in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 1-A soccer championship at SAS Stadium.

Regulation ended in a 1-1 tie, and then the teams struggled through two overtime periods and two sudden-death periods before going to the shootout.

After a scoreless first half, Chris Peterson of Lejeune flicked it into the goal off a pass from William Roberts to give the Devilpups a 1-0 lead at 63:51, and then just six minutes later Casey Davis of Albemarle got the equalizer with a strong shot from 20 yards out.

Both clubs made four of five penalty kicks in the first shootout, but Lejeune keeper David Perez came up with a couple of saves in the second round and Brandon Wendling's PK finally enabled the Devilpups to prevail 7-6 in the shootout for what is officially recorded as a 2-1 victory.

Perez was chosen as the MVP of the 1-A championship.

Lejeune won its first official NCHSAA men's soccer title, with its only other championship in 1967 when the tournament was an invitational that included some non-NCHSAA teams.

The Devilpups completed an improbable run to the title after starting the season with five consecutive losses. It was Lejeune's third victory in shootouts in five playoff matches as the Devilpups finished 13-11-3.

Albemarle lost for only the second time in 26 starts.

NCHSAA 1-A CHAMPIONSHIP SAS Stadium, Cary

Lejeune 0 1 0 0 0 0 1*-2Albemarle 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 -1*won 7-6 on penalty kicks 63:51 L—Chris Peterson (William Roberts).

69:53 A-Casey Davis.

FOOTBALL



Elkin Downs Southside For 1-A Grid Championship By 30-6 Count At Kenan Stadium

CHAPEL HILL—Matt Renegar of Elkin helped to run, pass and kick his Buckin' Elks to a 30-6 victory over Chocowinity Southside and the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 1-A football championship at Kenan Stadium.

Renegar threw for two scores and ran for another as Elkin sprinted to a 17-0 lead after one quarter, taking advantage of Seahawk turnovers. He opened the scoring with a 72-yard scoring pass to Mitch Allen and also kicked a 39-yard field goal in the opening stanza. The Elkin QB capped an eight-play, 69-yard drive in the final period with a 24-yard scoring run.

For the game, Renegar completed nine of 18 passes for 153 yards and also led all rushers with 64 yards in 14 carries.

Southside's score came on a 20-yard pass from Robbie Chandler to Jansen Simmons.

Elkin finished the season with a 14-2 mark while Southside, in only its third year as a high school, wound up 12-4.

Post-Game Awards:

Southside—Outstanding Offensive Player QB Robbie Chandler; Outstanding Defensive Player LB Bennie Fordham; Elkin— Outstanding Offensive Player QB Matt Renegar; Outstanding Defensive Player DB Justin Billips; Wendy's Most Valuable Player: Elkin QB/DB/K Matt Renegar.

Albemarle Slips Past Williamston To Capture Second Straight 1-AA Football Title

CHAPEL HILL—Defending champion Albemarle made it two North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 1-AA football championships in a row, but the Bulldogs had to battle to down a determined Williamston team 31-26 at Kenan Stadium.

Albemarle's Marcus Davis carried the ball 30 times for 149 yards and a touchdown, the initial score of the game on a 24-yard scamper that capped a 12-play, 80-yard drive.

Wiliamston came back to take a 14-7 lead on a 59-yard TD run by Antonio and a seven-yard scoring pass from Brad Roach to J.J. House. But the Bulldogs responded with three straight scores, including a 33-yard field goal by Tyler Lewis in the third quarter, to take the lead for good.

The Tigers cut it to 24-20 on House's second score of the day, this one on a three-yard run. But a nine-yard interception return by Duran Davis of Albemarle for a TD with 5:49 to play proved to be the margin of victory.

Tillman carried 16 times for 124 yards for the Tigers and Roach hit on 14 of 25 through the air for 169 yards and two scores.

Post-Game Awards:

Williamston—Outstanding Offensive Player RB Antonio Tillman; Outstanding Defensive Player DL Tremayne Farmer; Albemarle—Outstanding Offensive Player RB Marcus Davis; Outstanding Defensive Player DB Duran Davis; Wendy's Most Valuable Player: Albemarle RB Marcus Davis.

Cummings Rallies To Down Clinton In Thrilling 2-A Final

WINSTON-SALEM—Sebastian Olivares of Burlington Cummings split the uprights with a 28-yard field goal with 11 seconds left to lift the Cavaliers to a dramatic 24-21 victory over Clinton at Groves Stadium in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association 2-A football championship.

The Cavaliers, who finished 9-7 after having to forfeit several early season games, scored 10 points in the final 1:34 to win. Quarterback Drew Williamson threw his third TD pass of the day, this time to Bryan Manning, covering 16 yards to tie the game at 21 with 1:34 left, after Clinton had failed on a fourth-and-one at its own 33.

An interception by Jabir Jones of Cummings at the Clinton 38 then set up the winning field goal.

Clinton had broken a 14-14 halftime deadlock in the third quarter on a three-yard run by Quintin Lee, capping a seven-play, 51-yard drive.

The Dark Horses, defending 2-A champs, lost for the first time after 15 straight wins.

Williamson completed just nine of 26 passes for 139 yards, but three went for scores, and he also led the Cavs in rushing with 42 net yards in 17 carries.

Clinton's Jamar Hicks rushed for 85 yards in 11 carries and also completed six of 12 passes for 73 yards.

Crews Has Huge Game To Lead Reidsville Past Bandys In 2-AA

WINSTON-SALEM—Anthony Crews of Reidsville had a phenomenal game, accounting for 448 yards in total offense and five touchdowns as the Rams beat Bandys 34-14 at Groves Stadium for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 2-AA football crown.

Bandys led 14-6 at halftime on the strength of a couple of touchdown passes by Zach Elliott. But the Trojans couldn't contain Crews as the Rams blew it open in the second half.

Crews completed $\overline{16}$ of $\overline{35}$ through the air for $\overline{311}$ yards and three scores, and he was also the leading rusher in the game with 23 attempts for 137 yards and a pair of touchdowns, covering one and 36 yards.

He engineered two long fourth-quarter scoring drives of 79 yards and 77 yards to put the game away.

Elliott completed 11 of 19 passes for Bandys for 200 yards, with two scores and two interceptions. Daren Burns led the Trojan rushing attack with 82 yards in 10 carries.

Reidsville won its first NCHSAA football title in 48 years and finished the season with a 15-1 record, Bandys, back in the finals for the first time since 1996, closed out a 14-2 season.

Carver Rolls To 34-0 Triumph Over Wilson Fike In 3-A Game

RALEIGH—Winston-Salem Carver's size and speed were too much for Wilson Fike as the Yellow Jackets rolled to their second North Carolina High School Athletic Association state football title in five years, taking the 3-A crown by 34-0 at Carter-Finley Stadium.

Jayvon Biddle rushed for 126 yards and Jason Jowers picked up 102 for the winners, who sprinted to a 28-0 halftime advantage.

Carver controlled the game up front, piling up 310 yards rushing and holding Fike to just 69 total yards on the day.

Fike's Clint Winslow had an excellent game, playing quarterback, defensive back and punting. He was in on 12 tackles, had two pass deflections and an interception. Willie Frieson had 65 yards rushing for the Demons in 20 attempts.

The Yellow Jackets finished the season with a 14-0-1 record while Fike wound up 10-6 overall.

Post-Game Awards:

Fike—Outstanding Offensive Player FB Willie Frieson; Outstanding Defensive Player S Clint Winslow; Carver—Outstanding Offensive Player QB Jamar Pitts; Outstanding Defensive Player DT Isaiah Thomas; Wendy's Most Valuable Player: Carver RB Jayvon Biddle.

Rauch FG Lifts Ashbrook To Dramatic Win Over Dudley

RALEIGH—Julian Rauch booted a 28-yard field goal with just seven seconds remaining to lift Gastonia Ashbrook to a dramatic 19-18 victory over Greensboro Dudley in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 3-AA football championship game at Carter-Finley Stadium.

Rauch, who opened the scoring with a 45-yard field goal, had 10 field goals in post season and four times the Green Wave won on the final play of the game.

Ashbrook led 16-0 before Dudley mounted a comeback, with Jamal Edwards scoring each of the Panther touchdowns. His third capped a seven-play, 80-yard march that propelled Dudley to an 18-16 lead with 2:33 to play and set the stage for Rauch's late game heroics.

The key play in the final drive was Ashbrook's only pass completion of the day, a49-yarder from Cole Russell to Antwan Pagan that put the Green Wave at the Dudley 31.

Edwards rambled for 243 yards in 28 carries for Dudley. Oreon Mayfield had 68 yards in 25 carries and Michael Briggs added 62 in

10 tries for the winners, and both scored TDs.

Ashbrook completed an 11-4 season while Dudley wound up 11-5. Post-Game Awards:

Dudley—Outstanding Offensive Player RB Jamal Edwards; Outstanding Defensive Player DT Demario Pressley; Ashbrook— Outstanding Offensive Player FB Mike Briggs; Outstanding Defensive Player DT Kourtland Nixon; Wendy's Most Valuable Player: Ashbrook K Julian Rauch.

Rockets Down Northern Nash 14-7 In 4-A Defensive Battle

CHAPEL HILL—Trevor Steele rushed for 154 yards in 33 carries and scored a touchdown to lead Asheville A.C. Reynolds to a tough 14-7 victory over Northern Nash in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 4-A football championship game at Kenan Stadium.

The tough Reynolds defense limited Northern Nash to just $31\ \mathrm{yards}$ rushing and $148\ \mathrm{in}$ total offense.

Steele's first-period score but ACR up 7-0 and then Ben Johnson connected with Billy Britt on an 11-yard touchdown pass as Reynolds led 14-0 at the half. Northern Nash tallied on a scintillating 88-yard punt return by Jeffrey Beamon with 35 seconds remaining, but Reynolds recovered the ensuing onsides kick and ran out the clock.

Robert Harrison was Northern's leading rusher with 37 yards in 14 carries and Chad Greene caught five passes for 61 yards.

A.C. Reynolds won its 14th game in 15 starts, and it was the fifth state championship for head coach Bobby Poss at three different schools. Northern Nash finished 12-3.

Post-Game Awards:

Northern Nash—Outstanding Offensive Player QB Shiaphan Lewis; Outstanding Defensive Player LB Travis Blake; Ashbrook—Outstanding Offensive Player RB Trevor Steele; Outstanding Defensive Player LB Garron Edgington; Wendy's Most Valuable Player: AC Reynolds RB Trevor Steele.

Leak Leads Independence To 3rd Straight State Title As Pats Down New Bern 41-20

RALEIGH—Chris Leak of Independence earned championship game Most Valuable Player honors for a third time as the Patriots held off previously unbeaten New Bern 41-20 for their third consecutive North Carolina High School Athletic Association state championship, this time for the 4-AA crown at Carter-Finley Stadium.

Holder of numerous state passing records, Leak connected on 15 of 28 passes for 193 yards and three scores, although he was sacked five times by an aggressive New Bern defense. He also rushed 15 times for 50 yards.

Independence led 21-6 late in the second quarter before the Bears drew close. Kory Fisher, who rushed for 121 yards in 26 carries for New Bern, this time caught a TD pass from Davon Drew to cap a 74-yard, 15-play drive just 16 seconds before halftime.

Then the Bears narrowed it to 21-20 a one-yard run by Drew in the final minute of the third quarter.

That's when Leak coolly engineered a 14-play. 80-yard march culminating in a 12-yard TD pass to Billy Wiggins, and then moments later on the ensuing kickoff Benny Gray scooped up a New Bern fumble and ran it from 22 yards out to give Independence a pair of TD's within 10 seconds.

Abdur-Rahim Malik rushed for 64 yards in five carries for the Pats, including a 42-yard TD scamper with 1:29 to play. Mohamed Massaquoi caught six Leak passes for 87 yards and two TDs.

Independence finished 16-0 and has now won 46 consecutive games. New Bern finished with a stellar 15-1 mark.

OUR NATIONAL INTERNET PARTNER, ihigh.com, has some great information about high school athletics in our state. Don't forget to visit northcarolinaihigh.com for championship results, feature stories and lots of interesting updates on what's happening in our state.. There is also a link directly off the NCHSAA site.

Post-Game Awards:

New Bern—Outstanding Offensive Player RB Kory Fisher; Outstanding Defensive Player DL Willie Williams; Independence— Outstanding Offensive Player SE Mohamed Massaquoi; Outstanding Defensive Player DB Josh Taylor; Wendy's Most Valuable Player: Independence QB Chris Leak.

DUAL TEAM WRESTLING



Riverside Slips Past Cary For 4-A Dual Team Wrestling Title

CARY—Durham Riverside slipped past Cary 38-30 to capture its second consecutive state 4-A dual team wrestling championship in the 14th annual North Carolina High School Athletic Association tournament.

Daniel Llamas of Riverside at 189 pounds was named the Most Valuable Performer in the championship as he scored a key victory. Cary spurted to a 9-0 lead, as the match started at the 140-pound class, and then Riverside came back to tie at 9-9 and the lead seesawed back and forth.

Riverside took the lead for good at 25-24 at the 112-pound class and then a win by Terrell Williams of the Pirates at 130 pounds clinched the title.

It was Riverside's third dual-team wrestling title overall as the Pirates finished with a 39-8 mark.

Cary suffered its first defeat after 23 consecutive victories; in fact, it was the third straight season that the Imps have carried an unbeaten mark into the final only to finish as state runners-up. The only two losses Cary has suffered in dual team competition in the last two years have been at the hands of Riverside.

Eden Morehead Takes Second Consecutive Wrestling Crown

EDEN—Eden Morehead earned its second consecutive North Carolina High School Athletic Association dual team wrestling championship, defeating visiting East Gaston by a 31-26 count to win the 3-A championship.

It was the Panthers' fourth state title in the last six years, with previous titles in 1998 and '99 to go with the current string of two in a row.

Morehead closed out a 25-3 dual-team campaign while East Gaston finished with a 22-4 mark.

It was East Gaston's first trip to the finals since the Warriors won the first three state 4-A titles in dual team competition, in 1990, '91 and '92.

Southern Vance Prevails In 2-A Wrestling Over Brevard

HENDERSON—Southern Vance won four of the final five individual matches to rally to win the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 2-A dual team wrestling title, getting past Brevard

38-30.

The Raiders earned their second consecutive NCHSAA dual team title and were making their fourth straight championship appearance.

Jamal Blacknall at 130 and Quincey Talley at 215 earned pins for Southern Vance, but it was a technical fall by Rashad Burnette at 103 and then a win by Matt Shoffner in the final match at 112 that clinched the victory.

South Davidson Downs Alleghany For State 1-A Title

DENTON—South Davidson downed Alleghany 37-27 to take the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 1-A dual team wrestling championship at South Davidson.

It was a rematch of last year's inaugural 1-A championship, which was won by Alleghany. But this time the Wildcats prevailed to take the state title and win for the 23rd time in 28 dual matches.

Alleghany finished with a 13-4 record.

SWIMMING AND DIVING



Charlotte Catholic, West Henderson Swim To Top Honors In 1-A/2-A Meet

RALEIGH—Charlotte Catholic dominated the field in winning its second consecutive North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 1-A/2-A women's swimming and diving team championship in action at Carmichael Gymnasium Pool on the campus of North Carolina State University.

Catholic rolled up 335 points in taking the crown, well ahead of Salisbury and Eastern Alamance, who deadlocked for the runner-up spot with 145 points. Lenoir Hibriten was fourth at 137.

West Henderson rolled to victory in the men's competition, tallying 288 points to 193 for second-place Charlotte Catholic. Durham School of the Arts was third at 161 and defending men's champ Shelby placed fourth at 157.

A pair of Pittsboro Northwood swimmers captured the Most Valuable Performer honors. Sarah Scott earned the women's award with victories in the 50 free (24.17) and the 100 butterfly (57.35), both in new state 1-A/2-A record time.

Northwood's Kevin Straughn was the men's MVP, with a state 1-A/2-A record 1:49.28 in the 200 free to go with a victory in the 100 backstroke.

Raleigh Enloe, South Meck Take 4-A Swimming Titles

RALEIGH—Raleigh Enloe made it five in a row as the Eagles swept to the team title in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 4-A men's swimming and diving championships at the Willis Casey Natatorium on the N.C. State campus.

The Eagles recorded 272 points to 209 for Raleigh rival Leesville Road. East Mecklenburg was third at 175, followed by Durham Jordan at 169 and South Mecklenburg at 159.

Riverside's Poston Pritchett was selected as the Most Valuable Performer in the men's meet. He was tough in the sprints, taking first place in both the 50 free and the 100 free.

In women's competition, South Mecklenburg snapped Charlotte Providence's string of consecutive state titles at five by scoring 256 points to 234 for second-place Providence. A Mecklenburg County school has now won the women's crown seven of the last nine years.

Greeensboro Grimsley was third at 184, three points ahead of Raleigh Athens Drive. Durham Jordan was fifth at 157.

Brittany Johnson of Winston-Salem R.J. Reynolds took the women's MVP award, taking top honors in both the 200 individual medley and the 500 freestyle.

East Chapel Hill Sweeps To Double Victory In 3-A

CHAPEL HILL—The East Chapel Hill swim program enjoyed another big day as both the men's and women's teams rolled to state titles and kept streaks alive in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state 3-A swimming and diving championships at the Koury Natatorium on the campus of the University of North Carolina.

The East Chapel Hill women had a dominating performance, rolling up a whopping 311 points to 192 for runner-up Burlington Williams to sweep to their fifth consecutive state championship. Statesville was third at 177, followed by Hickory St. Stephens with 121 and Asheville with 113.

Lauren Fayssoux of Gastonia Forestview earned Most Valuable Performer honors in the women's championships, taking first place in both the 200 individual medley and 500 free.

The men's competition was closer, as East tallied 250 points to 204 for second-place Jamestown Ragsdale. The Wildcat men won the 3-A state title for the sixth straight year.

West Carteret placed third in the men's field with 198 points, with Kings Mountain in fourth at 174 and Concord in fifth with 145.

Freshman Robert Padgett of Ragsdale was selected as the Most Valuable Performer in the men's meet. He won both the 100 and 200 free, with his time of 47.43 in the 100 just 0.22 seconds off the 3-A record.

This was the second year for a separate NCHSAA state 3-A meet. From 1992 to 2001, the 1-A, 2-A and 3-A schools competed together.

INDOOR TRACK



Mount Tabor Women, North Rowan Men Take Team Honors

CHAPEL HILL—Winston-Salem Mount Tabor's women's team captured its third consecutive North Carolina High School Athletic Association state women's indoor track and field championship in the NCHSAA's 17th annual meet at the Eddie Smith Field House on the campus of the University of North Carolina.

Mount Tabor's men were denied their third straight state title, as North Rowan and North Forsyth battled down to the last race of the evening before North Rowan prevailed.

In the women's competition, Mount Tabor recorded a whopping 81 points to 32 for runner-up Southwest Guilford. Burlington Cummings was third with 29 points, followed by West Rowan (26) and Charlotte

Harding (20).

Sherina Steele of West Rowan was selected as the Most Valuable Performer of the women's meet, as she took first place in both the long jump (18-7) and the triple jump (37-6) while placing third in the 55 meters.

North Rowan won the men's meet with 68 points, taking its first team title since 1998. Runner-up North Forsyth was just two points back at 66, followed by Mount Tabor in third with 58. Charlotte Zeb Vance was fourth with 34 and Southeast Raleigh fifth at 30.

Bobby Mack of North Forsyth earned the men's MVP with a huge performance. The top seed entering both the 3200 and 1600 meters, he won state titles in both events. He took the 1600 in a new state record of 4:10.61, smashing the old mark by almost eight seconds, and won the 3200. Mack also placed second in the 1000 and anchored North Forsyth's championship four by 800 relay team.

The indoor track and field championships are contested as an open classification event, with schools in 1-A, 2-A, 3-A and 4-A all competing for the same title. A total of 90 high schools competed.

WRESTLING



Forshey Wins Fourth Straight Individual Title; Cary, East Gaston, T.W. Andrews Win

WINSTON-SALEM— Drew Forshey of Hickory St. Stephens became just the third wrestler in North Carolina High School Athletic Association history to earn four state championships as he won the 125-pound division in the 3-A classification of the NCHSAA state wrestling championships at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Forshey pinned Starlyn Little of High Point Central in the finals to finish with a 54-1 mark this season and a 215-2 mark for his career. Mike

Kendell of Albemarle (1988-91) and JohnMark Bentley of Avery County (1994-97) are the only other NCHSAA four-time state champs.

Forshey was voted Most Outstanding Wrestler in the 3-A championships. East Gaston rolled to the team title, keyed by championships by Dusty McKinney and Jared Hogan, with 133 points to 91.5 for Jamestown Ragsdale in second place. Northwest Cabarrus was third at 78 points, followed by Eastern Randolph with 77.5 and St. Stephens with 71.5.

In 4-A competition, Cary, the runner-up to Durham Riverside a couple weeks ago in the dual team championship, reversed that result in the tournament. The Imps had seven to advance to the finals while Riverside placed five in the championship matches.

Cary scored 176.5 points in winning its seventh state mat crown in 17 years. Riverside's 155 points were good for second, while Havelock was well back in third with 80 followed by East Burke (69) and Chapel Hill (65).

Raymond Jordan of New Bern was chosen as the Most Outstanding Wrestler in the 4-A tournament.

First-day leader High Point Andrews held on to win the team championship in the 1-A/2-A classification, scoring 133.5 points to 100 for Currituck. Elliott Darden of the state champs, who won it all at 125 pounds, was the Most Outstanding Wrestler.

Dual team champ Southern Vance was third with 91, with Catawba Bandys fourth at 76.5 points and West Stokes fifth with 62 points.

A total of 671 grapplers qualified for the tournament and over 1200 matches were contested over the two days of the event.



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