

THSADA NEWSLETTER

Presented by Home Team Marketing



July 2012

Texas High School Athletic Directors Association Executive Director's Report *Rusty Dowling, Executive Director, THSADA*

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the THSADA newsletter as we approach the 80th annual THSADA Coaching School in San Antonio, Texas. I hope everyone has had the chance to take some well-deserved time out of the office before we get back to "business as usual". Speaking of Coaching School, I would like to remind all THSADA members of two very important functions.

- **PBK-THSADA Hall of Honor Banquet** – Sunday, July 29th at 7:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency. This year's Hall of Honor inductees are:
 - **Rusty Dowling** – THSADA
 - **Rudy De Los Santos** – Harlandale ISD
 - **Gil Garza** – San Antonio ISD
- **THSADA General Membership/Business Meeting** – Monday, July 30th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Room 103

At our General Membership/Business meeting we will elect new officers,

install our new Regional Directors and conduct the business of the Association. Also, the THSADA will release a THSADA Coaching School Schedule that will encompass additional Board/Committee and Membership meetings on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. This will allow the THSADA to conduct additional Association business at Coaching School.

The THSADA web site has experienced a large amount of activity since it was unveiled. Information conducive to the Association and its members makes up the majority of web site content along with news items, a THSADA master calendar and links page. We would also remind any THSADA member to fill out the database request that is on the home page of the web site if you haven't done so. The webmaster is THSADA Administrative Assistant Kathy Mathis. THSADA membership will undergo a complete makeover. All

current THSADA membership is good until November 1st, 2012 when we begin on-line THSADA Membership/State Conference Registration. The THSADA membership year will run from State Conference to State Conference. Reminder: Membership categories have changed in an effort to reach out to more individuals who would like to belong to the THSADA. You can view the new membership categories at www.thsada.com. If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact either Kathy Mathis or Kevin Ozee.

The THSADA Office has been working with San Angelo on developing the 2013 THSADA State Conference. An outline for the State Conference has already been developed with an emphasis on speaker topics that the THSADA membership requested from the previous State Conference. ★

Reminder: The **PBK-THSADA Hall of Honor Banquet** will be held on Sunday, July 29th at 7:00 p.m. at San Antonio Hyatt Regency.



Reminder: The next **THSADA Membership General** meeting will be Monday morning, July 30th at Coaching School.



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NFHS News: Celebrating Title IX 40 Years Later

By **Robert B. Gardner**, NFHS Executive Director, and **Rick Wulkow**, NFHS President

This issue completes our fifth year of publishing *High School Today* for superintendents, principals, athletic directors and school board members. We hope you have enjoyed receiving this publication every month during the school year. We always welcome your feedback – visit us at www.nfhs.org/hstoday and let us know how we're doing.

In our first issue five years ago (September 2007), Peg Pennepacker wrote our lead article on the 35th anniversary of Title IX. As we now look forward to the 40th anniversary next month, we are pleased to have Peg back as the author of our lead article once again.

This issue contains four additional articles on Title IX – one from the viewpoint of a superintendent, one looking at the female pioneer leaders in state associations, another profiling an outstanding female athlete from the 1970s (Geri Grigsby) and Lee Green's legal article on Title IX compliance.

In the school year before Title IX was passed in the summer of 1972, there were 294,015 girls participating in high school sports, compared to 3.6 million boys. By the end of that decade, 1.8 million girls were competing in high school sports and today – 40 years after the passage of Title IX – that number has climbed to an all-time high of 3,173,549.

While the rate of growth has slowed from the early Title IX days in the 1970s, the number of girls participating in sports has increased every year since 1988. While there are still 1.3 million fewer girls than boys in high school sports, the gap has closed

remarkably from the 3 million deficit 40 years ago. And if the sport of football (1,134,000) was removed from the boys participation totals, the numbers would be almost identical. In those sports in which both boys and girls participate, the chart indicates that numbers are pretty similar in most cases.

In addition to the opportunities that Title IX has provided for girls to participate in high school sports, that landmark law was also a springboard for women to become involved in high school coaching and administration.

Our feature on the women pioneer leaders in state high school associations on page 16 provides a glimpse of the tremendous contributions that these individuals made to the growth of girls programs in the 1970s. Although legally the door had been opened with the passage of Title IX, these trailblazers in state offices were met with challenges. First and foremost, perhaps, was the notion that “girls don't play sports.” Dorothy McIntyre, who blazed the Title IX trail in Minnesota, offered the following pre-Title IX perspective: “That attitude (that girls don't play sports) germinated in the 1920s and 1930s when a national attitude swept the country that the lives of girls and women would be better – and more healthy – if they played for fun and not with the pressure of winning, intense coaching and excited crowds ... Girls sat on the sidelines and watched. The Girls Athletic Association and its recreational activities were deemed to be ‘sufficient’ for girls, or perhaps they could be cheerleaders for the boys teams.”

Certainly, we are indebted to Dorothy and many others noted in the article for

their tireless efforts in kick-starting statewide programs for girls – led by the incomparable Ola Bundy of Illinois, dubbed the “First Lady of America's Girls Interscholastic Athletics.”

There were trailblazers at the local level as well. In 1968, Barb Twardus was one of the first female athletic directors when she began her 31-year career for the Seattle Public Schools. In 1967, Alice Barron became the first female administrator for the Jefferson County Schools in Golden, Colorado, and built the girls program from no sports to 11 by the time she retired in 1989. Both Twardus and Barron are deservedly in the NFHS National High School Hall of Fame. We urge all leaders in high schools today – superintendents, principals, athletic directors and school board members – to promote equity and fairness as a priority in our schools across the country. We've come a long way, but there are many more opportunities ahead for girls to continue to make their mark in high school sports.

	GIRLS	BOYS
Basketball	438,933	545,844
Track & Field	475,265	579,302
Soccer	361,556	398,351
Cross Country	204,653	246,948
Tennis	182,074	161,367
Swimming & Diving	160,881	133,900
Golf	71,764	156,866
Lacrosse	74,927	95,683



A Quick Look at High School Happenings in the USA

Cincinnati high school wins state track title by training on parking lot

Story by Paul Daugherty, columnist for *The Cincinnati Enquirer*.

Winning a state high school track title when your team doesn't have a track isn't as strange as it may seem. Training on an access road is underrated, particularly once you know where all of the oil spots are. After you realize the sewer grate is in Lane 6 and the manhole cover is in Lane 5—or is it the other way around?—the rest is a breeze.

Except when the occasional vehicle makes a wrong turn. Or when the city bus arrives, to pick up students. Or when the school bus does the same. How many running tracks make the afternoon traffic report?

"As you can see, it is not smooth," said coach Gerald Warmack, unintentionally metaphorical.

We stand on 200 meters of asphalt, out behind Shroder High in Cincinnati. Six running lanes are neatly and perfectly defined by white paint. A bend in the asphalt does actually approximate a turn on a track. It looks OK, at first glance. Then, we walk some, down the asphalt, a few hundred meters, to where the lanes ... dip.

"It's not level, either," Warmack said.

Maybe your high school football team shared its field with a herd of cows. Maybe your centerfielder dodged used cars on the warning track, or your basketball team played a 2-3 zone in between the first- and second-chair violins in the symphony. Slide your feet. Don't hit the tuba.

Everyone has played a sport in less-than-ideal surroundings. A slightly bent rim, base paths rutted by rain. If you haven't taken a bad-hop, must-of-hit-a-rock grounder to the face, you haven't

played hardball.

This is different.

This isn't just an inconvenience, though everyone involved at Shroder calls it that. This is running as fast as you can while wondering: That school bus that was there a minute ago ... did it leak any grease on my lane?

This is making a baton exchange through a dip in the asphalt. The runner with the baton is sprinting downhill; the runner receiving it is trying to do the opposite. There is some science to passing a baton efficiently. The rest is purely physical.

Unless, you know, there's a car in your lane.

"Sometimes, people looking to go to Fifth Third will miss the turn," Warmack explained. "That's when we stop practice."

We should explain that Fifth Third is a bank, and that Fifth Third Bank's check processing center is next door. And that Shroder High is not in an urban area, but a commercial one. Fifth Third is here; a Coca-Cola bottling plant is there. In between those two substantial islands of commerce is a sea of parking. Shroder abuts both, and a busy road out front. It's a new school, built in 2007. It remains immaculate. It just doesn't have any land for athletic fields.

Its football field is just outside the



Shroder High in Cincinnati doesn't have a track, so the team trains in a nearby parking lot where buses drop off students. Paul Daugherty/SI.com

back classroom windows. They call it The Clover Patch.

"We're kind of landlocked," Warmack explained. If you want to coach track at Shroder, you'd better be flexible."

Oh, one more thing.

The Shroder High girls' 4-x-100-meter relay team just won the Ohio Division II state championship. It burned up the 400 meters in 48.8 seconds, even with an imperfect exchange. "They truly earned that title," said Warmack.

Well, yeah. They paid the price in shin splints. And general soreness, hips to hamstrings. Tracks are rubber. Rubber relents. Asphalt is somewhat

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A Quick Look at High School Happenings in the USA

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less forgiving. “I hate running on that driveway,” said team member Toni Harkness. “But when I got on that track at state, it was a whole lot easier. I could just run.”

After dodging bus bumpers, an actual track felt like wind beneath her wings. I’m not sure what it says about a bunch of kids who catch a dream while running on a driveway. But it’s not bad. What’s even better, they’re not impressed. “We set out to win it,” said senior Domyinique Shelby, “and that’s what we did.”

The girls each won a medal. I asked Shelby where she keeps hers.

“On the printer,” she said.

What?

“On the printer at my house. It’s holding down some papers. At least I think that’s where it is.”

Shelby has suffered the most for her success. While teammates had occasional injury issues from running on the pavement, hers were chronic: “Both shins, hamstrings, hips and a quad,” Warmack said.

Shroder underachieved in the regional meet last year, because so many of its athletes were recovering from asphalt wear and tear. This year, Warmack scaled back workouts. What had been 3,000 meters a week was cut to 2,000. They ran just one hard day a week. Also once a week, Warmack and his assistant, Chris Bishop, loaded up the 20 or so athletes in their two vehicles and shuttled them 10 minutes to a nearby high school with a track.

Warmack also entered his team in nearly twice as many meets as most high school teams typically enter, simply so his kids could have tracks to run on. He paid the entry fees himself.

That didn’t solve the problem of the baton exchanges entirely. There is a 10-meter “acceleration zone” in a relay, where the exchange must take place. If it doesn’t, you’re disqualified. Actual tracks have this area clearly marked. Warmack spray-painted red triangles at each end of his acceleration zone. Problem was, he didn’t measure correctly at first. And because he’s only working with 200 meters, his teams can’t run an entire race. Exchanges are done individually in practice. There isn’t much flow.

Two years ago, Shelby fell during an exchange. She didn’t take off fast enough. The runner in the previous leg ran up Shelby’s back. Literally. The accident haunted Shelby, even this year, Warmack said.

Then there was the dip and rise in the pavement, which happened to be right in the center of the acceleration zone. “The run-up was faulty all year long,” Warmack said. “Practicing here made it next to impossible to get their marks correct.” That is, the delicate timing was perpetually wobbly. In races decided by fractions of seconds, that could be a problem.

“If we can get the baton exchanged, we can outrun most people,” Warmack said.

They didn’t get it right in the state finals. Shelby ran the first leg. Her split time -- 11.8 seconds -- was the fastest of the race. But the exchange with Harkness was flawed. The girls were in fourth place, halfway through the race.

The previous year, they’d finished sixth in the state, less than three seconds behind the winner. Their two fastest and most experienced runners —Harkness and Shelby—returned. Warmack knew

a state title in the 4-x-100 was in reach. “That’s all we talked about,” Warmack said. So much that, at one point during the season, Shelby told her coach to stop talking about it. “We know,” she said.

Anyone heard using the word “can’t” was forced to do push-ups, coaches included. Bishop, a Cincinnati firefighter who doubles as assistant track coach and supervisor of Shroder’s weight room, swears the relay team worked harder on lifting than the football team. “They knew what they wanted,” Bishop said, “and what they needed to do to get it.”

It might be easy to forget the pain of running on asphalt, when you’re gliding on rubber. The motivation was never forgotten, however. “We do wonder what we could do if we had a real track,” said Bishop.

No better than what they did. No better than first place. The Jaguars went from fourth to tied for first in the third leg, then brought the title home in the anchor leg. Their winning time was 1.1 seconds faster than the second-place team. That was pounding some serious pavement. “Ran their hearts out,” Warmack said.

There are no plans for Shroder to build a track, not unless Fifth Third Bank or Coca-Cola cede some of their extensive parking-lot acreage. The best Warmack and his athletes can do is what they’ve been doing. Negotiate the peaks and valleys and watch out for the oil slicks.

“The kids don’t complain,” said Warmack. “They just run.” ★

Read more: http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2012/writers/paul_daugherty/06/15/no.track/index.html#ixzz1yHBZ4M4a



A Quick Look at High School Happenings in the USA

Prep runner carries foe to finish line *By Doug Binder | ESPNHS*

Meghan Vogel doesn't understand what all the fuss is about.

Vogel, a junior runner for West Liberty-Salem High School (West Liberty, Ohio), won the 1,600-meter title Saturday at the Division III girls state meet at Jesse Owens Stadium in Columbus. But it's what she did in her next race that was most remarkable.

With about 20 meters to go in the 3,200, Arden McMath, a sophomore from Arlington High School, collapsed in front of Vogel. Rather than run by her, Vogel helped McMath to her feet and carried her across the finish line, making sure to keep McMath ahead of her.

"Any girl on the track would have

done the same for me," Vogel said Monday.

But Vogel's gesture resonated with the thousands of spectators who witnessed it, as well as with the thousands more who have read about the story or seen video of the race's finish.

By the time Vogel arrived home Saturday night, word of her sportsmanship was spreading. She had 30 new friend requests on Facebook within a few hours. Ohio media pounced on the story and lauded Vogel's selfless act.

Monday was supposed to be a "pajamas day" at the Vogel home in West Liberty, a day to relax after last

week's conclusion of the school year and the busy weekend at the state championships. Instead, it was spent reliving the race.

"The phone's been ringing a lot," said Ann Vogel, Meghan's mother and coach.

It wasn't Meghan's first act of sportsmanship on the track.

A week earlier, at the state qualifying meet, West Liberty-Salem was running fifth in the 4x800 relay when Vogel took the baton for the anchor leg. She summoned a big effort and passed two other runners, clinching a berth in the state championships for her team.

Vogel was so wiped out after



AP Photo/The Daily Call, Mike Ullery When distance runner Arden McMath (left), collapsed 20 meters from the end of the 3,200 race at the Ohio Division III girls state meet, fellow runner Meghan Vogel helped carry her to the finish line.

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crossing the finish line that she collapsed, and her excited teammates rushed to her side to help her back to her feet. But then Vogel saw one of the girls she had passed, a freshman who also had fallen.

Vogel went to the other runner and offered a hand up and a few words of encouragement.

“She was in fourth (one spot from qualifying for state) and felt awful,” Vogel said

At the state championships, Vogel had a difficult 1,600/3,200 double. She won the 1,600 in a personal-best 4 minutes, 58.31 seconds, stepped onto the podium for photos and medals, talked to the local media, and went to visit with her family.

That left her with about an hour to get ready for the 3,200, in which she was seeded seventh.

Three laps into the eight-lap race, Vogel was falling off the pace. Her mother watched from the backstretch and could tell that her daughter didn't have the energy to contend for another title.

“By that time it was a matter of just finishing (the race),” Ann Vogel said. “I kind of joked with her about being in last place because she's never been last. And every lap she looked at me and smiled.”

Vogel rounded the final turn for home and could see that the only other runner who hadn't finished yet was faltering. And then McMath, a runner Vogel had never met before, fell to the track.

Vogel never had a moment of doubt about what to do next.

“I remember moving to her

position,” she said. “(McMath) was doing the best she could to keep her body upright. There was a lot of shake in her legs, which is totally understandable.”

The crowd cheered when Vogel stopped and the roar grew louder as she and McMath moved closer to the finish line. Vogel purposely steered McMath across the finish line ahead of her.

“It's strange to have people telling me that this was such a powerful act of kindness and using words like ‘humanity.’ When I hear words like that I think of Harriet Tubman and saving people's lives. I don't consider myself a hero. I just did what I knew was right and what I was supposed to do.”

“We're a little bit of a minority being distance runners,” Vogel said. “I think we all have an instant connection.”

A race that had become pointless in the grand scheme of the day for Vogel quickly took on a new meaning.

“I think fate may have put me (in last place) for a reason,” Vogel said.

Ann Vogel was across the track and couldn't see her daughter when she stopped. But a coaching friend told Ann Vogel, “Ann, look up at the screen.”

She turned to the video board and saw her daughter supporting another runner on her shoulder.

“I ran around (the perimeter of the track) as fast as I could,” Ann Vogel said. “It wasn't easy to get around with all of the people standing there but I was hearing the crowd and I could see tears running down people's faces.”

McMath was quickly scooped up by medical staff. By rule, a runner in track or cross country is automatically disqualified for aiding another runner, but meet officials chose to leave McMath and Vogel in the results rather than take action.

McMath was given 14th place in 12:29.90, and Vogel 15th in 12:30.24.

A half-hour after the race was over, Vogel grabbed her mother's shoulder and said she felt dizzy and a little nauseated. Ann Vogel found a trainer and together they moved Meghan to a tent.

Vogel sat down with a cup of Gatorade on a cot that was positioned next to McMath, who was lying down and still recovering from dehydration and heat exhaustion.

“She was still pretty sick at that point,” Meghan Vogel said of McMath. “Her coach turned to me and said, ‘Thank you.’”

The two girls will meet again, formally this time, Tuesday morning for an interview with the TV show “Fox And Friends.”

The response to her simple gesture has taken Vogel by surprise.

“It's been crazy. I can't understand why everyone wants to talk to me, but I guess I'm getting used to it now,” she said. “It's strange to have people telling me that this was such a powerful act of kindness and using words like ‘humanity.’ It's weird. When I hear words like that I think of Harriet Tubman and saving people's lives. I don't consider myself a hero. I just did what I knew was right and what I was supposed to do.” ★



Getting to Know: DW Rutledge

Executive Director, THSCA



How long have you been in your current position with the association?

I have been with the THSCA for 12 years – three years as an assistant Executive Director and nine as the Executive Director.

How long were you a coach and athletic director? (please list your coaching and AD history)

I coach for 27 years 17 of those years I was a head coach and athletic coordinator. My first job was as a freshman coach and the varsity defensive line coach in 1975, at San Marcus high school. In 1976, I was the tight ends coach for Jim Wacker at North Dakota State University. In 1977, Frank Arnold hired me as his offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Homes High School in San Antonio Texas. In 1978 and 79, I was a defensive line coach at Texas State University for Coach Jim Wacker. In 1980, Frank Arnold hired me as his defensive coordinator at Converse Judson high school and I served in that capacity until 1984. In 1984, I was hired as the head football coach and athletic coordinator for Converse Judson high school in the Judson Independent School District. I served in that capacity for 17 years at which time I accepted an executive position with the Texas High School Coaches Association in April of 2000.

Where did you attend high school and

college?

I graduated from Sam Houston High School in Houston Texas in 1970. I received my Bachelors degree from Texas Lutheran University in 1975. I received my Masters degree from North Dakota State University in 1977.

What is the role of the Texas High Coaches Association?

The Texas has to coaches Association's is the principal advocate and leadership organization for Texas high school coaches and athletic directors. The Texas has to coaches Association provides the highest quality representation education and services to Texas high school coaches and athletic directors, and enhances the professionalism of coaches and athletic directors and the schools they represent our mission statement is simply this: to help and serve our Texas high school coaches as they work to help conserve our student athletes. Simply stated — "HELPING COACHES TO HELP KIDS".

What roles do you play as Executive Director of the Association?

I have found that you have to "wear a lot of hats" as the Executive Director of an Association, everything from administrator to meeting planner to lobbyist, fundraiser, publications, member services, technology services, All-Star events, finance and accounting, foundation director, membership management, government relations, website management, etc....

What are the most enjoyable and the hardest parts of your job?

The most enjoyable part of my job is having opportunity to continue to be around coaches and athletes. For the job that I enjoy the least is dealing with the politics that surrounds our education system in Texas.

How do coaches become members of the association?

We have several levels of membership with

the most prominent being active coaches which are public school coaches that are actively coaching, we also have allied members that consist of private school coaches, college coaches and retired coaches. There is a \$40 membership fee associated with becoming a member.

How many members does your association have, and what is the ultimate goal in terms of membership numbers?

We have surpassed 20,000 members for the past four years. Our ultimate goal would be for every high school coach, athletic director and college coach in Texas, boys and girls to be a member of the Texas High School Coaches Association

What are the benefits of being a member of the THSCA?

There are many benefits associated with the Texas High School Coaches Association membership. Some of the most important is our Permanent Disability Program, our Memorial Athletic Benefit Program, and our Benevolence Fund, all of these funds are used to help our member coaches and their athletes in times of special needs and hardship cases in the areas of permanent injury and memorial benefits.

Also we provide several educational opportunities for our coaches through the Association and the Texas High School Coaches Education Foundation, our annual coaching school and convention is a four day conference that offers cutting edge educational sessions and multiple networking events and exhibits and provide opportunities for members to benefit from a variety of rules meetings and outstanding speakers it also provides new contacts, a line of communication and a forum for the exchange of ideas and information within the profession for a minimal tuition.

We also have a continuing professional development certification program, the aim of this program is to keep our coaches abreast of up-to-date information on key and essential

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matters relating to the health and safety issues that affect our student athletes today, as well as addressing many of the many social issues that our young people deal with today.

Our members also receive a subscription to our Texas Coach magazine which they receive nine times a year, this is the primary publication of the Texas High School Coaches Association and it contains articles on the skills and techniques of various sports as well as articles on current topics of interest relating to the safety and well-being of our student athletes.

Our members also have a Texas High School Coaches Association Headlines News Brief that is a weekly e-mail news feed which keeps coaches in the loop on headline news stories from across the state and provides up-to-date information on THSCA events, programs and services.

Through the Texas High School Coaches Association our coaches receive legislative representation by a strong state leadership organization, which monitors current legislation and protects the coaching profession's best interest, and strives for the highest possible professional standards, as outlined by our bylaws, policies and code of ethics.

Affordable liability insurance is another strong benefit for the THSCA, our eligible members may purchase an optional Coaches Professional Liability Insurance policy which provides coverage and legal assistance for the coach both on the field and in the classroom.

Our THSCA members have unlimited access to the Association's worldwide website which includes an updated job database that allows coaches and athletic directors to post jobs that are available and allows candidates to search for openings. And employment profile database which allows coaches and athletic directors to post personal employment profiles and search candidate database.

The THSCA buyers guide which allows coaches and athletic directors to utilize this online resource to search for products, services and equipment to suit the needs of their school district and their athletes. The website also has an open date's Bureau which aids our coaches in scheduling of games and scrimmages in all sports.

Other member services that are available on our website include a recruiting webinar that take steps to assist families with recruiting education to help our athletes and their parents through the recruiting process.

On our website, we have provided freely ask to the Eligibility and Recruiting Webinar, for coaches administrators and counselors. There's also a webinar available that is geared directly to the parents and student athletes that addresses important topics concerning academic eligibility recruiting and social responsibility. A library of archives exist on the THSCA website including Academic All-State Teams, past THSCA award winners, and the Professional Development Lectures Series. The most recent additions to these archives are our past issues of Texas Coach magazine.

Pressbox Services allows our members free access to a phenomenal program for online games scoring, statistical entry and team tracking features. It also allows parents teachers and fans of athletics to freely view online team pages, schedules, results and standings for every school participating in football, boys/girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys/girls track, boys/girls soccer and volleyball in Texas. Academic All-State Teams for all sports previously mentioned are nominated and presented through our THSCA Pressbox Services. Also through Pressbox Services we are able to generate a database of supporters and friends of Texas high school athletics which allows us to alert them of legislative issues that could adversely affect high school athletics in Texas.

All active members are eligible to vote in all Association elections, and nominate coaches for our Hall of honor, Board of Directors, All-Star coach, advisory committees and other awards. Eligibility of senior boys to be nominated and considered for the annual all-star squads, provided the head coach of the sport is a member of the THSCA as of October 15, each year. Eligibility of senior athletes to be nominated for academic all-state teams, provided the head coach of the sport is a member of the THSCA as of October 15, each year.

Head coaches of all sports who are members in good standing as of October

15th, are eligible to receive a THSCA state championship ring from the Balfour company. Eligible coaches are recognized each year at our Hall of honor luncheon and presented with their rings.

Those members who have completed 25 years of membership in the THSCA are honored with a commemorative plaque for their loyalty. Victory plaques are given to member coaches in all sports who have reached the required number of wins for that sport. Members are also eligible for their senior son or daughter to receive one of the 10 \$1000 scholarships that are presented each year by the THSCA. These are just some of the benefits that are member coaches receive, there are many that have not been mentioned.

How can coaches get more information about being a part of the association?

They can call our office at 512 – 392 – 3741 or they can visit our website at THSCA.com

As a long time coach, what are the most important things coaches need to do to help young student athletes?

It is my contention that interscholastic sports should be an integral part of the school curriculum; they are not an end into themselves. They must be inherently educational and conformed to the goals, values, and stated purposes of the school district. It is my opinion that as coaches we must concern ourselves with stimulating each athlete so that he will want to secure the finest education possible. We must demand a commitment to excellence and to winning, not only in athletics, but also to every endeavor in life, which they consider worthwhile and meaningful. They must learn that dedication, sacrifice and hard work are necessary ingredients and performing any task that would lead to the attainment of a valued goal our life objective.

Since you started coaching and to present day. What have been the positives you have seen in the world of high school sports?

For the past 12 years I have been very

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involved in coaches education here in the state of Texas and one of the big positives that I have seen in the world of high school sports is that our coaches have a far greater awareness of the health and safety issues that affect their student athletes. I think the vast majority of our coaches in Texas do a great job of taking care of our young people that participate in athletics and have become very aware of many of the health and safety issues that affect our athletes today.

To follow that what are some of the negative things/ concerns you have about the world of high school sports going into the future?

I have several concerns about the future of high school athletics, the negative influence of club sports and street agents, the negative influence of TV money, the lack of commitment that our state and federal government gives to public education, because of many of these things I feel like we are in danger of losing our amateurism and losing our athletic programs in Texas as we know them today.

Who were your major influences in your career from the start of it to present day?

My Dad, Coach Jim Wacker, Coach Frank Arnold, Coach Grant Teaff

When was coaching school started and how have you seen it grown over the years?

The Texas High School Coaches Association was formally organized on November 28, 1930 with 28 members. The first big step for the THSCA was in 1933, when the organization sponsored the first coaching school held in San Antonio and had 65 coaches in attendance. The THSCA has grown from 28 members to over 20,000 making it the largest organization of its kind in the world. The annual convention and coaching school has had an attendance of nearly 13,000.

How many coaches/ Ad's do you expect this year?

Between 12,000 and 13,000 coaches and AD's.

Who are this year's keynote speakers/ presenters and who are you most excited about?

We have a tremendous lineup of speakers scheduled for 2012 Coaching School. In football we have Art Briles of Baylor University, Jimbo Fisher of Florida State University, Dana Holgorsen of West Virginia University, and Larry Fedora of North Carolina University we also have three high school coaches that one state championships this past year in Hal Wasson of Southlake Carroll, Hank Carter of Lake Travis, Weldon Nelms of Wimberley. In basketball we have Lon Kruger of the University of Oklahoma, Steve Prohm of Murray State, Larry Brown of Southern Methodist University and Billy Gillespie of Texas Tech University, and our high school coaches are Tammy Lusinger of Mansfield Summit high school, Leslie Broadhurst of Canyon Randall, Royce Johnson of Dallas Kimball, Terry Barton of San Antonio Reagan, and Brad Bell of Tomball high school. Also Todd Harbour the track coach at Baylor University, plus many more speakers including lectures on volleyball, soccer, track, wrestling, baseball, golf and powerlifting. Dr. Jeff Duke will be presenting his "3 -D Coaching" character development program.

What are some things that all coaches need to do or see at Coaching School?

I believe that every coach should get involved and participating in the Texas High School Coaches Association's Professional Development Certification lecture series at coaching school. This is an ongoing program of continuing education that is designed to help coaches at all competitive and organizational levels, with an emphasis on coaches of secondary schools who are actively engaged in are directly associated with coaching sports in Texas. The aim of this program is to keep our coaches abreast of up-to-date information on key and essential topical matters relating to the health and safety issues affecting our student athletes today. Also through this program, we will work to keep our coaches current on their

CPR and first aid certification as well as keeping them up-to-date on current UI L rules and regulations.

What does attending this show/school provide that others do not?

We provide a professional development lectures series that has been approved for continuing education credit hours by the Texas Education Agency and the Board of Certification for Athletic Trainer Certification. We provide lectures for all sports boys and girls.

Where can coaches find out information about the convention/coaching school?

thsca.com

Where will next year's convention/ coaching school and convention be held?

Ft. Worth, Texas ★



Getting to Know: Sam Tipton

Executive Director, TGCA



How long have you been in your current position with the association?

11 years

How long were you a coach/ athletic director? (please list your coaching and AD history)

24 years (Millsap, Texline, Sunray, Amarillo River Road, San Marcos – Head Boys Basketball/Asst. Football; Wolfforth Frenship, Snyder – Girls Athletic Coordinator/Head Girls Basketball)

Where did you attend high school and college?

Gruver High School, Cisco Jr. College, Hardin-Simmons University, Baptist Christian College-Shreveport, Louisiana (B.A. Education), Weatherford Jr. College, West Texas A&M.

What is the role of the Texas Girls Coaches Association?

A service organization for member coaches.

What roles do you play as Executive Director of the Association?

Direct day-to-day operations of TGCA, membership, public relations, corporate sponsors, lobbyist to the UIL-SBOE-Legislature-Athletic Directors-Superintendents, Main voice of girls'

athletics in Texas.

What is the most enjoyable and the hardest part of your job?

Going to work every day trying to make athletics an integral part of the educational process; Persuading the public the importance of athletics in our educational system.

How do coaches become members and get more information about the TGCA?

Paying dues to become a member.

How many members does your association have, and what is the ultimate goal in terms of membership numbers?

6500 – Try to increase membership on a daily basis.

What are the benefits of being a member of the TGCA?

Honors for the coach and the athletes they coach, opportunities to serve on standing committees of each sport and the Board of Directors, being represented on a full time basis with the UIL, SBOE, Legislature, Athletic Directors, and Superintendents, being a part of the largest association for coaches of girls' athletics in the world.

What are some of the challenges that coaches will face going into 2012-2013?

Budget concerns – 83rd Legislative Session, the need for a coalition of all associations to help design a legislative agenda with all parties working in unison.

Your thoughts on the THSADA naming a full-time Executive Director?

The best thing the AD's have done. This gives the stability of a central figure that can deal with year after year. Not only that, but the THSADA picked the right person for the job!

How has the TGCA changed over the years as a resource to Texas High School Coaches?

More emphasis on educational opportunities and opportunities to meet state law mandates required for member coaches in their sports field.

Are there any new initiatives (programs) on the horizon for the TGCA?

We have just launched our Resource Center for educational purposes, and the addition of satellite clinics throughout the state to cater to the sub-varsity and intermediate school coaches that are not being supplemented by the local districts to attend the annual summer clinic.

As a long time coach, what are the most important things coaches need to do to help young student athletes?

Athletics is the best at risk program in our schools. Coaches need to continue doing what they have done for generations – make each athlete the best they can be with the ability the athlete has to offer. We are the last true source of discipline in our schools. Continue to make each athlete in their program special.

Since you started coaching to present day, what have been the positives you have seen in the world of high school sports?

Discipline – the improvement of coaching and training techniques.

To follow that, what are some of the negative things/ concerns you have about the world of high school sports going into the future?

The influence of club ball on the school team, the reduction of teams because of budget restraints, the need in girls' athletics for the availability of a larger number of coaches certified to also teach a core subject.

Will your association be at the THSADA Convention/ coaching school?

Yes – I will be attending the THSADA banquet on Sunday night, and I will address the AD's on Monday morning.

Story continued on page 11, see Tipton



Tipton continued from page 10

In your opinion, what are some things that all coaches need to do or see at Coaching School?

Attend every lecture possible, patronize the exhibitors, and enjoy the fellowship of fellow coaches.

What does attending this show/ coaching school provide that others do not?

All of the above.

When and where is your associations next TGCA Summer Clinic and how can coaches from across the state attend/ get involved?

2012 TGCA Summer Clinic – July 9-13, 2012 – Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, Texas – Go online to www.austintgca.com and register – Make sure if attending the clinic you attend

your regional meeting. This is where all selections are made for elected representatives of TGCA.- 4000

What are some of the highlights for this year’s TGCA summer clinic?

The great lecture program, 6 all-star games (Volleyball, Basketball, Softball), recognizing the top seniors in Cross Country and Track & Field, Honor Awards Luncheon, election of new people on all the standing committees, the Board of Directors, and the selection of the new 2nd Vice President.

Who were your major influences in your career from the start of it to present day?

My dad, who was not only my dad, but my best friend and my coach. All the tremendous Athletic Directors,

Superintendents and other administrators, and fellow teachers and coaches I have had the opportunity to be associated with throughout my career. Special thanks to Billy McKown, who was Executive Director for TGCA for 44 years, for his guidance, expertise and support for the past 11 years. Thanks to Dr. Bill Farney and Dr. Charles Breithaupt for teaching me the ropes in the most political town in Texas. I also appreciate their patience and always being a true friend through thick and thin. Most of all, thanks to the members of the Texas Girls Coaches Association for allowing me to be your Executive Director.

23. Finally, who is the greatest high school athlete male and female you have ever seen?

Male – Shaquille O’Neil
Female – Sheryl Swoopes ★

Getting to Know: Johanna Denson

District Athletic Director, Waco ISD



Athletic Director

3 years-Tyler ISD
9 years-Waco ISD

Education

University of Texas at Tyler - Superintendent Certification, Master’s and Bachelor’s degrees

Tyler Junior College - Associates
Chapel Hill HS, Tyler

Best part of job

Working with many of the most successful coaches in the State and providing support to great young men and women athletes. In addition, I always have the opportunity to enjoy great athletic events every week, with a box of popcorn and a bottle of water.

Difficult part of the job

It is a continuous effort to help the community understand the extreme importance of athletics in the holistic development of young men and women. Data supports, the successful academic performance of a student, correlates with participation in extracurricular activities. With the continued financial short-falls in the State, extracurricular activities will continue to be a topic for discussion by school boards and the community.

Responsibilities

Lead and direct the athletic programs in grades 7-12 for Waco Independent School

District. Insure that all athletic programs are in compliance with State and local regulations. Be fiscally responsible in monitoring the athletic budget, insure the safety of student-athletes, and maintain safe athletic facilities, schedule events, marketing, recommending qualified personnel and hosting regular season events and play-off events at the Waco ISD Sports Complex.

Advice for future AD/Assist. AD

Be prepared when the position opens.... certifications completed, work closely with the Athletic Department and Athletic Director during budget development, event scheduling, transportation, ticket sales, crowd control, crisis management plan, etc. Seek opportunities to attend District meetings, UIL meetings, be a member of professional organizations that promote athletics. Take the initiative to learn from your Athletic Director and volunteer your time!

Story continued on page 12, see Denson



Denson continued from page 11

7 on 7 Competition

7-7 is a great vehicle to refine football skills during the summer months. As professionals, it is our responsibility to police our ranks to maintain the integrity of 7-7 participation, to stay within the guidelines provided by the UIL. The potential for 7 on 7 is endless; offering many of the same advantages that other summer athletic programs offer, but with some of the same disadvantages. Coaches cannot require athletes to participate, skills and techniques taught incorrectly resulting in injuries or overuse and school coach too involved with the athletes during practice and competition. It is important that guidelines are followed by all programs, so 7-7 can continue to benefit all athletes.

Summer Youth sport camps

Summer Youth sport camps are encouraged at Waco ISD high schools. The sport camps keep local youth involved in productive, character building activities during the summer months. Due to the limited number of recreational sports facilities in the community, the school

district assists in providing quality programs within the designated guidelines of State and local policies.

Title IX

Title IX has provided tremendous opportunities for female athletes at the high school and collegiate levels, for players and coaches. Facilities, scholarships, compensation and travel continue to improve as the women's athletic programs continue to succeed. Kim Mulkey, Pat Summit and Jody Condradt 's success in women's sports has removed many gender biases and opened doors for future generations of female athletes. It is important to remember that "equal" refers to equal opportunities for men and women's athletic programs.

Extreme Heat Guidelines

Waco ISD reviewed and revised protocols for extreme heat conditions prior to the 2011-12 athletic season. The Athletic Trainers are responsible for monitoring the teams and insuring the athletic staff understand and are in compliance with extreme heat

Team practice times were modified, with frequent water breaks and cooling stations. Head coaches are contacted by the Athletic Trainers each morning with heat index information and temperature ranges for the day. Practices are modified according to the information provided.

Travel Out of State

Travel is a tremendous financial burden on the athletic budget. With the continued financial short-fall in the State, travel within the State requires strategic planning to accommodate all athletic programs. Travel out of state for athletic competition would require financial support beyond the local budget allocations. Promotional or marketing opportunities for teams to compete in out of state Classics could encourage school districts to participate without a burden to the athletic budget.

Best Vacation

Glacier National Park, Montana:
Hiked 10 miles, in July, through the snow to see the glaciers. Absolutely, beautiful.....★

Getting to Know: Russ Reeves

**Assistant Athletic Director,
Denton ISD**



How long have you been an Assistant Athletic Director? 5 years

High School/ College?

Denton High School-1987
University of North Texas-BS 1991
University of North Texas-MEd 2000

What is the best part of your job?

Seeing student-athletes learn attributes and skills that will serve them well throughout their lives. Athletics are a microcosm of life and young men and women are able hone life-long skills that develop their character and enable them to be successful in all types of situations well after they participate in their last organized athletic endeavors.

What is the hardest part of your job?

All jobs have parts of them that can be difficult, but 90% of my job is very positive. The 10% usually deals with issues arising from budget concerns to personnel issues.

However, in Denton ISD Athletics, we strive to always be positive and have solutions rather than escalate the negative situations. So overall, I am very blessed to work in an environment where the hardest aspects of my job are turned into growing experiences that will serve me well as I continue being an athletic administrator.

What are your main responsibilities in the department?

My primary charge is to direct and coordinate the athletic programs for our six middle schools in Denton ISD. That includes budgeting, training, scheduling, transportation, etc. I assist Ken Purcell, the Athletic Director, in a multitude of things related to our high school sports programs.

What advice or steps do you recommend for anyone wanting to

Story continued on page 13, see Reeves



Reeves continued from page 12

be an athletic director or assistant athletic director?

The first thing that an athletic administrator needs to have is experience in actually coaching. I know that sounds simple, but I have young college graduates ask me all the time how they can become an athletic administrator as soon as possible. They want to skip the coaching aspect of our jobs, which is very shocking. I got into education and athletics because of the kids and how I could impact them for their entire lifetime. Also, when you are dealing with coaches as an athletic director, you need to have credibility and that comes from experience of "being in the trenches". I coached for 16 years and the things I learned have served me very well these last five years. The second thing I would tell someone is to understand that you need to be flexible and able to work with people that are part of the entire educational process. Principals, central office administration, coaches, parents, etc. all have perspectives that can pull on and/or enhance your vision and direction of an athletic program. It is your job as an athletic administrator, to make your programs the best they can be for the student-athletes you are trying to help. You have to choose your battles wisely and work closely with all involved to accomplish what is best for the student-athletes that you are trying to touch.

With the rise of 7 on 7 in the state of Texas, do your schools participate? And where do you see 7 on 7 going in the future?

7 on 7 is a program that allows student-athletes to enhance their skills and at the same time compete in the off-season. Anytime student-athletes can compete I think that enhances their overall athletic experience. On the flip side, I do think student-athletes need to be able to step away from things so that they can refocus and prepare for the fall season. I believe there is a good balance now and as long as it does not detract from student-athletes ability to step away from it before the fall season begins. 7 on 7 will continue to have a positive impact

on the game of football in the State of Texas.

How does your district/ schools handle youth summer camps at the high schools?

Denton ISD allows our head coaches to set up camps that suit their vision and direction for their programs. It enables them to foster a relationship with the community and with the kids that will eventually lead them to their sport when the participants reach high school age. We try to keep the cost down so that as many kids that want to be a part of a camp can and that money does not keep them away from our coaches and programs.

With this year being the 40th anniversary of Title IX, how do you feel this has helped young female student athletes?

Being a father of two daughters, I have seen firsthand the positive impact Title IX has had on girls and their ability to have access to athletic competition. I believe the research indicates that before 1972, one in 27 girls participated in high school varsity sports and today 2 in 5 play. As I stated earlier, athletics develops character and teaches life-long lessons and Title IX has enabled girls to experience the true benefits of participation in sports.

How does your district handle protecting student athletes during practice from the heat of the Texas summer?

We have heat and cold guidelines established by our school district and in coordination with the University Interscholastic League procedures to insure our student-athletes are acclimated to weather conditions in a safe manner.

What are your thoughts on schools scheduling games with out of state opponents and do you see more schools traveling across the country to play in the future?

Wherever you have competition, human

nature leads us to wonder who is the best and as competitors we want to find out. With the advent of the internet and regional and national television exposure, the times have enable people to see the best teams in the country for themselves and that has lead to the desire to bring the best programs together on the athletic fields. When that happens, it is such a great experience for all involved that I think it is fantastic. However, I think it should only be done if it does not cause undue hardship (i.e. financial, travel, extra responsibilities, etc.) on the schools that participate, so that the positives heavily outweigh the negatives.

What is the best summer vacation you have ever been on?

My brother and sister-in-law live in Switzerland and my wife and two daughters spent two full weeks in Switzerland and France. It was truly unbelievable. The highlight of our trip was going to Paris and then on to Omaha Beach in Normandy, France. Standing on Omaha Beach and looking at the cliffs above that where totally covered with German fortifications made me truly understand the horrific sacrifice men made for our freedom. It truly made me proud to be an American and again confirm to me that American is truly the "greatest country on the face of the earth." ★

**Questions, comments
or suggestions...
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Home Team Marketing**

Mike Gebhard

mgebhard@hometeammarketing.com

toll free: (866) 810-2111



HOME TEAM MARKETING
www.hometeammarketing.com



TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

Executive Director

Rusty Dowling

P.O. Box 1271
 Katy, TX 77493
 Office: (832) 328-6123
 Fax: (281)-646-9065
 thsada@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant

Kathy Mathis

P.O. Box 1271
 Katy, TX 77493
 Office: (832) 328-6123
 Fax: (281) 646-9065
 kathy.thsada@yahoo.com

Regional Directors

Regions 1, 2 & 4

Todd Vesely

Ector County ISD
 802 N. Sam Houston
 Odessa, TX 79762
 (432) 456-9059
 todd.vesely@ectorcountysd.org

Regions 5

Kenneth Humphreys

Spring ISD
 16717 Ella Blvd.
 Houston, TX 77090
 (281) 891-6154
 kennethh@springisd.org

Regions 7

Randy Cretors

Harlingen CISD
 905 East Tyler
 Harlingen, TX 78550
 (956) 430-9760
 randall.cretors@hcisd.org

Executive Officers

President

Karen Funk

North East ISD
 12002 Jones-Maltsberger
 San Antonio, TX 78216
 (210) 491-6100
 kfunk@neisd.net

Treasurer

Chris Feris

Plano ISD
 6600 Stadium Drive
 Plano, TX 75203
 (469) 752-1080
 chris.feris@pisd.edu

Vice President

Bill Daws

Clear Creek ISD
 2748 FM 518
 League City, TX 77573
 (281) 284-2845
 bdaws@ccisd.net

Membership Chairman

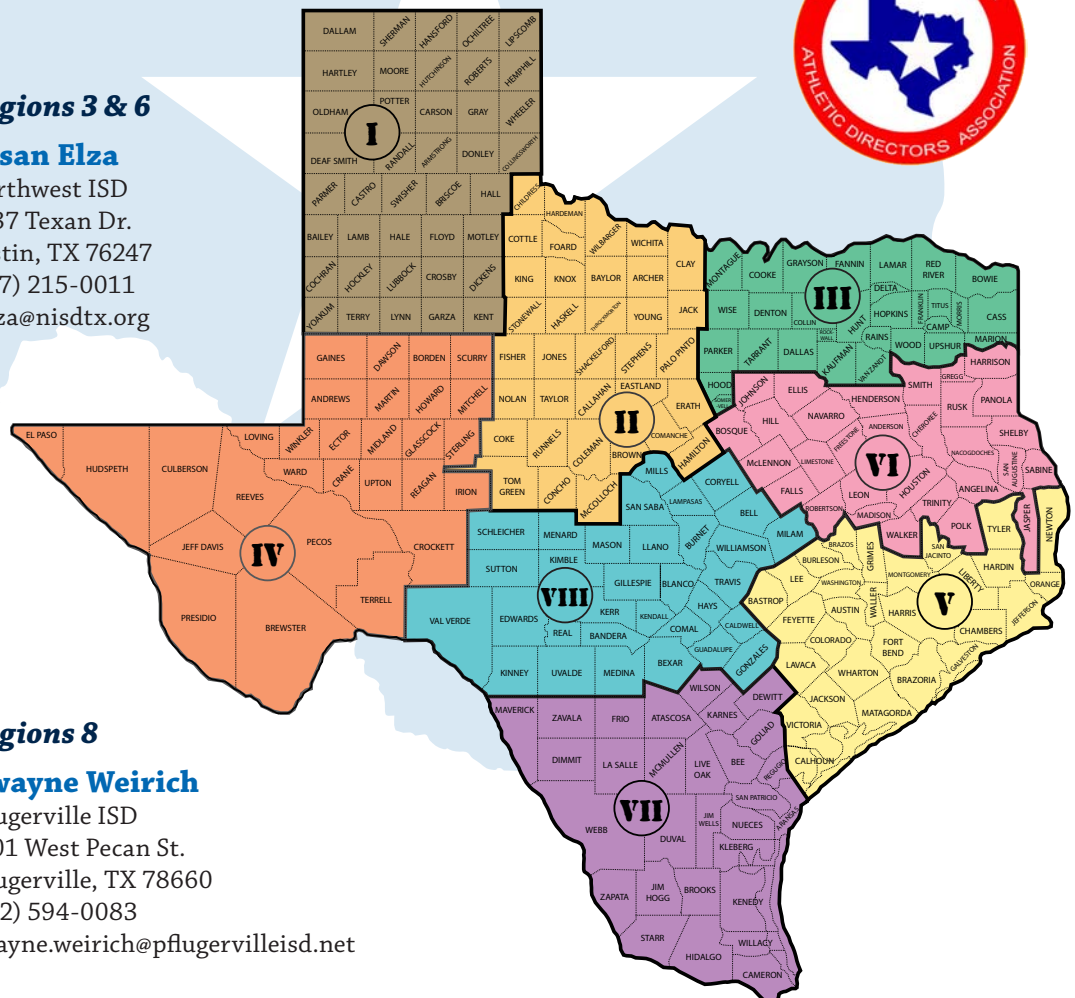
Kevin Ozee

Carroll ISD
 1085 S. Kimball Ave.
 Southlake, TX 76092
 (817) 949-8300
 kevin.ozee@southlakecarroll.edu

Secretary

Sandra Howell

Little Elm ISD
 500 Lobo Lane
 Little Elm, TX 75068
 (972) 292-1840
 showell@leisd.ws



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