

TGCA News

Texas Girls Coaches Association



Volume 54, No. 4 - December 2007

MOTIVATION By Alex Koulovatos

When I was young my Dad told me that everyday he would pour a cup of coffee and sit down to read the paper. He would open to the obituaries and look for his name. If his name was not there he would finish his coffee and go on to work. His motivation was as simple as finding out that he was still alive and able to go to work. Unfortunately, finding motivation it's not always that easy.

It is easy to stay motivated when all things are going well for a team. And we all want to maintain the motivation it takes to achieve success. Inevitably, no matter how good things are going, we all hit bumps in the road that challenge our drive. A team might lose a game, lose a player to injury, or even fall victim to grades. These set backs, and we could even call them small failures, are part of the process toward success and improvement.

Sometimes it seems difficult for our players to understand that losing momentum and motivation is part of this process. We want to make them understand the need to stay focused on the big picture and hope that the motivation will follow. But when I sat down to write this article I realized that maybe it was time to check the pulse on my own motivation. I began to understand

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2007-08 TGCA Officers



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(903) 856-6461



1st Vice President
Lee Grisham
Wimberley HS
(512) 847-5729



2nd Vice President
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(512) 414-7347



Past President
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Burkburnett HS
(940) 569-1411



Executive Director
Sam Tipton
TGCA Office
(512) 708-1333

2007-2008 Volleyball All-State Teams

Conference 1A

Name	School	Coach	Position	Grade
Stormi Lancaster	Fort Elliott	Brad Slatton	Outside Hitter	11
Joani Bell	Plains	Blake Eddleman	Outside Hitter	12
M. J. Vickers	Albany	Melissa Vickers	Middle Hitter	11
Whitney McCorkle	Windthorst	Stacy Wolf	Outside Hitter	11
Marissa Schreiber	Windthorst	Stacy Wolf	Setter	11
Jordan Smith	Kopperl	Trava Smith	Outside Hitter	12
Reagan Smith	Kopperl	Trava Smith	Outside Hitter	11
Madisen Burrows	Lindsay	Bridget Anderle	Setter	12
Chelsea Hermes	Lindsay	Bridget Anderle	Middle Blocker	12
Presley Stallcup	Archer City	Colby Davis	Outside Hitter	11
Autumn Foster	Beckville	Amy English	Outside Hitter	11
Natalie Bailey	Miller Grove	Melissa Kethley	Outside Hitter	12
Jayna Higginbotham	Latexo	Tim Chenette	Setter	12
Kayla Dunk	Flatonia	Margie Velasquez	Middle Blocker	12
Katrina Mica	Flatonia	Margie Velasquez	Outside Hitter	12
Shelbi Bishop	Iola	Jamie McDougald	Middle Blocker	11
Kelseigh Braaton	Iola	Jamie McDougald	Def. Specialist	11
Rachel Turner	Normangee	Tami Dean	Outside Hitter	12
Taylor Jacob	Round Top Carmine	Tanya Nygrin	Outside Hitter	11
Breanna Margurger	Round Top Carmine	Tanya Nygrin	Outside Hitter	12
Ieisha Flowers	Shiner	Michelle Winkenwerder	Outside Hitter	11
Alyssa Strauss	Shiner	Michelle Winkenwerder	Outside Hitter	11
Kaitlyn Alley	Sterling	Salye Coles	Setter	12
Brandi Barber	Sterling	Salye Coles	Middle Blocker	11
Kayla Caffey	Thorndale	Julie Downs	Outside Hitter	12
Trinity Walker	Wink	Peggy Hill	Middle Blocker	11
Holly Huskerson	Bronte	Amy Bohensky	Middle Blocker	12
Kati Young	Leakey	Dusty Crafton	Middle Blocker	10
Jaci Crowe	Harper	Gina Lumpkins	Middle Blocker	12
Leah McWilliams	Marfa	Ruth McWilliams	Outside Hitter	11

All-State Certificates

Volleyball and Cross Country All-State and Academic All-State certificates will be mailed through the High School Principal's in January.

Name	School	Coach	Position	Grade
Kirsten Beasley	Bushland	Makesha Maupin	Sitter/Outside Hitter	11
Christina Steinkruger	Bushland	Makesha Maupin	Sitter/Outside Hitter	11
Ashley Hardcastle	Centerville	Jason Evans	Outside Hitter	12
Alex Lacey	Centerville	Jason Evans	Setter	11
Lauren Waclawczyk	Poth	Patti Zenner	Outside Hitter	12
Courtney Laskowski	Poth	Patti Zenner	Setter	12
Dena Busse	Harmony	Renesia Wilburn	Hitter	12
Carmyn Wingrove	Harmony	Renesia Wilburn	Setter	12
Adeline Fox	Alpine	Troy Canaba	Middle Blocker	12
Kayla Kolafa	Brazos	Deena Kolafa	Outside Hitter	12
Katie Dowd	Holliday	Diana DeArmond	Outside Hitter	12
Jenny Kunze	Lago Vista	Debbie Hansen	Outside Hitter	12
Kristen Cummings	Maypearl	Sylvia Miller	Outside Hitter	12
Kristyn Weaver	Nocona	Sandy Raymond	Libero	12
Allison McNeal	Schulenburg	Donald Zapalac	Middle Blocker	12
Nikki West	Leon	Teresa Sitton	Outside Hitter	12
Amanda Dowdy	Lexington	Erica Walther	Middle Blocker	12
Kristy Townsend	Pottsboro	Sandy Jones	Middle Blocker	12
Zowie O'Neal	Nocona	Sandy Raymond	Middle Blocker	10
Kaila Johnson	Kountze	Megan O'Quinn	Middle Blocker	11
Adriana Gonzalez	Tatum	She-Ron Deloach	Setter	11
Callie Herrington	Hallettsville	Karen Darilek	Setter	11
Breeann David	Denver City	Megan David	Setter/Middle Blocker	9
Tori Valasquez	River Road	Charity Nachtigall	Setter/Middle Blocker	11
Marissa Cooksey	Grandview	Lisa Ellis	Middle Blocker	11
Allison Whitehead	Henrietta	Rochelle Kabisch	Middle Blocker	11
Rachel Warriner	Farmersville	Debbie Robledo	Middle Blocker	11
Andrea Gutierrez	Peaster	Dianna French	Middle Blocker	11
Danielle Hazzard	Salado	Bree Holz	Outside Hitter	11
Sha'Ray Runnels	Edna	Jody Hormann	Libero	11

2007-2008 Volleyball All-State Teams

Conference 3A

Name	School	Coach	Position	Grade
Kristin Secord	White Oak	Carolee Musick	Hitter	12
Rachel Lovejoy	Cleveland Tarkington	Denise Johnson	Hitter	12
Kaitlin Mitchell	Monahans	Patty Dominguez	Setter	12
Melody Wright	Seminole	Jacqueline Horton	Hitter	12
Megan Bludau	Needville	Jo Ann Berry	Hitter	12
Elise Huskey	Columbus	Rhonda Magness	Hitter	12
Karlyn Meyers	China Spring	Stacy Meyers	Setter	12
Jessica O'Shoney	Hutto	Janiece Nelson	Hitter	11
Dana Stephenson	Canyon	Harold Davis	Hitter	12
Jessica Bonfield	Argyle	Clark Oberle	Setter	11
Lacy Lea	Wimberley	Lee Grisham	Hitter	12
Katie Milam	Wimberley	Lee Grisham	Hitter	11
Emily Bybel	White Oak	Carolee Musick	Hitter	12
Mandy Moeller	Columbus	Rhonda Magness	Hitter	12
Bailey Marcum	Monahans	Patty Dominguez	Hitter	12
Shavonda Hayes	Borger	Cara Adams	Hitter	11
Precious Sanders	Bellville	Susan Brewer	Hitter	12
Adriene Coon	Dalhart	Kira Satterfield	Hitter	12
Kimberli Harger	Lubbock Cooper	Tami Gunset	Hitter	12
Natalie Puckett	Lovejoy	Ryan Mitchell	Hitter	9
Leticia Silva	Whitesboro	Kelly Cherry	Hitter	12
Jenna Treybig	Palacios	James Schuetz	Hitter	11
Katelyn Rohan	Yoakum	Paula Berger	Hitter	12
Tika Smith	Sweetwater	Liz Miller	Hitter	12
Charvia Bell	Royse City	Trent Tharp	Hitter	12
Sophie Rondan	Andrews	Hollie Smith	Setter	11
Angelica Arroyo	Hutto	Janiece Nelson	Setter	11
Allison Sanders	Athens	Natosha Spain	Hitter	12
Molly Kaweck	LaVernia	Theresa Reyes	Hitter	11
Kelsey Alford	Caldwell	Jane Anne Karasek	Setter	11

All-State Certificates

Volleyball and Cross Country All-State and Academic All-State certificates will be mailed through the High School Principal's in January.

Name	School	Coach	Position	Grade
Aubree Piper	Canyon Randall	Jason Culpepper	Middle Blocker	10
Madison Strickland	Canyon Randall	Jason Culpepper	Middle Blocker	12
Julie Causseaux	Dumas	Jack Wilson	Middle Blocker	12
Lindsey Miller	Dumas	Jack Wilson	Middle Blocker	12
Lauren Beville	Hereford	Brenda Kitten	Libero	11
Caitlin Wester	Wichita Falls Rider	TiAda Radtke	Libero	12
Arden Richardson	Wichita Falls	Stephanie Dorsey	Defensive Specialist	12
Jordan Goings	Aledo	Kathy Goings	Setter	12
Kaylee Fifer	Denton Guyer	Jennifer Bramlett	Setter	10
Erin Garvey	Denton Guyer	Jennifer Bramlett	Middle Blocker	12
Erika Dupree	Mesquite Poteet	Lisa Lisewsky	Setter/Right Hitter	12
Kaylyn Frink	Boyd	Kelly Quinn	Outside Hitter	12
Maggie Monoque	Boyd	Kelly Quinn	Outside Hitter	11
Luden Azuara	Centennial	Kari Benseid	Outside Hitter	12
Kaylee Hawkins	Dickinson	Mitzi Matthews	Outside Hitter	11
Jenny Brekke	Friendswood	Jerry Linch	Setter	12
Christie Dorch	Friendswood	Jerry Linch	Outside Hitter	12
Andrea Hannasch	New Braunfels	Phyllis Fowler	Middle Blocker	11
Mary Beth Huber	New Braunfels	Phyllis Fowler	Setter	12
Brandie DeBacker	New Braunfels Canyon	Heather Sanders	Outside Hitter	12
Tara Smith	New Braunfels Canyon	Heather Sanders	Setter	12
Morgan Crawford	Vista Ridge	Holly Lamb	Outside Hitter	12
Becah Fogle	Vista Ridge	Holly Lamb	Outside Hitter	12
Kelsey O'Neill	Waco Midway	Janet Angell	Setter	12
Laura Simon	Waco Midway	Janet Angell	Middle Blocker	12
Courtney Oertli	Calallen	Lupe Cardona	Setter/Hitter	12
Kelsey Schwirtlich	Calallen	Lupe Cardona	Setter/Hitter	12
Julia Lopez	El Paso Burges	Connie Vaughan	Outside Hitter	11
Brittany Herbort	Fredericksburg	Jason Roemer	Setter	12
Katherine Culwell	Highland Park	Michael Dearman	Outside Hitter	11

2007-2008 Volleyball All-State Teams

Conference 5A

Name	School	Coach	Position	Grade
Brianne Barker	Amarillo	Jan Barker	Setter	12
Kelsey Black	Amarillo	Jan Barker	Outside Hitter	12
Caitlin Higgins	Tascosa	Scott Sandel	Outside Hitter	12
Tobi Farrar	Arlington	Sue Cauley	Middle Blocker	11
Sarah Joeckel	Arlington	Sue Cauley	Outside Hitter	12
Chelsea Ringel	Arlington Martin	Tracy Perez	Outside Hitter	12
Jordan Raines	Coppell	Sherri Hankins	Outside Hitter	12
Tori Mellinger	Lake Highlands	Cory Williams	Outside Hitter	11
Jenna Miller	Flower Mound	Marcus Cristie Liles	Setter	12
Shannon Hawari	Plano West	Brittany Bridge	Middle Blocker	12
Jordan Kirk	Plano West	Brittany Bridge	Right Side Hitter	12
Suzy Boulavasky	Clear Brook	Meredith Thompson	Right Side Hitter	12
Lacy Hayes	Cypress Fairbanks	Donna Benotti	Setter	12
Nneka Ogwumlike	Cypress Fairbanks	Donna Benotti	Middle Blocker	12
Kristin Graser	Cypress Falls	Kathey Stephenson	Setter	12
Sidney Stewart	Houston Memorial	Beth Gammill	Outside Hitter	12
Cailin Rance	Kingwood	Ashley Earhart	Middle Blocker	12
Michele Williams	Magnolia	Terri Johnson	Middle Blocker	12
Kallie Pence	Bryan	Caroline Simpson	Setter	12
Kelsey Lawrence	Round Rock	Diane Watson	Libero	12
Emily Cheek	Seguin	Robin Gerlich	Right Side Hitter	12
Elly Barrett	Westlake	Al Bennett	Setter	11
Cammy Kleinert	Westlake	Al Bennett	Outside Hitter	12
Alicia Cox	San Antonio Churchill	Jo Anne Hultgren	Outside Hitter	11
Kelsey Jewasko	San Antonio East Central	Robyn Wunderlich	Outside Hitter	12
Amber Roberson	Wagner	Demetria Sance-Padgitt	Outside Hitter	12
Amber Tatsch	San Antonio Reagan	Mike Carter	Outside Hitter	11
Allie Murray	San Antonio Reagan	Mike Carter	Setter	11
Stephanie Starnes	San Angelo Central	Connie Bozart	Middle Blocker	12
Madison Leeper	El Paso Franklin	Flo Valdez	Libero	12

All-State Certificates

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1A-2A-3A Volleyball Athlete of the Year

Dana Stephenson, Canyon High School, Coach Harold Davis

4A-5A Volleyball Athlete of the Year

Brianne Barker, Amarillo High School, Coach Jan Barker

1A-2A-3A Coach of the Year

Tanya Nygrin, Round Top Carmine High School

4A-5A Coach of the Year

Donna Benotti, Cypress Fairbanks High School

2007-2008 Cross Country All-State Teams

Conference 1A

Name	School	Coach	Grade
Julia Holub	Seymour	Courtney Sims	10
Allie Reyna	Ralls	Rebekah Hutton	12
Mackenzie Hodge	Sundown	Paul Darden	11
Chelsea Hermes	Lindsay	Robin Hess	12
Jessi Mannis	North Hopkins	Tim Menke	12
Jaylen Rodgers	Hamlin	Kelly Jeffrey	9
Rose Hermes	Lindsay	Robin Hess	11
Haley Sparks	Wheeler	Mike Bailey	9
Taylor Barrington	Seymour	Courtney Sims	9
Katelyn Brewer	Lindsay	Robin Hess	12
Kayla Pratt	Comstock	Ruben Ramon	12
Kyra Sloan	Crosbyton	Danny Sloan	10
Taylor Sparks	Wheeler	Mike Bailey	9
Whitney Browning	Seymour	Courtney Sims	10
Kelsey Bruce	Brackett	Dusty Brotherton	9

Conference 2A

Name	School	Coach	Grade
Amber Weem	Hamilton	Linda Brigham	12
Colleen Adams	Wall	Jeremy Williams	9
Sutten Garnett	Spearman	Nan Cook	10
Haleigh Pustka	Wallis Brazos	Eric Stuessel	12
Kendra Glass	Wall	Jeremy Williams	12
Maury McCormick	Wall	Jeremy Williams	11
Emily Koenig	Little River Academy	Lee Bender	10
Arianna Rodriguez	Eddy Bruceville	Eli Saucedo	11
Lindsay Martin	Salado	Cindy Mewhinney	10
Rebecca Jensen	Elkhart	Kodi Huff	11
Victoria Goodloe	Reagan County	Lezlie Brown	12
Amanda Mendoza	Crawford	Jason Buie	11
Alyssa Schmitt	Gunter	Bruce Keatts	10
Brandi Witte	Wallis Brazos	Eric Stuessel	12
Alison Keatts	Gunter	Bruce Keatts	11

Conference 3A

Name	School	Coach	Grade
Kristie Krueger	Argyle	Kathi Olson	12
Catherine Loden	White Oak	Desiree Hutchins	12
Bailey Belyis	Prosper	Bryan Beck	11
Cynthia Carrillo	Decatur	David Park	11
Colbea Harris	Argyle	Kathi Olson	10
Bree Schrader	Kingwood Park	Brittany Lanehart	9
Sara Dietz	Prosper	Bryan Beck	12
Kelsey Johnson	Iowa Park	Ricky Ledford	12
Kim D'andrea	Hutto	Norma Sierra	12
Stacey Ziats	Smithville	Robin Ramsay	11
Alycia Fowler	Llano	Dan Hughes	11
Eryan Barroso	Wimberley	Jill Bishop	10
Jessica Martinez	Zapata	Mike Villarreal	12
Shelbi King	Llano	Dan Hughes	9
Nicole Hudgens	Kaufman	Denver Stone	11

All-State Certificates

Volleyball and Cross Country All-State and Academic All-State certificates will be mailed through the High School Principal's in January.

Conference 4A

Name	School	Coach	Grade
Jessica Blakely	Hereford	Ray Baca	11
Sandy Castro	McKinney North	Julie Martin	12
Gabbie Corletto	Forney	Bodie Posey	11
Kaelie Foudeh	Richmond Foster	Carmel Tosch	12
Stephanie Ganter	McKinney North	Julie Martin	12
Ashley Mason	Hereford	Ray Baca	12
Kerri Matulis	Frisco	Sam Reiter	9
Abby Metcalf	Hereford	Ray Baca	12
Jenna Read	Highland Park	Jerry Sutterfield	9
Catherine Reuter	Barbers Hill	Deann Fudge	11
Faby Soria	Pampa	Mark Elms	10
Sara Sutherland	Highland Park	Jerry Sutterfield	10
Melaney Ortega	Forney	Bodie Posey	10
Jordan Sartain	Mesquite Poteet	Aaron Ward	9
Devin Orear	Hereford	Ray Baca	11

Conference 5A

Name	School	Coach	Grade
Julie Amthor	Smithson Valley	Louise Bell	12
McKenzie Ard	Lubbock Coronado	Tim Torres	9
Jourdan Ellis	Abilene	RoseMary Watlington	10
Jessica Harper	Southlake Carroll	Robert Ondrasek	10
Lyndsie Jacobs	Lubbock Coronado	Tim Torres	9
Alicia Jenkins	Georgetown	Kellye Richardson	12
Lacy McKinney	Odessa	Tracey Borchardt	12
Courtney Nelson	San Antonio Reagan	Nancy Almaraz	12
Kirsten Taylor	Odessa	Tracey Borchardt	10
Regan Tindell	Belton	Denise Petter	10
Andrea Torske	Garland	Lynn Duyck	12
Tara Upshaw	Southlake Carroll	Robert Ondrasek	11
Dale Wilson	Midland Lee	Curtis Aguirre	12

1A-2A-3A Cross Country Athlete of the Year

Kristie Krueger, Argyle High School, Coach Kathi Olson

4A-5A Cross Country Athlete of the Year

Stephanie Ganter, McKinney North High School, Coach Julie Martin

1A-2A-3A Cross Country Coach of the Year

Paul Darden, Sundown High School

4A-5A Cross Country Coach of the Year

Tracey Borchardt, Odessa High School

2007-2008 Basketball Committee

Basketball Committee



Name	Region	School	Phone	E-mail
Brian Legan – Chair	1-Sr	Sundown	806-229-3021 x 224	blegan@sundownisd.com
Ronnie Glenn	1-Jr	Canyon Randall	806-677-2325	rglenn@canyonisd.net
Rocky Ford	2-Sr	Roscoe	325-766-3327	rford@roscoe.esc14.net
Ron Berry	2-Jr	Stephenville	254-968-4716	Ronald.berry@sவில்.us
Curtis Enis	3-Sr	Alvord	940-427-9643	cenis@alvordisd.net
Jill McDill – Co Chair	3-Jr	Rockwall	214-448-7991	jmcidill@rockwallisd.org
Fred Griffin	4-Sr	Brownsboro	903-852-2321	griffinf.bhs@brownsboro.k12.tx.us
Jeremy Durham	4-Jr	Pine Tree	903-295-5000	jdurham@ptisd.org
Jimmy Taylor	5-Sr	Onalaska	936-646-4868	jtaylor@onalaskaisd.net
Debbie Jackson	5-Jr	Nimitz	281-233-4364	Djackson3@aldine.k12.tx.us
Betsy Baughman	6-Sr	Crawford	254-486-2381	bbaughman@crawfordisd.net
Shauna Showers	6-Jr	Shoemaker	254-501-0900	Shauna.Perkins@killeenisd.org
Gary Lamar	7-Sr	Refugio	361-675-0361	gary_lamar@refugioisd.net
Rachel Carmona	7-Jr	Edinburg	956-289-2400	r.carmona@edinburg.esc1.net
Jeremy Williams	8-Sr	Wall	325-651-7521	jeremy.williams@wallisd.net
Marlee Webb	8-Jr	Chapin	915-832-6730	mjwebb@episid.org

Motivation Cont.

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that it can be hard for us as coaches to see the big picture too. I know it is important to know my players and what motivates them. Sure it is important for my team's motivation to see personal goals achieved and progress being made, but am I noticing their progress as well? That got me to thinking, what does motivate us on the sidelines, in practice or on the playing field, and how do we maintain motivation?

There are several things as coaches we try to do in order to keep up the pace. Networking with other coaches is always a good way to continually evaluate your own program. I try to keep an open mind with new ideas and new techniques.

Never abandon your basic philosophy, but new ideas can add a spark when you might need one.

Having a common and clearly defined goal is probably one of the basics in keeping a team motivated. Of course we all want to have a winning season. That goes without saying. Unfortunately, we can't all make the state playoffs. So to keep motivated maybe we should celebrate the small achievements. With that in mind, our goals need to be specific to our own deficiencies. Our goals also need to be measurable. How will we know if we have achieved our goals? But maybe the biggest hurdle of all: goals need to be attainable.

In researching this article and talking with other coaches about what they do to keep motivated, one question that was brought up is how are we spending our time in practice? Are we using the time in a productive way? That's not an easy task and as the coach only you have the ability to provide that kind of atmosphere. That might mean keeping practices short and full of activity and not running drills just to fill time. Sometimes, like on game days, we spend time playing fun games. There is no pressure from the coaches and it allows the players to relax and have fun in the same environment that we expect them to work so hard in. To keep players motivated, it is important to leave them wanting more. Leave them so that they have the desire to work on goals outside of the practice schedule.

Let the players have ownership of their team. Let them make some of those decisions that will not affect the win loss record like giving them the task of designing a team t-shirt or letting them choose the restaurant. One of my players writes up a colorful description of each of her teammates every year. They are very funny and everyone looks forward to it. It brings them closer and provides that ownership that they need to possess.

Last season our coaching team started a kind-of routine. It was an idea that we "borrowed" from the OU coaching staff. Before every practice we write a quote on the board for all of our players to see. The purpose of the quote is to provide the girls and coaches with a common goal. It also gives us a time together to gain that cohesiveness before we start practice. The quote is not always basketball directed. It might be something about life in general. The players look forward to them, and sometimes even bring them to us.

As a coach there are lots of things we can do to keep our players motivated. Probably the easiest is to show through our words and actions how much we love what we do. Let them know that we do not think of this job as work. It's a privilege to spend the number of hours that we do on something that we love and have passion for.

So when it comes right down to it, it's not just the love of the game that keeps me motivated. It's the players and the fact that I get to do this everyday, year after year, with a new set of challenges to tackle. And I have yet to see my name in the obituaries.

By Alex Koulovatos
PAST PRESIDENT



I Give Many Thanks for Being Called Coach

I look back on my twenty-four years spent as a head coach in the public schools of Texas. Thank goodness my dad had been a coach all my life and through some form of osmosis, I basically understood the underlying rules, regulations, and expectations of being employed in the educational system. I was blessed with the leadership of mentors and bosses that would not let me fail no matter how hard I tried at times. I have not privately or publicly thanked these individuals enough: Bobby Fanin and Frank Stretcher (Millsap), James Lanier (Texline), Buddy Sharp and Howard Greer (Sunray), Bill Jennings (Amarillo River Road), Jack Hawthorne (San Marcos), Bobby Davis and Paul Whitton (Wolfforth Frenship), and David Baugh and Gayle Lomax (Snyder). Every coach, throughout their career, must have people they admire, respect, and depend on in a crisis. These people were always there for me whether I was right or wrong.

My career started as a head coach directly out of college at the age of 22. I was three years older than some of the players on my team. The principal yelled at me three times the first year to get out of the hall and get to class. There were players on my team that looked and acted more mature than I did (This was a true statement for all my career). My first team was a group of athletes determined to achieve. We won, not because of my brilliant coaching ability, but because we thought we were good and the community demanded we win. The teams before us had been successful. A standard of expectation had been set.

I learned through the years coaching is not necessarily what you know, but the belief your players have in what you have designed to bring the best out of them individually and as a team. I've seen many a game won during the years by teams refusing to lose. Many teams win because of chemistry – not ability. Coaching becomes more than fundamentals, game plans and strategy. Human element becomes a major component.

During this festive season and with a new year on the horizon, I hope each and every coach takes the time to contact people who have been responsible for their success now and in the past, and say thanks to them for their guidance through the years. Also, take the time to analyze your philosophy on coaching. All coaches, sometime in their career, make mistakes. A good coach learns from these mistakes and use these lessons learned to bring about future positive results.

As Executive Director of the Texas Girls Coaches Association, I look back on my career as a coach and now understand the tremendous responsibility I was given by a community to be involved in the molding of their young people into future contributors to society. I now realize the power I possessed in the day to day contact I had with my players. I am thankful the vast majority of my players overcame my shortcomings in more than one area and we, as a team, achieved success. I can honestly say my intention was to make them the best they could be with the ability they had to offer. The goal was to be better today than we were yesterday. Maybe there was a life lesson taught on a daily basis after all.

Coaching is more than wins and losses. A coach is a special person with immense responsibility. Thank-you for what you do and how you do it. You are instrumental in the overall educational system of life. KEEP SMILING and OH, BY THE WAY -----WIN, BABY, WIN.

By Sam Tipton
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Important Dates and Announcements - 2007-08 School Year

Butch's Sports Note

Girls sports and notes: coaches and fans, if you have notes to add including coaching victories, win streaks or other interesting notes, please send them to ejhartvb@yahoo.com

1 current streak of state team tennis championships (5A Austin Westlake and 4A New Braunfels)

2 current streak of state volleyball championships (3A Wimberley and 5A Amarillo)

4 longest ever state team tennis championship streak (4A San Antonio Alamo Heights 1993-96) and 4A Dallas Highland Park 2003-6).

6 state volleyball championships in last nine years by 3A Wimberley

6 volleyball state championships by current coaches (Lee Grisham of 3A Wimberley and Patti Zenner of 2A Poth).

12 most team tennis state championship by 4A San Antonio Alamo Heights

17 consecutive top three girls cross country state meet team finishes by Humble Kingwood.

47 volleyball wins in 2007, most in the state (4A champion Waco Midway and 2A semifinalist Centerville)

91-2 two year record for two time 5A volleyball champion Amarillo.

LaQuinta - Official Hotel of TGCA

Coaches, teams and fans can receive preferred rates through the La Quinta toll-free central reservations number 1-



800-531-5900. This rate will also apply to reservations made directly with LaQuinta hotels, as well as, via the internet at www.lq.com using the corporate/promotional code of TGCA. These rates are good for both business and leisure travel, seven days a week, for standard and king bedded room types coast to coast.

December 2007

24-26 UIL - Athletics: No school facilities, personnel or equipment shall be used for athletic purposes for five consecutive days to include Dec. 24-26.

January 2008

2 Soccer - First day for scrimmages.
10 Soccer - First day for games.
21 Softball - First day for practice.
28 Softball - First day for interschool scrimmages.

February 2008

2 Swimming - District certification deadline
2 Wrestling - District certification deadline
8 thru 9 Swimming - Regional meets
8 thru 9 Wrestling - Regional meets
9 Basketball - District certification deadline
11 Softball - First day for interschool games
11 thru 12 Basketball - Bi-district, all conferences
18 - 19 Basketball - Regional quarterfinals
22-23 Swimming - Swimming & Diving: State Meet
22-23 Wrestling - State meet
22-23 Basketball - Regional
25 Deadline for TGCA Basketball Honors Nominations
28-Mar 1 Basketball - State Tournament

March 2008

18 Soccer - District certification deadline, 4A
20-22 Soccer - Bi-district, 4A
22 Soccer - District certification deadline, 5A
24-25 Soccer - Area, 4A; Bi-district 5A
27-29 Soccer - Regional quarterfinals, 4A; Area 5A
31 - 4/1 Soccer - Regional Semi-Finals, 4A: Regional Quarterfinals 5A
31-4/5 Track & Field - First week for district meets, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A.
Golf & Tennis - First week for district meets, all conferences

TGCA News

TGCA News is the official newsletter of the Texas Girls Coaches Association, 1603 Manor Rd., Austin, TX 78722-2536; (512) 708-1333, (512) 708-1325 (fax), tgca@austintgca.com (e-mail); It is published nine times per year, September through May.

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TGCA on the Web

Polls, as well as other current information, can be found on the TGCA Web site at: www.austintgca.com.

Did you move?

Please notify the TGCA office if your school, home address, telephone number or coaching assignment changes.

UIL eligibility / Sport rule questions

If you have any questions on eligibility or sport rule interpretations, contact the UIL at (512) 471-5883.

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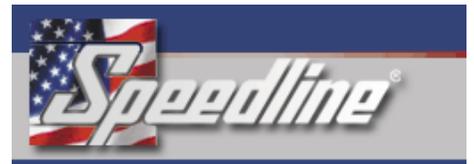
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