

**Denton Independent School District
Board of Trustees
Certificates of Recognition
Tuesday, March 13, 2012**

RHS wins Region I title, reach school's 2nd state tournament

Ryan High School's boys basketball team recently became the school's second team to compete in the UIL Class 4A State Basketball Tournament.

During its regular season, the Ryan Raiders finished third in District 4-4A and then advanced to the playoffs for the 10th time in 14 years.

Ryan quickly worked its way through the tournament bracket with wins over Canyon Randall and El Paso Riverside high schools.

In the regional quarterfinals, the Raiders beat Little Elm High, 61-59, to clinch their second consecutive trip to the Region I tournament under head coach Bryce Overstreet. Ryan again showed its penchant for drama with a 58-56 win at the buzzer against Fort Worth Trimble Tech in the regional semifinals.

Ryan won its trip to the state tournament with a 71-68 victory in the Region I championship against Fort Worth Arlington Heights. Senior guard Trey Mohair was named the regional tournament's Most Valuable Player at that game.

The state results will be announced at the March 13th meeting.

Members of the Ryan High Raiders Basketball team include:

- Steven Epperly, senior
- Trey Cook, senior
- Sam Johnson, senior
- Trey Mohair; senior
- Montarius Banks, junior
- J.T. Brooks, junior
- Marcus Holcomb, junior
- Gilbert Jackson, junior
- Quincy Jones, junior
- Nick Jones, junior
- Jeremy Lenoire, junior
- Sekou Clark, sophomore

The team support staff includes:

- Travaris Williams, manager
- Wyatt Johnson, statistician
- Allyson Drum, student trainer
- Katelyn Smith and Valerie Lawrence, video coordinators

The Ryan coaching staff included:

- Bryce Overstreet, head coach;
- Brett Edwards, assistant coach
- Jay Swafford, assistant coach
- Quincy Williams, assistant coach
- Mike Ortiz and Sharon Winn, athletic trainers

DHS, Ryan swimmers finish among state's best

The District's aquatics programs at Denton High and Ryan High recently combined to claim six spots at the UIL Class 4A State Swimming and Diving Championship competition.

All seven student-athletes competed among the state's best at the Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center in Austin last month, finishing in the top 16 in each of their events.

Team members from DHS included:

- D.J. Lang, 100-yard freestyle;
- Cody Knapp, 100-yard breaststroke;
- D.J. Lang, Cody Knapp, Hunter Klein, Anthony Milbitz, 200-yard medley relay;
- D.J. Lang, Hunter Klein, Anthony Milbitz, Andy Ye, 200-yard freestyle relay.

Team members from Ryan included:

- Mikey Winfrey in the 1-meter high dive
- Kathryn Ray in the 200-yard individual medley.

Only the winners of each event and the swimmers with the fastest times overall at each of the regional meets qualify to compete in Austin. This marked the third consecutive season that Denton ISD has been represented at the state swim meet.

Head swimming coach is Chris Cullen.

WILSON ELEMENTARY

Wilson choir, director receiving OAKE honors

Cecile Johnson, choir director at Wilson Elementary, has been named the National Organization of American Kodaly Educators (OAKE) 2012 Outstanding Educator.

The OAKE Outstanding Educator Award is given to an OAKE member, who has received formal training in Kodaly education and has demonstrated years of superior teaching. Mrs. Johnson has been a teacher in Denton ISD for 25 years.

She has mentored many student teachers and her Wilson's All-Star Choir has been named the TMEA Elementary Honor Choir for three years. The award will be presented during OAKE's national conference in Phoenix during Spring Break next week.

Accompanying Mrs. Johnson to Phoenix will be five members of the All-Star Wilson Choir, who have been selected to the OAKE National Children's Choir.

The honoreed include:

- Victoria Bustos, fifth-grader
- Jillian Cheek, fifth-grader
- Samson Hudson, fifth-grader
- Allie Smith, fifth-grader
- Morgan Cayce, fourth-grader

They were selected among thousands of entries from across the country. This is the second selection for both Victoria and Samson.

DENTON HIGH

DHS chess team takes sixth at state tournament

The Denton High chess team took sixth place at the 2012 Texas Scholastic Chess Championships at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel. It was the team's first time at the state competition.

Denton High earned the highest place of any school chess team in the Dallas-Fort Worth area with a score of 12.0.

The competition lasted two days with each team member playing seven matches that could last up to 150 minutes each. The players' point totals then were tallied for the team total.

Denton High chess team members include:

- Alex Elizalde
- Luis Guevara
- Austin McGregor
- William Root.

Fred Mueller is the Denton High chess team sponsor and Alexey Root is the volunteer coach.

Human Resources administrator wins state award

Regina Wright, human resources specialist, has received the Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators.

Mrs. Wright was recognized for her outstanding leadership ability, her high involvement at the regional and state level of TASPAA and her understanding of human resources and personnel issues.

She is currently the president of North Central Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators and a member of the national nominations committee of the American Association of School Personnel Administrators.

Mrs. Wright has been with Denton ISD since 1995.