



# NEWSLETTER

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## ONLINE TICKETS

Online tickets for TSSAA championship events are available via GoFan.com. Member schools can sell tickets electronically during the regular season! For more information, contact pnoles@huddleinc.com.



## #MYREASONWHY CAMPAIGN BEGINS SECOND YEAR

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the TSSAA are beginning the second year of the #MyReasonWhy campaign, which is designed to showcase the tremendous value that high school sports and activities offer to students.

Through real-life examples, #MyReasonWhy has re-affirmed that high school students involved in education-based activity programs demonstrate a higher level of academic performance and set themselves up for successful careers following high school graduation. The goal of this national campaign is to demonstrate why participation in high school sports has increased every year for the past 28 years, and why participation in school-based sports and activities provide students the best opportunities for success.

Last year, more than 500 unique stories were submitted via the campaign website from students, coaches and administrators. Additionally, stories were submitted through social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Using the #MyReasonWhy hashtag and by visiting the MyReasonWhy.com website, the NFHS anticipates a surge in stories from students across the country who are eager to share they experiences.



"We are excited to introduce the second year of the #MyReasonWhy campaign," said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. "We have enjoyed reading the story submissions of why students, parents, coaches, officials and community members are involved in high school activities, and we are pleased to share those stories across the country."

"Our involvement in educational athletics goes well beyond wins and losses," states TSSAA executive director Bernard Childress. "The reason we are always excited in continuing to provide opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities stems from knowing we are playing a major role in enhancing their education."

## Congratulations to State Champions

TSSAA would like to congratulate the following schools in winning the 2017 Girls' Soccer and Volleyball tournaments!

### VOLLEYBALL

- DII-A Girls - Webb School of Knoxville
- DII-AA Girls - Baylor School
- Division I, Class A - Berean Christian School
- Division I, Class AA - Portland High School
- Division II, Class AAA - Brentwood High School

### GIRLS SOCCER

- DII-A - St. George's Independent School
- DII-AA - Baylor School
- Division I, Class A - Alcoa High School
- Division I, Class AA - White House High School
- Division I, Class AAA - Houston High School

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE RECOGNITION

TSSAA is proud to recognize Russ Plummer as its distinguished service honoree as a coach.

Coach Plummer is an Indiana native. He played at Indiana University for legendary coach Jerry Yeagley who still holds the distinction of being the NCAA's all time winningest coach. After college, Coach Plummer accepted a teaching position at Hendersonville High School in the fall of 1987 becoming the head coach for the boys and girls soccer programs.

The consistent success that Coach Plummer has had in his 30 year tenure is truly remarkable. His boys and girls teams at Hendersonville have each won over 400 games. In addition to three state championships, Hendersonville has reached the sectional round more than 40 times between the two programs under Coach Plummer's guidance. His career winning percentage for both boys and girls is over 70%.

Coach Plummer is an active member of the Tennessee Soccer Coaches Association. He also serves as a member of the TSSAA / TACA Soccer Coaches Advisory Committee. In his free time, Coach Plummer

enjoys watching Indiana University Men's Soccer and Basketball. He and his wife of 29 years Denise often travel to and travel with their two children Kelsey (25) and Joey (20).

TSSAA proudly salutes Russ Plummer for his tremendous contributions to student-athletes in Tennessee.



## UPCOMING STATE TOURNAMENTS

### BLUECROSS BOWL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Tucker Stadium  
Tennessee Tech University  
Cookeville

Thursday, November 30 -  
Saturday December 2

#### Thursday, November 30

11 a.m. - Division I-1A  
3 p.m. - Division I-3A  
7 p.m. - Division I-5A

#### Friday, December 1

11 a.m. - Division I-2A  
3 p.m. - Division I-4A  
7 p.m. - Division I-6A

#### Saturday, December 2

11 a.m. - Division II-A  
3 p.m. - Division II-AA  
7 p.m. - Division II-AAA

## 2017 BLUECROSS BOWL CHAMPIONSHIPS TO AIR LIVE ON STATEWIDE TELEVISION NETWORK

### Games will be broadcast on the following network affiliates:

Nashville – WUXP MyTV30 (MyNetwork)

Memphis – WLMT CW30 (CW)

Knoxville – MyVLT (MyNetwork)

Chattanooga – MyTV Chattanooga EFLI (MyNetwork) - Thursday-Friday Games

Chattanooga – CW Chattanooga WFLI (CW) - Saturday Games

Jackson – JEA Cable EPlusTV6

Tri-Cities – WCYB.2 Tri-cities CW (CW)

## WATCH BLUECROSS BOWL ON NFHS NETWORK

Each of the nine BlueCross Bowl football championship games and select football playoff games each week will be broadcast LIVE on the NFHS Network!

<http://www.nfhsnetwork.com/tennessee/football>

## Brentwood High Volleyball Coach Sets Milestone

Brentwood High School won their fifth consecutive state volleyball title on Thursday, October 19. The team is led by long-time coach Barbara Campbell. This is the second time that Brentwood, under Campbell's leadership, has won five consecutive state titles. It was the school's 13th overall state volleyball title.



Coach Campbell, who is Tennessee's all-time winningest volleyball coach, improved her coaching record to 1,626 wins and only 289 losses. He total wins ranks her 2nd among active coaches in the country and 3rd overall among volleyball coaches all-time!

## Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Awards to be Presented

The Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Awards will be presented to the top football players in nine classifications of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association on Monday, November 27, 2017, at Nissan Stadium in Nashville. For the sixteenth consecutive year, the top kicker in the state will be recognized with a Mr. Football Award, regardless of classification.

Five semifinalists in each classification were announced on November 3. There are six classifications in Division I and three in Division II. Three finalists for each category were announced on November 13. The three finalists for each award that were announced today will be the ones invited to attend the awards luncheon at Nissan Stadium, where the winner of each award will be announced.

A committee of statewide sports writers selected winners based on performance in the 2017 regular season. Academics and character were also taken

into consideration. High school head coaches and members of the media nominated the finalists.

"We are very appreciative of the Tennessee Titans for their continued support of these awards," stated Bernard Childress, Executive Director of the TSSAA. "Having the awards presented at Nissan Stadium will provide a very special atmosphere for these outstanding student-athletes."

This is the 33rd year that the Mr. Football Awards have been presented to Tennessee's best high school football players. A Mr. Football trophy will be presented to the winners of each category. A Mr. Football plaque will be presented to the other two finalists in each category. The other semi-finalists will each receive a certificate.

More than 400 people, including the 30 finalists, their families, coaches, school administrators and members of the media from all parts of the state, are expected to attend the 2017 luncheon.

Mike Keith, play-by-play voice of the Tennessee Titans, will emcee the awards presentation. A live video stream of the awards will be provided at TitansOnline.com.

### 2017 Mr. Football Semifinalists (finalists in bold)

#### DIVISION I, CLASS 1A

Braxton Givens, Gordonsville  
**Parker McKinney, Coalfield**  
**Brandon Moore, Fayetteville**  
**Kade Pearson, Huntingdon**  
 Garrett Raulston, South Pittsburgh

#### DIVISION I, CLASS 2A

Ethan Cobb, Eagleville  
 Caleb Johnson, MAHS  
**Jacob Saylor, Marion County**  
**Gavin Stanfield, Waverly Central**  
**Aaron Swafford, Meigs County**

#### DIVISION I, CLASS 3A

**Kalyn Grandberry, Raleigh Egypt**  
 Calvin Jackson III, Red Bank  
**Darius James, Fairview**  
 Woodrow Lowe III, Bolivar Central  
**Jimmyrious Parker, Pearl Cohn**

#### DIVISION I, CLASS 4A

**Cade Ballard, Greeneville**  
 Kamron Hightower-Liggett, Marshall Co.  
**Stanton Martin, Anderson County**  
 Michael Jamahl McGhee, Chatt. Central  
**Dontae Smith, Spring Hill**

#### DIVISION I, CLASS 5A

Ty Boeck, Soddy-Daisy  
**Tai Carter, Summit**  
**Jordan Davis, Southwind**  
 Kaemon Dunlap, Beech  
**Cade Mays, Knoxville Catholic**

#### DIVISION I, CLASS 6A

Jeremy Banks, Cordova  
**Savion Davis, Riverdale**  
**Dylan Hopkins, Maryville**  
 Carson Shacklett, Brentwood  
**Jaylin Williams, Germantown**

#### DIVISION II, CLASS A

**Da'Joun Hewitt, Davidson Academy**  
 Darius Hylick, Mt. Juliet Christian  
**Brant Lawless, Nashville Christian**  
 Kemari McGowan, MTCS  
**Xavier Myers, Nashville Christian**

#### DIVISION II, CLASS AA

**Morgan Ernst, Knoxville Webb**  
**Eric Gray, Lausanne**  
 Drew Martin, BGA  
 Kane Patterson, CPA  
**Cam Wynn, Notre Dame**

#### DIVISION II, CLASS AAA

**Tyler Badie, Briarcrest**  
 Brendon Harris, Baylor  
**Camron Johnson, Brentwood Acad.**  
**Bill Norton, Christian Brothers**  
 Gavin Schoenwald, Brentwood Acad.

#### KICKER OF THE YEAR

**Gabe Boring, Bledsoe County**  
 Thomas Burks, Blackman  
**Charles Campbell, USJ**  
 Noah Holsinger, Trinity Christian  
**Aaron Sears, Oakland**