

Kentucky High School Athletic Association

Sports News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FEB. 18, 2002

STATE SWIMMING & DIVING THIS WEEKEND

The 2002 KHSAA Swimming & Diving State Meet will be held this Friday and Saturday, Feb. 22-23, at the University of Kentucky's Lancaster Aquatic Center in Lexington. Friday's action begins at 10:15 a.m. with preliminary heats in 22 events. The top eight times from the prelims will advance to Saturday's championship heat. Those with next best eight times (Places 9-16) advance to Saturday's consolation heat final.

Boys' & Girls' Diving competition will also be held Friday with prelims and semifinals. The top 16 divers advance to Saturday's finals. Boys' Diving action begins at 2 p.m. on Friday, with the girls' action scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday's championship competition begins at 11 a.m.

St. Xavier has captured 13 consecutive boys' state team titles and 14 of the last 15. Paul Dunbar is the girls' defending champion, having snapped Sacred Heart's six-year hold on the girls' championship with a win last year.

St. Xavier has 37 overall Boys' State Championships, second nationally only to Honolulu Punahou, HI who has 40. The Tigers' 13 consecutive titles ranks tied for the fifth-longest win streak among national records. On the girls' side, Sacred Heart has 19 overall girls' titles, ranking SHA tied for the sixth-best total among national records.

General admission to the State Meet is \$5 with children six years of age and under admitted free. Fans should park at Commonwealth Stadium in the Blue Lot (marked K) and walk to the Aquatic Center across the street.

STATE SWIM & DIVING PRELIMINARY HEAT SHEETS

Entries for Friday's action of the State Swimming & Diving Meet are posted on the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org. The website will be updated throughout the meet as events complete.

REGIONAL SWIMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Some highlights from regional meets include Covington Catholic's Jason Vadney who ranked No. 1 in the state in the 200 Freestyle. Vadney posted a 1:45.68 in regional action and was second in the 500 Free with a time of 4:46.61. Sean Pharr enters the State Meet with the top time in the 100 Free (48.14) and second in the 50 Free (22.32).

St. Xavier, 13-time defending Boys' State Champion, hopes depth will lead the Tigers to their 14th consecutive title. The Tigers qualified the maximum four swimmers in six of the nine individual events and three on the remaining events.

In girls' action, Sacred Heart's Caroline Burckle will have her eye on the oldest standing state record, Kara McGrath's 500 Free mark of 5:57.19 set in 1983. Burckle swam a 4:57.93 in the 2nd Region Meet, breaking Mary T. Meagher's region record by more than two seconds. Burckle also qualified in the 200 Free.

Emile Ewing of Madisonville-North Hopkins and Sarah Menefee of Sacred Heart will hope to better Emily Bresser's state record of 56.71 (1997) in the 100 Back. Ewing was timed in 58.02 at regionals, while Menefee finished in 58.39.

Defending girls' State Champion Paul Dunbar has 18 individual entries that qualified for state action, while runner-up Sacred Heart has 23. DuPont Manual and Notre Dame should also be in the hunt for the Girls' State Championship, having qualified 15 and 21 individual swims.

Overall, 13 All-American consideration times by 10 swimmers were performed during regional meet action.

WOODFORD COUNTY CAPTURES WRESTLING TITLE

Woodford County picked up the school's 11th State Wrestling Championship at the State Wrestling Championships held last Thursday through Saturday at the Capital Plaza Convention Center in Frankfort. It was the Yellowjackets' third title in the last four years and fifth title in the last seven years.

Woodford County tallied 233.5 team points under the first-year eight-place scoring system. Campbell County was second at 163.0, followed by South Oldham at 162.0 and last year's state champion St. Xavier scored 147.0 points.

Woodford County, Oldham County and Simon Kenton each picked up two individual titles. Eric Slugantz (171) and Tyler Baldwin (119) were individual champions for Woodford County. Oldham County's Josh Riordan (160) and Matt Thompson (103) picked up individual titles as well as Craig Cooper (152) and Brad Cooper (130) for Simon Kenton.

St. Xavier's Isaac Knable captured his fourth individual championship with a win in the 145-pound weight class. Knable joins Woodford County's Joe Carr, Jr. and Conner's Robby Clarkson as wrestlers who captured four consecutive state titles.

Complete tournament results are posted on the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org/wrestling.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL NOTES

(Taken from member school stats reports)

Owensboro's Marcella Cavitt had a strong outing for the Lady Red Devils in a 75-34 win over Hancock County last Thursday. Cavitt scored 19 points, pulled down 12 rebounds, picked off eight steals and had three blocks and an assist.

Jeffersontown's Natalie Rice hit a school-record five three-point shots in a 78-38 win over Atherton last Friday. Rice hit five of six attempts.

Crystal Kelly pulled down 16 rebounds to help Sacred Heart to a 64-41 win over DuPont Manual last Saturday.

BOYS' BASKETBALL NOTES

(Taken from member school stats reports)

Mykel Tidwell and Michael Johnson scored 27 points each to pace Graves County to a 69-66 win over Christian County last Friday night. Earlier in the week, A.J. Adams had 17 points in a 64-59 loss to St. Mary.

Millerburg Military Academy picked up a couple of wins last week to improve to 5-12 on the year, after going winless last season. Luke Prince scored a career-high 38 in a 84-55 win over Kentucky School for the Deaf. Last Friday, Xavier Lineberry scorched the nets for 42 points and pulled down 15 rebounds in helping MMA to an 84-39 win over All Saints.

Despite suffering a 65-64 loss last Friday, Adair County's Kevin Bridgewater enjoyed a great game. Bridgewater scored 40 points, including hitting on 12 of 19 two-point shots and three of five three-point shots. He was also seven of 12 from the free throw line.

DISTRICT BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

Basketball enters postseason next week with district tournament action. District Tournament schedules are posted on the KHSAA website at www.khsaa.org. Click the Basketball Scoreboard link and then view a tournament. Results will be posted nightly.

REGIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT SITES

Following are sites for the upcoming Boys' & Girls' Regional Basketball Tournaments. Tournament schedules will be posted on the Association website (Scoreboard link) on Sunday evening, March 3, as they are received.

Boys' Regional Tournaments (March 4-9)

1 – Murray State University; 2 – Madisonville-North Hopkins; 3 – Apollo; 4 – Western Kentucky University; 5 – Central Hardin; 6 – Louisville Gardens; 7 – Louisville Gardens; 8 – Henry Co.; 9 – Conner; 10 – Mason Co.; 11 – Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center, Frankfort; 12 – Russell Co.; 13 – Rockcastle Co.; 14 – Perry Co. Central; 15 – Pike Co. Central; 16 – Morehead State University.

Girls' Regional Tournaments (March 4-12)

1 – Murray State University; 2 – Caldwell Co.; 3 – Muhlenberg North; 4 – Western Kentucky University; 5 – Nelson Co.; 6 – Louisville Gardens; 7 – Louisville Gardens; 8 – Bullitt Central; 9 – Ryle; 10 – Mason Co.; 11 – Bryan Station; 12 – Pulaski Co.; 13 – Rockcastle Co.; 14 – Hazard; 15 – Pike Co. Central; 16 – Morehead State University.

HOW TO GET INFO IN THE WEEKLY RELEASE

The KHSAA requests assistance from its member schools and media outlets to aid in the compilation and dissemination of notes of interest, coaches association polls and upcoming events in all sports. Information should be forwarded to the KHSAA, attention Butch Cope, by 1 p.m. (ET) on Monday of each week. You may e-mail (bcope@khsaa.org) the information or fax it to the KHSAA at (859) 293-5999. Information received will be reviewed and published at the discretion of the Association. The KHSAA strives to publicize all of its sports to the fullest extent and appreciates any and all assistance.

THE NEXT REGULAR RELEASE WILL BE MONDAY, FEB. 25, 2002