



APRIL, 2011 BCAM MONTHLY REPORT

From the Executive Director

Tom Hursey

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: I have just attended the Michigan State finals. What a weekend for basketball junkies. Twelve ball games in 3 days. Big crowds in the Breslin Center. A very successful BCAM Hospitality Room in the MSU Women's practice gym with over 500 BCAM members, officials and guests in attendance. Two successful half-time events called the Top Shooters Challenge where our top free throw and 3-point shooters shoot-off for the title of champion. My BCAM hat goes off to Nate Hampton and the MHSAA tourney committee for their first-class production of the Girls and Boys State Basketball Championships.

BCAM and the MHSAA have been working together for years with the goal of improving high school basketball in Michigan. The cost of the Hospitality Room is split with the MHSAA (not inexpensive). We work together to present the Legends Clinic to youngsters at Hoopfest along with organizing the Top Shooters Challenge. The MHSAA and BCAM have worked hard at improving sportsmanship through our Basketball Officials and Coaches Communication Committee (BOCCC) and our inaugural Top 100 Sportsmanship Award sponsored by the Michigan National Guard. The Reaching Higher Showcase is another joint venture between BCAM and the MHSAA. BCAM might be the only basketball association in the country that has such a great working relationship with their state athletic association.

I can't emphasize enough the importance of our great sponsors. How can BCAM offer our popular School Special membership incentive? Simple: our sponsors allow this to happen and save coaches and schools a lot of money. What can you do to make this support continue? Support the companies that support you.

Any of you who have had to contact our BCAM office and work with Amy Heydenburg can support this comment: BCAM is very lucky to have Amy working behind the scene. She has become a very important person in the way BCAM does business. Amy, along with our administrative assistant Peggy Porter, keeps our organization running smoothly. You will continue to receive emails from Amy that serve as reminders of upcoming events. Please read and heed.



STATE CHAMPS:

- **GIRLS**
 - **A: Inkster – Coach Peggy Carr**
 - **B: Dearborn Divine Child – Coach Mary Laney**
 - **C: St. Ignace – Co-Coaches Dorene & Doug Ingalls**
 - **D: Waterford Our Lady of Lakes – Steve Robak**
- **BOYS**
 - **A: Kalamazoo Central – Coach Michael Thomas II**
 - **B: Lansing Sexton – Coach Carlton Valentine**
 - **C: Schoolcraft – Coach Randy Small**
 - **D: Wyoming Tri-unity Christian – Coach Mark Keeler**



WEBSITE: Our website is one of our main methods of communication with members. Recently we had our website "hacked" two times. We are sorry if you had trouble using the website during this time. Corrections are ongoing. If you ever have trouble with the website, don't sit and bang your head against the wall, contact Amy because she might be able to help. amy@bcam.org

Be sure to check out the JOBS, CAMPS/CLINICS and COMPETITIVE EVENTS areas of the website. Post your summer shootout or find a new coaching job. New advertisements are being posted every day. (be sure to login first)

COACHES VS CANCER GOLF SCRAMBLE: Save Monday, August 8 on your calendar. That is the date for the second annual BCAM Coaches vs Cancer Golf Scramble at the beautiful Walnut Hills Golf Club in East Lansing. All 14 Michigan Division 1 basketball coaches have endorsed this event. We look forward to filling all 144 spots. BCAM members will have until June 15 to register. After that date, any openings will be available to the general public. **ALL BCAM MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVING REGISTRATION INFORMATION LATER THIS MONTH. DON'T DELAY. DON'T BE LEFT OUT.**

AWARD WINNERS: BCAM gives out many awards and honors. The winners will be posted on the BCAM website as soon as possible. Go to www.bcam.org and click on AWARDS. You will find the different award winners listed starting with BCAM's BEST later this week.

TOP SHOOTERS CHALLENGE winners at Hoopfest:

Girls F.T.

Katie Knudsen - Traverse City Central - Runner up – 3/5 FT Made in Finals
Megan Grimes - Gull Lake – Champion – 5/5 FT Made in Finals

Girls 3pt

Kerby Tamm - Petoskey - Runner up – 9/25 3's Made in Finals
Tori Jankoska - Freeland – Champion – 13/25 3's Made in Finals

Boys F.T.

Johnny Johnson - Warren Woods Tower - Runner up – 4/5 FT Made in Finals
Tanner Nichols - White Pigeon – Champion – 5/5 FT Made in Finals

Boys 3pt

DJ Wilson - Mt. Clemens - Runner up – 10/25 3's Made in Finals
Thomas Hannah - Mt. Clemens – Champion -11/25 3's Made in Finals



COACH: WHAT WOULD YOU DO? Today you play for the State Championship. You have just won a semi-final game the day before to put your team in the final games. 10,000 people will be in the stands. Your hometown is a-buzz about this big day. What a great time in your coaching career. BUT last night three of your players missed curfew. The three players, one starter and two key reserves, came in after the curfew. The rules were clear about the time to be in their room.

You have some choices: 1) Forget about the rules. They don't apply when you are playing for the state championship. 2) Don't start the player who was in the starting line-up. Rules can be adjusted. 3) Keep the starter out for the first and/or second quarter. Surely this would be penalty enough. 4) Do what is right. Follow your rules that say if you miss curfew you do not play.

Coach Mike Thomas of Kalamazoo Central was faced with these choices. He suspended them for the entire game. A game that could make Central "back-to-back state champions".

"It's a situation where we try to run our program like a college program, and when guys make mistakes they're going to have to get disciplined," Thomas said.

But did the other players accept Thomas' suspensions? "They had no choice," according to Thomas. "There are life lessons to be learned.

Central player T.J. Buchanan added, "They were going to play but Coach is Coach. He might be young but he disciplines us. No matter what game it is, he'll sit you down. That's why we are here."

And how did Kalamazoo Central do in this state final game? They beat an outstanding Detroit Southeastern team 46-42. Do you think Coach Thomas will have curfew problems in the future?

Again I ask, "What would you do?"

TOP 100 SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS sponsored by the Michigan National

Guard: BCAM is excited to announce the results of the first annual Top 100 Sportsmanship Award winners. The Top 100 were determined by an evaluation system used by the MHSAA and game officials during the regular season. Schools (players, coaches, fans and administration) were evaluated after each game by the officials that worked that night's game. They were evaluated by a 1 – 4 rating system.

The goal of this program is to keep sportsmanship in the forefront of each regular season game. The top schools will receive a beautiful banner signifying a school's good sportsmanship. The banners will be presented at the beginning of next basketball season by the Michigan National Guard. BCAM wants to give special thanks to the Michigan National Guard for their support of this unique awards program.



MISS AND MR. BASKETBALL – Michigan State University will be the benefactor of this year's winners of Miss and Mr. Basketball. Jamine Hines (Central Lake HS) and Dwaun Anderson (Suttons Bay HS) were voted in by BCAM members. Both have signed with the Spartans. The following links will give you the Free Press articles about these two fine high school players.

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110321/HSS/103220405/1238/HSS/Mr-Basketball-Dwaun-Anderson-king-from-Up-North>
<http://www.freep.com/article/20110314/HSS/103150411/1238/HSS/Miss-Basketball-Jasmine-Hines-Miss-Versatile>

Editor's Note: The percentage of BCAM members that voted was very small. The main reason for not voting was: "I did not see any of the nominees play this season." In an effort to increase voting next year, the Mr/Miss Basketball Committee will make an effort to include video highlights of each nominee with the ballot. Stats and coaches' comments will also be included.

COACHES VS CANCER: From Matt Schelich of Kingsley HS, reported that their Coaches vs Cancer fundraiser brought in \$3,200. Way to go Kingsley coaches.

3RD ANNUAL SPRING COACHES CLINIC is being held at Grand Rapids West Catholic High School. David Ingles is hosting a coaches clinic on Saturday, April 30 starting at 9 AM. *(BCAM is giving this clinic special notice since this is basically a free clinic - \$5 at the door including a pizza lunch).*

SPEAKERS:

--Gary Sprague, Gull Lake High School: Post Player Development

--Matt Covault, Kalamazoo Loy Norrix High School: Pressing Defense Into Transitions Offense

--Jim Goorman, Western Michigan Christian High School: Preparing For Tournament Play and The 1-3-1 Press

--Kevin VandeStreek, Calvin College: Offensive Concepts.

* These coaches will use on court demonstration and also computer presentations.



Please rsvp by emailing dingles@muskegoncatholic.org

UNFORTUNATE DEATH OF A STUDENT/ATHLETE: The high school basketball world was stunned by the death of Fennville's Wes Leonard. The chief medical examiner for Ottawa County in west Michigan ruled the cause of death for high school basketball star Wes Leonard was cardiac arrest brought on by dilated cardiomyopathy, a condition the athlete may not have known he had. The office of Dr. David A. Start, a forensic pathologist, said the condition enlarges and weakens heart muscles and can go undetected.

Wes Leonard, 16, collapsed on the basketball court at Fennville High School soon after he scored an overtime shot that clinched a 57-55 win over Bridgman – and a perfect season for the Holland-area school.

BCAM's support and prayers go out to Coach Ryan Klingler and the players and community of Fennville.

RETRO MR. BASKETBALL 2011: Six high school basketball stars of the past, culled from a list of over 60 players mentioned on all-state and all-tournament teams from years gone by, were tagged as "Retro" Mr. Basketball winners this past weekend by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan.

Since 1981, Michigan basketball fans have eagerly awaited the announcement of the Hal Schram Mr. Basketball award each year. Given to the state's top senior as voted by BCAM membership, the award is named after the late Hal Schram, a sportswriter who began his career at the Lansing State Journal, then covered athletics for the *Detroit Free Press* for more than 40 years. The award is jointly sponsored by BCAM and the *Free Press*.

The goal of the "Retro" Mr. Basketball project, which launched in 2010, is to consider who might have been named Mr. Basketball had the award existed in years past. The mission is to recognize and celebrate the history of high school basketball in Michigan by recalling some of the top talent from years past.

1921 Mr. Basketball: GEORGE HAGGERTY, YPSILANTI, FORWARD.

A second-team All-Tournament selection for his efforts in the Class A state basketball event, hosted at Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University). In the spring of 1921, Haggerty grabbed track titles in the 120-yard 42" hurdles and the 220-yard 30" low hurdles. Lettered in basketball in 1923, 1924 and 1925 at the University of Michigan.

1931 Mr. Basketball: EDWARD HUTTENGA, GRAND HAVEN, CENTER.

Considered one of the top, if not the top, center in the state in 1931. Played four years for Grand Haven. Although Grand Haven was classified as a Class B school, Huttenga and his teammates competed in the Southwestern Conference, comprised of Class A schools. After winning the league championship, coach Gus Cohrs opted to have the Buccaneers compete for the Class A state crown. His squad knocked off Battle Creek Central, Dearborn Fordson, then trounced Lansing Central, 31-15, in the title game to earn the crown. Huttenga, an All-Conference selection, later lettered at Western State Teachers College (now Western Michigan University).

1941 Mr. Basketball: DON OSTERMAN, DETROIT ST. THERESA, FORWARD.

Scored 221 points to lead St. Theresa to the state Class B title. A four-year veteran, he scored 705 points while at St. Theresa's. "Unusually fast for a big man, and probably the best player in the state under the backboards. Specializes in pivot shots and tip-ins."

1951 Mr. Basketball: WEBSTER KIRKSEY, SAGINAW, 17, 5-10, 148.

According to the *Detroit Free Press*, "The hustling Kirksey could out-jump many six-footers when he uncoiled." Piled up 298 points 15 games for Saginaw, earning first-team All-State honor in the *Free Press*, *Detroit News* and *Detroit Times*. Attended Michigan Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University).

1961 Mr. Basketball: REGGIE HARDING, DETROIT EASTERN, 18, 6-11½, 235.

Only repeater on the *Detroit News* All-State squad. Blessed with exceptional mobility, Harding "scored 407 points in 14 games this season, averaging 29.1 per game. His three-year output was 1,079 or 25.2 per game. Board control was Harding's great asset. He had 330 rebounds of which almost two-thirds were on defense.

He also blocked numerous shots and picked off many passes while pressing and converted them into quick scores." Later played pro ball with the Detroit Pistons and Chicago Bulls.

1971 Mr. Basketball: MICHAEL "CAMPY" RUSSELL, PONTIAC CENTRAL, 18, 6-7, 190.

All-state as a junior and senior, Russell totaled 1,454 in his three-year prep career. Hailed at the time by his future University of Michigan coach, Johnny Orr, as the "best offensive high school player in the country." Earned 1st team All-America honors from *Parade Magazine*.

National High School Athletic Coaches Association



2011 Annual Convention comes to Grand Rapids, Michigan

The National High School Athletic Coaches Association and Michigan High School Coaches Association are working together to host the NHSACA Annual meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 2011.

April 1, 2011 — Grand Rapids, Michigan is the host site of the 2011 National High School Athletic Coaches Association annual meeting June 18-22, 2011

The National High School Athletic Coaches Association would like to invite educators and coaches to play a part in Michigan first hosting opportunity of the annual meeting. The event draws from 28 states with some 200 participates, it is an opportunity to Educate, Recognize, and Support, teachers, coaches, and administration of our nations student-athletes. The Annual meeting will recognize 160 Coach of the Year nominees, Induct Hall of Fame candidates from every state in the nation, and conduct 5 days of leadership sessions, and sport specific discussion groups. There are several additional actives offered for families and attendees at the NHSACA Annual meeting as well, you can participate in Golf outing at Grand Valley State Universities home course, Silent Auction at Grand Rapids The Bob, or visit the Grand Rapids Children's Museum, the John Ball Zoo, and the Fredrik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

Increasing Awareness thru Participation with NHSACA & School Athletics

Throughout the years, based on student interest, high school sports has added several new standards and has increased the amount of students who wish to participate beyond the traditional offerings. High School Varsity athletics has earned respect with achievements such nationally acclaimed athletes' and coaches'. The funds raised by this event will directly benefit the continuing excellence of the educational, recognition, support programs and those participating student athletes, coaches and administrators

Come join us for a five great days of education, recognize, support, area attractions, camaraderie and fun!

The National High School Athletic Coaches Association Annual Convention will take place at The Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, June 18 thru 22, 2011. Registration information located on line at www.hscoaches.org. Fees for the five days of meeting begin at \$100. Walkups accepted.

The group reservation code for the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and the June convention is **10B4FV**.

For more information, contact:

Jim Okler
Grosse Ile Athletic Director,
2010-11 NHSACA President
734-362-2458
oklerj@gischools.org

Jerome Garry
NHSACA Executive Director
507-696-7793
JG.NHSACA@Charter.net

Web Site: www.hscoaches.org

Principle Sixteen: Coach Teaches Accountability

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Principle 16 of the [Arizona Sports Summit Accord](#) states, "The profession of coaching is a profession of teaching. In addition to teaching the mental and physical dimensions of their sport, coaches, through words and example, must also strive to build the character of their athletes by teaching them to be trustworthy, respectful, responsible, fair, caring, and good citizens."

In Southern California, second-ranked Muir high school basketball team was on the cusp of the playoffs when Coach Gamal Smalley dismissed a star player from the team. The player was averaging 18 points and 7.5 rebounds a game, but he violated team rules too many times.

Coach Smalley told Miguel Melendez of the [Pasadena Star-News](#), "He is one of the most athletic players in our area, but he did not do everything he needed to do to be a part of our basketball program.... We did give him a lot of chances, and unfortunately we had to let him go."

According to Melendez, the loss of this player could seriously hurt Muir's chances of winning a championship.

In one of his commentaries, Michael Josephson writes about a football coach who had to decide whether or not to report that three of his players were ineligible. Josephson told the coach to play by the rules and let the chips fall where they may. He [writes](#), "There were many stakeholders involved (people who would be affected by the decision), and the coach was duty-bound to use his teaching platform to send an unequivocal positive message about honor and integrity. Failing to do so would deprive another team of its right to go to the finals. Looking the other way would undermine his credibility."

Or, as Coach Smalley put it, "As a basketball coach and a mentor, you can't focus everything on just winning.... There has to be ethical accountability. Character issues come into play, and we must follow our code of conduct. Without that, what are we really teaching?"

The Essence of Sportsmanship

In the 1964 Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria, six-time medalist Eugenio Monti from Italy was favored to win the gold medal in the bobsledding pair event. After his team's last run, it looked like they were going to make it.

The British team, led by Tony Nash Jr., still had a chance, but before their final run, Nash discovered a critical axle bolt had broken on their sled. They were done. Without hesitation, Monti removed the bolt from his sled and rushed it up to Nash's team. They were able to continue, and their run was so strong they won the gold medal.

The Italian press viciously criticized Monti for giving up the gold, but he was steadfast. "Nash didn't win because I gave him the bolt," he said. "He won because he had the fastest run."

Olympic swimming medalist John Naber says a true sportsman, one who believes in the Olympic ideal, not only wants to win, he wants to win against his best opponent on his best day. A true sportsman is not elated, but disappointed, when top competitors are injured or disqualified.

Monti won the gold medal at the next Winter Olympics, but it was his willingness to lose that earned him a prominent place in Olympic history. His act represents sportsmanship at its best: the pursuit of victory with zeal and passion, recognizing that there's no true victory without honor.

Today, with so many teams and athletes willing to cheat or behave badly to win, we need reminders of the noble potential of sports. Parents and coaches should teach youngsters that the real glory of sport is in the striving, not the winning.

This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.



12 OFTEN OVERLOOKED, TAKEN-FOR-GRANTED, YET FUNDAMENTAL COACHING RULES

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Rule #1: Remember the power of nice. Being nice goes a long way in building player's commitment, intensity, perseverance, and overall effort. Seeing the best in others, catching them doing things right, and providing encouragement and support can enhance motivations, improve focus, and decrease anxieties. Being nice is contagious and will set the climate for your practices and competitions.

Rule #2: To get more you will need to expect more. You generally will not get what you do not ask for. The more specific you are with your expectations . . . the better your chances of actually receiving what you ask for. Remember, your player's actions are closely tied to what they are thinking and talking about (and what they are hearing from you). Of course after clearly outlining your expectations, you must then enforce the agreed upon standards with your players. Enforcing high standards and expectations is at the core of most great programs.

Rule #3: Passion and enthusiasm can be a "difference-maker." Athletes with genuine passion and enthusiasm also tend to be optimistic, respond positively to setbacks, and remain hopeful in the face of adversity. Over time, a passionate (positive) attitude generally leads to positive results. Attitude and passion are powerful sources of energy, especially when establishing individual and team momentum. Be sure to recruit and develop passionate and enthusiastic players.



Rule #4: Keep it simple . . . but see the "big picture." Things do not have to be complicated to be effective. Similarly, things do not have to be difficult in order for learning to take place. Keep things simple and get rid of anything (outdated systems, old coaching strategies, long-winded explanations) that does not serve a clear purpose. Be clear, get to the point, and simplify your coaching messages. It's true . . . less could mean more.

Rule #5: There is a big difference between failing and giving up. Success is determined not only by how one finishes but also if one finishes. It is critical to coach persistence, perseverance, potential, and opportunity. This is difficult to do with a generation that can get almost anything "right now". Many athletes are too quick to give up . . . and lack the understanding, patience, and perseverance to overcome their initial failures. Remember, failing can be temporary but giving up is often permanent.

Rule #6: Momentum is not by chance. Action always precedes motivation. The "Big Mo" (mojo) is purposeful, powerful, and positive . . . and it starts with action. Momentum is based on what your players think about themselves and their latest accomplishments, what they believe you (their coach) think about their accomplishments, and their ability to focus on what is within their control. Action is the best way to overcome fear, doubt, and worry . . . and "action" is needed when creating momentum.

Rule #7: Say what you mean . . . mean what you say . . . and follow-thru with what you said. Say it, meant it, and follow-thru with it. Be sure about what you are asking of your players (clear expectations) and then be ready to enforce your standards. In doing so, your players will quickly learn what actions lead to the desired results (goal accomplishments) and what behaviors lead to the undesired outcomes (negative consequences). Hard work leads to goal attainment. Poor effort generally leads to subpar performances. In the end, natural consequences may be the "best teacher".

Rule #8: Your response to being down is your most important response. Being down is inevitable but what you do when down will determine your long-term success. Michael Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team. Henry Ford forgot to put a "reverse" gear on his first car. And Thomas Edison was afraid of the dark. In short, being down is often a precursor to finding success. When you are down . . . what is your first response?



Rule #9: Start over tomorrow . . . the score is 0-0. What's done is done. Move forward and make things better on your next attempt. Starting over is a choice and a state of mind. This too must be modeled for your team. Your players need to "see" an attitude (their coach) ready to move forward and try again. Sometimes what just happened (a bad call in a loss) isn't fair. Get over it! So you hit a bump in the road. Now get back to your goals. Yesterday ended when today started.

Rule #10: Why not today? Seize the day. If you are going to do it . . . why not get it done now? Put your new ideas and plans in motion today. Remember, it takes action before you can have momentum. You may not be the better coach or the better team, but you only have to be better today. Today is what matters now . . . so keep your focus here and in the present moment.



Rule #11: Be careful . . . sometimes the more you do the less you get done. Stay true to your strengths and remember that you cannot do everything. Embrace the idea of delegation and be careful not to replace quality with quantity. Trying to do too much (quantity) will often result in reduced quality. In managing your workload, be sure to follow the 4 P's . . . **plan** (what you want to do), **prioritize** (what needs to be done first), **prepare** (as needed to attain the set standard), and **perfect** (do it again and again until you get it right).

Rule #12: Best friends should bring out your best. You will think, talk, and begin to act a lot like those with whom you associate. Negative thinkers and complainers will "stunt your growth." In contrast, winners tend to bring about winners and leaders tend to produce leaders. If you want to be a great coach, read about, think about, and talk about great coaching . . . and whenever possible, surround yourself by the kind of people (coaches) you most want to model. In the end, it is likely that you will become much like your closest friends. So ask yourself . . . Are my friends bringing out my best? Are your friends "good friends?"

There you go . . . 12 fundamental coaching rules. Enjoy the journey and keep up the great coaching.

IN CASE YOU MISSED THIS: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEgcml1Wx1w&feature=player_embedded

Get some quotes from:

From "A Warrior's Heart" written by Mark DeLap (a BCAM member and longtime coach in Michigan). To purchase this book at a special price, contact Mark at markdelap@hotmail.com