



BCAM April 2013 Monthly Report

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I just got back from the Boys State Championships. It is always a pleasure to see a first class event that is conducted with efficiency and professionalism. Michigan is very fortunate to have Nate Hampton (MHSAA Assistant Director) in charge of our basketball state championships. Not only are games and events run on time, but the entire three days each weekend runs smoothly. BCAM has become a big part of the Championships with the Top Shooters contest at both the girls' and boys' finals. Our hospitality room at the boys' finals is an added benefit to BCAM members and their guests that take advantage of this event. The Hoopfest will return next year (Big Ten Gymnastics forced Hoopfest to take a year off) and BCAM will be involved. The positive relationship between the MHSAA and BCAM has become a model of how two associations should be working together to improve high school basketball.

I congratulate the eight State Champions. It is always interesting to see the joy on the winner's faces. I can relate to the feelings of the runner-up teams as they try to hide their disappointment. My teams never made it to the state finals and therefore each of my 21 years of coaching varsity basketball ended in a loss. As the runner-ups look back in future years, they will realize how successful their season has been by reaching the final game.

The main topic of conversation at the state finals has been "recruiting". There seems to be a general feeling among coaches that a successful basketball team is a result of recruiting rather than good coaching and home grown talent. I am not going to take that position but rather I am interested in looking at each situation separately. There are many scenarios that result in players transferring to another school or players selecting a high school coming out of middle school. Many of these scenarios are well within the MHSAA regulations even though on the surface a person might assume there has been undue influence. Obviously there are other situations that are totally in violation of MHSAA regulations and those need to be reported and dealt with. If coaches or schools are not willing to offer proof of violations, then the MHSAA is put in a difficult position of ruling on a transfer without any proof...something they legally can't do.

While some coaches are blatantly breaking rules there are other situations that appear to be violations but are perfectly legal. Some schools are better in academics and athletics. If a family has the financial means to move from one school district to another, it makes sense that they would choose one with a history of success. These transfers take place all the time but don't raise eyebrows until two or three transfers happen at the same time and a team benefits from these new student/athletes.

It is easy to point fingers but we need to find out all the facts before we can accuse a coach or school of recruiting. The MHSAA is concerned about this recruiting trend and hopefully some stiffer penalties can be put in place. But with the threat of lawsuits with every change in regulations, the MHSAA has to move slowly or open themselves up to legal action.

As you finish out your season by putting away equipment don't forget to keep in mind our great sponsors when buying new uniforms, basketballs and other equipment. NIKE clothing and Rawlings basketballs are available through our two sporting goods sponsors -- Team Sports (see article below) and Johnny Mac's (800-285-4460).

There is definitely great interest in the current school classification set-up (Class A,B,C,D). The BCAM Office has sent out a survey to the membership concerning this issue. Results will be coming out this month. Sean Schroeder (Stevensville Lakeshore HS) will be heading up a committee to look into the possibility of more



divisions. The more members that respond to this survey, the better our committee can determine needed changes. Contact Sean if you are interested in this endeavor sshroeder@lakeshoreps.org.



COACHES VS CANCER GOLF OUTING - Mark Monday, August 5 on your calendar for our annual fundraiser to fight cancer. Dan Stolz (Okemos) will be heading up this year's event. It will be played at the beautiful Walnut Hills Golf Club in East Lansing. For more details and to register go to: www.cvcgolf.org

BCAM VARSITY PLAYER / TEAM AWARDS – As the BCAM end-of-the-year awards are tallied, we will be posting the results on the BCAM website under AWARDS. Boy's and Girl's BCAM's BEST is already posted and soon we will have the results of Top Shooters, Team Academic and Individual Academic. Awards will be mailed in care of each school later this month.

REGIONAL HS COACH OF THE YEAR VOTING – On Monday, April 1, all BCAM members who are “actively coaching” (at high school level and below) were emailed ballots for both Boy's and Girl's HS Varsity Regional Coaches of the Year. Members have until April 11 to vote for this award. You are allowed to only vote for coaches in your region. If you did not receive your ballots, FIRST check your spam folder. If you still cannot locate them, contact amy@bcam.org. Only 10 - 40% of eligible members submit votes each year depending on the region. Please take the time to consider your choice and vote. Our online voting couldn't be any easier.

BCAM HALL OF FAME AND HALL OF HONOR – Do you know someone who should be considered for BCAM's Hall of Fame, or Hall of Honor? BCAM's Hall of Fame honors coaches who have coached high school varsity or college head basketball for 20 years or more and/or have at least 300 career victories. BCAM's Hall of Honor recognizes persons involved with basketball for at least 20 years. Awards are given in four categories: assistant coaches, media, officials and friends of basketball. If you know someone who should be considered for this year at our October banquet, fill out a nomination form and mail it in. Nomination forms can be found at www.bcam.org under FORMS (coaching award forms).

JOBS / CAMPS-CLINICS / COMPETITIVE EVENTS – Are you looking for a new coaching job? Do you need to post your summer camp or shootout? Need to fill holes in your schedule for next season? The BCAM website offers areas for members to make and view advertisements such as these. Be sure to check out and use this tool. You will need to login to view the advertisements but anyone can make a posting.

TEAM SPORTS' COMMITMENT TO MICHIGAN / BCAM:

Team Sports, headquartered in Toledo, OH has been doing business in the State of Ohio and Michigan since 1980. As we have grown, especially in the Michigan market, our customers would often ask us “When are you opening a Michigan office?” After much planning and discussions, on July 1, 2012 Team Sports opened its first Michigan office in Brighton, and then on September 1st, 2012 opened its second Michigan location in the Pontiac/Auburn Hills area. To date we have 10 employees working out of the two locations, and four more coming up from our Ohio office for a total of 14, which allows us to service our Michigan customers much better. In addition, with our long-standing relationship with BCAM, not only as a corporate sponsor, but also helping facilitate the Nike sponsorship with BCAM, we feel strongly that this shows Team Sports' commitment—not only to the Michigan market as a whole, but to BCAM, and the entire basketball community.



Thanks,

Brad Downer, Team Sports, Inc. bdowner@teamsportsinc.us Cell: 616-648-1100

Brighton Office: 5918 Meridian Blvd. Suite 2, Brighton, MI 48116, Ph. (810)229-5255, Fx. (810)229-5277

Pontiac Office: 1671 Highwood East, Pontiac, MI 48340, Ph. (248)418-6230, Fx. (248)418-6232

MISS BASKETBALL RESULTS: (Note: The voting response was the most we've ever had.)

	1 st Place Points	2nd Place Points	3rd Place Points	TOTAL
Tori Jankoska – Freeland	1815	498	137	2450
Taylor Gleason – Goodrich	1030	912	190	2132
Abby Cole – Grand Haven	955	582	247	1784
Antania Hayes – Detroit King	425	378	162	965
Allie Havers – Mattawan	365	384	182	931



MR. BASKETBALL RESULTS: (Note: The voting response was the most we've ever had.)

	1st Place Points	Second Place Points	Third Place Points	TOTAL
Monte Morris - Beecher	1260	654	216	2130
Derrick Walton Jr - Chandler PK	1265	645	176	2086
James Young - Rochester	1165	678	187	2030
Kahlil Felder - Pershing	510	525	216	1251
Dontel Highsmith - Dowagiac	610	384	167	1161

BOCCC REPORT (Basketball Officials and Coaches Communication Committee)

by Andy Donovan (Frankenmuth HS - Boys Varsity)

If you're like me, you spend the first week or six after the conclusion of your season, regardless of how you fared, trying to figure what you can do to get better. Every year, most of my reflection centers on a goal I'm always working towards and will likely never achieve in my career: coaching the perfect game. What would that look and feel like? I have some criteria, but if and when I can ever figure that out in its entirety, I assume I'll be able to repeat it!

After a pretty solid first 15 games of the season, we really struggled down the stretch and lost our first game of Districts. During that time, I caught myself taking my frustration out on the officials, arguing or debating with them purely for the sake of doing so. Now looking back, I've drawn an interesting parallel that has really resonated with me. I think it's fair to say, and most coaches would agree, that the most dissatisfying aspect of coaching is dealing with difficult parents. We've all been there. No matter what we do, we can't please them, and we really just want to focus our time and energy on coaching our kids.

But what would officials say? I'm sure that toward the top of the list, most would say dealing with difficult coaches is the most dissatisfying piece of their jobs. Why? No matter what call they make, coaches aren't pleased, and they just want to focus on trying to call a good game.

Next season, I'll continue my pursuit of coaching the perfect game, and I've added at least one additional item to my criteria: spend zero time being a difficult coach and questioning officials.

MIKE TURNER HONORED:

Former Albion College coach and BCAM Hall of Famer **Mike Turner** was named by the NABC as one of the head coaches for the 2013 Reeses® Division III College All-Star game held during the Final Four Tournament in Atlanta.

Turner, the 2009 recipient of the NABC Division III Coaches Distinguished Service Award, is the head coach of the West team. He was head coach at Albion College for 38 seasons and completed his coaching career with a record of 527-319, the most victories of any coach in program history. The former chair of the NCAA

Division III Men's Basketball Committee, Turner led his teams to four NCAA Division III tournaments and finished third in the nation in 1978. Turner and his wife Peg, a grade school teacher, also founded the Albion College Student-Athlete Mentoring Program in which Albion student-athletes tutor, read, and mentor over 250 grade school children annually.

Rivals Come Together for Coaches vs. Cancer--4th Annual Play for a Cure Games

Once again, Roscommon County rivals have joined forces in an attempt to raise money during the Coaches vs. Cancer campaign. In what has become an annual event, the boys' and girls' basketball programs at Roscommon High School and Houghton Lake High School sell pink basketballs to students, staff, and community members, for a \$1.00 donation. The basketballs then hang in the gym of the host school during our version of "Rivalry Week." This year, the games were held at Roscommon High School on Friday, February 22.

The idea is to generate a "pink out," covering the gym in basketballs. This year's campaign netted over \$2,200.00. All of that money went to the Great Lakes Division of the American Cancer Society. During the games, each team and coaching staff wore pink t-shirts donated by a local car dealership. As we step onto the floor for the opening tip, the only thing on our minds is winning the game and beating our archrivals; however, when we look at the big picture, we are, hopefully, doing much more than playing a simple game on a couple of nights in February. This brings our four-year total to roughly \$9,800.00 raised.

This year was especially tough as one of the members of the Roscommon boys' varsity team, Nathan Compo, was diagnosed with testicular cancer the week of the game. Nathan was able to attend the game that night and has since started treatment. It was obviously a tough, emotional week for people in both communities. The support for Nathan and his family has been extraordinary.

We plan on continuing this event, and hopefully we can raise even more money next year. Thank you to both communities for their fantastic support of this endeavor.

Roscommon Varsity Coaches:

Boys' Coach: M.J. Ewald

Girls' Coach: Phil Weiler

Houghton Lake Varsity Coaches:

Boys' Coach: Jeff Goodwin

Girls' Coach: Angie Dalak



pic (l to r): Dalak, Goodwin, Lori Sajdak (American Cancer Society), Weiler, Ewald

MORE FROM COACH JOHN WOODEN:

The people who don't make mistakes are the people who don't do anything. Never be afraid to make a mistake. These two sentences become a mantra that sometimes pushes people beyond their fear. In the book *How To Be Like Coach Wooden* by Pat Williams, Coach Wooden describes why he was occasionally bothered if his players didn't make enough mistakes in practice:

I wanted my players to be active, I wanted them doing things and initiating. I didn't want them worrying about mistakes. Mistakes made while expanding boundaries are what I wanted. If we weren't making mistakes, we weren't far enough out on the edge. If we weren't pushing against the walls of our capabilities, we weren't practicing properly. The time to cut down on turnovers is during games, not during practice. Mistakes come from doing, but so does success. The individual who is mistake-free is also probably sitting around doing nothing. And that's a very big mistake.

www.woodencourse.com

They're Called Coach

*This is old enough that it is written in the masculine gender. Certainly, it **applies to both men and women** who coach...*

This was written by Bill Libby as a preface to his book about coaches. Thanks to Coach Mike Smith for that information!

He's called a coach and it's a different job. There is no clear way to succeed. One cannot copy another who's a winner, for there seems to be some subtle secret chemistry of personality that enables a person to lead successfully and no one really knows what it is. Those who have succeeded and those who have failed represent all kinds.



They are young, old, experienced. They are soft, tough, good natured, foul tempered, proud and profane. They are articulate and even inarticulate. Some are dedicated and some casual. Some are even more dedicated than others. Intelligence is not enough, and dedication is not enough.

They all want to win, but some want to win more than others and just wanting to win is not enough. Losers almost always get fired, but winners get fired also. He is out in the open being judged publicly for six or seven months out of the year by those who may or may not be qualified to judge him. Every victory and every defeat is recorded constantly in print. The coach, this strange breed has no place to hide. He cannot just let the job go for a while or do a bad job and hope no one will notice as most of us can. He cannot satisfy everyone, seldom can he even satisfy very many, and rarely does he even satisfy himself. If he wins once, he must win the next time also.

They plot victories, they suffer defeats, they endure criticism from within and without, they neglect their families, they travel endlessly and they live alone in the spotlight surrounded by others. Theirs may be the worst profession in the world. It's unreasonably demanding, poor pay, insecure, full of unrelenting pressures and I ask myself: Why do coaches put up with it? Why do they do it? I've seen them fired with pat phrases such as, "Fool", "Incompetent", or "He couldn't get the job done".

I've wondered about that, having seen them exalted by victory, and depressed by defeat. I've sympathized with them having seen some broken by the job and others die from it. One is moved to admire them and to hope that someday the world will understand them; this strange breed they call coach.

Here are some extremely insightful thoughts on motivation by Steve Chandler, author of 100 Ways to Motivate Yourself, and 100 Ways to Motivate Others.

Most people we run into do what doesn't work, because most people try to motivate others by downloading their own anxiety onto them. Parents do this constantly; so do managers and leaders in the workplace. They get anxious about their people's poor performance and then download that anxiety on to their people. Now everybody's tense and anxious!

Downloading your anxiety onto someone only motivated that person to get away from you as quickly as possible. It doesn't motivate them to do what you really want. It doesn't help them get the best out of themselves.

Coaches do this all the time! We become stressed when our players don't perform well and so we tell them "If you don't start shooting well we are going to get thrashed on Friday!" or "The way we are playing now we might not win a game for a month!" And what happens? We don't shoot well, we don't play well, and we don't win. Then we become more anxious, dump more of that anxiety on to our players, and the downward spiral continues.



Constructive criticism and correction is absolutely necessary but when doing so make sure it's specific and as productive as possible. Give your players solutions instead of just only harping on the problems. Exude confidence. Remember – your anxieties will become their anxieties and that almost *never* results in improvement. --From *Hoop Skills*

The Team, the Team, the Team by Bo Schembechler

The former University of Michigan's iconic football coach, Bo Schembechler, used his own team bus to **create buy-in and unity.**

"When we hammered home our famous mantra, **"The team, the team, the team,"** that didn't leave a lot of room for interpretation. When I came up with that, I wasn't trying to be clever.

It means if you're late for the team bus, I don't care if you're Jim Mandich, Anthony Carter and Desmond Howard rolled into one. That bus is leaving, it's leaving on time—and it's leaving without you!

Look, they know Bo is always sitting up at the front of the bus, and when pullout time comes, he just checks his watch and says, "Driver, it's time to go." We don't have anyone checking who's here and who isn't.

We don't check! I never took roll. If you're on the bus, you must be on time, and if you're not on the bus, you must be late, and it's your fault. Driver, it's time to go!

We've had guys running up to the bus as we were pulling out—starters, even—and the guys on the bus always started yelling, "Coach! So-and so's running up to the bus!" I didn't care who it was.

I guarantee you right now I never even turned around to look, because the answer was always the same: Driver, it's time to go!

Everyone knew Bo's not mad at you, he's just leaving you. And I'll tell you why: Because it's just not fair to the other guys who took the trouble to get there on time. The bus waits for no man! Driver, it's time to go!

And as your big All-American grows smaller in the bus's rearview mirror, he'll have time to consider if you really meant what you said about the team, the team, the team. Leave a guy standing in the parking lot just once, and you better believe he'll be a half-hour early next time. Once everyone knows I'm not holding the bus for anyone, trust me, they get there. They always do.

That bus symbolized the foundation of our values: simple, straightforward, no exceptions.

You start cutting corners for this guy or that situation, and before you know it, you're spending all your time playing judge and jury, deliberating over every little incident, when you should be leading your team.

It's painful sometimes, but you create a lot fewer headaches for everyone, including the players, when you **simply stick to your guns.**"