



GHSA

"Items of Interest"

December 2011 / January 2012

Seasons Greetings and HAPPY NEW YEAR!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR GHSA STAFF

Front row (L-R): Stacey Basilici, Tanya Anderson, Pam Thompson, Sheri Brooks Coker and Julie Jones. Back row (L-R): Dennis Payne, Jim Bullington, Joyce Kay, Ralph Swearngin, Steve Figueroa and Gary Phillips.

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Newsletter
 Issued monthly, September through April, by the Georgia High School Association, P.O. Box 271, Thomaston, GA 30286

Phone: 706-647-7473 Fax: 706-647-2638 Web: www.ghsa.net

OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Vol. 30 Dec. 2011 / Jan. 2012 No. 4

- GHSA STAFF -
Areas of Responsibility

RALPH SWEARNGIN (extension 7)
 - Executive Director -
 Administration, Interpretation of GHSA Rules,
 Hardship Appeals, Lacrosse, Volleyball

GARY PHILLIPS (extension 6)
 - Assistant Executive Director -
 Student Eligibility, Community Coach Program,
 Cross Country, Wrestling, Track, Golf

JOYCE KAY (extension 5)
 - Associate Executive Director -
 Finances, Literary, One-Act Play,
 Debate, Cheerleading, Rifery

STEVE FIGUEROA (extension 4)
 - Director of Media Relations -
 Press Releases, Media Coordination for State Events, Newsletter,
 Football Schedules, Constitution, Calendar, Tennis

JIM BULLINGTON (extension 33)
 - Technology Specialist -
 Web Page Supervision, Database Management, Technical Support

PAM THOMPSON (extension 30)
 - Officials' Registrar -
 Officials' Registration, Test Scoring and Records

DENNIS PAYNE (extension 23)
 - Associate Director -
 Football, Baseball, Swimming

ERNIE YARBROUGH (extension 27)
 - Associate Director -
 Basketball, Soccer, Softball

TANYA ANDERSON (extension 2)
 - Administrative Assistant -
 Sanctioning of Events, School Passes,
 Directory, Coaches' Clinic Attendance

JULIE JONES (extension 1)
 - Administrative Assistant -
 Dues, Community Coach Program, Entry Notification

SHERI BROOKS COKER (extension 0)
 - Receptionist -
 Lifetime Passes, School System Passes,
 Ejection Reports, Publication Orders

STACEY BASILICI (extension 32)
 - Administrative Assistant -
 Mailing, Shipping, Filing, Office Assistant

GHSA Licensed Products

This month's featured licensees are: **Jostens**, official championship rings and jewelry (jostens.com); **Musco Sports Lighting**, the GHSA leader in developing sports-lighting technology solutions (musco.com); **FieldTurf**, official artificial turf (fieldturf.com); and **TeamIP**, official merchandiser and online store (teamip.com). View a complete list of GHSA licensees at www.ghsa.net/licensing. *Become a Fan of the GHSA on Facebook (Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA) and Follow us on Twitter (Twitter.com/OfficialGHSA).*

STATE CHAMPIONS

CHEERLEADING

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Cheerleading:

AAAAA	Mill Creek High School
AAAA	Northgate High School
AAA	Carrollton High School
AA	Coosa High School
A	Trion High School
Co-Ed	Winder-Barrow High School

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to the following State Champions in Cross Country:

AAAAA Girls	- Walton High School
AAAAA Boys	- Brookwood High School
AAAA Girls	- Marist School
AAAA Boys	- Flowery Branch High School
AAA Girls	- Heritage High School, Catoosa
AAA Boys	- St. Pius School
AA Girls	- Westminster School
AA Boys	- Westminster School
A Girls	- Landmark Christian School
A Boys	- Wesleyan School

ONE-ACT PLAY

Congratulations to the following State Champions in One-Act Play:

AAAAA	- Milton High School
AAAA	- Northside-WR High School
AAA	- West Hall High School
AA	- Buford High School
A	- North Cobb Christian School

Winning a State Championship is an outstanding achievement for the GHSA member schools, their athletes and coaches, and a distinction that should create a great deal of pride in the school community.

Home 'Pink' is OK for Jan. 30-Feb. 4

In observance of "Cancer Awareness" the GHSA will allow member schools to wear "pink" jerseys at their HOME basketball games during the week of January 30 through February 4, 2012.

The visiting teams must wear their normal "dark" uniforms, as usual.

Game officials will be using "pink" whistles for the "Calling For The Cure" promotion during the same week.

GHSA-Tommy Guillebeau Football Championships

GPB Sports Takes Major Step Forward On TV Presentation of Football Finals

GPB Sports is taking a major step forward this year in its approach to televising the GHSA State Football Championships presented by Georgia Farm Bureau. The sports network that has broadcasted 19 live high school football games this season into more than 1 million households and 14 additional games that have been seen by 225,000 unique visitors on the web, has partnered with Turner Productions to produce the two-day event which will be televised live on Georgia Public Broadcasting and video streamed on GPB.org/football.

Beginning December 9 at 4:30 p.m., GPB Sports will stay live at the Georgia Dome until the last championship trophy has been presented. The coverage will also include shows from the Dome between games and live championship trophy presentations. Those shows will be anchored by Mark Harmon of GPB Sports Central and include the entire Sports Central team of Gil Tyree, Niki Noto, Mark Harmon, Jon Nelson, Jackie Brittain, Trey McDaniel and former state championship coach Dave Hunter.

A group of high school experts will join the GPB Sports team including Tommy Palmer, the host of the Georgia High School Scoreboard Show, former Roswell state championship and current Blessed Trinity coach Tim McFarland, Score Atlanta's Bob Houghton and Fletcher Proctor, recruiting expert Chad Simmons as well as college football and basketball voice Bob Rathbun and WSB-TV's Zach Klein.

All games will be broadcasted live throughout the state of Georgia and into parts of Florida, Alabama and Tennessee on Georgia Public Broadcasting and webcasted live at GPB.org/sports. GPB has nine television stations across Georgia and is in more than 98 percent of the homes in the state. The third-largest PBS station in the country based on population reach, GPB is the No. 2 rated PBS station in the country. Two years ago, it was ranked No. 15.

Complete coverage of the championships will be available live and On Demand at GPB.org/sports. Score Atlanta will provide blogging and an interactive live chat during the games on GPB.org/sports. GHSA.tv will also have the games available for On Demand viewing and DVD orders. The games will be rebroadcasted on GPB Knowledge, one of GPB's digital channels, from December 12-16. Each night will feature a game at 8 p.m., with the Class A game on Monday, December 12, followed by the Class AA game on Tuesday, Class AAA on Wednesday, Class AAAA on Thursday and Class AAAAA on Friday. For more information on finding GPB Knowledge, visit the website at <http://www.gpb.org/GPBKnowledge>.

GPB Sports would also like to thank sponsors Georgia Farm Bureau, Verizon, GEMC and Regions Bank for support of the games.

For more information on the games, contact GPB Director of Sports I.J. Rosenberg at 404-256-1572 or ijrosenberg@gpb.org.



State Championship Games Named for Former GHSA Executive Director

The Executive Committee of the Georgia High School Association recently voted to name the GHSA Football Championships the "GHSA-Tommy Guillebeau Football Championships presented by Georgia Farm Bureau." This was a significant move to honor a person who contributed tremendously to high school football in Georgia.

"Tommy Guillebeau's tenure as GHSA Executive Director was a pivotal time in the association's history," said Ralph Swearngin, who followed Guillebeau as Executive Director in 2001. "Under his leadership the association focused more attention on serving the needs of the membership instead of just being a regulatory organization."

A Lincoln County High School and University of Georgia graduate, Robert Thomas Guillebeau began his career as a coach and science teacher at Warren County High School in 1953. He then served three years in Korea as a U.S. Army helicopter pilot. After returning from military service, Guillebeau taught and coached for a total of 13 years in high school before spending seven years as a high school principal and nine years as Superintendent of the Polk County School district. He came to the GHSA in 1987 as Associate Director under the late Bill Fordham. Guillebeau then succeeded Fordham as Executive Director in 1992 and served in that position until his retirement in June of 2001. Guillebeau and his wife Gail now live in Evans, Georgia.

"Mr. Guillebeau had the vision to understand the role that television could play in high school football," said Swearngin. "Mr. Guillebeau pushed the idea of bringing football teams to the Georgia Dome for semifinal games. At first this was just the games featuring schools from North Georgia, but as interest grew, it became a statewide event."

At Guillebeau's urging, the GHSA began playing semifinal-round football playoff games at the Dome in 1994. Then, in 2008, the Executive Committee approved playing the championship games at the Dome. From 1994 until now, almost three-quarters of a million fans have paid to see the games in the Dome, and tens of millions more have watched live on GPTV.



State Cheerleading Champions - 2011

**Co-Ed
Winder-Barrow
Bulldogs**

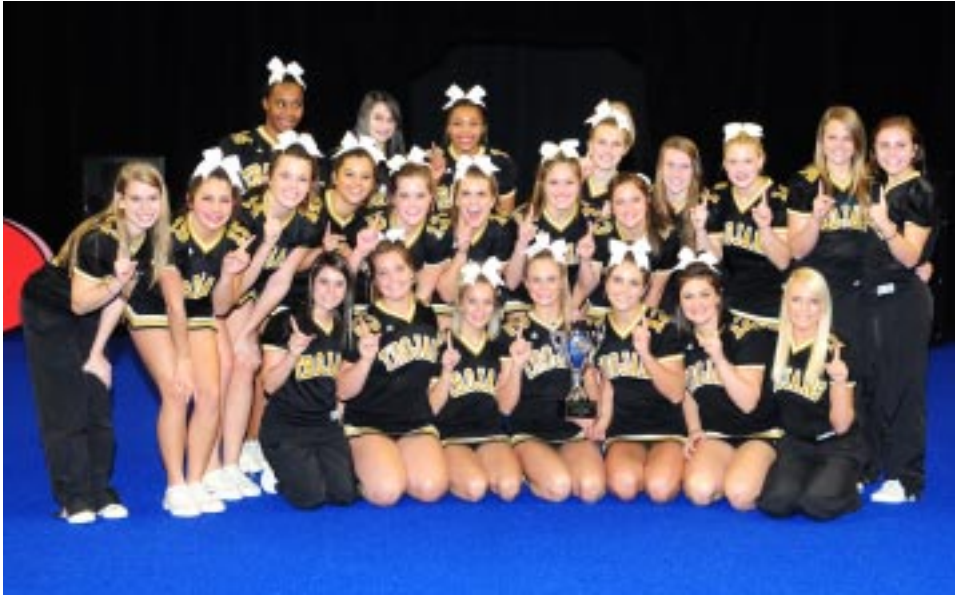


**Class AAAAA
Mill Creek
Lady Hawks**

**Class AAAA
Northgate
Lady Vikings**



State Cheerleading Champions - 2011



Class AAA
Carrollton
Lady Trojans



Class AA
Coosa
Lady Eagles



Class A
Trion
Lady Bulldogs



Photographs in this newsletter of the state championship cheerleading teams were provided by Georgia Photographics. More images may be found and purchased at GHSAPhotos.com.

GHSA State Golf Tournaments All Moving to Augusta in 2012

The Georgia High School Association (GHSA) and Augusta Sports Council (ASC) have announced the venues for the 2012 GHSA Golf State Championships. Earlier this year it was announced that the GHSA would bring the 10 state golf championships to the Augusta area in 2012. This is the first time a single community has been selected to host all 10 tournaments.

The Championships for A-AAAAA boys and girls will be held at 10 area golf courses on Monday, May 7, 2012. Combined, the tournaments will draw 880 golfers, plus coaches and fans.

Burke County High School golf coach and athletic director Wade Marchman will serve as the overall tournament director for this ground-breaking event, while the Augusta Sports Council will provide tournament support.

The 2012 tournament venues are as follows:

Class A	Boys – Forest Hills Golf Club Girls – Pointe South Golf Club
Class AA	Boys - Waynesboro Country Club Girls – Goshen Plantation Golf Club
Class AAA	Boys – Augusta Country Club Girls – Applewood Golf Course
Class AAAA	Boys – Jones Creek Golf Club Girls – Bartram Trail Golf Club
Class AAAAA	Boys – Champions Retreat Golf Club Girls – The River Golf Club



Dual Wrestling Area & State Tournaments

The Dual Wrestling Area Tournaments will be held on Friday, January 6, 2012 and/or Saturday, January 7, 2012. A list of Dual Area Tournament sites may be found on the GHSA web site (www.ghsa.net).

Two teams from each Area (A - AAAAA) will advance to the double-elimination Team Dual State Championship. The Team Dual State Championships in all classes will be held at the Centreplex in Macon on January 13-14, 2012.

The teams advancing to the state tournament must be designated to the GHSA office no later than 9:00 a.m., on Monday, January 9, 2012.

Each school participating in the State Tournament will be allowed free admission for up to twenty-eight (28) team members, plus a maximum of four (4) mat maids/managers.

Admission prices at the State Tournament are \$10.00 per day for Friday and Saturday. A total tournament ticket will be sold for \$17.00.



ACT and SAT Assessment Dates

Each year, the GHSA office gets requests to alter schedules due to conflicts with ACT and SAT. We cannot accommodate those requests. The following chart (also published in the GHSA Constitution & By-Laws and listed on the GHSA web site) gives dates of the exams and possible conflicts with GHSA activities. We urge you to inform your athletes, your counselors, and your coaches **now** about the dates scheduled for exams in order for the athletes to plan their assessments around events in which they are to compete.

ACT ASSESSMENT DATES

December 10, 2011	State Football Finals
February 11, 2012	Sectional Traditional Wrestling, State Swimming & Diving
April 14, 2012	State Riflery Championship
June 9, 2012	None

ACTIVITY CONFLICTS

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

December 3, 2011	State Football Semifinals
January 28, 2012	None
March 10, 2012	AAA, AA & A State Basketball Finals, Region Literary Meets
May 5, 2012	State Baseball playoffs, Girls State Track
June 2, 2012	None

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

Week 1 - April 30-May 5	Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis Playoffs, Girls State Track
Week 2 - May 7-11	State Golf Tournaments, Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis Playoffs, Boys State Track

SAT ASSESSMENT DATES

Baseball, Lacrosse, Soccer & Tennis Playoffs, Girls State Track



To All GHSA Head Football Coaches

You and one guest are cordially invited to attend the following special event:

What: 2011 Salute to Georgia High School Football Luncheon

When: Saturday, December 10, 2011 (11 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

Where: Georgia World Congress Center — Georgia Ballroom

R.S.V.P. by Friday, December 2 to (404) 367-2243 or Victoria DeButy at vdebuty@falcons.nfl.com

During the luncheon, which will feature a keynote address from Atlanta Falcons Alumni Alge Crumpler and Head Coach Mike Smith, we will award a number of prizes for your outstanding commitment to the sport of football – the 2011 Divisional Coach of the Year Award and the 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Please note that December 10 is the second day of the GHSA Championships that start at 1:00 p.m., and your GHSA Coaches Pass entitles you to free admission to the games.

Additionally, the Atlanta Falcons would like to extend the opportunity to the first 100 coaches that RSVP to attend the Sunday, January 1, 2012 game with a guest as the Falcons take on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at 1 p.m. at the Georgia Dome.

Stay Connected to the GHSA!

For all coaches, athletic directors and teams that are active in social media, the GHSA invites you to follow ("like") the GHSA on [Facebook.com/OfficialGHSA](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialGHSA) and be a fan at [Twitter.com/officialGHSA](https://twitter.com/officialGHSA). Statewide news, association announcements and playoff information are posted daily for interaction with GHSA followers and fans. When Twittering scores of games, please include the tag "@OfficialGHSA" to enable scores to be posted on the GHSA feed.



Sports Authority Offers 15% Coupon

Sports Authority, the GHSA's official sports retailer, offers students, coaches and fans 15% off any purchase made from now through December 31, 2011. The coupon is good for both in-store purchases and online orders.

You can download the coupon by visiting the Coaches page or any fall sports page on the GHSA site (www.ghsa.net).

**SPORTS
AUTHORITY**

GHSA SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT

Please insure that the following statement is read as a public address announcement prior to the start of **every GHSA sanctioned contest**:

"The GHSA and its member schools have made a commitment to promote good sportsmanship by student/athletes, coaches, and spectators at all GHSA sanctioned events.

Profanity, degrading remarks, and intimidating actions directed at officials or competitors will not be tolerated, and are grounds for removal from the event site.

Spectators are not allowed to enter the competition area during warm-ups or while the contest is being conducted.

Thank you for your cooperation in the promotion of good sportsmanship at today's event."

GHSA Official Balls

Coaches and school administrators are reminded that the GHSA State Executive Committee has approved "Official" balls for all GHSA state playoff events.

Listed below are the balls that will be provided for state playoff events. These balls are effective through June 30, 2013.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Make/Model</u>
Baseball	WILSON A1010
Basketball	WILSON WAVE Boys: B0610 Girls: B0611
Football	WILSON F1003 or F1005
Soccer	BRINE "Championship"
Softball (optic yellow 12")	WILSON A9011 BSST
Volleyball	SPALDING TF5000

GHSA - December 2011 / January 2012 Calendar

December

- 2, 3 Semifinal Round State Football Playoffs
- 6 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 9, 10 Championship Round State Football Playoffs -- Georgia Dome
- 19 GHSA Office closed until January 3 for Christmas Holidays

January

- 6, 7 Dual Wrestling Area Tournaments
- 10 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 13, 14 Dual Wrestling State Tournaments
- 16 Earliest date for Gymnastics & Tennis practice
- 16 M.L. King Day -- GHSA Office closed
- 23 Earliest date for Girls and Boys Track and Soccer practice
- 24 Hardship/Appeal Meeting
- 30 Earliest date for Baseball, Golf and Lacrosse practice

The GHSA Staff Wishes You and Yours The Best of the Season



GHSA Sponsors



