

**ALABAMA
HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION**

**STEVE SAVARESE
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
334-263-6994**

AHSAA OCTOBER UPDATE

AHSAA Update

October, 2010



A Perfect Fit

*Central-Hayneville
Coach and Athletic
Director Toriano
Baker adjusts a
player's helmet prior
to Friday's game at
Isabella.*



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AHSAA Member Schools Rush To Help Central-Hayneville

When a fire destroyed the Central-Hayneville High School football field house and all its contents on Sept. 28, the Lions program was left with nothing — just three days from its Class 2A, Region 4 contest at Isabella.

What happened next was just overwhelming said school officials. **Read all about it inside on Pages 4-5.**

Line of Communication Important For Parents

I want to thank all of you

who responded so quickly last week when one of our member schools lost its football field house and all the school's uniforms and gear to an early morning fire. Thankfully, it happened when no one was at school and no one was injured.

The heart-felt concern by our member schools has made major impact on Central-Hayneville High School, its students and community. It was certainly an outpouring of love for a fellow school in need. The AHSAA has always been proud of our "family" of schools. Your overwhelming response only emphasized that even more.

We at the AHSAA are always ready to offer any assistance we can when a school has a special need or emergency like Central suffered last week. Remember, we are just a phone call or email away.

Thank you member schools for working so diligently to have the school data entered onto the member website. We now have all high schools entered — in record time, I might add. It means our school directories will be printed much earlier this year.

I also want to discuss the proper protocol when addressing eligibility issues. With athletic administrators having



Steve Savarese
Executive Director

so much responsibility in our schools, frustrated parents are seeking information and answers directly from the AHSAA office. Our challenge is to provide the assistance while keeping school personnel in the loop.

Our worry is that with less time for on-site oversight, there will be more AHSAA rules violations and possible forfeitures. It is important for each school's administration to develop a communications process that includes parents relating to AHSAA rules.

Principals must make sure that all transfers make bona fide moves. That means checking the new residence in your school zone and checking the old residence where the student is moving from. When dealing with out-of-state transfers or transfers who come from a long distance, it may require the assistance of the administration of the student's

previous school.

We are now heading into Week Seven of the 2010 football season and it is most important that home teams report scores on the www.ahsaa.com member-school website schedule component as quickly as possible after completion of the contest each week. It is an easy process that most of you are doing without any difficulty.

I am very pleased with how most schools are taking great care to report scores each week. With so much riding on each game the rest of the season, I thank you in advance for providing this quick reference to all our schools via the AHSAA website.

Starting this week (after week six), the AHSAA will be posting region football standings for your review. Please notify us if you see an error.

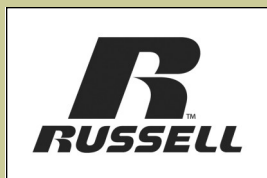
With the volleyball, football, cross country and swimming teams nearing the state playoffs, I urge each member school to make sure all team rosters are up-to-date with all fields filled in. These rosters should include all eligible athletes that are competing. Make sure all eligible athletes have been posted on line.

Not everyone will have a winning season but every child who participates is a winner, developing life-long characteristics taught through educational based athletics.

Sportsmanship should be demonstrated throughout the season at all times.

HALL OF FAME BALLOTS DUE

Deadline for new Hall of Fame nominations is Oct. 15. I encourage each school to take the time to nominate a deserving candidate. Forms can be found on line at the member site.



AHSAA Corporate Partner Spotlight

ALFA INSURANCE

Alfa Insurance® recognizes that coaches impact the lives of our youth in more ways than many can imagine. Coaches teach so much more than sports. Coaches become mentors, friends, counselors and confidantes to young athletes everywhere. Because they are so important in our community, coaches deserve recognition and a big thank you. That's why Alfa gives them the recognition and thanks they deserve. Alfa offers an auto insurance discount to coaches* with the Alabama High School Athletic Association.

When coaches switch their auto insurance to Alfa, they're getting much more than a money-saving discount. They're also getting a friendly hometown agent, excellent claims service and coverage that gives peace of mind. Those are just a few of the reasons that Alfa's customers have been loyal since 1946.

Alfa goes beyond recognizing coaches — Alfa has also been a proud sponsor of the Bryant-Jordan Student Athlete Program since its inception in 1986. The program awards 96 scholarships annually to deserving high school seniors from schools that are members of the Alabama High School Athletic Association.



From discounts for coaches to helping fund scholarships for students, Alfa is proud to support high school athletics. As a sponsor of AHSAA, Alfa offers the auto insurance discount as a token of appreciation for all that the coaches do to help student athletes and improve our communities.

Because coaches make a difference in so many lives, Alfa hopes this auto insurance discount makes a difference in yours. Call your local Alfa Insurance agent today to get signed up!

Alfa Insurance has great agents located in all of Alabama's 67 counties ready to help you save money. Use the agent locator at www.alfainsurance.com or www.alfains.mobi and contact your local agent today!

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**Must be employed as a full-time teacher at a public or private school. The discount is applicable on the vehicle the teacher/coach uses to commute to and from school.*

Schools Step Forward To Help Central-Hayneville



Central, sporting the road uniforms supplied by Skyline High School, stand at attention as Isabella's band plays The National Anthem prior to last Friday's Class 2A, Region 4 contest at the Chilton County school.

Central-Hayneville High School athletic director Toriano Baker said he didn't know what his school's high school football team was going to do after a fire destroyed the school's football field house and all the team's football equipment in the early morning hours of Tuesday, Sept. 28.

What Baker and the players learned over the next few days, however, shouldn't have surprised him, he said, "But it did. It was just overwhelming."

A quick email blast from AHSAA Executive Director Steve Savarese asked member schools to step forward and help the school located in Lowndes County in the quaint community of Mosses find enough equipment and uniforms so the team could play its regularly scheduled game at Isabella High School on Friday night, Oct. 1.

"We only had three days to find equipment to suit our 25-player team," Baker said.

"And to top it off, the wife of our head football coach Keith Scissum had a baby on Wednesday and he had to be gone the rest of the week."

Baker, considered one of the state's top young basketball coaches, also served as head football coach last season at Central and had been working as an assistant this year. It was only natural for him to take over the role as head coach once again for Central principal Peggy Grant.

Once the schools received the email blast, phone calls started rolling in. Baker said he was overwhelmed by just how many coaches and principals called to offer help. Other groups, like Riddell, the chief manufacturer of football helmets, also responded.

One school in particular came to the rescue in a big way despite being located almost three hours away in Jackson County just east of Huntsville and southwest of Chattanooga. Skyline High School was forced to shut down its Class 1A football program just three weeks earlier when injuries depleted the team roster to under 11 players.

Principal Kevin Dukes got in touch with Baker and offered his team's uniforms, pads and other equipment. He even drove the gear to Montgomery where Baker met him on Thursday morning.

"What they had was a perfect fit," Baker said prior to his team's 48-12 loss at Isabella Friday night. "Their team was about the same size as ours and the school colors (green and white) are exactly the same as ours. There was no school identification on the jerseys. It was like we had never lost anything."

Dukes, who was scheduled to attend a school meeting in Montgomery later that day, said it was a perfect opportunity for his school to help another school -- even out of their own adversity.

"I was glad there was something we could do," said Dukes.

The help didn't stop there, however. Homewood High School gave the Lions close to 100 white and red game jerseys that could be worn in games or practice. Hoover High School donated some white practice pants, other equipment and athletic

SEE CENTRAL, PAGE 5

Schools Step Forward ... continued

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

director Myra Miles contacted NIKE, who has started plans to get Central new uniforms for next season.

Pelham football coach Brett Burnett sent some pants, pads and such items as mouthpieces. He also contact Riddell and the helmet company sent some more jerseys and enough helmets to supply the entire squad.

There were many others too, like Luverne coach Les Sanders, who found enough shoulder pads to equip the team, and Chilton County coach Brian Carter, who also donated hip pads. Sumiton Christian provided some coolers, footballs, mouthpieces, medical supplies and Holt High School coach Tim Gillispie managed to get a full sideline medical supply wagon donated – including enough supplies to last the rest of the season. He also sent two kicking tees.

Montevallo players took up an offering to buy the Central players shirts. Many others stood ready to offer, from Foley to Tallassee, Opp, Andalusia, Sweet Water, Arab, Montgomery and Tuscaloosa and many, many more communities across the state. More than 50 offered immediate assistance while groups like the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame and Hibbetts are standing by to offer more long-term help. An article on Thursday in the Montgomery Advertiser also generated more response from the general public.

At game time, host Isabella offered their kicking tee for the Lions to use — plus any other items they might need.

“I just never expected this kind of response,” said Baker. “But I know I shouldn’t be surprised. Like one coach told me on the phone, ‘We are in this business to help kids, and anytime we can help kids play this great sport, then that’s what we are here to do.’” Baker added, “We are a community of modest means, so I really don’t think we would have been able to continue our season without this help. We have been blessed.”

“I just never expected this kind of response,” said Baker. “But I know I shouldn’t be surprised. Like one coach told me on the phone, ‘We are in this business to help kids.’”



Isabella Mustangs defenders (above) break up a pass intended for a Central-Hayneville receiver at last week’s contest played at Isabella.

AHSAA Staff To Commence School Audits For 2010-11 School Year

The AHSAA staff will begin conducting school audits in the month of October. The purpose of these audits is to make sure schools are in compliance with the rules set forth by the member schools for fair competition.

If we come to your school, and rest assured we will get to your school sooner or later, we expect the following to be kept in the principal's office and made readily available to us.

STUDENT INFORMATION: To include eligibility information, certified birth certificates, a current pre-participation physical form and the student's STAR Sportsmanship Certificate of Completion.

COACH CERTIFICATION INFORMATION: Each coach working at the school (faculty or non faculty assisting with a



Joe Evans
Associate Executive
Director

team) must be certified with proof of certification. That includes completion certificates or college transcript proof of a coach's completion of two courses, Coaching Principles and Sports First Aid. Coaches must also have a STAR Sportsmanship Certificate of Completion on file as well as a Certificate of Completion of the NFHS Concussion Course. All courses can be completed on line.

It is important that all team rosters for current seasons be posted correctly on line.

If anyone has a question about any of these items, contact the AHSAA office and our staff will be glad to assist in answering your questions.

We are finding too many coaches who have not completed the STAR Sportsmanship program. And while students have taken the STAR program in record numbers, some are still falling through the cracks at some schools. Please develop a record-keeping plan that insures stu-

dent-athletes and coaches are in compliance with AHSAA rules and regulations.

It can make a big difference.

Also, it is important that each school know the Eligibility verification requirements. Found in Section 4 of the AHSAA Eligibility Rules, it states:

Submitting eligibility information on line at least five days before participation is mandatory for all students. The first time a school submits one of its students online, a copy of the student's certified birth certificate shall be filed in the principal's office and attached to the copy of the on line Eligibility List on which that student's name was submitted. Also, a STAR Sportsmanship certificate must be kept on file.

Note: A certified birth certificate is one issued by the State Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state where the student was born. In Alabama, these may be obtained at each county health department.)

Note: The passport of a foreign exchange student may be used in lieu of a certified birth certificate.

Hall of Fame Nomination Deadline Is Oct. 15

- AHSAA member schools, Hall of Fame Committee members and district boards may make nominations.
- The principal of the member school making the nomination must sign the nomination form. Forms are available in the member on line at www.ahsaa.com.
- A member school may make only one nomination per year.
- A school whose nominee is selected for induction will be required to purchase a banquet table for 8 people in support of it's nominee.
- Nominations, accompanied by resumes and other supporting material, must be made in writing to the secretary/treasurer of the Hall of Fame Committee and mailed to the AHSAA, P. O. Box 242367, Montgomery, AL 36124-2367.
- Two letters of recommendation should accompany each nomination prior to Oct. 15 of each year.
- Supportive data (newspaper articles, letters of documentation, etc.) may also be submitted.

Volleyball Playoffs Start October 11-12

It may be hard to believe, but the AHSAA state volleyball playoffs are just around the corner. This is a time each year that can showcase the outstanding girls athletic programs we have in this state.

I want to remind all coaches to make sure their tournament rosters have been updated. Area tournament hosts should **also submit the tournament bracket to the AHSAA via email or fax no later than noon on Thursday, Oct. 7.**

All area tournaments are single elimination play using a 3-of-5 game format. Classes 1A, 2A and 3A will hold area tournaments on Oct. 11 while Classes 4A, 5A and 6A will play Oct. 12. Schools must go on line and update or create their tournament rosters before area tournament play begins. School coaches must submit the team's tournament roster to the area tournament director.

Area tournament scores should be reported by tournament directors using the on line score reporting tool set up specifically for volleyball. These scores should be posted immediately following the tournament finals. Tournament hosts need to include team records for those advancing to regional play when



**Wanda Gilliland
Assistant Director**

reporting the final scores.

Winning schools should also post the scores on the member site on their own schedules as soon as possible following the contests.

The area tournament winner and runner-up will advance to the AHSAA Regional Tournament

which is set for Saturday, October 16. The Regional champion, runner-up, third and fourth-place winners will then advance to the AHSAA Sub-State round on October 21.

Region A will include Area winners and runners-up from Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4; Region B (Areas 5, 6, 7, 8); Region C (Areas 9, 10, 11, 12); and Region D (Areas 13, 14, 15, 16).

The teams advancing to sub-state play will be responsible for reporting their results on line at www.ahsaa.com within 30 minutes following completion of their tournament by using the on-line volleyball tournament score component. All four teams advancing also will need to email completed numerical rosters and a team photo to program editor

Dennis Victory at dv@dennisvictory.com by Monday, Oct. 18.

The winners of the sub-state round advance to the "Elite Eight" state tourney at Pelham on October 27-28. We have some exciting additions to this year's state tourney including a Coaches Dinner on Oct. 26.

Remember to check the AHSAA website for State Tournament information.

Principals and coaches, please remember you are the "adult in charge" when it comes to sportsmanship. Be a leader at your school.

Let's all work together to make this a great state volleyball tournament.

Bayside Academy, right, will be aiming for its 9th straight AHSAA state volleyball championship when the playoffs begin this month. (Photo by Dennis Victory)



Alabama All-Star Squad Selected For Alabama-Mississippi Classic

Two Big, rangy seniors have been selected to quarterback the 2010 Alabama All-Star football team when the 24th Alabama-Mississippi Classic prep all-star football game kicks off December 11 at Mobile's Ladd-Peebles Stadium. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m.

Quarterbacks Stephen Rivers of Athens and Jacob Coker of Saint Paul's are already committed to Division I schools LSU and Florida State, respectively. The 6-foot-7, 210-pound Rivers, the younger brother of San Diego Chargers All-Pro quarterback Philip Rivers, committed to the Coach Les Miles' Tigers in August. Coker, (6-5, 210) picked the Seminoles earlier in the summer.

Steve Bailey, Director of the Alabama High School Athletic Directors & Coaches Association, has announced the 40-member team. The players were chosen by a special selection committee of the AHSADCA from nominations submitted by AHSAA member schools.

The squad is comprised of at least one player from each district and one player from each classification by AHSADCA parameters. Alabama has won 10 of the last 12 games, including last year's contest 21-13 with a defensive effort that limited Mississippi to just 44 total yards, including minus-6 yards rushing.

Alabama holds a 16-7 edge in the annual series which began in 1988.

"We think our selection committee has once again put together a very good team," Bailey said. "We know Mississippi will have a talented team. This Alabama squad is one of our most talented in the series. We have an excellent head coach in Briarwood Christian's Fred Yancey. He has a good staff set to assist him."

Yancey is currently 216-78-1 in his head-coaching career with a 5-1 record this season. He has led the Lions to three state championships with the Class 5A crown in 2003, Class 3A in 1999 and 1998.

All players are current high school seniors.

The Alabama roster lists several seniors already committed to SEC or other major college teams.

See All-Stars, Continued on Page 9



Selected to the Alabama All-Star Team are, from left, QB Jacob Coker of St. Paul's, DB Jonathan Rose of Leeds and WR Danny Woodson of LeFlore.

Alabama All-Star Roster

QUARTERBACKS: Jacob Coker, Saint Paul's; Stephen Rivers, Athens.

RUNNING BACKS: Chris Dukes, UMS-Wright; Damarcus James, Demopolis; Stanley Robinson, Carver-Montgomery; Ameer Abdullah, Homewood.

WIDE RECEIVERS: Sammie Coates, Leroy; Danny Woodson, LeFlore; Marvin Shinn, Vigor; Kardeem Poole, Prattville; Daryl Collins, Gadsden City.

TIGHT END: Jaylon Denson, Hoover.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN: Reese Dismukes, Spanish Fort; Steven Jones, Foley; Nick Lawhorn, Foley; Damon Husband, Williamson; Lance Schuffert, Prattville; Brandon Morgan, Hoover; Hayden Nauman, Decatur; C.H. Scruggs, Walker.

KICKER/PUNTER: Wilson Whorton, Briarwood Chr.

ATHLETE: Emmanuel Johnson, McKenzie.

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN: JaMichael Payne, Auburn; Caleb Lawrence, Opelika; Allan Carson, Oxford; Jabrian Niles, Davidson; Dre'Shon McGaster, Foley.

DEFENSIVE ENDS/LINEBACKERS: Blake Dees, Spanish Fort; Bronterrious Jakes, Central-Phenix City; Miller Williams, Mountain Brook; Terrick Wright, Gadsden City; Brent Calloway, Russellville; Desmond Lavelle, Decatur; Denzell Perine, Davidson.

DEFENSIVE BACKS: Eric Dixon, Vigor; Enrique Florence, Valley; Jonathan Rose, Leeds; Jacquese Kirk, Walker; Christian Jones, Minor; Anthony Swain, Gadsden City.

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Fred Yancey, Briarwood Christian

Assistant Coaches: Alvin Briggs, Florence; Tripp Curry, Cherokee County; Chris Fancher, Gardendale; Tom Causey, Demopolis; David Lowery, Brantley; Al Pogue, Carver-Montgomery; Geoff Walters, Briarwood (scout).

AHSADCA Committees Have Been Busy In 2010-11

The Alabama High School Athletic Directors & Coaches Association committees have been very busy already this school year with the Football All-Star Selection Committee putting together a very talented group of players to face Mississippi in December's annual Alabama-Mississippi Classic.

Once again our team will be coached by an outstanding group of coaches headed by Fred Yancey of Briarwood Christian. He is not only an outstanding coach but a truly great leader of exceptional character.



Steve Bailey
AHSADCA Director

That team can be found in this Newsletter beginning on Page 8.

I am also excited about the AHSADCA Mini-Clinic Series, now beginning its third year. The series of specialized one-day sports clinics held at the AHSAA office will once again feature some of the top clinicians in the southeast.

The series for this school year begins October 7 with Auburn University new head men's basketball coach Tony Barbee as the featured speaker. It gets underway at 9 a.m., and will conclude in the afternoon with the AHSAA Basketball Rules Clinic at 2 p.m.

Barbee and his staff will bring an interesting perspective to our

high school coaches in attendance. It will also be a superb opportunity for our coaches and the Auburn staff to get to know each other a little better.

The Mini-Clinic schedule for 2010-11 is as follows:

| SPORT | DATE |
|--------------|---------------|
| Basketball: | Oct. 7, 2010 |
| Wrestling: | Oct. 21, 2010 |
| Tennis: | Nov. 18, 2010 |
| Track: | Nov. 30, 2010 |
| Baseball: | Jan. 7, 2011 |
| Soccer: | Jan. 13, 2011 |
| Softball: | Jan. 20, 2011 |
| Volleyball: | Feb. 8, 2011 |
| Football: | Feb. 9, 2011 |
| Golf: | Feb. 10, 2011 |

Each clinic will be held at the AHSAA Office at 7325 Halcyon Summit Dr., Montgomery, unless otherwise noted.

Alabama All-Stars, continued from Page 8

Already committed to the University of Alabama are five players selected to the roster – headed by outside linebacker Brent Calloway, rated one of the top recruits in the nation at 6-foot-3, 225 pounds. Receivers Danny Woodson of LeFlore, Marvin Shinn of Vigor and Daryl Collins of Gadsden City are also committed to Coach Nick Saban's Crimson Tide along with defensive back Christian Jones of Minor. Jones chose the Tide last Thursday.

Auburn verbal commitments selected to the squad are defensive backs Anthony Swain of Gadsden City and Jonathan Rose of Leeds, defensive lineman Jabrian Niles of Davidson, big 6-4, 285-pound center Reese Dismukes of Spanish Fort, Sammie Coates of Leroy.

Among the players selected that are still uncommitted are Auburn defensive lineman JaMichael Payne and Valley safety Enrique Florence. Florence, rated the nation's No. 5 prospect by Scout.com, is considered by most recruiting services as the state's top prep prospect. He has offers from Alabama, Auburn, Arkansas, Florida, Florida State, Georgia, Georgia Tech, South Carolina, Southern Miss, Stanford and UAB, among others.

Payne, who led Auburn in tackles last season, has drawn comparisons to former Auburn High School defensive lineman Demarcus Ware, one of the top defensive tackles in the NFL. Payne is considering Alabama, Auburn, Georgia, Memphis, Southern Miss, Wake Forest and Western Kentucky.

October Is Busy Time For Wrestling Coaches, Officials

While volleyball and football officials are wrapping up the 2010 regular season in those sports this month, contest officials for the AHSAA's winter sports are also busy training and preparing for those upcoming seasons.

A list of this year's state sponsored rules clinics are set for October. It is required that every head coach at an AHSAA member school attend a state sponsored rules clinic. Please make your plans to attend unless you have already attended the rules clinic during All-Star Sports Week.

For wrestling, the rules clinics will be held as listed below.

October 13 – Huntsville, Huntsville High School, Room 123, 6:30 p.m.

October 14 - Vestavia, Pizitz Middle School, Library, 6:30 p.m.

October 20 - Prattville, Prattville High School, Room 210, 7 p.m.

October 21 – Montgomery, AHSAA Office, 2:00 p.m.

October 27 – Oxford, Oxford High School, 7:30 p.m.

All high school and middle school wrestling pro-



Greg Brewer
AHSAA
Director of Officials

grams must also comply with the provisions of the Weight Certification Program established by the AHSAA as mandated by the NFHS.

Encore Rehabilitation Corporation has been approved to conduct the measurement testing. There will be four testing dates with eight sites/locations. More information can be found on line at www.ahsaa.com by viewing the AHSAA Winter Sports Book on line.

The site and locations for the weight management weigh-ins include:

Huntsville, Oct. 30

Birmingham, Oct. 30

Birmingham, Nov. 6

Montgomery, Nov. 6

Birmingham, Nov. 13

Huntsville, Nov. 13

Birmingham, Nov. 20

Montgomery, Nov. 20

Pre-scheduled time slots will be used at all of the locations listed above. A coach must contact Encore Rehabilitation Corporation (Doug Barfield - 334/467/8067) to schedule a time slot for his/her team. The times will begin at 9:00 a.m. each of these dates and will be set up in half-hour intervals ending at 12 noon. (Ex: 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30).

The complete team and coach shall arrive 30 minutes prior to its scheduled time slot in order to register. The coach must bring a complete listing of the athletes' names along with the complete payment for the team's processing fees.

**2010-11
AHSAA
District
Volleyball
Officials
Directors**

State Rules Interpreter: Dr. Faye Wilson

Southwest District: Lane Lawley

Southeast District: Eunice Knight

South Central District: Mary Day

North Central District: Dr. Faye Wilson

Northeast District: Keith Thrasher

East Central District: Deborah Richey

Northwest District: Wanda Leonard

West Central District: Greg Farris

In The News

Students Are Mentors At Boaz FCA Bowl

Boaz High School football coach Drew Noles came up with an idea last year while driving down the highway. He said he pulled off the road and wrote down his ideas.

Hence, the Boaz FCA Bowl flag football league was founded. It has grown from that inauspicious beginning to more almost 300 strong each Thursday night during the football season.

The league features a number of flag football teams comprised of elementary age youngsters and high school student-athletes who serve as mentor-coaches. The high schoolers also serve as quarter-backs.

The high school cheerleaders also work with elementary school age girls in a similar fashion each Thursday developing cheerleading support for the games.

Parents attend in lawn chairs as the kids compete in a series of games and are also mentored in huddle groups each night.

Noles also invites keynote speakers each week to address the many parents in attendance.

"This has really gained momentum and I see it making a difference in our community as well as with our children and our student-athletes," said Boaz High School principal Lowell Smith. "Our school has not had a fine or ejection for three years in a row. We spend a lot of time and effort teaching sportsmanship and building good relationships."

The featured speaker for Sept. 30 was AHSAA Executive Director Steve Savarese, who said he was impressed with the concept and



AHSAA Executive Director Steve Savarese (right) addresses parents at the Boaz FCA Bowl on Sept. 30 as Boaz football coach Drew Noles looks on. (Photo by Ricky Smth)

how high school coaches and student-athletes are making a difference by setting the right examples.

al.com Seeking Spotlight Nominations For Good Sportsmanship

A monthly feature on **al.com**, the AHSAA's Corporate website-based partner, will feature acts and examples of good sportsmanship in AHSAA-member schools.

Any school can nominate a team, student, coach, group or someone from their community who displays outstanding acts of sportsmanship beyond the normal by going on line and submitting nominations. A special on-line form is being developed and will soon be

located at www.ahsaa.com as well as al.com. In the meantime, send any nominations to **Ron Ingram** at ringram@ahsaa.com.

Cindy Martin, CEO of **al.com**, said the 12 monthly honorees will be eligible to receive scholarship awards from **al.com**.

For the last three years **al.com** has presented eight \$1,000 scholarships annually to schools that were fine and ejection free for the school year. The selections will be made from the monthly sportsmanship honorees in 2010-11, Martin said.

Schools Reminded To Check Team Rosters

School deadline for posting schedules for AHSAA winter sports was Sept. 15. All schools are encouraged to check to make sure all schedules for wrestling, boys and girls basketball are posted at the member site of www.ahsaa.com.

Rosters for volleyball, football, cross country and swimming teams need to also be checked to make sure all players who are participating are listed and that information in all fields are provided, including uniform numbers, positions, year in school, heights and weights, where applicable.

Anyone with any questions of difficulties can contact the AHSAA at 334-263-6994.

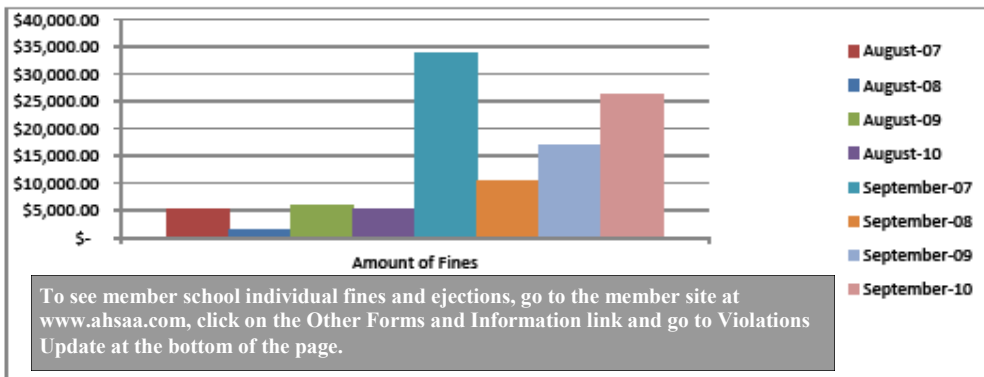
Handley's Battles Closing In On 250th Victory

Handley High School head football coach Mike Battles, Sr., could become the next AHSAA coach to claim win 250 — and it will likely come this season. His Tigers are currently 6-0 this season in Class 3A after going 13-1 in Class 4A last season. Handley is at Central-Coosa Friday night.

Battles is currently 246-148-2 with head-coaching stops at Pell City, Hueytown, Walter Wellborn and Handley in Alabama as well as stops at Biloxi, Gautier and Pascagoula, MS and Irwin County, GA.

Monthly Ejections Comparison

| Month / Year | # of Ejections | Amount of Fines | Percentage (Ejections) | Percentage (\$ Amount of Ejections) |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | Increase/Decrease | Increase/Decrease |
| August-07 | 18 | \$ 5,400.00 | | |
| August-08 | 11 | \$ 1,500.00 | -39% | -72% |
| August-09 | 20 | \$ 6,000.00 | 82% | 300% |
| August-10 | 17 | \$ 5,100.00 | -15% | -15% |
| September-07 | 113 | \$ 33,900.00 | | |
| September-08 | 73 | \$ 10,300.00 | -35% | -70% |
| September-09 | 57 | \$ 17,100.00 | -22% | 66% |
| September-10 | 88 | \$ 26,350.00 | 54% | 54% |



AHSAA Rule Spotlight: *Divorce, Custody Rule . . .*

Each month the AHSAA spotlights a Handbook rule to better help member schools understand and apply them to their athletic programs.

This month we highlight **The Eligibility Rule** and how it applies to divorce and custody situations. This is officially **Rule 1, Section 12, Exception 3**.

Divorce: The eligibility of a student whose parents are divorced is determined by the following:
 (a) If there has been a divorce or a legal separation in a family and sole or physical custody has been awarded by the court granting the divorce to one of the parents, the athletic eligibility of the student will be established at the school that serves the area where that parent resides.

Note: If joint custody has been awarded and a transfer is involved, the student must attend the new school for one year before becoming eligible.
 (b) If it becomes necessary at a later date for the student to reside with the other parent, the move will be accepted as a bona fide move if the court that granted the divorce changes the custody to this parent. This type of move will be accepted

for immediate athletic eligibility purposes only one time. Therefore, if a student subsequently decides to return and reside with the first parent in a different school zone, the student will be ineligible for a period of one year.

Custody and Legal Guardianship: Custody or legal guardianship assigned to anyone (including relatives) will not establish immediate athletic eligibility.

Note: (1) If a student transfers to another school zone to live with an appointed guardian without a bona fide move into that school zone by the parents, that student would be ineligible under the Transfer Rule.

(2) If a student has been declared a “ward of the state” and placed by the Department of Human Resources (DHR), that student would meet the Transfer Rule requirement in the school zone where the student has been placed.