

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS FROM THREE DIFFERENT GIRLS H.S. STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS, 1925-2013

Track + Basketball Stars

Girls with Great Later Basketball Careers

Great Finishes in State Championship Games

Record Scorers

Schools which won boys and girls state championships in the same year

The University Scholastic League (UIL) began its girls state high school tournament in 1951 in Austin but was not the first organization to crown state high school girls champions. From 1925-1950 Texas held state Amateur Athletic Union (A.A.U.) state tournaments for high school girls teams at different town/cities and crowned 25 state champions. From 1939-1954 the “High School Girls’ Basketball League of Texas” (HSGBLT) held a state high school girls tournament in Waco (1939-41; 1950-1954) and Hillsboro (1942-1949) and crowned 17 state champions in 15 years. For the first 15 years there was only one champion for all classes but in the last two years there were 1A & 2A champions. L.C. McKamie of Abbott (and later Hillsboro) was the founder and director of the League for its 17 years.

Track + Basketball Stars

A number of girls who starred in the girls state basketball tournaments were also stars in track and field at the UIL State Track Meet for girls from 1972-2012. (see: Texas H.S. Track Champions, 1906-2012 by Dr. Wm. Wilbanks). **Mindy Myers** was an all-state guard for Munday in the 1990 state tournament and also won 10 gold medals (800 & 1600 meters, HJ & relays). **Natalie Thomas** was an all-state player for Karnack in 1998 and won 8 gold (3 in 100 meters & relays) from 1995-98. **Chandi Jones** of Bay City made all-state for 3 years and won 8 gold (in the LJ & TJ) from 1997-2000. **Chimeka Carter** was All State Tournament for Groesbeck in 1996 and won 7 gold (both hurdles, TJ & relay) in 1994-96. **Merry Johnson** of Canyon made All State Tournament for 3 years and won 6 gold (3 in 440 yards & 3 relays) and set a national record in the 440-yd dash in 1976-78. **Lauren Simpson** of Canyon was All State Tournament in 2007 and won 6 gold in the 800 & 1600 meters and the 1600 relay. **Suzie Snider** of Waco Robinson won 4 gold in the shot, discus and HJ in 1972-73 and set national records in the shot put & discus. **Retha Swindell** of Center was All State Tournament in 1974 and won 3 gold in the TJ while setting a national record in 1974. **Ann Moon** of Angleton was All State Tournament in 1977 and won 3 gold in the shot in 1975-77. **Shalonda Ennis** was All State Tournament in 1992 & 1993 and won gold in the TJ in 1992. **Melinda Schmucker** of Nazareth was All

State Tournament in 1993 & 1996 and won gold in the 400 meters & 1600 meter relay in 1995-96 . **Misti Ball** of Nazareth was All State Tournament in 1996 and won gold in the 1600 relay in 1995. **Crystal Allen** of Karnack was All State Tournament in 1998 and won gold in two relays in 1998. **Denise Babicki** was All State Tournament in 1979 and won the 80 meter hurdles in 1979. **JoAnn Wooley** of Sudan was All State Tournament in 1987 and won 3 gold in the shot & discus in 1986-87. **Sheryl Swoopes** was All State Tournament in 1988 and anchored the 1988 Brownfield 1600 meter relay team. Brock's Kamy Cole won gold in 1600 meters and cross country and was named all-state in basketball –all as a FR in 2010. Kamy finished her career (2009-2012) by making all-state tournament for four years, all-state in basketball for 4 years, won at least one gold medal in 4 consecutive track mets and led Brock team to 4 state basketball championships. She signed to play basketball at TCU for 2013.

Girls with Great Later Basketball Careers:

Any listing of girls who had great H.S. basketball careers followed by great college and/or pro careers must begin with the girls who played for the Wayland Baptist Flying Queens during the period of the 1950's & 1960's when they dominated women's amateur basketball. Perhaps the greatest star of this period was **Lometa Odom** of Dimmitt who led her Bobbettes to three state McKamie League titles in 1950-52 while setting a record (that still stands) for most points in one game with 78. Odom later starred on three Wayland Baptist national AAU championship teams and was elected to several Halls of Fame. **Pat Tate** led Dimmitt to the 1950 state title and was an All-American at Wayland Baptist. **Betty Ransom (Cagle)** led her Claude team to a UIL state title in 1962 and was later an All-American for the Flying Queens. **Carolyn Dornak** led Jourdanton led to a UIL state title in 1966, was an All-American at Wayland Baptist and was elected to the TX H.S. Basketball Hall of Fame. **Jill Rankin** led Phillips to a state title in 1976, was an All-American at both Wayland and the U. of TN, was co-captain of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Team and was elected to the TX H.S. Basketball Hall of Fame. **Janis Irby** led Claude to a state title in 1971, was a Kodak All-American at Wm. Penn S and is in the TX H.S. Basketball Hall of Fame. **Suzie Snider** was All State Tournament for 3 years, led her Waco Robinson team to a state title in 1970 As a Fr, was the national H.S. record-holder in the shotput and discus, became Baylor's all-time leading scorer in basketball, and is a member of the TX H.S. Basketball Hall of Fame. Suzie Snider Eppers still holds the national collegiate record for most points in a career (3,861 points).

Kami Ethridge led Monterrey to a state title in 1981 and led UT to a national championship in 1986 while being named the National Player of the Year and was elected to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. **Yolanda Wimbish** was another member of the 1986 UT national championship team and earlier led her Victoria team to a state title in 1982. She later played in the NBA and was elected to the TX H.S. Basketball Hall of Fame. **Pennee Hall** led her Barbers Hill team to a state title in 1982, played on the 1986 UT national championship team and was elected to the TX H.S. Basketball Hall of Fame.

Sheryl Swoops led Brownfield to a state title in 1988, was an All-American at Texas Tech leading her team to a national title, played on multiple NBA championship teams for the Houston Comets, is a 3-time Olympian and is in several Halls of Fame. **Monica Lamb** led Houston Yates to a state title in 1983, was an All-American at U.S.C. and played on two NBA championship teams for the Houston Comets. **Kim Lummus** led Cleburne to a 1995 state title, later played at UT, is a successful H.S. coach, and is in the TX H.S. Basketball Hall of Fame. **Shalonda Ennis** led Celeste to 2 state titles in 1992-93, played at U. of AL and in the WNBA. **Tamika Catchings** led Duncanville to a 1997 title, was an All-American at the U. of Tenn, played in the NBA and is in multiple Halls of Fame. **Tiffany Jackson** led Duncanville to a state title in 2003, was an All-American at UT and played in the NBA. **Erin Grant** led her Mansfield to four state title in 1999-02, played at Texas Tech and in the WNBA.

Other girls who played and “starred” in the TX H.S. state tournament but did not win state titles were **Chandi Jones** of Bay City (1998-2000) who was an All-American and the nation’s leading scorer at the U. of Houston and played in the WNBA. **Sherika Wright** of Copperas Cove was an All-American at Purdue and played in the WNBA. **Angela Aycock** of Dallas Lincoln (1990-91) was an All-American at the U. of Kansas, a member of the U.S. National Team and played in the NBA.

Great Finishes in State Championship Games

The Texas girls high school basketball tournaments have seen numerous exciting finishes in championship games. Perhaps the most exciting was the 1949 championship game of the McKamie League between **Seagoville** and East Chambers. The game was close throughout and was tied at 22-22 after Wanda Nelson of Seagoville made a FG & FT with a few seconds left and then East Chambers missed a FT that would have won the game. Both teams scored one FG in the OT sending the game to a second “sudden-death” (i.e., the first team to score 2 points) OT. East Chambers missed “several” shots in the first possession that would have won the game but then lost the ball. Patsy Anderson of Seagoville then “broke loose from a wild tangle” under the basket and “sank the winning goal” in the 26-24 victory. Anderson’s “last shot” is the only “walk-off” FG to ever win a state championship game as the only other sudden death OT in the history of the boys or girls tournaments involved the Belton and New London boys in the 1958 2-A final with Belton’s James Brantley making 2 FTs for the “walk-off” victory. A second exciting finish was in the 1953 McKamie League (HSGBLT) final between “two bitter rivals,” Maydelle and Bullard. Maydelle jumped out to a 12-point lead but led by only 27-22 at the half before Bullard took a 37-35 lead after 3 qts. The game was tied at 35-35 with 1:30 remaining when Bullard went ahead by one with 1:15 left. Maydelle’s Yvonne Odom made a 15-ft FG with 2 seconds remaining to give the Lions the state title by a score of 44-43.

The state A.A.U. Tournament held from 1925-1950 also produced some memorable finishes. Frisco defeated Maydelle, 39-37, in the 1948 semi-final that went to three overtime periods—including the “sudden death” third OT. The game was tied at 33-33 at the end of regulation and at 37-37 after the 1st and 2nd OT periods. The game ended in the sudden death period when Frisco’s Claudia Hocker made the winning “walk-off” FG as she got the ball after the tip-off and “raced down and whipped in the deciding goal” with a one-handed “loop bucket.”

A second “frantic finish” in the A.A.U. state tournament involved the 1936 Plainview team which defeated Woodsboro, 42-40. Woodsboro led by two points in the closing seconds before Gladys Walker of Plainview made a FG to tie the game and then passed to Ruby Reddell, alone under the basket, who made the final shot “as the whistle ended the game.”

Several UIL championship games are memorable in that they ended with “fantastic finishes.” Comanche trailed 18-33 at the half of the 1951 2-A final against McLean and then made an “amazing comeback” in the 2nd half on a 32-16 run. Florence Jo Coan brought Comanche to within one point at 48-49 with 11 seconds left and then made a FG with 5 seconds left for the 50-49 win. Midway and Spearman played a close 2-A final in 1969 with the score being tied 13 times before Midway won by one point with two FTs on a one-and-one after the buzzer by Jane McKethan to win the game, 56-55, and title. Grandview defeated Turkey Valley, 39-37, in the 1-A final in 1973 as Sarah Williams made the winning shot with 3 seconds left in the game. The 1975 1A final between Southlake Carroll and Vega went to 3 overtimes. The game was tied at 44-44 at the end of regulation as both teams missed shots in the last minute that would have won the game. Vega tried to stall for the last shot in all three OTs but the tactic failed each time. Carroll got the ball back on a violation with the score tied and 15 seconds left in the 3rd OT and Kathy Harston scored on a jumper with 4 seconds left to win the marathon game and the state title. The 1975 1-A final was one of only 13 OT finals from 1951-2007 and the first of two triple OTs (the other was the 3-A final won by Barbers Hill in 1983).

The 1975 Crawford vs. Neches Class B final included an exciting comeback and finish. Crawford trailed by 9 points (38-29) going into the 4th qt. and by 11 points at 44-35 with 2:29 remaining but outscored the previously undefeated Neches 16-6 in the 4th qt. An 8-point run by Crawford cut the lead to 44-43 with 43 seconds left and then a Neches turnover gave the Pirettes the ball again with 40 seconds left. The Pirettes worked for the “last shot” which missed but Kathy Westerfield rebounded and was fouled on the follow-up shot. She then made 2 FTs with 4 seconds left for the winning margin. Victoria defeated Dallas S. Oak Cliff in the 1979 4-A final when Anna Boldt hit a layup at 0:07 for the 2-point victory, 43-41.

Lubbock Monterrey defeated Duncanville, 71-70, in the first 5A final in 1981 on a great comeback. The Plainsmen trailed by 8 points with 3 minutes left before sisters Kamie and Kriss Ethridge combined for 12 points (one FG and 10 FTs) in a 12-3 run to

win by 1 point. The Plainsmen took the lead at 71-70 on 2 FTs by Kriss Ethridge with 15 seconds left and Duncanville's last shot missed at the buzzer. Duncanville trailed San Marcos by 5 points after 3 qts. of the 1992 5-A final but outscored the Rattlers 13-8 to force an OT. The Rattlers' Patricia Luckey made a FG in front of the basket "after a scramble" with 5 seconds left in the OT for the winning points (45-43) for San Marcos. Canyon Randall won the 1992 4-A final after Georgetown made a 10-4 run in the 4th qt. to lead by one point with one minute remaining. Randall's Amanda Sandlin made a follow-up FG under the basket with 25 seconds left for the lead and Randall then survived three "desperate" shots under the basket by Georgetown just before the final buzzer. Groesbeck defeated Slaton in the 1996 3-A final, 63-61. The Lady Goats trailed Slaton the entire game but made a 20-11 run in the 4th qt. and took the lead for the first time on Annetta Anglin's 2 FTs with 2 seconds remaining. Groesbeck then stole the inbounds pass to end the game.

Record Scorers:

According to James McLemore's Texas Schoolgirl Basketball, the U.I.L. record for most points scored by an individual in one game is held by Juvean McWhorter of Collinsville who scored 68 points in one game in 1956. Paula Corn of Baird scored 61 in 1964; Mary Rosebrock of Springlake scored 60 in 1968; and Judy Beasley of Hawley scored 56 in 1961. The highest U.I.L. scoring average for one tournament is held by Juvean McWhorter of Collinsville who averaged 58.0 ppg in 3 games in 1956; Judy Beasley of Hawley and Marilyn Aschenbeck of Round Top-Carmine each averaged 46.0 ppg in 3 games in 1961 & 1966.

The most prolific scorer in the history of Texas girls basketball is Lometa Odom of Dimmitt who set a state record with 78 points (38 FGs & 2 FTs) in one game at the 1952 "High School Girls Basketball League of Texas" (HSGBLT) state tournament. Her individual total was more than the opposing team (Dimmitt defeated Penelope, 92-51) in the semi-final) and more than any team had ever scored in one game at the HSGBLT state tournament before that time. The 78 points remains a state record in 2008. The A.A.U. record prior to 1952 was the 47 points by Odom in 1951.

SCHOOLS WHO HAVE WON BOYS AND GIRLS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE SAME YEAR

Buna	1956
Buna	1957
Buna	1961
Dallas South Oak Cliff	1977
Morton	1987
Abernathy	1991
Sudan	1995

Nazareth
Brock
Brock

2002
2002
2003

