



# The Messenger

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## In this Issue ...

Coach's Perspective .....	1
Speech and Bible Results .....	2
JH Fine Arts Festival .....	4
Basketball Tourney .....	6
MACS 2017-18 Calendar .....	10

## Minnesota Association of Christian Schools

### A Coach's Perspective – Invisible Accomplishments Beyond Any Single Win

Every coach wants to win the title! No secret there.

Our girls' varsity team, despite being very young this year, came a long way from the beginning of the season. Our team was not the same team and I was proud of their accomplishments on and off the court. We lost a tough game against another young team who also came a long way over the course of the season. And the unlikely girls' finals game between Fourth and Heritage, was a surprise to many. It was seed #3 versus seed #5.

"They shouldn't have been there!" Or "How in the world did they get there?" Perhaps these were the sentiments of many of the fans from other schools and perhaps even ours. But I never doubted my team's ability to win any game this season. I had told our girls multiple times that we could get to the finals game if we stuck together as a team, helped and encouraged one another, and did what coach asked them to. Our journey was rather difficult. Injuries, illness, and character lessons had to be learned along the way. And these challenged my coaching and each of our players. But we persevered and worked hard despite hiccups along the way, and we won some very memorable games.

The road to the final game was not without its challenges. Chisago was a formidable opponent in round one. They came in ready to play and we had to play our best to get past them. The first step to the finals was complete and in round two we had to face the number two seed, Owatonna. We had split with the Sabres earlier in the season. They defeated us at our place and we defeated them at the Faith Baptist Bible



College Tourney. We had confidence going into that game that if we put our best defensive pressure on throughout the game, we could beat them. Our girls played their best game of the season to win that game. And I was thrilled that we executed so well in that contest. It is funny that sometimes plays work when they were seldom run correctly any time prior in the season. And one play continuously worked against the Sabres on that particular day.

In the other bracket, however, some pretty impressive battles were going on. This young team from somewhere north of Baxter and south of Canada was beating some really good teams. The Patriots from Heritage Christian defeated the Rosemount

*(Continued on page 3)*

## MACS Speech and Bible Festival Awards

### February 2, 2017 @ Woodcrest Baptist Academy

Category	School	Last Name	First	Score	Rating	Place
Choric Speaking	SFC			94.5	Excellent	First
Choric Speaking	FBS			92.5	Excellent	Second
Choric Speaking	LRC			91	Excellent	Third
Declamation	FBC	Toby	Paulifred	99.5	Superior	First
Declamation	FBC	King	Benjamin	95	Excellent	Second
Declamation	FBC	Reis	Isaiah	75	Fair	Third
Dramatic Interpretation	FBC	Murray	David	99.33	Superior	First
Dramatic Interpretation	FBC	Robinson	Victoria	98.3	Superior	Second
Dramatic Interpretation	FBC	Smith	Greta	98.16	Superior	Third
Duet Acting	SFC	Nichols/Swedeem		95	Excellent	First
Duet Acting	FBC	Lease/Ng		90.75	Excellent	Second
Duet Acting	FBS	Mele/Weber		90.25	Excellent	Third
Extemporaneous Speaking	WBA	Meader	Michael	96.5	Superior	First
Extemporaneous Speaking	FBC	Schocker	Johnathan	94	Excellent	Second
Extemporaneous Speaking	FBS	Taylor	Nathan	89.5	Good	Third
Humorous Interpretation	WBA	Olson	Luke	96.5	Superior	First
Humorous Interpretation	FBS	Murphy	Mikayla	92.75	Excellent	Second
Humorous Interpretation	LRC	Shafer	Keelie	90.5	Excellent	Third
Religious Reading	SFC	Koel	Ali	97.5	Superior	First
Oral Interp. of Poetry	LRC	Hiebert	Emma	99	Superior	First
Oral Interp. of Poetry	SFC	Hendrickson	Abigale	94.75	Excellent	Second
Oral Interp. of Poetry	LRC	House	Ethan	94.5	Excellent	Third
Oral Interp. of Scripture	WBA	Leaf	Elisabeth	97.5	Superior	First
Oral Interp. of Scripture	WBA	Darling	Naomi	96	Superior	Second
Oral Interp. of Scripture	FBS	Bryant	Lauren	89.5	Good	Third
Original Persuasive	FBS	Squillace	Willow	100	Superior	First
Original Persuasive	FBS	Shaboldin	Karena	94	Excellent	Second
Reader's Theater	WBA			98	Superior	First
Reader's Theater	SFC			97	Superior	Second
Reader's Theater	FBC			96	Superior	Third

Category	School	Last Name	First	Score	Rating	Place
One Act Play	SFC			92.5	Excellent	First
Bible Teaching	LRC	Imdieke	Valerie	94	Excellent	First
Bible Teaching	FBS	Bryant	Lauren	76.5	Fair	Second
Expository Preaching	SFC	Emery	James	96	Superior	First
Expository Preaching	SFC	Shay	Ezra	91	Excellent	Second
Topical Preaching	FBS	Graves	Daniel	94.5	Excellent	First
Topical Preaching	FBS	Taylor	Nathan	94	Excellent	Second
Topical Preaching	WBA	Olson	Luke	93.5	Excellent	Third
Puppets	WBA	Olson/Kivel		99.5	Superior	First
Puppets	FBS	Waldriff/Ordonez		99	Superior	Second
Puppets	WBA	Meador/Walters		98.5	Superior	Third
Spelling	FBS	Taylor	Lacey			First
Spelling	LRC	House	Evelyn			Second
Spelling	FBC	Murray	David			Third

*(Coach's Perspective, continued from page 1)*

girls and then upset the number one seed, Lake Region. We had prepared a special plan for Lake Region as we were so sure we would see them if we made it to the final game! But as I watched their semi-final game, all my thinking and planning had to switch gears. I still was confident that if we could play our game, we could win, just the way we had played in our prior two games. I had not seen it before. I should have...

In our finals game, it became obvious that Heritage had a strong floor leader. Their leader was the difference-maker in the first two games of the tourney and the rest of the Patriots followed her lead. At the conclusion of the tourney Jenna Grandstrand was chosen as the MVP of the girls' tourney. Statistically, I know that she scored 17 points against us, but she also pulled down many rebounds and had a number of assists. And she blocked shots too! What in the world! As the game progressed and the final seconds ticked away, we lost a great game to an unselfish team that played within their roles and allowed their floor leader to lead, and it led to a successful championship run. I was told that it was their first MACS title ever!

We shook hands with Heritage at the conclusion of the game, and I had to stop Jenna and tell her what a great

game she had and how impressed I was with her play. All the while I was thinking, "OK Lord, what am I going say to my team now?" The walk down the hallway seemed longer than normal and I entered the classroom where we were meeting and didn't have the words. It is hard to speak to a group where most of the players were crying and there wasn't any Kleenex! What's wrong with this school? Can't they afford a box of Kleenex? But the words did come and we will live to face another game. Our accomplishments were great this year and the victories which came were not all about basketball. I am certain that this was Heritage's story as well.

I know of few other school activities where character can be taught as in athletics. And the lessons taught and learned will last a lifetime, much longer than any single win we had this season. While we had some visible accomplishments this year that I am grateful to the Lord for, I will always remember the invisible ones, invisible to the outside observer, but painfully memorable to me and to some of our team members. To God be the glory that we can have activities like this where true Christian character can be taught, modeled, realized, and learned. And congratulations Heritage! You shocked our little MACS world and I am truly happy for you.

~"Coach" Alan J. Hodak

# JH MACS FINE ARTS FESTIVAL—March 2, 2017

Always a fun time for our junior high students is the JH MACS Fine Arts Festival. Held once again at First Baptist School of Rosemount, nine schools participated in the day's competitions. New to the festival this year was Bethany Christian Academy, a new school to the MACS organization. The students enjoyed participating and listening to one another perform. The pictures below are representative of the day, which featured numerous choirs, pianists, instrumental and vocal soloists, as well as bands and instrumental groups, preaching and other speech events. Drawings, paintings and other art projects were also showcased. We were excited to see the number of parents attending! It was a great day for our MACS schools. The complete list of awards by school is attached to the newsletter e-mail, but is too lengthy to be included in the newsletter itself.



Seventh graders Jasmine Cole and Emily Combs, best friends and students at Fourth Baptist, perform their piano duet. They received a superior rating.



The Lake Region Choral Group directed by Mr. Lindsey Jones received a Superior rating.

Conner Chenoweth and Joshua Weckert, members of the JH men's quartet from Fourth Baptist, perform their selection. The group received an excellent rating.



Seventh grader Ezra House from Lake Region prepares to play his brass solo. He received an Excellent rating.



Isabel Guillen, a seventh grader from Fourth Baptist performs "Beautiful Savior" as her vocal solo and received an Excellent rating.



Seventh grader Ellie Schafer from Lake Region performs her cello solo. She received an Excellent rating.





The Woodcrest Baptist Academy JH Band under the direction of Miss Teresa Herbert warms up before their performance.



The middle school choir from First Baptist School is introduced by Mr. Shawn McKinney as they prepare to sing.



Grace Brower of St. Francis Christian School gives her dramatic interpretation. She earned a Superior rating.

Mr. Graves and his wife, Julia, share a quick moment with their daughter, Diana, as she enjoys the JH MACS Fine Arts Festival. She is the last of their six children to attend this event.





## 2017 MACS Varsity Basketball State Tournament Results:



### Boys

#### **Champions – Fourth Baptist**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – First Baptist—Rosemount

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Lake Region Christian

5<sup>th</sup> Place (Consolation) - Prior Lake Christian



### Girls

#### **Champions – Heritage Christian**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Fourth Baptist

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Lake Region Christian

5<sup>th</sup> Place (Consolation) – Chisago Lakes Baptist



### Boys All-Tournament Team:

1. Tim Graham – Prior Lake
2. Deon McMahan – St. Francis
3. Michael Steien - Heritage
4. Nick Christensen – Lake Region
5. Michael Graves– First Baptist-Rosemount
6. Ben King – Fourth Baptist
7. Vivek Mohinani – Fourth Baptist
8. **MVP – Noah Kinniburgh – Fourth Baptist**

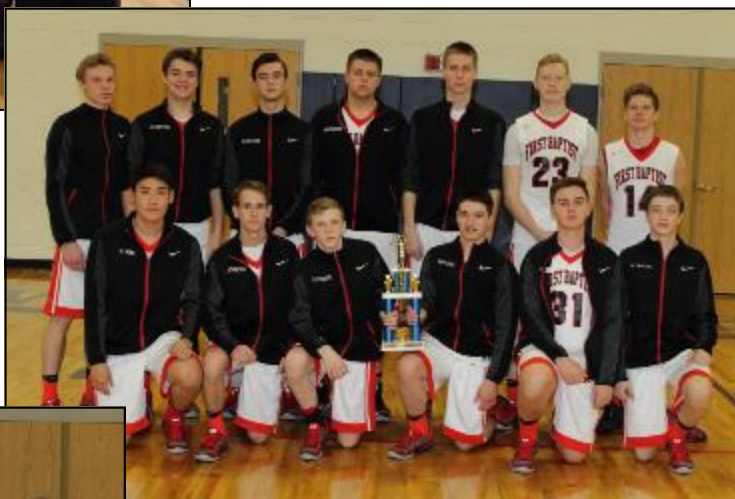
### Girls All-Tournament Team:

1. Rosa Torres – First Baptist - Rosemount
2. Natalie Greiner – Owatonna Christian
3. Grace Imdieke – Lake Region
4. Joelle Webster – Fourth Baptist
5. Hannah Berscheid – Fourth Baptist
6. Katie Russell - Heritage
7. **MVP – Jenna Grandstrand - Heritage**





MACS Basketball Champions: Fourth Baptist Warriors



MACS Basketball 2nd place: First Baptist Crusaders



MACS Basketball Champions: Heritage Christian Lady Patriots



MACS Basketball 2nd place: Fourth Baptist Lady Warriors



## All-Conference Selections



### Boys First Team All-Conference

1. Noah Kinniburgh – Fourth Baptist
2. Seth Murphy – First Baptist Rosemount
3. Ben King – Fourth Baptist
4. Deon McMahan – St. Francis
5. Tyler Ogren – Lake Region
6. Michael Graves- First Baptist- Rosemount

### Boys Second Team All-Conference

1. David Ellies – Foundation
2. Luke Horner – St. Francis
3. Nick Christensen – Lake Region
4. Pete Mayerchak – Chisago Lakes
5. Andy Fruetel – First Baptist - Rosemount
6. Michael Steien - Heritage

### Boys All-Conference Honorable Mention

1. Anton Klochan—First Baptist—Rosemount
2. JJ Webster—Fourth Baptist
3. Tommy Thompson—Lake Region
4. Ryker Kloeckner—St. Francis
5. Tim Graham—Prior Lake
6. Mark Ababiy—Woodcrest

### Boys Shooting Competition

Free Throw: Josh Lathrop—Chisago  
 3 Point:: Peat Allen—Prior Lake  
 Hot Shot: Chase Hopperton—Foundation

### Girls First Team All-Conference

1. Grace Imdieke – Lake Region
2. Jenna Grandstrand - Heritage
3. Rosa Torres – First Baptist - Rosemount
4. Natalie Greiner - Owatonna
5. Hannah Berscheid – Fourth Baptist
6. Sophia Anderson – Prior Lake

### Girls Second Team All-Conference

1. Erika Ureke - Woodcrest
2. Elena Neilson – Chisago Lakes
3. Joelle Webster – Fourth Baptist
4. Abby Grider – Lake Region
5. Marcale Palm – St. Francis
6. Melany Guzman-First Baptist- Rosemount

### Girls All-Conference Honorable Mention

1. Jolene Lathrop—Chisago Lakes
2. Alayna Hraba—Chisago Lakes
3. Katelyn Durkee—Heritage
4. Bethany Roberts—Owatonna
5. Ali Koel—St. Francis
6. Naomi Darling—Woodcrest
7. Morgan Stephens—Fourth Baptist
8. Megan Smith—Owatonna
9. Katie Russell—Heritage
10. Abby Madden—Rosemount

### Girls Shooting Competition

Free Throw: Natalie Greiner—Owatonna  
 3 Point: Hannah Berscheid—Fourth Baptist  
 Hot Shot: Alayna Hraba—Chisago





MACS Girls All-Conference First Team: (L to R): Hannah Berscheid, Jenna Grandstrand, Grace Imdieke, Rosa Torres, Natalie Greiner, Sophia Anderson



MACS Boys All-Conference First Team: (L to R): Ben King, Noah Kinniburgh, Seth Murphy, Deon McMahan, Tyler Ogren, Michael Graves



MACS Girls Basketball All-Tourney Team: (L to R): Grace Imdieke, Rosa Torres, Natalie Greiner, Jenna Grandstrand (MVP), Joelle Webster, Hannah Berscheid, Katie Russell



MACS Boys All-Tournament Team: (L to R): Noah Kinniburgh (MVP), Vivek Mohinani, Ben King, Tim Graham, Deon McMahan, Michael Steien, Nick Christensen, Michael Graves



# Minnesota Association of Christian Schools

## 2017-2018 MACS Events Calendar

**August 25**—Rosemount Jamboree (soccer/volleyball)



**October 12-13** – MN / WI Teacher's Convention @ the WI Dells



**October 26-28** – MACS State Volleyball/Soccer Tourney  
@ Lake Region



**November 3** – MACS Choir Festival @ Fourth Baptist



**January 19** – Student Leadership Conference (SLC) @ Fourth Baptist



**January 30** – MACS Legislative Breakfast @ The State Capitol Bldg.  
in St. Paul – Basement room B-15



**February 8** – MACS Speech and Bible Festival @ Woodcrest



**February 22-24** – MACS State Basketball Tourney @ Fourth Baptist



**March 2** – MACS Junior High Fine Arts Festival @ Rosemount



**April 6** – MACS Senior High Fine Arts Festival @ Fourth Baptist

**May 11**—Granite City Track Meet @ St. Cloud