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WARRIORS

TWCA MAKES SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO CLASS 5A



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SPECIAL THANKS

TWCA MARKETING TEAM Michael Fonville, Kaylah Hubbard, Melissa Kong, Blair Moon, Matt Reese



DEAR FRIENDS,

We are blessed to celebrate another exciting year for Warrior Athletics, and we are grateful to our fans for supporting our student athletes!

Physical development is an integral component of the overall school experience for our PK4 - 12th grade students. In fact, it serves as one of the four foundational pillars that make up our mission, which reads –

The Woodlands Christian Academy is an independent, Christ-centered college preparatory school that integrates learning with biblical faith and spiritual growth and challenges students to reach their highest potential - intellectually, creatively, physically and socially - for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Rigorous academics, spiritual maturity, stimulating creative opportunities, meaningful social experiences, and competitive athletics have allowed us to graduate confident and well-rounded future leaders who are grounded in their faith and equipped to make a positive impact with their lives.

The lessons learned on the field and the mentorship, encouragement, and life-long relationships developed between teammates and coaches are invaluable. Our coaching staff is steadfast in their commitment to implementing opportunities for fellowship to ensure Warrior athletes recognize that only through Christ are we able to achieve such tremendous success.

I am so proud of our student athletes and coaches, and I appreciate the community's continued support of our programs. Your encouragement and enthusiasm really makes a difference to our future leaders!

Go Warriors and, never forget, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior." (Judges 6:12b)

Serving Him,

Julie H. Ambler

Head of School

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ON THE COVER

Photo by Bradley Collier

WE ARE WARRIORS: The Woodlands Christian Academy had a historic season moving up to TAPPS 5A and Caedmon Parker, McKenna Meadors, Madison Steed and Austin Benigni led the way.

WARRIOR NATION,

After a year of ups and downs and uncertainty brought on by COVID-19, we knew we'd be presented with new challenges to overcome going into the 2020-2021 school year. And while there were certainly many hurdles along the way, our students, coaches and the entire Warrior Nation showed up ready to face these challenges head-on.

We jumped into 5A competition and saw our athletes rise to the occasion and accomplish some incredible feats. The cross country teams continued their tradition of success with a boys state championship and a 3rd place finish from the girls. Varsity football finished 3rd in district play. Volleyball won a district championship. Boys basketball won the 7th state championship in school history while girls basketball finished 2nd in district. Though the season was cut short, girls swimming had two competitors medal at the state meet. Our spring sports were eager to get back to competition after having their 2020 seasons wiped out by Covid. Girls and boys track each won a district and regional championship, and finished 4th and 3rd respectively at the state meet. The boys golf program earned a district, regional and state championship—which they won by 33 strokes—to add to the long list of accomplishments by the Warriors in the 2020-2021 season. Softball advanced to the area round of the playoffs and at the time of this publication, the baseball team is on the road to Waco to compete in the TAPPS 5A State Semifinals.

Through athletics, our goal is to provide opportunities for our students to grow in their relationship with Christ while achieving their highest potential intellectually, creatively and socially. Almost all (85%) students in middle and high school play at least one sport and over half (54%) of them compete in multiple sports. This has helped us to develop a unified environment that encourages dynamic and diverse athletes who are committed to representing their school, teammates, coaches and families at the highest level.

We are so grateful for all of Warrior Nation for their continuous support and commitment to making Warrior Athletics as successful as possible.

Blessings,

Randy Hallas

Athletic Director





Wow, this school year feels like it has flown by us! I am so impressed with how our athletes and fine arts students finished this year. Warrior Boosters had another record-breaking year of funds raised and participation! A huge thank you for your continued support of our school.

Despite so many unknowns at the beginning of our school year, our Boosters committee was able to continue to host most events and fellowship gatherings throughout the school year. The Golf Tournament surpassed our expectations and goals and sold out, while our 2nd annual Warrior Color Run welcomed over 400 runners! Under the direction of first-year Director Phil Sweger, the Fine Arts department hosted a Christmas performance, the first-ever Fine Art Extravaganza, and ended the year with a Journey Through Broadway performed by our talented middle school and high school theatre arts students. A huge thank you to each of our committee members and volunteers for going above

and beyond all expectations this year; you made our Warrior Boosters stronger than ever!

TWCA moved to the TAPPS 5A bracket this year, but you would not have even known it, as our athletes continued to excel at District, Regional and State levels. Among the many accomplishments, we celebrated 8 District Championships, 5 Regional Titles and 3 teams being named the State Champions after their respective seasons. As I write this address, our boys baseball team is traveling to Waco for the TAPPS 5A State Semi Finals. There are also so many individual athletes to read more about in this VYPE magazine, as well as our wonderful coaching staff who were recognized throughout the year!

With our amazing Booster sponsors, members and parents continued support, TWCA was able to make several enhancements to our athletic programs this year. These include a complete remodel and update to the boys and girls

locker rooms and training room, purchase new uniforms for both middle school and high school cheer, provide a new net and pole system for volleyball, and secure 30 new middle school football helmets and 10 new varsity golf bags. It is because of the generosity of these parents and businesses that Warrior Nation continues to thrive!

It has been a true blessing to work with the Athletic and Fine Arts departments this year. I look forward to Chairing Warrior Boosters again in the 2021-2022 school year and working with the Boosters Committee to continue making a positive impact on the TWCA school experience.

I wish everyone a relaxing summer and we look forward to seeing you at Warrior Nation Night on August 9th.

Go Warriors,

Kathy Tautenhahn

Booster Committee Chair





**WARRIOR
BOOSTERS**



Promoting school spirit while
supporting The Woodlands Christian Academy's
Athletic & Fine Arts Programs

Become a
**CHAMPION
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GIRLS LOCKER ROOM



BOYS LOCKER ROOM



M-I-G-H-T-Y WARRIORS

The Woodlands Christian Academy has had an ultra-successful year across the board! VYPE ventured out to catch the Warriors in action! Welcome to the 2020-2021 VYPE TWCA Year in Review!



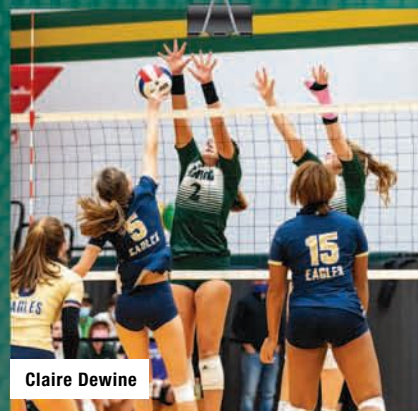
Lindsay Worthington
& Camille Young



Ashley Darilek

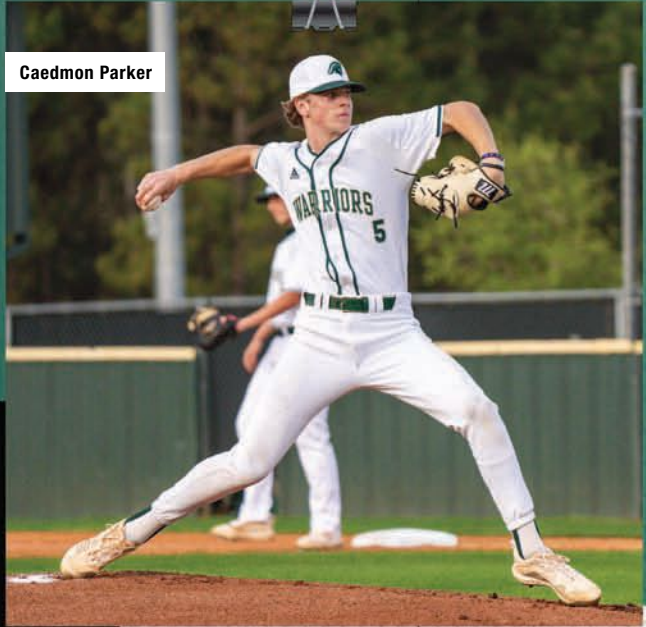


Marshall Hale

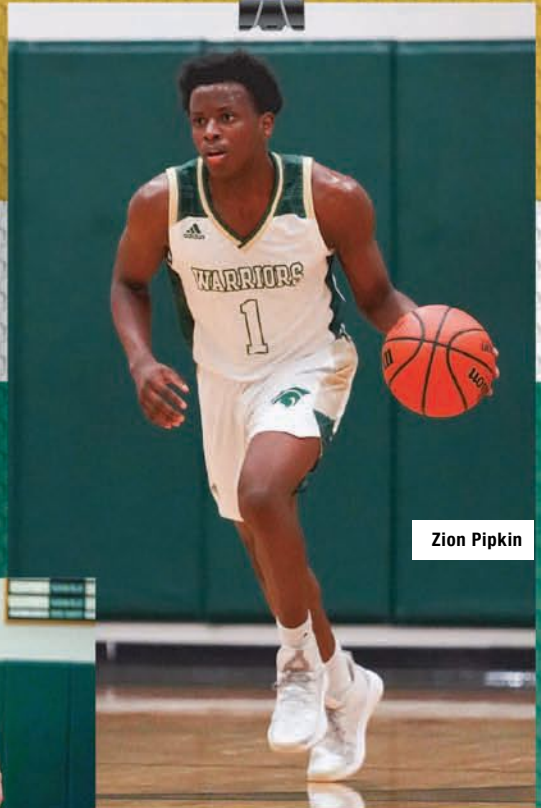


Claire Dewine

Caedmon Parker



Dereck Felder



Zion Pipkin



Ashley Darilek,
Danielle Mendoza,
Avery Buck and
Madison Frey

FOR MORE PHOTOS, VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM: @TWCA_Sports



Ezekiel Jurado leads the charge up front



Mackenzie Morris & Gracie Graham



Payton Moser



Katie Wise



Ben Shearer



Madison Steed



Reagan Harris



Sean Kane carries the flag



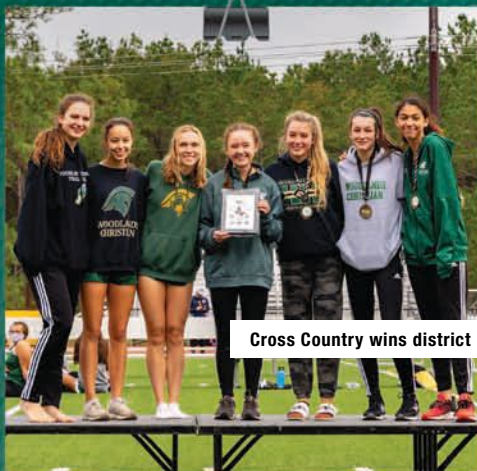
Baseball reached the TAPPS State Semifinals



Danielle Mendoza



Katie Wise



Cross Country wins district

Evan Sanni-Thomas



FOR MORE PHOTOS, VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM: @TWCA_Sports

Cedric Cook



Roric Hawkins



Mackenzie Morris



THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

By Matt Reese

THIS WASN'T THE FIRST TIME THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY MOVED UP A CLASSIFICATION IN TAPPS, BUT IT CERTAINLY FELT DIFFERENT.

Last fall, the Warriors jumped from 4A to 5A in all sports, which presented an entirely new challenge – how to compete with the best competition in Texas?

"This was a massive shift in the maturity of the other programs we were playing," TWCA Athletic Director Randy Hollas said. "We knew this was coming...and that it was going to have a profound effect on athletics."

The Warriors, though, had no intention to ease their way into the new level of competition. They wanted to compete, and win, immediately.

Mission accomplished.

In its first year of 5A competition, TWCA racked up an impressive number of achievements that include three state championships (boys cross country, boys basketball and boys golf), eight district championships (boys and girls cross country, volleyball, boys basketball, girls soccer, boys golf, boys and girls track) and playoff appearances from every program at TWCA.

That list doesn't include baseball, which at the time of publication was competing in the TAPPS 5A Division II semifinals.

This success didn't come overnight. The Warrior athletics program has been gradually building for years, something that Hollas and the entire department has invested a lot of time and effort into.

"What we know here is that we have a captured audience from the time they're in kindergarten up," Hollas said. "We know that we can take our athletes and start to introduce them to sports and fundamentals and culture very

The Warrior athletics staff and the school's Senior Leadership Team believe that investing in their students is the best way to build a successful program. Over the past several years, TWCA has added a dedicated athletic period, brought in strength and conditioning coach Tim Walker and built a new weight room in order to instill a "culture of training" among Warrior athletes.

“We’re going to continue to do what we do well, but we’re never ever going to stop looking at ourselves and think that we’ve arrived.”

early. We started 'Warrior Leagues' (youth sports program) because we want our kids who come up through elementary to compete in our varsity level sports."

"That's how we compete with places that go outside of their school to bring in talent every year," Hollas said. "We embrace the challenge to grow our own."



2021 TWCA BOYS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPS

Head volleyball coach and Assistant Director of Athletics Kori Parker echoed that sentiment.

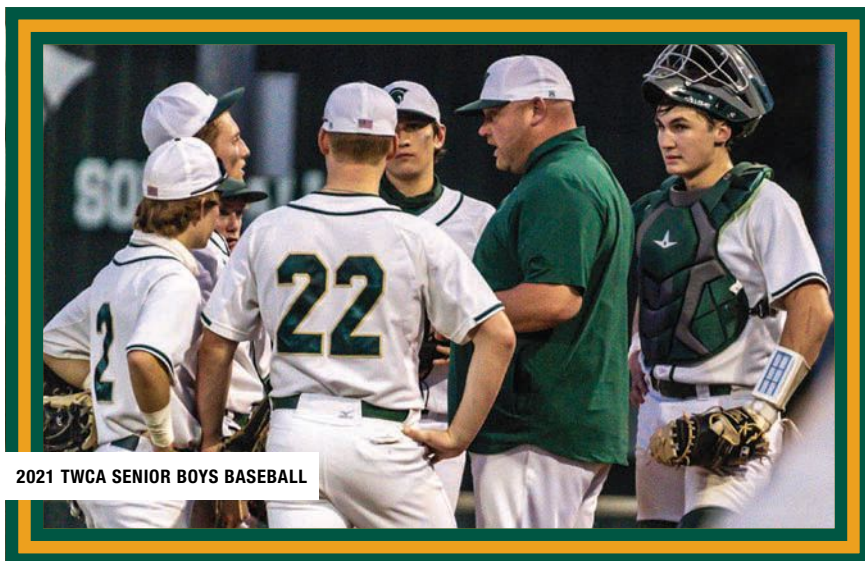
"Adding the girls into the athletic period was the first big step we took toward success," she said. "It provided year-round training and consistency, both in the weight room and on the field or court. The expectation from the kids in our program is 'this is who we are, now.'"

Both Hollas and Parker also agreed that having a consistent group of leaders - both players and coaches - has allowed them to "keep doing what we know to be successful, while tweaking small things that we want to improve," as Parker put it.

"I believe we have the best run athletic program in the state," Hollas said. "It's a constant challenge to find the right group of coaches that get on the bus and all work to the same program goal. The group we have now work well with each other, support each other, they care about each other and have sincere care about whether everyone has success. That is extremely unique in sports."

Now, the challenge for TWCA is to build on the success it has enjoyed, something that Hollas doesn't take lightly.

"We're going to continue to do what we do well, but we're never ever going to stop looking at ourselves and think



2021 TWCA SENIOR BOYS BASEBALL

that we've arrived," he said. "I was told early on that you always seek to become better. You never rest on your laurels."

For Hollas, this includes seeking advice from successful programs across the state, internally accessing how each team within the program can get better, finding best practices and thinking creatively on how to grow the Warriors' success both on and off the field.

"We want TWCA to be a place where our athletes advance to the collegiate level, in whatever sport," Hollas said. "We also want to seek relationships with Ivy League and east coast schools that have higher profile academic institutions that fit what we do here academically."

Hollas, Parker and the entire Warrior athletic program know that the days of easy competition is over. Every game in district and in the playoffs will feature an opponent that is talented, organized and ready to compete.

"The days of state championships and district championships are going to become more special now," Hollas said. "We're ready to work to make those happen as often as possible."

While the Warriors won't let themselves think they've "arrived," the rest of TAPPS should know by now... TWCA is here to stay.

2020 TWCA CROSS COUNTRY



LET'S GAME!



TWCA Enters the E-Sports World \ \ By Matt Reese

WELCOME TO THE NEW ERA OF HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS.

TAPPS, in partnership with Play Versus ("PlayVS"), has aspired to "take video gaming to another level with organized competitive gameplay." Esports has arrived at TWCA.

Head coach and program leader Xavier Eldridge introduced the idea of a Warrior E-sports team back in the Fall of 2020. Over 20 students signed up for the team and it was game on.

The season was split into two halves. In the fall, students competed in Overwatch and League of Legends

competitions. The spring saw the introduction of Rocket League to competition, which quickly became the go-to game for the Warriors.

Rocket League can be played with up to eight members per side but is 3 v. 3 in TAPPS competition. It has been described as "soccer, but with rocket-powered cars" and can be played "cross-platform," meaning that competitors can play on PlayStation, Xbox or PCs at the same time.

Though it was only the first year of the program, TWCA finished ninth in the TAPPS league of 26 teams, just missing the playoffs by one spot. Senior

Cedric Cook, junior Keaton Harvey and sophomore Cameron Davis became one of TWCA's best rotations throughout the regular season.

"This was the first time I competed for my school outside of other sports," Harvey said. "It was fun and it helped me meet other people at TWCA that like to game."

"It was different," Davis added. "Usually, you play games just for fun, but playing for your school, it gives you a little different mindset. You really want to win and move forward with your teammates."

This comradery is one of the major benefits TAPPS hopes to achieve by adding esports to its competition. Other benefits include "character development, increased participation, STEM engagement and college scholarship opportunities."

According to TAPPS, "more than 200 colleges and universities [are] offering almost tens of millions of dollars in scholarships" for esports athletes.

With one season under their belt, Eldridge and the other athletes are focused on growing the program for next year, with the hope that 2021-2022 will allow for practices and competitions to be held on campus, rather than remotely as was the case this past year.

Davis believes the competitive nature of the Warriors will encourage that growth.

"You're playing for your school," he said. "It gives you motivation to do your absolute best rather than just playing for fun. Of course, it's still fun to play, but there's that little extra behind representing the Warriors."

With the "Warrior Way" driving them, don't be surprised if TWCA Esports is next in line for a championship.



Sticking the LANDING

By Matt Reese



FOR MOST PEOPLE, FLYING THROUGH THE AIR WITH YOUR HEELS TO THE SKY MEANS SOMETHING HAS GONE HORRIBLY WRONG.

For TWCA freshman Luke De Leon, he wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

De Leon is an elite athlete who has been competing on the highest levels of the junior gymnastics circuit since he was seven years old.

"It started with my sister," he said. "I used to watch her practice and she got me into the sport. I always thought, 'this is so cool, I should try it.'"

The now 14-year old started training at Bannon's Gymnastix – the former gym of the most decorated American gymnast of all-time Simone Biles – and saw immediate success.

He was a state champion in his first full year of competition, which earned him an invite to try out for Cypress Academy led by legendary coach Tom Meadows. Cypress Academy has produced several Olympians, including Houston's own Chris Brooks, Jonathan Horton and Raj Bhavsar.

His early success hasn't slowed. De Leon recently finished 7th in the All-Around at the Region 3 Championships for Men's Junior Level 9 Elite competition. This earned him a spot in the 2021 Junior National Championships (formerly Junior Olympics) in mid-May.

A quiet and humble kid, De Leon is not one to tout his individual accomplishments. For him, it's all about the team.

“When I'm tumbling and flipping through the air, I feel free.”

"That's my favorite part about competition, the team aspect," he said. "Having your teammates on the sidelines pumping you up gets me so motivated to go out and perform my best."

De Leon and his teammates at Cypress Academy finished 1st overall in the Regional tournament.

Still, De Leon is not lacking individual accomplishments, and often finds himself with gold medals around his neck when the competition is over.

"It's an amazing feeling, standing atop the podium looking at all your family and friends," he said. "It's just a feeling that all of your hard work has paid off."

Speaking of work, De Leon trains nearly every day of the week for the upcoming national championships, leaving school after lunch to head to his gym.

He competes in each discipline – floor, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar – but says the floor exercise is his favorite.

"There's no feeling that can match it," he said. "When I'm tumbling and flipping through the air, I feel free."

No, Luke De Leon is not like most people.

FORE!

TWCA Wins First-Ever State Golf Title

By Matt Malatesta



Jack Usner



2021 TWCA GOLF TEAM



Aaron Pounds

WHEN YOU HIT INTO THE GROUP AHEAD OF YOU, YOU YELL, "FORE!"

Well, The Woodlands Christian did just that as the Warriors won state for the first time in school history in May.

Remember, the Warriors moved up from Class 4A to Class 5A entering the school year and they don't have a senior in their Top 5.

But coach Jonathan McNeese has seen this program building for the past four years.

"When I started coaching four years ago, my sophomores were seventh graders," McNeese said. "The way they were developing and growing, you could just see it. Then we had a few kids move in and it's all come together."

Last year, COVID struck and the Warriors weren't able to strike for their first title. They took full advantage of their opportunity at Cottonwood Creek in Waco.

"Last year, our motto was 'Get Better Together,'" he said. "It carried over to this season. If we are competing and pushing each other in practice every day, we all get incrementally better. When you all get better, the team gets better."

The formula worked.

Jack Usner (68, 71) won the TAPPS 5A

individual title by three shots and Aaron Pounds (68, 77) finished tied for third. Ethan Bridges, Jake Maggert and Sam McClure rounded out the Top 5.

"Everyone battled through some tough conditions on the course and it was mentally draining for everyone," McNeese said. "But they persevered and got the title."

To get that first state title is taxing. It's surreal and it took TWCA a minute to realize what they did.

"It took a while until it sunk in for the guys," he said. "It was something we were expected to do. Now, to actually do it, it wasn't until we were on the bus and having dinner last night that it clicked. And to think these guys have a few more opportunities at it is special."

Now, TWCA is the hunted instead of the hunters. That change in mentality fuels the Warriors as they are looking for more.

"Look, these guys have goals beyond TWCA," he said. "But what I like is that these guys don't settle. The (state) expectation is still there and they are interested in building a legacy... something they can look back on that



Coach Jonathan McNeese

they started 10 or 15 years from now. They relish the challenge and will fight and battle it out every day."

VYPE GO TO VYPE.COM FOR ALL YOUR TWCA COVERAGE

SAVE THE DATE

10th Annual Warrior Boosters Golf Tournament

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

twca.net/golftournament

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Save the Date

The Woodlands Christian Academy

ANNUAL AUCTION
and **GALA**

**Family
Atmosphere
is for Real
at Warrior
Nation**

6

DEGREES OF TWCA

By Matt Malatesta

WHEN CHOOSING A SCHOOL OR COLLEGE, EVERYONE TALKS ABOUT A PLACE FEELING LIKE HOME OR HAVING A FAMILY ATMOSPHERE.

Well, The Woodlands Christian Academy truly feels like home as family ties run deep in Warrior Nation.

It's like six-degrees of TWCA, and it goes way back.

Take Reid Gettys, who starred at University of Houston as a member of the Final Four teams that made Phi Slama Jama a household name. Gettys coached his son Stew to state titles in basketball. His daughter, Kathryn, also played volleyball for the Warriors.

Joe, Jack, James and Joshua Bento played multiple sports for TWCA and brought home some hardware along the way. Joe played QB at UAB, James

laughed. "We spend more time at TWCA than our own home. This is my second time around here and to see how the family tree has grown over the years, it really comes full circle."

Parker coached Julia Ambler in volleyball her first time at TWCA. Her mom, Julie, is now the Head of School.

"Everyone is so connected and intertwined that the family lineage will never disappear. It's really special," Parker said.

Staying with baseball, Carson and Caden Queck have patrolled the dugout at TWCA. Carson now plays at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and Caden (Class of 2022) is verbally committed to Kansas State. Mom, Jessica, teaches in the lower school.

“Everyone is so connected and intertwined that the family lineage will never disappear. It’s really special.”

played college basketball at Mercer and Josh currently plays for the Warriors.

In 2019, Ryan Booth was all over the volleyball court as a dynamic libero. She has since passed the baton to her sister Jordan, who is an outside-hitter for Warrior coach Kori Parker.

Yes, Kori Parker is the mother of TCU-signee and potential Major League Baseball draftee Caedmon Parker. Little brother, Kai, is a freshman, who is also a three-sport athlete.

"This is literally like our home," Parker

Athletic Director Randy Hollas has seen so many families come through his locker rooms. He can relate. His daughter Aubrey cheers for the Warriors as well as plays softball.

"If you are inside the 610 Loop in Houston at places like St. John's, Episcopal, St. Thomas and Kinkaid, you see that type of lineage of families that dates back decades," Hollas said. "It's like that here. It's a very intimate setting and the same names popped up over the years because we are so extra-curricular driven. All of a sudden, we

had kids we've coached who now have kids going here. It's really something."

Math teacher and swim coach Lisa Murphy was blessed with the opportunity to coach her daughter, Megan, who helped lead her team to a state title and was VYPE Private School Swimmer of the Year in 2019. Megan now swims at Incarnate Word.

The bonds go on and on. Soccer star Haley Pounds is now playing at Texas



A&M, while her brother, Aaron, is one of the top young golfers in the State of Texas, who will dominate the high school scene before playing in college. He's just a sophomore.

The Warrior football and track stadium is one of the tops among Houston private schools... it's named after Tom Earle, who is the legendary cross country and track coach.

His daughters played volleyball back in the day for TWCA and now, Rachel, is a first-grade teacher building future Warriors. His wife Diane has also coached over the years.

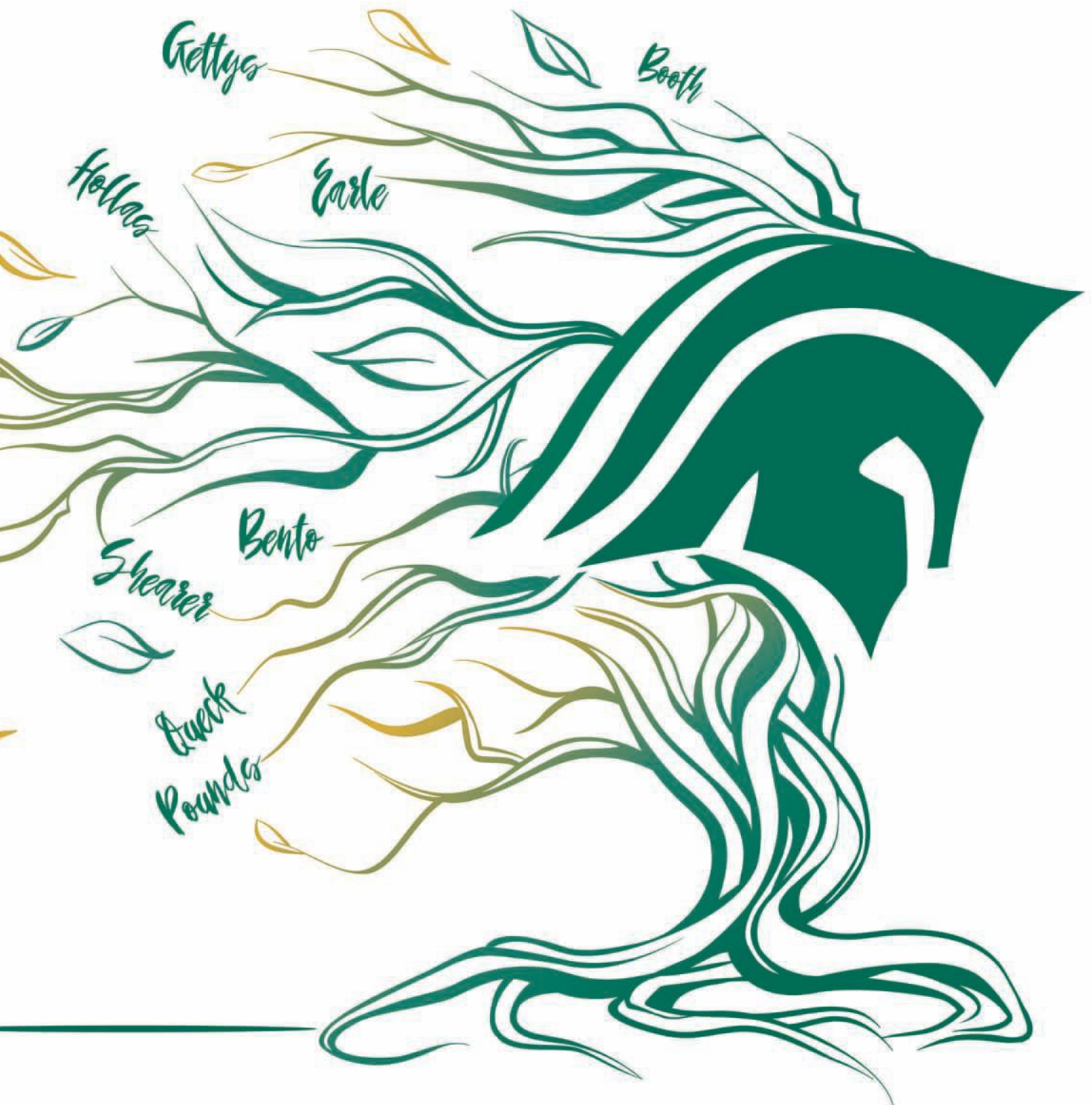
"TWCA is a great place where there is a balance between academics and athletics," Earle said. "We develop kids here and our families support it. Some families have older kids in certain high school programs and younger kids on the way up to high school. They see where the programs are going and see the consistency of the coaches.

"So many of us have had kids who have played sports here and the parents can see the passion we have for our athletes, including our own."

Earle has been lucky enough to coach possibly the First Family of TWCA.

Ben Shearer is re-writing his family's record books in long-distance running. His brother Josh dominated during his TWCA days and runs at the University of Arkansas. His sister Hannah won two state titles for the Warriors back in 2014 and 2016. She runs at Missouri Science and Technology. His brothers Luke and Logan (Missouri S&T) also ran for TWCA.

To say it's all in the family at TWCA, would be a complete understatement and that's the way they like it.



IN THE 2020-2021 SEASON, EIGHT SENIORS AT THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (TWCA) JOINED ATHLETES AROUND THE COUNTRY BY PARTICIPATING IN THE SPRING AND FALL NATIONAL SIGNING DAYS.

These athletes are a part of an elite group of students who were offered the opportunity to continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level.

"These eight students will become a special class of athletes," TWCA Coordinator of Sports Information Tanner Field said.

"The current research shows that only about three-percent of all high school athletes receive an opportunity to play at the collegiate level. On behalf

of the school and all of Warrior Nation, we are extremely proud of your accomplishments and you will be missed."

At The Woodlands Christian Academy, we challenge our students to reach their highest potential - intellectually, creatively, physically and socially - for the glory of Jesus Christ. The Class of 2021 is an exemplary reminder of what can be accomplished as a part of Warrior Nation.

Students, staff and family celebrated with an on-campus ceremony as a way to recognize these students' athletic achievements and honor their parents and coaches.

“These eight students will become a special class of athletes.”





FALL

FOOTBALL

Warriors Sustain Success, Name Multiple To All-State



2020 TWCA FOOTBALL

THE 2020 FOOTBALL SEASON WAS YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN FOR THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY AS THE WARRIORS MADE THE PLAYOFFS FOR THE EIGHTH TIME IN THE LAST 10 YEARS.

The Warriors went 4-3 overall and finished third in District 4 at 3-2 while competing for the first time in TAPPS Division II. TWCA closed the regular season with three straight wins, before falling to Geneva School of Boerne, 50-49, in a heartbreaking bi-district playoff loss.

Five underclassmen played key roles for the Warriors in 2020, including Class of 2023 running backs Roric Hawkins (225 rushing yards) and Ryan Leslie (375 yards, 3 TDs). Leslie was also a standout at linebacker with 4.1 tackles per game and an interception.

TWCA's key player to keep an eye on is Class of 2023 quarterback/running back/defensive back Josh Johnson, who had a breakout campaign in 2020.

Johnson led the team in rushing (397 yards, 8 touchdowns) and passing (1,101 yards, 13 TDs) and also compiled 3.3 tackles per game and seven passes defended.

A junior class that included offensive lineman Colby Gorman, tight end Sebastian Bryngelson, running back Keaton Harvey, defensive lineman Ezekiel Jurado, linebacker Sean Kane and defensive back Dereck Felder returns to captain the crusade for 2021. Kane led the 2020 Warriors with 10 tackles per game to go with 2.5 sacks.

TWCA says goodbye to senior stalwarts and

program cornerstones like receiver/punter Caedmon Parker, kicker Stratton Butaud and running back Davis Heise. Parker was the team's top offensive playmaker in 2020, catching 34 balls for 789 yards and 14 TDs, and led the team with five interceptions. He also averaged 34.1 yards per punt. He will be tough to replace because of his big-play ability. Butaud averaged 46.6 yards per kickoff with seven touchbacks.

In December, Randy Hollas stepped down as head football coach after four years at the helm. He will focus more on his duties as athletic director. Defensive coordinator Chris McClanahan was promoted to head coach and sustains the continuity and tradition the Warriors had established under Hollas.

ALL-STATE OFFENSE

SECOND TEAM

Caedmon Parker, WR

HONORABLE MENTION

Colby Gorman, OL

Stratton Butaud, K

DEFENSE

SECOND TEAM

Sean Kane, LB

Caedmon Parker, DB

ALL-DISTRICT OFFENSE

FIRST TEAM

Colby Gorman, OL

Roric Hawkins, RB

Caedman Parker, WR

Stratton Butaud, K

SECOND TEAM

Ryan Leslie, RB

Sebastian Bryngelson, TE

HONORABLE MENTION

Colby Shilling, OL

Keller Davis, OL

Davis Heise, RB

Keaton Harvey, RB

Roric Hawkins, ATH

DEFENSE

FIRST TEAM

Ezekiel Jurado, DL

Sean Kane, LB

Caedmon Parker, DB

SECOND TEAM

Ryan Leslie, LB

Josh Johnson, DB

HONORABLE MENTION

Dereck Felder, DB

Caedmon Parker, P



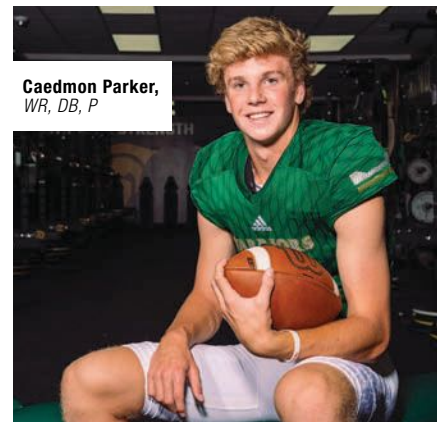
Sean Kane, LB



Ezekiel Jurado, DL



Colby Gorman, OL



Caedmon Parker, WR, DB, P

WRAP

By Dennis Silva II

VOLLEYBALL

TWCA Volleyball Captures District Title



Abby Adams, Avery Buck, Brooke Harris, Claire Dewine, Jordan Booth, Katie Tucker, Katie Wise, Maddie Steed
Coaches: Whitney Wofford & Kori Parker



Claire Dewine

THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY FINISHED 14-7 AND EARNED A BYE IN THE BI-DISTRICT ROUND OF THE PLAYOFFS BEFORE DROPPING A NAIL-BITING, FIVE-SET AREA PLAYOFF MATCH TO HYDE PARK IN THE SECOND ROUND.

The Warriors had three all-district, first-team selections in Claire Dewine, Abigail Adams and Jordan Booth. Second teamers were Katherine Tucker, Katie Wise and Brooke Harris. Honorable mentions included Avery

Buck and Madison Steed. Dewine was a first-team, all-state pick and Adams was a second-team pick. Booth was an honorable-mention, all-state selection.

 MORE PHOTOS:
[@TWCA_Sports](https://www.instagram.com/TWCA_Sports)



Abigail Adams



Katie Tucker



Katie Wise

ALL-DISTRICT

FIRST TEAM

Claire Dewine
Abigail Adams
Jordan Booth

SECOND TEAM

Katherine Tucker
Katie Wise
Brooke Harris

HONORABLE MENTION

Avery Buck Madison Steed

ALL-STATE

FIRST TEAM

Claire Dewine

SECOND TEAM

Abigail Adams

HONORABLE MENTION

Jordan Booth

CROSS COUNTRY

Wash, Rinse, Repeat: Warriors Dominate TAPPS 5A Cross Country

STOP US IF YOU'VE HEARD IT BEFORE: THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM WON STATE.

Never mind, don't stop us. Because the fact remains coach Tom Earle's boys are still at the head of the class despite moving up in classification to TAPPS 5A. TWCA made it a four-peat as state champion in 2020, as three runners finished in the Top 10. They were first-team, all-staters Ben Shearer, Josh Mueck and Caleb Bigler.

The Warriors also won the district championship for the fifth straight year.

Four runners were named as all-district, first teamers: Shearer, Mueck, Bigler, Zach Bagnoli and Lucas Trevathan.

Shearer was dominant all season. He won the McNeil meet in Austin to earn a first-place ranking in Texas, public or private schools. He also won the Desert Twilight meet in Arizona, overcoming some of the top runners in the country from California, Arizona and Utah. That meet championship elevated Shearer to No. 3 in the country.

At the Nike Virtual Nationals, the Warriors finished 16th

overall in the country.

The Warrior girls also enjoyed a stellar season.

The TWCA girls finished third overall at state, their ninth consecutive year finishing in the top three. They also won the district championship for the sixth year in a row.

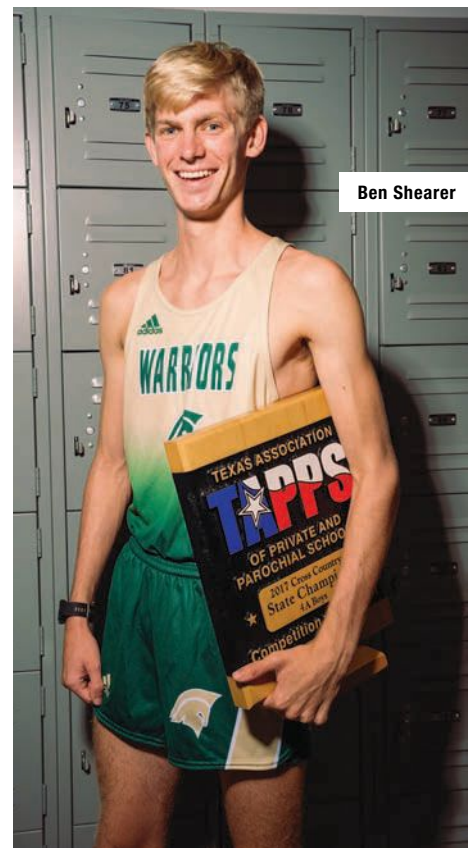
The Warrior girls had four all-district, first teamers in Lindsay Worthington, Fern Shirley, Zoe Calimani and Camille Young. Shirley competed against the large private schools in a 5K race and got seventh overall. She also competed against the boys in a 5K race in October and finished 26th overall.



Fern Shirley



2020 TWCA GIRLS XC



Ben Shearer



2020 TWCA BOYS XC

TWCA SPORTS SUMMER CAMPS

The Woodlands Christian Academy offers a variety of sports camps during the summer months that provide youth a great way to develop skills and knowledge in the activity they love. Each camp will be led by our highly acclaimed coaches and will be focused on developing fundamentals and is geared towards all talent levels. Campers will participate in sport specific drills, situations, fundamentals and integrity of the game, all while having fun playing games, competing in competitions and challenges.

LADY WARRIOR BASKETBALL CAMP

June 1 - 4 | 5th-8th grade

LADY WARRIOR BASKETBALL CAMP

June 1 - 4 | 1st-4th grade

VOLLEYBALL SKILLS CAMP

June 7 - 10

WARRIOR COED SOCCER CAMP

June 14 - 18

WARRIOR COED ELITE SOCCER CAMP + GOALKEEPER CAMP

June 14 - 18

WARRIOR COED TENNIS CAMP

June 21 - 24

WARRIOR COED TENNIS CAMP

June 28 - July 1

WARRIOR FOOTBALL CAMP

July 19 - 22

WARRIOR FOOTBALL CAMP II

July 26 - 29

WARRIOR STRENGTH: TRAIN TO TRAIN

4 days per week

Monday-Thursday

WARRIOR STRENGTH: TRAIN TO COMPETE

4 days per week

Monday-Thursday



Scan QR code to
view more information.

WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN
WARRIOR STADIUM

NEXT MAN UP!

McClanahan the Right Man to Lead TWCA Football

By Dennis Silva II

CHRIS MCCLANAHAN KNEW HE HAD BIG SHOES TO FILL WHEN HE TOOK OVER THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY'S FOOTBALL PROGRAM IN DECEMBER.

But there is confidence that McClanahan, who joined TWCA in the summer of 2020 as defensive coordinator, is the right man for the job, and it starts with his impressive resume.

This year is McClanahan's 21st in coaching, and while TWCA is his first head coaching gig, he has experience in a plethora of roles at many schools for distinguished coaches.

McClanahan started at Fort Bend Hightower as an assistant, then helped open Seven Lakes with the late Kevin O'Keefe, then to Alvin with Trey Herrmann before going back to Hightower as the offensive coordinator and helping the Hurricanes win three district titles.

McClanahan got out of coaching for a few years before returning to the sidelines at Lamar for a season.

Then, finally, Randy Hollas recruited him to TWCA, where McClanahan captained the defense, engineering a switch to a 3-4 base from a 4-3, and ultimately chosen as Hollas' successor as he moved into full-time athletic director.

"It has been a unique experience," McClanahan said. "It has been incredible."

And though he has only had an offseason as the man in charge for the first time, McClanahan is prepared.

Well, kind of.

"For the most part, it's been what I expected," McClanahan said. "But there are kind of two sides to that coin. The admin and coordinator experience I had prepared me for the football organization and structure of practices and staffing.

fundamentals and skills at each defensive position, as well as players and coaches understanding why they are being asked to do things in a different manner.

McClanahan will have talent in 2021. The cupboard is far from bare and it helps that the program's numbers have grown. TWCA had 37 kids in the program going into the 2020 football season. As of late April, the program had 59.

“ I believe that word is spreading about the overall positive experience in football at TWCA ”

Specific activities, banquets. But it's been a positive learning curve going from a (UIL) 6A school (Lamar) to what amounts to a 2A school."

McClanahan said TWCA is similar to how it was at Seven Lakes and Tays Junior High. Parents are heavily involved and the focus on athletics is significant.

Also, because of the intimate environment a small school offers there is more opportunity to develop relationships with each kid, not only in football but other sports as well.

The offseason has been successful in McClanahan re-teaching some of the

McClanahan credited coaches who care about kids and understand the importance of supporting multi-sport athletes, current players recruiting others because of the positive experience they are enjoying, and winning.

"I believe that word is spreading about the overall positive experience in football at TWCA, and I am thankful to our student-athletes, families, and school community, who are our biggest supporters," McClanahan said.

VYPE

GO TO VYPE.COM FOR ALL YOUR TWCA COVERAGE



Throughout the hallways of a campus, there is nothing more important than the spirit of the school.

By Matt Malatesta

THE BUZZ AROUND SPORTS OFTEN DETERMINES THE VIBE OF THE STUDENT BODY.

The Woodlands Christian Academy continues to build its brand and who better to set the tone than the Warrior cheer team.

From football to basketball and every sport in between, the cheerleaders can often be the face of a school – even in a pandemic.



Cheer's Laney Elguezabal, Chloe Van Til, Aubrey Hollas and Liz Delcios

BIG TICKET

TWCA's Benigni Has Become One of City's Must-See Players

By Matt Malatesta

AROUND THE HIGH SCHOOL AND AAU BASKETBALL CIRCUIT, THERE'S ALWAYS THAT PLAYER WHO THE REAL "HOOP HEADS" ALWAYS SAY, "YOU'VE GOTTA SEE HIM PLAY."

The herky-jerky Austin Benigni from The Woodlands Christian Academy is that guy.

Benigni is fast and quick. There's a difference. He can get up and down the floor in a straight line but what makes him special is that he's a ball of fast-twitch muscle with a jump shot.

"My style is very quick and a series of stop and goes," he said. "It's a bunch of hesitation moves. I can process information really quickly and read defenses, so I usually make the right decision on the court."

That style leads to acrobatic shots and highlight reel spills.

"I welcome the physicality," he said. "I grew up training with John Lucas with college and pro players. I go all out, so I'm used to getting knocked around by bigger and older guys. I've used that in high school to my advantage."

Off the court, he rolls at a different speed.

"Outside of basketball, I'm a really slow person," he said. "I walk slow, I eat slow. It's drastically different than when I'm on the court."

After leading his team in scoring as a sophomore and winning a TAPPS state title a year ago, Benigni's role changed this winter. Backcourt buddy Bakari LaStrap took Benigni under his wing

as an underclassman, so when LaStrap went off to college basketball at IUPUI, Benigni was tasked to take on the leadership role.

"Coach (Tanner) Field challenged me to work on my body language," he said. "I wasn't the leader as a sophomore and could get away with some body language a little more. I've really worked on that along with being more vocal. Picking my teammates up and giving them some pointers."

He also has taken another talented backcourt-mate Zion Pipkin under his wing. He's paying it forward for the freshman.

With his resume, you must play with confidence...and Benigni doesn't lack in that department. But he does live by Field's mantra as a balance.

"Coach has this saying 'Be Third' and that has become a huge part of my life," he said. "Putting God first, others second and yourself last. If you live by that, I think you are going to get far in life."

"But don't get me wrong, it was really cool going up a class (TAPPS 4A to 5A) and winning it again," he said. "We thought we were going to win it the entire season. We knew we always had the talent, so we expected it."

So, can we expect a third-straight TAPPS title with four of five starters returning in 2021-22?

"As soon as the game ended, I looked at coach and said we have one more to go," he said. "I want to be a part of the team who wins three straight titles for the first time in school history."

VYPE

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STATE

STATE CHAMPIONS

20

Wilson
INDOOR GAME BALL

EVOLUTION
ADVANCED MICROFIBER COMPOSITE

NHSB

TWCA

FOLLOWING IN THEIR

FOOTSTEPS

Playing College Sports, a Meadors Family Tradition

By Dennis Silva II

MCKENNA MEADORS ADMIRES HER PARENTS, BRADD AND TRISH. SHE LOOKS UP TO THEM. ADORES THEM.

So, when The Woodlands Christian Academy senior discovered that both of her parents played sports in college at Hannibal-LaGrange University in Missouri, she knew she wanted to as well.

"Growing up, it wasn't an expectation, but it was something that I wanted," Meadors said. "I wanted to be like them."

Like parents, like daughter.

Meadors, a two-sport standout for the Warriors, signed February 1 to play softball at Hill College. She is a right-handed pitcher who also plays first and third base.

"It's so cool to me, because it was real important that I played in college," said Meadors, who also played basketball for the Warriors and was even offered to play both sports in college.

Through the softball season's first 12 games, Meadors hit .512 with 22 RBIs and four home runs for the Warriors with 22 runs scored and a .533 on-base percentage. In the circle, she had a 2.41 ERA with 59 strikes to 21 walks and 13 earned runs in 61 innings.

After the 2020 high school softball season was canceled because of the pandemic, Meadors is grateful to be playing her senior year.

"It was a seize-the-moment type of thing," she said. "I'm very blessed for the opportunities that God has provided me with, with us being able to play our season. It really is a blessing and I know God has big plans for my life. Us getting to play this year was a part of that, because I've been able to grow more with my friends and my walk of faith as well."

Playing and going to school at TWCA has aided that purpose, spiritually and athletically.

"It's definitely a lot more freedom that's put on us as students," Meadors said. "I feel like they trust us a lot more. I've definitely grown in my walk with God. That's been a huge part. I feel with it being a smaller school, I've been able to focus more on myself with my coaches, opposed to the 60 or 70 girls that would try to play one sport at a public school. I've been able to hone my skills more."

Meadors used to never see a correlation between athletics and faith. But her time at TWCA showed her that they are more a team than not.

"Whenever you're at a public school, it's not as common to see people living out their Christian lifestyle," Meadors said. "So, whenever you come here, and it's like the norm for everyone, always praying and having a Bible class that focuses on improving in our walk with God ... from a sports level, it had always been separate to me. But through coming to this school, I have combined Christianity and sports and I try and use that."



FOR MORE PHOTOS, VISIT US
ON INSTAGRAM: @TWCA_Sports





WINTER

By Dennis Silva II

MENS BASKETBALL

Benigni, Perkins Lead TWCA to State Hoops Title

THE WARRIORS MADE QUITE THE FIRST IMPRESSION MOVING UP IN CLASSIFICATION AS COACH TANNER FIELD'S BOYS STORMED TO A 25-5 OVERALL RECORD AND THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

TWCA beat Fort Worth Christian, 60-47, in the state title game led by junior point guard Austin Benigni and small forward Chanse Perkins.

Benigni is currently being recruited by Stanford and holds offers from Mount St. Mary's, Morgan State and McNeese State. Perkins is currently being recruited by Dallas Baptist and the University of Chicago.

Benigni and Perkins were both named to the TAPPS 5A all-state tournament team, along with 6-foot-2 freshman guard Zion Pipkin. Benigni was an all-state first-team selection, and Perkins and Pipkin were second-team picks.

The District 5 champion Warriors named four to the all-district first team: Benigni, Perkins, Pipkin and Cedric Cook. Cook is an Our Lady of the Lake signee.

Wyatt Boeker and Giovanni Awasum were named to the all-district second team, and Jack Cole and Josh Bento were named as honorable mention all-district selections.



Chanse Perkins



Austin Benigni



Zion Pipkin



2021 TWCA BOYS BASKETBALL

WRAP

WOMENS BASKETBALL

TWCA Hoops Produces Solid Season

THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY'S GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM FINISHED IN AN IMPRESSIVE SECOND PLACE IN DISTRICT 5 IN 2020-21, DESPITE A YOUNG TEAM AND COMPETING IN ITS FIRST YEAR IN TAPPS 5A.

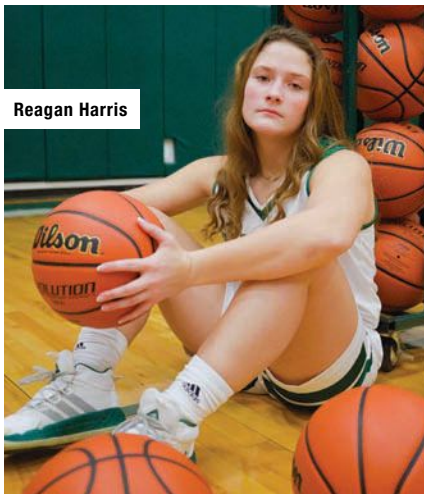
The Warriors compiled a 17-7 overall record, 10-2 in district play. TWCA beat Saint Mary's Hall-San Antonio, 51-29, in the first round of the playoffs before

falling in the area round, 40-34, to Geneva School of Boerne.

Three Warriors were named to the all-district first team: juniors Madison Steed, Mackenzie Morris and Reagan Harris. Three more were named to the second team in senior McKenna Meadors, junior Danielle Mendoza and sophomore Kelly Gorman.

Senior Catherine Berger, sophomore Avery Buck and junior Madison Frey were named as honorable-mention selections.

Steed was also a first-team, all-state pick and Morris was a second-team, all-state selection.



Reagan Harris



Mackenzie Morris



2021 TWCA GIRLS BASKETBALL

SOCCER



TWCA Girls Soccer Dominate

THE 2020-21 SEASON WAS THE FIRST WITH SENIORS FOR THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY GIRLS SOCCER COACH PAIGE PETERSON, AND IT WAS ALSO ONE TO REMEMBER.

The Warriors were undefeated District 5 champions, posting 10 shutouts in 14 games. TWCA scored 96 goals and allowed just six.

TWCA lost in the second round of the postseason in eight rounds of penalty kicks, but the Warriors will be back. They only graduate two seniors and had six underclassmen on the roster.

Junior Lindsay Worthington was the team's MVP with 29 goals and seven assists in district play. Freshman forward Jocelyn Klages had 22 goals and 10 assists. Junior goalkeeper Mattie Hopkins stopped eight penalty kicks this season.

The Warriors named six players to the all-district first team: Worthington,

Klages, Hopkins, freshman Camille Young, junior Leah Francis and senior Megan Hanigan. Worthington, Francis and Hopkins were also first-team, all-state picks.

Named to the all-district second team were sophomore Abigail Stanosheck, freshman Aspen Butaud (11 goals, 17 assists) and junior Emma Shepperd. Junior Ellie Johnson was an honorable mention all-district pick.

Klages was a second-team, all-state honoree, and Hanigan was an honorable mention all-state pick.

Ruffner was the team's Most Improved Player because of her effort, energy and willingness to be coached. Hanigan was awarded the "Heart of a Warrior" for her pride, commitment, selflessness and "ridiculous work ethic."



FOR MORE PHOTOS, VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM: @TWCA_Sports



Butaud, Jasek Pace TWCA Boys Soccer

THE TWCA BOYS WENT 8-10 IN THEIR FIRST SEASON IN TAPPS 5A SOCCER, 6-8 IN DISTRICT 5.

The Warriors named three players to the all-district first team in senior forward Stratton Butaud, senior defender Forrest Remy and sophomore goalkeeper Bruno Bobato. Butaud led the team with 16 goals and was second on the team with 32 points.

Junior midfielder Kyle Jasek (11 goals, 13 assists) and senior defender Davis Heise were named to the second team. Junior forward Ezekiel Jurado and senior defender Tanner Torres were named as honorable-mention picks.



SWIM

Krantzcke 'Gold' for Warriors Swimming

BECAUSE OF COVID-19, 2020-21 WAS A TRYING SEASON FOR COACH LISA MURPHY. THE TWCA SWIMMING TEAM COULD NOT PRACTICE AT ITS USUAL LOCATION, AND SOME ATHLETES CHOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE THIS YEAR DUE TO COVID CONCERNS.

Still, the Warriors were able to put together some impressive performances at the regional and state meets.

At the TAPPS Division II Regional Meet, The Woodlands Christian Academy girls finished sixth as a team in the

East division, scoring 37 points. TWCA junior Isabella Krantzcke was awarded Regional Swimmer of the Meet. She won the girls 200-yard freestyle (1:55.27) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:09.87).

Sophomore Brynnah Stowell finished second in the girls 100-yard butterfly (1:01.78) and second behind teammate Krantzcke in the 500-yard freestyle (5:23.71).

Senior Merritt Ruffner finished sixth in the 100-yard backstroke (1:18.09) and

seventh in the girls 50-yard freestyle (29.53 seconds).

At the state meet in San Antonio, Krantzcke placed first and second, respectively, in the 500 freestyle and 200 freestyle. Stowell placed third in the 100 butterfly and 500 freestyle. Ruffner, who was also competing in soccer around the time of the state meet, swam the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke and placed 15th and 14th, respectively, posting a personal-best time in the 50 free.



THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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2021

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AUG 9, 2021
6 PM – 8 PM

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- Purchase spirit wear
- Get your schedule for the year
- Fellowship with other Warrior families

  
@TWCAWARRIORS



SPRING

TRACK

Track Stars Shine in Spring

BOTH TWCA BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK TEAMS HAD STELLAR SEASONS FULL OF CHAMPIONSHIPS, NEW CAREER MARKS AND MUCH MORE.

Let's start with the boys team. The group won both the TAPPS 5A District and Regional Championship and took home third overall at the TAPPS State Meet in May.

Just like from the fall, the record-smashing Ben Shearer did his thing. He won the TAPPS 5A State Championship in the 800-meter run, 1600-meter run and 3200-meter run. In the 800, he set a new school record and in the final

two races he set a new all-time TAPPS State record. He also ran at the time the 10th-fastest mile (4:08.58) in the nation at the Texas Distance Festival in March (4:08.58) and the No. 3 two-mile time (8:48.90) in March in South Carolina.

Other top state results included Evan Sanni-Thomas, setting a new school record in the 400-meter dash and Colby Gorman taking fourth in the shot put.

For the season, new school records were set in the 4x100 and 4x400-meter relays, in the long jump by Austin Benigni, shot put by Gorman and in the high jump by Jack Cole.

On the girls' side, the team also brought home the TAPPS 5A District and Regional Championships and then finished fourth as a team at state.

The 4x400-meter relay won the state championship, which included Mia Torres, Lindsay Worthington, Maddie Steed and Zoe Calimani, and also set a new school record.

Catherine Berger took silver in the shot put, Sarah Chappelle took bronze in the 100-meter hurdles and Megan Hanigan took bronze in the pole vault



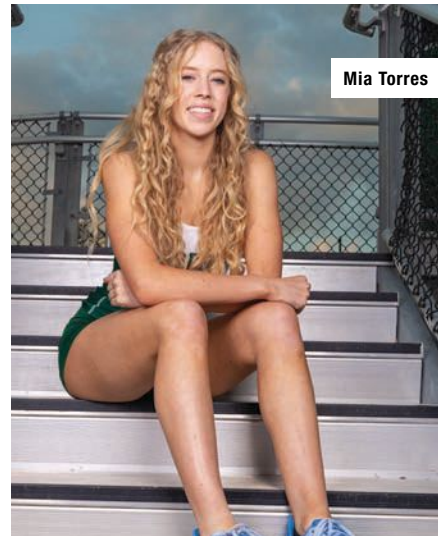
2021 TWCA BOYS TRACK TEAM



Ben Shearer



2021 TWCA GIRLS TRACK TEAM



Mia Torres

WRAP

By Joshua Koch

SOFTBALL

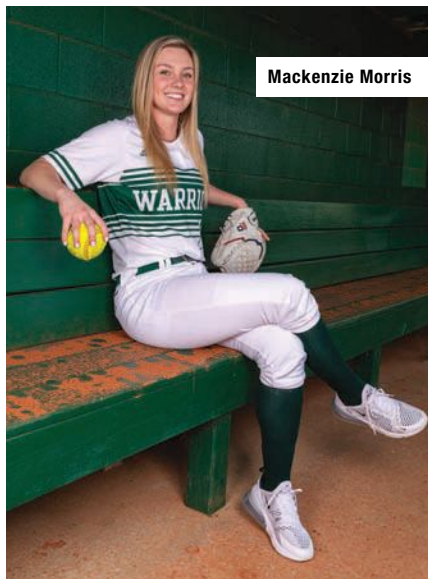
Softball Pieces Together Solid Season

THE WARRIOR SOFTBALL TEAM HAD A NICE YEAR, GOING 10-5 OVERALL AND 7-5 IN DISTRICT PLAY, WHICH GAVE THEM THIRD PLACE AND A PLAYOFF BERTH.

TWCA was led by first-team, all-district picks Mackenzie Morris, McKenna

Meadors and Ashley Darilek. Second teamers included Mattie Hopkins, Gracie Graham, Aubrey Hollas and Katie Wise.

The lone honorable-mention pick went to Kaitlyn McGrath.



Mackenzie Morris



Ashley Darilek



Aubrey Hollas



2021 TWCA SOFTBALL TEAM



TENNIS

2020-2021 TWCA Tennis



2021 TWCA Girls Tennis Team



Piper O'Brien



2021 TWCA Boys Tennis Team



Tyrrell Crosby.

TEAM ON

FIRE

TWCA Gets Hot in TAPPS Postseason By Matt Malatesta

THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HAD AN AMAZING SEASON ON THE DIAMOND, REACHING THE TAPPS STATE FINAL FOUR FOR THE NINTH TIME IN SCHOOL HISTORY.

Led by TCU-signee Caedmon Parker, the Warriors were Area and Regional Champions before falling to eventual State Champion Lutheran South in the State Semis.

Marshal Hale, Carson Queck (Kansas State-commit) and Christian Berger were first-team, all-district selections, while Parker, Austin Boyd and Bryce Burton were second teamers. Payton Moser earned an honorable mention.

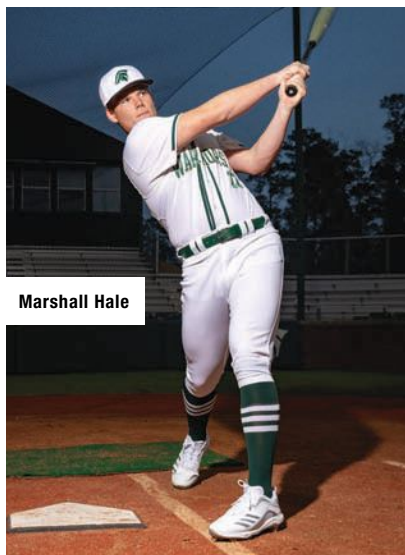
Coach Brett Cleveland continues to build the Warriors into a TAPPS state power program in north Houston.



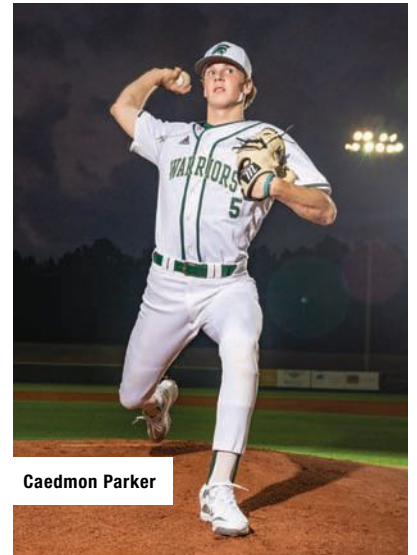
2021 TWCA Baseball Team



Carson Queck



Marshall Hale



Caedmon Parker



THE WOODLANDS
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
FINE arts



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- EQUIPPING each student with the skills to attain proficiency and pursue excellence in their field;
- INSPIRING each student to explore ways to integrate the Fine Arts with other disciplines.



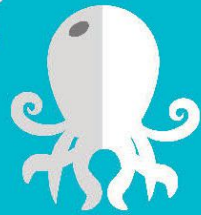
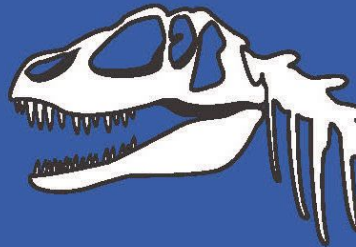
WARRIOR SUMMER CAMP

THE BEST WEEKS OF SUMMER



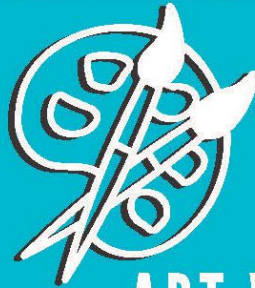
FARMING WEEK
MAY 24-28

ARCHEOLOGY WEEK
JUNE 1-JUNE 4



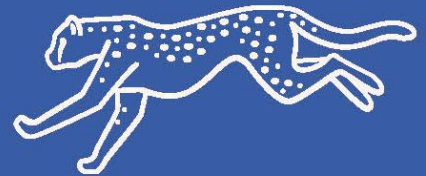
JUNE 7-JUNE 11
MARINE LIFE WEEK

SPACE WEEK
JUNE 14-JUNE 18

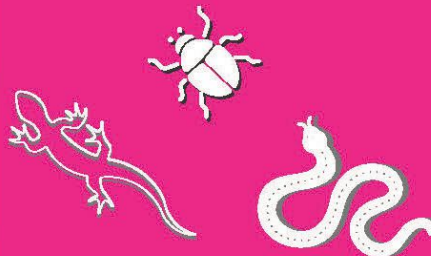


ART WEEK
JUNE 21-JUNE 25

ZOOLOGY WEEK
JUNE 28-JULY 2



OUTDOOR EXPLORATION WEEK
JULY 6-JULY 9



CREEPY CRAWLEY WEEK
JULY 12-JULY 16

THEATER WEEK
JULY 19-23



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