

- Edina boys surging
- Top 20 teams listed
- Hopkins girls top Tonka
- WHA coach's fortitude
- Hovering or Hero?

North Star



Isaac Asuma's impact at Cherry High goes way beyond basketball

By Bruce Strand

We like Ike! That was the famous slogan on buttons for a couple presidential campaigns in the 1950's, and they could sell a lot of those same buttons in the Iron, MN area these days, home of the Cherry High School Tigers.

Isaac "Ike" Asuma is best known as the first Minnesota Gophers recruit from the Iron Range in forever, and as the leader of a team that made hoops fans around the state very familiar with a school most had never heard of before.

But in Cherry, Asuma is also admired as a straight-A student, a true teenage gentleman, a kindly mentor to younger kids, and a terrific football and baseball player.

The 6-foot-2 point guard, handsome, clean cut, muscular, graceful, calm and composed, has led Cherry to the state Class 1A semi-final the past two seasons. He recently passed the 3,000-point marker and has accumulated 850 assists and 1,150 rebounds.



Gopher recruit Isaac Asuma leads Class 1A's top-ranked team, aiming for a third state tourney.

Bruce Strand, MN BB News

And, by the way, he is one of several fine players on a team that includes a younger brother and cousin. The Tigers have been ranked first in 1A since the opening tipoff. They've gone 83-21 in his four seasons.

His exceptional athletic ability shows through in all sports. Said football coach Jason Marsh: "If we threw a 50/50 ball to Ike, it was really a 90/10 ball for him."

Basketball coach Jordan Christianson, asked what impresses him about Asuma, chose to focus on intangibles: "What amazes me is how well rounded he is as a person. He is humble and always puts others first. He is always willing to help out with whatever, and is a great role model for our younger students. He takes the time to get to know people when he is approached and has a conversation with them. He is obviously a great basketball player, but the traits he possesses off the court is what amazes me."

Asked to assess himself as a hoopster, in a Gopher Hole

fan site interview, Asuma responded: "I would describe myself a point guard who does a little of everything, who can shoot from outside and get to the rim, and I'm a very good passer and I can play defense."

Minnesota coach Ben Johnson, upon signing Asuma last March, said the Gophers are getting "a proven winner" with competitive edge and toughness, great skill levels and "a tremendous amount of pride," along with being a quality person from a great family. "Isaac will give maximum effort from the first day he's on campus."

Asuma has been listed as either the No. 2 or 3 prospect in the state and fielded offers from Texas Christian, Hampton, Minnesota-Duluth, Iowa State, Nebraska, Xavier and Butler. He chose the Gophers "because of my relationship with Ben Johnson," adding, "I truly believe in the Gophers future and that I can help them turn the program around."

He is thrilled to help give Cherry High, with 34 students in his class, 191 miles north of Minneapolis, a team locals can be proud of. "The first time we stepped on the court at Williams Arena, my sophomore year, and saw everyone in the stands wearing orange, that was crazy, to see how much community support Cherry had."

Asuma is currently averaging 18.2 points, eight assists, seven rebounds, and 2.6 blocked shots per game, shooting 59 percent from the floor and 81 percent at the line. He is distributing more this year after averaging 21 points, 8.8 rebounds, 6.5 assists and 2.6 steals as a junior, and 27 points, 9.5 rebounds, seven steals and three assists as a sophomore. Both of those teams finished 27-6 with fourth place at state.

Cherry would be a solid team even without the future Gopher who is not even their scoring leader. That's junior guard Noah Sundquist with 20.3 per game. Freshman Isaiah Asuma (Isaac's cousin) averages 13.8 points, junior Carson Brown 13.4 and sophomore Noah Asuma (Isaac's brother) 12.8. Cherry is currently 17-2, losing to two Class 4A teams: top ranked Park Center 92-73 and Forest Lake 69-65, over the holidays. The Tigers edged Holy Family Catholic, one of the top 2A teams, 73-69, with Asuma playing stout defense against both a star guard and post, and had one other close win, over Superior (WI) 53-51, both in December. Otherwise, their closest game was 75-62 over Cass Lake-Bena, with the other games all blowouts by 30 to 70 points.

Baseball was Asuma's first love. He hit .424 for the Tigers as a freshman, led with 14 extra-base hits and was one of the starting pitchers on a 15-8 team. "It was the sport I thought I was going to play in college," he told



Isaac Asuma drove against Holy Family during a 73-69 win in December.

the Star-Tribune, "until eighth grade when COVID hit, and then it switched to basketball." Asuma did not play baseball the last two years but he will rejoin the Tigers this spring now that he's done with AAU basketball.

Coach Brian Kemp looks forward to that. Last summer, he noted, when Asuma found time for some baseball, he went 4-for-5 with three doubles in his first game back after being away for two years. "He can play anywhere. He is a smooth infielder and covers a ton of ground in the outfield. He has a high baseball IQ from growing up on a baseball field." Kemp added, "He's a great student and even a better person. He makes people around him better and has always been a leader and role model to everyone in our community."

As for football, there was some question about whether Asuma would rejoin the team this fall, due to his basketball commitments, but he ultimately decided that he'd never have another chance to play football and eagerly suited up. He earned his third all-conference award and was named state Nine-Man receiver of the year. He caught 38 passes for 492 yards and nine touchdowns, plus seven two-point passes, and on defense made 72 tackles, two interceptions and two forced fumbles, helping Cherry post a 9-2 record. He was a running back/receiver as a junior on an 8-2 team, rolling up 449 yards and five TD's on the ground, averaging 9.2 per carry, while snagging 27 passes for 438 yards and eight touchdowns and making five interceptions.

Football coach Marsh also had praise for Asuma's sports IQ. "He knew the assignment of every player on the field. Also, he garnered a lot of double covering this year and yet had more receptions than last year." If not for his commitment to basketball, Marsh said, "He could be an excellent college receiver. He runs great routes and has such great leaping ability."

Took a while but Hornets are humming now

By Bruce Strand

Edina's boys team started the season with high hopes, returning four of the top six from a 15-12 team. The Hornets were a bit stunned when they struggled to a 1-4 start, albeit against some strong teams.

However, the Hornets have found their groove to win seven of their last eight, including conquests of a pair of top-five ranked teams, Hopkins and Minnetonka. With an 11-7 ledger now, the Hornets moved up to No. 11 in the Class 4A rankings this week.

"I think the biggest difference in the past couple weeks has been our guys buying into our defensive system and committing to playing aggressively and extremely hard," coach Jon Bryant said. "Our defensive pressure has led to some easier baskets on offense and increased our pace of play."

Their shooting percentage has also gone up "due in part to getting some early looks in transition, but also through some adjustments we made offensively."

Also hampering the Hornets early was a good problem: some of their athletes were football players who went to the Prep Bowl, so they started late and needed some time for their legs to adjust to basketball. The team also had some illness early and didn't field their full squad until the fourth game.

Edina enjoys excellent scoring balance with 6-foot-8 junior forward Daniel Molhoek averaging 14.4 points, senior guard Josiah Coleman 13.9, senior guard Owen Kemper 9.6, senior guard Waylon Erlandson 9.0 and junior guard Billy DeMars



Billy DeMars hits a three-pointer.



Daniel Molhoek is top scorer in a balanced offense.

Bill DeMars Sports Photography

9.0. Meanwhile, Bryant said, the Hornets can rely on their defense to keep them in games when the offense isn't clicking.

In the 83-80 win over Minnetonka on Jan. 26, Kemper and Molhoek sank 22 points each and Coleman 17. Coleman had 20, Molhoek 13, Erlandson 12 and Kemper 11 in the 75-69 win over Hopkins on Jan. 16. The Hornets beat one of the top 3A teams, Orono, 72-60 on Jan. 27 with DeMars and Coleman hitting 16 points each and Kemper 14.

"We came into the season with high expectations," Bryant said. "We thought we could compete with the best teams in the Lake Conference and make a run in the playoffs. With the elevated expectations came additional pressure, magnifying our early struggles. I think we needed some adversity to realize we needed to commit to the process on a daily basis."

The Hornets hope to be playing in some big games in March. Bryant knows a lot about big games. A 6-foot-2 guard from Armstrong, Bryant helped the Wisconsin Badgers reach the Final Four in 2000; in fact, he was named MVP of the West Regional. He had a brief stint professionally in the CBA.

After returning to Minnesota, he started getting requests from prep players and their parents to work with them, and from that he started a business as a basketball trainer that he continued for around 15 years. But he eventually realized he "missed being part of a team" and joined the Wayzata staff under Bryan Schnettler, whom he'd met from training some of the Trojan players. He was head coach at his alma mater, Armstrong, for three years, and then to Edina, where he's in his third season.

45th Year!**More info:**<https://www.pacesettersports.net/host-a-camp/>

or scan QR code

**2024 PACESETTER**

Basketball Camps

Pacesetter has been providing high-quality, low-cost camps since 1980. Highly experienced directors and low player-coach ratios are a Pacesetter standard. Pacesetter focuses on teaching the most important skills to make the greatest possible improvement in a few days...for a cost most families can afford.

Area Camps—Pacesetter Area Camps serve players in many regions of the 5-state area. Camp hosts design the time schedule of the sessions and the grades and genders to meet their needs. These camps range from 3-4 days and provide sessions ranging from 1-6 hours per day for players in grades 1-12.

“Tour of Champions” Camp—Pacesetter also offers a special “Tour of Champions” series of camps in the 5-state area. These camps will be 1-2 days and feature the very best coaches in the Midwest – coaches who have won state championships or head college coaches or coaches who have reached other high levels of success – Hall of Fame, Coach of the Year, etc. Host coaches may also invite their coaching staff to attend these special camps as a free coaching clinic.

Camp of Champions...that comes to YOUR gym!

Customize your camp to YOUR program

To set up a camp at your school, please email Tracey at pacesettersportsmbbn@gmail.com



Hopkins tips Tonka in 1-2 duel

By Bruce Strand

Hopkins reclaimed its customary No. 1 spot in the girls 4A rankings after handing Minnetonka its first loss of the season 79-62 on Tuesday in Minnetonka. Tatum Woodson netted 23 points, Liv McGill 22 and Lauren Hillesheim 18 for the Hornets (17-2), who roared to a 46-26 halftime lead. Aaliyah Crump sank 30 for Minnetonka (18-1), and Lanelle Wright and Tori McKinney 13 a piece. Hopkins took the lead in the Lake Conference, which literally has a stronger field than the state tournament every year, currently with five of the top six teams in the rankings. Hopkins is 6-0 and Minnetonka 5-1 in the Lake. They will meet again in the conference finale Feb. 23.

AROUND THE STATE

Tori Oehrlein of Crosby-Ironton became the first sophomore in the state ever to reach 3,000 career points when she scored 27 on Tuesday during a 93-75 loss at Providence Academy. The 5-foot-11 guard reached the milestone on the first basket of the game. Maddyn Greenway, who will soon become the second sophomore to reach 3,000, led the Lions' with 35 points. Oehrlein reached 3,000 in a record 101 games. Next-fastest was Kierah Kimbrough of Badger-Greenbush-Middle River (2005) in 112 games. The state record-holder for career points, Rebekah Dahlman of Braham, got to 3,000 her junior year and finished with 5,060 after a couple of monster state tournaments.

Delano girls were 17-0 before St. Peter (16-1) felled the Tigers 71-67 in overtime on Saturday with Rhyann Holmgren sinking 25 points and Annika Southworth hitting a key 3-pointer in the OT. With losses by Delano and Minnetonka, there are no remaining undefeated girls teams.

Blooming Prairie boys were 17-0 before Winona Cotter/Hope Lutheran (13-4) tripped the Blossoms 61-60 behind Gabe Stewart with 22 points on Saturday. That leaves just two undefeated boys teams: Breck and Red Lake County.

Four girls basketball luminaries have been named to the Girls Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame. They are Liz Carpentier, president of the GBBCA and the All Star Series; Michelle Goodman, coach at Eagan and Farmington; Jeremy Post, coach at White Bear Lake; and Ben Lofgren, Hawley assistant coach.

Tresa Baumgard of Chisholm is now the all-time state girls leader in rebounds. Coach Pam Pioske reported that the 6-foot senior has 1,791 rebounds at this writing. The previous record was 1,736 held since 2010 by Sari Noga of Parkers Prairie, who went on to play for the Gophers. Matt Pederson, state record keeper, noted the that rebound record has been held by only four players. Janet Karvonen of New York Mills graduated in 1980 with 1,433 rebounds. Janice Streit of Eden Valley-Watkins took it over in 1984 with 1,608, which stood for 26 years until Noga broke it. Baumgard, we recently noted in MBBN, also broke Chisholm's career points record that had stood since 1984.

Hancock (18-1) has three girls with over 1,000 points as senior Kaitlyn Staples reached the milestone on Jan. 27, joining senior Misti Zemple, who got there Dec. 29, and junior Kaitlyn Rohloff, who reached 1,000 last year.

Wayzata and Hopkins each scored over 100 points and it wasn't even an overtime game Tuesday. Wayzata prevailed 103-101 — taking its first lead with eight-tenths of a second left on a three-point play by Jordan Cain — after trailing 60-43 at halftime. "Tale of two halves," reflected Wayzata coach Bryce Tesdahl. "We kept on chipping away ... Fortunately, we were able to get enough stops and scores to overcome a big first half deficit. Credit to our kids." Cain and Greyson Uelman netted 30 points each and Andy Stefanwicz 19 for Wayzata. Anthony Smith sank 32 points, Jayden Moore 25 and Tyson Moore 18 for Hopkins.

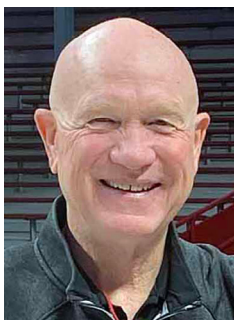
JUMP SHOTS — **Alyda Vande Griend**, Edgerton senior, passed the 1,500 point and 1,000 rebound markers during a 74-25 win over Red Rock Central on Tuesday as she logged 24 points and nine rebounds ... **New Ulm** boys (11-6) beat Tri-City United 123-87 on Tuesday with Colton Benson scoring 40 points, James Osborne 25 and Nathan Firlie 23. Luke Colicky had 34 points and Reggie Vosejka 32 for TCU (8-9) **East Ridge** boys started 4-7 but have won seven straight, led by Cedric Tomes (19.2 ppg) **Richfield** boys started 3-0, lost seven straight (two to Milwaukee teams) and have now won seven of eight including DeLaSalle for the second time. The Spartans (10-8) are led by CJ Armstrong (32.7 ppg) and Xavier Hayes (17.8) ... **Ai'John Douglas**, St. Paul Harding junior guard, scored 30 or more points five times in a recent 10-game stretch, and leads the Knights (13-3) with 22 per game.

Of Heroes and ‘Hovering’ Teams

By Jeff McCarron
Pacesetter Sports Director

People who run tournaments work hard to get facilities and staffing and officials, but most importantly, they need teams and “heroes” - coaches or parents - to lead them...and REGISTER the teams - early.

It won't be a surprise to hear that the only 1000+ win girls' coach, Mike Dreier of New London-Spicer, has put in the most Pacesetter teams over 30 years - one for every grade annually for decades. They have been to a record number of state tournaments as a varsity team. Jeff Buffetta at MIB is following that example and has made 8 state trips in 9 years, claiming the Class A title last March...and the list goes on.



Coaches, if you want success, get to know your young players, let them know you care, and get them involved early and often.

What tournament directors don't want is “hovering teams.” Here's why: We had a tournament with two teams registered on a Friday while there were six teams “hovering” and asking “How many teams?” When they heard two teams, none of the six teams registered, due to “not enough teams” according to their hovering minds. Had they all registered, we would have had a wonderful eight-team tournament, great for everyone.

We are trying something different this year. We are publishing the lists of the teams that have stepped up and registered early. Each Friday in MN Basketball News, we'll publish the regional lists along with the growing number of schools participating and the total number of teams **registered**. As of today, we have 203 teams from 93 different schools due to their heroes behind the scenes. We are about 33 percent registered. See the lists on pages 9-18.

All regions for grades 4-7 are limited to eight teams. All Super Sections for grades 8-9 involving two regions are limited to 16 teams.

We started in 1993 with 400 teams. We increased quickly to 600 and 800 and almost 900, then settled back to 600-700. We added fourth grade and had about 750 teams in 2019 BC – Before COVID. We are working hard to build this system back to 600-plus teams. We need a **team effort** from head coaches, youth basketball associations, parents, and even players, so please help promote it in every way you can.

With more players being pulled toward AAU teams earlier each year, it is important for school basketball programs throughout Minnesota to hold the line for **School Team Basketball** as long as possible – like April 7 please. Parents need to support the home team as their child's first priority. Encouraging loyalty to home teammates first will be a great life lesson.

BENEFITS

- **Playing together** binds players to their team at a young age.
- **Team results** are more important than individuals standing out.
- **The school team** is the most important team, as it should be.

The Pacesetter eight-region playoffs provide all Minnesota school/community teams with a chance to play off for a true over-all Minnesota championship **and** to gain entry into a five-state championship at the Target Center, which gives school/community teams a chance for a big-time experience.

Playing on a non-school team should be an “extra,” if and when not enough teammates can form a team. But should school team players be splitting up right after their seasons instead of forming teams with their teammates? Should parents be encouraging it? **The Team** is always more important than any individual. And, about that college scholarship parents think they can get through AAU ball - college coaches are very intelligent and thorough. They recognize loyalty and seek out players who are great teammates. They want that loyalty on their team.

I think of Isaac Asuma of Cherry scoring 15 when he could score 35. The Gopher coaches understand exactly who he is and what he offers a team and offered

(Continued below)



Teams representing Watertown and St. Peter competed at the 2023 Great Five State.

Competing as school/community teams is more rewarding

him a Big Ten scholarship years ago.

I branched off into **Team Basketball** because sometimes I can't help myself, and since our tournament system is such a great place for young teams to start forming close connections and lifelong friendships. Help your kids on their journey of being great, loyal teammates: **Register Now to fill those open spots.**

ROAD TO THE TARGET CENTER

Boys & Girls Grades 4-9

2024 Minnesota YOUTH BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Region Playoffs

NEW in 2024!
 • Limit of 8 teams - grades 4-7 in 8 regions
 • Limit of 16 teams - grades 8-9 in 4 Super Sections
 All MN school/community-based teams may register to play at any site.

Team fee: \$230 • 3-4 game guarantee

See the list of Pacesetter regions and REGISTER: www.pacesettersports.net

Scan Code For More Info: www.pacesettersports.net

Region champ & Section champ/runner-up - Pacesetter MN STATE
 Region/Section high finishers - Pacesetter MFL - Minnesota Invitational Tournament
 STATE champ/runner-up - Pacesetter "Great State" at Target Center

GREAT 5-STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
IA • MN • ND • SD • WI

Questions? 320.243.7460 • pacesettersportsmbn@gmail.com • www.pacesettersports.net • [Pacesetter Basketball](#)

ALL GRADES REFER TO THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Region 1
 Stewartville/Rochester • March 16 • Boys & Girls Grades 5 & 7
 Stewartville/Rochester • March 17 • Boys & Girls Grades 4 & 6

Region 2
 Lake Crystal • March 23 • Boys & Girls Grades 4 & 6
 Lake Crystal • March 24 • Boys & Girls Grades 5 & 7

Region 3
 Redwood Falls • March 9 • Boys & Girls Grades 5 & 7
 Redwood Falls • March 10 • Boys & Girls Grades 4 & 6

Region 4
 St. Cloud • February 23 • Boys Grades 4-7
 St. Cloud • March 3 • Girls Grades 4-7

Region 5
 St. Cloud • February 24 • Boys Grades 4-7
 St. Cloud • March 2 • Girls Grades 4-7

Region 6
 Alexandria • February 17 • Boys & Girls Grades 4 & 6
 Alexandria • February 18 • Boys & Girls Grades 5 & 7

Region 7
 Grand Rapids • February 17 • Boys & Girls Grade 5
 Grand Rapids • February 18 • Boys & Girls Grade 4
 Mt. Iron-Sault • February 17 • Boys & Girls Grade 7
 Mt. Iron-Sault • February 18 • Boys & Girls Grade 6

Region 8
 Bemis • March 16 • Boys & Girls Grades 5 & 7
 Bemis • March 17 • Boys & Girls Grades 4 & 6

Southeast Super Section-Regions 1 & 4
 Rochester • March 17 • Girls Grades 8 & 9
 Rochester • March 24 • Boys Grades 8 & 9

Southwest Super Section-Regions 2 & 3
 Lake Crystal • March 17 • Girls Grades 8 & 9
 Lake Crystal • March 24 • Boys Grades 8 & 9

Central Super Section-Regions 5 & 6
 Monticello • March 17 • Boys Grades 8 & 9
 St. Cloud • March 24 • Girls Grades 8 & 9

North Super Section-Regions 7 & 8
 St. Cloud • March 17 • Girls Grades 8 & 9
 St. Cloud • March 24 • Boys Grades 8 & 9

WHA's Lien: 724 wins & soldiering on

By Bruce Strand

Jim Lien, Walker-Hackensack-Akeley coach who has logged 724 wins over 37 years, stays on the job despite a bout with cancer in recent years leaving him with a cane and a shuffle but still resolute at age 78.

"Coaching with cancer has been a real challenge," Lien said, "but having two great (assistant) coaches, Pat Richter and Katie Benjamin, and a great bunch of girls, have made the season a great one."

The Wolves are currently 14-5 and presented Lien with his 600th girls win against Chisholm on Jan. 9. "We are looking forward to the rest of the season and hopefully will make a deep playoff run."

Lien, a 2004 inductee in the state girls coaches Hall of Fame, has a 605-339 ledger with girls teams and was 119-60 with boys teams, nabbing 14 conference championships. Lien has also coached football, baseball and volleyball and had a state tourney team in volleyball with Akeley in 1984. His best hoops teams were the 1983-84 boys with a 20-3 record, the 1988-89 boys who were 22-3, the 1989-90 girls who went 21-3, the 2017-18 girls who went 24-6, and the 2018-19 girls who finished 27-3 with three 1,000-point scorers.



Jim Lien

The retired elementary school teacher was a baseball, basketball and football athlete in high school with the Westbrook Wildcats in southwestern Minnesota. He played town team baseball, in which he enjoyed two state tournament trips.

Along the way, he has coached his daughter Lindsey (a PA at Hartford Medical Center in Connecticut) in basketball and his son Mike (a corporate officer in Fargo) in baseball and football.

Asked about his most notable players, he listed Brian-na Raddatz (2,020 points), Ellen Kramer, Sarah Nigel, Aubrey Morrison and current assistant Katie Benjamin, while his boys list includes current head coaches Byron Negen (Rock Ridge girls) and Scott Kramer (Nevis boys) along with DJ Mueller, Cy Truss and Barry Negen.

ROAD TO THE TARGET CENTER!

2024 Minnesota Youth Basketball State Championships


Boys & Girls Grades 4-7

Region 1: Stewartville/Rochester - March 16 & 17
*5&7BG - 4&6BG

Region 2: Lake Crystal - March 23 & 24
*4&6BG - 5&7BG

Region 3: Redwood Falls - March 9 & 10
*5&7BG - 4&6BG




Region 4: St. Cloud - Feb 25 & March 3
*4B-7B - 4G-7G



State Tournament
St. Cloud, MN
Sunday, April 7

Champions & Runners-up
advance to play in the
Great 5-State at the
Target Center

MN - IA - WI - ND - SD

Region 5: St. Cloud - Feb 24 & March 2
*4B-7B - 4G-7G

Region 6: Alexandria - Feb 17 & 18
*4&6BG - 5&7BG

Region 7: Gr Rapids/Mt. Iron - Feb 17 & 18
*5&7BG - 4&6BG

Region 8: Bemidji - March 16 & 17
*5&7BG - 4&6BG

For Further Information and Registration
<https://www.pacesettersports.net/mn-championship/>

*Guide: 5&7BG - 4&6BG = 5th & 7th Boys & Girls - Saturday - 4th & 6th Boys and Girls - Sunday

State bracket pairings will be seeded once teams are finalized, not necessarily as represented on this bracket


ROAD TO THE TARGET CENTER!

2024 Minnesota Youth Basketball State Championships

Boys & Girls Grades 8-9

North Super Section: St. Cloud - March 17 & 24
*8G&9G - 8B&9B




Central Super Section: Monticello/St. Cloud - March 17 & 24
*8B&9B - 8G&9G



State Tournament
St. Cloud, MN
Sunday, April 7

Champions & Runners-up
advance to play in the
Great 5-State at the
Target Center

MN - IA - WI - ND - SD

Southeast Super Section: Rochester - March 17 & 24
*8G&9G - 8B&9B

Southwest Super Section: Lake Crystal - March 17 & 24
*8G&9G - 8B&9B

For Further Information and Registration
<https://www.pacesettersports.net/mn-championship/>

*Guide: 8G&9G - 8B&9B = 8th & 9th Girls - 3/17 - 8th & 9th Boys - 3/24

State bracket pairings will be seeded once teams are finalized, not necessarily as represented on this bracket

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 1: Stewartville/Rochester - March 16 & 17

4th Grade Boys

1. Rochester Century
2. Goodhue
3. Stewartville
4. La Crescent-Hokah
5. Lanesboro
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. Goodhue
2. Stewartville
3. Byron
4. Rochester Lourdes
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. Chatfield
2. Plainview-Elgin-Millville
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys

1. Redwood Valley
2. Rochester Lourdes
3. Triton
4. Dover Eyota
5. La Crescent
6. Pine Island
7. Byron
8. .

6th Grade Girls

1. Stewartville
2. Rochester Lourdes
3. Plainview-Elgin-Millville
4. Rochester Century
5. La Crescent-Hokah
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Boys

1. Rochester Century
2. Plainview-Elgin-Millville
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 2: Lake Crystal - March 23 & 24

4th Grade Boys

1. Maple River
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. St. Peter
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. Mountain Lake
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. Mankato Loyola
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys

1. United South Central
2. LCWM
3. St. Joseph Waconia
4. St. Paul's New Ulm
5. Triton
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Girls

1. St. Clair
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Boys

1. St. Peter
2. LCWM
3. Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton
4. Kenyon-Wanamingo
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 3: Redwood Falls • March 9 & 10

4th Grade Boys

1. Jackson Co Central
2. Westbrook-Walnut-Grove
3. Dawson-Boyd
4. Litchfield
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. Red Rock Central
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. Westbrook Walnut Grove
2. Jackson Co Central
3. Windom
4. ROCORI
5. Canby
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. Windom
2. New London-Spicer
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys

1. Westbrook Walnut Grove
2. Sibley East
3. Jackson Co Central
4. St. Paul's New Ulm
5. Russell-Tyler-Ruthton
6. Windom
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Girls

1. St. Clair
2. Westbrook-Walnut Grove
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Boys

1. Jackson Co Central
2. Redwood Valley
3. Wabasso
4. Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg
5. Willmar
6. ROCORI
7. Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 4: St. Cloud - Feb 25 & March 3

4th Grade Boys

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys

1. Sauk Centre
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Boys

1. Pillager
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. Paynesville
2. Eden Valley-Watkins
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. Sauk Centre
2. Pine City
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 5: St. Cloud - Feb 24 & March 2

4th Grade Boys

1. Albany
2. Sauk Centre
3. St. Cloud Tech
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. Litchfield
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys

1. Paynesville
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Girls

1. Eden Valley-Watkins
2. Sauk Rapids-Rice
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Boys

1. Morris
2. Sauk Centre
3. St. Cloud Tech
4. Sleepy Eye St. Mary's
5. Pine Island
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 6: Alexandria • Feb 17 & 18

4th Grade Boys

1. Benson
2. Hawley
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa
2. Alexandria
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. Alexandria
2. Fergus Falls
3. East Grand Forks
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. Fergus Falls
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys

1. Alexandria
2. Morris
3. Rothsay
4. Fergus Falls
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Girls

1. Minnewaska
2. Hawley
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Boys

1. Fergus Falls
2. Underwood
3. East Grand Forks
4. Pillager
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. Pillager
2. Alexandria
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 7: Gr Rapids/Mt. Iron - Feb 17 & 18

4th Grade Boys

1. Cloquet
2. Stephen/Argyle Central
3. Mountain Iron-Buhl
4. Greenway
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. North Woods
2. Grand Rapids
3. Mountain Iron-Buhl
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. Cherry
2. Stephen/Argyle Central
3. Mountain Iron-Buhl
4. Rock Ridge
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. Duluth East
2. Aitkin
3. Chisholm
4. Moose Lake/Willow River
5. North Woods
6. Mountain Iron-Buhl
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys **FULL!**

1. Grand Rapids
2. Cherry
3. Stephen/Argyle Central
4. South Ridge
5. Mountain Iron-Buhl
6. Hibbing
7. Greenway
8. Two Harbors

6th Grade Girls **FULL!**

1. Cloquet
2. Duluth East
3. Chisholm
4. Aitkin
5. North Woods
6. Mountain Iron-Buhl
7. International Falls
8. Carlton/Wrenshall

7th Grade Boys

1. Moose Lake/Willow River
2. Grand Rapids
3. Rock Ridge
4. Mountain Iron-Buhl
5. Staples-Motely
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. Duluth East
2. Grand Rapids
3. Mountain Iron-Buhl
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

REGION 8: Bemidji - March 16 & 17

4th Grade Boys

1. Bemidji
2. Park Rapids
3. Warroad
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

4th Grade Girls

1. Bemidji
2. Warroad
3. Red Lake
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Boys

1. Park Rapids
2. Clearbrook-Gonvick
3. Warroad
4. Bemidji
5. Red Lake
6. .
7. .
8. .

5th Grade Girls

1. Cass Lake-Bena
2. Red Lake
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Boys

1. Stephen/Argyle Central
2. Detroit Lakes
3. Cass Lake-Bena
4. Red Lake
5. Floodwood
6. Bemidji
7. .
8. .

6th Grade Girls

1. Bemidji
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Boys

1. Bemidji
2. Red Lake
3. Park Rapids
4. Pillager
5. Northome-Kelliher
6. .
7. .
8. .

7th Grade Girls

1. Roseau
2. Esko
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

North Super Section: St. Cloud ▪ March 17 & 24

8th Grade Boys

1. Mountain Iron-Buhl
2. Pillager
3. Northome-Kelliher
4. ROCOR
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

8th Grade Girls

1. Dassel Cokato
2. Mountain Iron-Buhl
3. Chisholm
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Boys

1. Cass Lake/Red Lake
2. Red Lake
3. Chisholm
4. Northern Freeze (MCC/Tri-County)
5. Northome-Kelliher
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Girls

1. Stephen Argyle Central
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Central Super Section: Monticello/St. Cloud ▪ March 17 & 24

8th Grade Boys

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

8th Grade Girls

1. Staples-Motely
2. Pillager
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Boys

1. Paynesville
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MN PLAYOFFS - REGISTERED TEAMS

Southeast Super Section: Rochester ▪ March 17 & 24

8th Grade Boys

1. Wabasha-Kellogg
2. Plainview-Elgin-Millville
3. Chatfield
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

8th Grade Girls

1. Dover-Eyota
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Boys

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Girls

1. Goodhue
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Southwest Super Section: Lake Crystal ▪ March 17 & 24

8th Grade Boys

1. St. James
2. Kenyon-Wanamingo
3. GHEC-T
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

8th Grade Girls

1. St. Clair
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Boys

1. Jackson Co Central
2. New Ulm
3. Janesville Waldorf Pemberton
4. United South Central
5. Kenyon-Wanamingo
6. .
7. .
8. .

9th Grade Girls

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .

Note: Total registration is estimated at 33%

MBBN BOYS TOP 20

CLASS 4A

1. Park Center 18-1
2. Wayzata 16-1
3. Minnetonka 12-2
4. Hopkins 12-3
5. Shakopee 13-3
6. Farmington 13-4
7. Lakeville
North 13-4
8. Minneapolis
Washburn 15-2
9. Cretin-Der-
ham Hall 14-2
10. Waconia 13-3
11. Edina 11-7
12. Lakeville
South 11-6
13. Osseo 12-6
14. Tartan 13-3
15. Rogers 15-4
16. Maple
Grove 10-7
17. Sauk Rapids-
Rice 13-4
18. East
Ridge 11-7
19. Apple
Valley 9-7
20. Eagan 9-7

*Records are
through Tuesday*

CLASS 3A

1. Totino-
Grace 15-3
2. Mankato
East 16-1
3. Delano 15-3
4. Minneapolis
South 12-2
5. Stewartville 14-3
6. DeLaSalle 10-6
7. Columbia
Heights 12-1
8. Benilde-St.
Margaret's 9-7
9. Orono 10-7
10. St. Cloud
Tech 12-5
11. Alexandria 12-5
12. Richfield 10-8
13. Fridley 10-5
14. Hutchinson 13-4
15. Mankato
West 13-4
16. Byron 14-3
17. St. Paul
Johnson 10-2
18. Detroit
Lakes 15-2
19. St. Paul
Harding 13-4
20. Duluth
Denfeld 9-8

CLASS 2A

1. Breck 19-0
2. Minneapolis
North 12-7
3. Lake City 15-3
4. Eden Valley-
Watkins 15-2
5. Albany 15-2
6. Pequot
Lakes 14-2
7. Crosby-
Iron-ton 14-1
8. Annandale 12-3
9. Osakis 13-3
10. Southwest
Christian 11-4
11. Esko 11-4
12. Holy
Family 10-8
13. Spectrum 15-2
14. Legacy
Christian 15-3
15. Caledonia 14-4
16. Lake Crystal
Wellcome
Memorial 13-3
17. LaCrescent-
Hokah 14-5
18. Foley 11-4
19. Blake 12-6
20. Maranatha
Christian 12-3

CLASS 1A

1. Cherry 17-2
2. Dawson-
Boyd 18-1
3. Spring
Grove 14-1
4. Fertile-
Beltrami 13-2
5. West Central
Area 14-3
6. Red Lake
County 17-0
7. Henning 16-2
8. Heritage
Christian 14-2
9. Mt. Lake Area/
Comfrey 14-1
10. Blooming
Prairie 17-2
11. Hillcrest
Lutheran 14-2
12. Ada-Borup
West 14-3
13. Southland 13-3
14. Cass Lake-
Bena 11-6
15. Sleepy
Eye 13-4
16. Nevis 12-4
17. Sleepy Eye-
St. Mary's 15-4
18. Rushford-
Peterson 14-4
19. Mt. Iron-Buhl 14-3
20. Springfield 12-5

MBBN GIRLS TOP 20

CLASS 4A

1. Hopkins 17-2
2. Minnetonka 18-1
3. Maple Grove 14-3
4. Eden Prairie 15-4
5. St. Michael-Albertville 16-4
6. Wayzata 14-5
7. Lakeville North 14-4
8. Andover 15-3
9. Rosemount 15-4
10. White Bear Lake 16-5
11. Eastview 14-5
12. Chaska 12-6
13. Prior Lake 10-9
14. Rochester Mayo 16-3
15. Stillwater 13-6
16. Anoka 12-7
17. Lakeville South 11-8
18. Centennial 10-8
19. Blaine 12-7
20. Elk River 11-8

*Records are
through Tuesday*

CLASS 3A

1. DeLaSalle 16-3
2. Benilde-St. Margaret's 12-5
3. Alexandria 16-2
4. St. Peter 17-1
5. Delano 18-1
6. Marshall 15-3
7. Monticello 17-2
8. Rock Ridge 17-2
9. Byron 14-4
10. New Ulm 14-6
11. Mankato East 13-6
12. Stewartville 14-6
13. Orono 10-8
14. Winona 13-6
15. Totino-Grace 13-6
16. Becker 11-6
17. Mahtomedi 10-7
18. Fergus Falls 13-5
19. Minneapolis Roosevelt 14-6
20. Hill-Murray 10-9

CLASS 2A

1. Providence Academy 17-3
2. Minnehaha Academy 18-3
3. Albany 15-1
4. New London-Spicer 17-2
5. Winona Cotter 18-2
6. Crosby-Ironton 15-5
7. Jordan 15-5
8. Perham 17-3
9. Pelican Rapids 17-2
10. Sauk Centre 15-3
11. Rochester Lourdes 15-4
12. Pequot Lakes 15-3
13. Holdingford 15-3
14. Caledonia 14-5
15. St. Croix Lutheran 13-6
16. Dover-Eyota 18-4
17. Duluth Marshall 12-7
18. Holy Family 15-5
19. Barnesville 12-5
20. Menahga 17-1

CLASS 1A

1. Goodhue 16-4
2. Mountain Iron-Buhl 17-2
3. Hancock 18-1
4. Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart 16-2
5. Sleepy Eye 16-2
6. Hayfield 18-2
7. Southwest MN Christian 16-1
8. Fosston 18-1
9. Underwood 16-2
10. Kelliher-Northome 14-3
11. Cromwell-Wright 13-6
12. Sacred Heart 17-1
13. Mayer Lutheran 12-7
14. Braham 16-3
15. Cass Lake-Bena 11-4
16. Walker-Hackensack-Akeley 14-5
17. Minneota 17-3
18. Ogilvie 16-3
19. Nevis 12-5
20. Spring Grove 17-2



2024 Minnesota Basketball News • An Invitation-only Event

TOP 100 EXPO SHOWCASE

College of St. Benedict
St. Joseph, MN

Tuesday, July 2

The Top 100+ Players in each class are being invited along with select players from North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa.

Seeking player nominations from head coaches for the 2024-25 Watch List. Email player name and school to Jeff McCarron at jmac8144@yahoo.com

COLLEGE PREP BASKETBALL CAMP

Monday, July 1

The Pacesetter "College Prep" program is designed for male and female players entering grade 9 through college freshman seeking to play basketball in college. Players will be taught high-level skills by college coaches in a comprehensive one-day, 7-hour format. Players will be given the best tips to become a successful college player on and off the court.

