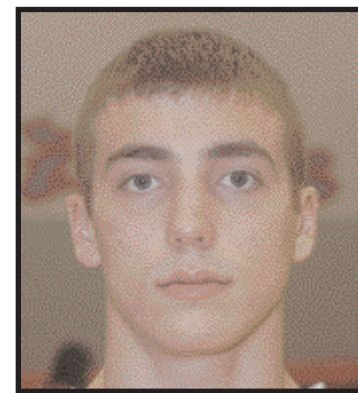


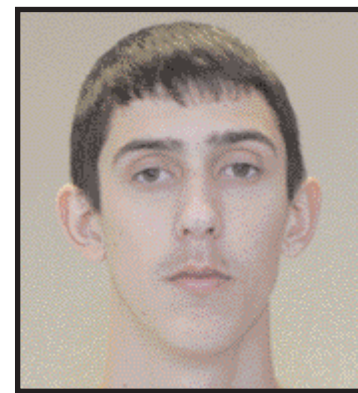
Denton Record-Chronicle All-Area Basketball Team 2008-09

BOYS

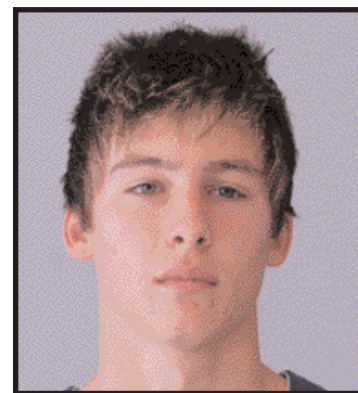
FIRST TEAM



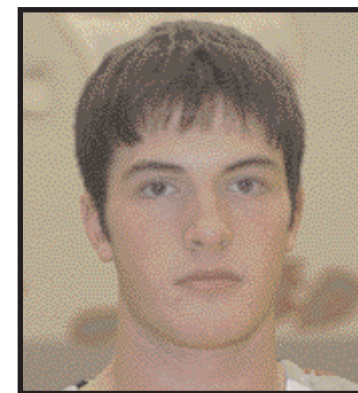
Isaiah Boxell
G, Ponder, Sr.
Notable: Ponder's high-scoring offense would not be the same if Boxell was not running the floor for the Lions. Boxell was the team's leader this season by guiding the offense in transition and in the half-court game. He averaged nine assists and nine points per game. He plans to play at Lubbock Christian.



Coulton Branch
G, Sanger, Sr.
Notable: The lanky 6-5 guard was a tough pill to swallow for opposing players in District 9-3A as he provided an inside-outside presence for a balanced Sanger team. He averaged 11.7 points and 3.6 rebounds per game, earning a spot on the all-region team. He was also among Sanger's assist leaders.



Klay Dodd
G, Krum, Sr.
Notable: Dodd's 15.1 points, 5.5 assists and 5.4 rebounds per game are a big reason why he was named co-MVP of District 10-2A. Dodd's best game came in mid-January when his 22 points helped lead the Bobcats to an upset win over rival Ponder and snap the Lions' 51-game winning streak.



Scott Gregg
F, Ponder, Jr.
Notable: Gregg was the top scorer for the area's most productive offense. The 6-5 center averaged 17.1 points and 6.2 rebounds per game to help lead the Lions to their second straight Class 2A state title. Gregg was also a staple in Ponder's defense, which allowed an average of only 43 points.

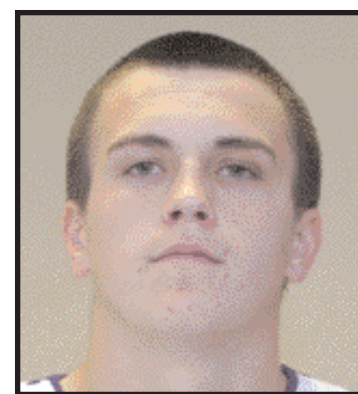


Derrick Johnson
G, Guyer, Sr.
Notable: After transferring from Fort Worth Dunbar, Johnson gave the Wildcats a versatile player who could take over a game at any point. The slashing forward averaged 15.3 points per game with a 58 percent field-goal percentage. He bumped his scoring up to 17.3 ppg in district play and pulled down 6.2 rebounds.

SECOND TEAM



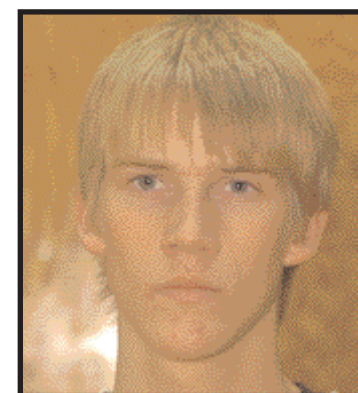
Dylan Fife
F, Liberty Christian, Sr.
Notable: The 6-7 forward was the Warriors' leading scorer and led them to the deepest playoff run in school history as they made it to the TAPPS state semifinals. He averaged 14.6 points per game to go with 7.8 boards and 2.3 blocks a game. Fife earned first team all-state honors and a spot on the all-state tournament team.



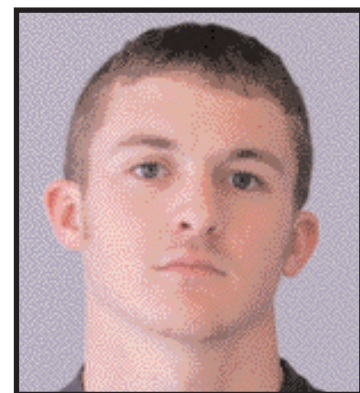
Luke Johnson
G, Sanger, Sr.
Notable: Sanger's leading scorer saved his best for the playoffs when he dropped 24 on Kaufman, 13 on Anna and 13 on Paris in the postseason. The Indians won two of those games. Johnson was named first team all-district in a crowded 9-3A. He averaged 14.2 points and 5.2 rebounds per game.



Bud Sasser
F, Ryan, Jr.
Notable: The junior kept the momentum going from his strong year on the football field with a first team all-district season in basketball. He averaged 12.1 points and 5.1 rebounds per game in 2009 and was a force inside defensively. He showed his true potential with 24 points in Ryan's playoff loss to Everman.



Hunter Svane
G, Pilot Point, Jr.
Notable: The Bearcats couldn't have had their breakout season without Hunter Svane. The junior powered Pilot Point offensively with 17.3 points and 7.1 rebounds per game. Despite being in a loaded District 10-2A, Pilot Point almost made the playoffs behind Svane's offensive savvy.



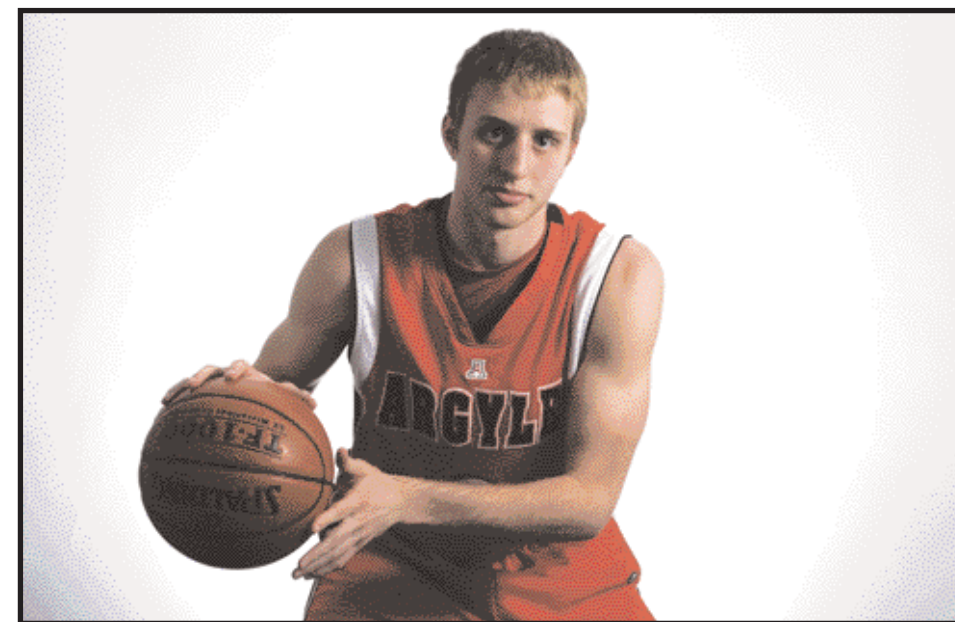
Justin Wallace
G, Krum, Sr.
Notable: Wallace was one of the area's biggest threats from beyond the arc. The sharpshooter hit 93 3-pointers and averaged 16.6 points per game. He also tallied five assists per contest to help him earn the honor of District 10-2A's Offensive Player of the Year. Wallace also was named to the IABC All-Region team.

THIRD TEAM

Name, School	Pos.	Yr.	Notable
Joel Garza, Ponder	G	Sr.	Averaged 11.6 points and 4.3 rebounds per game, named first-team all-state
Zach Pearson, Argyle	P	Sr.	Pearson averaged 10.4 points per game and 8.4 rebounds and was first team all-district
Mike Petzel, Pilot Point	P	Jr.	Made first team all-district in 10-2A with 15.3 points and 8.3 rebounds per game
Xavier Rogers, Lake Dallas	G	Sr.	The athletic guard provided an offensive boost, leading Lake Dallas with 11.4 points per game
Desmond Taylor, Denton	G	Sr.	First team all-district guard led the Broncos with 15.5 points per game

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Caden Dickerson
P, Argyle, Sr.



Notable: At 6-3, Dickerson isn't the average high school point guard. The two-time all-state, and two-time District 9-3A MVP improved on his junior-year numbers, which earned him All-Area MVP honors last year as well. As a senior, Dickerson led Argyle to the regional quarterfinals where the Eagles lost at the buzzer to eventual Class 3A state champion Dallas Madison. The floor leader and lock-down defender averaged 21.4 points per game to go with 4.6 assists and more than three rebounds per game. He shot an outrageous 59 percent from the field and was an 88 percent free-throw shooter. Dickerson will continue his career in the Sun Belt Conference with Western Kentucky, a perennial mid-major power.



OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Colby Jones
G, Ryan, Sr.

Notable: Jones may not do things the way most basketball players do, but no one can argue with the results. The 6-4 guard followed his breakout junior year with an MVP-caliber season, guiding Ryan to its best season since 2003. Jones has an uncanny knack for finding space inside while driving to the hoop, and he was a defensive force on the perimeter, averaging 2.1 steals. His best performance may have come in Ryan's playoff win over Aledo, when he scored 23 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. It was Ryan's first playoff win since 2003. His regular season was equally impressive. He scored 14.3 points per game and pulled down 7.2 rebounds. Those numbers earned him District 5-4A MVP honors.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Walter Phillips
F, Argyle, Sr.

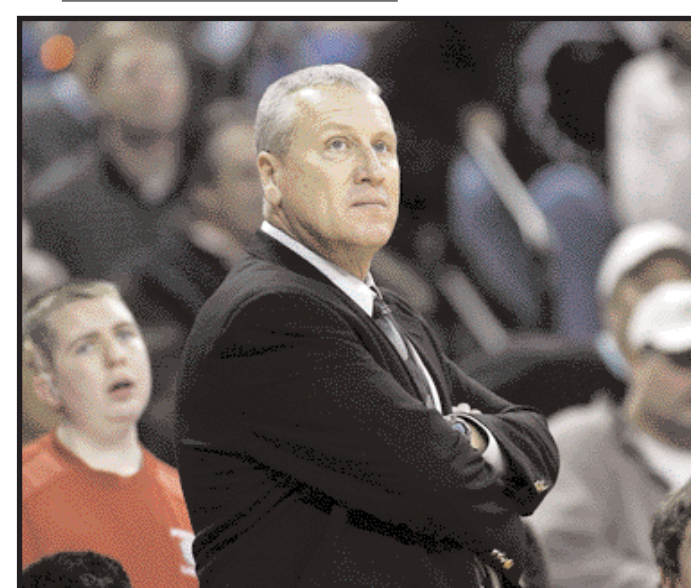
Notable: The 6-5 forward was a go-to scorer in the post for Guyer in the 2007-08 season. But as an Eagle this past season, Phillips had to adjust his role to fit coach John King's fast-paced offense. Phillips relished in the role as post presence and defensive stopper, as he garnered District 9-3A Defensive Player of the Year honors. Phillips could always be counted on inside and also became an adept passer from the high post. The senior was a double-double machine. He averaged a double-double on the season. Phillips put in 10.2 points per game and pulled down 10 boards a game. But he was also a shot changer. Phillips averaged nearly three rejections a game.



COACH OF THE YEAR

Doug Boxell
Ponder

Notable: For the second consecutive season, the strict, no-nonsense coach guided Ponder to the Class 2A state title. This season, Boxell's Lions went 40-1 with their only loss coming against Krum. But after the loss to its rival, Ponder cruised through district play for a share of the league championship and showed few flaws in the playoffs en route to the title. Prior to the loss, Ponder won 51 straight games. Next season will be Boxell's 14th year blowing the whistle for the Lions.



NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Adam Choplick
P, Ryan, So.

Notable: Ryan's season was on the brink of collapsing when junior forward Clayton Webb was dismissed from the team in the middle of District 5-4A play. The player charged with filling the hole was Choplick. Not only did he stop the bleeding for the Raiders, but they went on to win 11 straight games en route to the 5-4A title. His numbers jumped dramatically in district play when he scored 11 points per game and averaged six rebounds. His inside presence both offensively and defensively powered Ryan to its first postseason berth and postseason win since 2003. Only a sophomore, Choplick gives the Raiders a building block for years to come. He was also named Newcomer of the Year for District 5-4A.

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Kelsee Barr
F, Lake Dallas, Sr.



Notable: No player did more for her team than Lake Dallas forward Kelsee Barr. A fierce competitor, Barr put her team on her back and refused to let them lose. The result was a playoff berth in District 5-4A and Most Valuable Player honors for a season that saw the senior do it all for the Lady Falcons. She scored 15.8 points per game for Lake Dallas, more than double that of the second-highest scorer on the team. She also averaged nine rebounds per game, more than any other player in the area. She showed her value in Lake Dallas' lone playoff game. The Lady Falcons were easily defeated by Springtown, but not without a stellar effort from Barr. She scored 20 of Lake Dallas' 28 points in the second half, and 24 of the team's 38 in the game.



OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Kirsti Degelia
G, Krum, Jr.

Notable: When the game was on the line, the ball always seemed to be in the hands of Krum's standout guard. Coached by her mother, Lana, Degelia helped lead her team to numerous comeback wins and also guided the Lady Cats to a share of the District 10-2A title before losing in the third round of the playoffs. She averaged 17.8 points and six rebounds per game during the season. Her numbers were more impressive in district play, when she tallied 19.4 points and seven rebounds per game. She also was threat on defense by picking up five steals per game. Degelia received numerous postseason awards including 10-2A MVP and IABC All-Region.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

De'Amber Wilhite
G, Ryan, So.

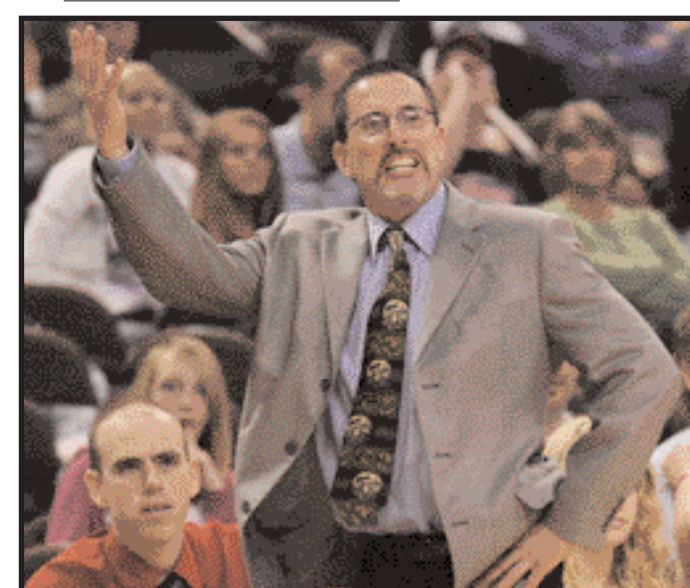
Notable: District 5-4A point guards do not want to play Ryan with De'Amber Wilhite patrolling the perimeter. The sophomore is a master at making ball handlers look silly as she regularly turns quick steals into easy layups. She averaged an outrageous 5.3 steals per game, and many of her 15.3 points per game came as a result of her stellar defense. She averaged 6.0 rebounds and 3.8 assists per game, and she shot 54.6 percent from the field. She was named 5-4A's Defensive Player of the Year. Her best game came against the Colony. She scored 21 of her 38 points in the fourth quarter in leading Ryan back from a 13-point deficit with less than five minutes remaining on the road against the eventual 5-4A champs.



COACH OF THE YEAR

Steve Schmidt
Argyle

Notable: With just two seniors, a 5-13 record in nondistrict play could've been disastrous for the Lady Eagles' confidence. Instead, Schmidt's young team built on its poor record through a tough nondistrict slate and went on to lose just one game in district play on its way to a District 9-3A title. They rode a nine-game winning streak into the Class 3A state championship game against Robinson before finishing the season as the state runner-up.



NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Nicole Kornet
P, Liberty Christian, Fr.

Notable: The 5-11 forward took TAPPS by storm and quickly became the Lady Warriors' best player. The daughter of a former NBA player, Kornet earned first team all-district honors to go with first team all-state honors while guiding a youthful, inexperienced Liberty Christian team to a shot at winning its third straight state championship. When star post Caitlin Flores went down with an knee injury in the sixth game of the season, even more pressure was thrown Kornet's way to help sustain Liberty's strong tradition on the hardwood. On the season, she averaged 16.4 points per game to go with 8.6 rebounds, 2.5 steals and 1.3 blocks. She had 12 games of 20-plus points.

GIRLS

FIRST TEAM



Jessica Bonfield
G, Argyle, Sr.
Notable: The stats don't tell the story as the point guard was the unquestioned senior leader for Argyle. She averaged 5.4 ppg to go with 5 assists, nearly eight boards and three steals a game. She earned District 9-3A MVP honors and was named to the all-state by the TGCA. She will pole vault at Texas A&M.



Sammie Charmichael
F, Aubrey, Sr.
Notable: For the third consecutive season, Charmichael was Aubrey's leader on offense and defense. The sharpshooter and in-your-face defender led the Lady Chaparrals to a share of the District 10-2A title. She was named the district's Offensive Player of the Year in a league full of good scorers.



Domineak Darrough
P, Ryan, Jr.
Notable: Darrough took a big leap forward in 2009 with a strong junior season. She averaged 9.7 points and 4.9 rebounds per game in helping Ryan reach the playoffs and avenge its playoff loss to Aledo last season. A relative newcomer to basketball, Darrough has the potential to be a dominant inside player.



Laura Padgett
F, Sanger, Sr.
Notable: The Lady Indians always have a standout scorer, and this season was no different as Padgett was named the Offensive Player of the Year in District 9-3A. She averaged 12.2 points, 5.6 rebounds and 2.5 steals per game in helping guide Sanger back to the postseason.



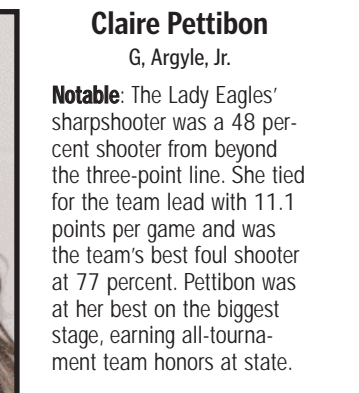
Claire Pettibon
G, Argyle, Jr.

Notable: The Lady Eagles' sharpshooter was a 48 percent shooter from beyond the three-point line. She tied for the team lead with 11.1 points per game and was the team's best foul shooter at 77 percent. Pettibon was at her best on the biggest stage, earning all-tournament team honors at state.



Sunny Burk
G, Krum, Sr.

Notable: Burk stepped up her game in district play and continued to improve game-by-game to help her earn all-district honors in District 10-2A. The speedy perimeter player averaged 10 points per game and 2.4 rebounds per game and played a key role as Kirsti Degelia's complement on offense.



Kendra Copp
G, Ponder, Sr.

Notable: Copp was Ponder's best three-point shooter on a team that lived and died from shots beyond the arc. Copp led the team with 72 3-pointers and averaged 14.1 points per game. She scored 15 or more points 13 times during the season, with a season high of 25. She was named to the 10-2A all-district team.



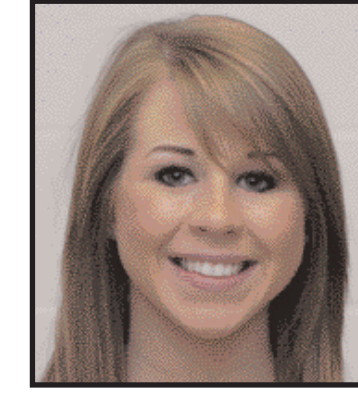
Colbea Harris
G, Argyle, Jr.

Notable: Another lethal three-point shooter for the Lady Eagles, Harris shot 35 percent from outside and dished out nearly three assists per game. She averaged 11.1 points per game while leading the Lady Eagles in steals with 102, or nearly three per game. Harris was named a TGCA all-star.



Melissa Reynolds
G, Aubrey, Sr.

Notable: Reynolds was Aubrey's loudest leader on a team that shared the District 10-2A title. She was a threat in the paint on both sides of the court. She was consistent all season in the scoring and rebounding departments, and she was named Defensive Player of the Year in District 10-2A.



Jessica Sprabeary
G, Ponder, Fr.

Notable: The future looks bright for Ponder with Sprabeary in the lineup. She averaged 14 points per game during her first season at the varsity level and shot 55 percent from the floor. The quick guard also hit 50 shots from beyond the arc and scored more than 20 points nine times this season.

THIRD TEAM

Name, School	Pos.	Yr.	Notable
Jac Bullock, Aubrey	P	Jr.	Consistent on both ends of the floor and will likely be the Lady Chaos' leader next season
Breanna Dial, Sanger	F	Sr.	The senior earned all-district honors with her inside play, averaging 8.6 points and 4.5 rebounds
Emily Paramore, Liberty	G	Sr.	Defensive standout ran Ryan's offense and kept opposing guards off the scoreboard
Madison Eschle, Liberty Christian F	So.	So.	Came up big for Liberty in the second half of the season. Averaged 7.3 ppg and 4.0 rebounds
Brooke Sanders, Ponder	P	So.	All-district selection scored 10.0 points and grabbed five rebounds per game

The team is selected by the *Denton Record-Chronicle's* sports staff, in consultation with area high school coaches.