

The 93rd Annual IHSAA Boys Basketball State Finals

March 29, 2003, Conseco Fieldhouse, Indianapolis

Cass Wins First State Championship In School History

Top-ranked Cass became the seventh undefeated state champion, continuing their excellent play as they defeated Forest Park 57-48 in the Class 2A state championship game. The win gave Cass High School its first state championship in school history.

Cass, coached by Hall of Famer Basil Mawbey, finished the season at 26-0, while eighth-ranked Forest Park finished a great season at 23-5 under head coach Ted Beach. Mawbey won his second state championship after leading Connersville to the 1983 state championship and became the first to coach to take three different schools to a state championship game. He led Kokomo to the runner-up finish in 1989.

Cass only committed five turnovers as their patient offense proved too strong for Forest Park to overcome. The Kings grabbed the lead for good just two minutes into the contest and led at every stop. The most spectacular play of the game came at the end of the first quarter when Forest Park's Adam Brames hit a three-pointer from approximately 63 feet to draw the Rangers to within 19-15.

Forest Park drew within six points on a pair of occasions in the fourth period, but any thoughts of a rally were squelched as Cass hit two free throws each on consecutive trips down the floor to balloon the lead back to 10 points at 48-38 with 3:24 remaining.

Cass' Beau Bauer led the game with 24 points, 12 rebounds and 8 assists. Also contributing for Cass was Zach Frey who had 9 points and 7 rebounds. Forest Park was led by Brames with 12 points, and Neal Knies with 11 points. Luke Rohleder pulled down 10 rebounds for Forest Park, five on the offensive end.

Beau Bauer Wins Trester Award for Mental Attitude

Beau Bauer of Lewis Cass High School was named winner of the Arthur L. Trester Award for Mental Attitude in Class 2A Boys Basketball. Members of the IHSAA Executive Committee present the award to the outstanding senior participant in each classification of the boys basketball state finals. The recipients of this award, who were nominated by their principals and coaches, must excel in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability in basketball.

Athletically, Bauer is a four year varsity letterman, while acting as the Kings' co-captain in his junior and senior seasons. He has been selected to the North All-Star team and was the top vote recipient for this year's Mid-Indiana First Team All Conference. Bauer also has competed at the varsity level for two seasons in tennis and three seasons in baseball at Cass.

Bauer is a Presidential Classroom Delegate, a delegate to the Hoosier Boys State and a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Academically, he is a member of the National Honor Society and ranks second in his class of 106. He is a member of the Mid-Indiana Academic All-Conference team, and acts as his Senior Class Vice-President. He is undecided on his college career, but plans to major in Computer Engineering.

Beau is the son of Mike and Darla Bauer of Walton.

Farm Bureau Insurance, IHSAA corporate partner, presented a scholarship check for \$1,000.00 to Lewis Cass High School in the name of Beau Bauer.

Game Notes

- **First State Championship In School History**

An IHSAA member school since 1963, this was the first state title for Cass High School, located in the town of Walton Cass County.

- **Cass 46-1 Over Two Year Span**

The Kings are 46-1 over the last two years. They finished the regular season unbeaten in 2002 before falling in the opening round of sectionals to finish 20-1. Under Basil Mawbey, Cass has a 68-3 record over his three seasons.

- **Cass One of Seven Unbeaten Champs In Tournament History**

Cass, at 26-0, becomes the seventh team in the 93-year history of the tournament to finish a season undefeated and the first since the 1985 Marion team that went 29-0. With Class 4A Pike (28-0) to play later this evening, other undefeated state champions include:

1955-56	Indianapolis Crispus Attucks	31-0
1956-57	South Bend Central	30-0
1968-69	Indianapolis Washington	31-0
1969-70	East Chicago Roosevelt	28-0
1970-71	East Chicago Washington	29-0
1984-85	Marion	29-0

- **Basil Mawbey Sixth Coach To Win State Titles At Two Different Schools**

The list of coaches to have accomplished the feat include:

Bill Green — Indianapolis Washington 1969; Marion 1975, 1976, 1985, 1986, 1987
Marion Crawley — Washington 1941, 1942; Lafayette Jefferson 1948, 1964
Glenn Curtis — Lebanon 1918; Martinsville 1924, 1927, 1933
Burl Friddle — Washington 1930; Ft. Wayne South Side 1938
Cliff Wells — Bloomington 1919; Logansport 1934
Basil Mawbey — Connersville 1983; Cass 2003 (2A)

Mawbey First To Coach Three Different Schools In Championship Game

Cass coach Basil Mawbey became the first person to coach three different schools in an IHSAA state championship game.

Connersville	1983 (Won state championship)
Kokomo	1989 (Finished as runner-up); 1997 (lost in semifinals)
Cass	2003 (2A) (Won state championship)

Class 2A Game Records

Most Blocked Shots (Tied) – 5 by Forest Park vs. Cass.

Most Combined Blocked Shots (Tied) – 8 by Forest Park (5) and Cass (3).

Most Field Goals Made – 9 by Beau Bauer, Cass vs. Forest Park.

Most Field Goals Attempted – 22 by Beau Bauer, Cass vs. Forest Park.

Most Assists – 8 by Beau Bauer, Cass vs. Forest Park.

Most Blocked Shots (tied) – 2 by Josi Faust, Cass and Geoff Van Winkle, Forest Park.

Team Posters And Individual Action Photographs Available

Visit 20-20 Photographic, the IHSAA's photographer and the Midwest's Leader in Sports Action Photography, for images captured during Saturday's four championship games! Action photos as well as 20-20's Ultimate Sports Poster will be available for purchase later in the week following the state finals.

IHSAA State Championship Merchandise

For t-shirts and sweatshirts commemorating the 93rd Annual IHSAA State Finals or for any of our events, visit our friends at Morris, Inc.

State Finals Programs Available

Couldn't be at Conseco Fieldhouse for the state finals? You can still purchase a copy of the official souvenir program while supplies last! Programs are \$3.00 if you purchase in person at the IHSAA Office (9150 N. Meridian Street in Indianapolis) or \$5.00 by mail (postage included). To order, send a check for \$5.00 made payable to the IHSAA, a note with your return address and brief description of your request and mail to: IHSAA Programs, PO Box 40650, Indianapolis, IN 46240-0650. Sorry, no credit cards. To further inquire, e-mail Assistant Sports Information Director Jason Wille.

Game Quotes

Cass Coach Basil Mawbey

"When the game began, Forest Park started strong inside and out on those first few possessions. We defended much better especially in the high post and on our flash switches. We knew we had to cover Van Winkle close being the great shooter he is. I talked with a coach earlier this week that I really respect and he said he may be the best "catch and shoot" shooters he had ever seen. In the second half we defended him (Van Winkle) much better and I don't think we gave him a good look the rest of the game. Our defense was just super on him."

“We were pretty efficient offensively throughout the game, even though we missed a few good looks early. I think we played pretty well. We didn’t shoot a great percentage but we were efficient. Our guard play was excellent and we really handled their pressure defense. They were after us continually defensively. Beau had the ball in his hands numerous minutes and he only had one turnover. That is outstanding.”

(On winning the 2A championship)

“This doesn’t just happen, today’s success began two years ago and it really feels great to win. This is the greatest thrill ever.”

(On being undefeated)

“We’ve experienced a lot of pressure being undefeated, so we try and gear our practices to help us prepare for pressure games by putting that pressure on ourselves in practice. That way we are ready for the pressure of game situations. We go into each game thinking we can win.”

Cass’ Beau Bauer

“Our main goal was to keep it out of the high post and keep the pressure on their perimeter shooters. Zach (Frey) and I did a pretty good job on the perimeter and the guys down low plugged it up. One of our big goals was to know where Van Winkle was at all times. He is a great player. I thought he was one of the best defensive players we have played against all season. As you could probably tell by my first few shots, a couple of air balls, I was pretty tight and rushed it.”

Forest Park Coach Tom Beach

“In the first half, we had way too many turnovers and gave up too many offensive rebounds. I am very proud of our effort. Cass is known for their “D” and they played outstanding “D”. Cass is the best team, by far, that we played all year long.”

(On what Cass did differently on “D” than the other teams this year)

“They covered the perimeter and shut down the inside. We couldn’t score either place. They made adjustments all over the floor.”

(On the season)

“If you have to lose one, this would be the one to lose, for the championship. It’s not how you want to end, it’s not bitter, but disappointing.”

(On the 63-foot shot at the end of the first quarter)

“We should run that play more often.”

Forest Park Geoff Van Winkle

“Ranger fans will remember this for the rest of their lives.”