

Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.

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Blake Ress, Commissioner

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25 YEARS LATER... IT'S PLYMOUTH AGAIN

The Plymouth Pilgrims won their second state championship in boys basketball beating Evansville Bosse, 72-61, and capping off a 25-2 season for 34th year Head Coach Jack Edison.

Edison had to wait 25 years to return Plymouth to championship glory, the longest stretch between titles for a coach in state finals history. Plymouth and Edison won their first title in 1982.

The Pilgrims jumped out to a 30-16 lead at halftime and never looked back. They allowed the Bulldogs to score only six points in the first quarter and 16 in the first half.

Plymouth's scoring defense ranked second in the state this year but the Bulldogs scored a 3A state finals record 30 points in the fourth quarter, but it was too little too late. The Bulldogs never got closer than seven points in the second half. Plymouth hit 17 for 22 from the free throw line down the stretch and cruised to the victory.

Plymouth junior Randy Davis had 28 points on 13 of 14 from the line to go along with his four rebounds. Senior Jared Wendel added 20 points and shot 9 for 10 from the field.

Bosse was led in scoring by senior guard Cardell McFarland's 22 point effort. McFarland shot 8 for 15 from the field. The only other Bosse player to score in double figures was Matt Lander with 10.

Plymouth returned four players from its 2005 state finals squad that finished as runners-up to Washington, 74-72.

Bosse is no stranger to the state finals with seven trips overall though the Bulldogs were making their first appearance since 1982. They won the hoops crown in 1944, 1945 and 1962. Bosse was coached by second year head coach Jeff Hein. Bosse finished its season with a 22-5 record.

Both teams combined to break a 3A state finals record for most combined points in a quarter with 55. Bosse had 30 and Plymouth 25 in the fourth quarter.

PLYMOUTH'S JASON RENZ NAMED TRESTER AWARD WINNER

Following the game, members of the IHSAA Executive Committee named Jason Renz of Plymouth High School as the winner of the Arthur L. Trester Mental Attitude Award.

The award is presented annually to a senior participant in each classification who was nominated by his principal and coach and has demonstrated excellence in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability.

Academically, Renz ranks fifth in his senior class of 250 students with an 11.654 GPA, which is an above A average. He has received numerous scholastic excellence awards and is consistently on the Distinguished Honor Rolls. He plans to begin studying Pre-Dentistry at Indiana University next fall.

Renz has been involved in several activities both in-school and out. He served as the school's chairman with United Way, a participant in the Red Cross Blood Drive, a nursing home volunteer and an Elk's Hoop Shoot official. In school, he holds offices in Pep Club, Future Teachers of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and was Vice-President of the Junior class.

Athletically, he will graduate with nine varsity letters in football, basketball and baseball.

He is the son of Greg and Mercy Renz of Plymouth.

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, the IHSAA's corporate partner, will present a \$1,000 scholarship to Plymouth High School in the name of Renz.

The award is named in honor of Arthur L. Trester, the IHSAA's first commissioner who served the Association from 1929-44.

VSN MEANS ACTION PHOTOGRAPHY

Visit our friends at Visual Sports Network, the IHSAA's official photographer for all state championship events and one of the leading action photographers in the Midwest. VSN, which was on site Saturday, has captured hundreds of images from this year's State Finals and will have them ready for viewing and purchase beginning Monday.

CHAMPIONSHIP MERCHANDISE STILL AVAILABLE

For t-shirts and other merchandise commemorating this year's tournament or for any of our events, visit our friends at Morris, Inc.

STATE FINALS PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Couldn't be there 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, have your Visa or MasterCard ready and call us at 317-846-6601 during business hours (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. EST).

POST-GAME QUOTES

Jack Edison, Plymouth Head Coach

"The 10 point lead to start the game was big for us considering the second half they beat us in points. That was the difference in the game."

"Having the lead early and handling the ball well was important because they were able to score anytime they wanted to in the second half."

"They (Bosse) have so many players who can make plays. Their quickness keeps them in the game. But we had some players play well, too. Our coaches and I appreciate the way they all played tonight. I felt that we had players come off the bench that played well."

(On winning second title after 25 years)

"I had a little more spring in my step 25 years ago when I was coaching. But I appreciate both of the teams."

Jeff Hein, Evansville Bosse Head Coach

"We got off to a bad start and dug a big hole early. We just never recovered from that."

"Plymouth played excellent team defense and took away a lot of our offense. They did a good job of taking us off the ball and we didn't move and cut very well. We weren't able to isolate on the ball this week."

"We didn't do a good job of keeping track of (Randy) Davis or (Jared) Wendell all night. Plymouth has been here before and handled all the hoopla where as we didn't handle all the distractions and everything that goes with playing in the state finals very well at all."