

Indiana High School Athletic Association

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Blake Ress, Commissioner

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WARREN CENTRAL CAPTURES RECORD FOURTH CONSECUTIVE STATE TITLE

The Warren Central Warriors (15-0) defeated the Carmel Greyhounds (12-3), 35-14, to capture the Class 5A state championship Saturday night at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis.

The victory marks an unprecedented fourth consecutive state championship for the Warriors. ♦ Head coach Steve Tutsie guided the Warren to its sixth state title in school history in his first season at the helm. ♦

The Warrior ♦s rushing attack proved to be the dominant factor in tonight ♦s contest with a total of 315 yards on 46 attempts to Carmel ♦s 121 yards on 32 attempts. ♦ The Greyhounds out-passed the Warriors with 146 yards on 22 attempts to 45 yards on five attempts, respectively.

Senior running back Darren Evans pounded out most of Warren ♦s total offensive production on the ground by rushing for 201 yards on 30 attempts and three touchdowns. ♦ Senior running back Brad Ellington chipped in 72 yards on four attempts and one touchdown. ♦ Senior quarterback Matt Upshaw tallied 32 yards on seven attempts and one touchdown. ♦ Upshaw also completed three of four passes for 45 yards.

Carmel ♦s rushing attack was led by junior running back Aaron King with 75 yards on 13 attempts. ♦ Senior quarterback Andrew Durbin completed 10 of 21 passes for 146 yards, two touchdowns, and one interception. ♦ Senior tight end Ryan Murray and senior wide receiver each tallied two receptions and one touchdown.



CARMEL ♦S RYAN MURRAY HONORED WITH ESKEW MENTAL ATTITUDE AWARD

Ryan Murray of Carmel High School was selected as the recipient of the Phil N. Eskew Mental Attitude Award for Class 5A Football by the IHSAA Executive Committee.

The award is presented to a senior nominated by his principal and coach who excels in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability. ♦ The award is named in honor of Mr. Eskew, who served as the IHSAA ♦s third commissioner from 1962-76. ♦ Under Eskew ♦s leadership, the IHSAA football state tournament was initiated in 1973.

Murray is a two-year starter on the Carmel football team having played tight end this season and as left tackle during his junior campaign. He was named to the Bloomington Herald ♦s Top 33 All State Team and was a first team all-conference selection this year.

Academically, Murray is in the top 10 percent of his class. He is considering several Ivy League schools with the intent of continuing his football career while studying Business or Engineering. He will graduate with an Academic Honors diploma from his school.

He currently serves on the Student Athletic Board and participates as an Ambassador for the NCAA Stay in Bounds program in Carmel ♦s elementary schools. Stay in Bounds is a cross-age mentoring program which promotes respect, integrity and sportsmanship to young people.

◆Our kids played hard, they made it a game. Obviously, we didn't come here to make it a game-we came here to win. But I'm proud of my kids.◆

◆Nobody has moved the ball against them much this year. We didn't the first game but we did tonight and we did the best we could.◆

(On his physical problems earlier in the tournament), ◆I had a great bunch of coaches. Our players have been great all year.◆

(On being back coaching at the high school level), ◆I had a lot of fun this year. High school is a great place to be. There are a lot of great high school coaches in the state of Indiana that I have a lot of respect for.◆

Carmel◆s senior Ryan Murray-Phil N. Eskew Mental Attitude Award winner

◆It feels good to win this award even though we lost the game. It's an honor to win this award. I would have loved to see our team win state.◆