

# Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.

9150 North Meridian Street, Box 40650, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-0650

Phone: 317-846-6601 Fax: 317-575-4244 Website: [www.ihsaa.org](http://www.ihsaa.org)

Blake Ress, Commissioner

---

November 23, 2007

## FORT WAYNE BISHOP LUERS WINS SEVENTH FOOTBALL TITLE

Fort Wayne Bishop Luers won its seventh IHSAA state football title in their record 11th trip by defeating Heritage Christian, 21-6, in the Class 2A state championship game. ♦ The title is coach Matt Lindsay's sixth as the Knights head coach. ♦

Defenses dominated through much of the game but Bishop Luers (11-4) scored three times over a span of 4:18 in the third and fourth quarters that was the difference. Luers broke a scoreless deadlock with 2:16 remaining in the third quarter when junior quarterback Quinn Schafer connected with senior wide receiver Adrien Spencer for a 71 yard touchdown strike, making it 7-0. ♦ Following a Heritage Christian fumble on its next possession, the Knights extended their lead to 14-0 when senior running back Issac Baker dashed 21 yards for the score with 11:12 left in the game.

Bishop Luers put the game out of reach when junior defensive back Lawrence Barnett intercepted a Heritage Christian pass on its very next possession and returned it 28 yards for the touchdown, extending the score to 21-0 at the 9:58 mark.

Heritage Christian (13-2), coached by Ron Qualls, got on the board late as senior quarterback Garrett Meador hooked up with junior Tommy Eggleston for a 13 yard touchdown, narrowing the deficit to 21-6. The extra point was blocked.

Both teams had opportunities to score early but came away empty.

Heritage Christian (13-2) threatened first, as the Eagles drove into the redzone, but Meador's pass was picked off by Bishop Luers' junior Michael Goodwin at the 4 yard line. In the second quarter, Bishop Luers' Tony Kebede's 24 yard field goal attempt was blocked and on its next possession, a 25 field goal attempt sailed wide right. Heritage Christian attempted a 52 yard field goal in the second quarter but sophomore Alex Butterworth's boot landed short of the uprights.

The Knights were led by Spencer's 114 yards of receiving and one touchdown.

## HERITAGE CHRISTIAN'S JOSH MILLS NAMED MENTAL ATTITUDE AWARD WINNER

The IHSAA Executive Committee named Heritage Christian's Josh Mills as the winner of the Phil N. Eskew Mental Attitude Award winner in Class 2A football following the game.

He is the second student athlete in school history to win an IHSAA mental attitude award joining Nicole Roush who won in 2A girls basketball in 2005-06.

Mills maintains a 3.9 GPA on a 4.0 scale and has been a part of the NCAA Stay in Bounds program, the Student Athletic Board, Honor Society and represented Heritage Christian at Senator Richard Lugar's Symposium for Tomorrow's Leaders. He is undecided on a field of study in college at this time.

Mills was a three-way player for the Eagles playing offense, defense and special teams. He has also played baseball the last three years.

He is the son of Andrew and Robin Mills of Greenwood.

The award is presented annually to a senior participant in the state finals who was nominated by his principal and coach and has demonstrated excellence in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability. It is named in honor ♦ of the IHSAA's third commissioner who ♦ served the association from 1962-76 and who helped initiate the state tournament in 1973.

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, the IHSAA's corporate partner, presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Heritage Christian School in the name of Mills.

## **Class 2A Game Quotes**

### **Fort Wayne Bishop Luers coach Matt Lindsay**

#### *On the turnaround from last years 3-8 season*

"We're a tremendous defensive football team that really did a fantastic job tonight. ♦ It has been a long, uphill struggle for all these kids with maturity and hard work. ♦ The destination was worth the hard journey. ♦ Jimtown scored 17, Heritage Christian scored 6, nobody else scored on our first (team) defense in six tournament games. ♦ About week six of this year, we started to believe in ourselves when we almost beat a pretty good (Fort Wayne) Snider team."

"Tonight was a tough first half. ♦ To come out here 0-0 the way we played...I'm really proud we put forth a great, great effort. ♦ Anytime you move up and down the field and don't score, you're going to have bad things happen, but the defense won the game for us tonight. ♦ We had a great combination of size, speed, and strength on defense. ♦ We got after the quarterback tonight, and didn't give up any big plays on defense." ♦

#### *On the pass to Spencer*

"We executed a play that we thought was there all night, and that just kind of gave us a huge advantage. ♦ I really thought with one score we'd be hard to beat, and that turned out to be true."

### **Heritage Christian coach Ron Qualls**

"The scoreboard didn't go our way, but I'll take our kids anytime. The intensity level really picked up in the second half."

"Our kids prepared all summer for a situation like this. The way we prepared during the year got us here. We thought we would win the game to the very end."

"Our guys came into this game thinking we can do this. We went toe-to-toe with them in the first half."

"In the second half it was a matter of athleticism. We just didn't have the speed to match up with them. Their quickness on the outside and their perimeter defense was the difference. They were able to shut down our two wide receivers."

#### *On the hard sack of quarterback Garrett Meador*

"He got rocked! But you know what was cool? Garrett jumped right back up. Some guys don't get up, especially when you're two touchdowns down. Some would just pack it in. He didn't."

## **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).