2004 Fall Wrap-Up
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I can’t believe we are already wrestling and playing basketball. It won’t be long before we begin practicing soccer after school. However, before we get too deep into the winter sports, we should reflect back on a very competitive fall. For the first time ever, two Frisco ISD high schools squared-off against each other in varsity competition. There were many highs and lows during the months of September and October, which also included several surprises.

Frisco High School

Coach Ronny Mullins led his football team into battle with high hopes of a possible play-off birth at season’s end. Even though, for the first time in Class 4A, the Raccoons were in play-off contention going into week 9, it was not meant to be. Robby Brown, Xxaiver Carter, Will Skiles, and Corey Miller were all a big reason the team was literally a couple of plays away from post-season play. Two games that were especially noteworthy were the first ever cross-town victory against Centennial and the heartbreaking 7-3 loss to McKinney in week 9. The team finished 5th in district with a 4-6 season record.

Coach Janie Litchford and her volleyball Lady Raccoons never cease to amaze me. For the 19th consecutive year, the team advanced into the play-offs. Led by Ashley Doscher, Jaclyn Good, Brittanie Roldan, and Whitney Yates, the squad defeated Forney to be crowned the Regional Quarter-final Champions. They lost to Midlothian in the Regional Semis, but it didn’t matter. The play-off streak is still intact and the girls had an awesome run. Coach Litchford is 2 wins shy of 400 here in Frisco. I have a feeling next year we might go all the way. Congratulations Ladies.

Coach Chris Barnhart was up to his old tricks with his tennis team. The netters advanced to Regional for the 5th consecutive year. Four-year varsity players Hollie Caras and Kristen Jones, along with three-year varsity players Matt Weir and Jordan Gilbreath led the squad to a #12 ranking in the state at seasons end. An end-of-the-year highlight was the 10-9, 5 hour and 45 minute victory over Ennis at Regional. Way to go guys on another great season.

Coaches Sam Reiter and Jody Brown made another yearly run at the cross country District title. This seemed to be a year filled with competition at both District and Regional, as two of the top three teams that advanced to the girl’s State Meet came form District 9-AAAA. The boys were led by Patrick Shrum, while the girl’s were led by Brooklyn Spring, Amanda Snyder, Chelsea Bradford, and Allie Pool. The girl’s team finished as District Runner-Up and placed 4th at Regional. With 5 of the top 7 girl’s runners coming back, the future looks promising.
Centennial High School

Coach Mark Howard had his Titan football program prepared to take on the school’s first ever varsity competition. Considering the team consisted primarily of 24 sophomores and juniors, their season record of 2-8 gives hope to next year. The squad’s trademark was their scrappiness, and their resolve to play hard to the very end of each game. With all of the starters coming back, led by Matt Crook, Henry Williams, Brandon Wood, and BB Ollenu, the future looks bright for these Titans.

Coach Kari Bensend surprised more than a few opponents this season as her Lady Titan volleyball squad ended the season in 5th place with a 20-17 season record. Erika Clark, Lauren McKean, and Steph Villafuerte led the team on a tremendous first varsity season. With all players coming back next year, this program will be one to be reconed with.

The Centennial Titan tennis team has a bright future ahead of it. Coach Carolyn Quarles program was led by Narine Kazarova, Rachel Simpson, Katie Minchew, and Steffi Arnett. The team finished with a 5-12 over-all record, and again, every member of the team will be back.

Coaches Abby Farmer and Benton Buckley have quit a bit to crow about when it come to their cross country season. One goal that the boy’s team had was to beat some of the “established” schools at District. I would say they accomplished that by finishing 5th with some outstanding performances by Cole Reveal, Alex Vidal, and Drew Ellison. The girls were led by Samantha Sands, Heather Nelson, and Cherish Hartz. The girls also finished 5th at district, with Samantha Sands qualifying for both Regional and State, while running a 12:10 to get her to Round Rock. Good luck Samantha at State!

In summary it has been another busy fall. The best part of my job is getting a chance to watch our young people perform. The town should be proud because the athletes in Frisco ISD compete with class, sportsmanship, and character. With Centennial returning all of its players in each of its programs, and Frisco High carrying on with 100 years of tradition…each year, and each season, it will be more fun to watch.