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THEY SHOOT AND SCORE!

Boys' soccer and JH girls' basketball take home state titles

BY STEWART McCULLOUGH
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Flowood, MS — At Jackson Prep, there are plenty of programs that are tacking on state championships year after year--football, baseball, track-- but no other program has the historic dominance that the boys' soccer program holds right now. They have been on an elite level for almost 10 years, and their State title victory on Saturday, February 23rd re-cemented their legacy in Mississippi high school history. Yes, you read that correctly. The Patriots dominated Jackson Academy in the title matchup 3-0, capping an impressive season with their 9th straight championship win. No other Mississippi high school team has ever won 9 straight championships in a row.

Jackson Prep already blanked JA in the regular season (2-0) and (3-0), but as everyone knows, nothing is guaranteed in the playoffs. Tensions run high, adrenaline pumps out of control, and unexpected things sometimes tend to happen.

In a pre-game meeting, Head coach Jon Marcus Duncan told his team that they owed it to their teammates, to their friends, to their school, and to themselves to lay everything on the line Saturday night.

“Tonight after the game, champions or not, you have to be able to look at your fellow teammates in the eye and say ‘I gave everything I had.’ If you can do that, you will be state champions. You will go down in history as the team that continued this streak to nine.”
- Jon Marcus Duncan

Just 20 minutes into the game, Prep defender Michael Malouf surged up top, and landed his head on a cross from Sam Drennan. Malouf's header would find the back of the net and just like that, Prep was up 1-0 early in the first half. Jackson Prep has struggled all season with finishing opportunities in the first half so the early goal was a huge boost of confidence.

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BY CHARLES STEPHENSON
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

The Junior High girls' basketball team took home the championship on February 16th. With a score of 32-29, the girls beat the MRA Patriots. The #1 seed Lady Patriots of Prep lead by head coach Michael McAnally beat out the #3 seed Lady Patriots of MRA lead. Due to being the #1 seed, Prep had a first round bye, meaning that the winner of #4 seed PCS and #5 seed JA would face off against Prep in the second round of the MAIS Division 1 Tournament. Dominating JA, the Lady Pats advanced to the conference finals with a 25-11 win. #3 seed MRA defeated the #6 seed Oak Forest and #2 seed Parklane to advance and compete against Prep.

The Prep junior high girls' team was dominant nearly all season, with a winning record of 24-3 and a perfect conference season with a 12-0 record against conference schools.

In the championship game hosted at Prep, MRA was held to 0 points at the end of the first period, while Prep had the lead with 7. Prep kept the momentum and pulled to a 16-6 lead at the end of the first half. The third period was once again dominated by

Prep, as MRA trailed behind to finish off the third period with a score of 29-18. MRA made a big comeback in the fourth period. Prep scored a total of 3 points as MRA lead with a total of 12 points in the final period of play. Despite the amount of points in the fourth, the Lady Patriots of Jackson Prep came out victorious in the 32-29 battle to take home the championship trophy. Andie Flatgard scored nearly half of the teams points, as she lead the team with 15.



Players and coaches hoist the trophy high after knocking off Jackson Academy 3-0 in the State title game.



Lead by Andie Flatgard, the Jackson Prep junior high girls' basketball team knocked off Madison Ridgeland Academy 32-29 to clinch the title. Photo courtesy of Denny Britt

Prep's Chinese sister school brings students to campus

BY TANNER GOUGH
NEWS EDITOR

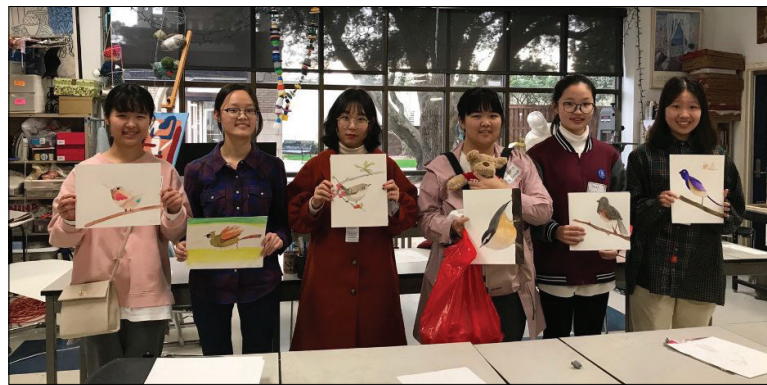
From Saturday, February 9 to Thursday, February 14, Jackson Prep welcomed to campus a contingent of 17 students and 2 chaperones from its sister school, the Taizhou School in China. During their time here, they were able to experience a wide range of activities, both on and off school

grounds.

Prior to the visit of the international students, Prep Head of School Mr. Lawrence Coco, along with faculty members Mr. Denny Britt and Ms. Jane Zhu, visited China to tour the Taizhou School and meet with its students and faculty. The visit took place in late October of 2018, and established a sister school relationship allowing for visits by students from both respective schools.

Upon arrival into Jackson on Saturday evening, the students were greeted at the airport by their host families and a giant "Welcome!" banner signed by various members of the Prep Family. Sunday, the students spent much of the day resting from the long journey and spending time with their host families, closing out the day with a dinner at Cock of the Walk.

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Students from Taizhou School show off their talents in one of Prep's art rooms. Photo courtesy of Ms. Vicki King

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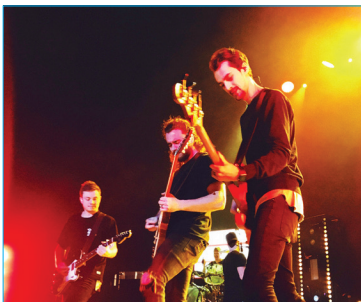
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