

Sports

NATIONAL SIGNING DAY SNAPSHOTS



Briarcrest senior Kyle Nicholson has committed to play baseball next fall at Christian Brothers University. The pitcher and first baseman pitched in the state championship game last year, where Briarcrest finished as the Tennessee state runner-up. Kyle made the All-Tournament Perfect Game team three times this summer in Atlanta, Ga. Kyle plans on majoring in mechanical engineering at CBU. Joining him during his signing day ceremony are his parents, Linda and Gary Nicholson, and his coaches Brian Stewart, Joe Rowell and Craig Hopkins.



Four St. Benedict at Auburndale seniors have committed to colleges and signed. Point guard Taylor Barnes signed to play basketball at the University of Memphis, Nick Giles will play golf for the University of Memphis, Anna Graziosi will play volleyball at Christian Brothers University and Regina Zipperer will swim for Carson-Newman.



During National Signing Day, MUS seniors Parker Sexton (left) and Henry Keel signed their letters of intent. Sexton will play golf for the University of Texas and Keel will swim for the University of Virginia.



Emily Lytle, a senior basketball player at Evangelical Christian School, signed her National Letter of Intent with Arkansas-Little Rock on Wednesday. With Emily at her signing were her parents Carla and Quinton and coaches Jeff Little (back left) and Thomas Teed. Lytle averaged 20.6 points per game and 8.8 rebounds last season for the Eagles.



Harding's Jake Criswell has signed to play baseball at Southeast Missouri State as a pitcher. Criswell was 4-5 last year with a 2.18 ERA and 77 SO in 57.2 IP. He is set to break three school records this season: most Innings pitched, most strikeouts and most career wins. Over his last four years, Criswell has been a part of 104 wins, two district (2013, 2014) and two regional championships (2012, 2013), one regional runner-up (2015), four substate appearances (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015) and two state runner-ups (2012, 2013).



Ken Netherland won 368 games in a 51-year coaching career, and he will be inducted into the Tennessee Football Coaches Hall of Fame on Dec. 5 in Cookeville.

PREPS

Netherland to be inducted into coaches hall of fame

Ken Netherland, the winningest high school football coach in Shelby County history, will be inducted into the Tennessee Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

The ceremonies will take place Dec. 5 in Cookeville.

During his 51-year coaching career at Hillcrest, Germantown, St. George's and Lausanne, Netherland won 368 games, placing him second on the all-time state list.

He won 250 of those games at Germantown, leading the Red Devils to one state title and four

runner-up finishes. Netherland also led St. George's to a state championship and two runner-up finishes before getting Lausanne's program going in 2011. Netherland died in July 2014.

Other members who will be inducted in the class of 2015 include Carlton Flatt, who won 355 games during his tenure at Brentwood Academy; longtime Gatlinburg Pitman coach Benny Hammonds; Roger Perry, who spent 29 years as a head coach at Westmoreland, Portland and Mount Juliet; and Steve Brewer, who won 224 games at

Knoxville Fulton and Sevier County.

"It is with great pride and excitement that the TNFCA will be honoring these five legendary coaches," TNFCA president and CBHS coach Thomas McDaniel said in a statement.

"After accepting nominations and polling coaches from across the state, it became clear by the numbers that our association wanted these men to represent the 2015 Hall of Fame class.

These men truly embody the role of educating and coaching young men for success."

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