This is a big season for Weddington High School football offensive tackle Wyatt Furlong. It’s his senior year and the Warriors are aiming for another strong run into the state playoffs. Wyatt has been elected as a team captain and is providing strong leadership skills for his team. At 6’1” and 230 pounds, Wyatt is a force for the offensive line. Rewinding back to May 23rd, 2015 many of these accomplishments seemed as if they would never happen for the son of Dale and Sharon Furlong.

Let’s let Wyatt tell the story from here.

“I had an accident with a lawn mower and cut off half of my big toe and the two toes next to it. When I got to the hospital the surgeon wasn’t sure if I would be able to play football again because she didn’t know if she could save my toes. Luckily she saved half my big toe, my pinky toe, and the one next to it. I had to completely re-teach myself how to walk, run, and do anything physically active.”

“After three weeks I got my cast off and was in a boot, however I still used crutches. Every day I would take off that boot and try to learn how to walk, I fell a numerous amount of times but eventually figured it out. Within six weeks I was able to run a mile at practice without the boot. After eight weeks I was cleared to play. My surgeon was amazed at my recovery time and said she hadn’t seen anything like it without months of physical therapy. The hardest part about the recovery was learning how to walk and dealing with the pain during practice and continuing to work hard.”

With the accident and rehabilitation in the rear view mirror, Wyatt is back to full speed and blazing a clear path for the Weddington runners to speed to the next first down. After playing football for ten years, the senior year is bringing all the fruits of his hard labor. Before the accident, Wyatt and the Warriors advanced to the state championship in his sophomore year and hope to do the same again this season.

Among the goals set for this season are to beat rival Marvin Ridge, win the conference championship and a state 3AA championship.

Away from the football field, Wyatt is an All-American level student in the classroom. He carries a 4.74 grade point average and is a member of the National Honor Society, German Honor Society and the International Thespians Society. He is also a member of DECA, the German Club, Drama Club, and Riley’s Catch.

Wyatt is a life scout in the Boy Scouts and working on his Eagle Scout project with a goal of finishing before his 18th birthday in February. Wyatt has been very active in community service activities with building houses and gardens and working at homeless shelters and soup kitchens.

The South Charlotte Sports Report salutes Wyatt for his dedication to returning to the field after his accident and his hard work inside the classroom. Wyatt is sure to be a great success as he moves forward in life. Good Luck Wyatt.
#TBT
Throwback Thursday With Kelly Ellis
Supporting Student-Athletes From Pee Wee To High School.
Heidi Swope

Heidi graduated from Weddington High School and now competes for the Appalachian State University Tennis Team.

If you have a throwback picture that you want featured, please submit your digital photo to kellis@helenadamsrealty.com.

Kelly Ellis, Realtor NC & SC
Specializing in S. Charlotte and Waxhaw/Weddington
704-236-0821
kellis@helenadamsrealty.com
www.kellyellisrealtor.com

South Charlotte’s Premiere Youth Basketball Organization

Training
Camps
Clinics
Teams

Sign up today at www.proskillsbasketball.com/charlotte

@ProSkillsCLT @ProSkillsBasketball
STUDENT-ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

JARRETT WRIGHT

Ardrey Kell High School senior football kicker Jarrett Wright has been named the Architech Sports and Physical Therapy Student Athlete of the Week. The son of Jay and Julia Wright has been a kicker since the start of high school, after playing soccer until the end of middle school. Jarrett works with kicking coaches Mike Stricker and Dan Orner to develop his skills to the point of being able to become a college kicker.

Jarrett has hit a 56 yard field goal in practice and in the opening game this season, he kicked the winning field goal to help Ardrey Kell defeat Weddington. After high school, Jarrett would like to kick at either a D1 or a D3 school such as Wofford, Citadel, Wake Forest, Centre College, Washington and Lee or Georgetown.

Inside the classroom, Jarrett is ranked inside the top 10% in his class and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is involved in Knights in Action at Ardrey Kell. Jarrett was on the National Youth Advisory Board for Souper Bowl of Caring, an organization that helps fight hunger. He is also involved in activities at Providence Baptist Church and serves as an intern with Leadership University. Congratulations to Jarrett Wright for being named the Architech Sports and Physical Therapy Student Athlete of the Week.

COURTNEY BRUNO

South Mecklenburg High School senior volleyball player Courtney Bruno has been selected as the Architech Sports and Physical Therapy Student Athlete of the Week. The 17 year old daughter of Paul and Lisa Bruno is the starting libero for the Sabres Volleyball Team. Courtney began playing in the fifth grade and fell in love with the sport.

Courtney says her top volleyball accomplishment is from her last travel season. “My team was playing in a national tournament in Florida, and we were not projected to do very well. We ended up making it all the way to the championship game and placed second in the whole tournament!” Courtney enjoys the libero position as she gets to play a part in nearly every point in the game. This season she hopes to help the Sabres finish high in the conference and play in the state tournament. She feels the team has the most potential they have had during her career.

Inside the classroom, Courtney is an honors student with a 3.96 grade point average. She enjoys Science and English classes the most. Courtney has a very strong passion for animals and hopes to attend college and someday work with rehabilitating injured or abandoned elephant calves. Congratulations to Courtney Bruno for being named the Architech Sports and Physical Therapy Student Athlete of the Week.

ARCHITECH SPORTS AND PHYSICAL THERAPY
Blakeney Office: 8918 Blakeney Professional Drive Suite 120 | Charlotte, NC 28277 | Ph. 704-900-8960
Indian Trail Office: 1001 Van Buren Avenue Suite 3 | Indian Trail, NC 28079 | Ph. 704-628-6053
www.architechsports.com
Physical Therapy for Athletes and Weekend Warriors * Sports Performance * Soccer Speed and Agility
Baseball Pitching Arm Care Evaluations * Female Jumpmetrics Training * Coaches Care Programs
All programs in conjunction with Morrison Family YMCA

Take on SUMMER With a FRESH New Smile

Schedule your complimentary consultation today to learn more about our Invisalign Treatment Plans.

Winning Smiles
QUIMBY & COLLINS
ORTHO-DONTICS
8125 Ardrey Kell Road
Charlotte NC 28277
704-443-0006
www.quimbyandcollins.com
Boating Without Owning - It’s About TIME!

Rising Star Award

MARA MCDONALD

Weddington High School sophomore cheerleader Mara McDonald has been named the winner of the Carefree Boats Rising Star Award. The 15 year old daughter of Curtis and Tamara McDonald has been a cheerleader since the fourth grade and hopes to one day cheer in college. Mara works hard at her skillset and has been recognized for her leadership and positive outlook by coaches.

Mara is a big fan of sideline cheering for the football team. She says, “One of the reasons I love sideline cheerleading is because it’s bigger than myself. My team and I can’t score, or get a first down, but that’s not the point. The point of sideline cheerleading is to get everyone on their feet, yelling, and excited for our football team’s advances and their accomplishments.”

Inside the classroom, Mara has found great success, maintaining a 4.375 grade point average. She carries an academic ranking of 13th in her class at Weddington High School. Mara also likes to give back to younger cheerleaders by volunteering her time at Weddington Middle School. She says, “I think it’s great to work with the younger girls, build up their confidence, and help them achieve their own goals.”

Congratulations to Mara McDonald for being named the winner of the Carefree Boats Rising Star Award.

Marc@CarefreeBoats.com
704-557-0848 ext. 4
www.CarefreeBoats.com

The Shoeless Enterprises Leadership Award

EMILY KONCHAN

Providence High School senior volleyball player Emily Konchan has been named as the winner of the Shoeless Enterprises Leadership Award. The 17 year old daughter of Mike and Julie Konchan has played volleyball since the fifth grade and developed into one of the top players in the area. She says her favorite memory came this past club volleyball season on the CJV 17’s. “My team placed 3rd at the Big South Qualifier tournament in Atlanta. That allowed us to earn a bid to USAV Nationals in Indiana. Although our team fell a little short in Indy, just the fact that we made it to that tournament is a huge accomplishment and I will always remember that feeling of walking into the gym with my team mates as one of the top 36 teams in the country.”

Emily plays the position of setter and leads the on court communications during play. She directs the different plays for the Panthers, playing a role similar to a football quarterback. Emily hopes to lead the Panthers to a conference championship this season and help her team become mentally tougher with a strong work ethic.

Inside the classroom, Emily carries a 4.95 grade point average and was ranked 14th in her class last year, earning a position as a Junior Marshall. This past summer, Emily volunteered at a camp for blind children in Raleigh. “I worked with kids that have lost or are in the process of losing their sight and helped them, as well as myself, learn Braille. In this day and age, technology is overused which threatens the literacy rates of the visually impaired. This camp defies that trend. The experience had a positive impact on my life and I’m grateful I had the opportunity.”

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WRITERS

Gain experience as a student writer for the South Charlotte Sports Report!

Interested in Journalism or Sports Broadcasting in college?

Email
Tripp@SouthCharlotteSports.com
KEEGAN HOFF

Keegan Hoff was featured in issue number 67, during our fourth year of publishing. Keegan is now a senior golfer at the University of Richmond where he had the third lowest scoring average last season.

PASSPORT / VISA ADVISORS

Providing local US passport and visa services for international travel since 2005

PVA provides:

- US Passport processing - a couple of days to a couple of weeks
- Visa processing - China, India, Brazil, Russia, Vietnam and more
- Application Review
- Advisory/Consultant Sessions
- Application form fill
- Study Abroad Services
- Schengen Visa Services
- Passport Photos
- International Destination Kits

Passport & Visa Advisors is a second generation, locally run family business
Located in historic downtown Matthews
Group and Corporate discounts are available
250 N. Trade St, Suite 205, Matthews, NC 28105
www.passportvisaadvisors.com
info@passportvisaadvisors.com
704.246.6373

BEYOND THE GAME WITH REED HUNNICUTT

South Mecklenburg High School senior Reed Hunnicutt recently made a verbal commitment to attend Appalachian State University where he will be a member of the soccer team. Reed is an All-State player that helped the Sabres win the 4A State Championship last fall. Last season Reed scored 10 goals and recorded 22 assists. The son of Travis and Cyndi Hunnicutt is eager to kick the season off in a few weeks. Let’s Go Beyond The Game to learn more about Reed.

When did you begin playing soccer?
“I began playing soccer around 4 years old.”

What are your top three athletic accomplishments?
“My top accomplishments are; helping South Meck Men’s Soccer win the 4A State High School Soccer Championship last fall, being named to the NC Soccer Coaches Association All-State team my junior year and reaching my goal to play college soccer by committing to Appalachian State University Men’s Soccer.”

As you look back on your soccer career, what are a couple of memories that really stand out for you?
“South Meck winning the state championship last fall. I played for the CSA Developmental Soccer Academy U14 and U16 teams my freshman and sophomore years. This meant I couldn’t play high school soccer. Making the decision to play for South Meck my junior year and being a part of this team was definitely a great decision for me. Another great memory was South Meck men’s soccer going undefeated last season (23-0-2).”

How did you decide upon Appalachian State for your soccer and college education?
“I was impressed with the soccer coaching staff at Appalachian and look forward to being a part of their program. My older sister also attends Appalachian State University. She is a sophomore pole vaulter on the Women’s Track and Field Team. We have been to Boone many times to visit her and I really liked the campus. There are lots of activities to do in the area like hiking and skiing. Appalachian also offers degrees in Entrepreneurship/Business and Biology which are two of the programs I am thinking about studying in college.”

What are the goals for South Meck soccer this season?
“Taking games one at a time and winning our conference - then we’ll see where that takes us.”

What are your top three athletic accomplishments?
“My top accomplishments are; helping South Meck Men’s Soccer win the 4A State High School Soccer Championship last fall, being named to the NC Soccer Coaches Association All-State team my junior year and reaching my goal to play college soccer by committing to Appalachian State University Men’s Soccer.”
PROVIDENCE DAY’S MADDIE GRACE HOW TO PLAY VOLLEYBALL

Providence Day School senior Maddie Grace Hough recently announced she has verbally committed to play volleyball for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Tar Heels are currently ranked #12 in the country. Hough had previously committed to play at the College of William and Mary, but after a coaching staff transition, the dynamic libero found a new home with the Tar Heels.

The 5’4” libero has been a standout on the volleyball court for the past two seasons serving as team captain and earning CISAA All-Conference honors. She led the Chargers in both digs and serve receive receptions the last two years. In 2015, Maddie Grace helped lead the Chargers to the semi-finals of the NCISAA state tournament, one of Providence Day’s best finishes historically. Currently she is averaging 6 digs per set and 24 digs per match.

In addition to leading the Chargers, Maddie Grace also competes for the Carolina Union Volleyball Club at the 18’s national level where she has helped her team qualify for the US Volleyball Nationals.

Head Coach Emily Carrara states, “Maddie Grace is our on court leader who is instrumental in helping our young team grow and mature. She possesses an extremely high volleyball IQ which is always evident with her play on the court. I cannot wait to see all that she accomplishes this year and I’m confident she will make an instant impact on the UNC-Chapel Hill team. Our entire staff is incredibly proud of MG and the Tar Heels are very fortunate to be gaining such a talented and hardworking young lady.”

KARESE GLASS

Breakout Star of the Week

“Honoring Student-Athletes Preparing For Future Success”

EL FERGUSON

Providence Day School 8th grader El Ferguson has been named the Karsey Glass Breakout Star of the Week. The 14 year old daughter of Chip and Kelly Ferguson plays volleyball and basketball for the Chargers. El is very excited about both sports this season at Providence Day.

El lists her favorite sports memory as “when my friends and I played in the IFBL Basketball League and represented Providence Day School. We were only in 4th and 5th grade, but my dad and my brother, Chase, coached us one year, and my mom helped coach us the second year. We won back to back championships in a very competitive league. It was fun having my family involved, and it was the start of a real love for basketball and a real desire to play hard and win. Before one of these games in 4th grade, my dad and I went to buy my first pair of basketball shoes. I will never forget that.”

El’s goals for the season include; “I want to become an even stronger leader on my school team. I want to improve every area of my game because I want to be very ready to compete on the high school level. One of my dreams is to be able to play both varsity basketball and volleyball at Providence Day, and I am excited to put in the work to one day be able to do that.”

Inside the classroom, El’s favorite subject is History. She enjoys learning about how things used to be and how time has changed them. El also enjoys English and Math class at Providence Day. Congratulations to El Ferguson for being named the Karsey Glass Breakout Star of the Week.
To nominate your team for the Sonny’s BBQ Team of the Week, please email Tripp@southcharlottesports.com

Team of the Week
13U Greater Charlotte Baseball Showcase Team

The 13U Greater Charlotte Youth Baseball Showcase Team members have been named the winners of the Sonny’s BBQ Team of the Week Award. This group of players came together to play two showcase games in the 1st Annual Greater Charlotte Youth Baseball Showcase on Labor Day. Each player enjoyed an outstanding day of baseball by placing their skillset on full display. The games were played in near record time with strong defense, pitching and timely hitting. The players, coached by Jules Johnson and Michael DeSimone showed outstanding sportsmanship throughout the unique event held here locally.

Congratulations to all these players for their hard work on Labor Day.

Marvin Ridge High School junior baseball player Stephen Ridge is coming off an outstanding summer season with the South Charlotte Panthers Showcase Team. The son of Larry and Sue Ridge traveled across the southeast playing at college baseball stadiums hoping to earn the opportunity to play baseball beyond high school. This spring, Stephen will play an important role in helping the Mavericks defend their second consecutive 3A baseball state championship. Let’s go Beyond The Game to learn more about Stephen.

When did you begin playing baseball?
“My first year of stepping onto the diamond was when I was 4 years old playing T-Ball at Calvary Church.”

What are your top three athletic accomplishments?
“One of my top athletic accomplishments is starting for the nationally ranked South Charlotte Panthers and helping the team to a 33-6 record this summer. Helping the Panthers sweep the Perfect Game North Carolina Super 25 Tournament by hitting .675 and being named to the All-Tournament Team is also something I’m very proud of. Also, going 6 for 6 in the Battle of the Border Showcase is another highlight.”

What was your top highlight of the summer?
“The top highlight of my summer had to be traveling to play in some of the nicest college stadiums in North Carolina, including Chapel Hill, NC State, High Point and UNC-Charlotte.”

What position do you play?
“I play shortstop and second base. I love playing these positions because I’m involved in some way on almost every pitch.”

What are your goals for this school baseball season?
“My goals for the school season are to be a good teammate, always play as hard as I can and do everything I can to help Marvin Ridge win its 3rd straight State Championship.”

What do you feel is your biggest strength and biggest weakness as a baseball player?
“My biggest strength as a baseball player is my ability to get on base either by a walk or base hit, but I am also very proud of my defense. My biggest weakness is that I don’t hit home runs, but I’m working hard in the weight room to improve that part of my game.”

How well do you perform in the classroom?
“I perform above average in all my classes at school. I receive all A’s and B’s taking several honors classes.”

Sonny’s BBQ
3351-300 Pineville Matthews Rd
Arboretum Shopping Center
704-910-3038
sonnysbbq.com

@SCSportsReport
Follow online for news, updates and more!
The First Annual Greater Charlotte Youth Baseball Showcase was held on Labor Day at Huntersville Athletic Park. Players ranging in ages from 10-14 participated in two showcase games and various skill contests throughout the day. Over 80 players were on hand to test their skills versus players from across the area and state. Results and award winners are featured at www.SouthCharlotteSports.com

The individual player event was operated by South Charlotte Sports Report and Crystal Carolina Sports. The next youth baseball event, The Fall American Games will be held on Saturday November 12th.

Players may enroll by visiting www.SouthCharlotteSportsCamps.com

As only a junior, Marvin Ridge High School’s Nicole Cooper will be entering her second season with the Maverick’s varsity soccer team. The daughter of Amy and Kerry Cooper has been contributing to the school’s soccer program since her freshman year, where she already saw success when being named the Junior Varsity captain as only a freshman.

Nicole helps the team be successful by excelling at several positions, including outside back, center back, and holding midfield. However, Nicole simply enjoys just being part of the team. She says her favorite part about the sport is the unique experience of being able to play with girls both younger and older than her, an experience she does not necessarily get with club soccer. Nicole says being able to play with players of all different calibers serves as a great learning experience for her. And more than that, she thinks of her team as her good friends. “I also love being able to grow so close with all of the girls – through practicing five days a week in all kinds of weather and through our long bus rides to away games. The girls are so supportive of each other and our coach Keith Koteles really makes sure we all get along and act like a team so we make our school proud.”

Nicole’s achievements follow her far off the field too, where in school she carries a 4.6 GPA. She says reading is one of her favorite activities, and does not mind taking a break from soccer every once in a while to travel the world with her family. But, other than club and school soccer, Nicole devotes a large amount of her time to community service. For the past two years, she has participated in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation’s One Walk, an event close to her heart, as one of her best friends has type one diabetes. The walk raises money for research and the effort to find a cure.

Well-rounded in every sense of the world, Nicole has a bright future ahead of her. She will continue to help the Lady Mavericks Soccer Team for the next two years by being a key component on the field. After, Nicole has interested in studying exercise sports science in college. The South Charlotte Sports Report wishes Nicole the very best of luck this season and beyond.

The Sun Valley Athletic Booster Club is looking for volunteer coaches for the following middle school aged sports:

**Swimming and Diving**
We are in need of a head coach and assistant coaching positions

**Softball**
We are in need of a head coach and assistant coaching positions

**Baseball**
We are in need of a head coach and assistant coaching positions

**Soccer boys and girls**
We are in need of head coaches and assistant coaches

**Lacrosse boys and girls**
We are in need of head coaches and assistant coaches

**Football Commissioner (2017 & 2018)**

Please visit www.svabc.org for coaching application.
Email inquiries to svabcboard@gmail.com
Community Service Heroes Award
Recognizing Actions in Support of Individuals, Community and the Environment

JORDAN RIES

Weddington High School junior volleyball player Jordan Ries has been named the Queen City Audio, Video and Appliances Community Heroes Award winner. The 16 year old daughter of Jeff and Heather Ries excels on the court and off for the Warriors. Jordan began playing volleyball in the third grade and in the sixth grade she advanced to play club volleyball where she developed a true love for the game. Jordan plays outside hitter and is responsible for hitting, blocking and passing on serve receive. She also plays defensive specialist, where she is in charge of passing and getting the ball to the setter.

Jordan’s goal for the season is to help the Warriors win their conference championship. The team is coming together after the first month of the season and is ready for conference play to begin.

Inside the classroom, Jordan carries a perfect 4.0 unweighted grade point average and is a member of the Beta Club. She is also very active in helping her community through various service activities. Jordan volunteers at Carolinas Medical Center and she recently began a club at her high school called Teens 4 Levine. Teens 4 Levine will be organizing fundraisers and securing donations to help make kids who are staying at the hospital have something fun to look forward to. Over 100 students have already signed up for the club and are eager to serve. This summer Jordan went to China on a mission trip to Harmony House. The home is for orphans looking to be adopted. She lost her heart to these orphans who all have some sort of physical or mental handicapping condition. Jordan is determined to go back and help out again in 2018.

Queen City Audio, Video and Appliances salutes Jordan Ries for her continued commitment serving others in our community.

Roddey Player
President, Queen City Audio, Video & Appliances

To nominate your team or a student-athlete for their service to the community, please email Tripp@southcharlottesports.com

www.QueenCityOnline.com
Cuthbertson High School cross country runner Tess Nicholas is one of the leading runners for the Cavaliers this fall. The daughter of Richard and Nancy Nicholas runs all year long and focuses on the longer distance races. Let’s go Beyond The Game to learn more about Tess.

When did you began to run and why?
“In elementary school, I participated in my school’s Girls on the Run program because my mom was the coach and we thought it would be something fun for both of us to do together. I did not get involved with running competitively until eighth grade cross country when I joined Cuthbertson’s middle school team. I fell in love with the sport immediately and I cannot imagine my life without running.”

What is your favorite sports memory?
“My favorite sports memory would have to be at the Myers Park Invitational in 2015. Although the course was tough, I loved this race because I ran the entire course with one of my best friends and teammates, Delaney Patterson. We finished seconds apart from each other, placing second and third on our team. Last season we ran a few races side-by-side, but this one was the most challenging and I feel as if I could not have done it without her.”

What is your top sports accomplishment?
“My top sports accomplishment is making it to states as a freshman in 2014. I did not start on varsity but I trained hard and received a personal best at every race freshman year and worked my way into the top seven. I was so proud of my entire team for getting to states and I never imagined competing in states as a ninth grader!”

What are your personal best times?
“I mainly run distance, so I focused on the 5K for cross country; and the 1600, and partially on the 800 for spring track. For a 5K, my personal best is 20:02, which I ran sophomore year. I am hoping to beat this time this year! For the 1600, I ran a 5:43 and in the 800, my personal best is a 2:44.”

What are your goals for this season?
“I have many goals for this season, including my desire to break 20 minutes in a 5K! I also hope to try the 3200 this coming track season as well as improve my mile time. My team goals include our girls team making top 3 at states. My teammates work so hard and are a great group of girls. I know we can do it! The Cuthbertson boys and girls teams are both looking strong this year and I am expecting so many great things — especially with the help of Coaches Kirk Walsh and Lisa Sluiter who have dedicated so much time to the team this summer. Short term, my hope is to stay healthy, since I have been battling a painful ankle injury! Being one of the team captains, I hope to motivate everyone by working hard to be as healthy as possible and help our team get to states!”

How do you perform in the classroom?
“I was inspired to pursue a career in the medical field after taking Health Science as a freshman and also by taking Chemistry my sophomore year. I aspire to go to medical school and become a doctor because the human body and how it works is fascinating to me! I have been fortunate enough to be healthy, and to have the ability to participate in cross country. I want to make sure other people are also able to enjoy the life they are given just as I do every day. I also love the variety of options there are in the medical field. This gives me a variety of jobs to choose from so I do not have to fully commit to one specific occupation before going into medical school since at the moment, everything seems interesting to me! I hope while in college, I am able to narrow down my interests and find the perfect fit for me.”

I understand you would like to one day go to medical school? Why does that interest you?
“In the classroom, I challenge myself as much as possible. I take many AP classes and I receive A’s in them by working hard and managing my time with cross country, extracurricular activities and work. I have always been an A Honor Roll student because I put effort into all of the work I do for school. I have taken summer online courses to give myself the opportunity to take classes that I do not have space for in my schedule during the school year. I try to take many science, math and health classes because these classes are something I am passionate about. This past summer, I took Anatomy online and learned about the body systems and what happens if there is a malfunction in one of the systems.”

Are you involved in any community service activities?
“The community service activities I am involved in are volunteering with my church, St. Matthew Catholic Church, where I taught third graders last year in a faith formation class. This year I am helping seventh graders prepare for Confirmation in the Edge program, starting in September. I love giving back to my church and helping kids grow in their faith! I also volunteered at CMC Wachovia last summer and was going to volunteer again this year until my schedule became too busy with cross country training and working. I hope to find time for this again though! Another way I volunteer, is by participating in clubs at my school including student council, where I plan and work at school events, and Math Honor Society, where I tutor for students at my school who seek help in math.”
BEYOND THE GAME WITH JAIDEN MASON

Charlotte Christian senior volleyball player Jaiden Mason has been playing volleyball since she was eight years old. Now in her senior year, the daughter of Curtis and Violet Mason is busy at work recording her best season ever for the Knights. Let’s go Beyond The Game to learn more about Jaiden.

What is your favorite sports memory?
“My favorite sports memory is beating Marvin Ridge my freshmen year! We played them in our gym and won in five sets. They were a great team and that was the only time I got to play them. Definitely was a memorable night for me going into my freshmen year!”

What is your top sports accomplishment?
“My top sport accomplishment is placing 6th in the state for Shot Put in Track & Field. As a freshmen, that was my most proud moment. For me, being able to play at the varsity level for my school team for the past four years has really been a blessing. I loved watching the program grow as a whole and move forward to even more successful seasons.”

What position do you play and what are the responsibilities?
“I am a setter. My responsibilities in this position include being a vocal leader on the court and putting my hitters in the best possible position to score. If the game is starting to change out of our favor, I step in and help to alter the circumstances.”

What are your goals for this season?
“My main goal for the season is to create one I’ll remember; in the end we’ll forget the in-between game talks and the games themselves, but I won’t forget my teammates and the connection we had on and off the court. Another goal I have for the season is to give it our best. If at the end of the day all we could say was “I did my best and it was the best I could do,” that’s all I could ever ask for.”

How well do you perform in the classroom?
“I take either AP or Honors courses. I like to challenge myself with the classes I take and won’t stop doing simply because it’s my final year. I think being able to keep a rigorous schedule now without too much stress is a good way to prepare myself for college and the next stages of my life.”

Are you involved in any community service events?
“I volunteer within a club at my school called “Dog Bless You.” Dogs have always been my weakness so being able to help out really means a lot to me. I’m not really involved in many big service events but I volunteer to help run school events like Back to School Night and sports camps. Being active in the close community at school allows me to get to know more people and be a participating role in that environment.”

The South Charlotte Sports Report salutes six year old George Phillips for his success in the US Kids Golf program. George has competed in local, regional and world golf tournaments through the program. He has played in tournaments since the age of four. George has been invited to the US Kids World Golf Championship in Pinehurst, NC for the past three years and even as a five year old came in the top half of his field of all six year olds (he was the youngest competitor). When he was 6, he finished in the top ten and this past tournament he finished tied for 14th out of 113 golfers in his seven year old age group. He plays on the local US Kids golf tournament series in Charlotte and in the past three years has earned over 25 first place finishes and over 20 second or third place finishes.

George attends Omni Montessori School and in the future, his hope is to be a golf professional and grand master chess champion!
Braces by Bird
Orthodontics

Dr. Suzanne E. Bird is accepting new orthodontic patients and is now treating adults! It is never too late to create a beautiful smile and with options like Clarity™ braces and Invisalign® treatment has never been so easy! Braces by Bird is conveniently located in the Cedar Walk Development. Call now to schedule your complimentary consultation!

bracesbybird.com  704-544-5001
16614 Riverstone Way, Charlotte, NC 28277

AN ATHLETE’S DREAM
TRAINING FOR EVERYBODY

ADULT FITNESS TRAINING
PERSONAL TRAINING INDIVIDUAL TRAINING
SPORTS PERFORMANCE SPEED AND AGILITY
TEAM TRAINING FOOTBALL TRAINING

WWW.ANATHLETESDREAM.COM
JIM SHIMBURSKI: 704/560-4406
ANATHLETESDREAM@HOTMAIL.COM

Power Prospect
Individual Showcase

Are you ready to be seen by the BIG DOGS in College Baseball?

These are only a few of the colleges that have committed to attend:

October 29 & 30th
BB&T Ballpark
Home of the Charlotte Knights
GRAD YEARS: 2018-2019-2020

REQUEST AN INVITE
WWW.BICSHOWCASES.COM
704-588-3204