

Win for Life

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2016 ASAA/First National Bank Alaska Cross Country Running State Championships

Participate in Activities and Win for Life

Billy Strickland, Executive Director

There are many ways in which our students "Win for Life" while participating in ASAA activities. I was reminded of this at our Cross Country State Championships. This year the event involved 462 students representing over 83 schools from across all of Alaska. ASAA events give students a chance to meet and compete against students from other parts of Alaska. While attending Bethel Regional High School, my own children were, through participation in ASAA events, able to get to know students from schools such as Unalaska, Barrow, Juneau, Kotzebue, Nome, Soldotna, Seward, along with Anchorage and Fairbanks. Long after their playing days are over, students benefit from the exposure to other cultures and in doing so make lifetime friends. It was a pleasure to see many of you at State Cross Country and I look forward to doing so again at future events.

Alaska High School Hall of Fame

Sandi Wagner, Associate Director



Chad Bentz

This month we are recognizing 2016 inductee Chad Bentz. He made history in Major League Baseball by becoming the second pitcher, to play in the big leagues after being born without one of his hands. The southpaw pitched in 40 career MLB games, more than any other player from Alaska. He's the only Alaskan with a base hit in the big leagues.

After his MLB career he went back to college to earn his degree and play football. During high school he was a 3-sport athlete earning varsity letters in football,

ASAA Title Sponsor



Upcoming Events



ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA TENNIS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 7-8, 2016

Alaska Club East in Anchorage

[More Information](#)



ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENTS FALL CONFERENCE

October 13-15, 2016

Wasilla High School

[More Information](#)

baseball and track. He made all state teams in football and was Gatorade Player of the year in Baseball. Currently, Chad has returned to Alaska where he is a teacher and Activities Director at Juneau-Douglas High School. He is the quintessential example of a hometown hero coming full circle – giving back to the community that raised him up. For more information on Chad Bentz and other inductees, please visit the Alaska High School Hall of Fame website at <http://alaskahalloffame.org>

Please take the time to nominate athletes, coaches, officials or others that have made significant contributions to high school activities in the State of Alaska. These nominations need to be received by December 1, 2016.

Sponsor Spotlight

Lavonne Norman, Director of Marketing

Alaska Commercial Company

Twenty years ago, ASAA welcomed the Alaska Commercial Company as one of its first major sponsors. The Alaska Commercial Company, Alaska's largest rural retailer, shares the same core values with ASAA to give all Alaska high school students the opportunity to participate in activities, reach their goals, and WIN FOR LIFE.

The Alaska Commercial Company's has developed a long-standing commitment to serve Alaska's rural communities. While rural Alaska has grown by leaps and bounds and each local AC store remains a vital center of local community life, AC's commitment to ASAA has also expanded. Many AC's employees volunteer their time to attend state championship events to help and be a visible part to support Alaska high school participants.

ASAA extends their congratulations to the store and it's employees as they begin to celebrate their 150th Year Anniversary in 2017.



Play for Keeps for Middle Schools

Dr. Teresa Johnson, Director of Student Services

Over the years, the ASAA office has received many requests asking how to help middle school aged children that make poor decisions. Some of the students are 8th graders already participating in sports while others are future participants. ASAA is pleased to share with you a new middle school addition to the Play for Keeps website. The new addition contains video vignettes, resources and activities. It is designed for administrators, coaches and parents. It can be used to hold students accountable, provide education and help students reflect on their decision making. As you review the site, please let us know of other needs you might have or suggestions to make the site more user friendly. Visit playforkeepsalaska.org to access the information.



Upcoming Events



ASAA FIRST NATIONAL BOWL SERIES FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 8, 14, 15 & 21, 2016

Palmer High School & AFS

[More Information](#)



ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA SWIM & DIVE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

November 4-5, 2016

Dimond Park Aquatic Center, Juneau

[More Information](#)



ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA 3A/4A VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov. 10-12, 2016

Alaska Airlines Center

[More Information](#)

AASG 2016 Fall Conference

Denise Greene-Wilkinson, AASG Executive Director



The Alaska Association of Student Governments' 2016 Fall Conference "Growing Dreamers Into Leaders" is being hosted by Wasilla High School October 13-15 at the Menard Sports Complex.

The conference will feature regional meetings, general assemblies, workshops, community explorations, service projects, and lots of fun exciting activities.

Conference registration is now open online at AASG.org. For additional information contact conference host Anthony Jensen at: anthony.jensen@matsuk12.us.

2016 XC Running State Championships Results

Sandi Wagner, Associate Director

123A Girls Individuals

1st - Briahna Gerlach, Glennallen
2nd - Megan Pitzman, Homer
3rd - Ruby Lindquist Seward

123A Boys Individuals

1st - Jacob Moos, Galena
2nd - Hunter Kratz, Seward
3rd - Blake Bennett, ACS

123A Girls Team Awards

1st - Homer
2nd - Grace Christian

123A Boys Team Awards

1st - Homer
2nd - Sitka

Academic Awards

123A Girls - Anchorage Christian
123A Boys - Bethel

4A Girls Individuals

1st - Sadie Tuckwood, Juneau-Douglas
2nd - Kendall Kramer, West Valley
3rd - Maggie Druckenmille, West Valley

4A Boys Individuals

1st - Gus Shumacher, Service
2nd - Finn Walker, West Anchorage
3rd - Keith Osowski, Kodiak

4A Girls Team Awards

1st - West Valley
2nd - Kenia Central

4A Boys Team Awards

1st - West Anchorage
2nd - West Valley

Academic Awards

4A Girls - Palmer
4A Boys - South Anchorage

Full results are available at <http://asaa.org/activities/cross-country-running/>

Upcoming Events



ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

November 17-18-19, 2016

East & West Anchorage High Schools

[More Information](#)



ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA 2A/MIX SIX VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

December 8-10, 2016

Dimond High School

[More Information](#)



ASAA/FIRST NATIONAL BANK ALASKA WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

December 16-17, 2016

Chugiak & Bartlett High School

[More Information](#)