



Florence's Jaisyion Payne. [PHOTOS BY DAN BUSEY/TIMESDAILY]



Deshler's Garrett Reid.



Brooks' Miles Warren.



Muscle Shoals' Gavin Parrish.



Central's Cole Wilcoxson.



Muscle Shoals' Neal Barker.

TIMESDAILY

2026 LARGE SCHOOL ALL-AREA BOYS BASKETBALL

FIRST-TEAM ALL-AREA

Garrett Reid, Deshler, Sr., G, 6-1

First-team Class 4A All-State and finalist for 4A player of the year. Finished with a 23.8-point average after upping his game in the playoffs. Scored 25.8 points per game in the postseason, reaching 30 points three times, to lead the Tigers to the state semifinals. Finished with seven 30-point games, highlighted by a 36-point effort in a one-point January loss to Hatton. Also grabbed 8.4 rebounds per game. Finished with 1,654 points in three years at Deshler. Three-time All-Area (in basketball). Was also All-State in football last fall and was the 4A baseball player of the year last spring. Samford baseball signee.

Jaisyion Payne, Florence, Jr., G, 5-11

Third-team Class 7A All-State. Was the leading scorer for the Falcons, who graduated four starters from last year's Class 7A runner-up team. Averaged 18.4 points with highs of 33 and 32 against Sparkman in January and Muscle Shoals in December, respectively. Was an 84% free-throw shooter. Set school records with 111 made 3-pointers and 313 3-point attempts.

Miles Warren, Brooks, Jr., G, 6-0

Class 4A All-State honorable mention. Also known as "High Scoring Miles Warren" after reaching 20 points in 17 games and double figures in 26 of 28. Dropped a high of 40 in a December victory over Hatton. Recorded two other 30-point nights, both in a three-day span at the Lauderdale County tournament. Had 30 in the championship, the first 30-point title-game effort since 2005. Made 86% of his free throws this season. Two-time All-Area.

KJ Cowan, Muscle Shoals, Sr., G, 6-3

Led the Trojans with a 15.2-point average on 61% shooting. Had eight games with at least 20 points, highlighted by a 32-point effort in a December loss to Homewood. Responsible for eight of Muscle Shoals' 20-point games this season. Helped Muscle Shoals record an 11th straight winning season.

Mason Holloway, Hamilton, Jr., G, 6-0

Scored 15.1 points per game with both of his top two games coming against Sulligent. Scored 27 in a December win and 26 in a November loss. Has scored 1,062 points over the last three seasons.

SECOND-TEAM ALL-AREA

Mason Tidwell, Loretto, Sr., G, 6-4

Averaged 23.1 points and 9.4 rebounds, helping lead the Mustangs to a second straight state semifinal appearance. Recorded two known 27-point games, hitting the mark in a December loss to Muscle Shoals and in a state quarterfinal win over East Nashville. Scored 1,931 career points and, according to Loretto, is the school's all-time leading scorer.

Gavin Parrish, Muscle Shoals, Jr., G, 5-11

Was Muscle Shoals' second-leading scoring threat, averaging 12.5 points. Set his season high with 25 points in a December win over Marshall County (Tennessee). Helped boost the Trojans through one stretch where they won 14 of 15 games.

Cole Wilcoxson, Central, Sr., G, 6-3

Finished with averages of 13.2 points and 3.7 assists. Reached 20 points three times. Hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to sink Brooks in mid-December.

Jayshod Pearson, Florence, Sr., G, 5-9

Averaged 10.1 points and 4.4 assists. Finished his career with 744 points and 341 assists. North Alabama football signee.

Keivay Foster, Muscle Shoals, Sr., F, 6-5

Posted averages of 9.7 points on 53% shooting and 6.8 rebounds. Recorded his season high for points with a 24-point effort in a December win at Deshler. Troy football signee.

FINAL RECORDS, TEAM AVERAGES, HONORABLE MENTION

| | W | L | PF | PA | Honorable mention |
|----------------------|----|----|------|------|----------------------------|
| Brooks | 21 | 9 | 51.5 | 43.2 | Tanner Bowns, Parker Murks |
| Central | 13 | 16 | 47.5 | 52.2 | |
| Deshler | 24 | 8 | 57.5 | 50.8 | |
| Florence | 9 | 21 | 53.2 | 60.8 | Taylen Jones |
| Haleyville | 14 | 17 | 48.0 | 50.4 | Palmer Wilson |
| Hamilton | 16 | 13 | 58.1 | 56.3 | Christian Shipp |
| Hatton | 20 | 10 | 49.1 | 49.3 | Tasean Love, Zairiyon Long |
| Lawrence Co. (Tenn.) | 6 | 23 | 48.8 | 58.3 | |
| Loretto | 20 | 11 | 51.0 | 47.1 | |
| Muscle Shoals | 19 | 9 | 57.9 | 51.8 | Jemarion Draper |
| Russellville | 6 | 20 | 43.2 | 52.9 | |
| Wilson | 15 | 12 | 47.9 | 47.7 | Cole Miller |

Compiled by A. Stacy Long in consultation with area coaches. Information requested but not received from Lawrence County (Tennessee) and Russellville.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Neal Barker, Muscle Shoals

Coaxed another successful year from the Trojans, despite yet another long-delayed start to the season. Muscle Shoals began its season four days after the football team lost in the playoffs and got off to a 2-5 start. The Trojans won 14 of their next 15 before qualifying for their third regional in four years and eighth in 11 seasons. Barker is 215-91 in 11 years at Muscle Shoals and 296-137 in 15 years overall.



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Hamilton's Mason Holloway.



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