



REAL TEXAS BAR-B-Q®

2023 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q State Volleyball Championships

Melrose Is Back On Top

For the 4th straight year, Melrose met up with Gateway Christian in the state championship final. In 2023, it was Melrose dominating the match. The Buffaloes took home the title at the Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Class A State Volleyball Championships. Melrose (24-3) dominated their rival Gateway Christian (23-5) in three sets 25-20, 25-15, and 25-22. It's the third title in four years for Melrose and their 9th overall. "These girls were hungry from start to finish, I'm so excited for them," said Melrose head coach Casey Jackson.



Texico Takes Another Title

After a three-year absence from their reign on top of the 2A Classification, Texico claimed another blue trophy. The Wolverines beat Tularosa (19-9) to win the 2023 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Class 2A State Volleyball Championships. Texico (23-4) was playing the final for the second straight season. The Wolverines won the first two sets 25-20 and 25-21, but dropped the third to the Wildcats 19-25. Texico closed it out in the fourth by a final count of 25-18 to win their 17th state championship, which is the most overall titles of any volleyball program in New Mexico. "We worked hard every day knowing the end goal is we wanted to be here in November and it feels fantastic," said Texico head coach Gabe Jones.



It's Back-to-Back Championships for St. Michael's

For the second straight year, St. Michael's finished the season with the state title. St. Michael's (24-3) beat district rival Santa Fe Indian School (21-6) to win the 2023 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Class 3A State Volleyball Championships. St. Michael's won the first two sets 25-21 and 25-20 and closed it out in the third 25-18. It's the second straight state championship for St. Michael's and third since 2018. "We've had a lot of pressure on us since last year when we won, but we went into this tournament with a lot of confidence and we've all been working really hard," said St. Michael's junior Marissa Sandoval-Moya



St. Pius X Takes Title as a #3 Seed

In the Class 4A final, rivals St Pius X (20-7) and Albuquerque Academy (17-10) went head-to-head for the championship. The Sartans dominated the matchup and claimed top honor at the 2023 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Class 4A State Volleyball Championships. St. Pius won the match in three sets (25-14, 25-16, 25-19). It's the first state title for St. Pius since 2019 and their 9th overall. "It's truly a blessing," said St. Pius X head coach Jordan Russell. "These kids worked so hard, they wanted this, and I couldn't be happier for this group."



Las Cruces Wins Long-Awaited State Title

In the closest final of the day at the Rio Rancho Event Center, Las Cruces defeated Cibola to take the title at the 2023 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Class 5A State Volleyball Championships. The top ranked Bulldawgs (26-2) won the first set 25-19 and battled out a 30-28 win against a competitive Cibola (21-7) squad in the second. Las Cruces dropped the third to the Cougars 22-25, but closed it out in four with a 25-21 score. It's their first state title since 2001 and sixth overall. "This has been our fourth final in the last 15 years and winning it is a testament to the work we've put in," said Las Cruces head coach Keith Leupold.



