



2018 State Softball Championships

Dexter Wins Fourth Straight Blue Trophies

The Dexter Demons (27-3) defeated the Loving Falcons (23-7) in the 2018 NMAA State A/3A Softball Championships, 4-1, to capture their fourth straight softball state title.

The Demons' pitcher, Bryana Munoz, pitched a complete game allowing one run on three hits, three earned. She walked one batter, while striking out 10. At the plate, Dexter was led by Aryana Munoz, who was 3-for-3 on the day with a single, a double and a triple, scoring one run.

Loving got on the scoreboard first off a solo homerun by Lorisa Martinez, holding a 1-0 lead after the top of the first.

It didn't take Dexter long though to respond with three runs in the bottom of the first, taking a 3-1 lead. A double by Bryana Munoz started the inning. Aryana Munoz then tripled to score Bryana from second and double by Danique Blankvoort scored Aryana to make it 2-1. Danique Blankvoort then scored on a single by Marlou Blankvoort to make it 3-1 after the first.

Over the next four innings of play, neither team could push a run across home plate, as both team combined for just four hits.

Then in the bottom of the sixth Dexter's Kelsey Strie doubled to start the inning, advancing to third on a sac bunt by teammate Kassandra Madrid. Strie then scored on a pass ball, making it 4-1, Demons.

In the top of the seventh, Loving's Anyssa Rodriguez singled and advanced to second on a pass ball. But pitcher, Bryana Munoz struck out the next three batters to end the game and give Dexter the 2018 championship.



Silver Earned Eighth Straight Softball Championship

The Silver Fighting Colts (26-4) won their eighth straight softball championship with a 13- win over the Bernalillo Spartans (25-6) at the 2018 NMAA State 4A Softball Championships. The win marked the 11th time in program history that the Fighting Colts hoisted the blue trophy overhead.

Kamryan Trujillo led the way for the Fighting Colts from the pitching circle, throwing a complete game, allowing one run on three hits and striking out seven batters.

Silver grabbed a quick 3-0 lead in the top of the first. Zoe Abeyta and Kiana Mendoza each singled to start the inning. Both runners scored on a triple by Ajia Richard, making it 2-0. Richard then scored sac fly to make it 3-0.

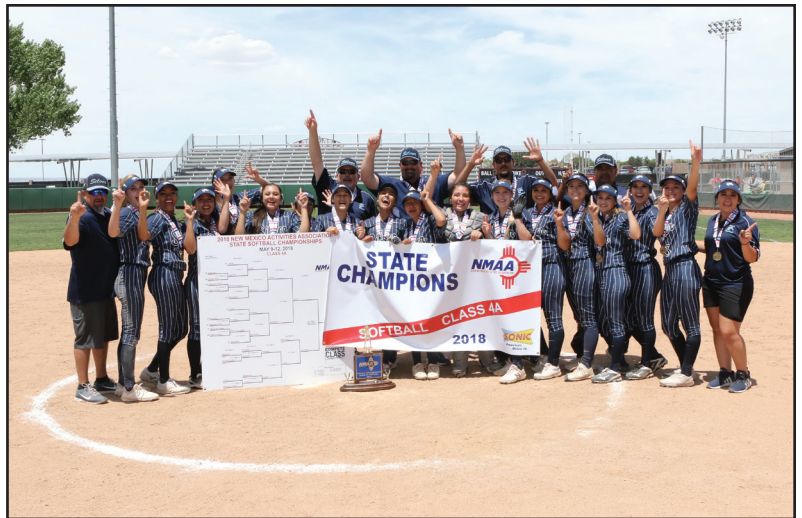
The Fighting Colts added five more in the top of the second to extend their lead to 8-0 and then one more run in the top of third to take a 9-0 lead.

Bernalillo managed to squeeze a run across the plate in the bottom of the third, as Julia Beyale doubled and then

scored off a single by Gaby Montoya, making it 9-1.

A single, a double and a triple in the top of the fourth by Silver helped push four more runs across the plate, extending the lead to 13-1.

The Fighting Colts' defense would then shut down Bernalillo in the bottom of the fifth 1-2-3, as Silver hoisted the blue trophy for the eighth straight year.



Artesia Hoists Blue Trophy for First Time Since 2001

In the 2018 NMAA State 5A Softball Championship game, the Artesia Bulldogs (29-4) beat the Farmington Scorpions (20-11-1), 13-0, to earn the school's fifth state title in the sport of softball and the first since 2001.

The Bulldogs forced an "if game" with the Scorpions earlier in the day, winning 13-0. The two teams faced each other three times in the championships, as Farmington beat Artesia earlier in the second round, 4-2.

The Bulldogs' Kali Crandall pitched a complete game, allowing no runs on two hits, walking one batter and striking out six.

Artesia got on the scoreboard first with a big seven run second inning, highlighted by a three-run homerun by Gabrielle Gomez. The Bulldogs had five hits in the inning.

The Bulldogs added two more in the top of the fourth on a two-run homerun by Kali Crandall, making it 9-0. Then in the top of the fifth, Artesia extended the lead again with four run this time, with triple by Chanler Groves and Adrianna Baeza.

The Scorpions would go down 1-2-3 in the bottom of the fifth, as Artesia captured the 2018 5A State Softball title.



Las Cruces Captures Second-Ever State Softball Title

For the first time since 2013, the Las Cruces Bulldawgs (21-11) hoisted the blue trophy with a 12-2 win over the Volcano Vista Hawks (21-7) at the 2018 NMAA State 6A Softball Championships. This was the second state championship in the sport of softball for Las Cruces.

The Bulldawgs' starter, Anisah Triste, pitched a complete game, allowing two runs on seven hits, while striking out seven.

The Bulldawgs forced an "if game" with the Hawks earlier in the day with an 8-6 victory.

Following a scoreless first inning, Las Cruces put one run on the board, following a walk by Anali Rios. Rios would

score on a fielder's choice three batters later to give the Bulldogs a 1-0 lead. Volcano would threaten in the bottom of the second but could not push a run across the plate, as the score remained 1-0 after two.

Las Cruces then added three more in the top of the third, highlighted by a leadoff homerun from Heaven Pioquinto, giving the Bulldogs a 4-0 lead.

A double by Anisah Triste in the top of the fifth gave Las Cruces a runner in scoring position with no outs. Triste then scored on a single by Brooklyn Monsivaiz, as the Bulldogs extended their lead to 5-0. Volcano Vista answered in the bottom of the fifth with a homerun by Jacklyn Gallegos to start the inning. Jaden Encinas then doubled and scored one batter later on a single by Bella Mendoza, making it a 5-2 lead for Las Cruces.

The Bulldogs' firepower was too much for the Hawks, as Las Cruces added seven more runs over the next two innings to take a commanding 12-2 lead, putting the game out of reach and giving Las Cruces the 2018 6A Championship.

