



**REAL TEXAS BAR-B-Q®**

## 2020-2021 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q State Volley Championships

### Melrose Captures 1A Volleyball Title

Melrose wouldn't let one game set them back as the Buffaloes rallied to win the Class 1A title at the 2020-2021 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Volleyball State Championships. Melrose met up with Gateway Christian in the final. It was the first time they had met in this shortened season. The Warriors won the first game 13-25, but Melrose went on to take the next three 25-18, 25-15 and a hard-fought 26-24. It was the first state title for Melrose since 2017, who has played in a final each of the last seven years. "I'm so excited for this team," said Melrose head coach Casey Jackson.

"They came in at the start of the year with their pods of four, not knowing if they were going to get a season and they still worked and kept a positive mindset and I'm so proud of them."



### Cloudcroft Wins First 2A Volleyball Championship

The first trip to the state championship match turned out to be a memorable one for the Cloudcroft Lady Bears. Cloudcroft took down a six-time state champion in the Class 2A final. Cloudcroft defeated traditional powerhouse Texico 16-25, 25-21, 15-25, 25-11 and 15-5 to win their first ever state volleyball title. The Lady Bears didn't let losing two of the first three games take their focus off their goal of lifting the blue trophy. "It took trust and more confidence than we had in the beginning," said senior Ajia Hughes. Cloudcroft finished the season with a perfect 17-0 record.



## Sandia Prep Back On Top of the 3A Volleyball World

Sandia Prep started strong and finished strong to end the season on top and win the 2020-2021 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Class 3A Volleyball State Championship. The Sundevils (13-1) beat top seed Socorro (14-1) in the final 25-14, 25-21 and 25-21. Sandia Prep scored the first six points of the match and then seven of the last eight points to clinch the title. It's Sandia Prep's first blue trophy since 2017. "We lost in the final two years ago, so this is my dream," said junior Haley Feuerherd. "We came in with a lot of energy and excitement and I think that carried us through to the very end."



## ABQ Academy Wins Title for 1st Time Since 1998

The Albuquerque Academy Chargers won their first volleyball state championship since 1998 in beating top-seed Goddard in the final of the Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Class 4A State Volleyball State Championships. The Chargers won the first match 25-20. The Rockets (12-1) jumped out to a 21-14 lead in game two, but Academy rallied to outscore Goddard 11-1 to take a 2-0 lead in the match. The Chargers closed it out with a 25-15 deciding third-game. "They had us on our heels, but we talked about keeping our composure and battling," said Academy head coach Maribeth Dvorak. "I had eight returners from last year's state runner up team and they were hungry for it since the championship last year and I'm happy they had the opportunity to play this season because I knew they could win state." Senior Lauren Keller had 16 kills on the day as the Chargers wrapped up the season with a 12-1 record.





## Centennial Captures 5A Volleyball Blue Trophy

Centennial didn't waste much time in claiming the Class 5A title at the 2020-2021 Rudy's Real Texas Bar-B-Q Volleyball State Championships. Centennial (14-0) swept top seed Santa Fe (10-2) in three games 25-14, 25-20 and 25-9. It's the first state championship for the Hawks since 2016, who also played in the title game in 2017 and 2019. This is the fifth state title for head coach Al Rosen. "This is a special group with eight seniors and to have this season that might not have even happened is something special," said Rosen. "We didn't even get to start the year in our own gym because the facility didn't have the right air filters. We had to practice outdoors and at a middle school and now to stand here with the championship trophy is amazing."

