

FIRST TEAM

JAZZY OWENS-BARNETT

G, Liberty, Jr.

Regarded as one of the most clutch players in the state, Owens-Barnett has been a focal point in the Redhawks reaching three straight 5A championship games. A three-time all-district selection and a 9-5A first-team honoree this season, as well as an all-state pick once again, Owens-Barnett led Liberty in scoring at nearly 15 points per game, but it is the intangible qualities she brings to the court where she truly stands out.



MACKENZIE BUSS

G, Lake Dallas, Jr.

After a knee injury forced her to miss all of her sophomore season, Buss returned to form this season and scooped up co-district MVP in 6-5A as well as a spot on both the TGCA and TABC all-state basketball teams. Buss handed the keys to the Lake Dallas offense and ran with it -- averaging 15.3 points and 6.0 rebounds per game, she guided the 14th-ranked team in 5A to a perfect 14-0 record in 6-5A and an appearance in the regional quarterfinals.



BRINLEY ANDREWS

G, Sunnyvale, Jr.

The Raiders have been a perennial power in Class 4A in recent years and this season was no exception, as they posted a 26-2 record and captured their ninth district championship in the last decade. Andrews led the way and was named 13-4A co-MVP alongside teammate Takoya Stallings. Andrews, a Texas Association of Basketball Coaches all-Region 2 selection, recorded 17.1 points, 3.0 rebounds and 3.2 steals per game.



LEILA PATEL

F, Centennial, Sr.

There are a lot of talented players and several strong teams in 9-5A, but Patel was recognized as the district MVP. Patel helped Centennial navigate the 9-5A terrain to earn the fourth seed in the playoffs as one of the top scorers in the area, averaging 20.5 points overall and upping that to 22.5 points per game in district. The all-state honoree was also active on the boards, recording 4.6 rebounds per contest, and is a solid passer and defender.



JAIDA SHIPP

F, Newman Smith, Jr.

The Lady Trojans earned a share of the 11-5A championship thanks in no small part to the work of their anchor on the inside. Despite playing her junior season with a torn labrum in her hip, Shipp nearly averaged a double-double at 15.7 points and 9.7 rebounds while chipping in 2.8 blocks, 2.5 steals and 2.3 assists for a Smith team that advanced to the area round of the playoffs.



MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

JASMINE SHAVERS

Mesquite Horn, Sr.

Shavers put together one of the most decorated high school careers of any player in the state, capped by this season's 10-6A most valuable player campaign.

A four-time first-team all-district honoree, Shavers made an immediate impact as a freshman, averaging 8.1 points per game, and bumped that to 13.4 points in her sophomore season.

A year ago, she was named offensive player of the year after recording 18.9 points, 5.6 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 3.5 steals per contest.

Shavers saved her best for last as she was one of the top scorers in Texas, tallying 26.0 points per game, to go along with 5.4 rebounds,

4.0 steals and 2.2 assists as she was named TGCA first-team all-state for the second time.

Shavers' star shined brightest when the Jaguars needed her most. On the final day of the regular season, she poured in 27 points to help lead Horn to a 58-46 victory over Tyler Legacy as they nabbed the No. 1 seed in the playoffs.

Shavers followed that up by scoring 40 points in the playoff-opening win against Garland and then tallied 30 in the area finals in a loss to Duncanville.

Considered one of the top recruits in the country, the four-star Shavers signed with Mississippi State over several other national offers.



STAR LOCAL MEDIA

ALL-AREA

2020-21

ALL-AREA GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

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OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

AMARACHI KIMPSON

Little Elm, Soph.

The Little Elm girls basketball team made the jump from Class 5A to 6A this season. But, that didn't slow Kimpson.

Playing against the likes of Allen and Denton Guyer, Kimpson lit up the scoreboard on a nightly basis.

In Little Elm's first matchup this season against state-ranked Allen on Dec. 22, she scored 21 points on 7-of-14 shooting from the field. Her highest point total in a game was 31, which occurred Jan. 5 in a 56-38 rout of McKinney Boyd.

Scoring outputs like those were common for Kimpson. She's as consistent as they come. In a season in which she averaged a whopping 23.7 points per game, Kimpson used a combination of speed and quick hands to score at least 20 points in 17 of the 21 games that Little Elm played this season.



Coaches from across the state took notice of Kimpson's knack to put the ball in the basket and recently rewarded her with a selection onto the Texas Girls Coaches Association all-state team for Class 6A. The recognition also branched down to the local level where she was named the 5-6A offensive player of the year by the other coaches in Little Elm's district.

The gaudy numbers that Kimpson put up this season is a carryover from a sensational freshman season on the hardwood.

Kimpson led the Lady Lobos to the postseason during the 2019-20 season after averaging 19 points per game, claiming newcomer of the year honors in 8-5A as well as a selection onto the Region 1-5A team by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.

SECOND TEAM

KYLA DECK

G, Lone Star, Jr.

Deck helped the Rangers scale the 9-5A mountain to win the district title, compiling an impressive 17-1 record. Named the district's offensive player of the year, Deck, who poured in a season-high 30 points in a second-round playoff win over South Oak Cliff, averaged 15.5 points, 6.0 rebounds and 2.4 assists per game. In addition to her district accolades, Deck was also named to the TGCA all-region and all-state teams.



DONAVIA HALL

G, Plano East, Jr.

Any player in the Lady Panthers' rotation was capable of leading the team in scoring on a given night. No matter her role, Hall made an impact as one of the area's most versatile players. She averaged 10.6 points, 5.1 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 3.1 steals — all of which ranked first or second on the team — and was named 6-6A's MVP after leading East to a district title.



CRISLYN ROSE

G, Sachse, Soph.

The Mustangs were one of the youngest teams in the area, and the sophomore guard stepped into a leadership role. The district newcomer of the year as a freshman, Rose was selected as the 9-6A offensive player of the year, as she led the Mustangs in scoring at 14.4 points per game, tallied 2.6 rebounds per contest and also ranked among the leaders in several other categories.



LAILA LAWRENCE

F, Lewisville, Sr.

For the third time in four years on varsity, Lawrence received an all-district superlative. From newcomer of the year as a freshman to defensive player of the year as a junior, Lawrence rounded out her decorated Lewisville career as 6-6A offensive player of the year, and for good reason. She averaged 17.1 points and 9.1 rebounds to lead the Lady Farmers back to the playoffs.



JORJA ELLIOTT

F, Lake Dallas, Jr.

Elliott provided versatility for the Lady Falcons — an exceptional ball handler and 3-point shooter who used her 6-foot frame to battle in the paint for rebounds. Elliott finished tied for the team lead in scoring (15.3 points per game) to go along with 5.3 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 2.2 deflections. She averaged 2.1 made 3-pointers and one steal per contest. Coaches from across the state recognized her efforts on the hardwood and gave her a spot on all-state teams for both the TGCA and TABC.



DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

IDARA UDO

Plano East, Soph.

East did so thanks to a high-energy approach on defense, routinely pressing and trapping opponents to generate turnovers and transition baskets. If opponents managed to survive that wave of pressure, the last line of defense typically meant having to get past Udo — a proposition that the East sophomore post won more often than not.

Udo, who started for stretches of her freshman year, made strides during her second varsity campaign. She fortified the Lady Panthers in the paint on both ends of the floor en route to receiving 6-6A defensive player of the year honors.

Udo averaged 8.3 points, 6.1 rebounds, 1.0 steals, 1.1 deflections and 0.9 blocks per game. At 6 feet tall, her length routinely altered opponents' shots at the rim. Coupled with agility that allowed her to guard multiple positions and even extend to the perimeter, Udo's defense cleaned up plenty for an East group ran the table in District 6-6A and advanced to the regional finals.

The Lady Panthers were among the top defensive teams in the state, holding all but one opponent under 50 points for the season and surrendering just 39.7 points per game overall.

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NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

KAELYN HAMILTON

McKinney North, Fr.

In no sense did Hamilton have a typical freshman year.

In the case of most student-athletes talented enough to crack the varsity level as a freshman, that first year is mostly about learning the ropes and acclimating to the change brought on by competing at the highest level offered in high school sports.

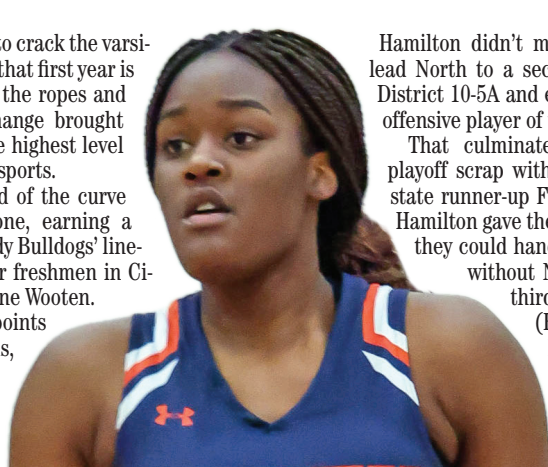
Hamilton was ahead of the curve in more ways than one, earning a starting spot in the Lady Bulldogs' lineup alongside two other freshmen in Ciara Harris and Cheyenne Wooten.

She averaged 12.4 points per game, 5.7 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 2.0 steals on the year — tasked with taking the reins of North's

offense midway through the season following the abrupt departure of leading scorer Amaria Fields.

Hamilton didn't miss a beat, helping lead North to a second-place finish in District 10-5A and earning the league's offensive player of the year award.

That culminated in a bi-district playoff scrap with eventual Class 5A state runner-up Frisco Liberty where Hamilton gave the Lady Redhawks all they could handle. Despite playing without North's second- and third-leading scorers (Harris and Wooten), Hamilton torched Liberty for 17 points in a 29-27 loss.



JESSICA LINSON

Plano East

Linson's time at East has been brief, recently concluding just her second year with the program. In that short time, however, the Lady Panthers have enjoyed the kind of success not seen around the program for nearly three decades.

East made as significant a leap as any girls basketball team in the state during the 2020-21 season, totaling a 20-4 record that included a 14-0 sweep of District 6-6A and a playoff run that spanned five rounds — matching the Lady Panthers' deepest postseason trek ever with their first trip to the regional finals since 1993.

Named 6-6A's coach of the year, Linson laid the groundwork for East's suc-



cess early into her first season at the helm. She entrusted nearly all of the minutes in her rotation to a deep, talented cast of underclassmen — working through any initial growing pains and revamping the program's culture.

After glimpses of her team's potential in 2020, including a trip to the second round, Linson's Lady Panthers took off in 2020-21. They rode a defense-first mindset, something Linson nurtured by expanding on the team's defensive concepts in her second year at East, and wound up holding opponents to less than 40 points per game this season.

The requisite postseason success followed, and with the team's entire starting five returning for their third year together under Linson, brighter pastures may not be too far away for East.

SIXTH WOMAN OF THE YEAR

LILY ZIEMKIWICZ

Frisco Liberty, Sr.

No local team has achieved more during the last three seasons than the Redhawks, who qualified for three consecutive state championship games, highlighted by winning the Class 5A title in 2019-2020.

Ziemkiewicz has been a big key to that success, especially in the last two campaigns.

She was named the Star Local Media Sixth Woman of the Year as a junior and a big reason was her ability to rise to the occasion in big moments.

One of the best outside shooters around, Ziemkiewicz delivered numerous big shots during the

title run, including an 11-point outing in a triple overtime win over Midlothian in the regional finals and a 16-point performance in the state semifinals against College Station.

She picked up where she left off for her senior campaign and was voted as the 9-5A co-sixth woman of the year.

Ziemkiewicz, a member of the TGCA all-state team, also once again played a pivotal role in the postseason.

After finishing third in district, Liberty saved its best for last, embarking on another run to the title game.

In addition to being a key member of the Redhawks' stifling defense, Ziemkiewicz also delivered offensively, most notably in the state semifinals, when she tallied a team-high 15 points in their 39-37 overtime win over Lubbock Cooper in the state semifinals.

