

## NEWS FROM TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF BOYS - BI-DISTRICT CHAMPIONS NAMED 2013 NATIONAL DEAF BASKETBALL TEAM OF THE YEAR

**Austin, Texas – February 27, 2013** Following a remarkable season with 19 wins and a Bi-District Championship in the Texas TAPPS Division, sports editor, Barry Strassler, today named the Texas School for the Deaf (TSD) Rangers [DeafDigest Sports](#)' 2013 Boys Basketball Team of the Year.

On the road to the Texas' TAPPS Division state play-offs, the Rangers – for the first time since 1993-94 – advanced to the area game and pulled it out with a winning shot at the buzzer against Giddings State School, placing second in the 2013 SoCo Classic invitational tournament. TSD took second place in District, beating Brentwood Christian in a tiebreaker, and then walked over Bracken Christian to advance to the state finals.

In 2012-2013, among other schools for the Deaf, TSD prevailed at home against southwest rivals at the 2012 Ranger Classic, showing great strength and amazing teamwork on the court.

TSD Head Coach, Chris Hamilton, gives all the credit to the players. "I must extend kudos to the team for believing in themselves enough to play hard in every game, he said. We are 100% a different team from what we started out with. I'm amazed at how strong they played all season long, and every player contributed to the success in this season.

Also, he acknowledges his assistant coaches. "I also am fortunate to have such outstanding assistant coaches - Marwan Elrakabawy and RJ Kaufman – who worked so hard and believed in this team as much as I do. Hamilton adds, I truly tip my hat off to them as well.

It's an honor to be named Team of the Year, Hamilton says. Strassler has followed Deaf schools' athletics closely for many years, and the Deaf community respects his extreme knowledge of sports, so this is something that means a lot to us," adds Hamilton.

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### ABOUT THE TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF (TSD)

The Texas School for the Deaf is the oldest continuously operating public school in Texas. Educating students of Texas who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing since 1856, the campus also provides outreach and educational resources for students, their families, and professionals in the field throughout the state of Texas. With educational excellence and a strong belief in a culture and community at TSD, students form a unique identity based on their individual strengths and talents, is an environment where they learn, grow, and belong. For more information about the Texas School for the Deaf, visit <http://www.tsd.state.tx.us/>. To follow TSD high school sports, visit <http://www.tsd.state.tx.us/athletics>.

### ABOUT DEAF DIGEST SPORTS

Recognizing national athletic accomplishments among schools for the Deaf beginning in 2009, Barry Strassler, editor and publisher at DeafDigest and DeafDigest Sports has made sports a lifetime passion. Strassler has a history of bestowing these athletic honors since 1986. Follow Strassler and his blogs featuring America's Unique Deaf Stories at: <http://deafdigest.net/>, and Sports for Deaf at: <http://deafdigestsports.com/>

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