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Skyline is 5-A's top program

Five titles: Eagles' football championship led the way

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Skyline doesn't have the enrollment to match most Class 5-A schools. But when it comes to competing in sports, few teams can match the Eagles' success.

Skyline is *The Salt Lake Tribune's* Class 5-A Sports School of the Year after winning state championships in football, boys' and girls' swimming, girls' basketball and girls' tennis. The award, in its ninth year, goes to the Eagles for the third time.

Most of the other award winners know what it's like to win a Sports School of the Year honor. Mountain Crest is 4-A's winner for the second time, 3-A's Judge Memorial picks up its fourth straight award and Panguitch is the 1-A winner for the seventh time. Only 2-A's Grand is a first-time winner this year.

The Sports School of the Year honor is not based on a set formula, but is chosen by the *Tribune* high school sports staff with emphasis on the number of championships won in the top spectator sports such as football, boys' and girls' basketball, wrestling and volleyball. Championships from all sports sanctioned by the Utah High School Activities Association are used as determining factors.

Class 5-A: Skyline's five championships led the state. Interestingly, the Eagles probably wrapped up the Sports School of the Year award when they beat Brighton in the 5-A championship football game.

The Bengals also had a great year with state championships in boys' tennis and girls' soccer and second-place finishes in football and boys' soccer.

The rest of the championships in 5-A were spread out. Mountain View was the only other multiple-title winner, as it won boys' track and boys' cross country.

Class 4-A: State championships were distributed fairly evenly in 4-A, and Mountain Crest edged the pack with titles in football, wrestling and girls' cross country.

The Mustangs had a football season to remember. They made the rest of the state take notice by whipping Bountiful in the regular season. Mountain Crest then won its second football championship in five years by beating Cottonwood and Highland in consecutive weeks. Mountain Crest also dominated the 4-A wrestling meet and won the girls' cross country meet by a comfortable margin.

Class 3-A: Judge and Park City each won four state championships, but the edge goes to the Bulldogs in the Sports School of the Year competition. Out of the eight championships between the two schools, Judge had the most noteworthy title in boys' basketball.

Few teams dominated their sport like the Bulldogs' boys' basketball team. Judge opened the season at No. 1 and stayed there until it won its first state title in 26 years. The Bulldogs also won state championships in boys' cross country, girls' swimming and girls' track.

Class 2-A: When it came to distributing championships, the state's smallest classification was filled with parity.

Grand, Richfield, San Juan and North Sevier each won two championships.

The Red Devils, however, receive the annual award based on how they fared in spectator sports, as well as the improvements of the school's athletic programs in general. Grand won its first football and girls track championships. The Red Devils also had good seasons in golf, girls' cross country and boys' track.

Class 1-A: Panguitch led 1-A with state championships in baseball, boys' track and girls' basketball. The Bobcats' girls' track team took second. The Bobcats have been crowned the Sports School of the Year more times (seven) than any other school in the nine-year history of the award. Rich was the only other 1-A school to receive consideration for the award.