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[Sports](#)

Maidens again class of pool

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By Mike Cabrey

Staff Writer

After a one-year hiatus, the North Penn girls water polo team again became the queens of the pool last Saturday.

The Maidens claimed their second state title in three years — the first since 2006 — by sweeping Pool A play, then defeating Wilson 6-4 in the finals of the State Championship at Cumberland Valley High School.

"The girls played exceptionally well," North Penn coach Bill Bartle said. "... It was very competitive tournament and we were fortunate to come out on top."



The final was the rubber match between NP and the Bulldogs after the two teams traded wins earlier in the season.

The Maidens won at the Beast of the East 8-7 on Sept, while Wilson won 6-5 in six overtimes at the Bulldog Bash on Oct. 25.

In last Saturday's matchup, it was the Maiden defense that made the difference, as North Penn held Wilson to half their average.

"No question our girls realized if we played a very sold defensive gam they had an excellent shot on winning,"

Bartle said. "And they did that."

Heather Fellmeth scored three goals in the victory, which Bartle said was helped by the calm attitude the team had going into the game.

"I'm not saying they were overconfident, but they were re

laxed," he said. "they had reach the goal of getting to the final and the rest was icing on the cake. They played relaxed and I think it went a long way in winning the championship."

It was close to being an all-local final, but Souderton fell to Wilson 10-9 in double overtime in each team's final Pool B contest.

Down a goal in the first overtime, Big Red goalkeeper Missy Doll kept Souderton's championship hopes alive with a pool-length score to even the game.

"It was the shot of the tournament," Souderton coach Bill Hence said. "The place went nuts."

Wilson would grab victory in the next period, but the Indians rebounded to best Governor Mifflin 3-2 to take third place.

"The fact they came back and won the Third Place Game — I was proud of them."

Doll, a junior, was named 2008 Miss Water Polo, becoming the first Souderton girls player to earn the honor since Jackie Pyrz in 2004.

"(Doll) was just a rock," Hence said. "She was so consistent and so good. You almost take for granted how good she was."

Doll was also an All-State First Team selection, as was Souderton's Paige Whitmire and Julia Penkal and North Penn's Fellmeth and Shelby Rinker.

The Maiden's Erin Meingossner and Georgia Simcox made the second team, with Lauren Peachey of Souderton joining them. Selected to the third team were the Indians' Arielle Fry and North Penn's Sam Deana and Caley Britton.

Hence stated that he thought Souderton's Rachel Peddie and Katie Curzon were also deserving of all-state honors.

Bartle was chosen as the state's Coach of the Year.

"When you have six girls that were all-state, it's pretty easy to be Coach of the Year," Bartle said.

Hence had kind words for North Penn and its victory at the State Championship.

"Congratulations to them," he said. "First class program deserving of a title."

Girls State Championship

Friday, Oct. 31

Pool A

Governor Mifflin 6, McDowell 5

North Penn 11, Wyoming Valley West 4

Pool B

Wilson 11, Cumberland Valley 5

Souderton 13, North Allegheny 3

Saturday, Nov. 1

Pool A

Governor Mifflin 9, Wyoming Valley West 2

North Penn 6, McDowell 2

McDowell 1, Wyoming Valley West 2

North Penn 6, Governor Mifflin 4

Pool B

Wilson 9, North Allegheny 2

Souderton 12, Cumberland Valley 7

Cumberland Valley 13, North Allegheny 7

Wilson 10, Souderton 9

Seventh Place Game

Wyoming Valley West 12, North Allegheny 8

Fifth Place Game

Cumberland Valley 7, McDowell 6

Third Place Game

Souderton 3, Governor Mifflin 2

Championship Game

North Penn 6, Wilson 4

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