
April 2018



Third in the Nation:

Ever since the season began, and ever since we got invited to the DIII NWBA National Tournament, we had three objectives going into it: win the championship, represent the greater Triangle area with dignity and class, and earn the respect and recognition of our competition and the NWBA as well. While we did not accomplish all of our goals, we managed to complete two of them.

We were the seven seed at Nationals. On the first day of the tournament, we came out victorious in our first two games, beating the ten seed Brooklyn Nets and the two seed Houston Hotwheels. Our win against the Hotwheels drew the attention of the NWBA; according to an [article](#) written by Pasha Zolfaghari of the NWBA, our win against the Hotwheels was “the most impressive upset” of the first day of the tournament.

On the second day of Nationals, we played the RHI Pacers in the final four. We fought valiantly, but ultimately came up short against them. (The Pacers went on to play in and win the finals against the Harrisonburg Cardinals.)

On the last day of Nationals, we played the one seed Connecticut Spokebenders for third place. We defeated them soundly, earning third place for the first time ever.

Additionally, three of our players received the honor of being named to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd All-Tournament teams. Tee Foster was part of the 1st All-Tournament team; Chris Rivera was part of the 2nd All-Tournament team; Miles Hill was part of the 3rd All-Tournament team.

We would like to thank all our donors who contributed to our GoFundMe page, assisting us in going to Nationals! (See page three.)

Upcoming Events

Birthdays:
Francisco Gamez (4/12)

Important Announcements

We would like to congratulate one of our players, Travis Smith, for he and his wife, Theresa Smith, gave birth to their son, Royce Smith, on April 14th! Royce was born at 1:03 pm at UNC-Chapel Hill. He is 8 pounds and 5 ounces, and he is 21.25 inches long.

We would also like to give praise to Miles Hill for getting accepted into, and receiving a partial scholarship at, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign! He will be playing for the university’s wheelchair basketball team in the fall of this year.

The Triangle Thunder is a competitive and recreational wheelchair basketball team representing the Greater Triangle Area Community. We provide opportunities for men and women with a variety of disabilities to become involved in the sport of wheelchair basketball. Our goal is to foster each participant’s well-being through vigorous physical exercise, skill formation, and healthy fellowship with other persons with disabilities.

Important Websites:

<http://trianglethunder.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/trianglethunder/>

Thank you to our main sponsors! We would not be able to play the sport that we love in the city that we love without their help!



We would also like to thank and recognize our other supporters for assisting us in achieving our goals:

Stalls Medical and Adaptive Vans Inc.
Wilmington Medical Supply Inc.
Village Deli and Grill
Ray Price Harley Davidson-Raleigh
Simple Twist Café
Brett Herrmann from State Farm
Tee Foster
William and Patty Smith
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Harry and Susan Linzer
Jim and Susan Parker
Shea Serrano and his Twitter followers
Dan Hudgins from Johnson's Jewelry of Raleigh

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We would also like to take the time to thank and recognize our GoFundMe donors! Without each and every one of them, we would have not been able to go to Nationals and represent the greater Triangle area:

**Deborah Pergerson
Anna Kouba
Gloria Johnson
Mary Christy
Michael Brown
Michele Cerrentani
George Lally
Mark Turnpenny
Kathy Lewis
Tara Barber
Anthony Roberts
Patrick Watters
Joseph Ng
Patricia Dodenhoff
Brian Dautel
Charles Strickland
Jennifer Webster
Jean Plow
Amy Roberts
Lynn Stewart Kester
Gary and Ann Marie Weaver
Sandra Locklear
Tim Shaughnessy
Shanon Linzer
Brian Pizzalato
James Garneau
Michael Olin
Margaret Taylor**

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