

## **Hudson Raider Caitlin Cravens Brings Home the Hardware from National Championships**

A total of 275 teams from 26 states participated in the 2018 Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) and Scholastic Action Shooting Program (SASP) national championships July 14- 21 in Marengo, Ohio. Over 2,700 athletes, including 26 members of the Hudson Raider Shooting Team, participated with over 1.25 million competition shots fired during the eight days of competition. Athletes competed in trap, doubles trap, handicap trap, skeet, doubles skeet, sporting clays, bunker trap, action pistol and action rifle events. Many athletes shot multiple events translating to almost 7,000 total event entries for the eight day competition.

Caitlin Cravens of the Hudson Raiders Shooting Team's Senior/JV division earned a second place medal for shooting 194/200 targets in 16 yard trap in the ladies JV division. Cravens also medaled in the ladies JV division handicap trap event, placing third by breaking 170/200 targets. Cravens placed sixth in the ladies JV division doubles trap event (144/200) and ninth in the doubles skeet event (78/100).



**Caitlin Cravens with coach and dad Mike Cravens earned second place in 16 yard trap and third in handicap trap.**

In the clay target events, the Hudson Raiders came in 11<sup>th</sup> overall out of 23 teams in the high school division based on the top combined scores from trap, skeet and sporting clays, shooting a total of 2,678 targets. In 16 yard trap, Hudson's Intermediate/Entry squad consisting of Nathan Teufer (186/100), Gabriel Stolz (180/200), Jacob Stolz (175/200), Jackson Melloy (164/200), and Lauren Kern (158/200) placed eighth. Out of the 26 Raiders competing at Nationals, 16 posted perfect scores in 16 yard trap to include Alex Giebler with 75 straight. Giebler shot an impressive 99/100 on the second day of the trap competition and ended up with 193/200. Cravens, Brandon Kern and Jake McCorkel all shot 50 straight. Posting perfect rounds of 25 straight included Brandon Armstrong, Cravens, Claire Diethert, Meghan Ford, Giebler, Shane Kraft, McCorkel, Tyler Melloy (2 perfect rounds), Jordan Persinger (2 perfect rounds), Alan Phillipps, Gabriel Stolz, Nathan Teufer, Colin Thorpe, Garrett Wood and Kiera Wood (2 perfect rounds). Armstrong also posted 2 perfect rounds in skeet.

At the Senior/JV level, the squad consisting of Armstrong, Cravens, Trevor Cochrane, Garrett Wood and Dan Lawton placed fourth in both doubles trap and handicap trap. In doubles skeet, the JV squad made up of Armstrong, Cravens and Cochrane came in ninth.

Two squads also competed in the in the pistol/rifle competition governed by the SASP. This year's event was the largest youth action shooting event in the world and the largest steel match in history. The JV squad consisting of Armstrong, Cravens, Cochrane and Garrett Wood finished first in pistol carbine in their division and came in fifth overall in the senior division. This squad also finished third in the JV division in iron sighted rifle. Individually in the top ten, Kiera Wood of the Senior/Varsity division was fifth in carbine pistol and eighth in optic sighted rifle in the Varsity ladies division. Overall in the ladies division, Wood was eighth in pistol carbine and tenth in optic sighted rifle. Cravens was second in carbine pistol and fifth in iron sighted rifle for JV ladies. In the JV men's pistol carbine event Garrett Wood was fourth, Cochrane was fifth and Armstrong was tenth. Armstrong was also ninth in JV optic sighted rifle.

Representing Wisconsin as the flagbearer in the opening ceremonies was Tyler Melloy of Hudson's Senior/Varsity division. Melloy earned this honor as the top gun by winning both the Wisconsin state trap and state sporting clays shoots. Melloy and Persinger were also named to the All-State Team as top five finishers in the Wisconsin state shoots (Melloy for first place trap and sporting clays and Persinger for second place in skeet).



**Tyler Melloy and Jordan Persinger – 2018 All-State Team**

In the Last Competitor Standing side event at the national championships, Kiera Wood came in sixth in the ladies group on Friday night, earning two cases of shotshells. McCorkel of the Senior/Varsity division was seventh overall at nationals in the Top Gun Challenge, a new event this year open only to shooters participating in 16 yard trap, skeet, sporting clays, rimfire rifle (iron or optic sights) and centerfire or rimfire pistol. Seven Raider shooters qualified to compete in the Top Gun Challenge.

Three Hudson Raiders were also named to the 2018 All-Scholastic Team including Brandon Armstrong, Caitlin Cravens and Jordan Persinger. Through an application process, 2018 All Scholastic Team Members proved academic excellence by posting 3.0 or better grade point averages, shot excellent scores in recent competition (95% in trap or skeet, 85% in sporting clays, 88% in international or 75 seconds or less for SASP) and demonstrated outstanding community involvement. Armstrong qualified in SASP rifle, Cravens in skeet and SASP rifle and Persinger in SASP pistol.