

ATHLETES NAME: Folger Boaz

SCHOOL: East Surry High School

CLASSIFICATION: 2A

SPORTS: Baseball, Basketball and Football

NOMINATOR: Chad Freeman

NOMINATOR EMAIL: freemanch@surry.k12.nc.us

NOMINATOR SCHOOL: East Surry High School

NOMINATOR POSITION: Athletic Director and Head Baseball Coach

ATHLETES QUALIFICATIONS:

Folger has set numerous school records in both Baseball and Football as well as earning a place in the NCHSAA record books in football.

In football he led East Surry to a 12–1 record, conference championship, and 3rd Rd playoff appearance while also earning Foothills 2A Offensive Player of the Year. He finished 2022 with 3,138 passing yards, a 68.5% completion percentage, and 48 total TD passes. He is in the NCHSAA single season record book for TD passes, completion percentage, passing yards in a single season (twice), TD's responsible for in a single season (55 total – 48 passing, 7 rushing). He also is #9 all time in total offensive yards, #16 all time in career passing yards, #1 all time in completion percentage, and #10 all time in career TD's responsible for. He finishes his career with a 33–3 record as starting QB, earning All-Conference 3x and Offensive Player of the Year 2x.

In baseball he has finished the 2023 regular season with an 8–1 record pitching, including a 1.21 ERA. He has 86 K's in 40.33 innings pitched. Offensively he is hitting .597 with a .692 On Base Percentage. He has 10 Homeruns, 8 Doubles, 1 Triple, 44 RBI, and 29 Runs scored. This morning he was voted Conference Player of the Year for 2023 (his 3rd straight Player of the Year award). He has been NCBCA All-State for the past 2 years and will most assuredly be selected again this year for the 3rd time (with a real possibility of being named State Player of the Year). He holds the East Surry career HR and RBI records, single season HR and RBI records, and will most likely break the single season batting average record this year. He has a career pitching record of 25–1.

REFERENCE NAMES (LETTERS ATTACHED AND PICTURE): Dr. Travis Reeves, SCS Superintendent and Deana King – Journalist, Publisher NCPreps.com

NCHSAA Award Committee,

I have the distinct honor and privilege of writing this letter on behalf of Folger Boaz in support of his nomination for 2023 NCHSAA Male Athlete of the Year. I have been coaching at East Surry High School for 23 years - 15 as the main assistant for legendary coach Barry Hall and now 8 as the Head Coach of the East Surry Baseball program. We have been blessed to coach and coach against some tremendously talented players during my tenure here, however Folger Boaz is perhaps the most dominant total baseball player that I have ever watched during my coaching career. He is currently committed to pitch for UNC Chapel Hill after graduation, but also has the very real possibility of being highly drafted in the upcoming MLB draft. He has a career pitching record of 25-1 as a starting pitcher, which would be significantly higher had we not lost the 2020 season to Covid or had a shortened 2021 season (he was limited in opportunities that season as he was leading our Football team to a state runner up finish). He also holds every school pitching record in the post-pitch count era.

While Folger is known as a pitcher, he is also one of the most feared hitters our area has encountered in quite some time. He has set school records for HR's in a season, RBI in a season, career HR, career RBI, and is on pace to break the single season batting average record AND surpass his own single season RBI record. He is a 3-time conference Player of the Year and will be a 3-time All State selection (with a real possibility of being named the NCBCA 2A Player of the Year). He expects excellence in all that he does and has helped lead our program to 3 conference championships, a regional championship, and a State Runner Up finish. The only baseball player I have personally watched that could dominate like this both as a pitcher and hitter was Madison Bumgarner from South Caldwell who went on to become a tremendously successful MLB player. What is so amazing about Folger is that he isn't just a baseball player. He has been exceptionally successful as a QB on our football team (breaking several school and state records) and leading our football program to a State Runner up finish and regional runner up finish. On top of that, he was also an All-Conference basketball selection in his "off-sport."

While his athletic accomplishments are off the charts, he also excels in our school and our community. Folger is a member of the National Honor Society demonstrating his academic success. He has also earned the honor of being awarded his Eagle Scout status, which further shows his commitment to leadership within our community. The most amazing thing about all of this is that Folger has done all of these things without ever self promoting. He truly embraces the success of the team over honoring his personal success. When our other athletes were having signing day celebrations for college, he chose to have a small gathering of his family and coaches at his house instead. We were in the middle of football state playoffs and he told me he didn't want any school or community focus taken away from the upcoming playoff game - THAT is the definition of a leader and a team-first individual.

I humbly implore you to give Folger the utmost consideration for the 2023 NCHSAA Male Athlete of the Year award. You will be hard pressed to find another candidate this well rounded and this successful in so many aspects of athletic, academic, and community life. I am blessed to have had the opportunity to be his coach for the past 4 years and absolutely feel that he is most deserving of this honor and recognition.

Sincerely,

Chad Freeman
East Surry High School
Head Baseball Coach & Athletic Director

To Whom It Concerns,

I am Trent Lowman, Head Football Coach at East Surry High School. I am writing on behalf of Folger Boaz to express my support for him as the 2022-2023 NCHSAA Male Athlete of the Year. Folger has excelled in everything he has participated in at East Surry, while being one of the best young men I have had the privilege of coaching. Folger led us to a 12-1 season this year in football, was named Foothills 2A Conference Offensive Player of the Year, broke every career record for East Surry High School as a Quarterback, become the NCHSAA Career leader in completion percentage, entered the NCHSAA Record Book for career total offensive yards, career passing attempts, career passing yards, career touchdowns responsible for, career passing touchdowns, his second entry for single-season completion percentage, his second entry for single-season passing yards, single season passing touchdowns, single season touchdowns responsible for, touchdown passes in a single game, twice for completions in a single game, and career completions. Folger achieved all these marks while completing his Eagle Scout, maintaining high grades, signing with UNC-Chapel Hill for baseball as a pitcher, and preparing to be a leader of our basketball team. Folger is on a different level from any young man I ever coached, only rivaled by his older brother Jefferson, who was named Male Athlete of the Year for the 2019-2020 academic year. I had the privilege of coaching Folger the past four seasons, with him being our starting quarterback for three. He finished his career with us carrying a 33-3 record as our starting quarterback, winning the 1AA Western Regional Championship in the spring season of 2021; finishing as 2A Western Regional Runner-Up in the fall of 2021; and leading us to a 12-1 record this season before exiting in the third round. We never lost a conference football game or a regular season football game with Folger as our starting quarterback. He is a phenomenal leader who is humble and team oriented. He never worried over statistics or cared what they were. He wanted to win, and did just that. In the modern world of social media and highlights, Folger never once made a highlight film or posted any of his success. All statistics and films were completed and shared by me. Folger is selfless. He is a team before self player and person that will represent this award far and away better than anyone I can imagine. I truly love this young man and know he sincerely earned and deserves this recognition.

Sincerely,

Trent Lowman
East Surry High School
Head Football Coach

April 26, 2023

NCHSAA,

I am writing on behalf of Folger Boaz, a senior student-athlete at East Surry High School in Pilot Mountain, NC to be nominated as a candidate for the NCHSAA Male Athlete of the Year.

Boaz has been a standout for the Cardinals on the gridiron and baseball diamond. I have covered many of Boaz's games during his prep career as Publisher of NCPreps.com. He holds several school and county records in both sports and has a chance to be drafted in the upcoming 2023 MLB Draft.

I feel that he would be an outstanding representative for this prestigious award for student-athletes in our great state of North Carolina. Thanks for considering Folger for this award.

Sincerely,

Deana King
Publisher, NCPreps.com
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