



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ACADEMY'S LADY BEARS EMERGE AS CHAMPIONS IN**  
**SUNNYBROOK TOURNAMENT**

SAN MARCOS—San Marcos Academy's girls varsity basketball team added some hardware to the athletic trophy case this past weekend after emerging as champions in the Sunnybrook Christian Academy tournament in San Antonio.

Two Academy players, Magdalena Wendling and Tiara Hansen, were named to the all-tournament team.

In the first game, the Lady Bears beat Seguin Lifegate 39-28. "Lifegate was a solid team, but we were able to go to our bench, and wore them down in the fourth quarter," Head Coach Toby Wade said.

Lifegate led the game until the end of the third quarter, when the Lady Bears slipped ahead. They then outscored Seguin 15-5 in the last quarter for the win.

Lindsey Preston was the Lady Bears' leading scorer with 13 points. Tiara Hansen and Nayara Vasconcelos each added 7 points, and Kayla Chandler and Taylor Teis chipped in four apiece.

For the championship game, the Lady Bears met the host team and came away with a 52-35 win. "The key again was that our young kids really stepped it up, giving us the ability to go to our bench," Coach Wade said. "We led 26-19 at halftime, and outscored them 28-16 in the second half."

Vasconcelos led the team with 14 points against Sunnybrook, while Mallore Kent scored 13 off the bench. Preston and Teis added 8 and 6 points, respectively.

"I was really proud of how the girls stepped up their level of play," Coach Wade said. "Rubi Alexander, one of our team captains, suffered a knee injury Dec. 1, and the girls were really down when we played Temple Holy Trinity two days later. I challenged them to get their focus back after that game, and could not have been happier with how they responded.

"Rubi is a key player, and she gives us a lot of toughness when she is on the floor. Without her, our younger players really need to get into a more aggressive mind-set, and they did so at the tournament Friday and Saturday."

The Lady Bears travel to Prairie Lea Dec. 8 for a 5 p.m. game and then open district play against Austin Hyde Park at the Academy gym at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 11. A second district game Dec. 12 at noon with Corpus Christi Pope John Paul II will be the last match before the Christmas holidays.

**Note: See caption below**

**Caption:**

Christmas came a little early for the San Marcos Academy girls varsity basketball team, who were champions in the SunnyBrook Christian Academy Tournament Dec. 4-5. With their trophy and Coach Toby Wade are team members (front) Melanie Isaacs, Taylor Teis, Rebecca Cox, (2<sup>nd</sup> row) Rusti Wade, Kayla Chandler, Mallore Kent, Beth Thielen, (3<sup>rd</sup> row) Lindsey Preston, Tiara Hansen, Nayara Vasconcelos, (back row) Ruby Yang, Magdalena Wendling, Maggie Boylan, Rubi Alexander and Jana Schwartzberg. Not pictured is assistant coach Jennifer Jannett.