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By Dennis Garcia

SportsTone.net

Just when things seem to be getting back to normal, it's not.

Still, high school coaches and student-athletes are doing their best to assure this school year is an exciting one on the fields, running courses, courts and all athletic venues. Through hard work and dedication, there have already been some unbelievable memories made in the county.

Still, who couldn't use a little gift now or then. Therefore, if I could, I would have these things waiting underneath the Christmas tree.

- For Providence Grove High School Athletic Director Calvin Brown, I hope he unwraps a cloning machine because there is a lot to do to prepare for the Davidson-Randolph Christmas Classic next week. And there will be tons to do all three days of the tournament. It is impossible to be in two places at the same time, unless he gets his cloning machine for Christmas.
- For Asheboro High School officials, a letter from the contractors saying everything is going way ahead of schedule and everything will be finished way sooner than expected. That would allow the Blue Comets to finish the year in their own gymnasium.
- Speaking of finishing before expected, I'd love to see the city get everything it needs in order for the contractors to finish McCrary Park ahead of schedule. The park is going to be an even better facility than it is already and watching Asheboro High School, the Asheboro Copperheads and three Randolph County Post 45 American Legion teams play there is going to be very exciting.
- I hope each member of the Southwestern Randolph volleyball team wakes up and unwraps a DVD of their incredible season and inspiring run to the state championship. I know there are a lot of SWR officials, parents and fans who will remember this achievement for a long, long time.
- For Randleman High School girls varsity basketball coach Brandon Varner, a thank you for all he has done for the program. I hope he realizes just how much of an impact he has made. There have certainly been and are some very talented players and Varner has molded these players into a solid team and those teams into a solid program. There are teams that have had great years. Varner is helping turn the Tigers into a great program.

- To Uwharrie Charter Academy wrestling coach Chris Waddell, I hope he unwraps another long, long run into the state playoffs. I will always remember the great passion he has for the sport and how that passion obviously fuels his teams.
- For Wheatmore High School girls varsity basketball coach Pete Kilcullen, continued improvement over the season. Talk about passion, few coaches have as much as he does for his sport. I miss watching him coach.
- For Don Corry, who led the Asheboro High School girls varsity basketball team to the state championship game last year, all the respect a coach can ever have for remaining with the program, even though there was little doubt it was going to be a rebuilding year. No one would have said a word had Corry decided to finally retire after that incredible season. But he said he wanted to stay and help rebuild the team. And to all the AHS players, the ability to continue to give everything they have each and every time they step on the court. From what I hear, that is exactly what is happening.
- For Eastern Randolph High School trainer Jana Webb, a year in which she doesn't have to worry about any injuries, strains or rehabilitation. The teams she looks after are certainly in great hands and she continues to demonstrate her strong faith and love for the ER athletic community through her social media posts.
- For all those Wolfpack followers (Brian Nance, Chris Chapman, etc...) as well as the ones who bleed Carolina blue or the black and gold of Wake Forest (Ethan Marsh), a bowl victory.
- For all those who are hurting because of the loss of a loved one, peace and the knowledge that you carry a piece of your loved one with you in your heart.
- For Trinity High School boys basketball coach Tim Kelly, the same as last year: Health and the opportunity to coach another 20 years.
- To all the student-athletes in Randolph County, the best rest-of-the-year imaginable. You have all continued to fight through some extraordinary circumstances once again.
- And finally, to all those who are reading this: Health, happiness and a very Merry Christmas!!!!