

VASHON BASKETBALL ANATOMY OF A DYNASTY

EDITOR'S NOTE: The chart on these pages depicts Vashon High School Wolverines basketball rosters from 1998 through 2005-'06 — a period during which the team won five state championships — as they correlate to St. Louis Public Schools district regulations and the bylaws of the Missouri State High School Activities Association that govern high school sports.

Over the course of a three-month investigation, *Riverfront Times* analyzed data obtained from the St. Louis Public Schools and conducted interviews with current and former students and their families, athletics personnel and other officials in city and county schools and officials from MSHSAA and the SLPS.

'98-'99	GRADE
JOEL SHELTON	11
DWIGHT WHITFIELD	11
FRED SANDERS	11
JESSE AKINS	10
ARNOLD BRITT	10
LORENZO GORDON	10
RICHARD HAYWOOD	10
BRENDON JACKSON ¹	10
ALVIN SANDERS	10
ANTHONY WILSON	10
ANDRE AARON	9
DARRON BOONE	9
NICHOLAS KERN	9
JIMMY MCKINNEY	9

'99-'00 STATE CHAMPS	GRADE
JOEL SHELTON	12
DWIGHT WHITFIELD	12
JESSE AKINS	11
ARNOLD BRITT	11
LORENZO GORDON	11
RICHARD HAYWOOD	11
BRENDON JACKSON ¹	11
ANTHONY WILSON	11
ANDRE AARON	10
DARRON BOONE	10
NICHOLAS KERN	10
JIMMY MCKINNEY	10
JUSTIN CHAMBLY ²	10
DONNY JACKSON	9

'00-'01 STATE CHAMPS	GRADE
JESSE AKINS	12
ARNOLD BRITT	12
LORENZO GORDON	12
RICHARD HAYWOOD	12
BRENDON JACKSON ¹	12
ANTHONY WILSON	12
ANDRE AARON	11
DARRON BOONE	11
NICHOLAS KERN	11
JIMMY MCKINNEY	11
JUSTIN CHAMBLY ²	11
MCARTHUR TAYLOR ¹	11
DONNY JACKSON	10
ANTONIO SCAIFE ¹	10
PRIEST GORDON ¹	10
DWAYNE POLK ³	9

'01-'02 STATE CHAMPS	GRADE
ANDRE AARON	12
DARRON BOONE	12
NICHOLAS KERN	12
JIMMY MCKINNEY	12
JUSTIN CHAMBLY ²	12
MCARTHUR TAYLOR ¹	12
JESSE GARTH ⁴	11
DONNY JACKSON	11
ANTONIO SCAIFE ¹	11
PRIEST GORDON ¹	11
DWAYNE POLK ³	10
MALIK WHITE	10
ALI ADAMS	10
TERRELL FELDER	10

'02-'03	GRADE
JESSE GARTH ⁴	12
DONNY JACKSON	12
ANTONIO SCAIFE ¹	12
PRIEST GORDON ¹ {REPEAT}	11
DWAYNE POLK ³	11
RYAN CUNNINGHAM ¹	11
LAMARR WASHINGTON	11
CURTIS MUSE	11
QUENTIN STIDMON ¹	11
DEALAN HICKS	11
KENNETH DANIELS	10
JOHNNY HILL	10
ROBERT MURPHY	10
JOSEPH PEMBLETON	10
MARQUIS HARRIS ¹	9
DAVID THOMAS	9
LARAY WASHAM	9
JAMES WASHINGTON	9
BOBBY HILL	9

'03-'04 STATE CHAMPS	GRADE
DWAYNE POLK ³	12
CURTIS MUSE	12
QUENTIN STIDMON ¹	12
DEALAN HICKS	12
WILLIAM FRANKLIN ⁵	12
KENNETH DANIELS	11
JOHNNY HILL	11
JOSEPH PEMBLETON	11
JAMES WASHINGTON	10
BOBBY HILL	10
BRIAN ROACH ¹	10
HAVARD MCLEMORE	9
RAYMOND HARRELL ⁶	9
LEON POWELL	9
DONALD DAVIS	9

KEY

FALSE ADDRESS LISTED WITH ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ADDRESS WITHIN VASHON BOUNDARIES, BUT PARENTS LIVED OUTSIDE BOUNDARIES
ADDRESS OUTSIDE VASHON BOUNDARIES; NO APPARENT ADMINISTRATIVE PERMISSION

CURTIS MUSE	12
QUENTIN STIDMON ¹	12
DEALAN HICKS	12
WILLIAM FRANKLIN ⁵	12
KENNETH DANIELS	11
JOHNNY HILL	11
JOSEPH PEMBLETON	11
JAMES WASHINGTON	10
BOBBY HILL	10
BRIAN ROACH ¹	10
HAVARD MCLEMORE	9
RAYMOND HARRELL ⁶	9
LEON POWELL	9
DONALD DAVIS	9

'04-'05	GRADE
KENNETH DANIELS	12
JOHNNY HILL	12
JOSEPH PEMBLETON	12
JAMES WASHINGTON	11
BOBBY HILL	11
BRIAN ROACH ¹	11
RAYMOND HARRELL ⁶	10
LEON POWELL	10
DONALD DAVIS	10
BENJAMIN ADAMS ⁷	10
LAMONDRAE CANNON	10
ALBUREY DOSS	10
DERRON HOBBS	9
CORNELIUS WALKER	9

'05-'06 STATE CHAMPS	GRADE
JAMES WASHINGTON	12
BOBBY HILL	12
BRIAN ROACH ¹	12
RAYMOND HARRELL ⁶	11
LEON POWELL	11
DONALD DAVIS	11
BENJAMIN ADAMS ⁷	11
LAMONDRAE CANNON	11
ALBUREY DOSS	11
MICHAEL ELLIS	11
LAMAR PATTERSON	11
DERRON HOBBS	10
CORNELIUS WALKER	10
KENNETH HARRIS	10
JUSTIN KEENER	9



NOTES:

¹ Lived outside Vashon boundaries but “created residency” in accordance with state bylaws.

² Enrolled at Vashon and joined basketball team as sophomore in 1999 after attending school in the county through the desegregation program. Supplied SLPS with address within Vashon boundaries. Supplied new address outside boundaries on Russell Boulevard in 2001 but did not change schools as required under district policy (and, by extension, state bylaws).

³ Enrolled at Vashon as freshman in 2000 and joined Wolverines; supplied SLPS with address within Vashon boundaries. Supplied new address outside boundaries on Maffitt Avenue in 2002 but did not change schools as required under district policy (and, by extension, state bylaws).

⁴ Played basketball at Parkway West High School as freshman in 1999, then enrolled at Vashon in 2000. In 2001, in response to complaint filed by Parkway, MSHSAA ordered Vashon to forfeit any games in which Garth had appeared in 2000-'01 and sit out an equal number of games in 2001-'02. Records indicate he had not played in any games in his sophomore year.

⁵ Attended Beaumont as freshman and sophomore. Transferred to Vashon in 2002. In response to complaint filed by Beaumont basketball coach alleging recruiting violation, MSHSAA declared Franklin would be ineligible in all sports during 2002-'03.

⁶ Attended Stowe Middle School for eighth grade, then enrolled at Vashon as a freshman in 2003 and joined Wolverines. Supplied SLPS with address on Cote Brillante Avenue, outside Vashon boundaries and so was ineligible in '03 and '04. In 2005 provided new address, still outside Vashon boundaries.

⁷ Enrolled at Vashon as freshman in 2003. Supplied SLPS with address outside mandated attendance area in 2004 upon joining Wolverines but had “created residency” in accordance with MSHSAA bylaws. Supplied new address outside boundaries on Allen Avenue in 2005 but did not change schools as required under district policy and, by extension, state bylaws.

MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS REGARDING RESIDENCY AND ELIGIBILITY

216.0 UNDUE INFLUENCE

To maintain a proper relationship between the academic purposes of schools and their interscholastic activities programs, all members of the Missouri State High School Activities Association must refrain from recruitment, inducement or other forms of persuasion and undue influence which would encourage a student to enroll in a school primarily for interscholastic activities purposes.

a. The enrollment in a school or the transfer from one school to another because of undue influence by any person or group connected, directly or indirectly with a member school (including but not limited to alumni associations, booster groups and similar organizations), shall cause the student to forfeit eligibility at the school concerned for a period not to exceed the remainder of his/her high school career and not to exceed 365 days at the member school from which the student transferred from or, for an incoming freshman, the school(s) the student was eligible to attend under the Promotion Standard in MSHSAA By-Law 238-3-a-2. Such conduct may require the school concerned to forfeit participation in the district and state tournaments(s) for the ensuing series competition. Further, the school's membership status in the Association shall be jeopardized and shall result in other such action as the Board of Directors deems appropriate.

b. What constitutes undue influence shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. Undue influence may, if primarily used to encourage or facilitate participation in interscholastic activities, include but not be limited to:

1. The offer or acceptance of money, room, board, clothing or other valuable considerations to a student, or a student's parent or guardian, including but not limited to:
 - (a) transportation to and/or from school by any school official;
 - (b) provision for free or reduced rent for a parent or guardian;
 - (c) offer or payment of the moving expenses of a parent or guardian.
2. Waiving or reducing tuition for any student to be certified as eligible for interscholastic activities, without establishing and following a plan submitted by the school and approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (a) statement of philosophy and policy

concerning the reduction or waiver of tuition;

(b) procedures used to determine the qualifications for tuition waiver or reduction; and

(c) description of how the waiving or reducing of tuition is equally available and applied to students in similar circumstances.

3. The payment of tuition by someone other than a student's immediate family or a financial aid program not approved by the Board of Directors.

4. The offer or acceptance of remuneration for work in excess of the amount regularly paid for such service.

5. The offer or acceptance of school privileges or considerations not normally granted to other students.

6. Any inducement to get a parent, guardian or student to change residence for interscholastic activities purposes.

7. The contracting of a student(s) in another school by any person or group connected, directly or indirectly, with a member school (including but not limited to alumni associations, booster groups or similar organizations), and attempting to persuade or induce that student(s), primarily for interscholastic activities or purposes, to attend the inducer's school.

238.0 RESIDENCE AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

238.1 Definitions:

a. Change of Residence – A change of residence under this rule shall consist of the moving of all household properties to the new address and the parents and the student actually living there; a second family residence shall not meet the requirements of this standard.

b. District – All member schools, both public and nonpublic, shall establish defined geographical attendance districts for athletic eligibility purposes. The boundary for a nonpublic school attendance district shall be established by the school's governing board and shall include an area not to exceed a twenty-five mile radius measured from the school principal's office. A current map showing the nonpublic school's attendance district boundary shall be on file in the MSHAA Office. Any subsequent change in the nonpublic school's attendance boundary must be reported to the MSHSAA Office no later than February 1 preceding the school year the change is to become effective since any change will be used in determining eligibility of transfer students. The Missouri School for the Blind and the Missouri

School of the Deaf shall be exempt from establishing a defined geographical attendance district for athletic eligibility purposes.

c. Parents – The term parents shall mean the student's: 1) natural parents; 2) adoptive parents; 3) foster parents, if the student is placed in a foster home after becoming a ward of the court; 4) Custodial parent; if parents are divorced; 5) legal guardian but only in a case where neither parent is living or legally competent; or 6) a family with whom a student has been living continuously for at least 365 days.

d. Residence – Residence shall be defined as the place where the student's parents have established their permanent home. This means that the family regularly eats and sleeps in a specific place of lodging. It is a place where the student and his/her parents are habitually present and to which when departing, they intend to return.

e. Restricted Eligibility – A transfer student who is granted restricted eligibility may participate in designated sports only at the subvarsity level of competition until the student has been in continuous attendance at the new school for 365 days from the date of enrollment.

238.2 Residence Requirements – A junior or senior high school student may be eligible at the public or nonpublic school located in the district in which the student's parents (as defined in By-Law 238.1-c above) reside. In the case of a public multiple school district, a student may also meet eligibility Residence Standards under the following provisions:

- a. A student who is enrolled in a special learning center or magnet school may be eligible to represent the public school serving the district or attendance area of the parents' residency in any sport not sponsored by the school he/she attends.
- b. The residence standards shall be waived 365 days from the date a student enrolls in a member school provided enrollment in that member school has been continuous.

238.3 Transfer of Enrollment Requirements – The following standards are for the purpose of assuring fairness to all students.

a. Students who transfer schools are ineligible for 365 days unless their cases meet the standards under the EXCEPTIONS THAT FOLLOW:

1. Corresponding change of residence of parents 0 If there is a corresponding change of residence of parents, from the

attendance district of the school where a student has been in rolled to the new district, the student may be eligible as soon as certified in accord with By-Law 234.

For the purpose of this provision, if the districts served by the two schools overlap, the term "new district" shall mean a district in which the original residence was not located. The purpose of this section shall be to avoid any loss of eligibility when parents transfer residence to a new district for other than athletic reasons.

Note: If a student from a broken home moves from the residence of one parent to that of the other parent and transfers schools, eligibility must be considered under the Hardship Transfer Standard.

(a) This change of residence must be simultaneous with the transfer of enrollment except for educational reasons and awaiting occupancy of a new residence, a request is made to the MSHSAA Office to permit the student to enroll at a new school at the beginning of a new year or semester and to become eligible as of the date the family actually transfers residence, such request shall be granted.

(b) If parents transfer to a new district, the student, to retain eligibility without establishing a 365 days period of attendance, must transfer his/her enrollment simultaneously with the transfer of residence of parents, or no later than the beginning of the next school year.

8. Hardship – The Board of Directors may grant eligibility to a transfer student who does not meet the Transfer Standards when sufficient evidence is provided to show that it was necessary for the student because of unforeseen, unavoidable, or unusual circumstance; including, but not limited to, broken home conditions, death of parents or guardian, and abandonment and provided the transfer was not for athletic reasons and there was no undue influence. A student who is granted eligibility under this provision shall be eligible upon notification by the Executive Director.

830.0 Forfeits

a. Forfeited and contested games shall be considered at one of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors.

b. Games in which an ineligible player plays shall be forfeited. In a tournament, all games in which the ineligible player has participated shall be forfeited, but only the team defeated that is most advanced in tournament play shall be advanced on the bracket to continue tournament play.