



NA FALL BALL WEEK 11 RECAP ACCORDING TO FENNIS DEMBO

Last night we closed the curtains on another very successful Fall Ball Season. It was our coldest day of the season and just like Red Auerbach did we increased the heat in the barn for the spectators and see what players could stand the “HEAT”. Place was packed early as Pelham & SJP travel well, the junkies, gym rats and fall ball characters were in their seats early along with the “**couch seat trivia winners from Haverhill**”. The refs selected for the semi- finals were TCU Hoop Legend Tracy Mitchell and world famous Softball Home Run king Ralph Sully. For the Finals Stormy Napolitano & Brian Schaufenbill got the call.

Lets’ take a look back at Week #11 as we close the live action for 2015. If you have been around this league for some time you know that Fall Ball is never officially over till we publish



sometime Thanksgiving weekend

which is expected to be live on the website

THE SEMI-FINALS:

ST JOHNS PREP 77 PELHAM 45. This one was over early and soundly. Although I expected SJP to come out of this bracket I did not expect Pelham, the hottest team in the league to lay an egg. Alec Buresh was very good running the point for the Eagles and was named Player of the Game with 10 points, 2 assists, many hockey assists and 4 rebounds. Alec was also sound on the defensive end. The Prep placed 5 players in double figures (Buresh, Danforth, Tommy O'Neil, Brett McNiff and Nate Hobbs). The Eagles shot very well 53% but their energy and aggressiveness was the key. League leading scorer Keith Brown did not have a strong game which hurt the Pythons in a number of ways but one kid that was very good was Kyle Frank who was Pelham's best player tonight with 14 points, 2 assists and 4 rebounds. We say goodbye to Pelham who played the role of Cinderella very well this season but teams in NH D3 should fear the Pythons

NEW MISSION 66 LAWRENCE 61. This game was very well played and fun to watch. Both teams went right at each other and neither backed down. Blood was flowing, bodies flying, coaches as animated as coaches can get and players making plays. Ty Lee was game 2 player of the game with a strong outing 15 points, 4 assists 2 rebounds. The Titans also got double figures from Charles Mitchell and Isaiah Laurent. The Lancers had a great fall this year and this team is good. Tonight they battled but just could not regain the lead in the second half. Jason Desoto 19 and Marcos Germosen were very good with 19 and 15 respectively.



2015 CHAMPS – ST JOHNS PREP EAGLES

2015 RUNNER UPS – NEW MISSION TITANS

THE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME:

ST JOHNS PREP 61 NEW MISSION 42. So the debate rages on with weather the winner of semi-final 2 is at a disadvantage. Tonight some people could make the case but overall in 9 years that we have had this format 6 winners came from semi -final 2 and 3 from semi- final 1. Yes New Mission expended more energy in their dogfight with Lawrence but what was also clear was how well St. Johns Prep played. This is the Eagles team that I predicted in August would win and

the same Eagles team I called out each week for underachieving. In the end St. Johns is too talented to at one time be 3-4 in this league. Spencer Danforth was the player of the game with a solid outing of 20 points, 6 rebounds and some aggressive defense. You know about Harry O'Neil, Alec Buresh and Spencer Danforth but tonight the three guys I think make this team a state title contender Brent McNiff, Justin Connelly and Tommy O'Neil put the whole package together and the Eagles were too much to handle. For the Titans Charlie Mitchel was the only Titan to reach double figures. We say good bye to New Mission but I love this team this winter. 2nd place in **NA FALLBALL** and 1st place in **BEANTOWN SLAM** is not too shabby of a fall.

RESULTS:

ST JOHNS 77 (TOMMY O'NEIL 11)

PELHAM 45 (KYLE FRANK 14)

NEW MISSION 66 (TY LEE 15)

LAWRENCE 61 (JAYSON DESOTO 19)

ST JOHNS 61 (SPENCER DANFORTH 20)

NEW MISSION 45 (CHARLIE MITCHELL 11)

ZEBRAS THIS WEEK: RICHIE NAPS, BRIAN SCHAUFENBILL, RALPH SULLY, TRACY MITCHELL. I hope everyone appreciates the quality of officials we had again this year! Some of the most respected officials in the biz

GAME OF THE WEEK: Clear winner was NEW MISSION V LAWRENCE. Had it all from start to finish. I wish all three games tonight were as good as this

TEAM OF THE WEEK: Easy pick this week as you have to go with the team that won but this award for SJP is more than winning the title. The last 4 games they have decided to play the way they always should have played. Coach Dullea thinks my "tough love" may have been the difference as teammates are starting to realize that you need to feed the beast (HARRY ONEIL), guards need to move the ball and understand their role, play with the defensive intensity every night like you did the last four games and get consistent play out of everyone in the nightly rotation. Congrats to **SJP our Team of the Week and KING OF FALLBALL 2015**

DO YOUR JOB WINNER: Nominees: Brent McNiff (SJP), Ty Lee (NM), Marcos Germosen (I), Alec Buresh (SJP) Kyle Frank (P), This weeks' winner(s) is **BRENT MCNIFF AND MARCOS GERMOSEN. Marcos continues to be one of the hardest working players in this league and just plays. He boards, has a great motor, can score and defend. BRENT MCNIFF is a diamond in a rough and a kid I would like to work with. He has a nice skill set, oozes with potential and could be a big part of this run. Tonight he did all the things I think he can bring every night. CONGRATS MARCOS AND BRETT**

BABY FACES? I DON'T THINK SO. This week we saw some nice young talent who didn't back down from the stage. **TRAHE QUALES** of New Mission is going to be a good one. Showing me more each week what he can do. **NATE HOBBS** of SJP in game #1 had some nice production. Not consistent yet but this young man very much intrigues me. **TOMMY ONEIL** of SJP. TO does not know yet how good he can be. As I said to his coach and Dad last night he could average 20/20 the next two seasons of FALLBALL. NICE JOB TRAHE, NATE AND TO

PLAYER OF THE WEEK #11. ALEC BURESH was very good in semi 1, SPENCER DANFORTH was very good in championship but the guy who played the best in two games and dominated without gaudy stats was ST JOHNS SENIOR **HARRY ONEIL**. The offense went through him "finally", his passing overall was college level, he boarded, he led on the court and he was a vocal leader on the bench and he also had the best one liner of the night "wow Tommy and Brent are actually playing like their good". This is Harry's 2nd player of the week

WEEKLY PET PEEVES FOR WEEK 11

1. **PLAYING PASSIVE ON BOTH SIDES OF BALL:** You must play harder, hoop is not a passive game
2. **INABILITY TO MAKE THE RIGHT PASS:** This is why we need to teach passing every day. Kids really don't know what pass to make
3. **FACIAL EXPRESSIONS GIVEN TO REF WHEN CALLED FOR A FOUL:** listen it's a foul and the facial expression only draws more attention to your bad defense
4. **PLAYING PLAYS ALL THE WAY THROUGH:** you can't play only part of the play.
5. **TIME AND SCORE SITUATIONS:** coaches need to spend some time, some really bad situations last night. It's not about you it's about the team and the situation. Know how much time is on the clock

THE FINAL POWER RANKINGS FOR FALL BALL 2015

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
1. ST JOHNS 8-4	LAWRENCE 9-1
2. NEW MISSION 9-3	NEW MISSION 7-3
3. LAWRENCE 9-2	TEWKSBURY 8-2
4. TEWKSBURY 8-2	PELHAM 7-4
5. CENTRAL CATHOLIC 6-3	ST JOHNS 6-4

2015 ALL FALL BALL – Each year we present the **FALL BALL TOP 15 (1ST/2ND 3RD TEAM) YOU EARNED IT IF YOU WERE NAMED TOP 15.** 2nd and 3rd team will be announced in SEASON RECAP. Last night we announced 1st team (FAB 5)

KEITH BROWN – G – PELAHM

TY LEE – G – NEW MISSION

NATE TENAGLIA- G – TEWKSBURY

JOSH BRADANESE – F – BILLERICA

HARRY ONEIL – F – ST JOHNS PREP

COLLEGES IN THE BARN MONDAY: KEENE, ENDICOTT, ANNA MARIA, NECC. THANK YOU TO ALL THE 43 COLLEGES THAT ATTENDED THIS YEAR

FACES IN THE CROWD: Jersey Jim, Judge Cronin, Johnny Bag of Donuts, Atty. Hajjar, Dan Halloran, The Danforths, The O’Neils, The Mcniffs, The Connellys, George Yorke and son in law, Will Lewis and Pops Lewis, Bob Hartman: hanging on to fallball as long as he can, John Dullea, the famous Ross Blackner, Frankie Torres, The Lancer staff led by Raymond Nunez, Ralph Sully, Tracy Mitchell, Rich Naps, Brian Schauf, Will the Thrill, Sean Kenneally aka the Michigan kid, Sniffles P working the crowd like he is not on the clock, Pepe Lepu, Corey McCarthy, New Mission Video Director, Mrs. Buresh, Meet the Pelham Browns, Mr. Frank, the Nystroms, Mike Larson of Pelham High, Luke Richards, Keene State assistant, Haverhill Hillies, the North Andover Knights, Madeline, Marc Joslow and Aaron, NAHS newspaper reporter, French teacher Jacque Pierre, amateur boxer John Dullea, one member of CC Board of Trustees, New Mission administrator, Saul Phiri, Alex Romano, Pablo Sanchez, Bark Mulch King Peter Breen, Compass Cleaners,



FASHION OF THE WEEK: There were some people that actually stepped it up tonight but we had a landslide winner this week in Lawrence assistant **FRANKIE TORRES** with the what we call **“the Magic Johnson in retirement look”** Frankie was rocking a black pair of casual shoes, Magic Johnsons yellow/gold Laker sweat pants circa 1985 and t-shirt and a leather NE Patriots jacket. I am not sure who dressed Frankie today but that person deserves at least half the pizza



FRANKIE TORRES with the MAGIC JOHNSON retirement outfit

WHO BROUGHT IT IN THE FINAL 4 – With only 4 teams and 3 games to wrap it up; “the who brought it” segment will be short and sweet

Pelham struggled shooting 37% from 2 and 32% from 3. The Pythons only had 11 assists and had an uncharacteristic 20 turnovers. KEITH BROWN with an off night but still had 12 points 8 rebounds and 4 assists in his last game of fall ball. As discussed KYLE FRANK was terrific with 14 points 2 assists and 3 rebounds and the Eagles had trouble keeping him out of the lane. RYAN NYSTROM finished his fall ball career with 15 points. Ryan has come a long way since September

Lawrence as discussed ends a great off season and I am excited to see this team play this winter. The energizer bunny MARCOS GERMOSEN had a great fall. Tonight he had 15 points 4 rebounds and his motor was roaring. A bloody lip kept him out of game for a bit but Marcos was fun to watch this year. JASON DESOTO was the big gun this week with 19 points and he can be a big weapon for the Lancers. I love BENNIAMI RODRIGUES, tonight 8 points and 11 rebounds. Folks better scout this kid. JUAN FELIX RODRIGUES didn't score it well this week but he did other things 5 points 5 assists, 5 rebounds 5 steals. KEVIN VANDERHORST is the most consistent Lancer. Tonight he had 8 points 6 assists and 4 rebounds

New Mission is deep and this winter you will see how deep. The heart and soul of the Titans is TY LEE. Ty had a great fall and tonight he was player of the game in the semi with 15 and 4 assists. Ty has really grown up since we saw him last year and the UMASS BOSTON recruit is poised for a good senior year. TRAHE QUALES is going to be a good one, athletic, quick, great motor and a skill set that has potential. ISAIAH LAURENT is good the man is a walking double-double and no wonder college coaches are more than interested. Any hoop junkie has to love the twins CHARLES and CHARLIE MITCHELL. They play so hard, they bleed Titan colors, they

are great teammates and their use of the word THANK YOU on the court is hilarious. DARION JORDAN, KEVIN NUNEZ, ALONZO COOPER, DARREN TSADAROULIN all had moments in the games this week

SJP finally got it done and they earned the title. Shots started to fall, better shots were taken, they finally moved the ball, they rebounded and they defended. When this team does it all they are serious contenders to win a North title. HARRY ONEIL ended a fine two year run in fall ball by earning his second player of the week. Eagles, Harry is your best player, the ball goes through Harry. ALEC BURESH just plays, we need more kids like this at this level. Humble, Hungry and effective. SPENCER DANFORTH loves the action and has had a very good fall. Overall didn't shoot it well this fall but he is not afraid to take big shots. BRIAN JEAN FRANCOIS has earned a key role as he makes things happen. The three wings BRIAN MCNIFF, JUSTIN CONNELLY and TOMMY ONEIL are the key. I loved how the three of them ALL came to play this final four. Youngsters JIM YFANTOPOULAS, NATE HOBBS, MATT RELIHAN will all have their chances to have significant roles come this winter

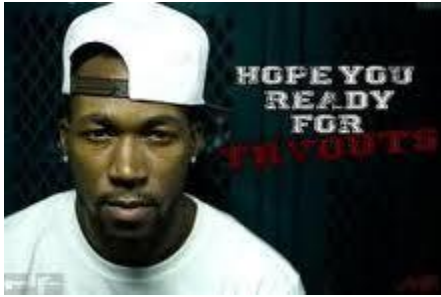
2015 FALLBALL "PAT CONNAUGHTON" MVP – In a very transparent MVP voting process KEITH BROWN of PELHAM was voted 2015 FALL BALL MVP. The following are the voting totals for this years' MVP with the 6 finalists

1. KEITH BROWN – PELHAM 22 POINTS
2. NATE TENAGLIA – TEWKSBURY 15 POINTS
3. JOSH BRADANESE – BILLERICA 13 POINTS
4. TY LEE – NEW MISSION 3 POINTS
5. JUAN FELIX RODRIGUES – LAWRENCE 1 POINT
6. PAT COFFEY –WESTFORD 1 POINT

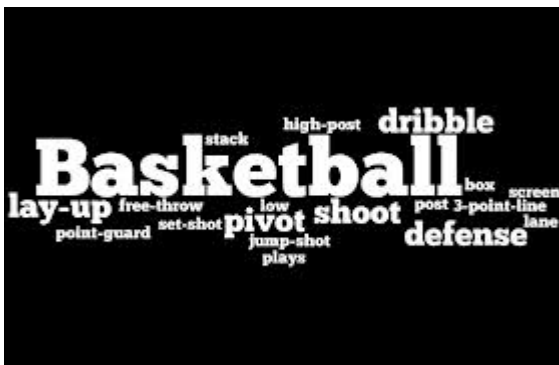
CONGRATS KEITH BROWN



MVP KEITH BROWN WITH SNIFFLES P



ARE YOU READY – NEXT MONDAY COACHES WILL FIND OUT



THE WEEKLY RANT – FOOD FOR THOUGHT OR

FOOD FOR THE DUMPSTER.....YOU DECIDE

WHO ARE YOU WHEN THE APPLAUSE STOPS?

So there is no one on this readership that wants players to put the time in and be committed to hoop more than me. When I am talking about being committed I am looking for kids who always find their way to a gym, kids that during that allotted time put “meaningful” work in. (trying to dunk, half court shots, etc. are not examples of meaningful work). I love kids who are gym rats and understand all of the aspects of getting better (game play, strength/speed/agility and of course “real” skill development). The only way kids get better is to put the work in!

With that said, if you whole life 24/7 is completely basketball then I am concerned for you. First how are your grades? If you want to be successful in life you need to be committed to school work. I am not looking for everyone to be a straight A student but the reality is if you don't have good grades your opportunities to play basketball are limited and more importantly you are limiting your academic opportunities. The reality is in our area very few people have or will make “real” money playing basketball. As the NCAA advertisement says most will go pro in something other than basketball. Make academics a priority, pure and simple.

I love the stories of some of our high school programs that incorporate community service into their program. Faz and the Warriors always get involved with giving back to the community at

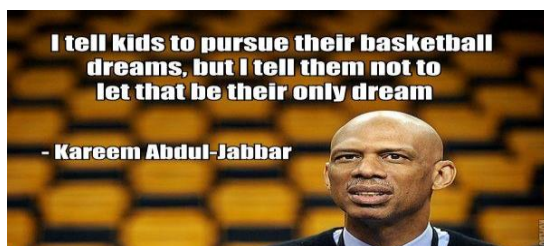
the holidays. Rick Nault and the Raiders are always giving back at the Lawrence Boys club. I am sure almost all of our teams do something and if you don't you should. Community service and giving back are some wonderful life experiences for our players. I cherish my involvement as a coach taking players to soup kitchens, visiting sick kids etc. and I know my players became better people for it. They became aware of the real world outside of a sweaty gym.

Shout out to many of our players that are involved with school related activities. I know time is tight during hoop season but there are 8 other months a year. A number of our North Andover players are involved with Youth Council and Helping Hands. I know we have kids in this league that are involved in a tremendous amount of varying extracurricular activities and you should be applauded

A number of our players have interests in other areas outside of school and hoop whether it be knowing how to play an instrument, maybe involved with their church or helping their own extended family that needs assistance. Some of our players work part time, some have to and others due it to maybe learn what it is like to earn some money. We all know in a very short period of time they will all join us in the workforce. I was more than happy to change SJP playoff game because the fact that a number of their players were being inducted into the National Honor Society is impressive.

There will be the detractors that say, there is just not enough hours in the day. I am not saying you do the entire list, what I am saying is be known for other things than just being a basketball player. We have mentioned that it will all come to an end at some point but what if it comes earlier than expected?, maybe you get cut from the team, God forbid you tear your ACL, come down with a degenerative medical condition, lose your interest to play, have to stop playing to pay for your college tuition or a death in the family. I can hear a few people saying wow way to be morbid! No just realistic because I have seen every one of those scenarios play out with former players that played in THIS league and quite frankly it breaks my heart.

So play as long as you can, be prepared to play, put the work in, be committed and be able to manage your time so you can have some other interests because when the question is posed **WHO ARE YOU WHEN THE APPLAUSE STOPS. YOU WANT TO HAVE AN ANSWER NOT THE LOOK SOME OF OUR PLAYERS GIVE THE REF WHEN THEY GET CALLED FOR A FOUL**



THE GOOD THE BAD & THE UGLY SEASON RECAP WILL BE OUT IN THE NEXT FOUR DAYS

DON'T GET TOO HIGH, DON'T GET TOO LOW....ITS FALLBALL

