



## MASSACHUSETTS NA FALL BALL 2015 WEEK #6 RECAP ACCORDING TO FENNIS DEMBO

Week # 6 was similar to when Jimmy Butler had his rear view mirror removed from his Land Rover this week. Jimmy says we can't live in the past and the rear view mirror removal doesn't allow him to look back but we will for a few more days as we do the week #6 recap. Jimmy should also think of safety before he permanently has it removed. The air has turned cold in Turkey town and the Barn doors seem like they will be closed for the remainder of the fall season. Johnny Bag o Donuts McElroy has officially moved into the hallway. 4 games at the Barn on Monday and 2 at the McDome which saw another unbeaten fall. Tuesday we saw 4 more games in the Barn. College coaches still finding their way to coaches row and we also debuted the brand new scorers' table. So lets' break it all down

**BILLERICA 82 LOWELL 74.** Sorry folks this was an ugly game as both teams did everything possible to give the other team the game. Billerica came out fast and furious building a 28 point second half lead before Lowell embarked on a big comeback (or more of a Billerica collapse) cutting the 28 point lead to 5 before falling by 8 in the end. Lowell had no answer for Josh Bradanese 39 points and 13 rebounds. Alex Rivera was the one shining light for Lowell scoring 29. Billerica moves to 5-1 and Lowell has now lost 4 straight games.

**PELHAM 81 PEABODY 49.** Peabody hung around for a while but by halftime it was a 25 point lead. Keith Brown was dominating with 35 points 9 assists and 9 rebounds as he hovers close to a triple double every week. Kyle Frank 14 and Colby Wilson, 6 threes were also very good. Junior Estrella had his most efficient game of the fall for the Tanners with 29 points and 8 rebounds.

**CHELMSFORD 57 HAVERHILL 48.** This was a see saw affair for the first half and then Chelmsford took the lead early in the second half and maintained it for a 9 point win. Alex Silva was the Lions best player with 15 points tonight. Haverhill which has been struggling the last three weeks was led by Navin Cruz with 10 points, 10 rebounds and 3 assists

**WESTFORD 60 LONDONDERRY 57.** Westford went out to an 18 point lead early and then Londonderry started to make shot after shot taking a 1 point half time lead. Second half was all Coffey and Hartmann as the Lancers had no answer for either one. Bobby Hartmann scored 22

and corralled 24 rebounds. Pat Coffey exploded for 29 points. Londonderry was led by Jake Coleman 16 and Cole Brittings' best game at fall ball 16 points, 3 assists 5 rebounds

**WACHUSETT 61 METHUEN 45.** Wachusett has now won 2 straight and Tyler Dion was very good 32 points and shooting a high % from 2, 3 and the free throw line. Early foul trouble on Keegan Lannon did not help the Rangers but shooting 37% from two and only 9 for 29 from 3 was the bigger difference when Wachusett hit 50% from 2 and 50 % from 3

**ANDOVER 67 CENTRAL CATHOLIC 64.** CC did not put Andover away early and the start of the second half we saw a different Golden Warriors team as they were hungrier and tougher than the Raiders. Jon Rodrigues was huge for Andover with 20 points shooting 78% from 2 and 50% from 3. Andover continues to be my enigma team and Central Catholic needs to digest what happened and just move on to week #6

**NORTH ANDOVER 44 SALEM 39.** This was a matchup of two teams that try to play the right way, give a good effort, but at times it is not beautiful basketball. The one thing for sure is you can see the growth potential with both teams. NA shot it better from 2, Salem shot it better from 3 but NA had clear advantage in rebounds and assists. When both teams get their football players this winter the toughness piece will be better. Jack Fowler had 16 for Knights, Matt Mclaughlin 14 for Blue Devils

**TEWKSBURY 61 ST PETER MARIAN 51.** Good game with two teams that play hard every possession. Tewksbury senior leadership was the difference as Tenaglia and Derrah just a little better than the young Guardians. Marcus Watson told me in July they were young but would not back down to anyone and they don't

**LAWRENCE 82 TRITON 57.** Believe it or not Lawrence trailed Triton 21-20 then went on a 19-0 run to blow this open before half time. Lawrence is good, no superstars, no ego's they just work their tails off. Despite the 25 point loss I thought Triton played harder and tougher, the glaring difference was Lawrence speed and athleticism

**NEW MISSION 51 ST JOHNS PREP 43.** This one had Game of the Week written all over it till the ball was tipped. New Mission started out 3-20 from the field and St. Johns could only manage a 7 point lead due to their turnovers. In the second half the Titans played inspired bball (why an aversion to playing inspired every first half?) and basically sped up the eagles who in turn went on to set the 2015 fall ball record for turnovers 29 (Triton & Salem you are now off the hook). So many teachable moments for both teams. Despite this ugly game both will go deep into state tourney this year.



**WEEK 6 RESULTS:**

**WESTFORD 60 (PAT COFFEY 29)**

**CHELMSFORD 57 (ALEX SILVA 15)**

**PELHAM 81 (KEITH BROWN 35)**

**BILLERICA 82 (JOSH BRADANESE 39)**

**WACHUSETT 61 (TYLER DION 32)**

**ANDOVER 67 (JON RODRIGUES 20)**

**NORTH ANDOVER 44 (JACK FOWLER 44)**

**TEWKSBURY 61 (NATE TENAGLIA 22)**

**LAWRENCE 82 (JUAN FELIX RODRIGUES 18)**

**NEW MISSION 51 (CHARLIE MITCHEL 12)**

**LONDONDERRY 57 (COLE BRITTING 16)**

**HAVERHILL 48 (NAVIN CRUZ 10)**

**PEABODY 49 (JUNIOR ESTRELLA 29)**

**LOWELL 74 (ALEX RIVERA 29)**

**METHUEN 45 (KEEGAN LANNON 11)**

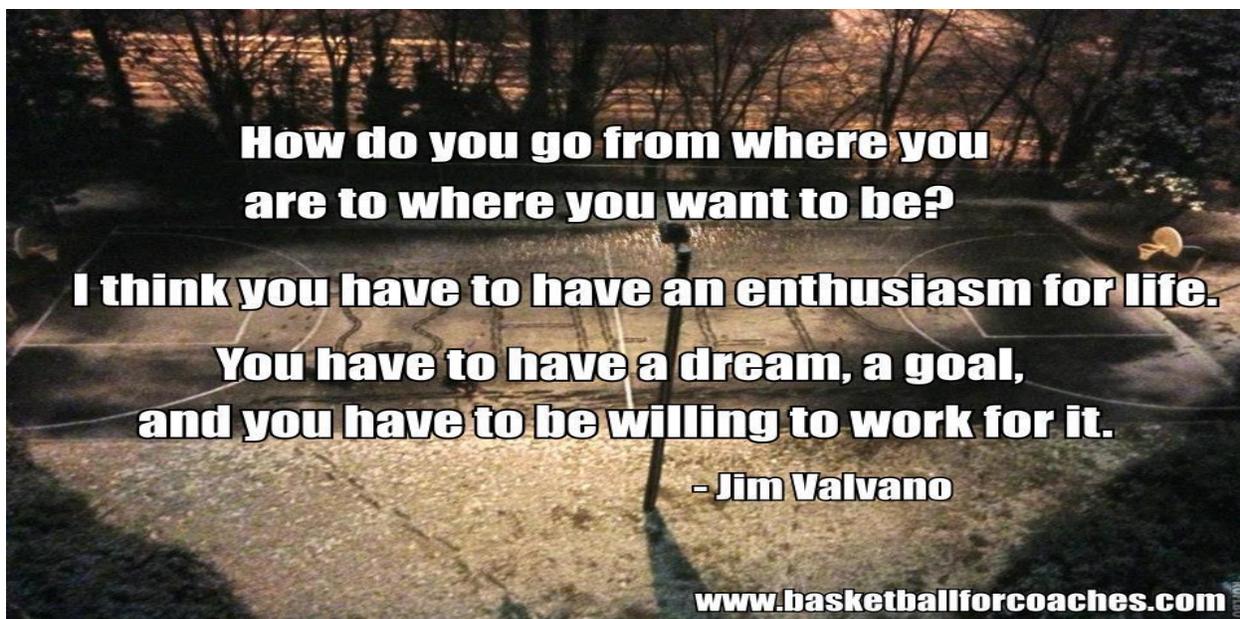
**CENTRAL CATHOLIC 64 (COLIN BRADANESE 16)**

**SALEM 39 (MATT MCLAUGHLIN 39)**

**ST PETER MARIAN 51 (TJ DARTEN 17)**

**TRITON 57 (WILL PARSONS 12)**

**ST JOHNS PREP 43 (HARRY ONEIL 13)**



**STANDINGS – HAVE BEEN UPDATED ON WEBSITE – PLEASE SEE – ITS GETTING TIGHT**

**NEXT WEEKS GAMES: PLEASE REFER TO SCHEDULE ON WEBSITE [WWW.NAFALLBALL.COM](http://WWW.NAFALLBALL.COM)**

**NUTS AND BOLTS:**

- Please speak to your players about picking up bench area
- NO SHIRT, NO PLAY!
- 3<sup>rd</sup> installment of leading scorers has been posted on twitter this week
- Standing and Results always posted on website by Wednesday night
- Details on coaches buffet will be handed out next week
- Playoff format (please read carefully)
  1. First night 4 prelim games for teams that finish 13-20 –11/9
  2. 2<sup>nd</sup> night is first 4 games of round of 16 - 11/11
  3. 3<sup>rd</sup> night is second 4 games of round of 16 -11/16
  4. 4<sup>th</sup> night – quarterfinals – 11/17
  5. 5<sup>th</sup> night – semi-finals and finals – 11/23
  6. Seeding is based on record and then strength of schedule

**ZEBRAS THIS WEEK:** “Stormy” Napolitano, Little Kevin Boots, “TCU” Tracy Mitchell, Moona Mullins, James ‘Sarge’ Slattery, Ralph ‘real guns’ Sully, Brian Lewis and Brian ‘Guns’ Gleason

**TEAM OF THE WEEK:** The nominees are: CHELMSFORD, PELHAM, ANDOVER, WACHSUETT, & LAWRENCE. This week we honor **ANDOVER** for knocking CC from the unbeaten ranks. I have said it since week 1 – Andover is an enigma every week this fall but they will be more than legit this winter. Just really gutted it out in the second half to earn a nice win

**DO YOUR JOB WINNER WEEK 6:** Nominees – BOOBY HARTMANN (WA), TY LEE (NM), KEVIN VANDERHORST (L), JUSTIN DERRAH (T) ALEX FRAWLEY (B) ALEX RIVERA (LO), KYLE FRANK (PE) COLE BRITTING (LOND), RYAN OCONNEL (A). This weeks’ winner is **TY LEE**, I have become more impressed with Ty this year as he does what needs to help his team win. This year emotionally tougher to go with already being a physically tough kid. Calms the team down when needed, makes guys better, rebounds and defends. Congrats TY

**BABY FACES I DON’T THINK SO-** This week we saw some top freshman performances from **ALEX SILVA** of Chelmsford, **ANGEL VASQUEZ** of Lawrence, **ETHAN MAY** of Londonderry & **ETHAN GARAFOLO** of Londonderry. All 4 making pushes to be varsity players

**PLAYER OF THE WEEK #6 –** Nominees are **KEITH BROWN, JOSH BRADANESE, NATE TENAGLIA, JUSTIN DERRAH, JON RODRIGUES, TYLER DION, JACK FOWLER, JUAN FELIX RODRIGUES, PAT COFFEY AND BOBBY HARTMANN** – Could make a case that each could get the award but when you fine tooth comb the stats, a few were eliminated due to TURNOVERS, EFFICIENCY %, SHOOTING %. Normally a stat line like **BOBBY HARTMANN 22 POINTS 24 REBOUNDS** might be enough but this week we have CO PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: **KEITH BROWN OF PELHAM**

(ANOTHER NEAR TRIPLE DOUBLE) & **TYLER DION** OF WACHUSETT (ITS ALL ABOUT BEING EFFICIENT IN BASKETBALL) Both can score, both can pass, both make others better and both have translatable skills to the next level. Congrats KEITH and TYLER as well as runner-up BOBBY HARTMANN & JOSH BRADANESE



**WEEKLY PET PEEVES FOR WEEK #6**

MONDAY	TUESDAY
Stop reading the hype & do it down here – if you can't do it down here what is the hype?	Playing faster than you are capable of playing resulting in atrocious turnovers – learn the skill first then speed up
Not being tough enough when the game is on the line – if you are not you can't be in the game at crunch time #fact	Players that need to PLAY ANGRY and want the ball more than their opposition does in 50/50 situation
Not allowing yourself to score in the flow of the offense- stop settling for shots you can get anytime – hero ball is dead	Inability to finish at the rack with their weak hand. Get better and stop leaving points off the board – This is really bad
Turnovers & complete disregard for the value of possessions – broken record here, repeat, repeat – possession is gold	Dribbling through traffic when you have not aced the test on how to dribble in traffic resulting in more atrocious turnovers
Misuse of the pull- back dribble allowing defender to get back in play – THE OOHS AND AHHS don't count on scoreboard– go by the man after the pull back	Bad defense then after getting beat try wrap around steal and then foul. Add insult to injury with the “ I didn't foul him” face they make after. Last night 1-11 in attempts 10 fouls



**POWER RANKINGS AFTER WEEK #6 – EVERY WEEK, EVERY GAME, EVERY POSSESSION**

<b>THIS WEEK</b>	<b>LAST WEEK</b>
1. LAWRENCE 6-0	CENTRAL CATHOLIC
2. CENTRAL CATHOLIC 5-1	LAWRENCE
3. TEWKSBURY 5-1	TEWKSBURY
4. NEW MISSION 4-2	NEW MISSION
5. BILLERICA 5-1	ST JOHNS PREP

**BIGGEST DROP SJP - # 5 TO #9**

**BIGGEST RISER ANDOVER #13 TO #8**

**OUTSIDE LOKING IN: WESTFORD 4-2**

**ITS NOT WHAT YOU DID LAST WEEK, LAST SUMMER OR WHAT YOU MIGHT BRING NEXT WEEK IT IS WHAT YOU DID THIS WEEK!**

**FACES IN THE CROWD:** Former Lawrence volunteer coaches Bob and Ann, Andrew Maylor look alike from Tanner Country, Hollywood legend Vin Deisel, in town for a movie shoot, Mr. Frank, new daddy Thad Broughton (#4), Justin Barrasso, The Danforths, The Castaldo's, Mr. O'Neil, Cory McCarthy, New Mission Videographer, Mrs. Connor Henry, Dave Clay, Dan Letarte, Triton Boosters Club, Ray Nunez, Old time Lancer fan, Greg Herenda look alike, Mike Costello twin, The Derrahs, The Tewksbury Mens' Guild, Phil Conners, Bill Brinklow, The Letourneau's, TJ Darten's dad, Don and Deb Romano, The Rosenthals, Fowlers, Rogers and Wolfgangs all biting finger nails, Wade Whipples extended family, Mr. Watson I presume, Johnny Bag of Donuts, Barbie and Ken, former fall baller Joe Gallant, injured Matt Vartanian, skinny jeans model Mike Kimball, Rob Mclaughlin, the Curtis family, Val Cinserrulli, John Warden, the legend known as Pags, the Hartmann's, Tom Coffey, The Baltayans, Jake Coleman father, Mrs. Betrand, the Brittings, Alex Larosa, Mike Dunham, Nate Stanton, Paul Tanglis, Kevin Tanglis, former Bates star Billy Hart, brother Dan Hart, The Chisolms, Haverhill Choir boys, Charlie Micol, Coach Beatti, Liberty Tree Mall Restoration Society, Meet the Browns, Mr. Nystrom, Marc and Debbie Bradanese, Mrs. Baltayan, Mrs. Quest Harris, Bobby M. and his coaching staff, Mr. Wennah, Faz and Alan Hibino, the Wittens, Mike Grillakis, Central Catholic Board of Trustees, Tom Sipsey on the bench, Rick Nault, the extended Carmichael clan, Lisa Lannon, Mat Curran, The Rivera's, Roger Hardy, Sean Kenneally, Bubba the conductor, and all the coaches in coaches row



**VIN DEISEL KNOWS WHERE THE BEST HOOPS ARE PLAYED**

**Colleges in the Barn:** Now that we are in a d2 dead period and all the d3 schools have started we will not see as many coaches for the remaining weeks but they will be here as many are trying to lure the services of our top prospects. **THIS WEEK – ANNA MARIA, FITCHBURG, MT IDA, UNE , ST JOSEPHS, WPI, KEENE STATE, TRINITY, ENDICOTT, NECC.** New schools that say they will be here are **CONN COLLEGE, WNEC, LASELL,** Thank you for your continued support of NA FALLBALL

### **FASHION OF THE WEEK #6**

With the barn doors closed this week we started to see some new trends. The scorers' table loves the variety of boot collections that start to show up, some sweaters were in vogue this week and as always the business attire and dressed down "take me to the gym" outfits went head to head. Londonderry Head Coach Nate Stanton with an impressive ensemble that we called "first date outfit" NA assistant Kevin Tanglis had the outfit that makes you a regular on "THE OFFICE" Vin Deisel just knows how to wear a \$100 t shirt, Mrs. Tenaglia rocked a nice new pair of sneakers. Billerica volunteer Marc Bradanese had the first day on the job coaching attire. Chelmsford Nick Beattie with the player/coach ensemble but this weeks' winner is **NEW MISSION VOLUNTEER COACH STEVE GRACE FOR WHAT WE CALL "THE SKITTLES LOOK"** The man coached a solid game and he wore every color in the Crayola box. Congrats on the pizza Steve



**HE SAID THAT? NO HE DIDN'T SAY THAT DID HE?**

No team is going to have a guy score 30 on us this fall! – Cory McCarthy

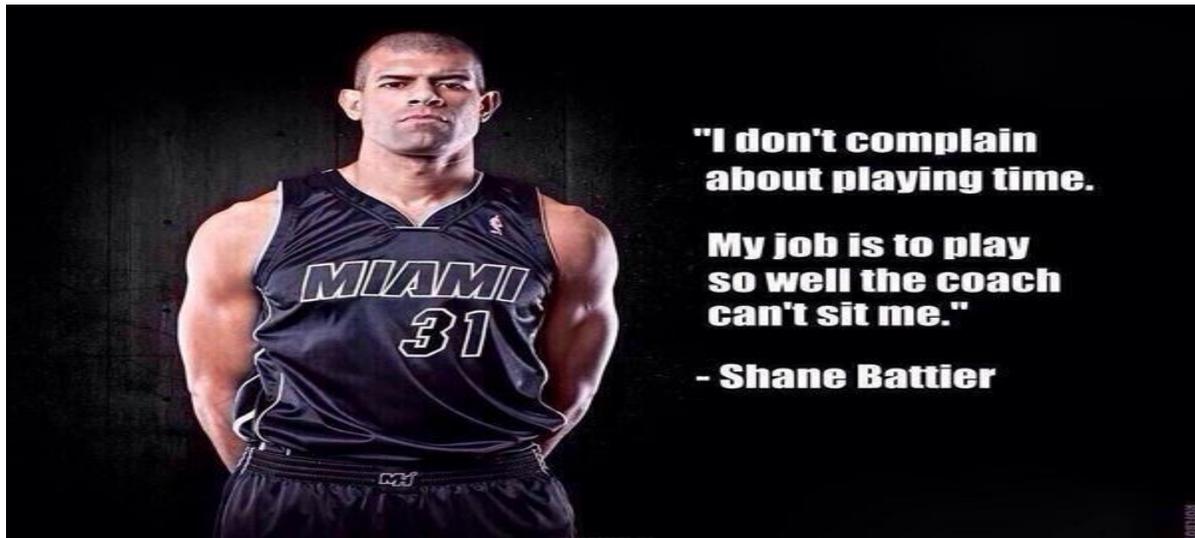
My staff will be there both nights of the coaches' buffet – John Dullea

Money in the bank that Tyler Dion will be huge this week – Fennis Dembo

We just don't have tough kids – echoed by a number of HS coaches

I really wasn't impressed with my 1ST taste of chipotle – Will the Thrill – (are u kidding me will)

## WHO BROUGHT IT IN WEEK #6 – YOU WANT TO BE MENTIONED BRING IT!



**New Mission** started out poorly this week but had a nice second half to secure their 4<sup>th</sup> win of the season. The debut of **Trahe Quales** in a limited role was a good one as you can see his potential. In limited action he scored 4 points, 3 rebounds 1 assist and ran the floor very well. He also could pass at the long lost brother of former Lawrence and UMASS star Rigo Nunez. **Ty Lee** as mentioned won the **DO YOUR JOB AWARD** because that's what he does. He did not shoot it very well last night but always does so much to help the team win. The **Mitchell Twins** were very productive in second half. Tonight **Charlie** with 12 and **Charles** with 10 both hitting for 50%. **Darion Jordan** 9 points and 7 rebounds is going to be very good. **Isaiah Laurent** not his usual dominating self but did score 8 with 5 rebounds. **Harry O'Neil** was SJP best player scoring 13 on 83% shooting. The man needs more touches. **Brain Francois** would play for me cause he always gives an effort and at the end of the game always productive. **Justin Connolly** had a few really nice moments but needs to put the complete game together. Unfortunately for the Eagles a number of other guys had their worst night. Yikes 28 turnovers...On to week 7 Eagles

Lawrence is on a roll and until someone beats them they remain as the #1 team. **Kevin Vanderhorst** with an impressive line 16 points, 7 assists and 5 rebounds. **Marcos Germossen** the energizer bunny with another solid outing with 18 points. **Juan Felix Rodrigues** has been the lancers best player 18 points 4 assists and 2 rebounds. First mention for **Angel Vasquez** as he was very effective. Triton had 27 turnovers against the Lancers and main reason why the lancers ran away with this. **Will Parsons** had a bit of trouble with speed but did score a team high 12 points. **Colin Brennan** had 6 rebounds. **Ryan Sharkey** contributed with 7 points and 3 rebounds. **Adam Baletsa** also did work with 11 points 4 assists and 3 boards. **Jack McCarthy** brings a lot to the table tonight he returns from injury with 10 points 3 assists and 4 rebounds

Tewksbury earned the win over a scrappy SPM. **Nate Tenaglia** with 22 points and 7 assists, shot it fairly well but too many turnovers this week. Some of them his teammates didn't help the cause but I know he will work on this for next week. **Justin Derrah** is a just a guy you pencil in a

double / double. Tonight he had 15 points and 11 rebounds. **Ryan Briggs** had 7 points and 4 rebounds but the big two needs a bit more offensive production from Ryan. **Colby Nowack**, is not a guy that gets too much love but thought in limited minutes did a couple of nice things. **Connor Brinklow** with his first few points and **Giovanni Champa** contributed 5 points and 4 rebounds. Kudos to **Sean Moose**, not a guy that knocks your socks off but did battle for 8 rebounds. SPM got another good night from **TJ Darten** with 17 points and 5 rebounds knocking down 4 threes, **Delling Boetang** was impressive with 11 points and 5 rebounds. **Shamar Simms** had 10 points and **Juan Zorilla** had 7. Not **Bobby Letourneau's** best night but he just battles to help the cause every possession.

North Andover evens their record at 3-3 and guts out a win against Salem. **Jack Fowler** was sleep walking the first few minutes till he realized he had advantages and then was productive with 16 points and 9 rebounds. **Robbie Couymoudjian** is just a kid you can't take out of the game 10 points, 2 assists and 5 rebounds. **Matt Rosenthal** was solid with 8 points, needs to watch the passing though. **Connor Rogers** with not his best game running the show but just gets stuff done 8 points, 5 assists 4 rebounds and only 2 turnovers. **Ben O'Connell** with solid minutes with 2 points and 4 rebounds. Salem got a strong outing from **Matt Mclaughlin** with 14 points, 2 assists but must cut down on the turnovers. **Griffen Curtis** did do some work on the boards with 11 rebounds but after being named player of the week in week 5 he must bring it more this week. **DJ Coletti** had 9 points and **Tyler Rodrigues** had 6 rebounds.

Westford went out to a big lead on Londonderry only to have the lancers come back and take the half time lead. **Pat Coffey** was very good at scoring the ball with 29 points but must let the game come to him a bit more as when he hunted shots the team struggled. **Bobby Hartmann** is that guy like Justin derrah that is a walking double/ double. This week he had 22 points and a season league high of 24 rebounds. **Mike Baltayan** is coming along. We all know he needs to get faster and stronger and have more durability but the kid is getting better every day 8 points 10 rebounds. **Issac Knight** did not score but had 7 assists and **Jon Glidden** added 3 assists and 2 rebounds. Londonderry battled back into the game and had a chance to tie at the buzzer. **Jake Coleman** will always keep you in the game with 16 points 6 assists and 3 rebounds. **Matt Corey** didn't shoot it well but did rally for 14 points and 11 rebounds. If Corey continues to rebound the ball the way he has last two weeks, his game moves up. The freshman **Ethan May** (4 points 6 rebounds) and **Ethan Garafolo** (5 points and 1 assist) are making strong statements to be varsity players. **Cole Britting** was Londonderry best player this week as he heeded some advice from his two biggest supporters and scored 16 points on 50% SHOOTING WENT 2-2 FROM 3 AND ONLY HAD 1 TURNOVER. Play like that Cole and you are the starting point guard.

Chelmsford with a nice team win this week over MVC Small foe Haverhill. Freshman **Alex Silva** was very good with 15 points (75% from 2, 50% from 3), **Austin Chadwick** is just so consistent 12 points and 7 rebounds. **Jared Krueger** with 7 points and 3 assists. **Kevin Sweeney** with 4 points and 8 rebounds and **Devon Firicano** also contributed 7 points and 2 rebounds. Haverhill got a nice effort from **Navin Cruz** with 10 points, 3 assists and 10 rebounds. **Joey Fenderson** with his

customary 10 points 5 assists and 3 rebounds. **Mike Battaini** chipped in with 8 points. Haverhill shot 17 % from 3 and was only 7-29 from the free throw line and that was the difference.

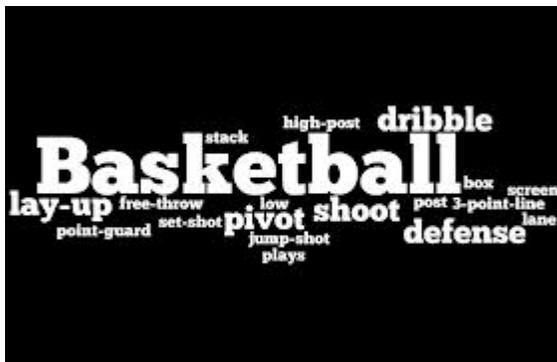
Pelham put together a nice team win against Peabody. **Keith Brown** is usually the best player on the floor most nights and today was no exception. **35 POINTS 9 ASSISTS 9 REBOUNDS (65 % from 2, 42% from 3 100% from free throw line)** to earn co-player of the week. **Colby Wilson** was 6-10 from deep for 18 points, **Kyle Frank** with another good game 14 points 4 assists and 4 rebounds. **Cam Delatto** with 5 points 4 rebounds and his first career three pointer. **Junior Estrella** led Peabody with 29 points on 52 % shooting with 8 rebounds. This was Juniors' best shooting night but needs to move the ball a bit more to complete the efficiency upgrade. **Ben Shmase** had 8 points and 5 rebounds. The young **Chubukum Okungawa** was impressive with 4 points and 4 rebounds. **John Lawrence** chipped in with 3 assists and 3 rebounds. Peabody shot 1-17 from three.

Billerica was running the Red Raiders back to Lowell (28 point lead) before Lowell woke up and Billerica decided to just give the Red Raider the ball on many occasions. Billerica does enough to win its 5<sup>th</sup> game. **Josh Bradanese** like Keith Brown is the best player on the floor most every night and tonight he was a beast with no answer from Lowell. **39 points, 3 assists, 13 rebounds.** The only black mark on this game was 6 turnovers. Josh knows we will be working on that this week. The line of coaches to talk to Josh and Keith every week loops around the building with each coach at every corner. **Alex Frawley** with his best game of the fall 18 points, 5 assists and 5 rebounds. Watch out if Alex puts together games like this. **Tyler Bradanese** is no longer Pat's and Josh Little brother the kid can play. 16 points 5 assists and 8 rebounds while shooting a high %. Lowell's lone bright spot was **Alex Rivera** with 29 points on 28 shots. **Quest Harris** is going to be a good one 12 points, 4 assists and three rebounds **AP Wennah** with 9 points and 9 rebounds and **Sidi Diallo** 14 points and 8 rebounds. Lowell needs to play fast and efficient; if they do they win this game, they chose to not do either and that is why they fall to their fourth straight loss.

Andover was our team of the week, for putting together a nice outing and upsetting CC. **Jon Rodrigues** could be an all- conference player this winter if he stays consistent. Tonight he had 20 points 3 assists and 3 rebounds **Devon Beasley** returned and scored 11 points running the point **Brandon Witten** had 14 and hit 7-8 free throws. **Ryan O'Connell** just does his job 11 points and good defense. Andover shot 58% from 2 was 5-13 from three and 12-14 from the line. Ricky Nault is like me and probably would not have me mention anyone this week but the Raiders had moments then after being down got back in game and took the lead. **Colin Bradanese** had some put backs for 18 points, **Jeremy Urena** scored a season high 10 points and **Kevin Fernandez** had 10. **Steven Hajjar** played well doing all the things that don't show up in the scorebook. **Tanahj Pettway** came out strong with 6 early points and **Ian Carmichael** had 7 points and 6 rebounds. CC was 0-6 from deep this week and this team usually hits a fair amount each week.

Wachusett is settling in nicely and has gotten back to .500 with a good win over Methuen. Most people know I preach efficiency and tonight **Tyler Dion** was Mr. EFFICIENCY. 32 POINTS (6-8 FROM 2. 5-7 FROM 3. 5-6 FROM FT), 3 assists and 3 rebounds. I am very intrigued what Tyler's game will be like in college because he can adapt very well. **Evan Cudmore** had 8 points 3 assists and 2 rebounds. **Tyler Burgess** had 10 points and 6 rebounds. **Matt Berman** chipped in with 5 points, 3 assists and 4 rebounds. **Nick Schmare** also contributed 4 points and 2 assists. Methuen did not shoot it well tonight but the Rangers still battle. **Keegan Lannon** had 11 points and 3 assists. **David Dizzazzo** becoming more consistent with 8 points and 5 rebounds. **Andrew Marcellino** plays hard every week, tonight 6 and 6 boards. **Dante Rivera** learning the point and scored 8 points and had 2 rebounds. **Evan Hardy** had 5 points while **TJ Scott** had 5 rebounds.

Bring it every week!



THE WEEKLY RANT- FOOD FOR THOUGHT OR FOOD FOR THE DUMPSTER.....YOU DECIDE

**Were you ahead of the times? Or did you get in early to maximize your investment? Or are you still stuck behind the 18 wheeler on Rt. 93?**

I have been writing for years on my fascination with the ever changing game we all love and after getting in early on pace and space (people say I have been on repeat for 5 years) I am excited to see where the next changes will take place. I personally think in the next few years we will see a reinvention of the post position but that's a topic for another recap. As you all know I am a disciple of Greg Popovich, I drink more Kool-aid from him than our impressionable young players drink from the local used car salesman (please read **FORCES OF CHARACTER: A CONVERSATION WITH GREG POPOVICH** by John Finkel). I don't think there is any argument that the two best coaches in professional sports today are Bill Belichick and Greg Popovich. In terms of offensive execution I have taken many ideas from Pop, Fred Hoiberg, Steve Kerr, Rick Carlisle, John Beilen, Bob McKillop along with a host of college, pro, high school and grass root coaches into my own coaching but the one guy I may have learned the most about offensive execution, pace, space and Doing your Job might be Former Emerson College Head Coach and present College Scout for the Oklahoma City Thunder **Hank Smith**.

Now for those who don't know Hammer Smith you are missing out. Hammer is as much of a ball buster as me, he hates liberals, is an avid reader, drives a jeep that leaks, spends hours in his pool sitting in an inner tube, can talk hoops with anyone for hours, genuinely gets to know people and is the owner of many a classic facial expression that I like to tweet. Hank won at tiny Emerson College with some of the worst talent in his league because he had a philosophy on offense and defense that you either followed or you found a new interest. He was also ahead of his time with teaching "how to play" the game. Last year SB NATION wrote a great article on Hank and his influences in the NBA. Hank has coached or mentored two NBA GM's, multiple front office personnel, assistant coaches and skill development guys. If you get a chance to check the archives it's a good read, and yes he has made me a better coach, trainer and evaluator.

7 years ago I coached a very good AAU team that had what I thought all the pieces to have a successful spring and summer on the circuit. A prototypical point guard who could shoot, guards and wings that could shoot and score and 3 PF/C between 6'7 and 6'9" that had size, strength and high bball IQ. After the first tourney where we played good but not great I asked Hammer to come to practice and tell me what he thought, and he obliged. Now Hammer follows the Fennis "**Keep It Real**" mantra and quickly said "**do you want the truth**" Of course I do and Hammer said "**I hate your team**" Ok Hammer tell me how you really feel said I and then Hank proceeded to say he absolutely loved my kids and accurately predicted that all would have stellar college careers but he went on at length about how I couldn't win against the best teams with playing more of a tight space offense with a clogged lane with big bodies. He didn't love my spacing and with hammer he can always find things wrong defensively. We talked for hours about my personnel, how best to utilize them and how a number of them would have to buy into roles for US to succeed. Now followers of Hammer Smith knows what comes next.... He puts YOU, not the players through an on court chalk session with a Socratic method where you think you are taking an honors calculus final hoping you don't fail. It was maybe the best on court teaching I have been part of. We walked the floor and re-enacted actions and possibilities all the while familiarizing me with every inch of the front court. Hammer starts to show up every couple of days asking me how it's going and of course adding more wisdom. He also knew I needed to implement some Kansas high low action to deal with my positional over load. In the end we had a great season played a new way that the guys loved, everyone shared the ball, different leading scorers every night and yeah we won a lot of games.

Over the past 7 years I have studied film and listened to all the greats of pace and space show me new options, action and new uses. The past three years I have had the pleasure of being at Fred Hoiberg practices and learning his use of; what he calls the "room". I love some new stuff Pop is running to acclimate and utilize the new Spurs' better, some of the new stuff Fred Hoiberg is running for the Bulls along with how they defend could make them a finals contender. Just what he is doing for Jimmy Butler, Pau Gasol and Doug McDermott is good stuff. Have not seen a lot of it yet but also interested in seeing how Billy Donovan has revamped the Thunder offense. That talent finally running good offense could be scary. Steve Kerr may

have two of the best shooters on the planet but he is designing new twists for Harrison Barnes to be lethal. Efficiency is at the core and Efficiency and Accountability is the difference.

Our Fall Ball head coaches don't reside under a bunker, they know the game has changed and they are trying to see how they can implement pace and space, good to great shot attempts, improved shot selection, dribble hand off and dribble pitch attacks. They know they have to locate and utilize the deep corner, the room, the appropriate use of drag screens and ball screens in the flow of the offense. The use of the back door cuts that look easy with proper spacing and proper action. The implementation of transition 3 point shots is no longer considered bad offense. They know the thrill of dictating the flow and making defenses figure out how to defend, and who to defend.

Two years ago the world saw the Spurs carve up a very good half court defensive team in the Heat by running, spacing, sharing the ball, moving the ball etc. It was the beautiful game and now the NBA is fun to watch again. I heard a Celtics fan say last week wow the C's are playing like the Spurs. The kids we work out in BST and are being taught "how to play the game. They are loving it and the common comment is this is "Fun". Trainers please spend time on how to play the game, running only scrimmages with no correction is not good. Teach on the fly! There are still coaches at all levels that still need to get around that 18 wheeler on route 93 and there still are some out of touch grass root coaches that still teach over dribbling and focus too much on 1 on 1, so we still got work to do but embrace the style or at least experiment with it. Find pieces of it that can work with some of your own philosophies and your own personnel. We all know at high school you can't draft and trade for the right personnel so not all of this is going to happen but check it out. Great to see NA, Westford, Salem, Methuen, Lawrence, Londonderry to name a few with their own versions this fall.

Pop and others will be known as the guys that took this to a new level (Pop's biggest thing for me is I don't think there has ever been a coach that was willing to adjust, change how he played, saw European talent early, use of the corner 3 with Bruce Bowen, I said Bruce Bowen people, held players accountable and stressed WE over ME, wanted to become a better coach than he was and defined culture and accountability. Don't believe me, look back at how Pop coached and how the Spurs played in the early years) but for me it will always be ball busting **Hammer Smith** who made me see the light long before it was considered vogue. **I know he will never go back but the game needs Hammer coaching for one simple reason he will be in the front of any new changes the game will take, long before any of us.**



THE HAMMER agrees DON'T GET TO HIGH!, DON'T GET TOO LOW!.....ITS FALLBALL

