

**Wild Card-89**  
 PLAYER:  
 Fennis Dembo  
 Guard  
 D.O.B.: 1/24/66  
 HT. - 6'3"  
 WT. 215  
 COLLEGE:  
 Wyoming

	Field Goals			Free Throws			Pts.	Avg.
	Att.	Made	Pct.	Att.	Made	Pct.		
1985	309	151	490	150	90	212	392	13.5
1986	420	227	540	161	123	299	577	17.0
1987	460	240	512	171	131	441	689	20.3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1190</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>1658</b>	<b>17.1</b>

COLLEGIATE LICENSED PRODUCT  
 Wild Card  
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## **NA FALL BALL WEEK 9 RECAP ACCORDING TO FENNIS DEMBO**

### **PRELIMINARY GAMES & 1<sup>ST</sup> NIGHT OF ROUND OF 16**

We kicked off the playoffs this week. The arduous process of crowning King of Fall Ball 2015 started with four preliminary games matching up the eight lowest seeds (#13 - #20), it was win or go home and the crowds were large and loud. On Tuesday night we started the round of 16 games and we had a mixed bag in terms of excitement, head scratching play, turnoveritis and a couple of major upsets or maybe not so major upsets. This week was also our annual PLAYER APPRECIATION WEEK where we thank our players and wish them the best of luck this winter. Thank you **Terry Holland of Stacheys Pizza and Coca Cola** for making it happen. This week was also the week we realized that the readership of the weekly recap reaches 5,000 people per week. Thank you to all of our readers. As Adam Sandler says “not too shabby”. So let’s recap week #9 of NA FALLBALL

### **PRELIMINARY GAMES**

**SALEM 73 TRITON 42** – The Blue Devils started out slow trailing 8-4 but never looked back after that as they placed 5 players in Double figures, shot it well and out rebounded Triton 38 -21. Salem is starting to show people they will be a factor in NH D1. Triton leaves us dropping their last 7 games. Triton as I have said a ton of times needs to play together more, needs to get tougher and get it together. This team has enough talent to compete in the Cape Ann

**PELHAM 68 PEABODY 48** – Pelham got big games from Keith Brown 24 points and Ryan Nystrom 22 points. The Pythons out rebounded Peabody and had a distinct advantage in assists. The Tanners are confused right now and in need of player role identification as well as

they need to play with each other more. This is a team that needs their coach and practice every day. The experience they get in this league is huge, now it's time to right this ship and fast

**LOWELL 70 LONDONDERRY 60.** Lowell did what they had to do to win but this team has got to become smarter basketball players and fast. This team has talent and should be a lot higher than 15<sup>th</sup> seed but they do more to keep the opposition in a game than any team in the league. They will have to get better fast to beat Lawrence next week. On the flipside Londonderry was missing top player and one of the scoring leaders in this league Jake Coleman but played like they had nothing to lose. They battled hard, played confidently and went toe to toe with Lowell. This game was not decided till the last two minutes of the game. Kudos to the effort by the Lancers from the north

**HAVERHILL 51 CHELMSFORD 47.** This was a fun game as both teams brought it, fans were large and vocal and despite not having the most talent in the league these teams give an effort. The game was back and forth all night even when Chelmsford lost their best player Austin Chadwick. This was an old school MVC ROCK FIGHT that was not decided till the final whistle which also happened to be Haverhill fouling a Chelmsford player behind the three as time expired. This was an entertaining game although not a beautiful game

### **ROUND OF 16 (NIGHT 1)**

**TEWKSBURY 47 HAVERHILL 33.** This game set basketball back a few decades. I expected a hard-nosed game but this was not pretty. Haverhill could not get going early and Tewksbury had a big lead but the Hillies battled back and Tewksbury hunted shots like I have not seen this fall. Tewksbury thrives with team ball, moving the ball and they did not do that tonight. Play like this next week and they will lose by 20. Haverhill ends their first year with us and they were a nice addition. Players played hard, parents very supportive, Hillies girls club always there, Coach Trovato always killing it with one liners and even the Suspicious Boys

**NEW MISSION 60 METHUEN 28.** I actually thought this one was going to be a lot closer. The Rangers had some serious shooting droughts in this one shooting 10-48 but the bigger issue may have been that the Rangers backed down to the Titans and that cannot happen when you play for Anthony Faradie. I like the Rangers and I think they will surprise people this year. The Titans have told me they are now refocused and "here to win it". Charles Mitchell was very good tonight for New Mission

**PELHAM 55 WESTFORD 43.** This was a good one and the score does not indicate the closeness of the game. Pelham goes on a 16-4 run late to put this one away with 2 minutes left. Ryan Nystrom was even better tonight, Keith Brown didn't shoot it well but his presence on the floor is amazing and Kyle Frank was clutch. Westford was just outplayed. The Grey Ghosts are going to be fine; they are too good. Great fall for Pat Coffey and Bobby Hartmann. I know they are missing some football players but you don't have to be a rocket scientist to know these two are

Westfords' best players and also their most improved players. Pelham becomes the first #13 seed to earn a spot in quarterfinals

**ANDOVER 62 BILLERICA 61.** Billerica had moments where they just don't play smart and a team like Andover just takes advantage of that quickly. Jon Rodrigues was terrific with 29 points and 5 three pointers. Andover was out rebounded big but they killed Billerica in assists. Josh Bradanese did what he could scoring 28 with 8 rebounds but in the end Andover made less mistakes than Billerica. Both teams combined for 34 turnovers and we set a fall ball record for travels. Billerica will be a force this winter as Bradanese is a player of the year candidate and this team has size. Guard play is going to be the key

### WEEK 9 RESULTS

**HAVERHILL 51 (JOEY FENDERSON 17)**

**CHELMSFORD 47 (ANDREW LINEHAN 12)**

**LOWELL 70 (ALEX RIVERA 25)**

**LONDONDERRY 60 (COLE BRITTING 14)**

**PELHAM 68 (KEITH BROWN 24)**

**PEABODY 48 (CHRISTIAN TEEHAN 13)**

**SALEM 73 (DJ COLLETI 15)**

**TRITON 42 (KHALIL BRITON 10)**

**TEWKSBURY 47 (NATE TENAGLIA 21)**

**HAVERHILL 33 (JOEY FENDERSON 15)**

**NEW MISISON 60 (CHARLES MITCHELL 18)**

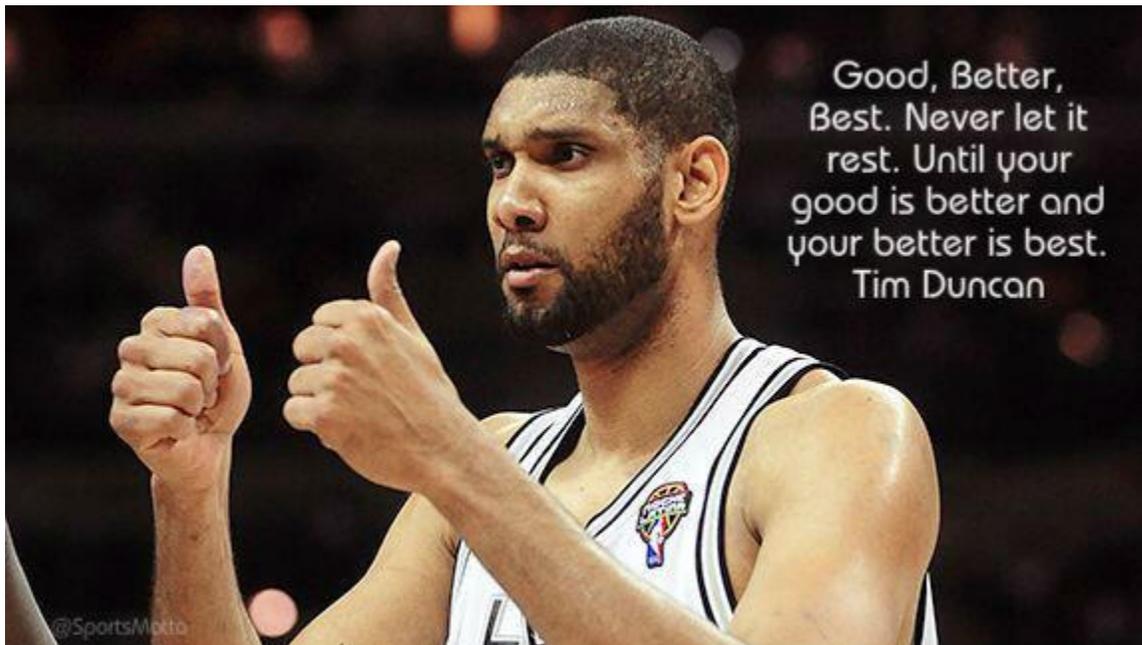
**METHUEN 28 (DANTE RIVERA 6)**

**PELHAM 55 (KEITH BROWN 22)**

**WESTFORD 43 (PAT COFFEY 16)**

**ANDOVER 62 (JON RODRIGUES 29)**

**BILLERICA 61 (JOSH BRADANESE 28)**

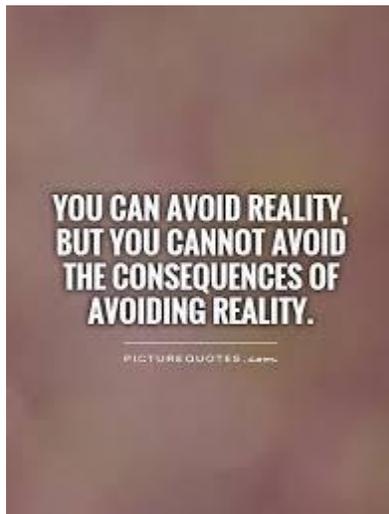


**Playoff Bracket and game Results are on the Website. Please follow schedule for games and times for second night of round of sixteen and quarterfinals next week**

**NUTS AND BOLTS.**

- **THANK YOU STATCHEYS PIZZA AND COCA COLA** for Player Appreciation which will continue Monday for the six teams that have not received their pizza and drinks yet
- **Reminder No Shirt No Play**
- Reminder you are ineligible for the playoffs if you did not play at least one game in the regular season
- The Pat Connaughton MVP selection has been made and will be announced after final game. Thank you to the nine person committee that participated.
- Reminder the only people that can go on the second floor are the coaches. Players, Groupies and parents not allowed on second floor
- Thank you to the colleges that attended this week Anna Maria, UNE, Endicott, Westfield, Suffolk, Fitchburg

**ZEBRAS THIS WEEK: RICH NAPS, JULIEN SCOTT, JAMES SLATTERY, TED SLATTERY, BRIAN GLEASON, BRIAN SCHAUFENBIL, PHIL NANGLE, KEVIN BOUTILIER.** The assignor is now finalizing assignments for the home stretch here.



**GAME OF THE WEEK.** The nominees are Billerica/Andover, Westford/Pelham and Chelmsford/Haverhill. This week we are picking **CHELMSFORD V. HAVERHILL.** The feel was like the Dayton play in games to kick off March Madness. # 17 and #16 just wanting a chance to take on #1. Both teams played hard, not beautiful hoop but effort was there. A real fun environment all around

**TEAM OF THE WEEK.** Nominees are **NEW MISSION, SALEM, ANDOVER, and PELHAM.** The winner is **Pelham.** They played very well in the prelim round and they become the first 13 seed to advance to the quarterfinals upsetting Westford. It's Keith Browns team but great two games from the whole squad especially Ryan Nystrom and Kyle Frank. Congrats Pythons!

**DO YOUR JOB WINNER WEEK 9.** We are going with **SALEM'S DJ COLLETI,** put together a great all-around game this week and did it quietly but effective 15 points 10 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals and strong overall defense. I need this game to be DJ's springboard to be as effective night in and night out. Don't sleep on this kid

**BABY FACES? I DON'T THINK SO!** Sophomore **COLE BRITTING** of Londonderry and sophomore **MATT COREY** of Londonderry were very good this week scoring, effort etc. The top 3 were Freshman **DEJEAN PENDLETON** of Haverhill for his performance Monday along with Lowell Freshman **QUEST HARRIS** and Lowell sophomore **ALEX RIVERA** who were very good. Picking the **ALL FRESHMAN** team will be doable but picking the **ALL SOPHOMORE** team will be very tough

**PLAYER OF THE WEEK 9** Nominees are **KEITH BROWN (P), RYAN NYSTROM (P), ALEX RIVERA (LO), DJ COLLETI (S) JUSTIN DERRAH (T), JOSH BRADANESE (B) JON RODRIGUES (A) CHARLES MITCHELL (NM).** Brown and Bradanese presence on the floor has them on the list every week. Derrah is a walking double-double, Charles Mitchell just gets stuff done, DJ Colleti with his best game of the fall, Alex Rivera comes back with another huge game this week but the **CO-PLAYERS OF THE WEEK** are **JON RODRIGUES** of Andover and **RYAN NYSTROM** of Pelham. **JROD** with 29 points, 5 three pointers and some athletic rebounds. **Ryan** with his best two games of the fall scoring 22 and 16 and hitting 9 of 15 from 3 in the two Python wins. Congrats Ryan and JROD.

## Weekly pet peeves for week #9

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>
1. <b>CRASHING OUT OF CONTROL INTO THE LANE</b> – please learn how to hit a pullup or a floater/runner	1. <b>BAD TEAMMATES</b> – learn to lead, learn to hold teammates accountable the correct way. You are always being watched
2. <b>KIDS WHO CAN'T PASS</b> – This is getting old so many kids cannot pass! practice, practice, practice, practice	2. <b>TRAVELLING</b> - Boys this is not rocket science, get balanced, be strong, be confident
3. <b>KIDS WHO PLAY DEFENSE WITH THEIR HANDS NOT THEIR FEET</b> – Hold kids accountable on this at all times, nothing but hacks, move your puppies	3. <b>CHUCKING SHOTS WITH NO CONSCIENCE</b> - This was really bad and learn it now. It's not about you, trust teammates, pass the damn ball
4. <b>BAD SHOT SELECTION</b> – some kids just take bad shots all the time –bad shots = BAD turnovers	4. <b>INABILITY TO FINISH STRONG</b> – Unacceptable! practice on finishing strong and with contact
5. <b>TRYING TO GAIN POSSESSION BY DRIBBLING LOOSE BALL</b> –plain embarrassing	5. <b>CATCHING THE BALL WITH 1 HAND UNSUCCESSFULLY</b> - This is just stupid,

## THE POWER RANKINGS WEEK 9

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
1. TEWKSBURY 8-1	TEWKSBURY 7-1
2. LAWRENCE 7-1	LAWRENCE 7-1
3. CENTRAL CATHOLIC 6-2	CENTRAL CATHOLIC 6-2
4. NEW MISSION 6-3	WESFORD 6-2
5. NORTH ANDOVER 5-3	NEW MISSION 5-3

### EXPLANATION NEEDED:

- Tewksbury barely holds on to top spot this week with a less than stellar performance by # 1 seed
- New Mission jumps from 5-4 with dominating win
- Westford drops from 4 – 7 with loss to #13 seed
- Biggest Rise Pelham 11 – 8
- North Andover moves from 6-5 by default and thanks Westford/Billerica



**FACES IN THE CROWD:** Mike Trovato aka HENNY YOUNGMAN, The Battaini Clan, The Fendersons, The Hillies Girls group, The Haverhill Suspicious Boys (guys I didn't fall off the tomato truck last week), Tewksbury Town Fathers, Mr. Conners with feet bolted to the floor this week, Phil Conners, The Tenaglia clan, Sean Derrah and the wife, Billy Brinklow, The Champa's, Chelmsford asst. coach, Mr Linnehan, Mr. Beatti, Friends of Brickhouse Pizza, Jack Slattery, Meet the Browns of Pelham NH, The first couple of Python land Mr. and Mrs. Frank, Mr. Nystrom, proud father of Ryan, Joe Morin, Matt Regan, The first family of Billerica Marc, Debbie and Eric Bradanese, Mrs. Baltayan, Roy Nickerson, The girls of Indian land, Coach Bobby and JC, Alex Rivera mother, The Wennah's The North shore mall crew, Thad Broughton, Justin Barrasso, Junior Estrella's girlfriend, Tom Labrie and the wife, the Klanatzakos, the Wittens, Mr. Kim, Pro Derrick Beasley, Faz, Alan Hibino, Connor Arnold, Ken and Barb, Dean Colleti and his better half, The Greenfields, The Curtis' Rob Mclaughlin, Grampa Mclaughlin, Mrs. Mclaughlin

The Rodriguez family, Jake Bosworth, The Lion, Lisa Lannon, Matt Curran, Keegan Lannon's father, The Hardy's, David White, David Brown, Anthony Faradie, The Rivera extended family, Gerry Dizazzo, former BC star Tyrone Scott, Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Parsons, The Triton PTO, Dave Clay, Dan Letarte, injured Vikings dressed in civies, Cory McCarthy, The Westford Glee Club, Bob Hartmann, the Gliddens, Tom Coffey, Nick Fiorillo, Pags, Kevin Bettencourt, Lukey Richards, Ed Silva, John Warden, Chris Bramanti, Rob Bramanti, former AMC star point guard Mike Gorman, Sean Kenneally, Stacheys delivery guys, compass cleaning, country rap star Sniffles P, Will the thrill, Nate Stanton, Alex Larosa and his new girlfriend, Mike Larosa, Mr. Stanton, The Londonderry parents – Brittings, Bertrands, Chisolms aerobics instructor Missy P, former Gymnast Madeline McCoy, Central fan who had wrong day and week, rock bassist John Brunette



**Former Rock Icon John Brunette, Country Rap artist Sniffles P, Former AMC point guard Mike Gorman and Family Health Center Development Cat Rich Napolitano**

**FASHION OF THE WEEK:** 2015 has not been like past years, fans used to revel in the fact we were highlighting the best. You need to understand something when it comes to Hoop; **music** and **fashion** play more than a big role. This week we recognize Tewksbury volunteer **Bill Brinklow** who was trying to relive the Air Jordan style of the late 80's. Red and black head to toe and coordinated very nicely



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

**That's why I am working with my brother?** – James Slattery when told Napolitano wanted to mix experienced and inexperienced refs more

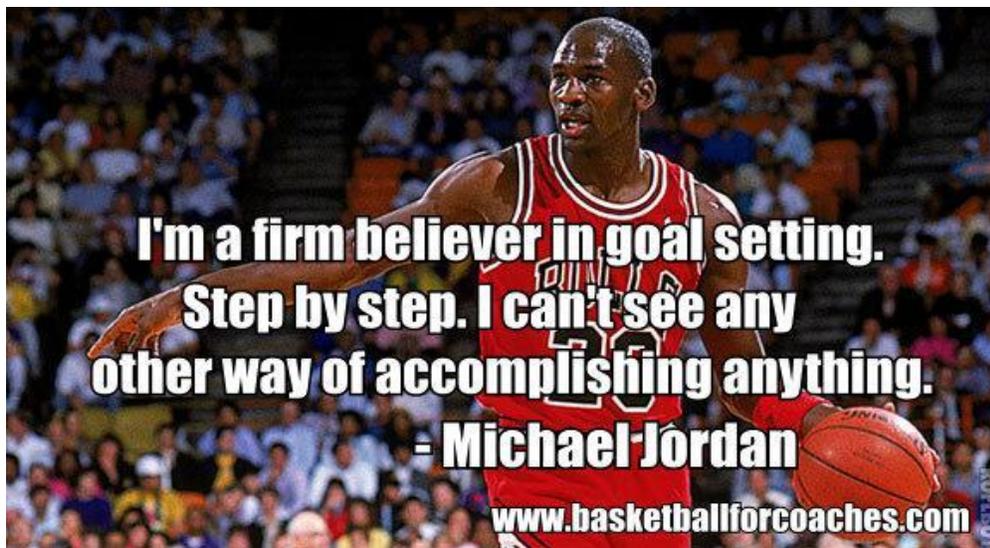
**He touches the ball and it's a turnover every time**– anonymous high school coach

**This kid has not realized that hunting season is over** – Fennis Dembo

Hey Mac your team has 5 guys in double figures. **Really, because I don't think we moved the ball at all-** Salem HC Rob McLaughlin

**We are just not a very smart team** – echoed by three coaches this week

**Sorry for disgracing offensive basketball last night** – a second anonymous high school coach



## WHO BROUGHT IT IN WEEK # 9

### PRELIMINARY GAMES

Salem placed 5 guys in double figures. The best of the 5 was **DJ Colleti** who had 15 points 10 rebounds 4 assists and 4 steals. DJ starting to do more than just knock down shots. He was impressive this week. **Connor Greenfield** continues to be one of the league surprises as he had 16 and 5 rebounds. **Jared Gott** is starting to fit on this team a bit more as he had 16 and 5 himself this week. **Griffin Curtis** had 11 points and 11 rebounds as he continues to have a fine fall and point guard **Matt McLaughlin** might be the most consistent blue devil the last four weeks. Tonight he had 10 points 5 assists and 6 rebounds, must cut down the TO's. I was disappointed in the effort by Triton in the elimination round. They had more guys in civies than guys contributing. **Khalil Brito** had his best game with 10 points and 6 assists, **Adam Baletsa** added 10 points and 6 rebounds, **Jack McCarthy** had 10 points and 4 rebounds and **Will**

**Parsons** didn't score much this week (6 points ) but did have 3 assists and 5 rebounds. Triton has a couple of weeks before tryouts they need to get together after school and start playing with each other more. Where is the compete level Triton?

**Keith Brown** was a beast on Monday with 24 points 15 rebounds and 8 assists. It's amazing he averages close to a triple double every week. **Ryan Nystrom** had 22 points 3 assists and 3 rebounds as he is starting to be a big piece in the Pelham offense. **Kyle Frank** was very good with 11 points 2 assists and 3 rebounds. Big **Cam Delaetto** chipped in with 6 rebounds to help the cause. Peabody got another strong week from **Christian Teehan** with 13 points. **Junior Estrella** had 11 and 5 rebounds. **John Lawrence** 7, **Ben Schmase** 9, and **Jake Custin** 4 also contributed. I am going to keep an eye on **Chubukum Okungawa**.

**Alex Rivera** of Lowell continues to put up big offensive numbers as this week he scorched the nets for 25 points. Freshman **Quest Harris** was terrific with 16 points 5 assists and 2 rebounds. **Sidi Diallo** got things done with 10 points and 5 rebounds. Sidi is a strong rebounder from the guard spot. **Tim Sousa** aka "salsa" had 10 points and the board work was done by **Majid Mondeh** and **AP Wennah**. Without **Jake Coleman** somebody had to step up for Londonderry and a few people did. **Matt Corey** had 14 points, 3 assists and 9 rebounds. Point guard **Cole Britting** was very good with 14 points and a number of hockey assists. Freshman **Ethan Garafolo** had 11 points and 4 rebounds and **Dakota Bertrand** contributed 7 points and 5 rebounds. Another freshman **Ethan May** had 6 points 5 assists and 5 rebounds. Safe to say that both **Ethans** have not only earned their varsity spots, they have earned a spot in the rotation. The future is bright in Londonderry.

**Joey Fenderson** got a haircut and he might have had his most effective game. He was active and had a game high 17 points for the Hillies. **Dejean Pendleton** had his best game of the fall with 15 points. **Avery Ceron** had 5 points but he did have a game high 11 rebounds. **Mike Battaini** ran the show and scored 4 points, dished out assists and had 3 rebounds. **Declin Davis** had his most productive game with 6 points and 5 rebounds. Before Chelmsford's **Austin Chadwick** left with an injury he had 11 points. **Andy Linehan** battled hard for 12 points and 5 rebounds. **Jared Krueger** had 6 points 3 assists and 3 rebounds. **Josh Sogade** had 6 points and 4 rebounds. Interesting stat both teams had almost identical numbers in rebounds, assists, and turnovers

### **ROUND OF 16 GAMES (FIRST NIGHT)**

As stated before this was not the Tewksbury team we are used to watching but they did enough to advance to the quarterfinals as Haverhill shot themselves in the foot with 24 turnovers. The Redmen shot 16 for 60 from the field as many guys hunted shots and took shots they could take any time in the possession. **Nate Tenaglia** scored 21 but took a league season high amount of shots. **Justin Derrah** had 13 points 11 rebounds and 2 assists. The Redmen had a season low 6 assists. I have a strong feeling we will see the real redmen next week, if we don't the #1 seed falls. The Hillies were their own worst enemy especially with unforced turnovers. **Joey**

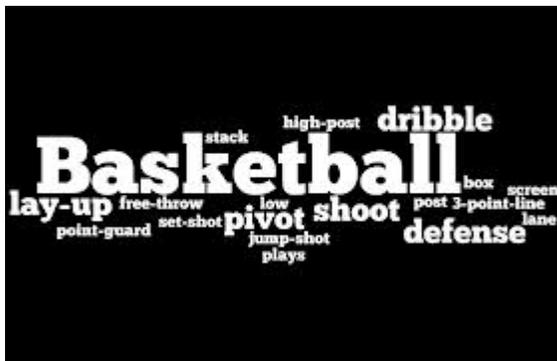
**Fenderson** once again led the Hillies with 15 points 4 assists and 6 rebounds. **Mike Battaini** had 8 points and **Josh Wojtas** had 6 points and 3 rebounds. **Avery Ceron** did not score but he did corral 10 rebounds. We say goodbye to Haverhill but they were a nice addition to the league this year.

New Mission was called out last week for sleep walking which caused them to lose the #3 seed but tonight they seemed refocused and renewed as they have started their "Here to Win It" mantra. Methuen had the deer in the headlights look most of the game. This coupled with serious scoring droughts had this game over early. New Mission got another nice game from **Charles Mitchell** with 18 points 2 assists and 3 rebounds. **Alonzo Cooper** had 12 points. **Isaiah Laurent** has a number of D3 schools drooling and he did not disappoint 10 points 2 assists and 9 rebounds. Titans' leader **Ty Lee** contributed 8 points and 3 assists and **Darion Jordan** 6 rebounds and **Charlie Mitchell** 8 points also contributed. For Methuen, tough to highlight when you shoot 20%, have 22 turnovers and don't defend like you usually do but I think the Rangers had a good fall playing one of the tougher schedules. **Keegan Lannon** is the leader of this team and will have a good senior campaign. **James Ogunjobi** has been a bright spot as of late with 9 rebounds this week. Most people don't know the names but don't sleep on these players or the Rangers. **Rivera, Hardy, Scott, Marcelino, Dizzazo, Mejia**

**Pelham** came to play and when the game was on the line the Pythons just beat down the Grey Ghosts. **Ryan Nystrom** with a back to back great games with 16 points and 4 back braking three pointers. **Keith Brown** is Keith Brown. Shot only 1-11 from three but still scored 22 points had 6 assists and 3 rebounds. His mere presence on the floor is huge. **Kyle Frank** was very good again with 13 points 6 assists and 7 rebounds. Another kid who trusted the process and should have a good junior year running the point. This three accounted for 51 of their 55 points. For Westford they leave earlier than expected but a great fall for the Grey Ghosts. **Pat Coffey** had 16 points to lead the team again. **Bobby Hartman** continues to be a stat stuffer with 14 points 2 assists and 12 rebounds. **Jon Glidden** will get a vote or two for the all improved team with 7 points 3 assists and 2 rebounds. WA was 3-16 from three land and 15-42 from two land. Despite the early exit I am high on Westford and think they could repeat their success from last year in CMass. I actually think they will be better.

Andover aka (Fennis Dembo's Team Enigma) was a 12 seed but I can make a case they are a top 4 team right now and watch out come the winter but that is a discussion for another day. **Jon Rodrigues** was special offensively tonight with 29 points and 5 three pointers. If **Devon Beasley** does what he can do; he is going to be big this year. This week 13 points 6 assists and 3 rebounds. **Ryan O'Connell** is the consummate glue guy and they won't win if he is not in the lineup. Ryan had 6 points, 3 assists and 2 rebounds and he can defend. You better cover the **T&B boys**. **Timmy Kalantzakos**, 6 points, 3 assists and 5 rebounds. **Brandon Witten** 6 points 3 assists and 3 rebounds. Wait till this team gets EJ and the Gridiron gang back. Billerica is going to be alright! **Josh Bradanese** is a MVC league MVP candidate and once they get together this winter he should be even more dangerous than he is right now. Josh is the best big man in the

MVC this year and the best kid to come out of Billerica since a kid named Mastrullo. Josh leaves us with 28 points 8 rebounds this week. **Alex Frawley** had 10 points and 5 rebounds and is very intriguing to me because he can play a variety of positions. **John Baltayan** does the dirty work underneath but needs to finish more consistently. **Jeff Trainor** is a D1 lacrosse player but he will be a big part of this team as he knows how to play. Tonight he had 9 points 4 assists and 5 rebounds. **Tyler Bradanese** will surprise folks this winter. **Guard play is the key as right now it is the weak link on this team, but time to get young guys better.**



**The Weekly RANT! Food for thought or food for the dumpster.....YOU decide!**

**THE STATS YOU SHOULD CARE ABOUT!**

It amazes me how most kids have their priorities messed up when it comes to stats and actions that mean the most in THEIR world. I have watched year in and year out, the kids in this league that try to dunk in layup lines and they are some of the ugliest attempts in the history of basketball. The same kids attempting have trouble finishing a layup with their weak hand in an actual game. When an actual “ugly” dunk is completed the reactions from the kids is beyond comical. Fellas over the years we have had some real dunkers and their names were Pat

Connaughton, Romeo Diaz, Justin Reyes and Ryan Cloutier. When you start dunking in GAMES like these guys your reactions and comments will gain my respect.

I love the guy that does a pretty decent reverse dribble and gets the player slipping and we can hear the **ooooooooohhhhhhhhhh** from the bench as the player who performed the act waits for the player to get back up then proceeds to play again. Hey Kenny Anderson I would be more impressed if when you did that move you blew by and finished strong at the rack. So the first reaction will be “there just kids what do you expect”? I know they are kids and that is why we have to help them realize what are the **real stats and actions** that we should be hooting and hollering about. If we are going to change the culture and develop efficient players they need to know now at the youngest ages.

**ASSISTS:** The game is not beautiful unless you are willing to make players around you better and get players good shots. The assist stat is undervalued in the big picture and a part of that is that official scorers sometimes don't know what an assist is and high scorers are always mentioned before high assist guys. We need to recognize and talk more about assists because its assists that make the game beautiful. I wish I had a dime for every time a high school head coach or volunteer coach said move the ball this fall.

**HOCKEY ASSISTS:** I have been preaching for years that the pass that leads to a pass that leads to the score is in many cases more important than the actual assist. 5 years ago I read an article from Coach Spoelstra on how the Miami Heat actually record these stats and I said this guy is my man. One of the best things about recognizing a hockey assist is you would not have pretty good assist guys like Rajon Rondo forcing assists to pad stats instead of making a hockey assist that leads to a more efficient score. You would also have efficient players getting credit for making the play really happen.

**ASSIST TO TURNOVER RATIO:** Now you are going to get me fired up. **Take care of the ball!** In past years we had excellent point guards that had outstanding A/TO ratios. We have lost that on the most part in 2015. We have some pretty good assist guys who have atrocious ratios. We had a guy one night have 7 assists and nobody mentioned he had 10 turnovers, I repeat double digit turnovers. I did a quick check of the best point guards in the league and they average collectively 5-6 turnovers a game. That is not good my friends. Some people will make excuses for the player by saying he is just trying to make things happen. My answer.... make things happen by taking care of the damn ball. Be more impressed with Iowa States Monte Morris two years ago with a 6:1 ATO or closer to home former Methuen & AMC point guard Mike Gorman who had one of the top ATO in the NCAA D3 last year.

**CHARGES TAKEN:** Now we should be celebrating this big time and this is a stat that we have a number of very good ones in our league. Westford assistant John Warden has been recognizing this for years by buying his players a Gatorade every time they took a charge. Last fall Methuen's Jamal Rene who is now playing at Regis College led the league in charges taken. Last winter I saw North Andover's Ryan Good take four charges in a row in a state tourney game.

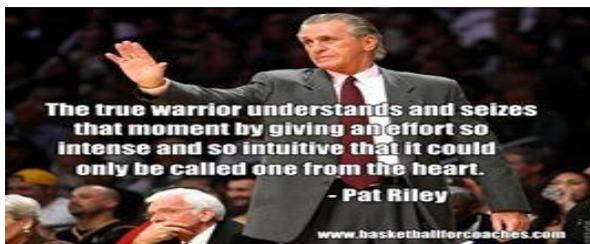
Reward and Recognize guys that sacrifice their bodies night in and night out. Practice taking charges, hold kids accountable to take charges and penalize anyone who flops

**LOCK DOWN DEFENDERS:** We do have a few but we need more! If you can defend you can find your way on to the floor. Keegan Lannon, Ty Lee, Tanhaj Pettway, Rob Couyoumjian and a number of other guys do not get enough credit for what they do defensively. Quite frankly they win games with their defense. They take pride in their craft and they are held accountable. The problem with some of our players is playing defense is not a requirement with their grass root off season programs. Just look at the defense in some of these ridiculous videos. Most common comment from high school coaches this fall.... "I guess his aaU program doesn't require him to play defense". Reward defenders, embrace defenders, cultivate defenders.

**REBOUNDING:** I love looking at rebound stats and I am vocal about guys that do rebound and equally vocal about ones that don't. We are lucky to have players like Bobby Hartmann, Justin Derrah (best undersized rebounding pf), Junior Estrella, Avery Ceron, Benniami Rodrigues, Josh Bradanese, AP Wennah, Demarr Langford, Andrew Marcelino, Isaiah Laurent, Mike Baltayan, Ian Carmichael who week in and week out get it done. I am hard on forwards that can't or won't rebound. It's unacceptable, I would go small if one of my bigs does not rebound. What really gets me excited is guards that rebound like Tenaglia, Brown, Couyoumjian, Coleman, Grillakis, Cruz, Linehan, Trainor, Diallo, Danforth, Dion, Rogers etc. A number of these guys are top rebounders on their team. They thrive on rebounding especially against the trees

**FIELD GOAL AND FREE THROW PERCENTAGE.** My guys Paul Connolly, John McVeigh and Jeff Nelson would be horrified at the overall shooting percentage in the league. We need to develop shooters; we have enough brick layers. This is why we need to celebrate guys that shoot high% from the field and from the free throw line. Let's talk less about how many points someone scored and ask the question how many shots did it take to get that? At the ripe old age of 54 if I get 30 shots a game I am scoring 20 too

**EFFICIENT PLAY.** This is so hard to really stat, we do have some efficiency stat formulas but you really need to watch for efficiency and inefficiency. Kids we work out are getting it drilled in to their heads and they are becoming more efficient but the culture has not quite caught up to efficiency because it's not as sexy. Here is the bottom line. Play efficiency and you win championships. Just watch the Spurs and Warriors the last two years



**PLEASE RECOGNIZE AND REWARD STATS THAT HELP YOU WIN GAMES. DON'T GET TOO HIGH  
DON'T GET TOO LOW....ITS FALLBALL**