

2016 GIRLS Gymrat CHALLENGE POST-EVENT REPORT

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By STEVE AMEDIO **GymRat CHALLENGE Director of Communications** SAmedio@GymRatCHALLENGE.com

SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY-It was seven years ago when Breanna Stewart first started to show just how good she would eventually become when she appeared in the 2009 GymRat CHALLENGE at the end of her high school freshman year. Stewart was nearly unstoppable on both ends, even blocking what is believed to be a tournament record 12 shots in one 2009 GymRat CHALLENGE game. The 6-foot-3 inside force went on to show none of that was a fluke by helping UConn win the last four women's national champions and becoming the first player in NCAA history to be the MVP of that tournament's Final Four in four consecutive seasons.

We haven't seen another like her since, either in the women's game or the GymRat CHALLENGE. But, this year's GymRat attracted some reasonable approximations, "big" young female players with high levels of talent and big-time potential.

They might never reach the heights that Stewart has, but the combination of height and talent was there this year for a group of players worth watching to see how, when, and where they'll eventually make their respective marks on the women's game.

The best of the best in the 16-under age division included some outstanding "big" players exhibited big-time potential. They were easy for the GymRat CHALLENGE Evaluation Staff to spot not only because of their respective heights, but because their level of play and diverse skill set.

Among those was a bracket MVG (Most Valuable GymRat) Danielle Patterson, a slender 6-foot-3 inside player with the versatility and athleticism to step out and do damage on the perimeter, as well. Patterson, who played for the Westchester Hoopers, has her final four college suiters down to Notre Dame, Tennessee, Virginia and St. John's. Patterson was far from alone among the GymRat CHALLENGE's top front-court performers who are being wooed by high-major level schools.



Masseny Kaba, a standout 6-foot-3 front-liner, also exhibited the skills that have, among others, North Carolina, Kentucky and Georgetown on her list of potential future schools.

Then, there's Olivia Owens, an athletic 6-3 inside presence who got to show off her basketball wares before a hometown crowd here. Owens, who plays for the Cityrocks_DNA squad, is a student-athlete at nearby Niskayuna High School. She might even follow in Breanna Stewart's footsteps all the way to UConn, which is one of the colleges actively recruiting her. Owens is also considering Maryland, Seton Hall, Minnesota and Miami, among many other high-majors.

As always the GymRat has always been a place not only where reputations get enhanced but where they are first developed. That's the case with 6-4 inside presence Kayla Mokwuah, who played up an age level with the Springfield Ballers' squad and fit right in with the best at the GymRat. Just completing her sophomore year in high school, Mokwuah's combination of size and skill already has her on the radar of Division 1 programs, including Mississippi, as her stock is just starting to rise.

The event, though, featured more than just a plethora of tall young future stars.

The 14-under level included two top young point guards, both of which earned MVG honors in different manners. Angel Parker, a tenacious 5-4 floor general, took directed her I-90 Elite squad to a championship at that age division with an ability to make teammates better. Maddie Plank, a 5-10 point guard, did the same thing for her 14-under Hudson Valley Elite squad while also averaging 18.2 points per contest over the two days of the GymRat.

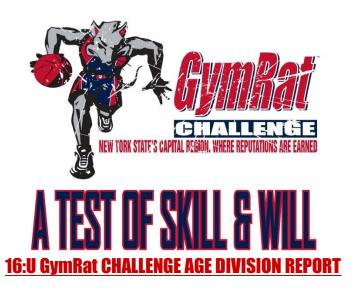
The 12th annual GIRLS GymRat also resulted in breakthrough success for programs from Maine. The Pine Tree state has traditionally sent multiple teams to the GymRat for years, but none ever secured a championship here. That changed this year when the Maine Firecrackers' program captured bracket titles at both the 16-under and 15-under age divisions. Both were fueled by strong guard play. The 16-under squad was led by 5-9 off-guard and bracket MVG Emily Esposito, who delivered a combination of all-around smart play and offensive production. A rising senior, she has already committed to Villanova.

It's a little early for 15-under MVG Eva Mazur to be narrowing down her college choice, but the standout point guard directed her Maine Firecrackers' squad to a bracket title and clearly has a bright future ahead at the next level.

For the first time, age divisions were divided into brackets for championship-round play with each bracket resulting in a champion....a new format that was well-received by program coaches and fans of the tournament. It seemed, too, to highlight even more individual talent than ever before, providing more championship-game situations for the best-of-the-best that were here this year.

It all continued to contribute to the GymRat CHALLENGE's reputation for being a place where young stars begin to brightly shine. To all watching carefully, it appeared that the talent level for this year's 12th annual girls' tournament was a bright as ever ... in a big way.





The top age division of the GymRat CHALLENGE always brings out some of the nation's best talent and this year was no exception, but the 12th annual event played throughout Upstate New York's Capital Region provided something else to remember, too. For the first time Championship Rounds were split into brackets, with multiple champions determined at each level. And, that brought out the competitive best in the top age division.

What this age division had in particular was some of the best story lines in GymRat history.

You want perseverance? It was in plain sight in the Gold Championship Round Bracket as the top-seeded Westchester Hoopers battled back through three difficult situations to eventually capture it's championship with a 61-56 overtime decision against the Jersey Shore Elite squad in a game played at Skidmore College. Jersey Shore had to rally back from a four-point deficit with under two minutes to play in its final pool-round play just to advance to the championship round. It did so when its standout wing Teisha Hyman scored her team's last five points to complete the comeback victory.

In the semifinal round, Westchester needed a last-second basket to avoid an overtime contest, and got it when Kristen Teklits, a 5-11 guard, delivered a three-pointer at the buzzer. The Hoopers had to battle back from deficits for much of the second half in its championship-game contest with Jersey Shore, forcing the overtime session when Laura Roman made a free throw in the final seconds and, then, riding the scoring of Teklis, who had all of her team's eight points in the extra session, to secure the title.

Along the way, Danielle Patterson, an athletic 6-foot-3 forward, was superb over the two-day event to secure the bracket's MVG (Most Valuable GymRat) award.

You want a success from a new source? That came from the 16-under Maine Firecrackers. No program from the Pine Tree state had ever won a GymRat title in either the 11 previous years of girls' play or the 19 years the boys' event has been contested. That ended in this year's GymRat as the Firecrackers' squad won titles at both the 16-under and the 15-under levels.

The 16-under crown came in the bronze bracket when the talented and team-oriented Firecrackers earned a 39-27 title contest victory over the Long Island Renegades. Maine, in recent years, has been crafting a reputation for developing top-notch female players in numbers nearly as plentiful as the state's lobster haul. This Maine Firecracker 16-under group is comprised of more than a few players who will eventually be Division 1 standouts, including bracket MVG Emily Esposito, who has already accepted a scholarship to Villanova. She came up big in the championship contest with a game-high 17 points.



Not to be outdone, though, was Maine's youngest player at the 16-under level, talented and versatile guard Anna DeWolfe, who was playing up two age levels (just completed her high school freshman year) and was clearly one of the top players here at any level. She is already fielding high-level Division I offers.

You want a hometown hero? That came in the form of 5-11 forward Nina Fedullo of Amsterdam, N.Y., just a short drive to the west from the Saratoga Springs site of championship play in the 16-under division. Fedullo carried on the well-regarded local family name in grand style, coming off the bench for clutch basket after clutch basket down the stretch to enable her New York Havoc-Blue squad to hold off United N.J. (Osta-Navy), 45-36, after United clawed to within four points down the stretch.

Fedullo comes from impeccable basketball stock. Her dad, Lou Fedullo, was a standout player at Siena College. And, her aunt, Angela Fedullo, excelled in two sports at Siena (basketball and softball) and is in that school's athletic Hall of Fame.

And, then, there was a tried-and-true story line at the Platinum Bracket where the Boston Showstoppers knocked off the Rivals-Black squad, 55-41. The Showstoppers employed traits that usually result in success here ... good team play and hard-nosed defense to secure its title.

"We've been playing together for awhile, and we've got an unselfish group, said bracket MVG Sayawni Lassiter, a superlative 5-11 wing player. "If you're open, you get the ball. Our players make good decision. And, we play good defense, whether it's in the half court, in transition or just help defense."

16:U AGE DIVISION GymRat MVGs (Most Valuable GymRats)

PLATINUM BRACKET

Sayawni Lassiter, 5-11 small forward, Boston Showstoppers/Newton North H.S.: Size and an ability to create off the dribble. Gets into driving lanes and gets the ball to teammates as defenses collapse on her. Can also create for herself, particularly on pull-ups with outstanding mid range efficiency and accuracy. Showed an ability to go all the way to the basket and finish with authority at the rim. Hearing from a number of strong D-1 programs including Northwestern, Miami (Fla.), Boston College, Harvard, Princeton and Brown.

GOLD BRACKET

Danielle Patterson, 6-3 center, Westchester Hoopers-Bunk/Mary Louis Academy: One of the top players here with a superlative inside-out game. A true "stretch four" type at the college level. Has good post moves, but is athletic enough to step out to 3-point range. Uses her length to be an effective shot-blocker. An active and athletic defender. Plays up on the press. Strong drive moves to either side from the high post. Gifted athlete for her size. Tall, slender and extremely effective. Has narrowed down college choice to Notre Dame, Tennessee, Virginia, St. John's.

SILVER BRACKET

Nina Fedullo, 5-11 wing, NY Havoc/Amsterdam H.S.: Great energy at all times. Came up big here in the biggest moment with a gamehigh 17 points in the championship game. Runs the floor extremely well. Big time scorer on the high school level, first girls' player over 1,000 career points at her high school, and just finished her junior season. Constant threat on offensive boards. Scores mostly in the paint and draws fouls to get to the line. Scored three huge baskets late in the championship game to secure the victory. Starting to hear from mid-major D-1 programs.

BRONZE BRACKET

Emily Esposito, 5-9 wing, Maine Firecrackers/Gorham H.S.: Super athlete who really knows how to play the game. Never out of control. Outstanding team-oriented player, but capable of getting off her own shot. Seemingly can score at will. Outstanding passer. Thinks and plays the game at a high level. Outstanding step-back jumper. Fits right in with a team-oriented attack. Only looks to score when necessary. She saw the necessity in the championship contest and delivered 17 big points. Has given a verbal to Villanova.



16:U AGE DIVISION ALL-Gymrat Challenge Selections

Joie Grassi, 5-11 power forward, Cape Cod Bulls/Plymouth North H.S.: A very good and strong rebounding forward. Also a solid shooter with range out to the three-point stripe. Uses length/athleticism to be a good on-the-ball defender. Handles the ball well in the open court, moving it up on the break to find teammates or to get to the basket. Projects as a potential D-2 player right now.

Casey Carangelo, 6-1 center/forward, CT Heat-Nkonoki/Thomaston H.S.: Runs the floor very well. Showed good strength inside on both ends. Exhibited multiple post moves here. Uses height, length to be an effective rebounder. Also showed an ability to step out and shoot from the 3-point stripe. Has made a verbal commitment to St. Francis (N.Y.).

Paige Leonard, 5-8 wing, Lake Effect Storm/Indian River H.S.: A super athletic guard that can play multiple positions, even the point if needed. Quick on-the-ball defender. She has good ball-handling skills and a very high basketball IQ. Outstanding shooting form results in good perimeter results. Range out near the three-point stripe. Projects as low D-I, or D-2 player right now.

Kristine Harrell, 5-9 point guard, United N.J.-Navy/North Hunterdon H.S. A great on-the-ball defender. She pushes the ball in transition with outstanding court vision. Runs a team, but can also score. Outstanding shooter with three-point range. Great rebounder from the guard position. Definite scholarship player, maybe low-level D-1.

Hope Brown, 5-9 wing, United N.J.-Navy/Bethlehem Catholic H.S.: A very strong wing player with a nice 3-point shooting touch. Good rebounder for her size. An all-out hustler at all times. Not afraid to user her physicality on the court against bigger opponents. Tough going to the basket. Has multiple NEC schools interested.

Teisha Hyman, 5-10 point guard, Westchester Hoopers-Bunk/Woodlands H.S.: A super guick true point guard with size for the position and an outstanding handle. Great at driving to the basket to either finish or dish to open teammates. An outstanding athlete, and uses that trait to her advantage. Really knows what she's doing on the court.

Trisha Peterson, 5-10 forward, United NJ Osta-Navy/High Point H.S.: Versatile, multi-talented wing forward who was playing up an age level. She can handle the ball well and exhibited an effective three-point shot here. Also a solid on-the-ball defender. Getting early interest fro several Ivy League programs.

Veronica Christ, 5-9 wing, United NJ Osta-Navy/Delaware Valley H.S.: Good scorer who can produce points in a variety of ways. Attacks the basket with any number of finishing moves. Has a quick-release jump shot and can score from mid range and out near the three-point stripe. Starting to hear from some D-2 programs.

Meaghan Gallagher, 5-7 point guard, CC Basketball/Johnson H.S.: An outstanding point guard, particularly in the transition game. Drives to the basket and can finish there against contact with either hand. Great athlete. Very high motor. Her game rises through her allout hustle.

Kerrin Montgomery, 5-11 post, Lightning-Haller/Lynbrook H.S.: A strong and physical presence in the post. College-ready body. Outstanding rebounder. Has a great touch and finishing ability to score around the basket and against contact. Good shot blocker. Always seems to have good position. Real high court IQ. Projects as good D-2 player.

Samantha Huebner, 5-10 forward, Lightning-Haller/Farmingdale H.S.: A very good wing forward. Has great shooting range, out beyond the 3-point stripe. Very guick release on her shot, tough to stop it. Very good finisher in the paint, too. Not bothered by contact when finishing. Showed a strong hoops IQ here. Could play at D-2 level.

Kristen Teklits, 5-11 wing, Westchester Hoopers-Bunk/New Fairfield H.S.: A good-sized guard who can also slot in as a small forward. Handles the ball well in the open court. A real 3-point shooting specialist with outstanding range. Uses height/length to her advantage in rebounding situations. Has made a verbal to UMBC.



Taylor Gardner, 5-9 power forward, CC Basketball/Union Catholic H.S.: A very strong rebounder for her height. Showed a nice finishing touch around the basket and against contact. Good passer with good court vision. Exhibited an effective mid-range jump shot here.

Cedeja James, 5-3 point guard, NJ Lady Titans/Teaneck H.S.: A true team leader. Penetrates to the basket or can stop and pop. A floor leader and floor general on the court. Plays bigger than her size. High motor, really plays with heart. Takes the rebounding challenge seriously.

Emily Peck, 5-1 point guard. Next Level Athletics/Lamoille Union H.S.: An aggressive point guard who can really control the show. Defends hard and anticipates well to get steals. Keeps the defense guessing by taking it to the hoop for the finish or stopping to pop. Has three-point range.

Amaya Rich, 5-9 forward, Lady Frenji/Maria Regina H.S.: A competitive athlete that understands the importance of hard work and team play. Rebounds aggressively, outlets and runs the floor. Aggressive on drives to the hoop, but will look to distribute if denied. Always in the rebounding mix. Alters as well as blocks shots. Steps out to hit the three-pointer.

Vanessa Duarte, 5-6 point guard, Lady Frenji/Kennedy Catholic H.S.: A quick point who makes teammates better. Can pass ahead, make a move to go past defenders and is comfortable draining the "three." Ultimate competitor that makes her opponents dread playing against her. Has heard from Siena, New Haven.

Mya Blazejowski, 5-11 forward, Evo Elite New England/Woburn H.S.: Has good size and knows how to use it. Complete game even though she is primarily an inside presence. Has legit 3-point range. If on top or on the wing she will penetrate to finish, or dish if stopped.

Laura Patulski, 5-8 guard, Syracuse Nets (Vaughn)/Bishop Ludden H.S.: A hard-working guard that plays both ends of the floor. Has a good feel for the game and good timing on defense to get deflections and steals. Offensively, she shares the ball for a give-and-go as well as keeps defenders honest by hitting some 3's.

Reagon Davis, 5-8 point guard, CT Heat-Turner/Williams/SMSA: An athletic point with a creative handle that gets her past defenders. Sees the open court and threads the needle to teammates cutting to the hoop. Likes the look-away pass to deceive defenders. Will give it up and get herself open. Aggressive on the boards. Quick hands on defense. Hearing from St. Francis (Pa.), Central Connecticut, among others.

Shaniyah Williams, 5-8 guard, CT Heat-Turner/Williams/Kennedy H.S.: An aggresive defenders who steals and, then, runs the wing. Gets herself open on the break and takes the quick shot on the kick-up to her. Has long range on her shot, and is confident in it. Athletic and has good timing to block and contest shots. Sacrifices her body for loose balls.

Kayla Charles, 6-2 forward, Harlem USA/Far Rockaway Educational: A long, athletic player that works above the rim. Can block a shot, get a steal and go coast to coast. Excellent distributor. Hearing from close to a dozen D-1's, including Mississippi, Arkansas U and North Carolina Central.

Kiera Whaley, 5-9 forward, Harlem USA/Bryant H.S.: Highly competitive player who works in a team framework. A threat from the outside, out to 3-point range. Will read and penetrate to finish or dish. Athletic and aggressive on the boards. Follows and gets put backs both on her own shots and those of teammates. Several D-2's are involved.

Jordanne Manney, 5-7 point guard, Lake Champlain Lakers/Beekmantown H.S.: Knows the game and sees the floor. Looks to get the ball inside. Can slice a pass through the defense and has a flow to the game. Complimentary player who makes good decisions and can be a threat when the paint is taken away. Outstanding court IQ.



Sabrina Wolfe, 5-9 guard, Synergy/Troy H.S.: Versatile player capable of performing at either the point or the off-guard spots. A fierce competitor. She will penetrate and read the defense. Has mid-range and long-range shooting ability. Also capable of finishing at the hoop. Plays hard at all times at both ends. Hearing from Le Moyne, Cornell, Robert Morris.

Shalie Frierson, 5-7 point guard, SYNERGY/Troy H.S.: Has a good knowledge of the game and puts it to good use. She is like a second coach on the floor. Quick to get steals and run the court. Has a complete game offensively. Can slash effectively, but also has a shot both from mid range and three-point territory. Toledo, Bryant, Colgate, Stonehill showing interest.

Jesse Semeniak, 6-0 forward, United NJ (Osta-White)/Bayonne H.S.: A young power forward who is able to do most of her damage around the basket. Good promise in that she runs the floor well and demonstrated the ability to pass out of the post to open perimeter players. Long inside, she alters shots. Strong upside.

Jada Lucas, 5-5 point guard, Playmakers/New London (Ct.) H.S.: Showed flashes of being a dynamic scoring point guard. Once she beats the initial defender off the dribble she has the ability to score on runners in the lane or with a pull-up/mid-range jumper. Great quickness and a good ability to create for teammates.

Alexis Hill, 6-0 forward, Lady Runnin Rebels/Lebanon (Pa.) H.S.: Playing sick much of the tournament, she was still extremely impressive with an ability to finish inside against collapsing defenses. Tremendous athlete and runs the floor. Great footwork to elude post defenders. Long and aggressive running the floor and creating trouble for opponents on her drives. Hearing from Villanova, Pittsburgh and Providence.

Elizabeth Althoff, 6-1 power forward, Staten Island Stingrays/Staten Island Academy: Strong potential because she played up an age level and is already a strong and imposing interior force. A nice short hook shot around the basket as well as being strong on the offensive glass. A tough post defender. With a little more expanded skill set she can really blossom. Hearing from Rider, Lafayette and Brown so far.

Maura Conroy, 5-6 point guard, Lady Runnin Rebels/Gwynedd Mercy Academy: The consummate floor general who thrives on making everyone around her better. Showed glimpses of strong scoring ability and shooting touch when she did look for her own offense. Reads defenses well and limits turnovers. Hearing from Brown, Penn, Lafayette and Lehigh so far.

Katie May, 5-11 forward, Lady Runnin Rebels/Archbishop Wood H.S.: A tough, versatile player who seems at ease at either forward spot. Works well on the wing, able to put the ball on the floor and go past defenders. Gets good position for offensive rebounds. Uses her body to fend off defenders and finish strongly at the rim. Hearing from Villanova, St. Joseph's and Purdue.

Ashley Wilson, 5-7 guard, Westchester Hooper (Rey)/Norwalk H.S.: A young player, playing up two age levels and more than held her own. An elite perimeter shooter here, particularly from the corner and wing. When given room, she is a deadly shooter. Can play some point as well. Very bright future if she continues to progress.

Bekkah Dean, 5-8 guard, CD Premier/Mekeel Christian Academy: Will probably play more point on the next level, but was mostly off the ball here. Moved on the perimeter with a purpose and a high motor. Creates her own space for looks from behind the arc. Solid as well in transition. Thrives at pushing it and running in the open floor and is an active perimeter defender.

Amina Wiley, 6-1 power forward, Westchester Hoopers-REY/New Rochelle H.S.: A strong and physical post presence who showed off excellent footwork in the paint and strong hands to dominate on the glass. She also faced considerable contact inside, but never backed down and was able to finish against contact. Showed a nice and underrated mid-range game.

Masseny Kaba, 6-3 forward, Boston Showstoppers/Cathedral H.S.: A versatile post player who runs the floor extremely well. Slender, but tall and athletic, can play either forward spot. Finishes in transition and in the halfcourt. Able to post up and finish with her back to the basket with either hand. Also a strong mid-range shooter. Uses size, athleticism to great effect on defense. Hearing from North Carolina, Kentucky and Georgetown.



Keelah Dixon, 5-8 guard, Boston Showstoppers/Braintree H.S.: A floor leader who played mostly off the ball here, but was dangerous when she was able to go one-on-one at defenders and use her speed to beat the opposition off the dribble. One of the best and most-consistent finishers at the rim. A tireless on-the-ball defender. Hearing from Quinnipiac, Brown, Penn and Sacred Heart.

Maggie Meehan, 5-6 point guard, CT Attack/Lightning-Seymore/Southington H.S.: Strong on drives to the basket and a consistent 3-point shooter here. High motor, a real hustle player. Showed the ability to finish consistently well. Great ball-handler with the ability to do damage going left or right. Real solid point guard.

Taylor Corts, 5-10 guard, Lady Lakers-Parizek/Wayne H.S.: An off guard that sees the floor extremely well. Exhibited good shooting range here as well as an ability to attack the basket. Aggressive with a high motor. Goes after every rebound. Showed the ability to post up under the basket.

Kate Cain, 6-5 center, Hudson Valley Elite-Blue/Pine Bush H.S.: Very strong post player with great size. Dad was a 1,000-point scorer at Manhattan. Powerful dribbler. Dominates the boards. Has a mid-range shot. Establishes position well under the basket. Knows how to use her height and length on both ends. Definite scholarship player, probably D-1.

Danielle Cajou, 5-5 point guard, Hudson Valley Elite Blue/North Rockland H.S.: Extremely quick player who uses that trait to advantage on both ends. Excellent on-ball defender. Constantly moving hands and feet on the defensive end. On offense, an outstanding ball-handler. Sees the floor well and delivers passes to open teammates.

Brianna Rozzi, 5-7 point guard, Hudson Valley Knights Maroon/Highland H.S.: Has the ability to drive and kick to open teammates. A great 3-point and mid-range shot. Excellent help defender. Can get her shot off consistently off the dribble. Aggressive on-the ball defender, as well. Consistently good free throw shooter here.

Rebecca Townes, 5-7 guard, Hudson Valley Knights Maroon/Our Lady of Lourdes H.S.: A strong guard who goes hard to the basket. Showed the ability here to finish at the rim with multiple girls defending her. A strong ball-handler with either hand. Very quick player and uses that trait to her advantage at both ends. A real offensive threat.

Cassidy Clay, 5-5 guard, Hudson Valley Knights-Maroon/Arlington H.S.: An excellent long-range shooter out to three-point territory. Strong driving ability. Finishes well, even against contact, for her size. A real offensive threat. Very good in transition and creative in the open court.

Kristyn Spetz, 5-7 guard, Crossroads/Pope John XXIII H.S.: Combo guard, plays well at either spot. Consistent three-point shooter. Excellent use of ball fakes. Strong right hand, will improve as left hand develops. Works hard from start to finish. Constantly moving on the defensive end. Adept at finding her match-up and boxing out for rebounds.

Carina Pringle, 5-5 guard, Lady Lakers-Parizek/Greece Athena H.S.: An excellent ball-handler and a good decision maker. Outstanding point-guard skills. Showed an ability to drive past defenders, get in the lane and kick to open teammates. Also able to take it to the hoop herself and finish when there. Already committed to Division 2 Daemen College.

Ashley Starzyk, 6-3 forward, Hudson Valley Elite-Blue/Pine Plains H.S.: A very versatile inside player. Uses her height well. Seems to grab every rebound within her vicinity. Does a great job at establishing position in the paint and using it. Can also be effective when facing the basket with the ball. Nice touch from mid range for her size.

Da'Shanique Ruffin, 6-1 forward, Ladies Play Too/Passaic County Tech: Takes advantage of her long wing span, particularly on defense. Plays very good help defense. Does well at finding open teammates, particularly when she receives the ball on the high post. Knows how to use her height at both ends of the court.



Rachel LaSaracina, 5-4 guard, CT Cobras Hill B/Bacon Academy: Showed a consistent ability to find openings beyond the threepoint stripe and make them. Excellent shooter off the dribble. Very good at moving without the ball and getting herself open and ready to shoot when receiving a pass. Outstanding quickness makes her hard to guard.

Sarah Skeith, 5-5 guard Ladies Play Too/Dumont H.S.: A consistent 3-point shooting threat. Knows how to play without the ball and, when open, always in a shot-ready position. Very good at relocating when defenders turn their back on her. Active player, high motor. Follows her shot consistently.

Jaliena Sanchez, 5-4 point guard, Springfield Ballers/Springfield Central H.S.: A very vocal floor genera. She pushes the ball hard in transition and knows when to attack and when to pass to open teammates. Helps keep the defense honest with her 3-point shooting. An improved mid-range game will make her an even bigger threat. Great court vision. Played up two age levels, but starting to get some D-1 looks.

Abby Cavallaro, 5-6 guard, Maine Renegades/Cheverus H.S.: A true combo guard. At the point, an exceptional ball-handler and decision maker. She can also attack the basket or step out to shoot the three. Very crafty player in transition. A vocal floor leader and the catalyst for her team. Defensively, she anticipates well. Aggressive and scrappy on both ends.

Samantha McClutchy, 5-11 wing, Blue Crush/Westwood H.S.: A versatile player that can be effective either on the perimeter or in the paint. Unmatched hustle at all times. A great passer, defender and rebounder. Ability to defend guards and post players. A high hoops IQ and does not rattle. Has already scored 1,200 points prior to her senior high school season.

Olivia Owens, 6-3 center, Cityrocks_DNA/Niskayuna H.S.: Very coachable, high-character player. She runs the floor hard and finishes in transition. Her greatest asset is her back-to-the-basket game. Great footwork and can finish around the rim with either hand. She can also step out and shoot the mid-range jumper. Ability to drive from the foul line. Rebounds well and is very positive and vocal with her team. Major college prospect, being recruited by UConn, Seton Hall, Maryland, Minnesota, Miami and others.

Paige McCormick, 5-11 forward, Northern Border Rampage/Heuvelton H.S.: She can score in a variety of ways. Attacks from the perimeter like a guard, and she can make post moves going baseline or to the middle. Works hard in the post on offense and defense. A relentless rebounder. She runs the floor very well and can finish in transition. Very vocal on the floor.

Maria Draper, 6-2 center, New Hampshire Elite Black/Brewster Academy: A lefty post player that can finish very well around the basket. Does an awesome job of passing out of the post and, then, re-posting to get better position. Great at sealing her defender and knowing when to do so. A major shot-blocker. HIGH ACADEMIC who wants to major in neuroscience.

McKenna Dale, 6-0 guard, CT Cobras Hill-A/E.O. Smith H.S.: She can attack the basket and shoot the three. Quick enough to defend guard and strong and physical enough to defend posts. She can play positions 1 through 4. Great court vision and she anticipates very well on the press. Long, lanky and really goes after it when rebounding. Committed to Brown.

Kayla Mokwuah, 6-4 center, Springfield Ballers/Longmeadown H.S.: Raw, but has tremendous potential. Attacks very well from the high post with her shot or by driving to the rim. Gets great position and finishes most of the time. Can finish either baseline or in the middle. An offensive rebounder, and she protects the paint on defense with length and height. Huge upside, played up an age level here. Early interest from Mississippi.

Achol Manyang 6-1 forward, Cityrocks DNA/Utica Proctor H.S.: A Dennis Rodman type who hustles and rebounds like it's her job. Does all the intangibles. Can be counted on for defensive pressure, offensive rebounds and put-backs. She could easily average a double-double for any team. Raw with some skill work still needed, but endless potential. Great on the press with her length and athleticism. Grambling showing interest as are several others D-1's.



Morgan Staab, 6-1 post, Rising Stars/Kellenbera H.S.: Strong, down-low post player. Has great hands, catches everything thrown in her direction. Showed a great capability of finishing around the rim. Smart player, high court IQ. Uses height, length to be a highly effective rebounder. Committed to St. Francis.

Mary Baskerville, 6-3 post, CT Express/Enfield H.S.: Huge presence in the lane at both ends of the court. Uses height and length to advantage both on offense and on defense. Catches in the paint and finishes well at the rim, even against contact. Runs the floor well for her size. Has great hands. Getting several looks from colleges, but keeping options open for now.

Danielle Delano, 5-9 quard, CT Express/Enfield H.S.: A real combo quard, and good height for the position. Great command of the floor. Directs traffic well. Good looking shot, out to near the three-point stripe. Also exhibited an ability to attack the rim effectively. Great court vision and has an unselfish ability to set up teammates for open looks.

Amanda Granados, 5-8 guard, CT Impact 11 West/Amity Regional H.S.: Very smooth player, never seems out of control. Exhibited a good pull-up jumper here, particularly in transition. Showed an ability to finish in traffic against contact. Also connected on several deeprange shots. Outstanding passing ability, as well. Likely D-II player.

Megan Yawman, 5-7 guard, WNY Lakers/Fairport H.S.: Good combo guard capable of playing either backcourt spot. Attacks the rim and scores well even against contact. Very capable of using her quickness to beat defenders off the dribble. Good court vision and gets ball to open teammates. Commands the floor.

Sydney Wagner, 5-7 point guard, Philly Freedom Stars, Spring Ford H.S.: Clutch player. Does what's needed. Hit a huge shot in 2nd OT to secure a win in a game here. Phenomenal handle, a real point guard. Mostly tries to set the table for her team ,and does it well. Can step up her intensity on the defensive end. Recruiting interest form New Hampshire, Vermont and Fordham.

Ayanna Mazyck, 5-9 forward, Philly Freedom Stars/Mastery Charter: A craft left-hander who can play either forward position. Great vertical leap. Showed a nice shooting touch around the basket. Fights her way out of double teams effectively. Can take it to the hoop and finish in traffic. Outstanding grit and determination. Georgia State, Western Carolina are interested.

Kaitlyn Downey, 6-1 forward, Empire State BBall Club/Maria Regina H.S.: Solid body that can take punishment in the post. Capable of playing in the post, or out on the perimeter. Can knock down a 3 better than most "bigs." Always positioned for a rebound. Effective shot-blocker. Showed great hands, catches everything. High IQ, particularly when working in the pivot. Iona and Fordham have shown interest.

Janine Conway, 5-8 forward, Lightning-Gordon/St. John the Baptist H.S.: Just a pure shooter, yet strong enough to play power forward. Runs out on offense wells and scores at the basket against contact. High court IQ. Good at posting up and finishing with a finger roll. Yet, steps outside and drops three-pointers like layups.

Danielle Rauch, 5-8 point guard, I-90 Elite 11 Gauntlet/Bishop Ludden H.S.: A highly spirited competitor. Extremely versatile. She doesn't need to score to contribute to a teams success. Score-sheet filler. Her stat line always contains assists, rebounds, steals. A lockdown defender. Good size for the position. Hearing from majors Virginia Tech, Wake Forest, N.C. State and Boston College.

Fallon Field, 5-6 guard, Mass Frenzy-Black/Hoosac Valley H.S.: Can play either guard spot. Shows a great court vision. Knocks down a high-percentage of her jump-shot attempts. Clutch player Sank two crucial FTs in an overtime game to force a 2nd overtime here. Can take the ball to the hoop and finish. Versatile skills.

Edona Thaqi, 5-9 forward, Stamford Peace/Westhill H.S.: She can score in bunches from either forward position. A very athletic player who has a great handle. Gets off her feet well, goes after rebounds. A team player. Her team is always much better when she's on the floor. Was offered by Saint Peter's before suffering a knee injury, headed to Suffield Academy for a year of prep play.



Anna DeWolfe, 5-7 guard, Maine Firecrackers/Greely H.S.: Playing up two age levels and probably one of the top players here. Scored a much-needed 23 points in a semifinal-round victory. Her team's leading scorer here. Crossover dribble that breaks ankles, gets her into the lane for an unerring floater. Long-range shooter, too. Adept at the point. Sees the floor all the time. Anticipates on the defensive end. Court awareness that belies her age. Major college prospect. Just finished her freshman season and has already heard from Villanova, Florida Gulf Coast. Many more to come.

Amani Free, forward, I-90 Elite 11 Gauntlet/Long Island Lutheran: Capable of playing either forward spot. A pure athlete. Very tough competitor. Super quick. Can weave through traffic and score. Scores effectively off the dribble. Can drill the three when left open. Active and constant on the defensive end. Has heard from University of Buffalo and Towson so far.

Brielle Wilborn, 6-3 post, Drive 4Stardum/Middletown H.S.: Plas to her strength on offense all game long. Has an excellent back-tobasket post-up game. Draws contact to get to the line via great tempo and balance. Is an "reliever," a big-target outlet on in-bounds' plays. Takes a lot of punishment from defenders when she has the ball in the lane, but is unflappable. Hearing from St. Peter's, UMass Lowell, among others.

Grace Heeps, 5-10 guard, New York Havoc-Blue/Columbia H.S.: An off guard with good size for the position. Excellent basketball fundamentals on offense. Sees the floor like a point guard, and passes like one. Excellent passer all over the floor. Not afraid to give it up to open teammates. But, an effective long-range shooter, out to three-point line. Has been offered by Lafayette.

Julietta Ford, 6-2 power forward, New York Havoc-Blue/Cooperstown H.S.: Good height, length and athleticism. Those traits allow her to create mismatches on offense in the lane. Just a tenacious offensive rebounder. Runs the floor like a guard and can convert in transition. Creates scoring opportunities on offense in the lane with her long wing span. Le Moyne, along with some D-1's (American, LIU-Brooklyn, Niagara, Monmouth, have shown interest.

Cameron Tooley, 5-7 combo guard, New York Havoc-Blue/Shenendehowa H.S.: A really knowledgable point guard, playing up an age level without any problem. Outstanding ball handler and a fundamentally strong passer. Has a very fundamental game. Great decision maker. Looks for penetration opportunities and gets to the rim or dishes to open teammates. Showed three-point range here. Le Moyne, Niagara, Brooklyn, St. Francis have expressed interest.

Jessie Maurer, 5-10 guard, Long Island Renegades-White/Half Hollow Hills East H.S.: A big-time deep three-point threat. Hit a three out of a time out with 20 seconds left to propel her team to a bracket championship game. Moves well without the ball. Good passer from the position. Has excellent hands. Hearing from NYU, Stonewall and Adelphi so far.

Lauren Schetter, 5-10 power forward, Elite Hackett-White/Beacon H.S.: Tremendous ability to draw contact off pump fake in the lane, despite limited height. Draws contact off baseline drives. Lives at the foul line, and converts there. Great offensive timing. Can hang in the are to absorb contact. Very productive with the ball in the lane against taller players. Excellent passer from both the paint and high post. Committed to Pace.

Lindsay Halpin, 5-5 point guard, WBA Lady Knicks-Gold/Irvington H.S.: Tremendous speed with the ball in her hands in the open court. Showed accurate three-point range here. Outstanding vision for dish-pitch off the dribble in the lane. Makes the easy plays every time. Great decision maker. She just does not turn it over. Hearing from Merrimack, Assumption, Endicott.

Lorraine Joensen, 6-1 center, New York Havoc-Blue/Northampton (Mass.) H.S.: Long, lean and athletic post player. Very accurate face-up jumper from 15-foot range and closer. Showed very good hands, catches everything thrown to her. Runs the floor extremely well for her size. Outstanding free-throw shooter. Has already committed to D-1 Canisius.

Nikki Bitinaitis, 5-6 point guard, Drive4Stardum/Cromwell H.S.: Excellent court manager in halfcourt offense. Good decision maker who creates penetration opportunities. Effective cross-over moves. Takes big shots with game on the line. Plays under game pressure well. Excellent free-throw shooter. Directly responsible for two of her team's wins here with scoring in closing minutes.



Payton Noellor, 5-7 guard, Syracuse Nets/Cato-Moridan H.S.: Very well-rounded player. She does everything on the court at a "plus" level. Showed outstanding three-point range with accuracy during play here. Always looking for quick transition to offense. Very good ball-handler, receiver or passer when on the move.

Tori Hyduke, 5-7 guard, Jersey Shore Elite-Gold/Rumson FairHaven H.S.: A playmaker with a strong handle, even in traffic. High basketball IQ. Can attack the glass and finish or draw the defense and hit open teammates. Sees the floor well. Has 3-point range. Nice pull-up jumper. Smart passer. Runs the floor well. Scores from the wing or off the drive. Hearing from some high majors in Big East, A-10 and Ivy Legue.

Hannah Scanlon, 6-1 forward/center, Jersey Shore Elite-Gold/Rumson FairHaven H.S.: An active inside player on both ends of the floor. Reads defenses well and knows when to kick it back out. Good variety of post moves and can be a threat at the high post. Excellent on the glass ... boxes and reads the flight of the ball. Cuts hard without the ball. Verbally committed to Bryant.

Zarla DeMember-Shazer, 5-11 forward, Elmira Lady Express/Elmira H.S.: Played up two age levels but has the composure to fit in here. Plays hard on both ends. Good athlete, gets up for rebounds and uses her length to advantage. Keeps the ball high. Effective back to the basket and in the high post. Can alter shots defensively. Good body control when shot-blocking. Excellent rebounder. Makes things happen. Bright future.

Lexi Levy, 5-7 guard, BNY Select Baxter/Seton Catholic: Best description is a mini-Jen Rizzotti. Intense and aggressive. When she gets in a zone, can't be stopped. Can make the three-pointer and can get to the glass. Attacks the rim. Reads the defense and finds open teammates. An active defender with deceiving on-ball pressure. Verbal to Hartford.

Zaria Thomas, 5-7 guard, BNY Select Baxter/Bishop Loughlin H.S.: Definitely turned heads here. Gets feet set in transition and nails key three-pointers. She is athletic and runs the floor well. Attacks the rim off the dribble, but best in transition. Gets in passing lanes on defense and can create a turnover. Does all the little things to help her team succeed.

Laura Roman, 6-1 forward, New Heights/St. Andrews H.S.: Strong player who boxes out and goes to get rebounds. Quick rebound outlet to start the attack on offense. Good touch around the hoop. Very effective in the screen-and-roll game. Reads the defense well for the pop or hard roll to the basket. Great hands, catches everything thrown in her direction.

Lynette Taitt, 5-7 guard, New Heights/Bishop Loughlin H.S.: An aggressive guard who shines on defense. Quick hands to create steals and gets in passing lanes. Picks up points off the steal and getting up court in transition. Good passer. Goes hard to the hoop. Reads the draw-and-dish well. Good finisher. Has speed and plays defense hard. A great combination.

Sarah Karpell, 5-7 point guard, Jersey Shore Elite-White/St. John Vianney H.S.: Plays like the coach's kid that she is (mom is St. John Vianney head coach Dawn Karpell). Fundamentally sound point quard. Goes hard to the basket and makes the read to score or dish. Nice floater in the lane. Made a game-winning three-pointer here in one contest. Cool and calm under pressure. Good passer and scorer. Very high hoops IQ.

Sajada Bonner, 5-11 forward, Jersey Shore Elite-White/St. John Vianney H.S.: A very athletic player with good foot work. Very active on the boards. Has great "ups." Good hands and the ability to catch and finish around the basket. Can post up and finish, too. Aggressive on the boards and, then, clears it out with good outlets. Good high-post attack game.

Josie Larkins, 5-9 guard, Jersey Shore Elite-Gold/Red Bank Catholic H.S.: A steady player, hustles on both ends of the court. Attacks the basket, gets in the zone to his key three-pointers. Had 25 points in the finals here. Good athleticism. Solid and active on-theball defender. Very high basketball IQ. Hands and feet ready to score at all times. Makes the extra pass. Will hear from high academic schools.



Emily Briggs, 5-10 guard, CT Starters/Canton H.S.: Really great size for the position. Athletic and long. Gets after it hard on both ends of the floor. Has the ability to get to the rim whenever she wants. Sees the floor well. Can shoot mid-range shots as well at a high percentage. Runs the floor well on the break. Very unselfish, team-oriented player. Hearing from Brown, Bucknell, Fairfield.

Janai Crooms, 5-11 wing, Rivals Black/St. Andrews H.S.: Played up an age level and fit right in here. Extremely versatile, does a lot of things well. All-out hustler, all over the floor. She gets after it on every play, goes hard for every rebound. Multiple talents enables her to be effective inside and outside. Extremely explosive. Great hesitation crossover move. Majors already interested, including Maryland and Syracuse. Big-time future.

Taylor Soule, 5-11 post, Rivals-Black/Kimball Union Academy: A really intense player at both ends. Constantly talking on the defensive end. Gets low and locks down on defense. Strong, and uses her strength effectively on the offensive end. Super athletic, and she goes after it. Can jump out of the gym. Hustle player, really fun to watch. Hearing from UMass. Rhode Island among others.

Anhya Jenkins, 5-8 power forward, Lightning-Martin/Central Islip: A real superlative athlete. A little undersized, but makes up for it with hard play, hustle and determination. Plays mostly inside, and effectively. But, also showed an ability to have success around the high post, free-throw line. She catches there, turns and attacks the rim. Highly aggressive at both ends of the court, particularly when chasing rebounds. Several D-2's are interested.

Gabriella Aspuru, 6-0 guard, Lightning-Martin/Sachem East H.S.: A joy to watch because she gets after it hard on both ends. Tall for the position, yet can handle the ball and see over defenders. A real on-floor leader for her team. Commands traffic. Showed an ability to shoot the three-pointer, but also uses an effective shot fake to go past and get to the rim. Big-time motor.

Janette Wadolowski, 5-9 guard, CT Starters/Southington H.S.: A real scorers' mentality. Very athletic, yet also patient with the ball. Good long-range shooter and connects consistently. She can also go past defenders and attack the rim. Not flashy, but a fundamentally. all-around quality player. Good strength and height for the position. Hearing from several Ivy League programs.

Ashley Berube, 6-2 post, Rivals-White/Tilton School: A real powerhouse player. Very strong in the post. Opponents have little chance of moving her off her spot when she claims territory inside. She showed a nice array of back-to-the-basket moves, as well as an ability to turn and face. On defensive rebounds has the ability to dribble a few times to escape trouble. Great outlet passer after securing a rebound. America East and NE-10 schools are involved.

Maya Thompson, 5-11 power forward, Rivals-White/Billerica Memorial H.S.: Extremely fundamentally sound in every aspect of the game. Very composed player, particularly with the ball in her hands. Good at taking it to the rim and converting, using her strength and power. Goes up and gets rebounds. Good team defender, talks and directs teammates on that end.

Julia Reggio, 5-6 guard, NY Pride/White Plains H.S.: Played up three age levels, just finishing her eighth-grade year in school, and fit right in here. Plays strong and well. Has the ability to get to the rim and finish against contact. Great body control, adjusts her shot in the air to avoid defenders. She has all the looks of developing into a terrific player. Already fun to watch. Mature body build for her age.

Nierl Largo, 5-11 wing, Rivals Black/Tabor Academy: Played up two age levels, and unbelievable athlete already. Strength beyond her years. Super athletic and really fun player to watch. She just skies for rebounds. Has the ability to get to the rim and finish against contact. Good, mature build. Most definitely has a bright future beyond high school level.

16:U AGE DIVISION ALL-Gymrat HONORABLE MENTION

Casey O'Connor, 5-10 guard, CT Impact West Claudia Maira, 5-6 guard, United NJ (Osta-White) Michelle Lalor, 5-5 point guard United NJ (Osta-Navy) Jenna Zimmerman, 6-0 forward Lake Effect Storm Brooke Pikiell, 5-11 forward Lightning-Haller Taylor Tripptree, 5-5 guard, Lightning-Haller



Kate Parker, 5-4 point guard, CT Heat Ashlen Ahern, 5-3 point guard, Cape Cod Bulls Sydney Lowry, 5-9 forward, Westchester Hoopers-Bunk Ali Changa, 5-9 forward, Saratoga Sparks 11 Orange Jalani Jackson, 5-3 guard, Cape Cod Bulls Camryn Wichelns, 5-9 forward, CC Basketball Michaela Ford, 5-3 guard, CC Basketball Kelsey Qualey, 5-9 wing, Evo Elite New England Marianna Rufo, 5-9 forward, Evo Elite New England Anyla Harper, 5-11 forward, Harlem USA Ashley Quilis, 5-8 guard, Harlem USA Jamyra Irizarry, 5-7 guard, CT Heat-Turner/Williams Julia Beebe, 5-6 forward, CT Heat-Turner/Williams Kylee Rosbrook, 5-11 forward, Syracuse Nets Molly Burdick, 6-0 forward, STNY Flyers Meghan Komendarek, 6-1 forward, STNY Flyers Alexis Wanchisen, 5-8 guard, STNY Flyers Taylor Day, 5-10 guard, STNY Flyers Christine Cohen, 5-8 guard, Lady Frenji Nina Gill, 5-11 forward, Lady Frnji Katie Estes, 5-8 forward, Next Level Athletics Elisha Cross, 5-3 guard, NJ Lady Titans Tamra White, 5-3 guard, NJ Lady Titans Megan Hasty, 5-7 guard, Vernon SECC Caileigh Travers, 6-0 forward, Metro Rocket Elite-Worsley Tamia Hines, 5-7 guard, Metro Rocket Elite-Worsley Hanna Whitney, 5-6 guard, Lake Champlain Lakers Bailee Mull, 5-10 forward Lake Champlain Lakers Samantha Dayter, 5-7 guard, SYNERGY Lara Matos, 5-7 guard, Boston Showstoppers Kalilah Hall, 5-7 guard, Boston Showstoppers Lyndsey McCoy, 5-4 guard, CD Premier LaSandra Turner, 5-8 guard, Westchester Hoopers (Rev) Ciarra Jimenez, 5-7 guard, Playmakers Sara Decker, 5-10 forward, United NJ (Osta-White) Cameron Corbett, 5-7 guard, Staten Island Stingrays Katie Bauhof, 5-7 guard, Lady Runnin Rebels Myra Owens, 6-0 forward, Lady Runnin Rebels Caitlyn Fitzmorris, 5-6 guard, Crossroads Kyla Smith, 5-5 guard, LV Lady Heat Red Taylor Smith, 5-8 guard, LV Lady Heat-Red Natalie Galle, 5-4 guard, LV Lady Heat-Red Gyanna Russell, 5-10 guard, CT Attack/Lightning-Seymour Corina Lindsay, 5-4 point guard, CT Attack/Lightning-Seymour Maeve MacNeill, 6-3 forward, Hudson Valley Elite Blue Payton Viner, 6-0 forward, CT Cobras Hill-B James Hargrove, 5-10 forward, Ladies Play Too Latice Cunningham, 5-5 point guard, Ladies Play Too Gabriella Rowell, 5-10 forward, Northern Border Fampage Claire Sehring, 5-10 guard, Cityrocks_DNA



Sara Grunblatt, 5-9 guard, Blue Crush Vicoria Sandner, 5-7 guard, Blue Crush Mackenzie Buzzell, 5-8 wing, Maine Renegades Madison Martin, 5-10 wing, Hudson Valley Knights-Grey Callie Cavanaugh, 6-2 post, Springfield Ballers Jocelyn Luizzi, 5-11 forward, CT Cobras Hill-A Brie Pergola, 5-8 guard, CT Cobras Hill-A Kyra Grimshaw, 5-9 guard, I-90 Elite National Morgan Higgins, 5-7 point guard, Ocean State Panthers Trinity Bravo, 5-9 guard, CT Impact 11 West Maya Klein, 5-8 guard, CT Impact 11 West Grace Cannon, 5-9 quard, New Jersey Crusaders-Black Erin McCauley, 5-7 guard, Lightning-Eve Sara Lyons, 5-8 wing, WNY Lakers Diana Wnuk, 5-9 guard, CT Bandits Daniella Scaperrotta, 5-5 guard Empire State Bball Club Melanie Polanco, 5-6 guard, CT Bandits Jane McCauley, 5-7 guard, Empire State Blue Flames Alexa Quirolo, 5-11 forward, Empire State Blue Flames Sophia Gatzounas, 5-9 wing, Mass Frenzy Black Karli Retzel, 5-2 guard, Mass Frenzy Black Shania Shorter, 5-9 guard, CT Rush 11th Sophie Holmes, 5-8 guard, Blue Wave Legassey Heather Kervin, 5-8 quard, Blue Wave Legassev Zhane Williams, 5-3 guard, Stamford Peace Anndea Zeiyler, 5-8 wing, I-90 Elite 11th Gauntlet Carly Reynolds, 6-2 forward, I-90 Elite 11th Gauntlet Danasia Fennie, 5-11 wing, Maine Firecrackers Mackenzie Holmes, 6-2 center, Maine Firecrackers Jordan Kastanis, 5-10 forward, Elite Hackett-Blue Ayanna Jones, 5-7 guard, Lady Runnin Rebels Casey Walsh, 5-8 guard, Lady Runnin Rebels Abi Field, 6-1 post, Rivals Blue Danielle Tedesco, 6-3 post, Syracuse Nets Theresa Quinn, 5-6 guard, Drive 4 Stardum Lauren Desrats, 5-9 guard, Elite Hackett-White Alexa Wallace, 5-9 guard, Long Island Renegades Shyla Sanford, 5-7 guard, New York Havoc-Blue Chloe Chaffin, 5-10 guard, New York Havoc-Blue Abby Weeks, 5-10 forward, NY Extreme Hoops Natalie Alfieri, 5-8 guard, NY Extreme Hoops Dani LaRochelle, 5-4 point guard, NY Extreme Hoops Courtney Dobrzynski, 5-11 guard, Jersey Shore Elite-Gold Samantha Roth, 5-6 guard, Jersey Shore Elite-Gold Bridged Johndrow, 5-9 guard, CT. Magic Emma Buonanno, 5-6 point guard, VT Heat Kerre Tanke, 6-0 forward, Jersey Shore Elite-Black Meghan Hughes, 5-10 forward, Jersey Shore Elite-Black Julia Ramos, 5-5 guard, Jersey Shore Elite-Black Alani Gallagher, 6-1 forward, BNY Select Baxter



Erin Nolan, 6-2 center, BNY Select Baxter Kaelynn Satterfield, 6-0 forward, New Heights 16U Angelique Rodriguez, 5-11 forward, New Heights Abby Stone, 5-10 forward, CT Storm 11 Premier Brelyn Bellamy, 5-11 forward, Jersey Shore Elite-White Gisella Romeo, 5-6 guard, Jersey Shore Elite-White Emily Wander, 5-4 point guard, Saratoga Sparks Elite Caitlin Estes, 5-11 wing, Saratoga Sparks Elite Erin Gibbons, 5-99 guard, My Sky Elite Brianna Horton 5-5 point guard, N.J. Crusaders-Red Elana Matarazzo, 5-9 post, N.J. Crusaders-Red Shyan Mwai, 5-6 point guard, Rivals-White Samantha Collins, 6-0 post, Lightning-Martin Grace Hartman, 5-8 guard, Md. Lady Hoopmasters Morina Bojka, 5-10 guard, CT Starters Abigail Streeter, 5-11 guard, Rivals-Black Mary Schoenherr, 5-8 guard, CT Starters Megan Cramb, 5-10 guard, Rivals-Black





For the past 11 years no AAU team from Maine had ever reached the pinnacle of the GymRat CHALLENGE. That all changed in year 12 of the girls' event, and doubly so.

The 16-under squad from the Maine Firecrackers won a bracket championship and then was joined by their program-mates who duplicated that achievement by capturing the Silver Bracket title in the 15-under age division.

After 11 years of being shut out, the Maine squads broke out in a big way in 12th year of the prestigious GymRat CHALLENGE. The 15under Firecrackers did so with a decisive 45-25 victory over the Lighning-Flynn squad in a game that proved prior knowledge can be beneficial. The Firecrackers and Lightning advanced from the same pool into the Championship Round Silver Bracket. In their pool-play meeting the Maine squad squeezed out a two-point victory.

But the return match on Sunday in the championship was only close (20-17 lead by Maine) until halftime. After that, the steady play of standout 5-8 point guard Eva Mazur, who distributed the ball well, took over. Teammate Megan Graff was the Firecrackers' leading scorer here, getting 12 points in the championship contest and also contributing games of 19 and 14 points along the way.

The Firecrackers broke open a close game behind Mazur's steady play and Graff's scoring after halftime to take control and win by its 20-point margin.

This year marked a new format for the event, one in which champions were determined in multiple brackets at each age level. The Metro Rocket Elite-Dunlay squad, with a strong collection of players from downstate New York, captured the Platinum Bracket championship of the GymRat. The Metro Rockets rode the two-way play of its MVG, 6-2 center Alexandra George, to secure its trip to the championship game and its victory there.

George was a potent force at both ends of the court. Her defensive work helped her team limit opponents to just 31.6 points per contest over its five games here. George also contributed 13 points in the championship contest, but wasn't the only offensive threat. Teammate Sarah Scerbak added 11 points in the title event, while another Rocket player, Kate Mager, was an offensive force throughout the event to average 17.4 points per game here.

The Gold Bracket title was earned by the CT Storm 10 Premier-Guisti squad in impressive fasion. The Storm upended the Albany Capitals-Lombard, 55-39 in the finals to earn the GymRat trophy.



Bracket MVG Lia Baroncini shared game-high scoring honors in the championship contest with teammate Gretchen Kron as each had 13 points. Baroncini and Kron were a two-person offensive attack for the Storm throughout the tournament. Baroncini, a talented point guard, averaged 14 points over her team's five games, while Kron, another 5-7 guard, averaged 10.6 points per contest.

15:U Gymrat Challenge age Division MVG's (Most Valuable Gymrats)

PLATINUM BRACKET

Alexandra George, 6-2 center, Metro Rocket Elite-Dunlay/Old Tappan H.S.: A big and effective inside player who dominated the championship game at both ends of the court to lead her team to a title. Plays hard at all times. Not afraid to go inside and grab rebounds in traffic. Really battles on the boards. Uses either hand effectively around the basket. Knows how to post up and seal off defenders. Scores in the paint. Never seems to panic. Provides a nice inside presence. Size and ability make for high future potential.

GOLD BRACKET

Lia Baroncini. 5-7 point guard, CT Storm 10 Premier-Guisti/RHAM School: Excellent on-ball defender, prevents dribble penetration. Handles pressure as point guard and finds open players in transition. Changes direction with dribble to go by defenders. Mid-range shooter, can create own shot off dribble. Rebounds effectively from her position. Controls tempo while organizing offense. Real floor general, but can score. Had a team-high 15 points in the final game to lead her team to the bracket championship.

SILVER BRACKET

Eva Mazur, 5-8 point guard, Maine Firecrackers/McAuley H.S.: An all-around talented point guard. Does many things well. Sees the court and finds open teammates under the basket for easy shots. Looks to push the ball up court. Has great size and length for the position. Smart and composed player at all time. Doesn't force her own offense, but has the ability to go past defenders for quick drives to the basket. The floor general of a championship team who orchestrated with steady, heady play.

15:U AGE DIVISION ALL-Gymrat Challenge Selections

Danielle Hore, 5-3 point guard, I-90 Elite 10th Gauntlet/Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart: An aggressive point guard who sees the floor. Good ball-handler that can use either hand. Very quick hands on the defensive end. Attacks the rim well. Capable of handling pressure with ease. Overall, an outstanding true floor general.

Skye Lindsay, 6-2 forward, I-90 Elite 10th Gauntlet/Guilderland H.S.: A real hustler on both ends of the floor. Long arms, and consistently in good position, traits that allow her to acquire more than her share of rebounds. Very aggressive when chasing rebounds. Always in position to block or alter shots. Finishes very well at the rim and against contact.

Micaela Ryan, 6-0 wing, I-90 Elite 10th Gauntlet/Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart: A terrific spot-up shooter. Outstanding range on her shot. Deadly from beyond the bonus arc. Showed a proclivity for playing well within a team concept. She is concerned with getting everyone on her team involved. Solid defender with good footwork on that end.

Azariah Wade, 6-0 forward, I-90 Elite 10th Gauntlet/Bishop Grimes H.S.: A solid "big" that works extremely hard in the paint and around the rim. An aggressive defender who goes after shots and alters and blocks more than her share. Knows how to effectively box out on defense. Offensively, showed a very good mid-range game here.

Makaela Johnson, 5-9 guard, CT Attack/Lightning-Garcia/Hamden H.S.: A very athletic guard that gets to the rim seemingly at will. Great form on her shot. Shoots it very well off the dribble. Awesomely fast with the ball in her hands. Very guick hands that lead to steals and fast-break opportunities. Very accurate long-range shooter.



Chelsea Dos Santos, 5-10 forward, CT Attack/Lightning-Garcia/Loomis Chaffee H.S.: A solid "big" that can play either forward position. High motor, particularly when chasing down rebounds. Showed a good mid-range game here. Finishes well around the rim against contact. Very good vision after rebounding to start the break. Long arms and already a good frame.

Julia Sutton, 5-9 guard, York Lady Raiders Glover/Dallastown Area H.S.: A very solid perimeter player with outstanding long-range accuracy. Also showed ability to handle the ball more than adequately. Good passer, good court vision. Sees and delivers to open teammates. Consistent scorer with ability to score in double digits every time she's on the court.

Trinity Sumrall, 5-5 point guard, York Lady Raiders Glover/ Hempfield Senior H.S.: A lightning-guick point guard, particularly with the ball in her hands. True floor general, decision-maker, Always seems to make the right play. Looks to penetrate and dish to open teammates, but not afraid to contribute with her own shot. Very confident player at all times.

Sunshine McCrae, 6-1 center, York Lady Raiders Glover/East Pennsboro H.S.: A "big" with very good footwork and great hands. Outstanding rebounder. Long arms and good timing produce more than her share of blocked shots. Consistently gets good position on both ends of the floor. Can rebound and go end to end to finish on the break.

Hannah Driscoll, 5-8 guard, NH Lady Spartans/Winnacunnet H.S.: Already good size for the off guard position. Outstanding scorer here with above-average long-range capabilities. She also showed an ability to slash to the basket and effectively attack the rim against contact. High motor, hustles on both ends. Good quick feet on defense.

Anna Hickman, 5-4 point guard, NH Lady Spartans/Newburyport H.S.: Very fast with and without the ball. Uses her quickness and good hands to get more than her share of steals, and converts turnovers into her own offense. All out hustle at all times. Great team motivator. Real floor general, looks to get everyone on her team involved.

Angela Saric, 5-9 forward, NJ Freedom 10th Grade/Indian Hills H.S.: Just a solid, all-around player. Very versatile, multi-talented. The type every coach wants on the team. Great finisher around the rim and against contact. Very high court IQ. Always seems to make the right pass. Also showed a good mid-range jumper here.

Colby DeBellis, 5-3 guard, NJ Freedom 10th Grade/Academy of Holy Angels: Small, but very effective scorer. Just a deadly shooter from the outside. Also exhibited solid ball-handling skills. It's clear she knows how to play the game, very high court IQ. Handles pressure with ease. Like a coach on the floor.

Alyssa Schriver, 5-4 point guard, York Lady Raiders/Penn Manor H.S.: Very fast guard with guick feet and uses that trait well on the defensive end. Good wingspan for her size. Very smart player. Does not shy away from playing hard defense. Will put up positive numbers in both points and assists in every game. Effective rebounder from the guard spot.

Emily Shurina, 5-11 wing Rising Stars/East Meadow H.S.: A bigger-sized wing that can play either small forward of off-guard effectively. She doesn't mind going down low in the paint to produce, too. Very good mid-range jumper, but also showed the ability to step back and connect on threes. Good court vision, runs the floor hard and effectively.

Ally Tarantino, 5-7 forward, Lightning-Gordon/Miller Place H.S.: A wing forward with a strong build. Very aggressive player on both ends. Makes contact as she cuts through the key and is great at sealing and getting position. An effective fact-to-the basket player with an ability to split the defense with her dribble. Can finish on both sides of the basket.

Olivia Cross, 6-0 center, Eastern Blizzard/Pentucket H.S.: A tall, long and athletic build. A defensive standout with an amazing ability to block shots. Extremely hard to get past and shoot around. Unselfish and sets strong productive screens. Good mid-range jumper. Can post up and finish down low. Has great stamina and consistently crashes the boards hard.



Alexa Avallone, 5-4 point guard, Staten Island Freedom/Tottenville H.S.: Looks to push at all times. Can break a press with her dribble. Unaffected by pressure. Fantastic at drawing pressure. Knows how to score with great shot selection. Can shoot outside and drive. Able to finish multiple ways despite contact. Great ability to score from anywhere, including out to three-point range. Clutch player.

Alex Huewetter, 5-8 guard, Lightning-Flynn/Smithtown East H.S.: Constant and relentless hustle player. First up the floor on offense and first back on defense. A vocal leader on both ends of the floor. Makes smart passes and is very composed. Looks for her threepointer first, but is able to get into the paint and finish with either hand. Ultra competitor.

Alivia Paeglow, 5-10 guard, ALFBC/Colonie H.S.: A solid, strong build already. A real fore with the ball in her hands. Comes up favorably seemingly every time she's involved in a hustle play. Strong at taking it to the basket and showed a regular ability to finish at the rim against contact. Very intense player that boosts her game.

Samantha Raja, 5-7 guard, LC Ballers/Holy Redeemer H.S.: Demonstrates a high court IQ, particularly on the defensive end. Comes up with more than her share of steals. Primarily a drive-first player on offense, but also showed off range from bonus territory. Fearless player, drives hard and always trying to get a foul call. Gives 100 percent on both ends.

Grace Fisher, 6-0 wing, Drive4Stardom/Rocky Hill H.S.: Consistently crashes the boards and always finds a body to box out. Very unselfish and always finds an open player when passing fro the post. Height and strength provided big boosts to her team's fast-break attack here. Basket-to-basket player. Takes it strong to the hoop, but can also pull up for a mid-range game.

Haille Hart, 6-1 center, ALFBC/Albany H.S.: A powerhouse in the paint. Long limbs and usually a mismatch in her favor inside. Has great awareness around the basket. Crafty footwork and drop steps get her layups seemingly every time she gets the ball down low. Able to catch and handle any pass that comes her way. Plays very disciplined, straight-up defense.

Sophie Glidden, 5-11 forward, Maine Firecrackers/Scarborough H.S.: A versatile and athletic player with size. She played both inside and outside. Good shooting range, but also strong presence in the paint. Works to drive, can handle pressure and takes it strong but could improve finishing. Plays great post defense. Works to get around and has court awareness on offense. Smart passer. Boxes out and crashes boards.

Menel Lamadzema, 5-7 guard, United Conquerors/Mystic Valley Charter: Dribble penetrates. Always looks to drive and finds a path to the hoop. Can finish with either hand effortlessly. Capable of hitting the three-pointer. Huge offensive threat, looks for shot. Defensively quick on her feet. Able to get her hands on the ball and deflect or pick off passes.

Ellen Klucznik 5-10 wing, United Conquerors/Austin Prep School: A max-effort player, extremely high motor. Great footwork around the rim on both ends. Long and able to block shots. Can bring the ball up the floor if needed. Moves well in space and above average at reading screens. Good shot with range. Very strong basketball IQ.

Jennie Meagher, 6-1 post, United Conquerors/Bishop Fenwick H.S.: Consistently looking to get in position in the paint and post up defenders. Long and athletic. Has good court presence, particularly in the paint. Can finish strong around the basket whenever she catches it down low. Tough defender. Uses her strength and length effectively to block shots.

Keyanna Glover, 5-8 point guard, New Heights 15U/South Shore Victory Collegiate: A versatile point guard with great ball-handling skills. Looks for her drive, but also has great range with the ability to shoot off the dribble. Crafty on offense and has good footwork defensively. A vocal leader. Displays court leadership, but could take her game to the next level with better temperament and fundamental decision-making.

Kendra Sanchez, 5-8 guard, New Heights 15U/Bayside H.S.: A great team player, outstanding understanding of role play. Very versatile. Does whatever her team needs. Can handle the ball and always seems to make the smart decision. Uses her length to great advantage on both ends. Looks for her drive. Explosive to the hoop off the dribble.



Izabella Booth, 5-11 forward, Team Providence Athletics/Rogers H.S.: Good size and athleticism. Has the ability to take defenders off the dribble. Finishes strong inside and crashes the boards hard to chase rebounds. Showed some long-range shooting ability, out to the stripe, here. A presence down low, although a little slow on defense which makes her prone to pick up foul trouble.

Shaniah Hazard, 5-7 forward, Team Providence Athletics/East Providence H.S: Very quick and plays a lot bigger than her height. Defensively explosive in the open court ... comes up with more than her share of steals. Boxes out and crashes boards excessively. Gets her hands on the ball. Mid-range jumper. Amazing ability to drive with a great touch off the glass and ability to finish difficult layups.

Anna Barry, 5-10 forward, CT Storm 10 Premier-Gusti/RHAM School: Active defensively, particularly at top of 1-2-2 press. Excellent weak-side help defender who blocks shots, rebounds and outlets the ball with precision. Boxes out well and rebounds in traffic. Scores from the paint, even when defended. Exhibits extreme effort on both ends of the floor.

Riley Childs, 5-10 forward, Mavericks Beauchemin 1/Medway H.S.: Dribbles and handles well for her size. Good athlete, shoots from perimeter or drives to the basket. Excellent finisher on fast breaks. Excellent shot fake and up-and-under move from the block. Moves very well to the help line on defense. Very versatile young forward.

Julia Buchman, 5-8 forward, Crossroads/Parkland H.S.: Very active defensively. Communicates well to teammates. Excellent post defender. Moves extremely well on offense without the ball. Can score in the post with a nice touch around the basket. Can also step out beyond the bonus stripe and connect. Showed a very strong baseline-drive move here.

Carolyn Galvez, 5-3 point guard, Crossroads/North Bergen H.S.: A good on-ball defender who provides constant ball pressure. Good perimeter shooting range, and can step out and hit beyond the three-point stripe. Can catch and finish in transition around the rim and against contact. Good floor leader. A little more strength/skill will boost her stock.

Morgan Winogradoff, 5-8 forward, NY Extreme/Putnam Valley H.S.: An excellent post defender with square-off and no "face cut" defensive skills. She can score in a variety of ways, with back to the basket or facing up, mostly going to the right. Needs to add some strength to compete against opponents to make the next step.

Fiona Finn, 6-0 forward, Mavericks Beauchemin 2/Rivers School: A playmaker on both ends of the court. Showed the ability to finish at the rim in traffic. Good range for her size, out to the 3-point arc. Defensively plays in the back of the zone and rebounds while finding open teammates with strong outlets to start transitions. Playing up an age level.

Kiera Fernandes 5-9 wing, Mavericks Beauchemin 2/Worcester Academy: A strong wing player who can also handle the ball. Versatile enough using her strength to be an excellent rebounder. Excellent in the screen-and-roll game. Good hands, catches everything and drives hard to the hoop. Uses size and strength to her advantage on defense. Needs some maturity improvement, though, to reach potential.

Maren Durant 6-3 center, Mavericks Beauchemin 2/Rivers School: Rebounds well and scores off screen-and-roll action around the paint. Seals her defender with excellent footwork to obtain offensive position. Class of 2019, playing up a level and belongs here. A real post presence on defense with excellent square-off skills to protect paint. Boxes out effectively.

Zoe Amalbert, 5-6 guard, Hudson Valley Elite Gold (John)/Nanuet H.S.: A very quick and explosive point guard. Good overall ballhandling abilities. Does her best work off penetration and kick-outs to open teammates. Very good vision off dribble-drive moves. Can make perimeter shot from 12-to-18 feet, which means defenders can't back off her.

Elena Pulanco, 5-3 point guard, Hudson Valley Elite Gold (John)/Academy of Holy Angels: An exceptional ball-handler with excellent dribbling skills. Plays at a fast break, yet under control. Shooting range out to 18-foot territory. Sees the floor extremely well. Controls the tempo of her team's offense both in the full and half court. True floor general.



Olivia Lipski, 5-8 point guard, NY Extreme/Somers H.S.: Handles the ball well under pressure and knows how to distribute/deliver to open teammates. Also exhibited a smooth shot from three-point territory. Hustles back in transition every time. Communicates well on defense, directing teammates. Good ball-handler under any situation. Good floor leader.

Gabby Egidio, 5-5 point guard, CT Cobras-Kupper/Hand H.S.: Outstanding effort on both ends of the floor. Has ability to finish with either hand at the basket against contact. Exhibits a toughness on defense which creates turnovers off deflections and pressure. Lefty shooter with 3-point range. Very high court IQ. Willing to rebound from the guard spot. Big future at the next level.

Jenna Serrantino, 5-7 wing, CT Cobras-Kupper/Cromwell H.S.: Can score in a variety of ways. Good off the dribble, on spot-up jumpers and off dribble penetration to the basket. Really strong burst of speed in transition game. Runs the lane well on the break. Very versatile skill set. Rebounds, passes, shoots. Lots of ways to contribute to team success.

Meghan Graves, 5-0 guard, Mass Frenzy-10 Black/Deerfield Academy: Ability to constantly score the ball with an impressive release. Can also get her shot off the dribble, or go past a defender to break down the opposition. Good, active ball-handler who is very unselfish. Pass-first guard who finds open teammates. Communicates well within team structure.

Cameron King, 5-4 forward, CT Cobras-Kupper/Mercy H.S.: Scored well in transition here. Has excellent hands. Catches hit-ahead passes with ease. Goes hard to the hoop in transition and finishes. Has a mid-range jumper out to 15 feet. Excellent vision and court awareness, delivers passes to open teammates. Good team defender within the zone concept.

Antanae Washington, 5-4 point guard, Mass Frenzy-10 Black/Sabis International Charter School: Quick first step which creates offense in the dribble-drive concept. Versatile enough to screen opposing bigs and, then, fade cut for open shots. Excellent dribbler who possesses a nice cross-over attack. Excellent at changing speed to create offensive space.

Nathalie Theriault, 5-7 wing, Tri-Town Thunder/Poland H.S.: Versatile player who can play the wing or in the paint. Has an ability to draw fouls while driving the lane. Good use of shot fakes while attacking. Rebounds well at both ends of the court. Shoots well off the dribble, but better at spotting up on the wing. Plays with a high motor at all times.

Alexa Kellner, 6-1 forward, Hudson Valley Elite Gold (John)/Stamford H.S.: Extremely versatile. Epitome of a "point forward." Excellent 3-point shooter with great size. Can score off the dribble, or off screens. Can score over the top of defenders. Very skilled, good-sized perimeter player. With expected improvement, has a nice college future.

Reilly Campbell, 6-0 power forward, CT Starters 14's/Catonas H.S.: Gets to the hoop off the dribble with regularity. Nice size already. Decent spin move in the lane. Uses shot fake to get defender off balance and, then, goes past. Coast-to-coast ability after grabbing defensive rebounds. Hard play draws fouls and gets her to the line.

Makenzie Helms, 5-8 point guard, CT Starters 14's/Loomis Chaffee H.S.: An extremely valuable player who does a lot of things to help teams win. Runs the show from the point. Will drive and dish, distributing to open teammates. Sees the court well. Very high IQ. Doesn't make mistakes. Nice hesitation and cross-over dribble moves. Plays with high level of confidence.

Julianna Okoniewski, 6-0 power forward, Albany Capitals-Lombard/Bethlehem H.S.: A powerful inside player who can finish with either hand effectively around the hoop. Already adept with a nice "baby hook" move in the lane. Scores very effectively in the paint. Plays hard at all times, really gets after it on the offensive boards. Strong potential.

Erin Fouracre, 5-8 small forward, Albany Capitals-Lombard/Colonie H.S.: A very versatile player who contributes in many ways to a team's overall success. Good defender who plays with a high motor. Does a lot of little things. Outstanding on box outs. Calm, cool and patient on the offensive end. Can get out and finish in transition.



Karli Opalka, 5-11 center, CT Starters 15-White (2018)/Pomperaug H.S.: Excellent work on the offensive end in the paint. Can produce points around the basket. Plays hard and physicals, draws fouls and gets to the foul line. Battles for everything on the boards. Fundamentally sound. Showed a nice "baby hook" shot here.

Veronica Njie, 5-8 shooting guard, NY Metro II/Curtis H.S.: Shows skills that project to her having high potential at the next level. Decent sized guard for this level. More than capable of taking and converting three-pointers. Real good scorer, knows how to put points on the boards. Also goes strong to the hoop and finishes against contact.

Julianna Tritto, 5-7 shooting guard, NY Metro II/St. Joseph by the Sea H.S.: A real sniper. Outstanding long-range shooter, range beyond the three-point stripe. Can really put up points in bunches. Good size for the position at this level. Knows how to find and get her shot off. One of the best shooters here at any level.

Bailey Savage, 5-8 shooting quard, Central Mass Shooters/Shepard Hill H.S.: Very high motor at all times. Nice form on jump shot. Decent mid-range game. Can also handle and pass. Good defender who comes up with more than her share of steals. Can make the stop-and-pop shot regularly. Clutch player. Makes the three-pointer.

Molly Springer, 6-0 power forward/center, Central Mass Shooters/Shepard Hill H.S.: Clutch player, steps up in key moments. Nice presence in the middle of the lane. Very strong around the basket. Knows how to use her size and strength on both ends of the court. Scores regularly in the paint. Not afraid of contact and draws fouls. Very effective on the boards.

Sandy Saunders, 5-9 guard, Maine Hoops-Bouchard/Woodstock H.S.: A very valuable player who has an extremely high IQ on the court. Does all the things necessary to bring success to a team. A variety of skills. Extremely high motor, very competitive player. Exhibited a nice jump shot here. Can get into the lane to score.

Kolleen Bouchard, 6-0 power forward, Maine Hoops-Bouchard/Houlton H.S.: Really competes around the basket. Scores regularly in the lane. Good sized post player. Also comfortable facing the basket. Can get the ball on the high post and take it to the hole. Decent enough passer. Has a real impact on games. Works hard on defensive end.

Bailey Donovan, 6-3 center, Maine Hoops-Bouchard/Hamden Academy: Very high potential. Tall post player who goes after every rebounds and showed a strong outlet-passing ability. Uses size to great effect to score around the basket. Provides a real inside presence on both ends of the court. Looks to have a bright future.

Faith Bonett, 6-0 center, Philly Freedom Stars/Moorestown H.S.: A real strong interior player who knows how to use her strength at both ends. Carves out space inside and holds it. Very high motor and high intensity level at all times. Most comfortable around the hoop on the offensive end. Uses a nice shot fake to get opponents off balance.

Maria DeBincenzo 5-6 guard, Philly Fredom Stars/Life Center Academy: An extremely fast guard who gets out on the break and finishes in transition. She is also capable of keeping defenses honest with a good jump shot with range out near the three-point stripe. Uses superb athleticism on defense to come up with more than her share of steals.

Me'Ara Carter, 6-3 center, Boston Showstoppers-Blue/Fenway H.S.: A lefty center with excellent size and she knows how to use it. High potential, but doesn't just rely on her size. Knows how to play fundamentally well. Really boxes out to aid her rebounding effort Defends post position very well. Uses length to alter, block shots.

Megan Graff, 5-7 guard, Maine Firecarckers/South Portland H.S.: Decent size for a guard at this level and a real offensive force in this event. Knows how to get inside and put up points, almost exclusively in the paint on nice drives into contact. Team high 13.2 points per contest here. Scored 12 in the championship contest and had other games of 19 and 14 points.



15:U AGE DIVISION ALL-Gymrat HONORABLE MENTION

Julia Makawski, 5-5 point guard, LC Ballers Usa Radziak, 5-3 guard, LC Ballers Amanda Fudge,5-4 point guard, Drive4Stardom Fredi DeGuglielmo, 5-5 guard, United Conquerors McKayla Hall, 5-4 guard, ALFBC Annie Keenan, 5-11 post, Lighting Flynn Samara Thacker, 5-5 guard, Connecticut Basketball Club Kaylin Zalewski, 5-7 guard, Team Providence Athletics Amanda DeAngelis, 5-5 guard, Eastern Blizzard Kaylee Thomas, 5-7 point guard, Eastern Blizzard Lea Crompton, 5-5 guard, Celtic Pride Jacqueline Penzo, 5-6 guard, NY Extreme Sarah Sebascewicz, 5-2 guard, CT Storm 10 Premier Gretchen Kron, 5-7 forward, CT Storm 10 Premier Madison Siegrist, 6-1 forward, Hudson Valley Elite Gold Andrea O'Connor, 6-1 forward Hudson Valley Elite Gold Mia Len, 5-5 guard, Celtic Pride Alina Brennan, 5-11 forward, Mavericks Beauchemin 1 Regan Keavany, 5-11 forward, Mavericks Beauchemin 1 Jessica Carroll, 5-10 forward, CT Cobras-Kuppen Carly Thompson, 5-9 guard, CT Cobras-Kuppen Kayla Doody, 5-4 guard, NY Havoc Madison Graber, 5-10 forward, NY Havoc Abigail Edge, 5-8 forward, Mass Frenzy 10 Black Molly O'Brien, 5-10 forward, Mass Frenzy 10 Black Maria Newsome, 5-5 guard, United NJ Cecelia Kracht, 5-11 forward, United NJ Sarah Bowman, 6-2 center, CT Starters 14's Luca Mamula, 5-10 forward, Lady Runnin Rebels Red Bridget Arcidiacono, 5-11 forwrd, Lady Runnin Rebels Red Sam McKenna, 5-6 quard, Triple Threat-NY Taylor Albrecht, 5-11 wing, Triple Threat-NY Lauren Pelosi, 5-9 guard, CT Starters 15-White Briana Van Cleaf, 5-8 quard, NY Metro II Julia Dandridge, 6-0 forward, Central Mass Shooters Olivia Barringer, 6-0 center, Bethlehem Orange Crush Emily Wheaton, 5-5 guard, Maine Hoops-Bouchard Lauren Hammersley, 5-7 guard, Lightning-Nuss Glory Morton, 5-11 center, Philly Freedom Stars Sekya Campbell, 5-8 guard, Philly Freedom Stars Iyanna Lops, 6-0 forward, Stamford Peace Emily Tuin, 5-7 guard, Stamford Peace Bailey Hyland, 5-7 guard, Boston Showstoppers-Blue Julie Hauer, 6-0 forward, BNY Select-Constantine Maeve Donnelly, 6-4 center, BNY Select-Constantine Kate Mager, 5-10 small forward, Metro Rocket Elite-Donlay Allanah Conway, 6-3 center, Metro Rocket Elite-Dunlay Kiara Fisher, 5-5 guard, BNY Select-Constantine Maggie Kirby, 5-8 guard, Albany Capitals-Lombard



Teirra Preston, 6-0 forward, York Lady Raiders-Glover Rajah Fink, 5-11 forward, York Lady Radiers-Glovers Jenna Citone, 5-7 guard, ALFBC-Green JuJu Lanier, 5-5 guard, ALFBC-Green Alicia Roldan, 5-11 forward, Maple Hill Julie Anderson, 5-10 forward, Rising Stars Daisy-Ella Johnson, 5-4 guard, Boston Showstoppers-Yellow Caterina Fonseca, 5-9 forward, CT Attack/Lightning-Garcia Hartlee Meier, 5-10 forward, CT Attack/Lightning-Garcia Kelly Degnan, 5-9 forward, WBA Lady Knicks-Silver Samantha Mancini, 5-4 guard, WBA Lady Knicks Silver Sydney Noyes, 6-1 forward, NH Lady Spartans Shealeigh Gitau, 5-11 forward, NH Lady Spartans Azariah Wade, 6-0 forward, I-90 Elite 10th Gauntlet Nickelle O'Neil, 5-4 guard, I-90 Elite 10th Gauntlet Sofia Hansen, 5-10 forward, NJ Freedom 10th Grade Silvana Barcomb, 5-3 guard, CT Cobras-Troiano Sydney Rochette, 5-7 guard, CT Cobras-Troiano Julianna Peduzzi, 5-6 guard, Future Stars-NY Jamie Provino, 5-7 guard, Future Stars-NY Kay Woodtli, 5-7 guard, Future Stars-NY





14:U AGE DIVISION Gymrat CHALLENGE REPORT

Basketball teams with good inside players traditionally have success, but that concept was turned around at the 14:U age division of the GymRat CHALLENGE this year. Small ball was the key to success over the two days of the event, and never was the value of superlative point guards more evident.

Also on display was the sentiment that there's more than one way to succeed at the position. The Championship Round, split into two brackets this year, saw floor generals lead the way to championships in each. And, they did so in different ways.

The Platinum Bracket's champion, Hudson Valley Elite-White, produced a 46-40 victory over MD Sting in its title contest behind its 5-10 point guard Maddie Plank. Plank, the bracket's MVG (Most Valuable GymRat) provided a combination of leadership and scoring. She poured in 22 points, nearly half her team's total, in the final game.

She also scored 22 points in the tournament's semifinal round contest. And, that scoring was just more of the same of what she did during pool-round competition when she put up point totals of 13, 18 and 16 points. Plank was one of the top scorers at the division, averaging 18.2 points per contest over her five games. She also showed a great maturity, a trait necessary for a floor general. She never overly dominated the ball, showing an outstanding passing ability and a knowledge of how to move well without the ball. Plank has a bright future and, despite her youth, is already starting to draw interest from Division 1-level colleges.

Angel Parker, the MVG of the Gold Bracket, showed that point guards need be neither tall nor do the majority of their team's scoring. Parker "only" averaged 6.0 points per contest, but exhibited prototypical point-guard skills far beyond her years in leading her I-90 Elite squad to a 47-34 victory over the Bay State Jaguars in the bracket's championship contest.

Evaluators identified Parker as a player who far exceeded the expectations of her physical tools. At 5-foot-4, she was usually the smallest player on the court, but she came up big by being tough, scrappy and extremely knowledgeable of how to play her position. What she lacked in height, she more than made up for with quickness, a rare ball-handling ability and unselfish play on both ends of the floor.

She had teammates capable of putting points on the board, and she knew how to get them the ball. One of her teammates, wing player Madison Smith was the recipient of more than a few of Parker's assists, scoring a game-high 16 points in the championship contest.



Teammate Ahniysha Jackson, a 5-foot-5 shooting guard, chipped in by averaging a team's best 10.8 points over the event.

Parker's work, though, extended beyond the offensive end. Her high-energy style of play translated well on the defensive end, too, as her "in-your-face" defense caused headaches for opposing players all weekend.

Overall, the division's results were proof positive about the importance of strong play from the point guard position. The two point guards who earned MVG honors at this year's GymRat showed that there's certainly more than one way to play the position successfully.

14:U AGE DIVISION Gymrat CHALLENGE MVGs (Most Valuable Gymrats)

PLATINUM BRACKET

Maddie Plank, 5-10 point guard, Hudson Valley Elite-White (JR)/Briarcliff H.S.: Very nice handle. Nice outside set shot and follows up for rebounds. Uses her height well. Tall for a point guard, but plays the position exceptionally well. Relocates to open area when she doesn't have the ball. Has an ability to drive to the basket. Communicates well with teammates. Nice defender. Makes great passes. Sees the floor very well. One of the top scorers here, averaged 18.2 points per game, and had back-to-back 22-point games in the semifinal and championship contests. Came up clutch at key junctures. Already hearing from Richmond, Lafayette.

GOLD BRACKET

Angel Parker, 5-4 point guard, I-90 Elite/Cardinal O'Hara H.S.: One of the toughest, scrappiest point guards here. She is lightning fast with the ball in her hands. Tremendous handle, can break defenders down to get to the paint. Supremely unselfish, almost to a fault. Not a big scorer here, but highly effective by setting up teammates for easy baskets. Piles up assists in big numbers. The engine that pulled her team to a bracket championship. Effective at both ends. Pesky defender with extremely quick hands. As "in-your-face" on defense as they come.

14:U AGE DIVISION ALL-Gymrat Challenge Selections

Nkyia Longford, 5-10 forward, North Shore Mustangs/Longwood H.S.: A good rebounder. Makes herself open under the basket for quick buckets. Fights for position under the hoop. Can bring the ball up herself and finish in transition. Has a great sense of the game. Makes plays that get her to the foul-line. Communicates well with teammates. Potential college-level player.

Margaret Kopcienski, 5-9 guard, North Shore Mustangs/Mount Sinai H.S.: A good mid-range shooter. Quick to get back on defense. Makes sure her teammates are in the game. Communicates well. Already a 3-year varsity player. Plays any position, as needed. Capable of being successful at any perimeter spot. Shows strong leadership qualities when at the point. Potential college-level player.

Kellie Nudd, 5-11 forward, CT Storm 9 Premier-Farley/Bacon Academy: Has good post moves in the paint. Exhibited strong rebounding skills here. Drives to the bucket to score, yet has an eye open for open teammates and gets assists. Follows up strong to complete plays. QWuick to get back on defense. Improved free-throw skills will boost her level.

Danielle Cornetta, 5-6 guard, United NJ/Hunterdon Central H.S.: Great quickness and uses it well. Has a real feel for the game. Looks for open teammates, but can take it herself, too. Strong ability to drive to the hoop to score or draw foul and contribute fro the line. Great ball-handling skills. Can play either guard spot.

Mackenzie Martin, 5-11 forward, I-90 Elite/Westhill H.S.: Squares up under the basket, getting good position to receive a pass and shoot to score. Outstanding court IQ, good feel for the game. High motor, quick to get back on defense. Drives hard to the basket between defenders. Able to score against contact.



Ashniysha Jackson, 5-5 guard, I-90 Elite/Hackett Middle School: Already a great mid-range shooter with good form. Looks like longer range will come. All-out motor all the time. Excellent quickness. Hustles to the ball, gets more than her share of loose balls. Quick to get back on defense. Great dribbler and ball-handling skills.

Spencer Roman, 5-8 forward, CT Storm 9 Premier-Farley/New Londoin (Ct.) H.S.: Plays up front and in the backcourt. Shows an all-around knowledge of the game. Great passing and finding open teammates in the post. Outstanding team player. Strong mid-range shot and connects out to three-point land. Good ball-handler. Aspires to play for an Ivy League school.

Delany Haines, 5-7 guard, Blue Wave Legassey/Deering H.S.: Good shooter with a very quick release. Great sense of the game already. Knows where her teammates are at all time. Good motor, hustles back on defense. Already good size for this age level. Showed outstanding dribbling skills. Some early interest from D-3 Bowdoin College.

Brianna Jordan, 5-10 forward, Blue Wave Legassey/Gray New Gloucester H.S.: Outstanding mid-range shooter. High motor, hustles to get back on defense. Knows where teammates are and delivers the ball when they're open. Good free-throw shooter. Vocal leader, directs teammates on the court. Quick hands on the defensive end. D-3 schools in Maine already showing interest.

Alexis Suarez, 5-7 wing, Westchester Hoopers/Kennedy Catholic H.S.: Keeps her team alive with intangibles. Very active on defense, gets more than her share of steals. Strong rebounder. Drives hard to the basket to finish against contact. All-around skills. Plays any position her team needs. Quick hands and hustles back on defense. Team leader. Already hearing from some low-major D-1 programs.

Meghan Hoffses, **5-5 guard**, **Maine Firecrackers/Windham H.S.**: A real winner's mentality and a hard-nosed competitor. Very fast. Small, but fast and strong. 100 percent intensity at both ends. Solid ball-handling and passing skills. Can make the three-pointer, but prefers to take it into the paint. Always on the attack defensively.

Alexia Leon, 5-3 guard, CT Cobras-Toulouse/Mercy H.S.: A smooth presence on the court. Her small stature is not a limitation. Can shoot the lights out and gets into the lane for a pretty and effective floater. "Safe" ball-handler but has potential to be even better. Great passer with outstanding court awareness. Tenacious defender.

Aniah Ingram, 5-10 wing, Syracuse Nets/Cicero North H.S.: Hungry for the game. Works hard and systematically. Can and does rebound like a "big," but has solid guard skills. Strong defensive presence. Showed a mid-range jumper that opens up her ability to penetrate. Quiet demeanor makes her an unknowing threat.

Erykah Dasha, 6-1 post, Syracuse Nets/Syracuse Academy of Science: Host of the block party! Athleticism is very evident. Has guard-skill potential and a desire to be versatile. Offensive game not yet as strong as what she does on defense, but a solid mid-range jumper is there. Showed strong fundamentals with her post play.

Antonia Corsinetti, 5-5 guard, Tea Providence/St. Mary's Bayview H.S.: Outstanding point guard skills, great ball-handling abilities and court vision. Also has a scorer's mentality. Has the green light beyond three-point range for good reason. Can be a playmaker, but has to balance passing with her all-out attack mode.

Anita Hazziez, 6-0 forward, Team Providence/St. Patrick's H.S.: A real athlete. She gets up high, great "ups." An Excellent rebounder. Strong low-post fundamental skills. Mid-range shooting range out to the free-throw line. Does a lot of things well. Athleticism sets her apart. An X-factor type of player.

Mariah Benavides, 5-5 point guard, Lightning-Catapano/Baldwin H.S.: Scrappy point guard with a great ball-handling ability. Small, but size belies her strength. Very aggressive player. Penetrates and puts up a lethal floater in the lane. Tenacious defender. Wants to take the ball from you on defense ... a "Defensive Hound!"



Giavanni Faison, 5-7 wing, Lightning Catapano/Elmont H.S.: All-out hustle all the time. Plays with a real hunger. Ball-handling ability like a guard and can also step out and shoot the three. Versatile player. She can get inside, too. An offensive rebounding threat at all times. Very steady and composed court demeanor.

Nicolette Manzella, 5-5 guard, Lightning-Catapano/Baldwin H.S.: Very pretty and effective shot. Can take it off the dribble. Also showed a very good set three-pointer. Well-versed, versatile player. Ball-handling ability is solid, but could improve, which is necessary for her size. Has the motivatin to dive on the floor for every loose ball.

Nicole Gwynn, 5-9 forward, CT Heat-Fienzal Wethersfield M.S.: A tall and athletic wing player. She is all over the court and gets on the floor for loose balls. Really knows the game and it shows in her performance. Strong ability to penetrate. Great shooting versatility. She showed an ability to connect in the lane, on mid-range attempts and from the three-point line. High intensity on both ends.

Jayleena Gordils, 5-9 wing, CT Heat-Fienza/Platt H.S.: Great and hungry mindset about everything she does on the court. Very high motor. Very solid three-point shooting ability. Spot-up jumper is pure. Ball-handles and finds open teammates with passes like a guard. Capable of playing small forward or shooting guard. Defensive energy is contagious.

Caitlin Barker, 5-9 wing, CT Heat-Fiena/Plainville H.S.: Big-time motor. Hustles on every position on both ends of the court. Keen offensive court awareness is a clear asset. Has a nice jump shot, all the way out to three-point range. Very agile player, capable of succeeding as a small forward or an off guard. Intense, competitive edge.

Klarke Sconiers, 6-1 wing, Brooklyn Saints/Christ The King H.S.: She really works Strong as can be and added tenacity makes her tough to guard. Can play off guard, forward or in the post. Extremely versatile. Rebounds with a vengeance and takes the ball coast to coast. Needs work on finishing with her left, but touch around the post is pure. Athletic, competitive and tough. Potential is limitless.

Cassandra O'Neill, 5-3 point guard, Lightning-Johnson/Sacred Heart H.S.: Small stature doesn't match her tenacity or strength. Very well-demonstrated ball-handling and passing ability. Can and will get to the rim, not afraid of going into the trees inside. Has decent enough three-point range. Great competitive attitude.

Casey O'Shaughnessy, 5-6 point guard, Brooklyn Saints/Bishop Kearney: First and foremost a great leader. Handles the ball with much composure and aptitude. Her ball-handling and court-vision skills are exemplified when she faces pressure. Finishes well at the rim and can shoot when left open. A real playmaker.

Erin Hedrick, 6-0 wing, 360 Elite/Pascack Hills H.S.: A tall, athletic wing player that can play forward or off guard. Deep range and physicality make her a threat anywhere on the court. Solid enough ball-handler. Great court awareness. Aggressive on defense, constantly active. Jumps to rebound on target.

Morgan Micallef, 5-9 wing, 360 Elite/Northern Highlands H.S.: A strong, solid wing player. Can shoot the three, and attack the rim effectively. Very high basketball IQ. Versatility, height and size allows her to have effective post-up skills, too. Very versatile player. Needs only to improve ball-handing skills vs. on-ball pressure to boost her stock higher.

Megan Evans, 5-10 wing, 360 Elite/Pascack Hills H.S.: Deadly shooter. A lanky and tall guard. Average ball-handler for now, so better suited for small forward. Great rebounding skills fro either position. Has ability to penetrate and finish, but her spot is on the wing. High percentage free-throw shooter.

Leilani Rodriguez, 5-4 point guard, Rivals Gold/North H.S.: Her tenacity on defense highlights a very impressive hoops profile. Wellgroomed ball-handler, can be creative when she wants and gets the job done. Solid shooter. Small, but athletic. Will outplay you if you don't match her hustle. Passes with great foresight and court vision. Great team leader/communicator.



Kylie Swider, 6-2 post, Rivals Gold/Portsmouth (R.I.) H.S.: A lot of potential to be a threat almost anywhere on the court. Strong shot and a good post game. Good size, but not overly athletic. Would step up with improved agility. Her physicality stands out, Some perimeter skills and would be a challenging match-up if she works out there.

Megan Bodziony, 5-9 wing, Rivals Gold/South Kingstown H.S.: A jack-of-all-trades type player. Has good post fundamentals, but her shooting range is what makes her difficult to guard by other forwards. Ball-handling is solid. Can handle pressure defense. Tough when she's on defense. Wants to really bother opponents. An all-out hustler.

Lomas Banwareesingh, 5-10 forward, New Heights '19/20/Monsignor Scanlon H.S.: All-around player who does it all on the court. Versatility is her trademark. Great offensive rebounder, really gets after it on the boards. Athletic and all-out hustle, but often picks up needless fouls. Needs to get just a little stronger to be a real force in the paint.

Sanai Grayson, 6-2 post, New Heights '19/'20/Grand Street Campus: Strong and athletic "big" inside presence. Quiet demeanor on the court disguises her aggressive style of play. Uses her height and wingspan to clean up the glass on both ends of the court. Good hands, catches and finishes well at the rim with either hand.

Julia Araujo, 5-5 guard, NY Extreme Hoops/Panas H.S.: A real hustler, very high motor. Has a winners' attitude and work ethic. Very good ball-handling set of skills. Attacks the rim with aggression, can finish there against traffic. Very high basketball IQ. Makes good guard-oriented decisions.

Callie O'Brien, 5-6 guard, New Heights '19/'20/IS27: A real shooter. Has deep range and a velvety smooth stroke. Well-composed player at all times. Tough on-the-ball defender, really gets after it making opposing ball-handlers uncomfortable. High percentage freethro hooter.

Christina Costa, 5-6 guard, Bay State Jaguars (Beliveau)/Weston H.S.: A knock-down shooter from anywhere on the court. Threat to score out beyond the bonus stripe. Also has very solid ball-handling skills. Not overly athletic, but makes up for it with technical skills. High percentage free-throw shooter.

Claire Gaziano, 5-10 wing, Bay State Jaguars/Natick H.S.: A great offensive rebounder. Can also step out and shoot the three, yet has enough size to go inside and post up. Very versatile player. Adequate ball-handler for her size. A lot of potential as a versatile wing player. Well composed on-court demeanor adds to her already smooth game.

Larissa Foley, 5-1 point guard, Bay State Jaguars (Beliveau)/Newton South H.S.: Small point guard with great speed and ball control. Can and will use her crafty dribbling ability to get to the rack. Very strong for her size and makes great use of her body to gain ground. Will rebound effectively. High pass accuracy and court vision.

Mackenzie Smith, 5-6 guard, I-90 Elite/West Genessee H.S.: A lanky, very agile guard. Great ball-handler and uses dribbling skills to attack the basket. Can beat opponents off the dribble. Has a nice and pure set shot. Very high basketball IQ. Always seems to make the right play. Can play either guard spot.

Madison Smith, 5-9 wing, I-90 Elite/West Genessee H.S.: A long and lanky combination guard that plays either position well. Excellent offensive rebounder, uses height and length to get after it on the glass. Showed strong put-back capability here. Has solid post game. Strong defender with good court awareness.

Anna Hickman, 5-4 point guard, NH Lady Spartans/Newburyport H.S.: A true point guard with an ability to see the floor well and distribute to open teammates every tie down court. Drives to the basket and finishes with clever moves. An all-out hustler and real aggressive player. Finishes her shots.



Kateri Poole, 5-8 point guard, New Heights '19/20/St. Mark's M.S.: Scrappy and alert on defense. Got many steals here. Sees the floor extremely well. Drives to the basket hard. Good ball-handling skills. Very nice jump shot. A real scorer. Averaged 13.2 points per game here. Unselfish player who moves the ball well. Great potential, getting some interest from Michigan.

Mikala Eacrett, 5-5 guard, New Hampshire Elite/Proctor Academy: Great ball-handling point guard. Sees the floor well and makes accurate passes to teammates. Hustles at all times, every play. Not afraid to go past defenders and take it to the rim. Communicates with teammates and encourages them. Takes being a leader seriously. Good rebounder for the position. Getting some early looks from scholarship schools.

Jessica Giorgia, 6-1 power forward, Bay State Jaquars (Beliveau)/Belmont H.S.: Great post-up moves Can also drive to the hoop effectively from the high post. Hustles to get back on defense. Kicks out the ball when double-teammed. Very positive attitude on and off the floor. Well-rounded, versatile team player.

Bianca Fede, 5-1 point guard, N.J. Freedom/Montclair H.S.: Great ball-handling skills. Reads the floor extremely well and makes nice passes to open teammates. Drives hard to the basket and can pull up and make mid-range jumper. Hustles back on defense. Real leader, constantly encourages teammates.

Samantha Jenks, 5-8 guard, Springfield Lady Ballers/Hopkins Academy: Good ball-handling skills. Capable of playing either guard spot. Great attitude on the floor. Takes it hard to the basket and finishes well around the rim. Active hands on defense, makes life difficult for opponents. A little more aggression would elevate her play even more. Early interest from Monmouth, Marist.

Katie Ray Wall, 5-6 guard, Elite Prep 9/Roy C. Ketcham H.S.: An active, athletic and tough combo guard. Competes at a high level and sets the tone for her team. Good ball-handler who can really attack the paint, particularly in transition. Very capable three-point shooter. Really flies around effectively on the defensive end.

Gabby Douglas, 5-7 point guard, Maryland Sting/Catonsville H.S.: A skilled point guard that really runs her team. Has the ball skills to get into the paint to make plays, and has the vision and passing ability to find teammates. Plays with a great pace to her game. Outstanding decision-maker. Bright future as a floor general.

Abby Kuhn, 5-8 wing, Maryland Sting/Mount DeSales H.S.: A do-it-all, highly versatile wing player. She can affect games in every way, shape and form. Makes shots from three-point range, hits the offensive glass hard and effectively. Attacks the paint off the dribble and finishes against contact. Big-time motor and a high basketball IQ maker her highly effective.

Sonia Citron, 5-10 forward, Westchester Lady Bears/The Ursuline School: A 7th-grader, playing up an age level and fit right in. Extraordinarily skilled offensive player. Has the handle and shooting ability of a guard, but a legit 5-foot-10. More impressive is her athleticism, instincts and aggressiveness, particularly on the defensive end. Reads eyes and jumps passing lanes for steals.

Sydney Scales, 5-5 point guard, NEX Elite/Walpole H.S.: A tough, competitive point guard. Tremendous ability to handle and pass the ball. Creates easy baskets for her teammates. Has a feel for the game way beyond her years. Knows when to push the break and when to slow it up. Knows when to make the simple plays, but always makes the hustle plays.

Kelsey Ransom, 5-9 forward, N.J. Panthers/The Pingry School: Extremely rare combination of athleticism, toughness, heart and motor. One of the hardest-working players to ever participate here. Plays so hard that she affects how the game is played. A real coach's dream. Easily had double-digit steals in one game. Versatile skill set, too. Can dribble and make plays for herself and teammates. Nice shooting touch from mid-range.

Kaitlyn Davis, 6-1 post, Harlem USA/Greenwich Academy: A strong, physical post player who is a presence on both ends of the court. Runs in transition extremely hard and gets easy baskets because of her hustle. Rebounds extremely well on both ends. Tremendous finisher around the rim, especially through contact. Has the tools to develop into an outstanding college player.



Gracen Kerr, 5-4 point guard, CT Lady Blazers-Stewart/Kolbe Cathedral H.S.: A high level pure point guard. Unbelievable vision and ability to deliver the ball with timing and precision. Very good ball-handler. Quick and consistently gets past defenders and into the paint. Capable scorer at the rim, as well. Her own offense keeps defenders honest.

Taylor Landry, 5-6 guard, EvoElite New England/Andover H.S.: A true combo guard, and a skilled and aggressive leader on the court. Very active and vocal on both ends, a real leader. Can attack the paint at will and capable of piling up points on aggressive drives and finishes against contact. Also capable of setting up teammates with good passes.

Mackenzie Martin, 5-11 forward, I-90 Elite/Westhill H.S.: A very versatile forward with a great feel for the game to go along with an excellent offensive skill set. Most dangerous from the high post where she can score by driving or shooting. Can also make plays for teammates. Excellent passer. Rebounds the ball aggressively on both ends.

14:U AGE DIVISION ALL-GVMRAT CHALLENGE HONORABLE MENTION

Mackenzie Emery, 5-5 guard Blue Wave-Legassey Kaleisha Towle, 6-1 forward, Blue Wave-Legassey Olivia Miles, 5-7 guard, United NJ Michael McMiller, 4-8 point guard, Team Assist Kristina Minunno 5-3 point guard, Castle Lady Knights Ana Dorta, 5-6 guard, NY Extreme Hoops Megan Bauman, 5-6 guard, CT Storm Sarah John, 5-6 quard, MT Elite Madison Smith, 5-10 forward, I-90 Elite Mackenzie Smith, 5-6 forward, I-90 Elite Laurissa Foley, 5-1 guard, Bay State Abrianna Vasquez, 5-3 guard, Bay State Cathryn Kramer, 6-1 forward, Rising Stars Victoria Caridi, 5-6 Rising Stars Alexah Potter, 6-1 center, CT Rush Caitlin Conlon, 5-8 forward, NJ Freedom Julianna Kascic, 5-9 forward, NJ Freedom Katrina Krenzer, 5-11 forward, New Hampshire Elite Lilly Becker, 5-6 guard, Hudson Valley Elite White (JR) Alixandria James, 5-4 guard, Hudson Valley Elite White (JR) Bella Kingsley, 5-5 guard, Syracuse Royals Meg Driscoll, 5-6 guard, Springfield Lady Ballers Makayla Connors, 5-4 guard, Saratoga Sparks Maddy Teta, 5-4 guard, Saratoga Sparks Madisyn Brayshaw, 5-6 guard, NH Lady Spartans Ashley Ambrosino, 5-4 guard, Central MA Shooters Molly Stokes, 5-9 forward, Central MA Shooters Eboni Duvert, 5-7 guard, Lightning-Catapano Megan Evans, 5-10 guard, 360 Elite Jess Valentino, 5-1 point guard, Rivals Gold Jocelyn Hamilton, 5-8 forward, Niskayuna Girls Ketsia Athias, 6-2 post, Brooklyn Saints Lexi Emmi, 5-6 guard, Syracuse Nets Tara Flanders, 5-7 wing, Maine Firecrackers Nadia Tarhini, 6-1 post, CT Cobras Jani Danaher, 5-7 wing, CT Cobras Francesca Sileo, 5-6 quard, Westchester Lady Bears



Ariana Fay, 5-9 forward, NEX Elite Jeniyah Jones, 5-8 guard, NEX Elite Kiana Johnson, 5-5 guard, Harlem USA Jaxson Nadeau, 5-7 guard, EVO Elite New England Madison Burke, 5-2 guard, Game On Lady Lions Haley Strang, 5-10 forward, Game On Lady Lions Tyree Allen, 5-9 forward, CT Lady Blazers-Stewart Helena Koffigoh 5-10 forward, Riverside Hawks Victoria Pecovic, 5-6 guard, Elite Prep 9 Kaitlyn McCabe, 5-9 wing, Elite Prep 9 Sanaa Boyd, 5-6 guard, CT Impact 9 West Tamia Fulton, 5-5 guard, CT Impact 9 West Ahniysha Jackson, 5-5 guard, I-90 Elite Arianna Briggs-Hall 5-7 forward MD Sting Katerra Myers, 5-8 forward, MD Sting





It's usually as difficult for GymRat CHALLENGE teams to claim championships of the prestigious AAU event as it was for the Cleveland Cavaliers to win this year's NBA title over the Golden State Warriors. However, dominance was the trend in this year's 12th annual event for girls at the 13-under age division level in games played before large and enthusiastic crowds at Siena College's Marcelle Athletic Complex.

In a new format, established this year, there were two Championship Round brackets at the 13-under level.....And, both had things pretty well in hand from start to finish over the two days of the event.

The New Jersey Sparks team saw an opponent finish within single digits in the final score just once in its five games, that coming in its 43-36 victory over the Michael Carter Williams squad in the Platinum Bracket's championship contest.

Jariah Patterson, a tenacious worker at both ends of the court, led the way for the winners by getting 30 total points in the semifinal and championship game victories. Patterson did most of her work from close range and her all-around play earned her the MVG (Most Valuable GymRat award) for Platinum Bracket play. Otherwise, the Sparks breezed home with their trophy, capturing the semifinal-round contest by an 11-point margin and winning pool-round games by margins of 34, 38 and 50 points.

Not to be outdone, the New Jersey Freedom team steam rolled its way to the Gold Bracket's championship by margins even more lopsided. Its closest game was a 17-point victory in one of its pool-round games. The Freedom had no problem in the championship contest, earning a 52-29 decision over ESBA Select. The Freedom won their other games by margins of 32, 21, and 36 points.

A'Nyah Barker, an energetic and gifted point guard, led the way by scoring a game-high 20 points in the title contest. She was also a major offensive force in her team's closest pool-play contest, scoring 17 points in that one. Barker, an up-tempo guard with a variety of ways to score or set up teammates, was the Gold Bracket's MVG for her outstanding play at the 2016 GymRat CHALLENGE.

13:U AGE DIVISION GymRat CHALLENGE MVG (Most Valuable GymRat)

PLATINUM BRACKET

Jariah Patterson, 5-8 forward, New Jersey Sparks/Bloomfield M.S.: A big-time scorer who got her points through slashing and tenacious work on the boards. She scored 15 points in both the semifinal round and the championship game. Just a relentless and solid



rebounder. Showed decent range on her jumper, but still developing consistency. Quick feet and hands makes her an excellent defender, particularly in full-court trap. Clutch player. Not afraid to take big shots late in games.

GOLD BRACKET

A'nyah Barker, 5-6 point guard, NJ Freedom/Immaculate Heart: The leader on a balanced team. A true point guard who never stops. She is always looking to push the ball up court. Always ready to score. Leading scorer on the championship team. Pays attention to defense, always looking to get into the passing lanes for steals. Really nice pull-up jumper in transition game. She gets her team going with her high motor. Never takes a play off.

13:U AGE DIVISON ALL-Gymrat Challenge Selections

Aysiniyya Wilson, 6-1 center, Albany City Rocks-DNA/Bishop Kearney H.S.: Averaged a team-best 18 points to lead her team to the semifinal round. Physically mature for her age and an intimidating presence inside. Wide wing span enables her to block and alter shots. Strong, can't be moved off the block, yet nimble and quick for her size. Can handle the ball against full-court pressure. Fills the lane on the break effectively. Nice hands. Good touch from close range.

Bailey Teal, 5-5 point guard, Albany City Rocks/Penfield H.S.: Oustanding ball-handler, adept with both hands. Exceptional passer on the break and in half court. Knockdown 3-point shot when left open. Takes the ball to the basket and scores. Aggressive, always looking to run and push the pace. Can create own shot, or create shots for teammates. Runs break well, knows when to attack or pull up to find trailer. Already noticed by some high major programs.

Sereena Dicerbo, 5-9 forward, Albany City Rocks-DNA/Colonie H.S.: Quick and athletic. Scores mostly in transition or slashing. Can create own shot. Strong rebounder. Soft hands, can catch in transition or in the post. Has range on shot, but needs it to be consistent. Quick hands. Overall athleticism enables her to defend smaller opponents on the perimeter.

Lucy Adams, 5-11 forward, Central Jersey Hawks/Rumson Fair Haven School: Can play with face or back to basket. Wide wing span allows her to block and alter shots; disruptive in passing lanes. Solid jumper with 3-point range. Can lock down the block defensively. Nice touch and finish around the basket. Better free-throw shooting would elevate her stock.

Alexandra Giannaros, 5-6 guard, Bay State Magic Elite/Brockton M.S.: Aggressive, always looking to attack basket. Can create own shot. Strong finisher on the break. Strong ball-handler. Quick hands lead to steals and deflections. Aggressive and intimidating defender. Averaged 17 points per game to lead her team here. Knockdown jump-shooter. Has 3-point range.

Kristi Vierra, 5-6, PG, Bay State Magic Elite, Norwell M.S.: Exceptional ball-hander. Always looking to push ball and attack. She's at her best when running the ball. Exceptional passer on the break and in the half court. Accurate jumper with 3-point range. Strong defender when playing pressure defense. Can slash to the basket and finish against contact.

Natalija Marshall. 6-3 post, BROOKLYN S.T.A.R.S/ M.S. 51: A long, agile post player who has the ability to step out to 17-foot shooting range. Can drive it with either hand from the foul line. Rebounds both ends of the floor effectively. Runs the floor well. Shotblocker with either hand. Controls the paint, even up near the rim. Gets rebounds and outlets quickly up the floor to start the break.

Asya Brandon, 5-5 guard, Blue Rebels/New Haven M.S.: A combo guard that does it all. Very adept at driving and dishing to open teammates. Outstanding on-the-ball defender. She can also shoot the three-pointer. Changes speed and drives to body contact. Great body control on her drives. Finishes at the rim against the contact without hesitation.

Rebecca Oberman-Levine, 6-0 post, Blue Rebels/Hamden M.S.: A strong post presence on both ends of the court. Finishes on offense with either hand around the basket. A relentless rebounder. Keeps the ball high. A strong defender, particularly in the middle of a zone. Does early work in man-to-man defense as well. Outstanding free-throw shooter.



Judith Fox, 5-11 forward, Hudson Valley Knights/Millbrook: A long, athletic post that can pick and pop or roll in a two-man game. Steps out to 15 feet effectively. Pursues the ball off the glass on both ends. Finishes with either hand around the rim. Showed an ability to run in all games. Blocked shots on the perimeter as well as inside. Capable of one-person break to finish with contact.

Tashawni Cornfield, 5-6 wing, I-90 Elite/Lakeshore M.S.: A very quick lefty slasher. Hit multiple three-s in every game here. Defended larger players in the post, yet also got out to defend the top in 1-2-1-1 press. Jumps very well. Glides in transition. Very active hands in the passing lanes and on-ball defense. Exciting and energetic player that is fun to watch.

Phinnette Edwards, 5-4 point guard, BROOKLYN S.T.A.R.S/M.S. 113: Calm and collected point guard. A guick and agile on-the-ball defender. Sees the court well and pitches the ball ahead effectively. Very good court awareness. Gets players shots, yet can also shoot the three herself when necessary. Scored eight points in succession late in a pool-round contest to ice a victory.

Samantha Dewey, 6-0 forward, United Conquerors/Melrose M.S.: A tall, athletic "big" that runs the floor exteemely well. Showed great hands, catches everything thrown in her direction and knows to keep the ball high. Finishes well around the rim with great accuracy and against contact. Good height for her age, and knows how to use it.

Sydney James, 5-10 forward, N.J. Freedom/Trinity Catholic School: A high-energy "big" that moves up and down, side to side and with great athleticism. Good fundamentals, particularly when rebounding and outletting up the floor. Finishes well around the rim against contact. Very high motor. Never takes a play off.

Amaya Rivera, 5-5 point guard, CT Blazers-Young/Wallace M.S.: A left-handed, high-energy point guard with a knack for drawing contact and getting to the foul line. Excellent ball-handling skills, especially in traffic. Adept passer, always seems to make the smart play. Can also play off the ball due to being a threat from three-point range. Smart on defense.

Sole Carrington, 5-5 point guard, City Rocks-Carrington/Shaker H.S.: A pass-first point that is a little too unselfish at times. Always pushes the ball up court. Good defensive rebounder for her size. Finds teammates extremely well in transition game. Good one-on-one moves in the lane. Goes all the way to the basket and finishes well vs. contact.

Samantha Columna, 5-6 combo guard, N.J. Freedom/Immaculate Conception; Capable of playing either guard position. Plays with great instincts. Anticipates well on both ends. Willing to take a charge. Displayed very good body control on moves to the basket. Also showed the ability to knock down three pointers in rhythm. Very versatile player.

Emma Wax, 5-9 forward, N.J. Freedom/Montville H.S.: A good-sized wing player that is crafty with the ball. She gets to the basket with good body control. Can pull up from mid range, and can also hit a deep three. Anticipates steals on the defensive end by getting herself in great position. Ability to make tough shots in the lane Good court IQ.

Cara McCormack, 5-6 point guard, Lightning-Connolly/St. John The Baptist: A smart, ball-savvy point guard who also has threepoint ability. Has crafty, aggressive moves. A strong desire to take it to the basket. Confident ball-handler who finds open teammates regularly. Already has the ability to get the ball to teammates in positions for them to be successful.

Jade Udoh, 6-0 center, CT Spirit/Northeast M.S.: A strong, powerful "big" with good footwork around the rim. Outstanding back-to-thebasket moves. Composed under pressure. She is not afraid to take it hard to the rim from the high post effectively. Strong rebounder on both ends of the court. Runs the floor well for her size.

Ashley Wenzel, 5-5 forward, CT Spirit-White/McGee M.S.: Good athletic build. Has a wide wingspan, which she uses to good effect on both ends. Showed a strong ability to get to the basket and easily draws contact/fouls. Has a knack for being around the ball on defense, getting more than her share of tips and deflections. Can hit the three on occasion.



Dianne Scott, 5-10 forward, Maryland Lady Comets/Deer Park Middle Magnet: A strong, team-oriented player. Always takes smart shots, never seems to force anything. Very good 3-point shooter within the offense. Good moves getting to the basket with excellent body control. She manuevers her body into position to score. Good aggressive rebounder.

Brooke Obar, 5-6 guard, Maine Firecrackers/Greely M.S.: A smart shooting guard who displays adequate ball-handling and passing skills to augment an outstanding shooting touch from deep. Plays within herself. Gets out in transition and can effectively take it to the rim. Rebounds well for her size. A real team player. Good at finding open teammates.

Damaris Rodriguez, 5-4 point guard, Jersey Shore Elite/Secaucus: A true point guard with outstanding ball-handling skills. She uses her dribbling ability to get to the basket to either finish at the rim vs. contact or to pull up with an effective mid-range jumper. Never takes a play off. High intensity at all time. Good passer, smart player.

Amani Levitan, 5-5 guard, CT Heights/Windsor: She plays fast and oves effortlessly through traps. Takes a block and uses it to her advantage to score no matter the defender. Doesn't want to leave games, always on the court. Bring a high energy to the game. Key component on what was a very well-disciplined team overall.

Caroline Ducharme, 5-11 guard, Michael Carter Williams 2020/Nobles and Greenough: A tenacious defender, and her wingspan enables her to pick the ball off effectively. Sees the court from baseline to baseline. Very court savvy. Will deflect a pass to a teammate rather than catch it when she is double-teammed. Not a big scorer here, but her ability has drawn early interest from some high majors.

Shamarla King, 5-11 post, CT Heights/Hartford: Gets off her felt well, one of the best verticals here. Uses that ability to get more than her share of rebounds. Dribbles and handles the ball well for a post player. Showed great versatility here. Can step out and hit the three better than expected for a "big."

Grace Hezel, 5-7 wing, United N.J./Lopatcong M.S.: A very strong player who uses her physical tools well on both ends of the court. High motor, all-out hustle at all times. Very versatile player, particularly on the offensive end. Nice shot, goes hard to the basket and sees open players and gets them the ball in good positions.

Tanasha Mills, 5-0 guard, Ring City Elite/Pomona M.S.: Fearless on defense. Dives to the floor for loose balls. Will take the ball to the rim, get fouled and hits free throws. Quick feet, never flat-footed. Can break a press on her own. Frustrates defenders who struggle to stay with her. Finishes strong at the basket for her size. Very unselfish. Moves well without the ball.

Aaliyah Juste, 5-8 quaMrd, Esba Select/Mater Cristi School: Remains calm, cool and confident at all time. Good scorer who helped bring her team back from a double-digit deficit to win a game here. Very high IQ player at both ends of the court. Always follows her shot looking for a rebound. Sound on the defensive end as well.

Julia DeBeatham, 5-6 guard, NY Havoc-White/Shaker H.S.: Smart on offense. Handles the ball well and splits through defenders with ease. Outstanding ball handler. Very versatile guard. Can play eight backcourt position. Very tough, hard-nosed demeanor on the court. Not afraid of taking it to the basket and drawing contact.

Allison Morgan, 5-3 guard, BDS 2020/Ross A. Lurgio M.S.: Extremely fast. She is all over the court on both ends. Constantly moving and tripping up players trying to guard her. Executes the offense superbly. Already a good idea about how to run a team, far beyond her years with court IQ. Oustanding free throw shooter.

Marissa Sanchez-Henry, 5-4 guard, Columbia Ravens/Ellicott Mills M.S.: Plays zone or man defensive with high effectiveness. Outstanding work on screen and roll plays. Unselfish player, piles up the assists. Great sportsmanship exhibited here. Outstanding passing ability, particularly getting it to her post-player teammates.



Victoria Varsamis, 5-6 point guard, MCW-Starz/Rivers School: Outstanding ball-handler. A true floor general. Not afraid of accepting contact. When she draws extra defender she knows how to get the ball back out to teammates. Extremely effective with a scoring guard alongside her.

Roshana Stevenson, 5-7 guard, CT Heights/Hartford: A strong player that powers through defenders with ease. Very athletic player as well, but won't be stopped when she has the ball and is moving through the lane toward the basket. Uses her strength well, too, to set potent screens for teammates.

13:U AGE DIVISION ALL-Gymrat CHALLENGE HONORABLE MENTION

Caroline Howe, 5-9, forward, Team Providence-RAPOSA Michelle Moreno, 5-5 guard, Team Providence-RAPOSA Emma Parahus, 5-8 forward, NY Falcons Jenny Palmer, 5-4 guard, NY Falcons Alana Melendez, 5-7 forward, NY Falcons Ayianna Ford, 5-6 guard, Albany CityRocks, Caileigh Sullivan, 5-7 forward, Bay State Magic Elite Nahali Tittle, 5-7 wing, NJ Lady Titans Maureen Donegan, 5-7 wing, ELEVATE-Queens Sammy Waletzki, 5-6 guard, ELEVATE Queens Alyssa Caswell, 5-2 guard, Hudson Valley Knights Arianna Radovic, 5-3 guard, Hudson Valley Knights Mary McElroy, 5-6 forward, Simsbury Spartans Jordan Obi, 5-11 forward, Simsbury Spartans Amaris Mills, 5-7 forward, Boston Showstoppers Xyianna Hairston, 5-7 forward, Boston Showstoppers Sophie Synder, 5-6 guard, I-90 Elite Gabrielle tickle, 5-5 quard, I-90 Elite Momoka LaClair, 5-8 forward, I-90 Elite Taylor Rapel, 5-4 guard, United NJ Gillian Mulvoy, 5-3 guard, United NJ Megan Landsidel, 5-10 forward, Stamford Peace Veronica Lubas, 5-1 guard, Stamford Peace Nicole Coolidge, 5-10 post, Springfield Ballers Gabriella Ofcarcik, 5-5 guard, Springfield Ballers Kennedy Grady, 5-3 guard, BROOKLYN S.T.A.R.S Brianna Martin, 4-11 guard, BROOKLYN S.T.A.R.S Maya Walker, 6-0 post, BROOKLYN S.T.A.R.S Ashlyn Pacheco, 5-4 guard, EVOelite Alexis Brown, 5-9 forward, EVOelite Natalies Gordon, 5-10 forward, CAS Panthers Chardonnay Hartley, 4-10 guard, CAS Panthers Kaylin Zalewski, 5-7 forward, Team Providence Laura Mendell, 5-4 guard, Team Providence Beatrice Stafford, 5-10 forward, Team Providence Taylor Crawford, 5-6 guard, Blue Rebels Janessa Gonzalez, 5-6 guard, Blue Rebels Emma Laszewski, 6-2 post, Blue Rebels Valencia Fountenelle, 5-5 forward, City Rocks-Carrington Alexis Martin, 5-7 forward, City Rocks-Carrington Elizabeth Patterson, 5-7 forward, N.J. Freedom



Mimi Rubino, 5-7 forward, N.J. Freedom Anna Morris, 6-2 center, N.J. Freedom Julz Colby, 5-4 guard, Maine Firecrackers Cydney Barnes, 5-6 guard, Maryland Lady Comets Lauryn Russell, 5-6 guard, Maryland Lady Comets Megan Byrnes, 5-7 guard, Lightning-Connelly Jamie Behar, 6-1 forward, Lightning-Conelly Gabriella Heimbauer, 6-2 center, Lightning-Connelly Lauren Keel, 5-8 forward, CT Spirit Sophia Vital, 5-1 point guard, United Conquerors Nadeshka Bridgewater, 5-6 guard, United Conquerors Maiyah Johnson, 5-6 guard, Castle Lady Knights Stephanie Mayerhofer, 5-7 guard, Jersey Shore Elite Logan Thayne, 6-0 forward, NY Havoc-White Nia Bailey, 5-7 guard, Westchester Hoopers Amani Humphrey, 5-10 forward, Columbia Ravens Elyse Flannery, 5-8 forward, Esba Select Mikyla Mitchell, 5-5 guard, New York Havoc-White Marley Mueller, 5-7 guard, Saratoga Sparks Alexandra Giannaros, 5-6 guard/Bay State Elite Jaxy Marquez, 5-6 guard, MCW Starz Alexis Brown, 5-9 forward, EVOelite

