

STATE 2014

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Cuba City coach Jerry Petitgoue is looking for a return trip to Madison after his Cubans fell in the Division 4 semifinals last year to Whitefish Bay Dominican.

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STATE 2014



Henry Ellenson, Theresa Knutson and Arike Ogunbowale are all looking to lead their team to the 2014 State Tournament.

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GIRLS HOCKEY

Alliant Energy Center, Madison

Friday, March 7

Sectional #2 -vs- Sectional #4

Sectional #1 -vs- Sectional #3

Saturday, March 8

Championship

Sectional #1

Safe Pick:

Hayward/Spooner: After making the program's first state tournament appearance in 2012, the Hayward/Spooner co-op took it a step further in 2013 to claim the state championship. To repeat, the Hurricanes will have to navigate arguably the toughest sectional in the state, with 3 teams in the top 7 of the latest STAK Rankings, 5 in the top 12, and none below 21. Hayward/Spooner has been successful despite not only losing players to graduation from last year, but junior hockey as well. Other Favorites: Hudson, St. Croix Valley.

Sleeper:

Superior: The Spartans are just 5-9 as of late January, but have faced the second toughest schedule in the state so far this year, with numerous games against teams from Minnesota. After making four straight state tournament appearances from 2003 to 2006, the Spartans haven't been back to Madison. Others To Watch: New Richmond, WSFLG.

Stars: Madeline Spangenberg, Jr., Hayward/Spooner; Wendy Roberts, Sr., WSFLG; Emma Peterson, Fr., Superior; Maddie Rowe, So., St. Croix Valley; Sydney Squires, Hudson

Sectional #2

Safe Pick:

Central Wisconsin: The Storm co-op has made six straight state tournament appearances, with titles in 2006 and 2012. The streak of getting to Madison should continue, as Central Wisconsin is 15-3-1 as of late January, with all three losses coming in tight one-goal contests. The Storm are on top of the STAK Rankings by a good margin, but do have two losses to Hayward/Superior on the ledger already this season. With Lisa Fowle in goal and a balanced offense that has gotten goals from 15 different skaters, the Storm are a strong favorite to get back to Madison once again. Other Favorites: Northland Pines.

Sleeper:

Point/Rapids: Head coach Rachael Graves' group is tied for second in the Great Northern Conference, and the other team besides Central Wisconsin and Northland Pines to be ranked in the top 20 of the STAK Rankings. After

a bit of a tough start against a challenging schedule, the Red Panthers reeled off five straight wins late in the season. Others To Watch: Northern Edge.

Stars: Lisa Fowle, Sr., Central Wisconsin; Jenna Paez, So., Northland Pines; Amanda Sergeant, Fr., Northland Pines; Katie Detert, So., Northern Edge

Sectional #3

Safe Pick:

Onalaska: The Hilltoppers co-op has finished as the state runners-up the last two years, and have a strong chance to get back to Madison again this year and give it another shot to take home the championship trophy this time. Having one of the state's best players on the team certainly helps, and Theresa Knutson will certainly repeat as an All-State selection this season, as she is second in the state in points and goals. Other Favorites: Sun Prairie.

Sleeper:

Stoughton: The Icebergs have struggled against some of the better teams on their schedule this year, scoring just 8 goals in the 9 loss or ties through the end of January. The Stoughton co-op has an equalizer that not many teams can match however: junior goaltender Mackenzie Torpy, who has 7 shutouts this season with a 1.32 goals against average and .955 save percentage. Others To Watch: Metro Lynx, Rock County.

Stars: Theresa Knutson, Sr., Onalaska; Jacyn Reeves, Jr., Onalaska; Mackenzie Torpy, Jr., Stoughton; Ellie Woodman, Sr., Rock County

Sectional #4

Safe Pick:

University School: Coming off a trip to the WIAA State Tournament last season, the University School of Milwaukee co-op, which is made up of seven different schools, is one of the favorites to hoist the trophy this season, with a 15-2-2 mark into late January. Freshman sensation Nicole Unsworth leads the state in scoring with 78 points in just 19 games, while Nina Anderson and Rose Revolinski are in the top six as well. Netminder Jaime Hathaway is a returning All-State selection and one of the best in the state. Other Favorites: Bay Area, Appleton United.

Sleeper:

Fox Cities: Battling it out night in and night out during conference play in the Eastern Shores, the Fox Cities co-op is certainly well-tested. They're just 4th in the league right now, behind three other teams in their sectional, but they certainly could make some noise in the playoffs. Others To Watch: Fond du Lac.

Stars: Nicole Unsworth, Sr., University School; Jaime Hathaway, Jr., University School; Kelsey Rafferty, Sr., Bay Area

MISS HOCKEY CONTENDERS

Lisa Fowle, G, Central Wisconsin – An Honorable Mention All-State selection last season for the Storm, Fowle has played almost every minute in goal for the team. She's allowed just 13 goals in 19 outings for a 0.69 goals against average, and sports a .941 save percentage and 9 shutouts this season as the team is again a favorite to get to Madison.

Theresa Knutson, F, Onalaska – Knutson led the state in goals and points her first three years, and is second in both categories this season. The Hilltoppers are again one of the top teams in the state, and Knutson has at least one goal in every game through the end of January. She's scored 6 goals on two different occasions this year, and has at least a hat trick in 11 contests.

Wendy Roberts, F, WSFLG – Roberts was a First Team All-State selection by the Wisconsin Girls Hockey Coaches Association last year, and figures to repeat in that capacity in 2014. Currently third in the state in both goals and points, she's helped the small school co-op to a 10-6-2 record on the year.

Mackenzie Torpy, G, Stoughton – With a couple weeks to go in the season the Stoughton co-op is in a logjam atop the Badger Conference, and Torpy is a big reason they are in a position to challenge for a league title. While the offense has struggled at times, she's been rock-solid, with a .955 save percentage, 1.32 goals against average, and 7 shutouts through the end of January.

Nicole Unsworth, F, University School – Unsworth may be the most impressive freshman from any winter sport in the entire state. She leads all girls hockey players in both goals (52) and points (78) through late January, and has scored at least five goals on five separate occasions this year. The high-flying Wildcats are 15-2-2 and atop the STAK Rankings.

BOYS HOCKEY

Alliant Energy Center, Madison

Thursday, March 6 - Quarterfinals

Game-1: Sect #1 Winner -vs- Sect #6 Winner

Game-2: Sect #2 Winner -vs- Sect #5 Winner

Game-3: Sect #3 Winner -vs- Sect #8 Winner

Game-4: Sect #4 Winner -vs- Sect #7 Winner

Friday, March 7 - Semifinals

Game-7: Winner Game 1 -vs- Winner Game 2

Game-8: Winner Game 3 -vs- Winner Game 4

Saturday, March 8 - Championship

Game-10: Winner Game 7 -vs- Winner Game 8

Sectional #1

Safe Pick:

Hudson: Normally you can pencil in Superior as the safe pick to come out of this sectional, as after all, the Spartans have made a record 35 state tournament appearances, and represented this sectional 11 of the past 12 years. However, Hudson appears poised to make its first appearance in Madison since winning it all in 2004. The Raiders are 12-1-2 through the late part of January, posting some impressive scoring numbers this year. A matchup against Superior in early February could determine who grabs the #1 seed out of this group. Other Favorites: Superior.

Sleepers:

New Richmond: The Tigers are on top of the Middle Border Conference heading to the homestretch of the regular season. New Richmond has wins over Superior and Somerset already this year, but has been blown out in two games against sectional favorite Hudson. Others to Watch: Somerset, Menomonie.

Stars: Mac Alboreo, Sr., Hudson; Adam Marty, Sr., Somerset; Aaron Miller, Sr., Superior

Sectional #2

Safe Pick:

Eau Claire Memorial: The defending state champions remain a strong favorite to come out of this grouping, just as they have the last four years. The Old Abes can bring plenty of scoring to the table with Jacob Bresser, Charley Graaskamp, Chuck Bennis, and Dylan Ross, all of whom have at least 20 points this year through late January. Bresser currently leads the state in goals scored. They've certainly played a challenging schedule, with games against not only teams from northern Wisconsin, but also some of the best in the southern part of the state and out of state. Other Favorites: Regis/McDonell Central.

Sleepers:

Rice Lake: The Warriors have struggled to find a groove this season, with no winning streak over two games but no losing streak over two games either. What Rice Lake has done is give Eau Claire Memorial its only Big River Conference loss of the season so far. The team has generated a bit more offense this season than last year's group, but the defense is still a work in progress, with five games of five or more goals allowed. A very difficult late season schedule could either give the team confidence and momentum heading into the playoffs, or put them on a tough stretch at the wrong time of year. Others To Watch: Chippewa Falls.

Stars: Victor Bourget, Sr., Regis/McDonell; Jacob Bresser, Sr., Eau Claire Memorial; Charley Graaskamp, Sr., Eau Claire Memorial.

Sectional #3

Safe Pick:

Wausau West: The Warriors are working on four straight WIAA State Tournament appearances, with a title and two runner-up finishes in that stretch, although they went out in the first game last year. It figures to be a tough task to get out of a pretty challenging sectional grouping however. Kevin Conley leads the offense, while Sam Wiegert has been a rock in goal for West, playing almost 90% of the minutes in the crease. His goals against average (1.82) and save percentage (92.1%) are both outstanding, and he is the type of netminder that can carry a team deep into the playoffs. Other Favorites: Antigo.

Sleepers:

Northland Pines: One of the smallest schools in the state to offer hockey, and considerably smaller than most other teams in their sectional, it always seems to be an uphill battle for the Eagles. Pines is currently tied atop the Great Northern standings with Antigo, and have already won on the road at the Red Robbins. They've

been competitive outside the league as well, with a win over D.C. Everest, a tie against Hudson, and a hard-fought 3-1 loss to Wausau West earlier in the year. Others To Watch: D.C. Everest, Mosinee, Stevens Point.

Stars: Alex Nagel, So., Antigo; Nathan Sidlovan, Jr., Stevens Point; Sam Wiegert, Sr., Wausau West

Sectional #4

Safe Pick:

Wisconsin Rapids: Once again, Rapids gets moved away from the other Wisconsin Valley Conference teams and heads to the southwest part of the state. Last year they took a less than stellar record into the postseason and still advanced to the WIAA State Tournament, and appear to be a strong favorite to get back to Madison this year. The Red Raiders are 16-1 on the year, with their one defeat coming in a WVC game against Wausau West back in early January. Senior Caleb Schroer is the leading scorer in the state, while Tyler Gilbert has been outstanding in goal. Other Favorite: Onalaska.

Sleepers:

Baraboo/Portage: The Baraboo/Portage co-op is unbeaten in Badger-North play so far and 12-4 overall. They've certainly done some nice things this year, but you have to wonder if their schedule will

MR. HOCKEY CONTENDERS

Matt Berkovitz, D, Ashwaubenon – Berkovitz committed to Wisconsin during his sophomore year, and chose to stay with the Jaguars instead of heading to Juniors. An outstanding defender with good puck skills, he's accounted for 7 goals and 21 assists from his left defense spot.

Bryan Botcher, G, University School – USM's offense has struggled at times, but the Wildcats can always turn to Botcher in goal to keep them in games. In fact, all three of the team's losses so far were in one-goal games. Botcher is turning back shots at a .941 clip with a minus-cule 1.33 goals against average.

Jacob Bresser, F, Eau Claire Memorial – Bresser, who scored a pair of goals in last year's state title game victory over Verona, has been one of the state's top offensive players all season as a senior. As of late January, he leads the state with 38 goals while adding 17 assists.

Brett Gruber, F, Notre Dame – The Tritons are flush with talent once again and have several players who could push for postseason honors. Gruber, a First Team All-State choice last year, has been magnificent once again, with 30 goals and 25 assists in the team's first 20 games.

Caleb Schroer, Wisconsin Rapids – The senior forward leads the state in scoring through the end of January, accounting for 34 goals and 36 assists as his 70 points are ten more than anyone else. He's had at least 4 points in 13 of the team's first 17 games as they are off to a 16-1 start to the season.

cause them to stumble a bit. They've only played one team in the top 15 of the most recent STAK Rankings (#10 Madison West, who they beat 3-1), and only three others against the top 30. Their schedule ranks 70th in the state. Others To Watch: West Salem/Bangor; La Crosse.

Stars: Matt Edwards, Sr., Wisconsin Rapids; Caleb Schroer, Sr., Wisconsin Rapids; Luke Tepp, Sr., Onalaska

Sectional #5

Safe Pick:

Notre Dame: Last year we called the Tritons the strongest favorite to win a state title of any winter sports team in the state. Unfortunately for Notre Dame, they were knocked off by Verona in the state semi-finals, as they were not able to defend their 2012 title. The Tritons have a high-powered attack once again, with three players averaging more than 2.5 points per game, and three more that are over 1. A pair of First Team All-State picks are back in Brett Gruber and Luke Davison, while Honorable Mention selections Mason Appleton and Tony Stillwell return as well. Notre Dame is unbeaten so far, including a 5-4 victory over Verona to avenge last year's playoff loss. Other Favorites: Ashwaubenon.

Sleepers:

Appleton United: The Appleton United co-op sits unbeaten in Badgerland Conference play heading into February, although they haven't fared quite so well against a pretty tough non-league schedule. They've had to adjust to some personnel losses this year, but have played better after the Holiday break. They have a chance to get on a nice roll heading into the playoffs. Others To Watch: Bay Port, Waupaca.

Stars: Matt Berkovitz, Sr., Ashwaubenon; Luke Davison, Sr., Notre Dame; Brett Gruber, Sr., Notre Dame; Ryan Wischow, Sr., Ashwaubenon

Sectional #6

Safe Pick:

Verona: The Wildcats upended favored Notre Dame in last year's state semi-finals, but couldn't keep the momentum going in a championship loss to Eau Claire Memorial. They've got a comfortable lead in the Big Eight standings, having beaten second place Madison West twice already this year. Seniors Charlie Parker and Philippe Fromberger have taken their games up a notch following the graduation of Mr. Hockey selection Zach Jones last year. Other Favorite: Madison West.

Sleepers:

Monona Grove: The Silver Eagles have been one of the highest-scoring teams in the state this year, and they are led by the highest-scoring pair of teammates in the state in senior brothers Zachary and

Travis Johnston. The duo has combined for 116 points through the last week of January. Having that kind of firepower can certainly help keep you in games, but can they challenge Verona for the sectional title? Others To Watch: Madison Edgewood, Madison Memorial, Oregon.

Stars: Travis Johnson, Sr., Monona Grove; Zachary Johnson, Sr., Monona Grove; Charlie Parker, Sr., Verona; Ty Pelton-Byce, Jr., Madison Memorial

Safe Pick:

Waukesha Co-Op: At #11, the Waukesha Co-Op is the only team in this sectional currently in the top 30 of the STAK Rankings as of late January. The Wings are in search of their first trip to the WIAA State Tournament, and this could be the year that finally happens. Zed Dietrich provides a veteran scoring punch, averaging more than 3 points per game, while Logan Geisness and Ian Malcolmson are capable scorers as well. Other Favorites: Kettle Moraine/Mukwonago.

Sleepers:

Marquette: The Hilltoppers have faced a pretty tough schedule so far, and their record isn't the prettiest. In fact, they're under .500 overall as of late January. After three shutout losses in the first four games of the year, they've been much more competitive however. This is a squad that made two straight WIAA State Tournaments just a couple years ago, and certainly could be a force to be reckoned with come playoff time. Some big late season games against Homestead, Waukesha, and University School could be a good measuring stick of just how far they've come this year. Others To Watch: Janesville.

Stars: Zed Dietrich, Sr., Waukesha; Connor Perkins, Janesville; Jackson Weiss, Sr., Marquette

Sectional #8

Safe Pick:

University School of Milwaukee: Sectional #8 doesn't

have any teams in the current top ten of the STAK Rankings (USM is #13), but the overall depth of the group is outstanding, setting the stage for what could be a very competitive bracket. USM doesn't have the explosive offense some teams feature, but with one of the state's elite goaltenders in net, they can bet they'll probably be in almost every game (as evidenced by the fact all three of their losses came by one goal). Senior Bryan Botcher has four shutouts on the year, with a 1.33 goals against average and .941 save percentage. USM is getting hot at the right time, with a 7-game winning streak and 9-game unbeaten streak heading into February. Other Favorites: Cedarburg, Homestead.

Sleepers:


Saint Mary's Springs: The Ledgers are in second place in the Badgerland Conference behind Appleton as of late January, and with no league games left on the schedule, that's where Springs will end up. However, Springs is well-tested not only in conference, but with a tough non-conference schedule as well. After a five-game losing streak in the middle of the year, the Ledgers have reeled off three straight victories heading into the home stretch. Others To Watch: Arrowhead, Brookfield/CMH, Waupun

Stars: Bryan Botcher, Sr., University School; Ryan Mezera, Sr. Homestead; Michael Wilson, Sr., Fond du Lac

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Kohl Center, Madison

Thursday, March 13

1:35 p.m. - Division 5 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

6:35 p.m. - Division 4 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

Friday, March 14

9:05 a.m. - Division 3 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

1:35 p.m. - Division 2 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

6:35 p.m. - Division 1 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

Saturday, March 15

11:05 a.m. - Championships - Divisions 5, 4 & 3

6:35 p.m. - Championships - Divisions 2 & 1

DIVISION 1

Wausau West Sectional

Safe Pick:

Neenah: The Rockets boast one of the state's best inside-outside tandems in junior center Matt Heldt (6-10) and senior point guard Adam Pohlman (6-0). While Heldt dominates with his scoring, rebounding and shot blocking in the post, Pohlman runs the team with his ability to weave in and out of a defense to set up teammates for great scoring opportunities. Neenah entered February with an unbeaten record under coach Scott Bork and certainly faced its share of challenges in the highly competitive Fox Valley Association. Other Favorites: Marshfield, Oshkosh North, Stevens Point.

Sleeper:

Hudson: Coach Jason Swavely has the Raiders playing some competitive basketball in the Big Rivers Conference thanks to the strong play of senior forward Alex Herink (6-6), a Mankato State recruit, along with senior guard Jake Giordana (6-2) and sophomore guard Matthew Sparstad (6-0). The Raiders entered February as the second-place team in the Big Rivers Conference behind

Division 2 power Rice Lake. Others To Watch: Appleton East, Appleton West, Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln.

Stars:

Matt Heldt, Jr., Neenah; Adam Pohlman, Sr., Neenah; Nathan Neveau, Sr., Osh-



Riley La Chance

kosh North; Cooper Radtke, Sr., Oshkosh North; Sam Hauser, Soph., Stevens Point.

Ashwaubenon Sectional

Safe Pick:

Germantown: The two-time defending state-champion Warhawks of German-

town remain the team to beat in this sectional despite a loss to Brookfield Central that snapped a 69-game winning streak, and late-season suspensions to several key backcourt players. Seniors Jake Showalter (6-4), Evan Wesenberg (6-7) and Jon Averkamp (6-8) form a solid nucleus for coach Steve Showalter and have their sights set on three-peating as Division 1 state champions in March. Other Favorites: Bay Port, De Pere, Homestead.

Sleeper:

Kettle Moraine: Thanks to the strong play and senior leadership of point guard and North Dakota State recruit Paul Miller (6-4) along with senior forward Mitchell Oleson (6-7), the Lasers were battling Waukesha West and Arrowhead for the Classic 8 Conference title entering the final weeks of the regular season. Miller is a dynamic player who can score (19.7 ppg), pass and defend while Oleson gives coach Brad Bestor a dependable inside scoring presence. Others To Watch: Arrowhead, Kimberly, Waukesha West.

Stars:

Brady Ellingson, Sr., Sussex Hamilton; Brevin Pritzl, Jr., De Pere; Jake Showalter, Sr., Germantown; Evan Wesenberg, Sr., Germantown; Paul Miller, Sr., Kettle Moraine.

Burlington Sectional

Safe Pick:

Madison Memorial: The Spartans were well on their way to their 11th straight Big 8 Conference title entering the final few weeks of the regular season and are the team to beat in the Burlington Sectional. Coach Steve Collins, who has led Memorial to the WIAA State Tournament in nine of the last 10 years, has a balanced roster that features an athletic frontcourt player in senior Darral Willis (6-7) along with quick backcourt performers in seniors Daurice Fountain (6-2) and Reggie Roemer (5-11). Senior wing guard Tyler Lindquist (6-4) has also performed very well for the Spartans and can score inside and outside. Other Favorites: Madison La Follette, Mukwonago, Sun Prairie.

Sleeper:

Janesville Craig: Several teams from the Big 8 Conference are capable of playing well and making life difficult for their opponents and Craig is definitely one of them. The Cougars struggled a bit

in early January before putting things together in the middle of the month behind seniors Jerry Ngobi (6-1) and Mike Murphy (6-2). The Cougars aren't overly big, but they can get on a roll with their potent transition game and three-point shooting. Others To Watch: Madison West, Middleton, Verona.

Stars:

Nick Noskowiak, Jr., Sun Prairie; Darral Willis, Sr., Madison Memorial; Jerry Ngobi, Sr., Janesville Craig; Malik Clements, Sr., Madison West; Derek Rongstad, Sr., Middleton.

West Allis Central Sectional

Safe Pick:

Brookfield Central: The Lancers boast a bit of everything and are a definite threat to win the Division 1 championship. Coach Mark Adams has outstanding guard play with potential Mr. Basketball winner Riley LaChance (6-2) teaming with senior Brad Newman (5-10). Adams also has stellar play up front with athletic senior Caleb Mortag (6-6), highly productive senior Elijah Goodman (6-4) and physical power forward Luke Rasmussen (6-7). Brookfield Central ended Germantown's 69-game



Evan Wesenberg

winning streak in convincing fashion in mid January and entered the final month of the regular season ranked No. 1 among Division 1 schools with an unbeaten record. Other Favorites: Milwaukee King, Milwaukee Riverside, Racine Case.

Sleeper:

West Allis Central: Teams that advance in the WIAA Tournament in March normally feature outstanding guard play. The Bulldogs have just that in junior point guard Brandon Key (6-0) and senior wing guard Ron Turkvan (6-0). Key and Turkvan combine to form one of Wisconsin's elite back-court combinations and were a major reason why coach David Mlachnik's team won 12 of its first 14 games of the season. Others To Watch: Milwaukee Hamilton, Milwaukee South, Milwaukee Vincent.

Stars:

Kevon Looney, Sr., Milwaukee Hamilton; Riley La Chance, Sr., Brookfield Central; Chris Howell, Sr., Milwaukee King; Elijah Goodman, Sr., Brookfield Central; D'Angelo Jackson, Sr., Racine Case.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 2

Marshfield Sectional

Safe Pick:

Rice Lake: The Warriors ran their winning streak to 31 consecutive games within the Big Rivers Conference entering a Jan. 31 game with River Falls and boast one of the state's top players in junior Henry Ellenson (6-9). An extremely physical yet exceptionally skilled big man, Ellenson can take over a game with his scoring, passing and rebounding. He gets plenty of help from some outstanding backcourt performers in senior Brandyn Christman (6-0) and junior Ben Widdes (6-0). Other Favorites: Holmen, La Crosse Central, Menomonie.

Sleeper:

Shawano: The Hawks opened plenty of eyes around the Bay Conference during the first round of league competition as first-year coach Chris Kellett directed his squad to impressive victories over both Seymour and West De Pere. Shawano relies on a balanced scoring attack led by a pair of juniors in point guard Zach Sousek (5-10) and forward Jack Lacy (6-5). Shawano suffered several non-league losses through the first half of the campaign, but the Hawks are more than capable of pulling a surprise or two as indicated with their wins over Seymour and West De Pere. Others To Watch: Antigo, Rhinelander, River Falls.

Stars:

Henry Ellenson, Jr., Rice Lake; Alex Hayden, Sr., La Crosse Central; Ryan Wesely, Sr., Holmen; Nate Stanley, Soph., Menomonie; Mitch Reinthaler, Sr., Rhinelander.

Manitowoc Lincoln Sectional

Safe Pick:

Seymour: Teams that get matched up with Seymour in the post-season have the difficult task of having to deal with the 1-3-1 zone employed by coach Jon Murphy. What makes the zone so effective for the Thunder is the length, size and athleticism of Marquette recruit Sandy Cohen, a 6-foot-5 guard who plays on top of the 1-3-1. Offensively, Seymour has plenty of weapons with Cohen, se-

nior Dakota Oskey (6-3) and junior Alex Buchholtz (6-6) leading the way. Other Favorites: Ashwaubenon, Kaukauna, West De Pere.

Sleeper:

West Bend East: Though the Suns have been unable to overcome traditional power Wisconsin Lutheran in the Wisconsin Little 10 Conference, coach Ryan Tomczyk has a very talented team, led by the frontcourt trio of seniors Colin Liebherr (6-5), Alex Manhardt (6-6) and Ben VandeZande (6-5). East has played a challenging schedule with non-league games against Milwaukee King and Kettle Moraine Lutheran, which should help once the playoffs get underway. Others To Watch: Plymouth, Pulaski, Xavier.

Stars:

Sandy Cohen, Sr., Seymour; Dakota Oskey, Sr., Seymour; Kyle Monroe, Jr., Ashwaubenon; Cody Schwartz, Jr., West De Pere; Chandler Diekvoss, Sr., West De Pere.

Sun Prairie Sectional

Safe Pick:

Mount Horeb: Coach Todd Nesheim has a very potent line-up that features stellar point-guard play, a defensive stopper and multiple scoring options. Junior point guard Drew Fredrickson (6-0) is having a huge season for the Vikings and leads the team in scoring at 13.1 ppg. He can distribute, score and defend and makes excellent decisions with the ball in his hands. Senior Isaiah Lesure

(6-3) is an outstanding defender and also a capable scorer at 10.7 ppg. Sophomores Max Meylor (6-2) and Terek Nesheim (6-5) are also having outstanding seasons for Mount Horeb, which entered February unbeaten and ranked No. 1 among Division 2 schools in the state. Other Favorites: Monona Grove, Reedsburg, Stoughton.

Sleeper:

Greendale: Competing in the highly competitive Western Division of the Woodland Conference, the Panthers enter the postseason battle tested under coach Ryan Johnsen. They also boast one of the state's top wing players in senior Jordan Perez (6-4), a smooth, strong and skilled performer who can score from downtown and off the dribble. Junior point guard Josh Michaels (6-2) provides additional scoring punch for Greendale. Others To Watch: Sauk Prairie, Union Grove, Wilmot.

Stars:

Nick McGlynn, Jr., Stoughton; Jordan Perez, Sr., Greendale; Mark Nelson, Sr., Monona Grove; Drew Fredrickson, Jr., Mount Horeb; Ben Geiger, Sr., Burlington.

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MR. BASKETBALL CONTENDERS

Brookfield Central Sectional

Safe Pick:

Wisconsin Lutheran: Lots of very talented teams in the Brookfield Central Sectional, but Wisconsin Lutheran may possess the most balance and quickness. Coach Ryan Walz can use his deep backcourt to put strong defensive pressure on opponents with seniors C.J. Polk (6-1), Keith Franklin (6-0) and Jamarie Griffin (6-1) leading the way. Junior Anthony Carver (6-3) uses his timing and excellent hands to grab rebounds on both ends of the court for the



Sandy Cohen

Vikings. Other Favorites: New Berlin Eisenhower, Pius XI, Whitefish Bay.

Sleeper:

Messmer: The Bishops are a hard team to read because they compete in the primarily Division 4-5 Midwest Classic Conference. But first-year coach Ken Klatkiewicz boasts two stellar performers in seniors Jonathon Carson (6-3) and junior Dallas Polk-Hilliard (6-4). Messmer owns a non-league victory over New Berlin Eisenhower which proves the Bishops can compete within this sectional. Others To Watch: Milwaukee Washington, Pewaukee, Whitnall.

Stars:

Reed Timmer, Sr., New Berlin Eisenhower, Joe Sherburne, Sr., Whitefish Bay; C.J. Polk, Sr., Wisconsin Lutheran; Dallas Polk-Hilliard, Jr., Messmer; Levi Bradley, Jr., Pius XI.



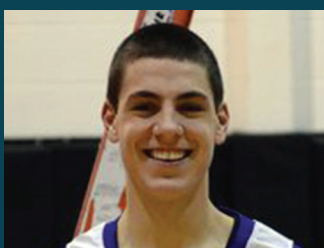
KEVON LOONEY
MILWAUKEE HAMILTON
6-8/F

Looney has helped a very young Milwaukee Hamilton squad stay among the elite programs in the Milwaukee City Conference by averaging 28.1 points per game. The McDonald's All-American is a four-year starter for the Wildcats who has scored more than 1,800 points during his prep career. Looney, who committed to UCLA on Halloween, scored 43 points, grabbed 27 rebounds, blocked 12 shots and handed out six assists in an 85-60 victory over Milwaukee North Division in late January. His ability to affect a game in so many ways is without equal in the state. At 6-8, he can play on the perimeter, in the post or on the wing. He can also guard in the lane or away from the basket.



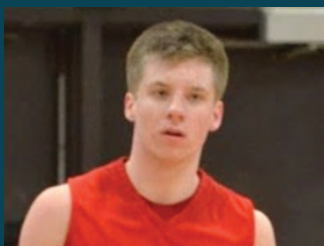
RILEY LACHANCE
BROOKFIELD CENTRAL
6-2/PG

A highly competitive point guard who led Brookfield Central to a 15-0 record entering the final weeks of the regular season, LaChance is averaging 23.5 points per game for the Lancers. A terrific perimeter shooter who can also get past defenders off the dribble to either score or set up his teammates, LaChance poured in a career-high 37 points and drilled seven three-point baskets in a victory over Milwaukee Marquette this season. A four-year starter for coach Mark Adams, LaChance has scored more than 1,400 points in his career. He has signed with Vanderbilt.



REED TIMMER
NEW BERLIN EISENHOWER
6-1/PG

As quick with the ball in his hands as any other guard to come out of Wisconsin in the last decade, Timmer is putting up huge numbers while leading Eisenhower to a 15-2 record entering February. The Drake University recruit and four-year starter is averaging 31.0 points per game for the Lions and recently scored a career-best 47 points in a 78-59 Woodland Conference victory over Whitnall. Timmer scored 30 or more points in 11 of the Lions' 17 games through the end of January.



BRADY ELLINGSON
SUSSEX HAMILTON
6-4/WG

Despite missing four games in January with mononucleosis, Ellingson has been extremely productive for coach Andy Cerroni and the Chargers. He is averaging 24.4 points per game and is a threat to knock down three-point shots from virtually any spot on the court. He pumped in a season-best 35 points in a recent victory over Milwaukee Marquette and has scored more than 1,500 points during his four-year varsity career. Ellingson has signed with Iowa.



CAM WARD
MARSHALL
6-2/PG

One of the more prolific scorers in the state, Ward is averaging 28.3 points per game and recently became Marshall's all-time leading scorer with more than 2,100 points. A quick, skilled and intelligent point guard, Ward scored a career-high 46 points in a Capitol Conference victory over Belleville in late January and has scored 30 or more points five times this season. The Vermont recruit has helped Marshall to a 12-3 record under coach Jason McConnell.

BOYS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 3

Eau Claire North Sectional

Safe Pick:

Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau: This is a wide-open sectional with any number of teams capable of advancing to the WIAA State Tournament. Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau is definitely one of those teams with the firepower needed to make some noise in March. Coach Mark Wagner has a pair of outstanding sophomores who know how to put points on the board in wing guard Nick Wagner (6-2) and forward Sam Scheer (6-4). Nick Wagner, the son of coach Wagner, leads the team at 20.8 points per game while Scheer contributes 15.2 ppg. Other Favorites: Altoona, Aquinas, West Salem.

Sleeper:

Elk Mound: The Mounders play an entertaining style of basketball that emphasizes team play and hard-nosed defense. That formula has proved very successful for coach Chris Hahn, who directed Elk Mound to a 14-1 record through late January. Burly senior forward Dexter Curry (6-7) leads Elk Mound in both scoring (14.8 ppg) and rebounding (9.1 rpg) while versatile senior Zac Doll (6-4) can score inside and outside. Others To Watch: Bloomer, Prescott, Somerset.

Stars:

Parker Weber, Sr., Aquinas; Nick Wagner, Soph. Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau; Bailly Williams, Jr., West Salem; Gaelin Elmore, Sr., Somerset; Zac Doll, Sr., Elk Mound.

Menasha Sectional

Safe Pick:

Roncalli: Few teams move the ball as quickly on offense or set as many off-the-ball screens as Roncalli, a perennial powerhouse in the always-competitive Olympian Conference. The Jets have overcome a season-ending injury sustained during the football season to stellar junior guard Sam Scheer (6-0) to win 14 of their first 15 games. Coach Joe Rux

has several capable three-point shooters in seniors Nick Stelzer (6-2), Shane Johnson (6-4), Josh Erickson (6-3) and junior Logan Theisen (6-4). Other Favorites: Little Chute, Valders, Wrightstown.



John Hatch

Sleeper:

Peshtigo: Unlike most of its counterparts within this sectional, the Bulldogs compete in a largely Division 4/5 league – the Marinette & Oconto Conference. And the at-times lack of competition within that circuit could cost coach Ryan

Spaulding's squad once the playoffs roll around. Peshtigo entered February with a 61-game conference winning streak and is getting solid production from seniors Jordan Berth (6-3) and Zack Neumann (6-2). Others To Watch: Chilton, Freedom, Two Rivers.

Stars:

Josh Erickson, Sr., Roncalli; D.J. DeValk, Sr., Little Chute; Zack Goedeke, Sr., Valders; Doug Fabry, Sr., Wrightstown; Jordan Berth, Sr., Peshtigo.

Middleton Sectional

Safe Pick:

Lodi: After finishing second to Aquinas in last year's WIAA Division 3 State Tournament, the Blue Devils look to return to Madison for the third straight year in 2014 behind the strong play of three outstanding seniors. Wing guard Jordan Shea (6-4) is a lock-down defender and UMass Lowell recruit who can score and distribute. Guard Gable Smith (6-6) has excellent size and length and earned a Division II scholarship to Minnesota-Crookston. And forward John Hatch (6-5) has outstanding athleticism and length and can also knock down three-point shots. Other Favorites: Edgerton, Marshall, Poynette.

Sleeper:

Lake Mills: The L-Cats boast one of the state's toughest backcourt performers in senior Turner Moen (6-4), a Southwest Minnesota State recruit who does a bit of everything for coach Steve Hicklin. Moen can defend, pass, score and rebound and he does all of those things on a consistent basis. Seniors Ben Converse (6-4) and Darren Strasburg (5-9) also also key contributors for Lake Mills. Others To Watch: Jefferson, Lakeside Lutheran, Nekoosa.

Stars:

Cam Ward, Sr., Marshall; Jordan Shea, Sr., Lodi; Turner Moen, Sr., Lake Mills; Tanner Bruchs, Jr., Poynette; Owen Linzemeier, Sr., Nekoosa.

Whitefish Bay Sectional

Safe Pick:

Ripon: The Tigers find themselves in the midst of an extremely competitive regional with Columbus, Laconia and



Waupun, among others, all involved in the seven-team grouping. Coach Dean VanderPlas has a young team led by a pair of stellar freshmen in point guard Luke Loewe (6-1) and wing guard Bennett VanderPlas (6-4), the son of the head coach. Playing in the competitive Eastern Valley Conference could help Ripon in the postseason as it sets its sights on earning a trip to the WIAA State Tournament for the first time since 2003. Other Favorites: Brown Deer, East Troy, Laconia.

Sleeper:

Kettle Moraine Lutheran: Junior point guard Ethan Bublitz (6-2), junior forward Jared Henning (6-4) and junior center Zach Nelsen (6-6) headline the list of stellar players for veteran coach Todd Jahns. Kettle Moraine Lutheran plays a very competitive non-league schedule, which should prepare the Chargers for their run in the playoffs. Others To Watch: Kettle Moraine Lutheran, Oostburg, Sheboygan Falls.

Stars:

Luke Loewe, Frosh., Ripon; Ethan Bublitz, Jr., Kettle Moraine Lutheran; Brett Wittchow, Jr., Laconia; Matt Wilke, Sr., Sheboygan Falls, Davante Jackson, Sr., Brown Deer.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 4

New Richmond Sectional

Safe Pick:

Abbotsford: The Falcons won 13 of their first 14 games and led the Northern Division of the Marawood Conference entering February. Coach Brad Podevals has a veteran team led by a pair of talented frontline performers in seniors Nathan Kunze (6-6) and Eric English (6-5). Kunze leads Abbotsford in scoring at 11.0 points per game while English contributes 10.6 ppg. Junior guard Jacob Lavin (6-1) and senior guard Colten Voss (5-11) are steady backcourt performers for Abbotsford. Other Favorites: Fall Creek, Mondovi, Osseo-Fairchild.

Sleeper:

Regis: After a slow start to the season, the Ramblers were playing very well entering the month of February. Junior Billy Wampler (6-6) has put up huge offensive numbers with his ability to score inside and from the perimeter. Veteran coach Bill Uelmen is also getting solid contributions from sophomore sharpshooter Logan Rohrscheib (6-1) and junior Zac Brandrup (6-4). Others To Watch: Cameron, Colfax, Unity.

Stars:

Billy Wampler, Jr., Regis; Nathan Kunze, Sr., Abbotsford; Ethin Kiekhaefer, Sr., Colfax; Logan Rohrscheib, Soph., Regis; Eric English, Sr., Abbotsford.

Appleton West Sectional

Safe Pick:

Auburndale: The Apaches lost to Dominican in last year's WIAA Division 4 state-title game and are back to their winning ways in 2013-14. Coach Chad Weinfurter guided Auburndale to a 13-1 record through games of late January, including an 8-0 mark in the Southern Division of the Marawood Conference. Seniors Blake Anderson (6-1) and Zach Staats (6-2) are the offensive leaders for the Apaches at 14.6 ppg and 13.4 ppg, respectively. Senior Isaac Castellano (5-11) isn't a

big scorer, but he certainly knows how to run a team from his point-guard position. Other Favorites: Amherst, Brillion, Shiocton.

Sleeper:

Pacelli: The Cardinals boast a very talented senior class, led by forward Brett



Diamond Stone

O'Sullivan (6-4) and wing guard Isaac Elliott (6-0). O'Sullivan is an athletic, physical forward who can score inside or outside while Elliott is a knock-down shooter who can also convert from the foul line. Senior Tyus Groos (5-8) provides quickness and defensive pressure while senior Jake Feltz (6-6) and junior James Gollon (6-5) are also productive players for coach Brad Rutta. Others To Watch: Iola-Scandinavia, Marathon,

Reedsville.

Stars:

Blake Anderson, Sr., Auburndale; Tyler Lemke, Jr., Brillion; Brett O'Sullivan, Sr., Pacelli; Patrick Brouillard, Sr., Shiocton; Isaac Elliott, Sr., Pacelli.

Baraboo Sectional

Safe Pick:

Mineral Point: The Pointers have tremendous balance and experience, along with good size, and have run roughshod over opponents in the Southwest Wisconsin Activities League. Coach Dan Bureson had five players averaging in double figures entering February, which was a major reason the Pointers won their first 14 contest. Senior Trevor Wendhausen (6-2) is the most versatile player on the squad and leads the team in scoring at 16.7 points per game. Junior guards Sy Staver (6-0) and Turner Poad (5-10) are solid perimeter shooters who are averaging 11.7 ppg and 10.4 ppg, respectively. Senior Chanler Leonard (6-6) provides Mineral Point with a solid inside game and is averaging 11.2 ppg while junior Alec Schmitz (6-0) contributes 10.0 ppg. Other Favorites: Blair-Taylor, Luther, Westby.

Sleeper:

Necedah: Competing in the Scenic Bluffs Conference, the Cardinals are a bit of an unknown as they are one of two teams from the league in the sectional. But veteran coach Kris Saylor has played a strong schedule which should prepare Necedah for the rigors of competition within the sectional. Junior guard Jordan Murphy (5-10) and senior forward Taylor Krupa (6-3) lead Necedah in scoring at 16.2 ppg and 11.6 ppg, respectively. Others To Watch: Cuba City, Boscobel, Lancaster.

Stars:

Trevor Wendhausen, 6-2, Sr.; Preston Droessler, Jr., Cuba City; Dalton Soto, Sr., Blair-Taylor; Collin Kennedy, Jr., Luther; Josh Erickson, Sr., Wild Rose.

Brookfield Central

Safe Pick:

Dominican: The two-time defending Division 4 state champions boast one of the nation's top class of 2015 prospects in 6-10 center Diamond Stone, who can score, block shots, rebound and pass out of the post for coach Derek Berger. While Stone is a dominating presence around the basket, junior point guard Tywon

Bressler Jr. (6-2) can get into gaps and create for Stone and other teammates while also scoring himself. He is averaging 10.8 ppg. Senior wing guard Chris Topp (6-1) is a good perimeter shooter while senior Jack Jelacic (6-6) gives the Knights another strong athlete along the baseline. Other Favorites: Lourdes Academy, Kenosha St. Joseph, Racine St. Catherine's.

Sleeper:

Brookfield Academy: The Blue Knights rely heavily on three players, but all three are stellar performers for coach Pat Clarey. Senior Sean Clarey (6-3) and sophomore Ryan Clarey (6-1), both sons of the head coach, along with sophomore Joe Lemon (6-5) have been outstanding while leading Brookfield Academy to the top of the Midwest Classic Conference. Sean Clarey, a Michigan Tech recruit, leads the team at 17.8 ppg followed by Ryan Clarey at 14.9 ppg and Lemon at 11.3 ppg and 9.3 rpg. Others To Watch: Deerfield, Howards Grove, St. Mary's Springs.

Stars:

Diamond Stone, Jr., Dominican; Sean Clarey, Sr., Brookfield Academy; Charlie Noone, Sr., Lourdes Academy; Kelly Thomas, Jr., Racine St. Catherine's; Romeo Bouie, Jr., Racine St. Catherine's.



Dalton Soto

WBCA Hall of Fame Shootout showcases top youth teams and a great cause

The WBCA Hall of Fame Shootout will be held over the course of two weekends in late March, showcasing not only some of the top youth teams in the state, but a chance for players and fans to experience the new Hall of Fame at the JustAGame Fieldhouse in Wisconsin Dells. The event also serves as a fundraiser for the WBCA, with a portion of each team's registration going towards the association.

The weekend of March 22nd and 23rd finds both boys and girls teams at the 4th grade through 6th grade levels competing. The following weekend, March 29th and 30th, teams at the 7th and 8th grade level will take to the court. The events are only open to school-based programs and serve as a great way to wrap up the season.

Spots remain for both events, with a 4-game minimum, reasonable entry fees, and loads of activities both at the Fieldhouse and throughout the world famous Wisconsin Dells. All players and coaches registered for the tournament receive a complimentary water-park pass to Mt. Olympus.

To register for the tournament or for more information, visit: justagamefieldhouse.com.

If you have not yet been to the WBCA Hall of Fame opened at the JustAGame Fieldhouse in August of 2013, this is a great opportunity to check out thousands of square feet worth of stories, awards, memorabilia, and more chronicling the history of high school basketball in the state. There is a 1000-Point Lounge honoring many of those players to hit that milestone, and a 300-Win Club for coaches to achieve that mark. It truly is a must-see for any high school basketball fan and also a great way to introduce some of the history of the sport to the young players participating in the event.

The JustAGame Fieldhouse is a state-of-the-art facility featuring six full-length hardwood basketball courts, 10 full-length volleyball courts, four locker rooms, fully stocked concession stands, and the always-popular Sports Impressions sporting goods store. The Court of Champions opened in 2012



offers a 94-foot floor with seating for more than 1700 spectators, balcony seating for additional comfort and VIPs, and easy media access.

Located in Wisconsin Dells, the Waterpark Capital of the World, the community offers shopping, dining, entertainment, and attractions that have made the area famous across the world. With ample parking, easy access right off the interstate, and convenient travel times from most any area of the state, there is no better place for your players to lace 'em up.

BOYS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 5

Spooner Sectional

Safe Pick:

Owen-Withee: The Blackhawks feature one of the most prolific scorers in school history in senior forward Albert Goerlitz (6-2), who recently became the second player in program history to surpass 1,000 points for his career. Goerlitz leads Owen-Withee in both scoring (21.7 ppg) and rebounding (11.1 rpg), and his strong play has helped coach Russ Weiler's squad take the lead in the Eastern Division of the Cloverbelt Conference entering the month of February. Freshman Josiah Goerlitz (6-2) is also having a productive season for Owen-Withee, averaging 14.5 ppg and 9.1 rpg. Other Favorites: Cameron, Immanuel Lutheran, Washburn.

Sleeper:

Thorp: The Cardinals will not enter post-

season play with a glittering record, but coach Rich Sonnentag nonetheless has a battle-tested squad capable of competing with any other team in the sectional. Playing 14 games in the rugged Western Division of the Cloverbelt Conference will give Thorp an edge over most of its opponents in the sectional. Strong play from seniors Albi Maksuti (5-10) and Dakota Lindgren (6-2) will be essential for Thorp to make some noise in March. Others To Watch: Clayton, Drummond, McDonell Central.

Stars:

Cody Tomlinson, Jr., Washburn; Albert Goerlitz, Sr., Owen-Withee; Jack Mielke, Sr., Immanuel Lutheran; Dakota Lindgren, Sr., Thorp; Josh Siebert, Sr., Prairie Farm.

Pulaski Sectional

Safe Pick:

Green Bay NEW Lutheran: The Blazers took a 15-1 record into the month of February and have a very talented senior class led by forward Nathan Toenjes (6-7), wing Dakota Zinser (6-3) and guard Kristian Zimmerman (6-3). That talented trio has helped NEW Lutheran to the top spot in the Packerland Conference. All three played major roles for the Blazers a year ago when they went 28-1 and lost to Randolph in the WIAA Division 5 title game. Toenjes will play at Concordia College in Nebraska while Zinser will play at UW-Whitewater. Other Favorites: Almond-Bancroft, Port Edwards, Wausaukee.

Sleeper:

Newman Catholic: The Cardinals have an experienced squad, led by senior wing Marcus Gabriel (6-3), a very good all-around athlete who leads Newman Catholic in scoring at 11.7 ppg. Junior Jeff Ford (6-1) adds 11.1 ppg, sophomore Jake Gajewski (5-11) contributes 8.9 ppg and senior Nate Prososki (6-3) adds 8.7 ppg. Newman Catholic is among the top teams in the Southern Division of the Marawood Conference along with Auburndale and Marathon. Others To

Watch: Columbus Catholic, Gresham, St. Thomas Aquinas.

Stars:

Nathan Toenjes, Sr., NEW Lutheran; Dakota Zinswer, Sr., NEW Lutheran; Ethan Yonke, Sr., Almond-Bancroft; Jared Fleischmann, Sr., Columbus Catholic; Marcus



Nathan Toenjes

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Duke VanderGalen

Gabriel, Sr., Newman Catholic.

La Crosse Logan Sectional

Safe Pick:

Cassville: Paced by the stellar all-around play of senior Ty Kartman (6-2), the Comets won their first 14 games and were ranked among the elite Division 5 teams in the state in the WisSports.net poll. Kartman leads Cassville in scoring (21.9 ppg), rebounding (7.5 rpg) and assists (5.5 apg) while getting plenty of help from classmates Ryan Kirschbaum (6-2), who is averaging 9.4 ppg and 6.5 rpg, and Elijah Okey (5-11), who contributes 8.8 ppg. Other Favorites: Bangor, Barneveld, La Farge.

Sleeper:

Eleva-Strum: The Cardinals made the move from the Dairyland Large to the Dairyland Small this winter and have found a great deal of success under coach Joshua Skoug. Led by senior center Evan Runkel (6-8), Eleva-Strum

entered February with a 12-4 record. Runkel is averaging 14.3 ppg and 7.5 rpg. Others To Watch: Gilmanton, Hillsboro, North Crawford.

Stars:

Ty Kartman, Sr., Cassville; Canon O'Heron, Jr., Bangor; Jeremy Whitish, Sr., Barneveld; Eric Friar, Sr., North Crawford; Evan Runkel, Sr., Eleva-Strum.

Fort Atkinson Sectional

Safe Pick:

Sheboygan Lutheran: This is perhaps the deepest and most talented sectional in Division 5 as any number of teams could end up capturing the sectional title. Sheboygan Lutheran gets the slight nod over the other contenders based on the outstanding play of several talented seniors, including point guard Tyler Zastrow (5-10), wing guard Phil Leibham (6-0), wing guard Jacob Jurss (6-0) and forwards Nathan Hasenstein (6-0), Ryan Scheele

(6-4) and Jacob Ames (6-4). Other Favorites: Black Hawk, Catholic Central, Milwaukee Academy of Science.

Sleeper:

Williams Bay: The Bulldogs were battling Fall River for the title of the Southern Division of the Trailways Conference entering the final weeks of the regular season. Coach Troy Nottestad has a pair of double-figure scorers in seniors Adam Lechelt (5-8), who leads the team in scoring at 16.0 ppg, and Sergey Klyukuin (6-2), who contributes 13.1 ppg. Junior John Higgins (6-2) tops Williams Bay in rebounding at 10.3 rpg. Others To Watch: Cambria-Friesland, Central Wisconsin Christian, Randolph.

Stars:

Tyler Zastrow, Sr., Sheboygan Lutheran; Teagan Miles, Sr., Catholic Central; Juafonyay Lyte, Sr., Milwaukee Academy of Science; Joe Ingersoll, Sr., Faith Christian; Isaiah Shell, Sr., Albany.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Resch Center, Green Bay

Thursday, March 20

1:35 p.m. - Division 5 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

6:35 p.m. - Division 4 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

Friday, March 21

9:05 a.m. - Division 3 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

1:35 p.m. - Division 2 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

6:35 p.m. - Division 1 Semifinals

Sectional #2 vs. Sectional #4

Sectional #1 vs. Sectional #3

Saturday, March 22

11:05 a.m. - Championships - Divisions 5, 4 & 3

6:35 p.m. - Championships - Divisions 2 & 1

DIVISION 1

Sectional #1

Eau Claire Memorial Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Superior – The Spartans have wins over the other top teams in the grouping and both of their losses have come against Minnesota teams: Eden Prairie, who is ranked No. 3 in the 4A poll, and Chisago Lakes, currently No. 8 in 3A. The dynamic duo of seniors Jessica Lindstrom (Green Bay commit) and Hailey Kontny (Minnesota-Duluth commit) are each averaging over 20 points per game this season and will look to lead the Spartans to their second straight trip to the state tournament. Other Favorites: Chippewa Falls, D.C. Everest, Eau Claire Memorial.

Sleeper:

Wausau West – The Warriors are currently tied for second place in the Wisconsin Valley and led by junior Jasmin Samz, a Division I prospect averaging 21.3 points per game. Seniors Katrina Cihlar (13.3 ppg) and Anna Brown (9.5 ppg) will be looked upon to provide complimentary scoring for the Warriors to make a deep playoff run. Others to Watch: Marshfield.

Stars:

Kayla Hanley, Sr., Chippewa Falls; Taylor Hodell, Jr., D.C. Everest; Hailey Kontney, Sr., Superior; Jessica Lindstrom, Sr., Superior; Caitlin Michaelis, Jr., Marshfield; Lauren Novak, Sr., Eau Claire Memorial; Jasmin Samz, Jr., Wausau West.

Neenah Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Oshkosh West – Coach Niki Sutter has guided the Wildcats to two state tournament appearances in her eight seasons, including a runner-up finish in 2007-08. Oshkosh West is led by a pair of seniors in Lena Wells (12.7 ppg) and Deidra Unger (9 ppg). Sophomore Rachel Christopherson is also a key player for the Wildcats, averaging over 7 points per contest. They are also very strong defensively, allowing under 34 points per game. Other Favorites: Appleton North, Oshkosh North.

Sleeper:

Neenah – The Rockets are in a similar position as they were last season, in the middle of the Fox Valley Association standings. Neenah will look to play their best in the postseason this season as they did last year, making it all the way to a sectional semi-final. Senior Kauri Jensen leads the Rockets in scoring with 14.5 points per contest. Others to Watch: Appleton East, Fond du Lac.

Stars:

McKenzie Greisch, Sr., Appleton North; Kauri Jensen, Sr., Neenah; Brooklyn Schamens, Sr., Oshkosh North; Deidra Unger, Sr., Oshkosh West; Brianna Wagner, Sr., Fond du Lac; Lena Wells, Sr., Oshkosh West.

Sectional #2

Green Bay Preble Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Kimberly – The Papermakers have been ranked No. 1 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll since Week 5 and are one of two undefeated teams in Division 1, Sheboygan North is the other. Junior Frankie Wurtz, a Division I prospect, leads the team with 16.3 points per game. Along with their difficult FVA schedule, Kim-

berly also has wins over Oak Creek (D1 #3), Pius XI (D2 #3), and Whitefish Bay (D2 #7). Kimberly has a potential match-up against No. 2 Sheboygan North in a sectional semi-final. The Papermakers finished one win from the state tournament last season, losing to Arrowhead by two points in a sectional final. Other Favorites: De Pere, Sheboygan North.

Sleeper:

Bay Port – The Pirates are tied for third place in the very competitive FRCC and led by senior Claire Jordan, a Minnesota State-Mankato recruit. Jordan is leading the team in points (11.5), rebounds (5.8), assists (2.4), and steals (2.6) per game. Others to Watch: Green Bay Southwest.

Stars:

Carly Cerrato, Jr., De Pere; Alyssa Fischer, Jr., Manitowoc Lincoln; Natisha Hiedeman, Jr., Green Bay Southwest; Claire Jordan, Sr., Bay Port; Isabella Samuels, Jr., Green Bay Preble; Jenna Smarzinski, Sr., Kimberly; C.J. Usadel, Sr., Sheboygan North; Madison Wolf, Jr., Sheboygan North; Frankie Wurtz, Jr., Kimberly.

Waukesha South Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Arrowhead – The Warhawks reached the state tournament last season and they are currently ranked No. 4 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll. Their lone loss came against Mukwonago, they beat the Indians the second time they played. Senior Kelly Smith, a Northern Illinois commit, averages a team-high 15 points per contest, while junior Ally May, a Division I prospect, contributes just under 9 points per game for coach Rick Witte and the Warhawks. Other Favorites: Germantown, Kettle Moraine, Waukesha West.

Sleeper:

Sussex Hamilton – The Chargers took a few games to find their identity this season after offseason changes, but are in a similar position as last season. They are tied for first in the Greater Metro and the only team to defeat Brookfield Central this season. Sophomore Taylor Klug averages a team-high 13.9 points per game and senior Hannah Menzia provides nearly 12 points per contest.

Stars:

Taylor Higginbotham, Jr., Germantown; Ally May, Jr., Arrowhead; Taylor McIlwraith, So., Homestead; Hannah Menzia, Sr., Sussex Hamilton; Dani Rhodes, So., Waukesha West; Kelly Smith, Sr., Arrowhead; Chloe Tompkins, Sr., Kettle

Moraine.

Sectional #3

Madison Memorial Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Middleton – The Cardinals are on top of the Big Eight standings and ranked No. 6 in the latest WisSports.net Coaches Poll. Coach Jeff Kind's squad is led in scoring by junior Elizabeth Norregaard (13.5 ppg). Five others average at least 6 points per game, including junior Cole Jordee (9.8 ppg) and senior Liz McMahon (9.6 ppg). Middleton handed Verona their lone loss in the Big Eight 48-38 back in December and their contest in February could decide who gets the #1 seed. Other Favorites: Madison La Follette, Verona.

Sleeper:

Sun Prairie – In a season of ups and downs for the Cardinals they are currently in the middle of the Big Eight standings. Their best win of the season came against Madison La Follette in December. The Cardinals are led in scoring by junior Bailey Huser (12.2 ppg). Last season, Sun Prairie had a similar record and went on a deep playoff run before falling one game short of the state tournament, but unlike last season they don't have the luxury of McKayla Yentz, who's now playing at Marquette.

Stars: Amelia Grahn, Sr., Madison La Follette; Bailey Huser, Jr., Sun Prairie; Alysha Justice, Sr., Madison East; Liz McMahon, Sr., Middleton; Grace Mueller, So., Verona; Elizabeth Norregaard, Jr., Middleton; Lexy Richardson, Sr., Verona.

Beloit Memorial Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Mukwonago – The Indians finished as the state runner-up last season, falling to Milwaukee Riverside in the title game. Four of their five losses have come against teams that are currently ranked and they are the only team to beat Arrowhead (D1 #4). Sophomore phenom Bre Cera, a Green Bay recruit, averages a team-high 12.6 points per contest, while senior Ellie Michalski contributes 9 points per game. Other Favorites: Badger, Janesville Craig, Janesville Parker.

Sleeper:

Kenosha Tremper – The Trojans are 7-2 in the Southeast Conference so far this season after going 6-8 in 2012-13. They have six players averaging at least 6 points per game, led by senior Tai'shae

Hunter (10.3 ppg) and freshman Amari Wittington (9.5 ppg).

Stars:

Bre Cera, So. Mukwonago; Allison Hughes, Jr., Janesville Craig; Madie Kaelber, So., Kenosha Indian Trail; Morgan McCulloch, Jr., Janesville Parker; Ellie Michalski, Sr., Mukwonago; Maria Mieres-Rey, Jr., Badger.

Sectional #4

Racine Case Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Oak Creek: Coach Steve Hluchnik put together a very difficult schedule for



the Knights, who opened the season as the favorite to win the state title. Oak Creek, currently ranked No. 3, has lost two games this season, the first was a 42-41 loss to Pewaukee, ranked No. 1 in D2, and their other loss was a 49-48 double-overtime defeat against top-ranked Kimberly. The Knights are led by Division I recruits Tamyia Sims (Bradley) and Stephanie Kostowicz (Milwaukee) who each average over 14 points per game. They also get solid production from fellow senior Katie Finn who averages over 9 points per contest and has connected on 28 threes. Last season, the Knights were knocked off by conference

foe Franklin in a sectional semi-final. Other Favorites: Franklin.

Sleeper:

Racine Case – The Eagles have struggled against the top teams in the conference, but are currently 3-4 in league play. The youthful Eagles have also played a challenging non-conference schedule, losing to The Prairie School, De Pere, Middleton, and Germantown who are all either ranked or near the top of their conference standings. Sophomore Azaria Floyd averages a team-high 15 points per game, while freshman Wynter Townsend and Kiara Riser each contribute over 9 points per contest.

Stars: Paige Bobos, Jr., Franklin; Katie Finn, Sr., Oak Creek; Azaria Floyd, So., Racine Case; Carly Graverson, So., Franklin; Stephanie Kostowicz, Sr., Oak Creek; Tamyia Sims, Sr., Oak Creek.

Brookfield East Sub-Sectional

Safe Pick:

Brookfield Central – The Lancers are 12-1 and ranked No. 7 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll. Their lone loss came against Sussex Hamilton 32-31 in December. Coach Dan Wandrey and the Lancers defeated DSHA 55-50 in mid-January to move into a three-way tie for first place in the Greater Metro. Senior Lydia Rohde, who will play at Northwestern next season, leads the Lancers with nearly 13 points per game, while fellow senior Nicole Hinz provides just south of 12 points per contest. Last season, the Lancers fell to eventual D1 champ Milwaukee Riverside 66-58 in a regional final. Other Favorites: DSHA, Milwaukee King.

Sleeper:

Milwaukee Riverside – The defending Division 1 state champs struggled in their difficult early schedule this season, starting the year 0-6 but are 7-2 since. Coach Donald Nelson's team is led by junior Amani Wilborn, a Division I recruit, who's averaging nearly 16 points per game. Sophomore Alona Johnson, a Wisconsin commit, contributes just under 13 points per contest. Last season, the Tigers started the year 1-4 before running the table.

Stars:

Shakeela Fowler, Jr., Milwaukee King; Akaylah Hayes, Jr., Milwaukee King; Nicole Hinz, Sr., Brookfield Central; Alona Johnson, So., Milwaukee Riverside; Sami Leach, Sr., DSHA; Arike Ogunbowale, Jr., DSHA; Lydia Rohde, Sr., Brookfield Central; Amani Wilborn, Jr., Milwaukee Riverside.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 2

Marshfield Sectional

Safe Pick:

New London – The Bulldogs are 10-2 and ranked No. 9 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll after starting the season with two losses. Senior twins Mickey and Lexi Roland average over 8 points per game to lead the way for the Bulldogs. Mickey also leads the team with over 7 rebounds and 3 steals per contest. After taking a year off, Troy Krause is back as head coach after winning back-to-back state titles in 2011 and 2012, guiding them to 42-straight wins. New London's streak ended at 68 games last season in a state semi-final loss to New Berlin Eisenhower. The Bulldogs hold a slight edge over Onalaska in the sectional, the two teams could meet in a sectional final in Marshfield. Other Favorites: La Crosse Central, Onalaska, Merrill.

Sleeper:

New Richmond – The Tigers are in second place in the Middle Border with their only loss coming against undefeated Baldwin-Woodville. Their best win of the season came in a 52-47 win over Chippewa Falls back in December. Senior Sydney Kannel leads the team with nearly 17 points per game, while also adding over 4 assists and 4 steals per contest. Others to Watch: Hortonville, La Crosse Logan, Mosinee, Rhinelander.

Stars:

Brittany Baldwin, Sr, La Crosse Central; Courtney Meyer, Sr., Onalaska; Dawn Leland, Sr., Merrill; Rachel Rank, Sr., La Crosse Logan; Mickey Roland, Sr., New London; Renee Sladek, Sr., Merrill; Natalie Soper, Sr., Onalaska.

Sheboygan South Sectional

Safe Pick:

Notre Dame – The Tritons are the defending Division 2 state champs and are ranked No. 2 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll. Their only loss of the season came against Sheboygan North (D1 #2). Green Bay commit Allie LeClaire leads the Tritons with 20 points per game and scored a career-high 37 points in 59-48 double-overtime win over

DSHA (D1 #9) their second game of the season. Coach Sara Rohde's squad also get strong production from senior Eliza Campbell who averages over 13 points per game. Other Favorites: Beaver Dam,



Eliza Campbell

Cedarburg, Xavier.

Sleeper:

Pulaski – The Red Raiders, like Notre Dame, compete in a very competitive FRCC that has a number of Division 1 schools which gives them an advantage over other teams in their sectional. They defeated New London their second game

of the season and hold a 6-4 record in the FRCC so far this season. Sophomore Mariah Szymanski averages a team-high 11.5 points per game. Others to Watch: Plymouth, Slinger, West De Pere.

Stars:

Eliza Campbell, Sr., Notre Dame; Allie LeClaire, Sr., Notre Dame; Kylee Marks, Jr., Cedarburg; Kaily Moegenburg, Sr., Plymouth; Kiley Riteris, Sr., Beaver Dam; Mariah Szymanski, So., Pulaski; Peyton Ufi, Jr., Xavier.

Janesville Craig Sectional

Safe Pick:

Monona Grove – The Silver Eagles have been ranked in the top five of the WisSports.net Coaches for all but two weeks this season. Their lone loss of the season came against Oregon who they are tied for first with in the Badger South standings. Seniors Alexa Kelsey and Taylor Nelson lead the way for the Silver Eagles, each averaging over 15 points per game. Coach Eric Nelson's team averages over 18 steals per contest. Last season, their season ended in a sectional final loss to Milton. Other Favorites: DeForest, Oregon, Waterford, Wilmot.

Sleeper:

Waunakee – The Warriors are 10-6 overall but 7-1 in the Badger South and the only team to defeat DeForest this season. Coach Brad Lussier's squad has played a challenging non-conference schedule, three of their losses have come against Division 1 schools: Verona (D1 #8), DSHA (D1 #9), and D.C. Everest (15-1). Senior Maddie Shaw and sophomore Jada Dayne each average over 8 points per game for the Warriors. Others to Watch: McFarland, Reedsburg, Stoughton.

Stars:

Madison Blair, Jr., Waterford; Kari Clements, Sr., Wilmot; Jada Dayne, So., Waunakee; Maddy Gits, Sr, Oregon; Kayla Goth, Jr., DeForest; Alexa Kelsey, Sr., Monona Grove; Taylor Nelson, Sr., Monona Grove; Tiernee Schrank, Jr., Reedsburg.

Brookfield Central Sectional

Safe Pick:

Pewaukee – The Pirates are undefeated and ranked No. 1 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll. Coach Todd Hansen's club knocked Oak Creek (D1 #3) from the unbeaten ranks back in December and have breezed through the majority of their

schedule so far this season. They have yet to play Pius XI but get a slight edge over the Lady Popes with their win over Oak Creek, the Knights defeated Pius XI in late January. Sophomore Abby Gerrits leads the Pirates with over 14 points per game. Other Favorites: Pius XI, Whitefish Bay.

Sleeper:

New Berlin Eisenhower – The Lions aren't your typical sleeper as they have finished as the state runner-up the past two seasons. All four of their losses have come against teams ranked in the top five of either Division 1 or 2, including Woodland West opponents Pius XI and



Gabby Green

Pewaukee. Sophomore Chelsea Brackmann averages a team-high 12.4 points per game while junior Sammy Kozlowski contributes nearly 9 points per game. Others to Watch: New Berlin West, Waukesha North, Wisconsin Lutheran.

Stars:

Chelsea Brackmann, So., New Berlin Eisenhower; Abby Gerrits, So., Pewaukee; Gabby Green, Jr., Pius XI; Maya Jonas, Sr., Whitefish Bay; Jessica Kelliher, Jr., Waukesha North; Caitlin Knueppel, Sr., Wisconsin Lutheran; Sammy Kozlowski, Jr., New Berlin Eisenhower; Ashley Pitrof, Sr., Pius XI; MacKenzie Schill, Fr., Pewaukee.

MISS BASKETBALL CONTENDERS



MAYA JONAS
WHITEFISH BAY
6-2/F

Jonas' strong play has the Blue Dukes tied for first in the North Shore. The Northwestern recruit is averaging 15.2 points, 10.5 rebounds, 3.7 blocks, 3.5 assists, and 2 steals per game for coach Dave Markson. She scored a career-high 29 points in a 47-39 win over Sussex Hamilton in their second game. The Blue Dukes have won 13-straight games and have been ranked in the top ten of the WisSports.net Coaches Poll since Week 8.



ALLIE LECLAIRE
NOTRE DAME
5-9/G

LeClaire was a key player on last year's Division 2 state title team and is averaging 20.1 points per game this season for coach Sara Rohde. The Green Bay recruit scored a career-high 37 points in a 59-48 double-overtime win over DSHA their second game of the season. The Tritons have been ranked in the top five of the WisSports.net Coaches Poll all season.



JENNY LINDNER
NEILLVILLE
6-0/G

Lindner has a spectacular 91-2 record in her four years, including winning the Division 4 state title as a sophomore and reaching the state tournament last season. The Milwaukee recruit is averaging 16.4 points per game for coach John Gaier. The Warriors are undefeated and have been ranked No. 1 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll since Week 1.



JESSICA LINDSTROM
SUPERIOR
6-1/F

Lindstrom helped the Spartans reach the state tournament for just the second time in school history last season. The Green Bay recruit is averaging 21.3 points, 17.7 rebounds, and 4.3 assists per game for coach Phil Roe. She scored a career-high 35 points in a 74-54 win against Esko (MN) in early February. The Spartans have been ranked in the top five of the WisSports.net Coaches Poll all season.



GABRIELLE ORTIZ
THE PRAIRIE SCHOOL
5-7/G

Ortiz led the Hawks to the Division 4 state tournament last season and is averaging 22.1 points, 7.1 rebounds, 4.6 assists, and 3.8 steals per game for coach Melody Owsely this year. The Oklahoma recruit tied a career-high with 32 points in a 56-50 win over Wilnot in December. The Hawks are undefeated and ranked No. 1 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 3

River Falls Sectional

Safe Pick:

Neillsville – The Warriors have reached the state tournament in each of the past two seasons, including winning the Division 4 state title in 2011-12. Senior Jenny Lindner, a Milwaukee recruit, has helped the Warriors to a 91-2 record in her four years and is averaging over 16 points per game this season. Last season, Neillsville's season ended in a state semi-final loss to East Troy. Other Favorites: Baldwin-Woodville, Hayward, West Salem.

Sleeper:

Aquinas – Competing in the Mississippi Valley Conference against Division 2 schools will benefit the Bugolds come playoff time. Junior Chelsea Ritter averages a team-high 15.7 points per game and fellow junior Shayna Halverson

provides a secondary scoring option, averaging 10 points per contest. Others to Watch: Arcadia, Barron, Gale-Ettrick-Tempealeau.

Stars:

Morganne Gruber, Jr., Durand; Jenny Lindner, Sr., Neillsville; Larissa Jacobson, Jr., West Salem; Morgan Johnson, Sr., Hayward; Afton Kuehndorf, Sr., Barron;

season ended in a loss to Eastern Valley foe Xavier in a sectional semi-final but they won't have to face the Hawks since they've moved up to Division 2. Other Favorites: Oconto Falls, Wittenberg-Birnamwood, Two Rivers.

Sleeper:

Little Chute – The Mustangs are in third place in the competitive Eastern Valley while playing without junior Abbie Botz, who figured to be one of their top players this season. Botz has been out the entire season with a broken foot but hopes to return prior to the tournament. Little Chute has a balanced scoring at-



Jenny Lindner

Annalese Lamke, Jr., G-E-T; Alyssa Pronschinske, Sr., Arcadia; Chelsea Ritter, Jr., Aquinas, Andrea Thomas, Sr., Mauston.

Ashwaubenon Sectional

Safe Pick:

Fox Valley Lutheran – The Foxes have been ranked in the top 5 of the Wis-Sports.net Coaches Poll since Week 3. Their only loss came against defending Division 2 state champ Notre Dame. Seniors Abby Radue (10.2 ppg) and Grace Schultz (9.2 ppg) lead the way for the Foxes. Last season, Fox Valley Lutheran's

tack this season with five players averaging better than 5 points per game, led by senior McKenna Joosten's 10 points per game. Others to Watch: Denmark, Kiel, Kewaunee, Omro.

Stars:

Mady Engstrom, Jr., Omro; Mikayla Hartman, Sr., Wittenberg-Birnamwood; McKenna Joosten, Sr., Little Chute; McKenna Larsen, Sr., Oconto Falls; Abby Radue, Sr., Fox Valley Lutheran; Grace Schultz, Sr., Fox Valley Lutheran; Cassie Schweitzer, So., Kiel; Mackenzie Walesh, Sr., Two Rivers.

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Middleton Sectional

Safe Pick:

Brodhead – The Cardinals are undefeated and have been ranked No. 2 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll behind Neillsville since Week 1. Iowa commit Carly Mohns averages a double-double (17.2 points and 10.8 rebounds) along with leading the team in assists (3.4) and steals (4.6) per game. Brodhead has quality non-conference wins over Dodgeville, Cuba City and Madison La Follette along with a Rock Valley crossover win against Whitewater in overtime. The Cardinals are looking for their first-ever trip to the state tournament after finishing one win short last season. Other Favorites: Adams-Friendship, Lakeside Lutheran, Marshall, Whitewater.

Sleeper:

Madison Edgewood – The Crusaders don't have an impressive record this season but competing in the difficult Badger-South and dropping down to D3 this season should make them a feared team in the playoffs. Senior Samantha Foti leads the Crusaders with over 14 points per game and junior Emma Merigglioli contributes over 11 points per contest. Others to Watch: Clinton, Dodgeville, Jefferson, Wisconsin Dells.

Stars:

Kelsey Bakken, So., Marshall; Leigh Drury, Sr., Richland Center; Samantha Foti, Sr., Madison Edgewood; Moriah Hackbarth, Jr., Lakeside Lutheran; Carly Mohns, Sr., Brodhead; Mallory Niemann, Sr., Clinton; Emma Roenneburg, Jr., Adams-Friendship; Taylor Stanek, Jr., Dodgeville; Brooke Trewyn, Sr., Whitewater.

Whitefish Bay Sectional

Safe Pick:

Kettle Moraine Lutheran – The Chargers started the season 13-0 before losing to undefeated Sheboygan North (D1 #2). KML is currently ranked No. 3 and have quality non-conference wins over Madison Edgewood and Cedarburg (D2). Three Chargers average over 10 points per game: junior Mikayla Voigt (14.6 ppg), senior Andrea Meinert (11.6 ppg) and junior Kari Schneiss (10.5 ppg). Last season, the Chargers season ended with a four-point loss against state runner-up East Troy in a sectional semi-final. Other Favorites: Milwaukee School of Languages, Oostburg.

Sleeper:

Waupun – The Warriors are in third place in the Eastern Wisconsin and have had eight different players score over 10 points in a game this season. Junior Kayla Bonack leads the balanced scoring attack with just under 8 points per contest. Others to Watch: Columbus, Lomira, Ripon.

Stars:

Kayla Brewer, Sr., Milwaukee School of Languages; Kayla Bonack, Jr., Waupun; Marissa Bunge, So., Ripon; Maranda Huibregtse, Sr., Oostburg; Andrea Meinert, Sr., Kettle Moraine Lutheran; Morgan Seltzner, Jr., Columbus; Mikayla Voigt, Jr., Kettle Moraine Lutheran.



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April 8 Boys All-Star League 5-8th Boys
April 12-13 Gym Rats State Tournament - 10U-17U Boys and Girls
April 14 Girls All-Star League 5-8th Girls
April 18-19 Team Duke Shootout - 10U-17U Boys
April 26 Marley's Shootout - 14U-17U Boys and Girls
April 27 Marley's Shootout - 10U-13U Boys and Girls
May 3 Just A Game Classic - 10U-17U Boys
May 4 Just A Game Classic - 10U-17U Girls
May 10 Great Wolf Lodge All-Star Classic - 10U-14U Boys and Girls
May 16-18 Original Wisconsin Ducks Hugh Roberts Classic - 10U-17U Boys, 16U Girls
May 31 Noah's Ark Start of Summer Shootout - 10U-13U Boys and Girls
June 1 Girls High School Summer League - JV and Varsity Girls
June 1 Noah's Ark Start of Summer Shootout - 14U-17U Boys and Girls
June 4 Boys High School Summer League - Freshman and JV Boys
June 5 Boys High School Summer League - JV and Varsity Boys
June 7 Laina Bailey 3 on 3 Shootout - All Divisions
June 7 Laina Bailey Shootout - 10U-13U Boys and Girls

Visit our website for tournament schedule and information

GIRLS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 4

Chippewa Falls Sectional

Safe Pick:

Colfax – The Vikings are undefeated and ranked No. 3 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll after finishing last season as the state runner-up. Senior Mallie Doucette, a Minnesota State-Moorhead commit, averages over 14 points per game while also contributing 2.8 assists and 3.8 steals per contest for coach and father Joe Doucette. Fellow senior Braanna Steen averages 14 points and 5.9 rebounds per game for Colfax. Other Favorites: Cameron, Fall Creek, Ladysmith, Mondovi, Regis.

Sleeper:

Stanley-Boyd – The Orioles are 10-3 so far this season after finishing with an 8-15 record last season. Alison Becker is in her first season as coach at Stanley-Boyd after previously coaching at Chippewa Falls. Sophomore Jami Reit leads the Orioles in every statistical category which includes 17.7 points and 11.8

rebounds per game. Others to Watch: Athens, Flambeau, Phillips.

Stars: Shae Brey, So., Regis; Kendra Brown, Sr., Phillips; Olivia Burghardt, So., Fall Creek; Kyncaide Diedrich, Jr., Athens; Mallie Doucette, Sr., Colfax; Jade Effertz, Sr., Ladysmith; Jami Reit, So., Stanley-Boyd; Braanna Steen, Sr., Colfax; Chloe Wanink, Jr., Cameron

Waupaca Sectional

Safe Pick:

Algoma – The Wolves won the Division 4 state title last season and are the favorite to repeat as state champs. Coach Mark Zastrow and the Wolves don't shy away from playing bigger schools in their non-conference schedule, their two losses this season have come against Division 1 schools Sussex Hamilton and Green Bay Preble. Senior Kennedy Blahnik averages a team-high 14.8 points per game, while Megan Ryan (Sr.), Anna Dier (So.), and Baleigh Delorit all average over 7 points per game. Other Favorites: Amherst, Marathon, Oconto, Reedsville.

Sleeper:

Bonduel – The Bears are 10-2 so far this season, losing by a combined 5 points. They're the only team to defeat Wittenberg-Birnamwood in CWC-8 play this season. Junior Jennifer Dowden averages a team high in points (17) and rebounds (8.6) per game. Others to Watch: Brillion, Coleman, Manitowoc Lutheran, Shiocton, St. Mary Central.

Stars: Kennedy Blahnik, Sr., Algoma; Anna Dier, So., Algoma; Jennifer Dowden, Jr., Bonduel; Natasha Hanke, So., Marathon; Laken James, Sr., Oconto; Shelby Otto, Jr., Reedsville; Jaimee Pitt, Sr., Amherst; Jenna Thelen, Sr., St. Mary

Central

DeForest Sectional

Safe Pick:

Cuba City – The Cubans are sitting in a similar position as they were last season, ranked in the top five of the coaches poll and their lone loss coming against undefeated Brodhead (D3 #2). Coach Jeff Pustina's club has three players averaging over 11 points per contest: Junior Mollie Wedige (13.7 ppg), sophomore Jessi Marti (13.6 ppg), and Chloe Pustina (11.5 ppg). Cuba City is in position to add to their state-record 14 trips to the state tournament. Last season, they lost to state champion Algoma in a state semi-final. Other Favorites: Brookwood, Markesan, Mineral Point.

Sleeper:

Fennimore – The Golden Eagles are in



Gabbi Ortiz

third place in the SWAL and are led in scoring by senior Alexi Needham who averages nearly 22 points per contest. Last season, Fennimore was one and done in the playoffs. Others to Watch: Lancaster, New Glarus, Riverdale, Wild Rose.

Stars: Brandi Bender, Sr., Markesan; Amber Brueggen, Jr., Brookwood; Jenna Endres, Sr., Wisconsin Heights; Jessi Marti, So., Cuba City; Alexis Needham, Sr., Fennimore; Chloe Pustina, Jr., Cuba



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Kennedy Blahnik

City; Jessica Schultz, So., Mineral Point; Sydney Wagner, Jr., Lancaster; Molly Wedge, Jr., Cuba City

Oconomowoc Sectional

Safe Pick:

The Prairie School – The Hawks are undefeated so far this season and led by senior Gabbi Ortiz. The Oklahoma commit leads the Hawks with 22 points, 7.1 rebounds, 4.6 assists, and 3.8 steals per game. Coach Melody Owsley's team also gets production from senior Kate Andreucci (13 ppg, 6 rpg) and sophomore Sammie Woodward (8 ppg). The Prairie School has a potential match-up against Lourdes Academy in a sectional final. The Knights were added to the southeast sectional this season after previously being in the northeast. Last season, the Hawks lost to Colfax 42-41 in a state semi-final. Other Favorites: Lourdes Academy, Kenosha St. Joseph, St. Mary's Springs.

Sleeper:

Shoreland Lutheran – The Pacers are led by Division I prospect Ellie Harmeyer (Jr.) who averages 18.8 points and 9.6 rebounds per game. Shoreland Lutheran also gets solid production from seniors Hannah Harmeyer (14 ppg) and Lauren Stanich (12.2 ppg). Others to Watch: Cambridge, Dominican, Racine St. Catherine's.

Stars: Kate Andreucci, Sr., The Prairie School; Allazia Blockton, Jr., Dominican; Sidney Cooks, Fr. Kenosha St. Joseph; Lauren Fischer, Sr., Lourdes Academy; Ellie Harmeyer, Jr., Shoreland Lutheran; Monica Muth, Jr., Cambridge; Gabbi Ortiz, Sr., The Prairie School; Maddy Reed, Sr., Lourdes Academy; Kelli Schrauth, Jr., St. Mary's Springs.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

DIVISION 5

Division 5

Spooner Sectional

Safe Pick:

South Shore – The Cardinals are undefeated and ranked No. 5 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll. Junior Megan Gustafson, a Division I prospect, leads the state in scoring (28.9 ppg) and rebounding (18.1 rpg). Senior Janice Anderson is averaging over 17 points and nearly 5 steals per contest for coach Ryan Tiberg and the Cardinals. Last season, the Cardinals lost to state runner-up Barneveld in a state semi-final. Other Favorites: Clayton, Owen-Withee, Siren.

Sleeper:

Frederic – The Vikings are in third place in the Lakeland West and are 8-4 overall after finishing with a 6-17 record last season. Junior Lara Harlander leads the team with over 20 points per game and

senior Carly Gustafson provides nearly 10 points and 9 rebounds per contest for the Vikings. Others to Watch: Mellen, Northwood, Thorp, Turtle Lake.

Stars:

Janice Anderson, Sr., South Shore; Caitlynn Daniels, So., Siren; Meg Ellias, Sr., Mellen; Megan Gustafson, Jr., South Shore; Lara Harlander, Jr., Frederic; Stephany Heggemeier, Jr., Owen-Withee; Bailey Karaba, Sr., Owen-Withee; Abbey Ketz, Jr., Clayton; Taylor Schneider, So., Turtle Lake.

D.C. Everest Sectional

Safe Pick:

Assumption – The Royals are the defending state champions and ranked No. 2 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll with their only loss coming against Barneveld. Assumption beat Barneveld twice last season, including in the state championship game. Sophomore Gena Grundhoffer averages a team-high 12.8 points per game, while senior Mary Sigler, a Regis University commit, provides over 11 points per contest for coach Joe Birkhauser and the Royals. Other Favorites: Goodman/Pembine, Loyal, Newman Catholic, Port Edwards.

Sleeper:

Marion – The Mustangs are tied for second in the CWC-10 with their lone conference loss coming against Port Edwards. Seniors Makenzie Thoma and Jessica Reminger are the top players for coach Scott Bauman and Marion. Others to Watch: Columbus Catholic, Phelps, Three Lakes.

Stars:

Brittney Birkhauser, Sr., Assumption; Chloe Chapman, Sr., Newman Catholic; Courtney Goyak, Sr., Goodman/Pembine; Gena Grundhoffer, So., Assumption; Jordyn Schraeder, Jr., Port Edwards; Mary Sigler, Sr., Assumption; Madison Tubbs, Sr., Newman Catholic; Ashley Volkmann, Sr., Phelps.

La Crosse Logan Sectional

Safe Pick:

Barneveld – The Golden Eagles are undefeated and have been ranked No. 1 in the WisSports.net Coaches Poll since



Rachel Slaney

defeating Assumption in late December. Sophomore standout Hannah Whitish averages a team-high 19 points per game and junior Rachel Slaney contributes 15 points per contest for coach Jim Myers and the Golden Eagles. With both Barneveld and Assumption switching sectionals this season they could once again play for the state championship. Other Favorites: Bangor, Hillsboro, Ithaca, River Ridge.

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Mary Sigler

Sleeper:

North Crawford – The Trojans are tied for second place in the Ridge & Valley after going 3-19 overall last season. Senior Mackenzie Swiggum is a big part of their improvement, she's averaging over 20 points per game after missing last season with a knee injury. The Trojans are the only team to beat Ithaca in conference play. Others to Watch: Eleva-Strum, Potosi, Seneca.

Stars:

Jordan Cockroft, Sr., Ithaca; Kara Enos, Sr., Eleva-Strum; Maddie Hawes, So., Potosi; Meagan Herrick, Sr., River Ridge; Morgan Horstman, Jr., Bangor; Keegan Kamps, Jr., Belmont; Sami Levy, Sr., Hillsboro; Rachel Slaney, Jr., Barneveld; Mackenzie Swiggum, Sr., North Crawford; Hannah Whitish, So., Barneveld.

Watertown Sectional

Safe Pick:

Heritage Christian – The Patriots have been ranked in the top five of the WisSports.net Coaches Poll despite losing a number of players to graduation and transfers. Senior Ramiyah Bennett averages nearly 23 points per game and junior Marianna Bautista contributes over 15 points and 14 rebounds per contest for the Patriots. Other Favorites: Hilbert, Randolph, Fall River.

Sleeper:

Black Hawk – The Warriors are in second place in the Six Rivers East behind Barneveld. Coach Mike Flanagan's squad is led by Green Bay recruit Jen Wellnitz who leads the team in every statistical category, averaging 24 points, 9.2 rebounds, 5.6 assists, and 6 steals per game. Others to Watch: Argyle, Monticello, Sheboygan Christian.

Stars:

Marianna Bautista, Jr., Heritage Christian; Ramiyah Bennett, Sr., Heritage Christian; Erica Gehl, Jr., Hilbert; Alyssah Kubly, Jr., Monticello; Allison Pickhardt, Sr., Randolph; Kelly Tramburg, So., Fall River; Jen Wellnitz, Sr., Black Hawk; Carissa Wisse, So., Sheboygan Christian.

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WRESTLING

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Individual Championships
Friday, March 7 - Saturday, March 8; UW Field-house, Madison:
Team Championships

Division 1

106 pounds
 '12 Champion: Nolan Shea, Milton, So. (Wrestling 113 this year)
 Top Returner: Trevor Hanson, Baraboo, Jr. - State Qualifier
 Current #1 according to Wisconsin Wrestling Online: Justin Ratkovec, Waterford, So.

113 pounds
 '12 Champ: Bill Prochniewski, Waukesha South, Sr.
 Top Returner: No returning state qualifiers among current ranked wrestlers
 Current #1: Nolan Shea, Milton, Jr.

120 pounds
 '12 Champ: Josh Bird, Burlington, Fr. (Wrestling 138 this year)
 Top Returner: Bill Holz, Menomonee Falls, Jr. - State Qualifier
 Current #1: Ben Thornton, La Crosse Central, Sr.

126 pounds
 '12 Champ: Colin Baine, Wausau West, Sr.
 Top Returner: Kolton Jansen, Kaukauna, Sr. - State Qualifier
 Current #1: Chase Farr, Bay Port, Sr.

132 pounds
 '12 Champ: Andrew Crone, Arrowhead, Sr.
 Top Returner: No returning state qualifiers
 Current #1: Robert Lee, Kaukauna, Jr.

138 pounds
 '12 Champ: Kyle Hinnert, Milton, Sr.
 Top Returner: No returning state qualifiers
 Current #1: Josh Bird, Burlington, So.

145 pounds
 '12 Champ: Jared Scharenbrock, Sun Prairie, Jr. (Wrestling 152 this year)
 Top Returner: Eric Schmid, Verona, Jr. - 2nd Place
 Current #1: Joe Nelson, Stoughton, So.

152 pounds
 '12 Champ: Beau Breske, Hartford, Fr. (Wrestling 170 this year)
 Top Returner: No returning state qualifiers
 Current #1: Jared Scharenbrock, Sun Prairie, Sr.

160 pounds
 '12 Champ: Cody Nannemann, Waterford, Sr.
 Top Returner: Mason Reinhardt,



Jordan Riesinger

Merrill, Jr. - 3rd Place
 Current #1: Travis Hettinga, Wausau West, Sr.

170 pounds
 '12 Champ: Jake Stilling, Elkhorn, Sr.
 Top Returner: David Pophal, Merrill, Sr. - 2nd Place
 Current #1: Beau Breske, Hartford, So.

182 pounds
 '12 Champ: Aaron Rothwell, Sheboygan North, Sr.
 Top Returner: Brock Allen, DeForest, Sr. - 6th Place
 Current #1: Allen

195 pounds
 '12 Champ: Eric Peissig, Menomonie, Sr.
 Top Returner: Nick Osowski, Oshkosh West, Sr. - 2nd Place
 Current #1: Jordan Reisinger, Tomah, Sr.

220 pounds
 '12 Champ: Tyler Schmidt, Merrill, Jr.
 Top Returner: Schmidt
 Current #1: Schmidt

285 pounds
 '12 Champ: Jessie Nelson, Stoughton, Sr.
 Top Returner: Hunter Hauser, Holmen, Sr. - 3rd Place
 Current #1: Hauser

Division 2

106 pounds
 '12 Champ: Hunter Marko, Amery, Fr. (Wrestling 113 this year)
 Top Returner: Paul Bianchi, Two Rivers, So. - 5th Place
 Current #1 according to Wisconsin Wrestling Online: Bianchi

113 pounds
 '12 Champ: JJ McClelland, Viroqua, Jr. (Wrestling 120 this year)
 Top Returner: Cody Vogel, East Troy, So. - State Qualifier
 Current #1: Hunter Marko, Amery, So.

120 pounds
 '12 Champ: Jens Lantz, Ellsworth, Jr. (Wrestling 126 this year)
 Top Returner: No returning state qualifiers
 Current #1: JJ McClelland, Viroqua, Sr.

126 pounds
 '12 Champ: Ryan Costello, Campbell-sport, Sr.
 Top Returner: Spencer Davies, Mauston, Sr. - 3rd Place
 Current #1: Jens Lantz, Ellsworth, Sr.

132 pounds
 '12 Champ: Dewey Krueger, Oconto Falls, So. (Wrestling 145 this year)
 Top Returner: No returning State Qualifiers
 Current #1: Devin Bahr, West Salem/Bangor, Fr.

138 pounds
 '12 Champ: Mitchell Friedman, Oconto Falls, Sr.
 Top Returner: Michael Chadwick, Neillsville/Greenwood/Loyal, Sr. - State Qualifier
 Current #1: Robert Csukker, Stanley-Boyd/Owen-Withee/Thorp, Sr.

145 pounds
 '12 Champ: Colin Schubert, Southern Door, Sr.
 (cont. on page 28)

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Top Returner: Joe Crook, River Valley, Sr.
– State Qualifier
Current #1: Dewey Krueger, Oconto Falls, Jr.

152 pounds
'12 Champ: Seth Liegel, River Valley, Sr.
Top Returner: Bryce Bennot, Wild Rose/Wautoma, Sr. – State Qualifier
Current #1: Johnny Chamberlain, Chetek-Weyerhaeuser/Prairie Farm, Jr.

160 pounds
'12 Champ: Gable Frandson, Ellsworth, Jr.
Top Returner: Frandson
Current #1: Frandson

170 pounds
'12 Champ: Justin Dolata, Mauston, Jr.
Top Returner: Dolata
Current #1: Dolata

182 pounds
'12 Champ: Brady Huenink, Waupun, Sr.
Top Returner: Lucas Stephenson, Sturgeon Bay, Sr. – State Qualifier
Current #1: Stephenson

195 pounds
'12 Champ: Joey Dedick, East Troy, Sr.
Top Returner: Scott Skornicka, Two Rivers, Sr. – 3rd Place
Current #1: Joe Rademacher, Saint Croix Falls, Sr.

220 pounds
'12 Champ: Luke Destiche, Luxemburg-Casco, Jr.
Top Returner: Destiche
Current #1: Destiche

285 pounds
'12 Champ: Newton Smerchek, Luxemburg-Casco, Sr.
Top Returner: Matt Halverson, Kiel, Sr. – 5th Place
Current #1: Logan Maurer, Brodhead/Juda, Jr.

Division 3

106 pounds
'12 Champ: Hunter Dischler, Weston/Ithaca, Fr. (Wrestling 113 this year)
Top Returner: Riley Lull, Riverdale, So. – 2nd Place
Current #1 according to Wisconsin Wres-

ting Online: Lull

113 pounds
'12 Champ: Kal Gerber, Cameron, So. (Wrestling 126 this year)
Top Returner: No returning state qualifiers
Current #1: Hunter Dischler, Weston/Ithaca, So.

120 pounds
'12 Champ: Cole Martin, Lancaster, So. (Wrestling 132 this year)
Top Returner: Brandon Depies, Random Lake, Sr. – 6th Place
Current #1: Cruz Hurlburt, Spring Val-

Grant/Highland, Sr.
Top Returner: Ross Withington, Westby, Jr. – 2nd Place
Current #1: Austin Riehl, Shiocton, Jr.

145 pounds
'12 Champ: Trenton Cornell, Lancaster, Jr. (Wrestling 152 this year)
Top Returner: Trevor Seewald, Coleman, Sr. – 4th Place
Current #1: Seewald

152 pounds
'12 Champ: Mason Mergener, Coleman, Sr.
Top Returner: Cody Willis, Weston/Ithaca, Sr. – 6th Place
Current #1: Trenton Cornell, Lancaster, Sr.

160 pounds
'12 Champ: Ethan Soderstrom, Lancaster, Jr. (Wrestling 170 this year)
Top Returner: Dexter Karban, Coleman, Sr. – 4th Place
Current #1: Karban

170 pounds
'12 Champ: Matt Nowak, Edgar, Sr.
Top Returner: Adam Risse, Random Lake, Sr. – 4th Place
Current #1: Ethan Soderstrom, Lancaster, Sr.

182 pounds
'12 Champ: Luke Nowak, Edgar, Sr.
Top Returner: Jaylen Lansin, Cumberland, 5th Place
Current #1: David Chadd, Lancaster, Jr.

195 pounds
'12 Champ: Robby Chubb, Mineral Pt, Sr.
Top Returner: Dondrick Tackes, Stratford, Sr. – 5th Place
Current #1: Tackes

220 pounds
'12 Champ: Christian Moore, Royall, Sr.
Top Returner: Chase Nottestad, Westby, Sr. – 2nd Place
Current #1: Nottestad

285 pounds
'12 Champ: Cole Johnson, De Soto, Sr.
Top Returner: Donovan Ralston, Bruce, Jr. – 5th Place
Current #1: Reed Anklam, Random Lake, Sr.



ley/Elmwood, Fr.

126 pounds
'12 Champ: Devin Lemanski, Edgar, Sr.
Top Returner: Kyle Mezera, Lancaster, Sr. – 5th Place
Current #1: Trey Lundequam, Cumberland, Jr.

132 pounds
'12 Champ: Trevor Spears, Riverdale, Sr.
Top Returner: Marc Lansin, Coleman, Jr. – 6th Place
Current #1: Cole Martin, Lancaster, Jr.

138 pounds
'12 Champ: Tucker Sarbacker, Iowa-

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TRIPLE PLAY THREAT

The Triple Play Triple Threat of the Week is an honor given on WisSports.net to the top senior boys and girls three-sport athletes in the state. It is sponsored by the local community telephone companies of Wisconsin.

At the end of the school year, those awarded with the weekly honor will be eligible for the Pat Richter Award, which will go out to the top boys and girls three-sport athlete of the season.

Hugh V. "Pat" Richter is one of Wisconsin's most-storied student-athletes

in state history. He was a three-sport athlete at Madison East High School, competing in football, basketball and baseball. He went on to star at the University of Wisconsin in all three sports as well, but is best remembered for his exploits on the football field.

Richter was a two-time All-American selection in football as an end. He also earned All-Big Ten Conference honors as a first baseman. Richter led the NCAA in receiving as a junior and set a Rose Bowl record with 11 catches for 163 yards in the 1963 game against top-

ranked USC. He was a first-round draft pick by Washington in 1963 and went on to play eight seasons in the NFL.

Richter would later serve with distinction as the Athletic Director at Wisconsin for 14 years. His number 88 is retired at UW and a bronze statue of him rests outside Camp Randall Stadium. He was inducted into the College Football of Fame in 1997.

Below are some of the athletes profiled for the Triple Play Triple Threat honor this year.



TANNER ARNOLD, TURTLE LAKE

National Honor Society, Class Secretary, 3.6 GPA...that's an impressive resume for Turtle Lake senior Tanner Arnold. It's even more impressive when you consider the time he's put in and success he's had in athletics. On the gridiron, he combined for more than 4000 yards and 39 touchdown passes during the last two years as the team's starting quarterback. He's averaging nearly 20 points per game in basketball as the leading scorer in the Lakeland-Central. And in the spring he'll shoot for a third straight First Team All-Conference selection in baseball. He plans to study physical therapy in college while hopefully competing in football or baseball.



MATT FERRIS, XAVIER

Prior to his senior year Ferris may have been known more on the state scene for his exploits on the basketball court for the Hawks, but an incredible football campaign put him on the map not only in the state but nationally. He threw for a state-record 8 touchdowns in a 64-14 win over Ripon in mid-September, but that was just a preview of what was to come. He finished the year with 50 touchdown passes and 3949 passing yards, both new state records as he claimed every state Player of the Year award. This winter, Ferris is the leading scorer for the Hawks basketball team that is in the hunt for a league title. He'll be a four-year letterwinner in baseball as well. "Going into high school, I was unsure that I'd play all three sports," he said. "So the best advice I got from a coach would be to stick with the sports and I'm certainly glad I did."



JENNY LINDNER, NEILLSVILLE

There are some players who just have "it" – that indefinable quality that goes beyond physical ability and allows them to be successful no matter what they are doing. Jenny Lindner certainly has the "It" Factor. In four seasons on the team's varsity basketball team, the Warriors have gone a combined 81-2 as of early February, winning the Division 4 state title in 2012, finishing 2nd in D3 last year, and currently occupying the top spot in the WisSports.net Division 3 Coaches Poll. Lindner is a lock to be a WBCA All-State selection for the fourth straight year and a contender for the Miss Basketball award. A four-year varsity performer as well, she earned First Team All-Conference the last three years. Oh by the way, she's a four-year varsity softball player that was a First Team all-league pick last season after batting .486. She'll head to UW-Milwaukee next year to play her college basketball.

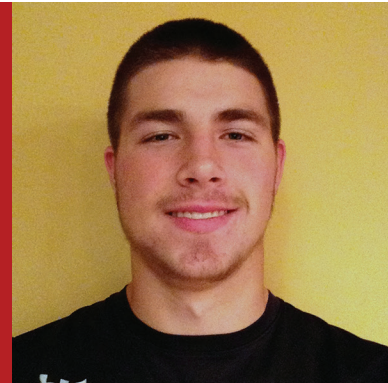


JESSICA LINDSTROM, SUPERIOR

You'd have a hard time keeping track of all the Player of the Year awards won by Lindstrom in her career, but with a set of basketball and softball awards yet to come, she's already won a total of seven area Player of the Year awards by the Superior Telegram, plus several other statewide laurels. In volleyball, she was a First Team All-Conference selection three times for head coach Brenda Pluntz. In softball she hit .586 with 7 home runs as an All-Conference selection. She's made her biggest statewide splash in basketball though, earning First Team All-State honors from the AP after helping the Spartans to the Division 1 semi-finals last year. She's already the school's leading scorer with more than 1700 points as the girls hoops team has been in the top five of the coaches poll all year.

ZANDER NEUVILLE, WAUPACA

"The best advice I have received came from Coach Koronkiewicz," Neuville said back in mid-September. "He told me to always work hard because sooner or later, you will have an opportunity to step up and be a difference maker for your team." That opportunity was this year for Neuville, who went from a Second Team All-Conference junior year to garnering First Team All-State recognition as a senior for the Comets football team. He's carried the momentum to hoops, where is currently averaging more than 18 points per game on the hardwood. This spring he'll lace up the baseball cleats where he'll try to improve upon last year's Second Team All-Conference selection.



RENEE SLADEK, MERRILL

Sladek will end her high school career as a four-time varsity letterwinner in volleyball, basketball, and track & field. A unanimous First Team All-Conference selection the last three years in volleyball, she was a team captain the last two seasons. She's best known for her exploits on the basketball court though, where she was First Team All-Conference as a sophomore and junior and well on her way to that designation as a senior also. Approaching 1000 points for her career, she'll continue her basketball journey at Northern Illinois next year. That's not before she takes another shot at the state track and field meet though. She placed sixth in the discus at the 2011 meet and also qualified in the shot put. As a freshman, she won indoor and outdoor high jump titles in the Wisconsin Valley Conference and also was part of the conference-winning 4x100 meter relay team.



PAST WINNERS

Year	Boys Winner
2012-13	Jester Weah, Madison Memorial
2011-12	Kyle Cody, McDonell Central
2010-11	Hank Kujak, Blair-Taylor
2009-10	Donnie Hissa, Northwestern

Year	Girls Winner
2012-13	Jenna Orr, Rice Lake
2011-12	Kailee Kamps, Belmont
2010-11	Kendall Wienkes, Highland
2009-10	Andie Varsho, Marshfield

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BUZZER BEATER

By Nicholas Kartos

The benefits of participating in high school athletics are well documented. Whether it's numbers regarding graduation rates, grade point averages or attendance, you can show that kids playing sports do better statistically-speaking than their peers as a whole.

While I don't necessarily think my GPA had that much to do with sports, I do feel like I learned a lot from my time participating in athletics. These lessons weren't always in between the lines or numerical measures of performance.

The first is the appreciation of the opportunity to play.

The summer after first grade, you were eligible to play little league baseball. Growing up in a family that loved baseball and having a sister playing softball that I looked up to, this was something I was very excited about.

One of the requirements of playing little league was to fundraise by selling two boxes of off-brand candy bars. My dad took me door-to-door in my grandparent's trailer park until my commitment was fulfilled. I had to ring the doorbells, peddle my chocolate and collect the payment. He was there, but I suppose just to make sure I wasn't abducted.

My parents could have called all their friends and family members to buy a couple of bars. My dad could have taken them to work, where an entire factory of hungry workers walked by his station on a daily basis. They could have made the payment instead of taking the two boxes of Hershey wannabes.

As horrible as it was as a seven year old to ring those doorbells, I can't thank my parents enough for making me do it. Just like I thank them for making me save up money for basketball camps, hundred dollar basketball shoes and eventually college. All of these things made me appreciate the opportunities I had to do the things I loved. Nothing was just given to me, or worse yet, required of me to do.

This constant pushing of kids into sports is a huge factor when it comes to declining participation rates today. Those that do make it to play high school sports are put on such a high pedestal and many become beyond entitled. We need them - they don't need their coach, teacher, fan or parent. I can guarantee you that won't help them later in life.

As a father myself now, I am fully aware of how hard it is not to give your kids everything they ask for and push them into everything you want them to do. I hope I can lean back on the lessons I had growing up and have confidence that having them earn their opportunities are what is best for them.

This appreciation of my opportunities leads me to my next big lesson that I learned from sports - committing yourself to something you're involved in.

Committing myself meant always giving 110% effort. It was never showing up late for a practice, or worse yet, skipping one. It meant showing up to all the voluntary stuff that was available in the summer. I was totally committed to my teammates, coach and school and I took that commitment very seriously.

Another thing that meant a lot to me was being alcohol and drug free throughout my high school playing days.

I'm sure 75% of the high school students that just read that rolled their eyes, but hear me out.

By no means am I here to tell you all the dangers of drugs and alcohol, those are well documented, absolutely true and probably told to you a lot.

What I would like to share was why I made that decision and how I think it helped me.

My thinking on it was, if I'm going to bust my butt to make this team, to sell the candy bars, to pay for the basketball camps, to wake up at 5 A.M. to get to the consolation game of a summer tournament, then why am I going to do something that has the power to take it all away? Why am I going to do something that has the potential to stunt my performance and remove me from the team when I have told myself I would be committed to them? Lastly, if I can't resist the peer pressure and the temptation about something so trivial (trust me you're not missing much), how am I going to succeed in general past high school?

I wasn't scared of it. I wasn't worried about my parents being mad about it. I didn't need to be in a club about it. I didn't care if others did it. I didn't feel the need to try and stop others. I didn't drink in high school because I made a commitment to my team.

If you can truly appreciate your opportunities and attack them with a true commitment, you will find great success in life. It has worked for me so far.

Nicholas Kartos is the President and Founder of the Wisconsin Sports Network and a WBCA Executive Board Member. He is a graduate of North Fond du Lac high school and the University of Wisconsin.



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