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BASKETBALL NOTES

Struggling Pistons still looking for the answer



Allen Iverson is done for the season, but as the playoffs approach, the struggling Pistons aren't throwing in the towel. (Mark duncan/Associated Press)

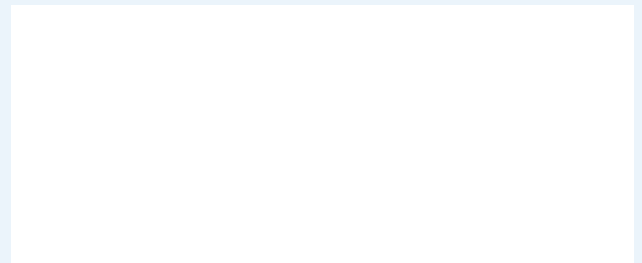
By [Marc J. Spears](#)
April 12, 2009

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Page 3 of 3 -- The senior set New England was well-represented at the recent Portsmouth Invitational Tournament, a pro scouting event for the nation's top college seniors. Participants included Boston College's **Tyrese Rice**, Massachusetts's **Chris Lowe** and **Tony Gaffney**, Rhode Island's **Jimmy Baron** and **Kahiem Seawright**, and Providence's **Geoff McDermott** and **Weyinmi Efejuku**. The tournament's alumni list includes **Scottie Pippen**, **John Stockton**, **Ben Wallace**, **Derek Fisher**, **Terry Porter**, **P.J. Brown**, and **Mikki Moore**, but considering that only two players from the PIT were drafted last year, an NBA scout in attendance wasn't expecting to find many draftable prospects this time, either. "This year's draft is more about the players who

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Rivers sets timetable for Powe, Garnett
Apr 10 | Boston.com
(BOSTON GLOBE) - Celtics coach Doc Rivers said before tonight's game against the Heat that forwards Leon Powe and Kevin Garnett have not suffered setbacks in their rehab and will join the team on its upcoming road trip. (By Gary Dzen, Boston.com Staff)



Globe 10.0: Who would you like to see C's play in 1st round?
Apr 8 | Boston.com
Spoken at 0:08 - "... your body are the days arguing that those precious few for the **Celtics**

dropped out than the [seniors] here," the scout said. On Rice, the scout said, "Rice was marginal, as were the majority of the players here. I still see him in Europe next year or the D-League."

 Discuss
COMMENTS (7)

Workplace rules

The NBA sent out an e-mail to all 30 teams last Tuesday detailing draft rules regarding workouts and the recruiting of eligible players, and it included some surprising twists in terms of "Blackout Rules" and "Group Workouts." Teams are now prohibited

from attending any workout taking place one day before or after the basketball skills portion of the Draft Combine in Chicago from May 26-30. Other than the Bulls, teams are also prohibited from conducting or attending any workout in the Chicago area from May 24-June 1. This rule will prevent teams from saving money by conducting workouts in Chicago instead of their home city. Also, teams wanting to do group workouts must receive permission from the league three weeks in advance. Moreover, all teams must be invited to attend such a workout at least two weeks in advance. All participating teams would split the cost.

Aligning the stars in Carolina

One NBA scout doesn't think any of NCAA champion North Carolina's three stars - guard **Ty Lawson**, forward **Tyler Hansbrough**, and guard **Wayne Ellington** - would be lottery picks this year. He believes Lawson would go in the late teens, Hansbrough would be a late first-rounder at best, and Ellington would be a second-rounder. "Ty has grown on me," the scout said. "I wasn't a big fan when he initially came out last year. It was a good decision to go back to school. He's the best prospect. But at the end of the day, the three [underclassman] big boys - **Deon Thompson**, **Ed Davis**, and **Tyler Zeller** - may be better as pros than Lawson, Hansbrough, and Ellington. With Hansbrough, energy and effort only get you so far in our league. You can count on one hand how many guys get by on that. I'm not a fan. You've got to respect the numbers he put up. Unbelievable college career. But all that stuff doesn't translate over. He's not explosive; undersized, short arms, and limited offensively. He's an OK athlete."

A window on the World

Teams were allowed to scout all practices for the World team playing in the Hoop Summit yesterday in Portland, but not the US men's junior national select team. Both teams include teenage NBA prospects. "It just doesn't make any sense," said an NBA scout. "The American boys are more ready to play than the international kids are." The scout said that while there were some impressive World Team players - most notably French guard **Edwin Jackson**, French forward **Kevin Seraphin**, and Croatian forward **Tomislav Zubcic** - none are NBA-ready. "The [international] pool has definitely dried up after the last few years," the scout said.

Foreign aid

Ex-Celtic Dee Brown is on the board of directors of the new Shooting Touch Sabbatical Program, a scholarship program that provides upcoming college seniors an opportunity to aid youth basketball programs in the Kossengwe Foundation in Nigeria and the NBA's Basketball Without Borders program in Senegal for 10 months. There is also an exchange program that will bring community leaders from Nigeria and Senegal to Boston for 10 days.

Marc J. Spears can be reached at mspears@globe.com ■

as they get ready for the playoffs and here's ..."



Globe photos with Ted Gartland

Apr 6 | Boston.com

Spoken at 4:25 - "... have a hotel tells you Lila. And deputies went up as the Celtics are playing there was at this -- this is the -- gam ..."

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cornerstones wrote:

I will certainly put Bill Russell's book in my library! What a wealth of knowledge that man possesses. Mr. Russell, thank you for your ripple effect on and off the court.

4/12/2009 3:28 AM EDT

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cornerstones wrote:

A sleeping or injured lion is still a LION. Detroit is dangerous.

4/12/2009 3:29 AM EDT

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brooklinelibrall wrote:

A "Lion" that is toothless, can only use it's claws or run! If the Pistons play Cleveland THEY will be shredded.

4/12/2009 9:45 AM EDT

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sheffie wrote:

I'm surprised Russ would choose the ungrammatical Red and Me. However, it's still better than incorrect pseudo intelligent title which would have been: ' The Friendship between and Red and I.

4/12/2009 11:31 AM EDT

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