

National Prep School Invitational again has an international flair



International Game

Over 100 college coaches attended the 15th annual National Prep School Invitational at Rhode Island College in Providence, R.I., where many of the 128 international players (a 30 percent increase from last year) had key roles for their teams.

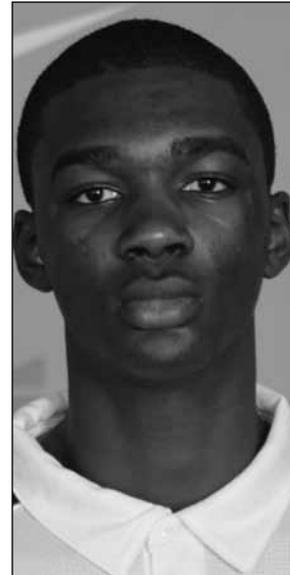
The Canarias Basketball Academy traveled from the Canary Islands for the fourth straight year. The academy was a little bit down on talent from the three previous years. We were most impressed with 6-foot-2 combo guard Miguel Dicient (Dominican Republic), who had two double-figure scoring games that included a 20-point output against Wilbraham & Monson. He showed nice touch from long range, going 7 for 11 on 3-pointers. Several of Canarias's big men bear watching. Petr Herman (Czech Republic), who's 6-9, had an 11-point, five-rebound game. Herman has range on his shot but must improve his consistency. Filip Sahan (Czech Republic), 6-11, and 6-8 Jordy Kuiper (Holland) also have potential.

Three teams were made up entirely of Canadian players – REDA of Ontario, Alma Academy of Quebec and Toronto Academy. Alma impressed the most, especially skinny 6-10 Christopher Bouchard, who had one 12-point,

17-rebound game and a 29-point, 12-rebound, five-block effort. He went 13 for 14 in the 29-point game, including some highlight-reel dunks. Bouchard was listed as a 2013 recruit, but we are researching his eligibility. In Canada, students generally graduate from high school at 17 and then can attend a second program of one, two or three years duration. Two Alma point guards also looked good – 5-10 Jay Fequire and 6-3 Nicky Desilien. Desilien is athletic and long and seems to be a good college prospect dependent on his eligibility.

REDA featured 6-5 Kevin Bercy, a post-graduate who had a 15-point, five-rebound, five-steal effort. Abendego Luffie, who's 6-7, also flashed potential with an 11-point, four-rebound, three-block effort and showed range in his shooting.

Of the other international players, St. Thomas More's Duane Notice (Canada) looked the best.



Noah Vonleh

The 6-2 Notice, a strong combo guard, averaged 16 points, four rebounds, four assists and four steals over three games. He's getting lots of mid-to-high major attention lately.

Angel Delgado (Dominican Republic) of Redemption Academy, who's 6-9, has potential. A junior, he's starting to get some high-major looks. Delgado needs to play harder, but there is no denying his talent. In a 73-65 win over Taag Academy, Delgado netted 18 points, nine rebounds and four steals. Taag had two Serbia post-grads with possibilities in 6-9 center Dragoljub Popovic and 6-6 Petar Milutin.

Blair Academy's 6-8 junior Marial Shayok (Canada) showed a very versatile game, scoring inside and out with ball skills. He had a 25-point game as well as a 15-point, 10-rebound effort. Shayok is getting interest from schools in the Big East and Atlantic 10. Kevin Zabo (Canada), who's 6-2, ran the point for a loaded Brewster squad. Although capable of scoring more, Zabo has focused his role

Carl Berman

on ball distribution and came away with 10 assists in 24 minutes in one game. Zabo is capable of playing at a very high level.

Lee Academy came to Providence with a roster of 13 of 17 international players. The best appear to be Stefan Zecivic (Serbia), a 6-4 shooter headed to Bradley; Mohamed Bah (Mali), a 6-8 post signed at Drexel; and 6-5 point guard Kiefer Douse (Canada), who will be playing at Vermont.

Roger Moute a Bidias (Cameroon), who's 6-7, had a good showing in one game for Notre Dame Prep. He is NBA player Luc Mbah a Moute's brother, so the bloodlines are solid although he needs some time to develop his skills. Mario Matasovic (Croatia), who's 6-7, earned a player-of-the-game award with a 13-point, nine-rebound effort in a St. John's NW Military win over Notre Dame Prep. Matasovic is a tough kid who can help out a

mid-major school.

The most outstanding player of the tournament was Jevon Thomas of St. John's NW Military Academy (Kansas State). The all-tournament team consisted of: Notice, Kaleb Joseph of Cushing Academy, Rene Castro of Worcester Academy (Butler), Trevor Thompson of St. John's NW Military Academy (Virginia Tech), Fredrick Edmond of Kingdom Prep, Ron Patterson of Brewster Academy (Syracuse), Noah Vonleh of New Hampton Prep (Indiana), Jaylen Brantley of Notre Dame Prep, Richard Williams of Vermont Academy, Wayne Selden of Tilton School (Kansas), Josh Hearlihy of Northfield Mt. Hermon and Elijah Macon of Brewster Academy (West Virginia).

Thomas averaged 17 points and eight assists over his three games with a high game of 26 points. Joseph had a 15-point, nine-assist game. Castro ran the point for Worcester with a best game of 13 points and 12 assists. Thompson averaged 14 points and seven rebounds over three games. The 6-4 Edmond had a 33-point, 10-rebound effort. Brewster Academy has four high major recruits. Patterson, with a game high of 26 points, and the 6-9 Macon led the way. Vonleh was impressive in New Hampton's only game with 13 points, five rebounds and three blocks. Brantley was effective running the point for a strong Notre Dame squad. Williams averaged 27.5 points and 11 rebounds over two games. Selden tore it up in Tilton's only game with 35 points on five 3-pointers and eight rebounds. Selden appeared bigger and stronger than when we last saw him. He'll play for Kansas immediately. Hearlihy was a revelation as a 6-7 point forward finishing up with a 31-point game on 13-of-17 shooting to go along with eight rebounds and four assists in Northfield Mt. Hermon's 89-86 win over Tilton, likely the best game of the event.

Carl Berman and Chris Denker, who contributes regularly to this column, are Managing Partners of NetScouts Basketball. Information on NetScouts Basketball and their International Recruiting Service can be found at www.netscoutsbasketball.com.

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