2017 NORTH ANDOVER FALL BALL SEASON RECAP

The annual GOOD, BAD and UGLY is just a review from those running the league, input from coaches, volunteer coaches, refs, college coaches and Gym Rats that support and watch fall ball games. Take this information as food for thought and then you can file it in your mind or throw it in the dumpster. We hope you can roll with the information. Remember the information, performances, paper awards etc. are based on 11 weeks of Fall Ball only. Remember humor is a good thing. We have tried all fall to shed positives as well as constructive criticism on the teams and players that make up this league. We hope you enjoy the GOOD, BAD and UGLY. As my good friend Colonel Jessup once said “You need me on the wall”

TJ MCEVOY MEMORIAL CHAMPIONS
ST. PETER - MARIAN GUARDIANS

BILL MOECKEL MEMORIAL RUNNER-UPS
METHUEN RANGERS

THE HARDWARE IS NOT JUST HARDWARE IT’S ABOUT THOSE IT IS NAMED AFTER

The TJ MCEVOY MEMORIAL trophy is named after longtime NA Police Sargeant TJ MCEVOY who was also a fall ball official for 5 years who passed away in his sleep of heart attack six
months after retiring from the North Andover Police Dept. The BILL MOECKEL MEMORIAL trophy is named after former North Andover star basketball player Bill Moeckel who passed away suddenly at a way too young age. Bill is known for “THE SHOT” where his game ending shot against Burlington in the State Tourney was one of the greatest shots and endings in the history of North Andover basketball. The PAT CONNAUGHTON MVP trophy is named after former SJP Fall baller Pat Connaughton who went on to have a stellar career at Notre Dame and now is playing professional basketball in the NBA for the Portland Trailblazers. Pat is hands down the greatest player to ever play in the fall league as well as its only two time MVP. Pat never misses an opportunity on social media to give this league props and recognition.

**FINAL 4**

**(2) St. Peter-Marian-64, (6) Wachusett-25**

The first semifinal was all Guardians in the battle of two Central Mass. teams. St. Peter-Marian’s aggressiveness on defense was too much for Wachusett as they coasted into the championship game. Both teams played even basketball early on, as Wachusett’s zone slowed down St. Peter-Marian. As the first half continued, the Guardians began attacking through the zone and found driving lanes. On defense, they were using their length to get into passing lanes and force Wachusett turnovers. A 27-7 run gave the number two seed a 34-15 lead at halftime. The Guardians wasted no time extending their lead in the second half as they pushed it out to thirty points quickly. Wachusett continued to struggle to score the basketball as they shot just 22% from the field for the game. The Guardians put the clamps down to finish off the game in dominating fashion, 64-25. Quion Sneed led the winners with 15 points and five rebounds. Shammar Dennis added a solid stat line with 14 points, seven boards, and six assists. Hunter Johnson led Wachusett with eight points, three rebounds, and three assists.

**(4) Methuen-65, (9) North Andover-43**

These two MVC foes fought for a championship berth and bragging rights as they face off December 19th to start their winter seasons. Early on, both teams were cold and also unable to stop fouling. Chim Ogwuru was the aggressor for North Andover as he attacked the basket, drawing fouls. With eight minutes remaining in the first, he converted an and-one play to give the Knights a 14-13 lead. From there both teams
were attacking the basket, drawing fouls and getting to the line. Late in the first, Evan Hardy and Dante Rivera connected on back to back three pointers to give Methuen its biggest lead, 27-21. A few more defensive stops and scores propelled the Rangers to a 33-23 halftime lead. When the second half began, the Rangers kept rolling. Their defensive energy was through the roof as they used that to ignite the offense. North Andover failed to get into any offensive rhythm, taking tough shots and forcing passes. Over the next few minutes, North Andover committed more turnovers and it cost them as Methuen was able to extend their lead to 15, 47-32. North Andover, in now-or-never mode, tried to make a push, but the shots were not falling. After the lead shrunk to 11 (51-40), Rivera and Hardy connected on back-to-back three pointers again to extend the lead (57-40) and put the Knights away with three minutes remaining. The Rangers cruised into the championship from there. Turnovers doomed the Knights as they committed 17 while Methuen only had six. Evan Hardy continued his great playoff run, leading his team with 19 points. Dante Rivera followed up with 17 points and nine assists. Big man Nick Clark posted a double-double with 11 points and 12 rebounds. Garrett Murphy led North Andover with 12 points and seven rebounds while Chim Ogwuru scored 11 points and also grabbed seven boards in his final Fall Ball game.

**CHAMPIONSHIP**

**2) St. Peter-Marian-71, (4) Methuen-62 - OT**

In a game controlled by Methuen, St. Peter-Marian erased a ten point point deficit in the final 1:30 to force overtime. In the extra frame they outscored the Rangers 9-0 to capture their first North Andover Fall Ball title. Both teams again found themselves in a back and forth battle early. St. Peter-Marian kept up their aggressive style, getting to the basket and converting. Methuen kept up their hot shooting from deep. With nine minutes to play in the first the Rangers held a slim 16-14 lead. In the next couple minutes Methuen was able to extend their lead to ten (26-16) thanks to some sloppy play from the Guardians. From there, Evan Hardy took over scoring his teams next five points to give the Rangers a surprising 15 point lead (31-16) completing a 15-2 run. After a timeout, St. Peter-Marian ramped up the defensive pressure and went on a quick
7-1 run to cut the deficit to nine. Methuen would not let them get any closer as Onyera Chibuqu finished the half with a three pointer at the buzzer. The Rangers led 39-25 at the break, thanks to eight three pointers. Just like they did against North Andover, Methuen looked to extend the lead right as they second half began. After two quick Guardian baskets, Methuen hit back to back threes to take a fifteen point lead, 45-30. St. Peter-Marian came right back with a 10-2 run to close the gap to seven. (47-40) However, Methuen was able to withstand the push with a run of their own to take a ten point lead (56-46) with just five minutes to play. St. Peter-Marian tried to cut into the lead, but the Rangers kept their distance for the next few minutes. They led 61-51 with just 1:30 on the clock. St. Peter-Marian scored five quick points to cut the lead to 61-56 in just 20 seconds. After a Ranger miss at the line, Shamar Dennis came down quickly a converted a layup to make it a one possession game (61-58) with one minute to play. In just thirty seconds, the Guardians scored seven quick points. Forced to foul again, the Guardians grabbed Rivera with 45 seconds left, he converted one of two at the line to push the Methuen lead to four, 62-58. After another quick Guardian basket, their full court pressure forced a jump ball, with possession going to SPM. Dennis attacked the rim again to tie the game with twenty seconds to play. Methuen pushed the ball, and Rivera was inexplicably fouled and sent to the line for a 1-and-1. He missed the front end and the Guardians had the ball with thirteen seconds left to try and win the game. Dennis drove the lane again, but Evan Hardy was in the right spot as he took a charge to give the Rangers the ball with seven seconds to play. Methuen failed to get a shot off, and the game moved to overtime. In the two-minute overtime, both teams failed to convert on their first possessions. Shamar Dennis came up clutch again, nailing a three to give his team their first lead since early in the game (65-62). A Methuen turnover was converted into a layup by the Guardians as they increased their lead to five. After a missed Methuen three, St. Peter-Marian scored again to take a seven point lead, 69-62, with just thirty seconds remaining. They would tack on another basket as they blanked Methuen in overtime to complete a 20-1 run and capture the Fall Ball title. Shamar Dennis came up huge for the champions with a game-leading 25 points, he also completed a double-double by grabbing 14 rebounds, earning Final Four Co-MVP honors. Alex Karaban put the finishing touches on a fantastic fall with a double-double of his own (22 points, 11 rebounds) and Shamar Simms finished his Fall Ball career with 12 points and a game
high 17 rebounds in the victory. Methuen fell just short in their first Fall Ball Finals appearance since 2007. Evan Hardy earned Final Four Co-MVP honors, posting 17 points and four rebounds in his final game. Dante Rivera capped off his Fall Ball career with 12 points and six assists and Uriel Cirineo almost had a double-double with 14 points and eight boards.

**LETS GET TO THE AWARDS:**

**PAT CONNAUGHTON MOST VALUABLE PLAYER:** We started out with a 20 player watchlist then reduced it to 9 finalists. A 5 member committee of people who saw almost every fall ball game voted 1-9 with 1st place getting 9 points and 9th place getting 1 point. In the closest MVP voting in the history of fall ball ST. JOHN’S PREP TOMMY O’NEIL won the coveted Pat Connaughton Most Valuable Player award after an impressive senior campaign. Tommy was injured last game of the season and was unavailable for the playoffs. Tommy is also one of the few that were 4 year major players in NA Fall Ball. We congratulate Tommy and wish him the best in college. The following is the final results for MVP

1. **Tommy O’Neill** - SJP 30 (1)
2. **Matt Relihan** - SJP 28 (1)
3. **Alex Rivera** - Lowell 26
4. **Alex Karaban** - SPM 26 (1)
5. **Shemar Dennis** - SPM 26 (1)
6. **Colin Bradanese** - CC 25 (1)
7. **Carlos Nunez** - Lowell 25
8. **Sam Dion** - Wachusett 22
9. **Evan Hardy** - Methuen 16
FIRST TEAM ALL – FALLBALL

TOMMY O’NEIL - SJP
MATT RELIHAN - SJP
SHEMAR DENNIS - SPM
CARLOS NUNEZ - LOWELL
ALEX RIVERA - LOWELL

UMass Commit Alex Rivera ended a great 4 year run

SECOND TEAM ALL FALL BALL

NATE HOBBS - SJP
COLIN BRADANESE - CC
ALEX KARABAN - SPM
EVAN HARDY - METHUEN
SAM DION - WACHUSETT

Sharpshooter Sam Dion had a great fall
THIRD TEAM ALL LEAGUE

SEQUAN DARE - NEW MISSION
GIO CIAMPA - TEWKSURY
DANTE RIVERA - METHUEN
JOEY NUTTAL - WACHUSETT
DEAJON PENDLETON- HAVERHILL

Tewksbury Gio Ciampa was terrific doing everything for his squad

ALL LEAGUE HONORABLE MENTION: KEVIN CONSTANT -CC (TOUGHEST OMISSION), DOM JONES -NM, CHRIS CANELLA - PEABODY, JAKE IRVINE -PEABODY, NATE SIOW - LOWELL, JARNEL SNOW-GUZMAN, QUION SNEED - SPM, BOBBY LETOURNEAU -SPM, EMMET KIM -ANDOVER, WILL PARSONS - TRITON, DOM KEEGAN -CC
STATCHEYS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR (FRESHMAN)

SPM 8th grader ALEX KARABAN of SPM is our Rookie of the Year. He finished tied for third in our MVP ballot. This long stretch 4 is going to be special. A consistent double-double every game this year

What a special 8th grader this young man is

ALL FALL BALL FRESHMAN TEAM:

ALEX KARABAN - SPM
KELLAN MURPHY - NA
WILL BATCHELDER - SJP
DARREL YEPDO - BG
CODY SMITH - SPM

Honorable Mention: Andrew Lussier (BG), Jayceb Mckenzie (LOWELL) Kalu Alu (TEWKSBURY), Antwan Castro (LOWELL), Jack Cloutier (Andover) Andrew Barnaby (SPM) Marshal (NM)

SPM SHEMAR DENNIS WAS A MANCHILD THIS FALL
ALL FALL BALL SOPHOMORE TEAM: WHAT A SOPHOMORE CLASS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

SHEMAR DENNIS - SPM
CARLOS NUNEZ - LOWELL
NATE SIOW - LOWELL
JUSTIN FITZPATRICK - BURLINGTON
SEQUAN DARE - NEW MISSION
JACK ANDERSON - LONDONDerry
URIEL CIRINEO - METHUEN
JARNEL SNOW- GUZMAN-SJP

KYLE ROCKER - ANDOVER

Honorable Mention: KYLE MOORE (NA), DREW BROWN (PELHAM), DEREK CROWLEY (PELHAM), TREvor DEMINICO (SALEM), LIAM DUNFEE (SJP), HUNTER JOHNSon (WACHUSETT), JAKE BARISANO (WESTFORD), GEORGE SMITH (CC), SHEA SULLIVAN (WACHUSETT) AEIX JEAN (PEABODY) JAVON WILLIAMS (NEW MISSION) JOHN FARIAS (HAV) SUBI NKUGWA (CHELMSFORD) TOM FONTANNELA (BG)

CC soph George Smith will thrive under Coach Walsh

TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD: The clear winner is the WESTFORD GREY GHOSTS. Total class, always played the game the right way. played as a team, never chippy and always positive
**PLAYER SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:** There are so many guys that could be nominated for this award which is a testament to the individual and the teams they play for but we honor CHELMSFORD CHRIS MCCARTHY as our Player Sportsmanship Award winner. One of fall ball’s all time favorites

![Chris McCarthy](image)

Chris McCarthy is a fine hoopster and even better person

**DR. DUNKENSTEIN:**

The nominees were NATE HOBS - SJP, SHEMAR DENNIS -SPM, COLIN BRADANESE - CC, TOMMY O’NEIL SJP, SHAMAR SIMMS but for the second year in a row NATE HOBS will take home this award for more in traffic dunks. SHEMAR DENNIS runner-up for most breakaway dunks

![Nate Hobbs](image)

Nate Hobbs joins elite company in being one of the best 7 dunkers we have had in the barn
PAT CONNOUGHTON CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS.

We actually had a fair amount of strong rebounders from the guard, wing and forward position but the most consistent rebounder night in and night out and how he rebounded is SHAMAR SIMMS of SPM. Pat would be very impressed with Shemar on the boards.

SPM SHAMAR SIMMS IS 2 TIME CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS

MOST IMPROVED PLAYERS:

GARRET MURPHY - NA, ADAM SCARMUZZO - WESTFORD, STEPHEN SHAW-ANDOVER, HUNTER JOHNSON - WACHUSETT, DEVIN OTAGWA - LOWELL, NATE SIOW-LOWELL, JUSTIN FITZPATRICK-BURLINGTON, JAKE IRVINE-PEABODY, JACK ANDERSON -LONDONDERRY, KYLE MOORE-NA, ZACK CARBALLO-SALEM, TOM VAILLANCORT-HAVERHILL, DYLAN ANDREWS-PELHAM, CHRIS MCCARTHY-CHELMSFORD

ADAM SCARMUZZO OF WA IS SO IMPROVED
FOOTBALL PLAYERS THAT WILL HAVE THE MOST IMPACT ON THEIR TEAMS:

Gabe Desouza (NA), Jake Mcelroy (NA), Darren Watson (NA), Cedric Gillette (A), I’m sure we are missing a number but these are few very impactful ones

WHAT A FOOTBALL YEAR FOR GABE DESOUZA

JAMES SLATTERY BEST OFFICIAL AWARD:

This is a tough one as the nominees were long but the finalists were Chris Bennet, Scott Alameida and James Slattery himself. This year we honor “Mr. Respected” Scott Alameida despite pulling up lame during the quarter finals. He healed quickly and returned for the Final Four games

JOEY MCINTYRE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK REF AWARD: MAMADOU BA; NICE NEW ADDITION
**AMERICAN AIRLINES LONG DISTANCE SHOOTERS:** We need more shooters but guys don’t want to put the time in to get better. The following crew can not down shots and have worked hard at becoming fine shooters: KYLE MOORE-NA, SAM DION -WACHUSETT, DREW BROWN-PHELHAM, JUSTIN FITZPATRICK -BURLINGTON, TOM VAILLANCOURT-HAVERHILL, WILL PARSONS-TRITON, ANDREW LUSSIER-BG, JAKE IRVINE-PEABODY, LIAM DUNFEE-SJP, EVAN HARDY-METHUEN, DANTE RIVERA-METHUEN, KELLAN MURPHY -NA, COLIN KIRKPATRICK-ANDOVER, STEVE SHAW-ANDOVER, GIO CIAMPA-TEWKSBURY, CODY SMITH-SPM, ALEX RIVERA-LOWELL, CARLOS NUNEZ-LOWELL

![Justin](image1.jpg)

Justin set the record for most threes in a game this fall

**DIKEMBE MUTOMBO BLOCK PARTY:** TOMMY O’NEIL, ALEX KARABAN, NATE HOBBS, SHEMAR DENNIS, URIEL CIRINO, NICK CLARK, GARRET MURPHY, KEVIN CONSTANT are all very good but ALEX KARABAN gets the nod because he is so fundamentally sound; Tim Duncan like in blocking shots and keeping them in play
BEST DRESSED VOLUNTEER COACH:

LondonDerry Mike Dunham always looks good, Jim Zenevitch won fashion of the week with the Wayne Newton look, but the clear winner is SPM Chad Lawrence, always casually impeccably dressed.

FASHION NOT THE FIRST THING ON THEIR MIND:

This was a runaway for John Pags (Andover) and Darren Stratton (Haverhill).

ED SCOLLAN BEST DRESSED HEAD COACH:

Nominees were GQ Paul Tanglis, Coaches v Cancer suit and sneaker Tom Gibbons but this year we honor SPM Marcus Watson. Every week he puts some time into the decision of what to wear for the trip to the Valley.

Marcus “Runway” Watson
**BEST FRESHMAN CLASS:** Bishop Guertin Cardinals, St. Peter-Marian and Lowell Raiders but mark my words when it’s said and done **ANDOVER** maybe the deepest grade

**GEORGES NIANG YOU DON’T PASS THE EYE CANDY TEST:** Nominees **WILL PARSONS, NICK CLARK, GARRET MURPHY, DANTE RIVERA, ANDREW LUSSIER**, but our winner is Triton **WILL PARSONS** who wrapped up the fall as one of the most prolific scorers in fall ball history

**COCA COLA 6TH MAN AWARD:** Methuen **JHAMYL FRICAS** was impressive as sixth man for the Rangers. The Lawrence transfer is bound to help METHUEN this winter

**TEAM HUSTLE AND EFFORT AWARD:** METHUEN RANGERS & SPM GUARDIANS
**MOST VOCAL BENCH:** FROM GAME #1 TO THE TITLE GAME HANDS DOWN WINNER: METHUEN RANGERS. ANTHONY FARADIE HAS BUILT A VERY NICE CULTURE

**THE ALL COAL FOR CHRISTMAS RECIPIENTS (ZEBRAS PRESENTING):** You know who you are and we do too. Clean it up now or technical this winter! A ref has never changed a call because you didn’t like it. A man only has his name and his reputation

**TEAM ENIGMA:** This year our Team Enigma is the CENTRAL CATHOLIC RAIDERS. Finish 6-4. Dominating at times and at times they really struggled as a team. This team will be fine and the return of point guard Brett Edwards will be a big help

![C](image)

**CHAMPIONS THROUGH THE YEARS:**

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**FALL LEAGUE TEAMS THRU THE YEARS:** NORTH ANDOVER, METHUEN, ANDOVER, LAWRENCE, SJP, CC, WESTFORD, SALEM, LONDONDERRY, BISHOP FENWICK, ST. MARY’S, WHITTIER TECH, PELHAM, MEDFORD, PEABODY, TEWKSBURY, NEW MISSION, TRITON REGIONAL, LOWELL, HAVERHILL, CHELMSFORD, BILLERICA, ST. PETER-MARIAN, WACHUSETT REGIONAL, BURLINGTON, BISHOP GUERTIN

**STATE TOURNEY BERTHS:** Over 88% of our teams over the history of NA FALL BALL have qualified for the state tourney. **IS THIS THE YEAR EVERY TEAM IN FALL BALL MAKES THE TOURNEY?**
ADRIAN DANTLEY PLAY BIGGER THAN YOU ARE:

Nominees are BOBBY LETOURNEAU - SPM, SHAMAR SIMMS -SPM, ETHAN MAY - LONDONDERRY, DEREK CROWLEY -PELHAM, DANTE RIVERA - METHUEN but this year the award goes to METHUEN DANTE RIVERA who despite his size was at times dominating

METHUEN LITTLE BIG MAN DANTE RIVERA

BEST SCHOLARSHIP PLAYER IN ANOTHER SPORT: DOM KEEGAN – CC (VIRGINIA TECH – BASEBALL)

NA FALL BALL DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR – KEVIN CONSTANT - CC has the ability to be an elite defender. Led the league in steals and deflections and was a lockdown defender at times. Opposing point guards had trouble getting by him. This is a big winter for Kevin

CC’S Kevin Constant aka the Glove
**DEEPEST BENCH:** we are unclear with so many moving parts but some of our best teams have limited benches at the moment

**FALL SURPRISE TEAM: NORTH ANDOVER SCARLET KNIGHTS,** for the second year in a row the award goes to the Knights. They finish the fall 6-5 with a team of guys looking for more of a role this fall and guys just trying to make the team. Another amazing coaching job by **STEVE BOUDREAU.** Schools with a vacancy next year should have him on their immediate short list. The kid can flat out coach

![North Andover Knights](image)

**PRE-LEAGUE FAVORITE:** I once again had **St. John’s Prep:** A tremendous fall season going undefeated till quarterfinals when four starters missed due to injury and illness and they fell to North Andover. This team is going to be a top team in D1 North this winter

**OSCAR THE GROUCH GARBAGE MAN AWARD:** We have a lot of guys that do the dirty work but hands down the OSCAR goes to: **MATT RELIHAN of SJP. Fall Ball will miss Matt**

**COACHES ROW:** This year we saw **39 D2 /D3 COACHES** sit on coaches’ row this year. The Top ones they came to see: **Nate Hobbs, Tommy O’Neil, Matt Relihan, Will Parsons, Evan Hardy, Shamar Simms, Dante Rivera, Robbie Hudson, Gio Ciampa, Yannis Nyantenji, Mariano Rodriguez, Manny Sanchez, Colin Bradanese, Jake Irvine, Dom Jones**
ALL “DO YOUR JOB” TEAM:

MATT RELIHAN (SJP) EMMET KIM (ANDOVER) GARRET MURPHY (NA) CHRIS MCCARTHY (CHELMSFORD) DYLAN ANDREWS (PELHAM) ROBBIE HUDSON (WESTFORD) ETHAN MAY (LONDON DERRY), JOEY NUTTAL (WACHUSETT) BOBBY LETOURNEAU (SPM)

Bobby Letourneau is a throw back. Just does whatever to help SPM

KEVIN DURANT OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: CARLOS NUNEZ - LOWELL 22.13 PPG

LOWELL CARLOS NUNEZ FLAT OUT GETS BUCKETS

TEAM MOST POINTS A GAME: LOWELL TEAM LEAST POINTS GIVEN UP A GAME: METHUEN

TEAM FREE THROW CHAMPIONS: TRITON REGIONAL 73.4%
TEAM THAT NEEDS TO PRACTICE FREE THROWS:  SALEM BLUE DEVILS 42.7%

TEAM FG% CHAMPIONS:  ST. JOHNS PREP 46.5%

TEAM FG% PROBLEM:  LONDONDERRY, TEWKSBURY 32.4% OUCH

TEAM TURNOVER:  NO ANDOVER 160 (ALMOST 30 MORE THAN NEXT TEAM) DOUBLE OUCH

TEAM TAKE CARE OF THE BALL:  LONDONDERRY 70 TURNOVERS ENTIRE FALL

INTERESTING FACT:  BIG GARRET MURPHY of NA is one of the best nascar racers in his age group in New England. Garret is truly an BAD man

BEST ASSIST GUYS BY STATS:  JARNELL SNOW-GUZMAN-SJP, KEVIN CONSTANT-CC, MIKEY GORGONI-NA, BOBBY LETORNEAU - SPM, DANTE RIVERA-METHUEN, CARLOS NUNEZ-LOWELL,

NA FALLBALL FAN OF THE YEAR:  SALEM resident and grandfather of Central Sophomore George Smith GEORGE YORK is this years NA Fall Ball fan of the year. George has been a big fan for a number of years but this year he was here most nights. George is a breath of fresh air, a fan who just wants to watch good hoops and hopes for all the boys to do well. Congrats George York. RUNNER-UP: Kenny Perez and Pops short commute but here every week
FINAL 2017 POWER RANKINGS

1. ST. PETER-MARIAN 10-1
2. METHUEN 9-2
3. ST. JOHNS PREP 9-1
4. LOWELL 8-2
5. CENTRAL CATHOLIC 6-4

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN: WACHUSETT 7-4 NORTH ANDOVER 6-5

2017 FALLBALL JOHN PAGNETTI COACH OF THE YEAR: Pags always in the running but this year we had the largest amount of nominees: BG JAMES ROMAN, WACHUSETT ZACK Berman, TEWKSBURY SCOTT WILLIAMS, NA STEVE BOUDREAU, ANDOVER JOHN PAGS, NEW MISSION COREY MCCARTHY, HAVERHILL DARREN STRATTON. Boudreau, Pags, McCarthy and Stratton the proven high school/college coaches but this year we honor an up and comer who led the SPM Guardians to the title CHAD LAWRENCE, congrats Chad
BILL RUSSEL CONSUMMATE TEAM PLAYER: JAKE GUSTIN: PEABODY, hard nosed, tough guard who had a strong fall before injury

JAKE IS ALSO A TALENTED BASEBALL PLAYER

FENNIS HIGH FIVE NEW IMPACT PLAYERS THIS YEAR: Every year we do this and it’s eery how on point we are:

ANDOVER KYLE ROCKER IS BREAKING OUT THIS WINTER

1. ALEX KARABAN -SPM (OK EVERYONE GETS AN OBVIOUS CHOICE)
2. GARRET MURPHY -NA
3. KYLE ROCKER - ANDOVER
4. HUNTER JOHNSON - WACHUSETT
5. JACK ANDERSON - LONDONDERRY

A FEW WORDS FROM ASST COMMISSIONER BEANS PALLADINO who helped run the league, provided weekly game recaps and came home to North Andover and the Youth Center and has aspirations of taking over the league once Fennis rides off into the hoop sunset

" Having been away from Fall Ball since my days as a High School manager, I was excited to come back to New England's Premier Fall League. I could not believe how much the league has grown since I left it in 2012. The passion that each player, coach, team, and staff member bring every night is unmatched and my passion for this league grew every week. I was excited to get back into the high school basketball landscape and will be at multiple games this winter season. With 20 teams, there was great competition every week and each player played as hard as they would for a state tournament game. To all of the players and coaches, thank you for making this a great first Fall Ball season for me. 
Each team improved rapidly and I am excited to see what you all will do in the upcoming months. Good luck in your winter seasons! I am already excited for Fall Ball 2018 to begin!"

"WE MAY NEVER PASS THIS WAY AGAIN"; Easy Ed Scollan is a big Seals and Crofts fan and we play this song as we say goodbye to all the seniors. We wish you all the best in your senior year. Enjoy every minute of it. Time goes by fast

**OUR THANK YOUS:**

- TO Rich Napolitano for assigning the officials. The guy does not get enough credit
- TO all the high school and college refs we had this year. You are all a credit to the game
- TO Webmaster JARYD PIECUCH for doing an amazing job with website
- TO all of our sponsors: TOWN OF NORTH ANDOVER, STATCHEYS, T’S PRINTING, FUNDAMENTAL HOOPS, NA YOUTH CENTER This league could not happen without you
- TO the best scorers’ table in the biz: PEPE LEPU, WILL THE THRILL, MICHIGAN KID and KYLE PALLADINO
- TO my front desk girls AMANDA, MAGGIE, MCKENZIE
- TO an amazing group of volunteer coaches who do it for the right reasons. We highlighted these guys in week #10. Get to know these names
- TO my good friends the High School Varsity coaches who wholeheartedly believe we are doing a great thing
- TO all the college head and assistant coaches who made it to coaches’ row this year.
- TO all the fans of fall ball who make the event so special. There is no faces in the crowd, no fashion of the week but most importantly there is no league without you
- TO all the players I hope you have enjoyed another year of Fall ball because it is YOU that we do this for. Much love to all of you

**2017 PET PEEVES: THESE ARE THE PET PEEVES WE DISCUSSED THIS FALL AT LENGTH**

Please revisit the 50 Pet Peeves we covered this fall at www.fallballna.com
**The Weekly Rant: FOOD FOR THOUGHT OR FOOD FOR THE DUMPSTER...YOU Decide**

Thank you all for the great emails, texts, direct messages and personal conversations about the **WEEKLY Rants**. I knew it would be well received but had no idea I would be hearing from people I never met, organizations that believe in the messages relayed, as well as the people asking permission to publish and reprint. I also want to thank those that have forwarded me topic suggestions that are near and dear to them. **IF YOU HAVEN’T READ THIS YEARS RANTS YOU NEED TOO.......stay tuned for Fennis Podcast**

**NA Fall is wrapping up its 13th year of operation.** What started as an idea between myself and former Lawrence Coach Paul Neal and then Methuen assistant coach Rich Barden grew from a 4 team league of North Andover, Methuen, Lawrence and Whittier Tech into a 20 team league with 29 teams presently on the waiting list. Our brand has grown into the most respected off season league for high school varsity teams. Those of us who love this league pour our hearts and soul into this production. The week in review itself takes over 15 hours a week to write, edit, picturize and get on the website. Every winter we take a look at how to make the league better and each year we add some new creative idea. For 2018 we are looking to add a shot clock to further make our league the most “real game like”. We welcome feedback from all and we never rests on our laurels. My hope is the brand continues to evolve without losing its feel and product. This fall a fraud of the worst type hiding behind a fake twitter site attacked the integrity of the league and those running it. Love the league, hate the league that is your prerogative but don’t ever question the integrity, morals and values of this league and those who operate it. I will not lose sleep over it because a lion never turns around when a small dog barks

**SO IT’S TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO ANOTHER FALL BALL SEASON – BEST OF LUCK TO EVERYONE THIS WINTER & ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS – ONE MORE TIME**

**DON’T GET TOO HIGH...DON’T GET TOO LOW.....IT’S FALL BALL**

**SEE YOU IN 2018**