

One last look at the boys basketball season

Written by Scott Unash

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Yes, I know the calendar reads April and that we just concluded the Masters and that baseball is under way around the major leagues.

But let's revisit the just completed high school basketball season before we put it in the history books for the year, because that's where this season rightfully belongs, in the annals of time and history.

I say that we are putting a cap on the year since Washington guard Wes Washpun and Marion guard Kasey Semler both made their college choices known this past weekend.

Washpun will play for Tennessee and Coach Cuonzo Martin. Semler will stay closer to home, playing for Coach Doug Wagemester and Kirkwood before, hopefully, taking his game to the Division I level.

These two were the final pieces of what was a great year for senior boys basketball players in the Metro. It's not very often you have an All-Metro squad that reads like a recruiting service report! Especially, in a city of less than a million people. Four different Division I conferences are represented, three teams that went to the postseason and four former Coaches of the Year in their respective conferences all benefitted from our bevy of talent this past season. And don't worry, I haven't forgotten about junior standout Marcus Paige who may be the best in the lot!

How will each one do at the next level? Well, that remains to be seen. But, in my humble, somewhat biased opinion, I say pretty well.

Iowa needs an outside shooter and landed one with Washington's Josh Oglesby.

Tennessee needs an athletic point guard and they landed Washpun.

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Mr. Basketball, Jarrod Uthoff, is headed to Wisconsin and can't you picture him in the Jon Leuer role over the next few years?

Linn-Mar's Shane Benton is an athlete that will excel at North Dakota, in my opinion.

And of course, UNI Coach Ben Jacobson hasn't stopped smiling at the prospect of a heady leader like Linn-Mar's Matt Bohannon, who I think has a tremendous upside in Cedar Falls.

And don't forget about Semler. Kirkwood will display his talents and make him a better player over the next couple of years and he will be a shooter for some coach in the future that they will depend on.

Keep in the back of your mind all of the accomplishments this group provided: Linn-Mar winning the 4A championship and a record four teams descending upon Des Moines and the state tournament for 2011. Yes, remember and smile often when looking back upon this group of seniors, for they don't come across but once a generation for the most part.

Was it the best ever in the Metro? That is open for discussion ... and a column for another day.