

**TTO E-letter - HOOPFEST EDITION!  
(November 30, 2018)**

**HOOPFEST IS COMING**

The ARS National Hoop Festival (“HoopFest”) -- the top December event in all of high school basketball across the U.S. -- returns to the DMV for a newly expanded 3-day festival at DeMatha Catholic, Dec. 7-9.

**Whether you go one day or all three, pick a few games or hit up all 13, HoopFest is a truly unique basketball experience** with tons of amazing teams and players, including many from the TTO program. The games perennially produce #SCTop10 moments, incredible match-ups and “I got to see him when...” memories.

**HoopFest 2018 tips off on Friday night**, with three games: DC’s Archbishop Carroll takes on Georgia’s Holy Spirit, featuring Anthony Edwards, formerly the top shooting guard in the 2020 class -- now, after reclassifying, the No. 1 overall prospect in the 2019 class. Then the DMV’s top public school (and defending DC state champ) Wilson, starring TTO’s Dimingus Stevens, gets its shot at the top program in the country -- IMG Academy, featuring TTO’s 2018 Peach Jam MVP Armando Bacot, along with a roster full of top D1 prospects. Then stick around for the night’s finale, featuring two teams ranked in the Top 10 nationally: Perennial powerhouse Montverde Academy vs. Sunrise Christian from Kansas, one of the top high school teams between the coasts.

**As always, Saturday of HoopFest is loaded**, with a half-dozen games running all afternoon and evening: The traditional regional tip-off features Chavez vs. Rock Creek Christian... Archbishop Carroll (the 2017-2018 WCAC Breakthrough Story of the Year) vs. Philly’s Roman Catholic, the reigning Pennsylvania state champs... Casey Morsell (UVA commit) and St. John’s take on midwest powerhouse Nicolet (Wisconsin), featuring the No. 1-ranked small forward in the class of 2020, Jalen Johnson... Anthony Edwards and Holy Spirit (GA) take on Kansas juggernaut Sunrise Christian... then a heavyweight doubleheader featuring two of the DMV’s top programs taking on two of the nation’s best programs: PVI vs. Montverde, followed by DeMatha vs. IMG Academy.

(HoopFest #ProTip: Get there early if you want to be sure to have seats for the nightcaps!)

**Sunday caps off the weekend**, with a 4-game feast: National Christian (MD) vs. First Love (PA) at 1:45, then a great regional match-up between McNamara and Bullis at 3:30. At 5:15, a game featuring two nationally ranked, star-studded programs, Nicolet (Wisconsin) vs. the DMV’s own PVI and the HoopFest finale at 7: Philadelphia powerhouse Roman Catholic takes on DeMatha Catholic.

**To purchase tickets, [use this link](#).**

*Full HoopFest recap coming in the next TTO E-Letter!*

**TTO in the Community: William Beanes Holiday Food Drive -- PLEASE DONATE**

Every Christmas, the TTO Family provides holiday meals to 115 families in the William Beanes neighborhood (Suitland, Md). Be on the lookout for a link to a sign-up sheet for players’ families to volunteer to supply a component of the meal and to be a part of this meaningful TTO

tradition. Food drop-off will be at TTO HQ in mid-December, a few days before the meals are delivered on 12/21.

### **TTO HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL PREVIEW**

The best high school basketball region in the country doesn't rebuild - it reloads. This season is no different. The WCAC powerhouses stay on top. A DC public school wants to stake its claim for the All-Met top spot. And TTO players are at the center of all the action.

#### **TTO Boys' Program:**

Bullis: **Jesiah Matthews** (2019), **Erick Reynolds** (2021)  
Central: **DeVontae Young** (2019)  
Chavez: **Kent King** and **Kris King** (2021)  
Coolidge: **Kevin Holtz** (2020), **Steph Walker** (2022)  
DeMatha: **Carsten Kogelnik**, **Justin Moore**, **Thai'er Vance** and **Jahmir Young** (2019), **Hunter Dickinson** and **Paul Smith** (2020), **Jalen Clyatt** and **Jalen Rustan** (2021), **Jerrell Roberson II** and **Dylan Williamson** (2022)  
Eleanor Roosevelt: **Quinton Mincey** (2020), **Willie Rivera Jr.** (2022)  
Episcopal: **John Loughlin** (2022)  
Fairmont Heights: **Derrick Keys** (2022)  
Flint Hill: **Jack Dolan** and **Dowar Jioklow** (2020)  
Gonzaga: **Josh Watts** (2019), **Chuck Harris**, **Myles Stute** and **Terrence Williams** (2020), **Malcolm Dread** (2021), **Devin Dinkins**, **Judah Mintz**, **Malik Stute** and **Jared Turner** (2022)  
Good Counsel: **RJ Floyd** (2021)  
Herndon: **Elanda Lewis** (2019)  
Huntingtown: **Jeremy Josephs** (2021)  
IMG: **Armando Bacot** (2019)  
Landon: **Canin Reynolds** (2020), **Mike Grey** (2022)  
Maret: **EJ Jarvis** (2019)  
Bishop McNamara: **Kenny Womack** (2020), **Christopher Baskerville**, **Terrence Butler** and **Roderick James** (2021)  
Mt. Zion Prep: **Woody Newton** (2020)  
Oakton: **Garrett Johnson** (2020)  
Bishop O'Connell: **Paul Lewis** (2022)  
Paint Branch: **Mark Pharaohs** and **Blake Stallings** (2021)  
Pallotti: **Joemel McNair** (2020)  
Paul VI: **Anthony Harris**, **Xavier Joyner** and **Josh Oduro** (2019), **JoJo Freeman**, **TJ Horton**, **Will Paige** and **Jeremy Roach** (2020), **Tyler Coleman**, **Avery Ford**, **Ryan Gertenbach**, **Trevor Keels**, **Reiss Whitaker** and **Ty Wilson** (2021), **Knasir "Dug" McDaniel** (2022).  
Riverside: **Beau Everett** (2020)  
Rock Creek Christian: **Guy Fautleroy** (2021)  
St. Alban's: **Mike Katsock** (2020)  
St. Andrew's: **Chace Davis** and **Dylan Edwards** (2021)  
St. John's: **Casey Morsell** (2019), **Ishmael Leggett** (2020), **Victory Naboya** and **Devon Savage** (2021), **Shane Lancaster** and **Christian Watson** (2022)  
St. John Paul The Great: **DJ Slaughter** (2020)  
St. Mary's Ryken: **Jules Bikoy** (2020), **Wisdom Rogers** (2022)  
St. Stephen's-St. Agnes: **Charles Thompson** (2019), **Jamal Barnes** (2020)  
Sandy Spring: **Mohammed Toure** (2021)  
Sidwell Friends: **Jason Gibson** and **Elijah Williams** (2019)

Sherwood: **Nate Lacey** (2020)  
TC Williams: **Tekao Carpenter** (2021)  
Bishop Walsh: **Jalen Miller** (2021)  
Wilson: **Dimingus Stevens** (2020), **Nasir Best** (2021)  
Wise: **Mekhi Price** (2021)  
WT Woodson: **Cody Maine** and **Ben Jensen** (2019), **Jack Jensen** (2021)

### **TTO Girls' Program:**

Bishop McNamara: **Jakia Brown-Turner** (2019), **Madison Scott** (2020), **Taylor Gibson** (2021), **Yonta Vaughn** (2022)  
Bullis: **Raniah Walker** (2019), **Krislin Arjukese** and **Bianca Penndleton** (2021)  
Colgan: **Alyssa Andrews** (2021)  
Edison: **Aurea Gingas** (2020)  
Episcopal: **Haley Sabol** (2020)  
Frederick: **Raynah Young** (2021)  
Holy Cross: **Victoria Beresford** (2022)  
Ireton: **Kennedy Clifton** (2022)  
John Carroll: **Vonnie Lindie** (2020)  
Maret: **Page Greenburg** (2022)  
McDonogh: **Jessica Booth** (2019)  
Mt. Lebanon (PA): **Marian Turnbull** (2022)  
Paul VI: **Leslie Marios** (2022)  
Pikesville: **Tyra Robinson** (2020)  
Potomac (VA): **Jewel Dixon** (2021)  
Randallstown: **Trinity Wright** (2021)  
Riverdale Baptist: **Jayla James** (2019)  
Roland Park: **Mir McLean** (2020)  
St. Andrew's: **Simone Foreman** and **Sasha James** (2022)  
St. Frances: **Angel Reese** (2020)  
St. John's: **Mitchell Edmunds** (2021)  
St. Paul's School for Girls: **Destiny Ryles** (2020)  
St. Timothy's: **Jasmine Johnson** (2021)  
Sanford (DE): **Lauren Park-Lane** (2019)  
TBD: **Kendall Dunham** (2022)

**Want to go see TTO players in HS action?** Outside of the must-see HoopFest on Dec. 7-8-9, here are some interesting games to circle this month to check out:

### **Boys**

**Dec. 4:** Paul VI at O'Connell, 7:30 pm  
**Dec. 14:** Gonzaga at St. John's, 7:30 pm  
**Dec. 19:** Rock Creek Christian at St. John's, 7:30

### **Girls**

**Dec. 1:** McNamara vs. Hamilton Heights (TN), 7 pm  
**Dec. 9:** St. Frances vs. Life Center (@ PVI), 1:10 pm  
**Dec. 15:** Riverdale Baptist vs. Victoria Country (Australia) @ Athletic Republic, 7:30 pm

### **TTO College Hoops Homecoming Spotlight**

Worth Your Time: "[Poetry in Motion: Freshman guard Myles Dread is much more than an impact player on the court for Penn State men's basketball.](#)" (via Penn State Daily Collegian)



**Jon Rothstein** ✓

@JonRothstein

**Myles Dread. Buy Stock Now.**

2:29 PM · 03 Nov 18

**87 Retweets**   **334 Likes**

### **TTO in the NBA**

NBA (Stats Through 11/29):

Jerami Grant

Jerian Grant

Josh Hart

Victor Oladipo

G League:

Marcus Derrickson (Georgetown) - Santa Cruz Warriors

Michael Gbinije (Syracuse) - Santa Cruz Warriors

Jarius Lyles (UMBC) - Salt Lake City Stars

Raphiael Putney (UMass) - Sioux Falls Skyforce

Stanford Robinson (Rhode Island) - Rio Grande Vipers

Evan Taylor (Nebraska) - Agua Caliente Clippers

### **ALUMNI INTERVIEW: JORDAN OMOGBEHIN**

*Last month, TTO alumnus Jordan Omogbehin was announced as part of WWE's latest "Performance Center" recruiting class. Standing 7-foot-3, Omogbehin is one of the biggest professional wrestlers in history. Before WWE, he played college basketball for the University of South Florida and Morgan State. Before college, he was on Team Takeover. Omogbehin took a few minutes out of his jam-packed training schedule to answer a few questions, exclusively for the TTO E-Letter.*

#### **What is your favorite TTO memory?**

JO: My favorite TTO memory is the 17's orange trip to Vegas the summer of 2009. We were the underdogs at every tournament playing against A-level AAU teams and beating them!!!

#### **What lessons did you learn from basketball that have translated to wrestling?**

Being coach-able, the willingness to learn new things, as well as being disciplined. Also: Always be on time to everything (I arrive at workouts 30-40 mins before we start, and I use the time to stretch, warm up and rehab, if necessary.)

#### **What lessons have you learned from wrestling that can translate to basketball?**

Communication! Communication is stressed because sometimes you have a match with an inexperienced opponent and you have to talk to them during the match. Not just for sake of talking, but to walk the inexperienced individual through, so that the motion in ring is believable and no one gets hurt in the process of putting on a show. The same thing applies to basketball: You have an experienced point guard and an inexperienced center - if the center looks lost on the court of doesn't know the right time to roll on a pick-and-roll, the point guard has to talk him through this process, so next time he can roll to the basket at the right time.

### **Favorite basketball player of all time?**

Tim Duncan

### **Favorite wrestling finishing move?**

As of now? The suplex.

Know a TTO alumni with an interesting story to tell? Give them the spotlight of the TTO E-Letter. Email [tto.eletter@gmail.com](mailto:tto.eletter@gmail.com) to set up an interview.

## **TEAM REPORTS**

### **Boys' Program**

8th Grade Oladipo: Won the Nike Pro City Jr. league championship; won Thrill Turkey Event.

Competing in first session of MADE League 8th "A" Division this weekend in Hampton, VA.

8th Grade Grant: Won AGame Fall Shootout; Final 4 Thrill Turkey Event. Competing in first session of MADE League 8th "B" Division this weekend in Hampton, VA.

7th Grade Oladipo: Final 4 in AGame Fall Shootout; Finished Top 2 Thrill Turkey Event

Competing in first session of MADE League 7th "A" Division this weekend in Hampton, VA.

7th Grade Grant: 1-2 in AGame Fall Shootout. Competing in first session of MADE League 7th "B" Division this weekend in Hampton, VA.

6th Grade Erick Green: Won AGame Fall Shootout, Thrill Turkey Event. Competing in first session of MADE League 6th Division this weekend in Hampton, VA.

6th Grade Black: Qualified for Bracket Play at AGame Fall Shootout. Competing in first session of MADE League 6th Division this weekend in Hampton, VA.

2026: Won AGame Fall Shootout 5th Grade/11U division

2027: Black won Thrill Turkey Event; Bowman runner-up at AGame Fall Shootout; Orange qualified for bracket play in Thrill Turkey Event.

2028: Finished Final 4 in AGame Fall Shootout & Thrill Turkey Event

2029: Finished Top 2 in AGame Fall Shootout 2nd Grade/8U

### **Girls' Program**

8th Grade/2023: 3-0 in first session of MADE Rose League

7th Grade/2024: 1-2 in first session of MADE Rose League

6th Grade/2025:

## **DRILL OF THE MONTH: "Explode, Pivot, Pass"**

**Overview:** This drill focuses on basic footwork fundamentals. It's a really quick and simple drill to run. Your team can get a lot of benefit out of it even if it's only run for 5 minutes.

**Setup:** Players get into groups of 2 or more. I prefer 3 players in each group if possible. Each group has one basketball and should start in a straight line behind either the sideline or the baseline.

**How it Works:** The player starting with the basketball must begin the drill behind the line in triple threat stance. Their first action is to take two explosive dribbles out from the line and then perform a controlled jump stop. After the jump stop, the player pivots 180 degrees until they're facing their group and makes a strong chest pass to the next person in line. They then jog to the end of the line. This process continues for a set amount of time.

**The three main things coaches are looking at are:**

1. No traveling when exploding off the dribble.
2. A controlled jump stop.
3. A controlled pivot.

**Coaching Points:**

- \*Player receiving the basketball should be starting in a low stance and showing target hands.
- \*Players must explode out with the dribble. Don't allow them to go half-speed.
- \*Switch up which kind of pivot the players use. It can be forward or reverse, left or right foot.

**Coach Doug Martin (16U EYBL Head Coach) says:** "I like this drill because it reduces a player's chances of traveling during the game. I think teaching the players to play off of two feet -- and pivot off of both feet -- is helpful in their development. Also, playing off of two feet reduces their chance of injury. I use this drill every 16U practice."

Got a favorite drill to contribute? Email [tto.eletter@gmail.com](mailto:tto.eletter@gmail.com).

### **Alumni Read of the Month**

[Frank Howard was wired to win](#)

### **Get To Know a TTO Coach**

**Coach Name: Ray Brewer**

**Team:** 7th Grade Oladipo (HC), 17U EYBL (AC)

**From:** Prince George's County, Maryland

**HS:** Eleanor Roosevelt (2005 All-Met 1st Team)

**College:** Miami Dade CC/St. Francis (PA)

**Favorite all-time player:** Michael Jordan

**Favorite all-time coach** (who didn't coach you): Coach K

**Favorite drill:** Shell Drill

**Something a player can do to impress you:** Show leadership.

**Follow Ray** on Twitter and IG at [@FeatheryRay](#)

*Want to nominate a coach to Get To Know? Email [tto.eletter@gmail.com](mailto:tto.eletter@gmail.com)*

### **Key Dates to Save:**

**Dec. 7-9, 2018:** ARS National High School Hoops Festival (@ DeMatha)

**Dec. 19, 2018:** Annual William Beanes Holiday Meal Drive.

**February 2019:** Spring/Summer Coaches' Summit (Day/Time/Location TBA)

**March 1, 2019:** Coaches' Background Check DEADLINE (file as early as Jan. 1, 2019)

**May 4-5, 2019:** TTO Girls' Cinco De Mayo Event (Location TBA)

**May 25-27, 2019:** Memorial Takeover (Locations TBA)  
Looking for 16 teams per age group. Please promote to other programs/coaches.

**July 28, 2019:** Annual Cookout (@ Foundation School)

Got any info you want to add to the TTO calendar? Email [tto.eletter@gmail.com](mailto:tto.eletter@gmail.com).

### **TWEET OF THE MONTH**



### **VIDEO OF THE MONTH**

[Something promoting Hoopfest?]

*Thanks for reading. The next edition of the TTO E-letter will arrive on January 3. Happy holidays from the entire TTO family!*

*Don't miss out! [Click here to receive the E-Letter directly to your email inbox every month!](#) (If you use Gmail and don't see it in your main inbox, look in the Promotions tab.)*

*Please submit any requests, announcements or news to share by December 15. Email [tto.eletter@gmail.com](mailto:tto.eletter@gmail.com).*