

## Basketball

# Rankin chosen for elite all-star game

by PATRICK J. NAGY  
Reporter

Terrell Rankin will close out his high school basketball career playing with the best New York State has to offer.

The Sweet Home senior was chosen to compete in the Basketball Coaches Association of New York all-star game on March 24 at Briarcliff High School in Westchester County, just north of New York City. He is the only player from Section VI chosen to play.

"It's really big for me," said Rankin. "I never had anything like this happen to me before, so it means a lot."

Rankin, ECIC and co-ECIC Division I Player of the Year, averaged 19.76 points and led the Panthers to a 19-5 record and an upset over favored Niagara Falls for the Section VI Class AA title. He was also MVP of the Ken-Ton Holiday Tournament and named to the all-tournament team of the Sweet Home Tip-off tournament. Rankin, who also was ECIC I

Player of the Year in 2005, finished his high school career with 1,255 points, an amazing feat considering he missed almost his entire junior year after tearing an anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee.

Rankin was nominated by BCANY president and Williamsville South boys coach Al Monaco.

"He's a great player and a great kid," said Monaco. "He fit the bill perfectly."

"It's a terrific opportunity for

him to take his talents and put it against the best of the best," added Sweet Home coach Paul Schintzius, who was named BCANY Section VI Coach of the Year.

This year, the BCANY all-star game, which also pits players from Rochester, Syracuse, Adirondack, Albany and Hudson Valley against a New York City and Long Island team, will be part of a doubleheader with Section I's all-star game, which includes basketball powerhouses Mount Ver-

non and Peekskill, the reigning Class AA and A state champions, respectively.

Recent Section VI seniors to participate in the game include Grover Cleveland's Cantrel Parrish and Jose Navarez and Lackawanna's Ray Blackburn.

In other BCANY news, Williamsville resident Dave Smith, the Clarence Central baseball coach, was named Section VI Official of the Year.

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## Tenth annual senior all-star boys games happening this weekend

### Sweet Home, Amherst to field multiple representatives

The area's top senior boys' basketball players will cap off their high school careers on Saturday in the tenth annual Paul R. Missana Memorial Silver Hoops Classic.

The event, which consists of three senior all-star boys' basketball games featuring players from the Erie County Interscholastic Conference, Niagara-Frontier League, Monsignor Martin Association and Yale Cup (Buffalo Public Schools) will be held at the William J. Grabiarsz School of Excellence, 155 Lawn Ave., Buffalo.

The first game at 12:30 p.m. pits ECIC I and IV against ECIC II and III in the Butler Mitchell Alumni Memorial. At 2 p.m., another ECIC team will face the NFL in the John Bellanti Classic. The third game, the Paul Missana Silver Hoops Classic between the Yale Cup and Monsignor Martin Association tips off at 3:30 p.m.

Here's a list of the players invited.

• ECIC I and IV, coached by Lackawanna's Tim Foley, East Aurora's Gary Schutrum and John F. Kennedy's Tony Krupski, is comprised of Clarence's Drew Biawlawski, East Aurora's Dave Barnett and Ryan Higgins, Lackawanna's Leshawn Blackburn and Russell Holt, Orchard Park's

Greg Michael, Sweet Home's Josh Parker and Stephen Roberts, West Seneca West's Gavin Gaiser, and Williamsville North's Ryan Young.

• ECIC II and III, coached by Amherst's Mike Chatelle and Pioneer's Mike Haskell, will have Amherst's Chris France, Cheektowaga's Chris Huggins-Weaver, Depew's Scott Jachimiak, Chris Jones, and Eric Wild, Pioneer's Matt Schwab, Starpoint's Shane Canahai, West Seneca East's Jeff Howard, Williamsville East's Andy Heim, and Williamsville South's Frank Pieri.

• The ECIC team, coached by Depew's Larry Jones and Maryvale's Mark Kency, has Amherst's Cordell Freeman, Depew's Brad Kujawa, Lackawanna's Marcus Rivers, Maryvale's Matt Brennan and Matt Mohr, Orchard Park's Andy Buyea and Tom Schiffler, Pioneer's Ron Malicki, Sweet Home's Glenroy Carr, and Eric Schnirel.

• The NFL, coached by Lockport's Wayne Ginty, will have Kenmore East's Sam Bono and Darryl King, Kenmore West's Mike Miratato, Joe Mogavero and Matt Nagorski, Lockport's Dominic Fotia and Derek Herring, Lew-Port's Dave LaChance, Grand Island's Chris Rajczak, Niagara

Falls' E.J. Fuller and Richard Rose and Niagara-Wheatfield's Brandon Patterson, and Tom Sheehan.

• The MMA, coached by St. Joe's Mark Simon and St. Mary's Pat Cullivan, will have St. Joe's Andrew Passage, Mike Battle, Domonic Cook and John Greer, O'Hara's Garrison Gross, St. Mary's Ryan Kufel, St. Francis' Kevin Roth and Chris Hoak, Nichols' Tom Ruffino and Malik Glenn-Black, and Timon-St. Jude's Andy Dlugosz and Matt Dunford.

• The Yale Cup will feature Burgard's Marquis East, Terrell Henry, and Nick Jenkins, City Honors' Jared Shaw, East's Antonio Speed and Justin Boykin, Emerson's Jalique Allan, Grover Cleveland's Mike Henry, Hutch-Tech's Julius Bryant, Ahmed Brown and Lou Megna, Lafayette's Victor Arroyo, Jamal Garner and Eric McMillian, McKinley's Mark Overall and Seneca's Marquel Alexander, Mark Vanoy and Tyshawn Starks.

Tickets are \$3 adults, \$1 for children. Some of the proceeds will go towards a donation to the Grabiarsz School with the remaining proceeds for the Butler Mitchell Alumni Foundation to sponsor youth programs throughout the area.

## Senior girls all-star hoops game set for Saturday

### All Town of Amherst teams except North will be represented

Cheektowaga Central High School's gym will be buzzing with basketball action beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday when some of the area's best girl players take to the court for the ninth annual Cheektowaga Lions Club Senior High School Ladies Basketball Classic.

The Father Justin Council Knights of Columbus is again a major sponsor of the Classic, which has had over 300 athletes participate in their high school capping game over the history of the event. Players are chosen for the event by a panel of school officials from the region after

being nominated by area high school coaches.

As in the past, the event will be broken up into two games. In game one, which will tip off at 6 p.m., the Lionesses will face the Justinettes, while in game two, which is slated to start at 8 p.m., the Lions will take on the Knights. An MVP will be picked from each team at the conclusion of each game, and a scholarship will be presented in the names of the MVPs to a student from each of their schools later this year.

Tickets for the game cost \$5 for adults and \$4 for students. Tickets can be purchased in advance

by calling 668-3844, or can be bought at the door.

The Lionesses, coached by Joe Catalano (Lancaster) and Peter Hudecki, feature Jodi Battaglia (Amherst), Katie Carroll (Mt. St. Mary), Jen Godson (Depew), Melysa Markut (Lancaster), Meaghan Daley (Sacred Heart), Maria Blum, Justine Smith, Amanda Boron, Chrissy Fretthold, Noelle Dinkins, Lauren Turner and Christina Peters.

The Justinettes, coached by Duke McGuire (Williamsville South) and Rich Norton, feature Gina Ricotta (Sacred Heart), Nicole Odrobina (Maryvale),

Sheila Sullivan (Mt. St. Mary), Kiaya Burks (Sweet Home), Shannon McGuire (Amherst), Caroline Hourihan, Codie Northrup, Lindsay Katta, Jessica Nelson, Jillian Feldmeyer, Katelynn Benzing and Shaneya Ferguson.

The Lions, coached by Dave Sardo and Frank Martin, feature Barb Kiliszek (Lancaster), Lindsay Henry (Iroquois), Meaghan Freund (Kenmore East), Katie Ostroot (Williamsville South), Brandy Wangelin, Margo Weber, Laura Hambruche, Liz Shappert, Bridgette Burke, Courtney Donovan and Kendra Brim.

The Knights, coached by Carole

Zikle and Rachel Martin, feature Jordan Schrimmel (Depew), Mandy Sahhar (Orchard Park), Kate Keller (Sacred Heart), Kacie Mills (Kenmore East), Holly Beats (Iroquois), Kaitlin Roseti (Williamsville East), Alana Laguerre, Jackee Thompson, Marybeth Nugent and Julie Chiarot. East Aurora's Sarah Soroka was supposed to play for the Knights as well, but the Lady Blue Devils earned a spot in the Class B state Federation championships this weekend after claiming the public school title last Saturday at Hudson Valley Community College.

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