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Goring now: following two kids, and his three NBA guys

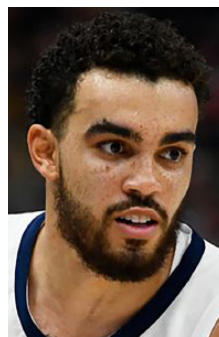
By Bruce Strand

One of the most interested NBA watchers in the state is Zach Goring, former Apple Valley coach, for good reason: of eight current active Minnesotans in the league, he coached three of them.

Tyus Jones of the Memphis Grizzlies, Tre Jones of the San Antonio Spurs, and Gary Trent Jr. of the Toronto Raptors, all scoring in double digits, played for Goring during a six-season stretch from 2012 through 2018 when the Eagles went 175-14 overall and 13-2 in five state tournaments. The Jones brothers were each Mr. Basketball while Trent elected to play his senior year with a prep school.

The Eagles were state champs in 2013, 2015 and 2017 and lost in the final second to Cretin-Derham Hall in 2018. They played in two ESPN nationally televised games, won six South Suburban titles and had conference winning streaks of 51 and 42 games.

Goring, who coached for 11 seasons, stepped down in April of 2020, largely to follow the basketball careers of his own two children in Farmington, where the family lives. Goring runs a fertilizer business with his father. He was a substitute teacher while serving as the Eagles head coach.



Left: Zach Goring, wearing one of Apple Valley's state gold medals. Above: Tyus Jones of the Memphis Grizzlies, Tre Jones of the San Antonio Spurs, Gary Trent Jr. of the Toronto Raptors.

"All three are doing really well, and to think I was able to coach them in high school, I was really lucky," Goring said. "As far as playing in the NBA, I could not have predicted that, but they were certainly very good in youth basketball, good enough to play varsity in eighth grade, which is not common, and they answered the call every night. They always put on show. We played in a lot of stuffed gyms. I remember that for many games we had to have pre-sales."

Tyus Jones, in his eighth NBA season, is averaging 10.1 points and 4.5 assists for Memphis (16-9) as a backup point guard getting a lot of minutes.

Gary Trent Jr., in his fifth NBA season, averages 16.7 points for Toronto (13-12) as a shooting guard, and has been between 15 and 18 ppg each season.

Tre Jones, in his third NBA season, starts at point guard for the Spurs (6-18), averaging 12.1 points and 6.9 assists.

Asked if he has an NBA Pass to watch them, Goring

said he's too busy to follow the NBA extensively, what with tending to his family business and following daughter Lexi, a sophomore who plays JV and varsity with Farmington, and son Ben, an eighth-grader whom he helps coach.

"But I'm always checking on them every morning," Goring said earlier this week. "Tyus had a career high 28 points and 10 assists against Miami last night. He plays a lot, behind Ja Morant, and in my opinion is the best backup point guard in the league. They're on the floor together a lot. Tre is starting for San Antonio after they traded away their starting point guard, Dejounte Murray, to the Hawks last year. He is taking full advantage. He had 23 points and 13 assists against the Lakers last week. I think they consider him their point guard of the future. Gary Trent is doing great with Toronto. He was hurt the last few weeks but is coming back now. He can really shoot the ball."

Asked if he keeps in touch, Goring said that Tyus runs an AAU program that his son plays in, and he sees Tyus and Tre there each summer. Goring hasn't seen Trent since he left for prep school but occasionally runs into his dad, Gary Trent Sr, a former NBA player himself and he "gets updates on Gary."

As for himself, Goring reflected, "I'm a basketball dad now and I enjoy the game just as much as I did when I was coaching."

Other current NBA players from Minnesota are Jericho Sims from Cristo Rey Jesuit (New York Knicks), Chet Holmgren from Minnehaha Academy (Oklahoma City Thunder rookie, missing the season with injury), Jalen Suggs from Minnehaha Academy (Orlando Magic), Dave Roddy from Blake (Memphis Grizzlies) and Amir Coffey from Hopkins (Los Angeles Clippers).

Girls coaches Hall adds six

Six new Hall of Fame members were chosen by the Minnesota Girls Basketball Coaches this year. They are **Barry Cosgriff**, who coached seven state championship teams with Hopkins and came out of retirement to coach Minnetonka this year; college coaches **Lori Fish** of St. Cloud State and Minnesota State-Mankato and **John Herbrechtsmeyer** of Bethel; longtime officials **John Manly** of Fridley and **Dewey Mettler** of Mankato; and **Carl Pierson** of Waconia and Champlin Park, a coach, author and the group's executive secretary.

Lakeville So. among Top 10 duel winners

Several duels of highly-ranked teams highlighted in the opening week for boys basketball -- headed by Lakeville South tripping Wayzata 45-43 in overtime. Marley Baah-Yeboah sank a three-pointer to knot the score at 39 in regulation and Joe Hager sank a tp-in at the buzzer in OT to win it. Baah-Yeboah sank 12 points, Hager 11 and Jackson Ressler 10 for the Panthers. Hayden Tibbets scored 11 for Wayzata, and Nic Beeninga and Jake Schmitt nine each. The low score was "a combination of first game and good hard nose defense on both ends," said South coach Joe Janquart. "We struggled at times, but just made enough game winning plays."

Maple River knocked off the MBBN's No. 1 ranked Minnehaha Academy 68-63. The Eagles, No. 7 in pre-season, were led by Hayden Niebuhr with 26 points and Mason Schirmer with 21. Jerome Williams kept the Redhawks in the game with 30 points, six assists, three steals and five rebounds.

Lake City vanquished Plainview-Elgin-Millville 76-57, led by Hunter Lorenson with 28 points. Keegan Ryan notched 15 points and eight rebounds. Jaden Shones capped a 12-0 run to finish the first half and totaled 12 points, six rebounds and four steals. Ryan Heise added 11 points, and Rylee Fick snagged 13 rebounds. "PEM has a couple of exceptional players and, for the most part, I thought we did a nice job staying in front of them," said Tiger coach Greg Berge.

Mankato East pummeled Austin 86-65 in a Big Nine opener, propelled by Carson Schweim with 27 points. Ganden Gosch contributed nine points, nine rebounds, four assists, four steals and three blocked shots. Buai Duop scored 21 for Austin.

Deer River tripped No. 4 ranked Cherry 64-58 with Cale Jackson scoring 20 points (9-for-9 on free shots) and Caden Schjenken 12. Cherry played without Division I prospect Isaac Asuma, out for a week with an injury. Deer River followed with a 101-45 win over Mesabi East with Schjenken scoring 30 and Ethan Williams 22.

Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa, ranked No. 2 in Class 1A, fended off Osakis 69-68 in their opener, led by Kaden Pieper with 39 points. Pieper made one of two free shots for the lead with 12.5 seconds left and Osakis missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer, off the back rim.

Lake Conf. goes 4-1 in Tip-Off girls showdowns

By Bruce Strand

Four of five Lake Conference girls teams won their matchups at the Breakdown Tip-Off Classic last Friday and Saturday in Hopkins.

St. Michael-Albertville edged North Dakota power Bismarck Century 72-70 with Ava Haus hitting 22 points, Tess Johnson 20 and Ja'Kahla Craft 19. Century had Bergan Kinnebrew with 28 points and Logan Nissley with 26.

Hopkins (4-0) beat Maple Grove 69-49, powered by Sunaja Agara with 28 points and eight rebounds.

Wayzata handed White Bear Lake its first loss 73-44 as Sophia Hawkinson and Jessica Oberlander sank 15 points each. Jordyn Schmittiel hit 17 for the Bears.

Eden Prairie turned back East Ridge 78-65 with Tori Schlagel netting 25 points, Ashley Fritz 13, Vanessa Jordan 13 and Annika Amderson 11.

Minnetonka lost to Hortonville, ranked No. 3 in the largest Wisconsin division, 66-56. Aaliyah Crump, 6-foot-1 sophomore, poured in 37 points for Minnetonka. Hortonville (11 for 27 on three's) was led by Rainey Welson with 21 points, and Kallie Pepler and Kyra Funk 12 each.

Hopkins, STMA and Eden Prairie are ranked 1-2-3 in Class 4A with Minnetonka 5th and Wayzata 6th.

Also at the Tip-Off, Class 3A's No. 1 Becker beat Class 2A's No. 1 Providence Academy 83-76, sinking 14 of 34 three-pointers and 27 of 32 free shots. Maren Winston tallied 24 points, Ayla Brown 23, Danielle Guest 16 and Alexis Rose 13. Weston snagged 10 rebounds. Maddyn Greenway, freshman guard, had 33 points, eight rebounds, eight assists and four steals for the Lions. Grace Counts added 22 points.

Class 1A's top-ranked Mountain Iron-Buhl routed highly-ranked Hayfield, 79-33, with Jordan Zubich sinking 24 points, Hali Savela 22, and Sage Ganyo 19.



Alexis Rose (13) of Becker drives to the hoop against Maria Counts of Providence Academy.

Photos by Bruce Strand, MN BN News



Minnetonka's Lanelle Wright (10) and Sidney Reed guard Hortonville's Emily Nelson.



Jordan Zubich of Mountain Iron-Buhl scores on a breakaway against Hayfield.

MBBN BOYS TOP 20

CLASS 4A

1. Park Center 1-0
2. Lakeville North 1-0
3. Lakeville South 1-0
4. Wayzata 0-1
5. Minnetonka 1-0
6. Eastview 0-0
7. Osseo 0-0
8. Eden Prairie 1-0
9. East Ridge 0-1
10. Bloomington Jefferson 0-0
11. Shakopee 1-0
12. Chaska 1-1
13. Andover 0-0
14. Stillwater 1-0
15. Rosemount 0-0
16. Hopkins 2-0
17. Robbinsdale Armstrong 0-0
18. Elk River 0-0
19. Northfield 0-0
20. Farmington 1-1

CLASS 3A

1. Totino-Grace 0-0
2. DeLaSalle 0-0
3. Orono 0-0
4. Mahtomedi 1-0
5. Mankato East 2-0
6. Benilde-St. Margaret's 1-0
7. Stewartville 1-0
8. St. Thomas Academy 0-0
9. Princeton 2-0
10. New Ulm 1-0
11. Columbia Heights 0-1
12. Austin 1-1
13. St. Cloud Tech 0-1
14. Hermantown 2-0
15. Alexandria 1-1
16. Richfield 0-0
17. Kasson-Mantorville 1-0
18. Mankato West 0-0
19. Simley 1-0
20. Becker 0-0

CLASS 2A

1. Holy Family Catholic 1-0
2. Lake City 1-0
3. Maple River 2-0
4. Minnehaha Academy 1-1
5. Plainview-Elgin-Millville 0-1
6. Perham 1-0
7. Minneapolis North 0-0
8. Pequot Lakes 1-0
9. Watertown-Mayer 0-0
10. Mora 1-0
11. Albany 0-0
12. Sauk Centre 1-0
13. Esko 1-0
14. Maranatha Christian 1-0
15. Hiawatha Collegiate 0-1
16. Concordia Academy 0-1
17. New London-Spicer 0-0
18. Osakis 0-1
19. Thief River Falls 2-0
20. Milaca 2-1

CLASS 1A

1. Hayfield 2-0
2. Belgrade-Brooklyn Elrosa 1-0
3. New Life Academy 1-0
4. Deer River 2-0
5. Cherry 0-1
6. Cass Lake-Bena 2-0
7. Henning 2-0
8. Mountain Iron-Buhl 1-0
9. Goodhue 1-0
10. Russell-Tyler-Ruthron 0-0
11. Mankato Loyola 2-0
12. Spring Grove 0-0
13. Fertile-Beltrami 2-1
14. Legacy Christian 1-1
15. Lakeview 0-0
16. Lyle-Pacelli 2-0
17. Border West 1-0
18. Nevis 1-0
19. Browerville-Eagle Valley 0-1
20. Battle Lake 2-0

MBBN GIRLS TOP 20

CLASS 4A

1. Hopkins 4-0
2. St. Michael-Albertville 2-0
3. Eden Prairie 2-0
4. Chaska 4-0
5. Minnetonka 5-1
6. Wayzata 4-0
7. East Ridge 4-1
8. Rosemount 3-0
9. Maple Grove 1-2
10. Lakeville South 4-0
11. Stillwater 3-0
12. Lakeville North 1-2
13. Elk River 2-1
14. Blaine 3-0
15. St. Louis Park 2-1
16. Prior Lake 2-1
17. Centennial 1-2
18. Roseville 2-1
19. Rochester Mayo 2-1
20. Andover 1-2

CLASS 3A

1. Becker 2-0
2. Benilde-St. Margaret's 2-1
3. Holy Angels 3-0
4. Marshall 0-0
5. Jordan 3-0
6. Byron 3-0
7. Grand Rapids 3-2
8. St. Paul Como Park 3-0
9. Alexandria 2-1
10. Stewartville 3-2
11. Orono 3-1
12. Hill-Murray 2-0
13. Red Wing 2-0
14. Monticello 3-0
15. Visitation 3-2
16. Cloquet 4-0
17. Detroit Lakes 2-1
18. Kasson-Mantorville 2-1
19. DeLaSalle 0-2
20. Mahtomedi 2-1

CLASS 2A

1. Providence Academy 1-2
2. Minnehaha Academy 0-1
3. Goodhue 2-0
4. Sauk Centre 3-0
5. Albany 4-0
6. St. Croix Lutheran 4-1
7. Montevideo 3-0
8. Rochester Lourdes 1-1
9. Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial 2-0
10. New London-Spicer 3-0
11. Perham 3-0
12. Duluth Marshall 3-0
13. Proctor 4-0
14. Holy Family 1-3
15. Glencoe-Silver Lake 2-1
16. Luverne 2-0
17. Caledonia 3-0
18. Pine City 1-1
19. Maple River 1-0
20. Norwood-Young America 2-0

CLASS 1A

1. Hancock 1-0
2. Mountain Iron-Buhl 3-1
3. Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart 3-0
4. Minneota 1-0
5. Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa 1-0
6. Mayer Lutheran 4-0
7. BOLD 4-0
8. Hayfield 2-1
9. Lac qui Parle Valley 3-0
10. Underwood 2-1
11. Fosston 3-0
12. Grand Meadow 2-0
13. Tracy-Milroy-Balaton 3-0
14. Kelliher-Northome 3-0
15. South Ridge 0-0
16. Braham 3-0
17. Henning 2-1
18. Legacy Christian 2-0
19. Badger-Greenbush-Middle River 2-1
20. Parkers Prairie 3-0

Basketball had to wait for Prep Bowl standouts

By Bruce Strand

Asher Zubich, who enters his senior year with 2,847 points for Mountain Iron-Buhl, had a very late start for the basketball season because he was leading the Rangers to the state nine-man football championship.

At the Prep Bowl last Saturday, the Rangers rallied from an 18-0 deficit to defeat Spring Grove 28-25. Zubich, the quarterback, hit 13 of 24 passes for 168 yards and touchdowns to Nicholas Jesch and Riley Busch. Zubich averaged 27 points and Jesch 20 for MIB last season.

Spring Grove's basketball leaders, Elijah Solum (16.5 ppg last year) and Tyson Grinde (13.2), were also Prep Bowl stars. Solum passed for 185 yards and Grinde caught seven of 101 yards and a touchdown. Spring Grove delayed its basketball opener to Dec. 16.

Zubich and the Rangers started the basketball season anyway on Tuesday and won a wild one over Red Lake 97-93 with Zubich drilling 39 points (6-for-11 on three's, 11-for-12 at the line). Red Lake had Jack Brown with 29 points, Gerald Kingbird 22 and Cade Beaulieu 20.

Other basketball teams waiting for their star players to join them after the Prep Bowl were Elk River, New London-Spicer



Owen Leach and Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton lost a thriller to New London-Spicer 27-26.

Bruce Strand, MN BB News



Asher Zubich and Mountain Iron-Buhl rallied to beat Spring Grove 28-25 for the Nine-Man title.

Smug Mug photo

and Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton.

Elk River's Cade Osterman (13.4 ppg last year) quarterbacked the Elks to a 13-0 season, capped by a 29-26 Prep Bowl win over Mankato East. Osterman led with Elks with 1,453 rushing yards and 20 touchdowns including a 17-yarder against Mankato West. The Elks delayed their basketball opener to Dec. 13.

On NLS's miraculous 48-yard touchdown pass to beat DGF 27-26 on the final play, Grant Pafirath (12 ppg last year) caught the pass from hockey player Blake Schultz and pitched out to Brycen Christensen (14 ppg last year), who ran the final 13 yards. NLS had nine basketball players on the roster and postponed their first three games. They will open Dec. 13.

DGF's quarterback was Owen Leach, who averaged 26 points last year and has signed for basketball with UM-Duluth. Leach scored two TD's against NLS and passed to basketball teammate Drew Sheeley for a 53-yard gain to start a 95-yard drive leading to a go-ahead score in the final minute.

2023 **PACESETTER**

Minnesota YOUTH BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Region Playoffs

Boys & Girls Grades 4-9

ALL GRADES REFER TO THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

4B = 4th grade boys, 4G = 4th grade girls, etc. Teams may register for more than one region.

Region 1 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Rochester-RCTC	March 25	4G, 6G, 8G, 5B, 7B, 9B
Rochester-RCTC	March 26	5G, 7G, 9G, 4B, 6B, 8B
Region 2 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Lake Crystal	April 22	4G, 6G, 8G, 5B, 7B, 9B
Lake Crystal	April 23	5G, 7G, 9G, 4B, 6B, 8B
Region 3 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Redwood Falls	March 25	5G, 7G, 9G, 4B, 6B, 8B
Redwood Falls	March 26	4G, 6G, 8G, 5B, 7B, 9B
Region 4 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Moose Lake/Willow River	April 15	4G, 6G, 8G, 5B, 7B, 9B
Moose Lake/Willow River	April 16	5G, 7G, 9G, 4B, 6B, 8B
Region 5 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Paynesville	April 1	5G, 7G, 9G, 4B, 6B, 8B
Paynesville	April 2	4G, 6G, 8G, 5B, 7B, 9B
Region 6 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Alexandria	April 15	5G, 7G, 9G, 4B, 6B, 8B
Alexandria	April 16	4G, 6G, 8G, 5B, 7B, 9B
Region 7 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Grand Rapids	April 1	8G, 5B, 7B
Grand Rapids	April 2	7G, 9G, 4B
Mt. Iron-Buhl	April 1	4G, 6G, 9B
Mt. Iron-Buhl	April 2	5G, 6B, 8B
Region 8 Site	Date	Grade/Gender
Bemidji	April 22	5G, 7G, 9G, 4B, 6B, 8B
Bemidji	April 23	4G, 6G, 8G, 5B, 7B, 9B

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MN State Championships	Location	Date	Grades
MIT - MN Invitational	College of St. Benedict	June 10	B & G 4-6-8
State Championship	College of St. Benedict	June 11	B & G 4-6-8
MIT - MN Invitational	College of St. Benedict	June 17	B & G 5-7-9
State Championship	College of St. Benedict	June 18	B & G 5-7-9



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