



## 2016 SEBA Atlanta Hoop Festival

Dec. 17th - Pope High School (Marietta, GA)

### Participating Team Previews

#### Duluth

**Mascot:** Wildcats

**Head Coach:** Cabral Huff

**Assistant Coaches:** Virgil Amey, Perryn Oglesby Marcus Spivey, Brett Goblisch

**2015-16 Record:** 16-10

**Team Overview:** It is a new era for Duluth basketball, as Cabral Huff has returned to the high school ranks to lead the Wildcats. Coach Huff spent the past two seasons as a coach at Georgia Southern and Alcorn State. Prior to his time at the College level, he was an extremely successful coach at St. Francis, winning a Georgia State Championship in 2014. Duluth has a talented group of players with excellent potential. **Adam Flagler** (6' 2, Guard, 2018) was named All-Region last year as a sophomore and will bring his well-rounded perimeter skills and leadership to the guard position. **Jalen Hodges** (6' 6, Forward, 2017) is a leaper with highlight reel athleticism and is very effective scorer and defender in the paint. **Lamont Smith** (6' 2, PG, 2018) is a talented lead guard with several Division I scholarship offers. Big man **Alex Powell** (6' 11, Forward, 2019) is a D1 prospect who continues to develop and strive towards his very high ceiling of potential. **Christian Kelly** (6' 3, Wing, 2018) is an intriguing wing guard who can score the basketball and will bring firepower from the perimeter.

#### Sprayberry

**Mascot:** Yellow Jackets

**Head Coach:** Marc Carver

**Assistant Coaches:** Darnell Sheperd and Josh Phillips

**2015-16 Record:** 18-9

**Team Overview:** Sprayberry has built a reputation as a successful and winning program that always seems to have hungry and hard-nosed players. This year's roster once again fits that mold as the Jackets will look to return to the State playoffs for the ninth time in the past ten years. Head Coach Marc Carver has a talented Senior backcourt tandem of **Eddie Figueroa** (5' 9, PG, 2017) and **Rodney Pearson** (5' 10, CG, 2017) that will lead the charge. Figueroa is a very quick and aggressive scoring lead guard who is averaging over 20 ppg and 6 assists thru seven games. Pearson is guard who can create his shot off the dribble and defends well. Keep an eye on **Khadim Samb** (6' 4, Wing, 2018) who is a long and athletic scorer with potential that has attracted the attention of several Division I programs.

#### St. Pius X

**Mascot:** Lions

**Head Coach:** Aaron Parr

**Assistant Coaches:** Spencer Davidson, Will Cloyd, Jonathan Mosley

**2015-16 Record:** 24-7 (Elite Eight in AAAA)

**Team Overview:** Coach Aaron Parr has built St. Pius into one of the finest overall programs in Georgia. Last season was the third consecutive season in which the Lions won at least twenty-four games and advanced deep into the State Tournament. Despite graduating a talented senior class, St. Pius has big expectations for this season and is expected to again be one of the State's elite teams in Class AAAA. **Carson Seramur** (6' 2, Guard, 2017) is the team's returning leading scorer from a year ago and will provide strong leadership. Talented point guard **Matthew Gonzalo** (5' 9, PG, 2019) led the team in assists as a freshman a year ago and is one of the top guards in Georgia's 2019 class. Sharpshooter **Christian Mattei** (6' 4, 2018) will bring firepower from the perimeter while **Everett Lane** (6' 2, Wing, 2018) brings a well-rounded skill set and scoring punch. Look for newcomer **Kennedy Willis** (6' 7, Wing, 2018) to provide length and versatility on both ends of the floor.

### Hillgrove

**Mascot:** Hawks

**Head Coach:** Ed Morris

**Assistant Coaches:** Spencer Bernstein, Keyon Boyd, Guy Catton, Luqman Salam

**2015-16 Record:** 14-14

**Team Overview:** Over the past decade, very few programs have experienced the consistent success that Hillgrove has. Under the leadership of Coach Ed Morris, the Hawks have made the State Tournament each of the past nine consecutive years; including three Elite 8 finishes and an appearance in the AAAAAA Final in 2013. As usual, look for this year's squad to be disciplined and very well coached. Perimeter play will be a strength and the expected go-to-guy will be Senior **Demeirre Black** (6' 1, Guard, 2017). Black averaged 19 ppg and 6 boards per game as a Junior a year ago while shooting 42% from beyond the arc. Fellow Seniors **Antoine Jones** (5' 10, PG, 2017) and **Trey Stephens** (6' 2, SG, 2017) are also expected to play major roles, providing playmaking and leadership for the Hawks.

### South Paulding

**Mascot:** Spartans

**Head Coach:** Gil Davis

**Assistant Coaches:** Jason Smith, Kip Dyer

**2015-16 Record:** 25-5 ("Elite 8" in AAAAA)

**Team Overview:** Coach Gil Davis has built a stellar program at South Paulding. The Spartans have won a combined 69 games (average of 23 wins per year) over the past three seasons, including advancement to the Elite Eight last season. Excitement is sky high for this season, as South Paulding is considered a strong State Championship contender in Class AAAAAA. They return a very talented, deep, and experienced senior group with great chemistry. Leading the way will be super talented four year starter **Kane Williams** (6' 4, CG, 2017). Williams is one of the State's top 2017 prospects and has signed early with Georgia State. Wing forward **Jacori Wilson** (6' 7, Forward, 2017) is a versatile and high potential prospect that is being courted by numerous Division I programs. **Drew Shepard** (6' 0, CG, 2017) is a skilled guard with a big motor and **DJ Jackson** (5' 6, PG, 2017) is a super quick sparkplug that will anchor the backcourt. **Jordan Burge** (6' 7, Forward, 2017) will provide good interior rebounding and presence; while fellow Senior **Parker Berry** (5' 11, SG, 2017) will also be a strong contributor on the perimeter.

### North Cobb Christian

**Mascot:** Eagles

**Head Coach:** Greg Matta

**Assistant Coaches:** Keith Bollinger, Mike Timms, Mike Guzman, Michael Matta

**2015-16 Record:** 23-5; (Elite 8 in A-Private)

**Team Overview:** Under the leadership of Head Coach Greg Matta, North Cobb Christian has annually been one of the top high school programs in Georgia regardless of class. This year will be no different as the Eagles boost a talented and experienced group that is Preseason ranked #2 in the State's very competitive Class A Private School classification. **Demiere Brown** (6' 6, Wing, 2017), who was named All-Region as a Junior, is a talented Prospect with impressive combination of size, strength, skill, and athleticism. Senior **Will Crumley** (6' 9, Wing, 2017) is also a returning All-Region wing with great size and shooting ability. He is also an elite academic student in the classroom. **Mo Merritt** (6' 8, Forward, 2017) is an athletic big man with excellent upside whose best basketball is ahead of him. **Hunter Norman** (5' 10, PG, 2018) is a heady and skilled lead guard; while fellow Junior **Myles Hamilton** (6' 3, SG, 2018) is also a player to watch.

### **Blessed Trinity**

**Mascot:** Titans

**Head Coach:** Patrick Hughes

**Assistant Coaches:** Mark Moses & Tyler Cerone

**2015-16 Record:** 13-14

**Team Overview:** Blessed Trinity has participated in the SEBA Hoop Festival all nine years of the event's existence. The Titans are looking to return to their spot as one of the top teams in their Class, a position they have held for the better part of the past decade. Head Coach Patrick Hughes, now in his third year, will have his squad playing their fundamentally sound and disciplined brand of basketball. Leading the way will be Senior standout **Kyle Swade** (6' 3, SG, 2017). Swade is a returning All-Region selection and three year starter who can create his shot very well and score in bunches. **Ben Shappard** (6' 3, Wing, 2018) will bring inside-out scoring ability and experience. **CJ Abrams** (6' 1, Guard, 2019) is an athletic guard who will look to build upon the strong season he had last season while averaging just under 10 ppg as a freshman.

### **Pope**

**Mascot:** Greyhounds

**Head Coach:** Pat Abney

**Assistant Coaches:** Bill Blythe, Tanner Burnett, Nick Anderson, Cameron Fitch

**2015-16 Record:** 14-14; State Playoffs

**Team Overview:** Under Coach Pat Abney's leadership, Pope enjoyed a fantastic run between 2012 and 2015 where they were one of the state's top overall teams. After graduating a stellar senior group in 2015, last year was somewhat of a rebuilding year as the Greyhound squad had many talented, but inexperienced, players stepping up into new roles. That experience should pay off this year for Pope, as they look to be a strong contender for the Class AAAAAA Region 7 Championship. Senior **Alex Watson** (6' 2, PG, 2017) is a talented prospect that will be the team's go-to scorer. He is coming off an All-Region season in which he averaged 16 ppg and 4 assists a year ago. **Jackson Baylark** (6' 4, Forward, 2018) is a high rising athlete who finishes well around the rim and is a strong interior defender and shot blocker. **Jared Miller**, a Notre Dame signee in baseball, will provide court awareness and offensive production on the perimeter along with fellow guard **John Luttrell** (6' 0, 2018). Sophomores **Micah Paulk** and **Ryan Billing** are also both expected to contribute in the Greyhound attack.

### **McEachern**

**Mascot:** Indians

**Head Coach:** Mike Thompson

**Assistant Coaches:** Clint Smith, Bryan Minish, & Koz Richards

**2015-16 Record:** 26-4; (Elite Eight in AAAAAA)

**Team Overview:** McEachern is an annual powerhouse in Georgia's largest classification and went a

perfect 14-0 in Region play last season. Expectations are no different this year as Coach Mike Thompson has a roster full of exceptional young talent that will be one of the State's top teams in Class AAAAAA. **Isaac Okoro** (6' 5, SG, 2019) is a nationally ranked prospect with excellent potential. Okoro, who currently holds scholarship offers from numerous ACC/SEC programs, looks to build upon strong freshman year he had a year ago and take the reins of leadership for the Indians. **Babatunde Akingbola** (6' 8, Forward, 2019) is an athletic and long forward with fantastic upside who is also receiving National attention and Major Division I interest. Freshman Point Guard **Sharife Cooper** (5' 9, PG, 2020) is a talented playmaker who plays with great vision and poise and is considered one of the State's top guard prospects in the 2020 class. **Brandon Suggs** (6' 6, Forward, 2018) will bring additional size and athleticism to the Indian frontcourt.

### Lithonia

**Mascot:** Bulldogs

**Head Coach:** Wallace Corker

**Assistant Coaches:** Donald Corker, Samuel Marion, Chad Jackson

**2015-16 Record:** 27-4 (Final 4 in AAAA)

**Team Overview:** Lithonia had a tremendous season in 2015-16 as they won 27 games, spent time ranked # 1 in the State, and advanced to the Final 4 in Class AAAA. The Bulldogs graduated a very talented group of seniors from that team; however, Coach Wallace Corker is excited about the young talent he has looking to step up and make their mark this year. Lithonia has a deep and athletic roster and will play with their trademark high intensity. Look for Senior Guards **Robert Hatchett** (6' 1, 2017) and **Cortez Robinson** (5' 11, PG, 2017) to bring high athleticism and leadership for the Bulldogs.

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