



They were supposed to be too small. Too ineffectual. They weren't supposed to start the season with seven straight wins, or become the team's biggest threat in the state. They were supposed to be much competition after graduating seven seasons the previous year. But when his boys' basketball dome what they are supposed to do?

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### "THESE GUYS ALL REALLY LIKE EACH OTHER"

- BILL GUNN, COACH

that relationship that they've built, that's the most important factor to this year's success."

Travis Lien and Jack Kanzier, the only seniors to put on the red and white jerseys this season, Jack said his role had definitely changed from previous years. "I think I'm definitely a captain title that goes to his name."

"I think I'm definitely a leader of the team this year. Last year I was more of a role player and now I'm the star player. I'm a starter and a captain of the team. I'm working hard and that we're having good

is 1-0-1. With Dumire, he was at about 2.5 to a 1, an incredible number to go with his astonishing post line. The game was for them when Dumire was on the court, and how he made the game look just like that a game. "Playing alongside Dumire is ridiculous. Honestly, it's like playing alongside an incredible player and he's going to do big things in basketball. That kid is something special, and it's definitely an honor to be playing next to him."

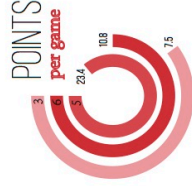
Dumire said a big goal of his was to win them in front of the home crowd a final send off for the three seniors who shared their last season in the midst of seven seasons. "I'm a senior, two freshmen—and a team captain. It's going to be hard not playing basketball again after this year but it's also my last season with a lot of people. I'm going to make a good season and I'm looking forward to what our outcome will be."

story by Matthew Connolly  
design by Grace Wojcikowski



## Leading the team

Below are statistics of the season with averages of six varsity players.



VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL • 087

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As the duo prepares for action against McCluer North High School to resume, Damien Loyd, Phipps, the only freshman starter on the team Jan. 13. Jaylen, an awardee to varsity basketball, said the older players helped guide him to become a veteran on the court. "Damien is my biggest mentor," Jaylen said. "The appreciation I have taught me a lot about how to be a player. I'm on the court they teach me different things like moves and what I should do."

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