

Future IU, U of L and UK stars on display at Floyd Central

Written by George Browning
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The Night of the Future Stars, the premier event of roundball activities of the Kentucky Derby Festival will kick off at Floyd Central this year with some of the top basketball recruits in the country. On Thursday night, April 18th, 7:00 PM basketball fans will get a glimpse of future stars for our favorite teams on Floyd Central High School's court. The Horseshoe Foundation of Floyd County is pleased to be the title sponsor of this official Kentucky Derby Festival event to be held in southern Indiana.

The roster includes three McDonald's All-Americans, as well as Indiana University signees Devin Davis, Luke Fischer, Stanford Robinson, and Troy Williams, University of Louisville signees Anton Gill and Akoy Agau, Kentucky signee Derek Willis. Nearly all of the players scheduled to participate are ranked among the Top 50 nationally by recruiting services Rivals.com, Scout.com, and 247sports.com.

The following night, the players will also participate in the Basketball Classic on Friday, April 19th, 7:00 PM at Freedom Hall.

"It is great to have players committed to Indiana, Kentucky, and Louisville," said Mike Gandolfo and Keith Conrad, the event's co-recruiting chairs. "We were able to select and attract many of the best players in the country to complete the roster. The 2013 class is loaded with really good players who will put on a great show."

Some of the event's most exciting moments have come during the Slam Dunk, 2-on-2 contests and the 3-point Shootout. The competition also features an autograph-signing session immediately following the event. The Night of Future Stars is broadcast live on 99.7 WDJX FM.

Players such as Moses Malone, Jamal Mashburn, Derek Anderson, Rex Chapman, Dominique Wilkins, Pervis Ellison, Isaiah Thomas, Darrell Griffith and Dajuan Wagner have appeared in the Classic over time.

First held in 1973, the Derby Festival Basketball Classic is the oldest high school all-star game in the nation. The event is not unlike the NBA All-Star weekend, with spotlights and lively music. The Derby Festival Basketball Classic has showcased some of the nation's finest high school talent before the players move onto to stardom at the collegiate and professional levels.

Admission to both events is \$11 and \$16. Basketball Classic tickets on sale at all TicketMaster locations, www.ticketmaster.com, by calling (800) 745-3000 or the Freedom Hall box office at (502) 367-5144. Tickets can also be purchased at FCHS the evening of the event.