

Borden coach says team is too comfortable following state title run

Written by George Browning
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There is one of two ways a team can react after reaching the pinnacle of a state championship. The success can feed a hunger in returning players to get back to that point, or it can give a sense of entitlement.

Borden Head Coach Doc Nash said unfortunately for his team in the early going, they seem to be more on the latter end.

“We had a good summer,” Nash said. “We learned how to play together and got better from day one to when it ended. Now we’ve taken some steps backward. We have a few guys injured and a couple of guys quit us. We are basically starting from scratch, but that’s OK because we have guys who want to be here and want to be successful and put in the work that it takes.

“We’re going to be OK, it’s just going to take us some time to get to where we want to be.”

Borden enters the season with seven seniors, but Nash said he is still looking for leaders to step up.

Nash said of the seven seniors, only three played significant minutes on the varsity team last year.

“None of the three of them are vocal.” he said.

Outside of leadership concerns, Nash said his biggest concern with Xs and Os is putting the ball in the basket.

“We don’t have a lot of guys who can get their own shot or create things for other, so we will have to do it as a team,” he said. “. . . I think that’s where we’re going to struggle the most. I think we have guys who can make shots, but we don’t have anybody that can get their own sho

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ts.”

On the court a familiar name returns for the Braves, Garrett Vick.

Nash said another kid he expects to contribute is Zach Gillam.

“I think once he figures out how to slow down a little and realizes what we want, I think he is going to be pretty good for us,” he said.

Another player to watch out for is Cody Craddock and possibly Brian McGee.

Josh Vollstedt and Josh Ruedinger will also see significant time.

There won't be a lot of time for the Braves to go through growing pains.

Nash said he expects the Southern Athletic Conference to be as balanced as it has been in years with Lanesville and South Central returning a lot of players.

“Last year I thought we were a step ahead of everybody, but this year, not so much,” Nash said. ‘ This year I think we are all pretty well even. New Washington I think will be improved and surprise some people. Crothersville has some scorers coming back. Lanesville is always tough with Coach Miller's system and South Central has some returning kids. I think we are all in the same boat and are just trying to work hard and get better/

As far sectional goes, Nash said Christian Academy and Rock Creek will once again be two teams to watch out for.

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“Christian Academy and Rock Creek are head and shoulders above us all right now, but there is a lot of basketball to be played between now and sectional time,” Nash said. “We will see how we are and figure out something to do when that time comes.”

Borden’s recent postseason success puts them on the list of teams to watch as well, but the bullseye has never been bigger for the Braves.

Nash said he understands people will be gunning for them even harder now, but to him he embraces it because he wants to win every time he steps on the court.

“It is what it is, we will take one day at a time and get better and hopefully be in a position to advance in the postseason,” he said.

Borden opened the season Tuesday night against visiting Eastern. Results were not available at press time.

Follow the Braves and all the other Southern Indiana teams throughout the year at www.gbpnews.com.