

2015-16

I'M PEAKIN'

FRANK JACKSON

Highland (UT) Lone Peak 6-4, PG

DUKE'S 2016 recruiting class may go down as one of the best of all time, and when it's all said and done, point guard Frank Jackson could join Bobby Hurley, Jay Williams, Tyus Jones and Chris Duhon in Blue Devil floor general lore.

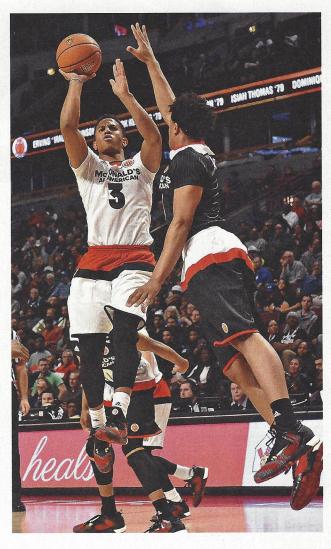
Joining SLAM diarist Jayson
Tatum, No. 1 recruit Harry Giles
and highly touted big men Marques
Bolden and Javin DeLaurier, plus
vets like Grayson Allen and Amile
Jefferson, the five-star recruit out of
Lone Peak High in Utah will be responsible for making sure everyone
gets touches.

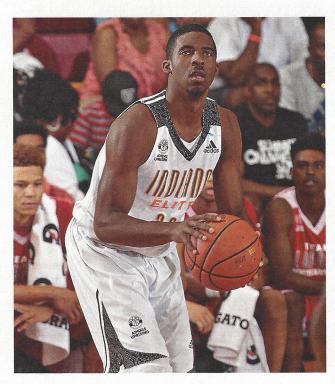
Playing the role of distributor will be a bit foreign to the 6-4 Jackson, since he can fill it up as well or better than anyone else on the loaded Blue Devils. The 2016 McDonald's High School All-American Game co-MVP and Slam Dunk Champion averaged 28 ppg as a senior and dropped 50-plus multiple times over the course of his high school career. His 2,079 career points rank sixth all-time in Utah prep history.

"Anywhere you go in college, you're going to have that tough transition because everyone was the best player on their high school team," says Jackson.

Coach K will surely let Jackson loose as the season progresses, and when paired with Allen, the two should form one of the highest-scoring backcourts in the country. As Jackson runs the show, the Duke will hit the ground running and are strong contenders to win their second title in three years.

"I wouldn't have come here if I didn't think we could gel together," he says, "and Coach K is going to do a great job leading us and guiding us on how to play together as a team."—Peter Walsh





TOO GOOD

OUENTIN GOODIN

Campbellsville (KY) Taylor County 6-3, G

THE GROWING TREND among Kentucky high school basketball players is to venture beyond state lines for their senior year, drawn by the national schedules and recruiting visibility offered at glossy prep programs. Quentin Goodin would be lying if he said the thought of leaving tiny Campbellsville never crossed his mind last summer, but the unfinished business he had at Taylor County High School ultimately won out.

Goodin has been the talk of his hometown ever since he was named a varsity starter as an eighth grader. Over his final two seasons, he and his teammates made Taylor County history by earning consecutive appearances in Kentucky's famed "Sweet Sixteen" state tournament.

He concluded his career in March as the school's all-time leading scorer with 2,968 points and was named the state's Gatorade Player of the Year. "Me staying here, playing at the school I've played at my whole life and making history, it meant a lot," says the 6-3 guard.

Now his focus has shifted to the bruising Big East schedule he will face next year as one of Chris Mack's Xavier Musketeers. "The competition pushes you, even in practice," says Goodin. "I'm going to get bullied but I'm going to get better."

Taylor County Coach Richard Gatewood calls his graduating star loyal and coachable—"just a great small-town story." Although the adjustment from Campbellsville to Cincinnati is one he's prepared for, Goodin admits, "I'll miss running into people I've known my whole life everywhere I go." —Jarrett Van Meter