

# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

## PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

- **5th Grade: Damian Perez (OnTapElite White)**- He can do it all on the basketball court one of the best in the class. **Rio Mulford (Salt City Hustle 2033)** the long-range 3pt shooter is a player you can't give an inch. Teams are already face guarding him once he steps across half court. He is #2 in 3pt makes.
- **6th Grade: Bodie Stokes (Uptempo)**- The very skilled guard was hard to stop all day with a game high 27pts. **Camden Cutler (The Peak)**-The big man has been consistent all year leading his team to a surprising 12-2 record.
- **7th Grade: Ethan Archibald (DC Elite)** Quietly leading his team into the playoffs in the highly competitive North division. **Clinton Pierce (Utah Rise)** the heady point guard seems to always make the right play-knock down a 3 or make the great assist. One of the best floor generals in the class.
- **8th Grade: Tristen Johnson (OnTapElite 8<sup>th</sup> White)**- Tristen many believe has the most potential of any player in the league. He gets better every week and do not be surprised if you see him playing big time College ball.

**Honorable Mentions:** Cole Rippe(Uptempo), Liam Lazarus(LE Strikers), Crew Croque(The Peak), Robbie Cannon(Team BWill), Nohea Young(Team BWill), Crete Smith(Idaho Flite), Owen Hill(Utah Hoops), Tieg McClure(Heat Check), Josh James(Invictus), Cole Olyler(Utah Blitz), Logan Beckstrand(Utah Stealth), Luke Ridge(Utah Stars), Boston Crocket(Dream Team), Gunner Gardner(Utah Future) Jonah Parrish(Team Utah), Julian Flores(Uptempo), Bennett Webb(Mtn Stars), Boston Pace(Dream Team)

**Super Saturday:** The best games of the year were played this past week-end.

- 5th-Real Athlete (Future) holds of Uptempo in a possible preview of the 5th grade Championship.
- 6th-Utah Stealth takes down the surging Real Athlete 6th(Future) in a classic game of heavy weights
- 7th-Utah Magic beats undefeated Heat Check and Utah Rise continues to prove they are among the best take down hot shooting Utah Blitz.
- 8th-Utah Stars Future's hot streak continues as they beat South Division leading Stealth but then Stealth bounces back and takes down Utah Prospects.

## Coaches Corner:

"Stack Days-String together good practices and games to build momentum" Kevin Young BYU Basketball Coach

## TEAM SPOTLIGHT

**All Teams:** Congrats to All the teams who played this year. We've seen incredibly high-level basketball all season long, and the coaching has been absolutely top-tier. The growth, effort, and competitiveness from every team have made this one of the most impressive seasons yet.

I couldn't be more impressed with this group – from the players who left everything on the court to the coaches who prepared them so well. You've all raised the standard, and it's been a privilege to watch.

## KEY MATCHUPS – FEB 28TH

### **5th Grade:**

#### **Team BWill vs Salt City Hustle 2033 Select**

Playoff off seedings is still critical in this key matchup before the playoffs.

### **6th Grade:**

#### **Utah Stars vs Team Utah 6th**

Both teams currently hanging on to playoff spots needs to keeping winning.

### **7th Grade:**

#### **Utah Blitz vs Lockdown**

This could be a preview of the first round of the playoffs. Both teams need to keep winning for favorable playoffs seeding

### **8th Grade:**

#### **South Valley vs DC Heat**

The winner of this game likely earns a spot in the playoffs with the loser outside looking in.

## Former Player Shout-Outs

**Richie Saunders (BYU)** Wishing Richie all the best in his recovery from ACL surgery.

**Malik Sika (Westlake)** The All-State football player can hoop as well, as he leads his team into the state playoffs as one of the favorites to win it all.

## FINAL THOUGHTS

Regular season ends next week. We want to thank everyone who participated and help support the Youngblood League. We are the most competitive league in the state and are thankful so many teams want to participate in our league. I hate to say it but teams are already reaching out hoping to be invited to play next season.