



## Illinois Signees Shine In All-Star Game



Brandon Paul

By [Nate Latsch](#)

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While one Big Ten Conference team was punching its ticket to the national championship game on Saturday night, three members of University of Illinois coach Bruce Weber's incoming recruiting class were putting on a show at the eighth annual Riverwar All-Star Basketball Game in St. Louis.

The event featured three games at Harris-Stowe State University's Emerson Arena: a Missouri vs. Illinois girls game, a boys game matching teams from St. Louis and St. Charles and then the showcase game featuring all-star squads from Missouri and Illinois.

The Riverwar game included 12 players who have signed with Division I schools, but the best of the best on this night was Illinois signee [Brandon Paul](#) of Warren High School.

Paul scored 37 points, which tied the event record, and led the Illinois squad to a 153-134 victory. The 6-foot-2 guard was named his team's most valuable player after throwing down 10 dunks and making three 3-pointers. He even took a charge in the third quarter.

The MVP for the Missouri squad was Illinois signee [Tyler Griffey](#), a forward from Lafayette High School in suburban St. Louis who scored 32 points and knocked down three 3-pointers.

Eight of the nine players on the Illinois team scored in double figures.

Illinois State recruit [Terry Johnson](#) scored 18 points, including three 3-pointers. [Jordan Walker](#) of Seton Academy scored 18, with four dunks. Illinois State signee Zeke Upshaw scored 17. [Bradley](#) signee [Jordan Prosser](#) of Eureka High scored 16. Dwayne Hamiel of Lovejoy High scored 15, with three 3-pointers. Southern Illinois-Edwardsville signee Brock Von Nordeck scored 14. Illinois signee [Joseph Bertrand](#), who dazzled the crowd by winning the slam dunk contest earlier, scored 12 points.

The Missouri squad had six players in double figures.

Poplar Bluff High guard [Riley Raulston](#), who has committed to Highland Community College in Illinois, scored 23 points on five dunks and three 3-pointers. University of [Minnesota](#) football signee [Bryant Allen](#), who recently led Maplewood-Richmond Heights High School to its second straight Missouri Class 3 championship, had 15 points with three 3-pointers. Wisconsin-Milwaukee signee [Lonnie Boga](#) added 14 points. Missouri State signee [Jerome Jones](#) had 13 points. Hazelwood Central High forward Connell Crossland scored 10. Toledo signee [Jordan Dressler](#) added eight points.

In the earlier game, the St. Louis squad — despite playing with only seven players — defeated the St. Charles team 138-120.

Leading the victorious side were co-most valuable players [Bobby Peebles](#) and De'Shaun Cooper. Peebles, from McCluer North High, scored a game-high 36 points and made six 3-pointers. Cooper, a dynamic 5-7 point guard from Jennings High, finished with 31 points and seven 3-pointers.

McCluer's Jerrel Partlow scored 17 points in the win, while Parkway South's [Ben Hoener](#) and DeSmet's Nate Kroeker added 15 points apiece and McCluer North's LeAndre Johnson had 12.

Hillsboro's Kevin Kramer was named the St. Charles MVP after scoring a team-best 22 points. [Northern Iowa](#) football signee B.J. Ray, from Waynesville High, had 18 points. [Sean Duff](#) of Borgia, which recently won the Missouri Class 4 championship, had 15 points. Brandon McCann of Bowling Green had 10.

For more information on the Riverwar All-Star Game, go to [www.Showtymebasketball.com](http://www.Showtymebasketball.com) or [www.RiverwarAllStarGame.com](http://www.RiverwarAllStarGame.com).



Tyler Griffey

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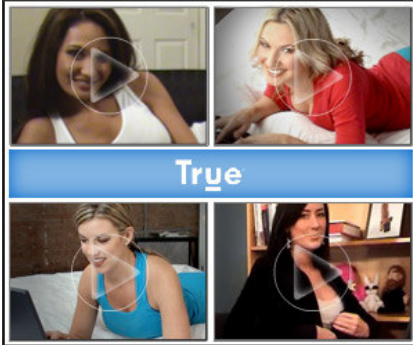
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