

Retro Mr. Basketball

The Minnesota Mr. Basketball award began in 1975. Below are our picks for our mythical “Mr. Basketball” prior to 1975, including our top finalists for those years for which sufficient information has enabled us to make such picks.

Year	Our Mythical “Mr. Basketball”	Our Other Finalists
1900-1901	<p>George Tuck, Minneapolis Central, C</p> <p>Minneapolis Central was Minnesota’s first great high school basketball team, and they were led by center George Tuck. Tuck also played with a YMCA team, the Victors. Red Wing’s elite men’s team won 50 home games while losing once between 1901 and 1907. That one loss was to Tuck and the Victors. In 1902 Tuck became a Minnesota Gopher and the Gophers were regarded as America’s best team. In 1905 he was the Gopher’s first all-American.</p>	
1911	<p>Ray “Slip” Little, Madison, G</p> <p>Madison ran the gamut from A to Z, beating the self-proclaimed champions of southern Minnesota, Zumbrota, and then the similarly-self proclaimed champions of northern Minnesota, Ada, in a pair of match games, whereupon Madison claimed the Minnesota state championship.6y</p>	

1913	<p>“Bunk” Harris, Duluth Central, F</p> <p>Harris earned all-America honors at the national tournament in Chicago. He was also star of the men’s team from the Duluth Boat Club, the best men’s team in the Arrowhead with a 7-1 record.</p>	<p>Peter Guenther, Mountain Lake, C</p> <p>Albert Hanson, Fosston, C</p> <p>Lars Rue, Fosston, G</p> <p>Curt Timm, Plainview, F</p>
1914	<p>Harold Gillen, Stillwater, F</p> <p>Stillwater’s Harold Gillen went on to earn all-America honors at Minnesota. He is one of just three men to win a Minnesota state high school championship and a Big Ten title as a Gopher.</p>	<p>Bud Balzer, Mountain Lake</p> <p>Ronald Parkhurst, Stillwater, F</p> <p>Ralph Movold, Fosston</p> <p>Willis Parr, Winona, F</p>
1915	<p>Raymond Hanson, Red Wing, C</p> <p>Hanson was Red Wing’s player-coach. He was DQ from playing in the state tournament, however, due to an acquaintance with beer. Red Wing won the state title without him. He went on to a 35+ year career as coach and AD at Western Illinois as well as a distinguished career as a U.S. Marine.</p>	<p>Neal Arntson, Red Wing, F</p> <p>Gerhard “Shorty” Heibert, Mountain Lake, F</p> <p>Louis Nordly, Red Wing, F</p> <p>Tanner, Bemidji, C</p>
1916	<p>Harold Cusson, Virginia, F</p> <p>Cusson was the state tournament’s leading scorer and was regarded as its best player.</p>	<p>Dugan, Austin, C</p> <p>Paper, St. Paul Mechanic Arts</p> <p>William Rooney, Virginia, C</p> <p>Lawrence Wengert, Austin, F</p>
1917	<p>Fred Enke, Rochester, G</p> <p>Rochester was also DQ from the 1915</p>	<p>Neal Bay, Rochester, F</p> <p>Carlson, St. Cloud, F</p>

	<p>tournament due to a liquor violation. Most of the same players came back to win the 1917 title. They are the only team in tournament history to place all 5 starters on the all-tournament team. Enke went on to win all-Big 10 honors at Minnesota, and then to coach the U of Arizona for 36 years.</p>	<p>Lester Kitzmann, Rochester, G J. Rooney, Virginia, C</p>
1918	<p>Albert Tousley, St. Paul Humboldt, F Led the St. Paul City conference in scoring.</p>	<p>E. Juhnke, Waseca, G Lester Juhnke, Waseca, F O'Neil, Duluth Central, F Elgar Thune, Albert Lea, C</p>
1919	<p>Carl Nordly, Red Wing, F The best of 4 brothers to play in the state tournament, but the only one who did not make all-tournament and the only one who did not play in the state final.</p>	<p>Gordy Malmer, Albert Lea, F Rahja, Chisholm, F Leonard Thune, Albert Lea, C Clifford "Pat" Wyman, Waseca, G</p>
1920	<p>Frank Cleve, Minneapolis South, C Cleve went on to greater fame as a coach at Concordia (Moorhead) and Minneapolis Patrick Henry. He taught Jim McIntyre how to play basketball, and he was the first coach ever elected to the MN Football Coaches Hall of Fame.</p>	<p>Finley, Faribault, G Harrigan, Virginia, F Hooley, Stillwater, G Lloyd, Mankato, F</p>
1921	<p>Martin Norton, Minneapolis Central, F Norton led Central to the state title in 1921. He set scoring records that were broken by Jim McIntyre in 1944 and by Cody Schilling</p>	<p>Chauncey Fleckenstein, Faribault, C Doc Hamann, New Ulm, F Carl Lidberg, Red Wing, F Pud Moore, Minneapolis Central, G</p>

	in 2008. Halsey Hall picked him to his all-time all-tournament five 40 years later.	
1922	<p>“Butsie” Maetzold, Red Wing, G</p> <p>Maetzold led Red Wing to the 1920 and 1922 state titles. In 1921, two of his teammates were sick with the flu. He always said they would have won a three-peat otherwise. He was four times all-state at Hamline, then one of Minnesota’s greatest basketball and football coaches at Hopkins.</p>	<p>Joe Benda, Duluth Cathedral, F</p> <p>Chester Hendrickson, Madison, F</p> <p>Oliver Nordly, Red Wing, F</p> <p>Ray “Black” Rasey, St. Paul Central, F</p>
1923	<p>Matt Turk, Aurora, F</p> <p>Most sources agree that DanColovic was Aurora’s star in the state tournament, but Turk was not only the team’s captain but also its leading scorer.</p>	<p>Leon Coggins, Austin, F</p> <p>William “Crash” Craddock, Rochester, F</p> <p>Peter DanColovic, Aurora, C</p> <p>Edgar Paschkli, Blue Earth, G</p>
1924	<p>Mally Nydahl, Minneapolis South, G</p> <p>Two Harbors defeated Minneapolis South in the state final. It was considered to be a huge upset largely because of the brilliance of Mally Nydahl, who went on to play football and basketball at Minnesota.</p>	<p>Herman Anderson, Two Harbors, G</p> <p>Lawrence Gassor, St. Cloud, F</p> <p>Howard Johnson, Two Harbors, C</p> <p>Earl Wambick, Moorhead, F</p>
1925	<p>Ted Catlin, Buffalo, G</p> <p>Catlin led Buffalo to the runners-up position to champion St. Paul Mechanic Arts in the state tournament.</p>	<p>Fred Krampf, Faribault, F</p> <p>H. Meyer, Hitterdal</p> <p>John Matyas, New Prague</p> <p>Louis Trautman, Mechanic Arts</p>
1926	<p>Bennie Lichtenegger, Gaylord, F</p>	<p>Johnny Mestnick, Gilbert, G</p>

	Lichtenegger led the state tournament scoring, and led Gaylord to 7 straight upset wins and the state title.	Nelson, Brewster, F Ray Nelson, St. Paul Mechanic Arts, C Thompson, Buffalo, F
1927	Otto Rortvedt, Henning, C Rortvedt, described as a "giant," led Henning to the championship of the 5 th and final Class B (technically the "Graded" or "Department") tournament.	Steve Eddy, Excelsior, F Lefty Hildebrand, Faribault, F Harold Schoening, Appleton, F Artie Tverra, Minneapolis South, F
1928	Cliff Halmrast, Moorhead, F Halmrast was the leading scorer and led Moorhead to its first title in the state tournament.	Freeman, Moorhead, F Ray Petroske, Minneapolis Edison, G Wayne Reber, Northfield, C Harold Risch, Appleton, F
1929	Steve Smrekar, Ely, F Smrekar led all scorers in the state tournament as Ely won the consolation championship.	Goodelen, Hendricks, F Harold "Tubby" Nordly, Red Wing, F Wilburn Olson, Red Wing, C Art Swenson, St. Paul Johnson, F
1930	(tie) Pat Hilde, F, and Earl Moran, G, Moorhead Hilde was Moorhead's best player throughout the season, but he was ineligible to play in the state tournament as he had turned 20 years of age. At that point, Moran took over and became the first boy to win all-tournament honors 3 times though Moorhead was shocked by St. Paul Mechanic Arts in the final.	James Delmont, St. Paul Mechanic Arts, F Don Laidlaw, Redwood Falls, F Shorty Malvey, Moorhead, F Billy McLeod, Minneapolis South, F

1931	<p>Ray Buffalo, DeLaSalle, C</p> <p>Buffalo starred as DeLaSalle swept 5 games to win the national Catholic championship.</p>	<p>LeRoy Karstens, Glencoe, G</p> <p>Joe Malkovich, Chisholm, G</p> <p>Wilbur "Bud" Marquard, Moorhead, C</p> <p>Chester Thompson, Buffalo, F</p>
1932	<p>O.J. Belluzzo, Chisholm, G</p> <p>Belluzzo led Chisholm to the state tournament where they lost to Thief River Falls 21-15 in the final.</p>	<p>Lloyd Aanstad, Thief River Falls, C</p> <p>John Chommie, Thief River Falls, G</p> <p>George "Stinky" Davies, Winona, F</p> <p>Joe Petrich, Crosby-Ironton, F</p>
1933	<p>Art Lillyblad, Red Wing, G</p> <p>Lillyblad led Red Wing to the state title and would later start for the Minnesota Gophers.</p>	<p>Don Griffin, Minneapolis North, F</p> <p>Everett Hanson, Mountain Lake, C</p> <p>Dick Seebach, Red Wing, G</p> <p>Bill Smith, Brainerd, C</p>
1934	<p>Marty Rolek, Minneapolis Edison, G</p> <p>Rolek was an offensive-minded, ball-handling specialist, a precursor of the modern point guard. After his high school season, he joined the Dominiums, a senior men's team that had never won anything, and led them to the state championship against a field consisting mostly of former college players. In 1937 he led the Minnesota Gophers to a Big Ten title while earning all-America honors.</p>	<p>Gordon Burich, Chisholm, C</p> <p>Wendell "Buzzy" Gray, Cass Lake, F</p> <p>Bob Manly, Cretin, C</p> <p>Louis Sullivan, St. Paul Mechanic Arts, C</p>
1935	<p>Marvin Vernstrom, St. Paul Humboldt, F</p> <p>Led the St. Paul City conference in scoring, and led Humboldt to the state tournament where they finished 6th.</p>	<p>Art Hanson, Austin, F</p> <p>George Lindner, Glencoe, G</p> <p>Paul Maki, Aurora, G</p> <p>Kennard Skyberg, Luverne, F</p>

1936	<p>Johnny Dick, Buhl, F</p> <p>Buhl shocked Minneapolis Edison in the 1st round of state tournament play, then was shocked themselves by Wadena in the semi-final. Buhl finished 3rd and Dick was afforded a standing ovation when he left the floor late in that game. He was regarded as one of the greatest players to play in the tournament to that time.</p>	<p>Myrvin DeLapp, Luverne, F</p> <p>Norm Galloway, Bemidji, C</p> <p>Velko Rajacich, Buhl, F</p> <p>Schuller, Wadena, C</p>
1937	<p>Willie Warhol, Minneapolis Edison, G</p> <p>Edison was widely regarded as the best team to play in the state tournament to that time.</p>	<p>John Barger, Farmington, F</p> <p>Tommy Connor, Virginia, F</p> <p>John Frahm, Triumph-Monterrey, F</p> <p>Clint Wager, Winona, C</p>
1938	<p>John Norlander, Virginia, C</p> <p>Norlander led Virginia to the 1937 and 1938 state tournaments where the team set several scoring records. Norlander was overshadowed at state by teammate Nick Pepelnjak, however.</p>	<p>Dick Burk, Minneapolis North, F</p> <p>Swede Carlson, Minneapolis Edison, F</p> <p>Arnie Johnson, Gonvick, C</p> <p>Nick Pepelnjak, Virginia, F</p>
1939	<p>Ruben Epp, Mountain Lake, G</p> <p>Epp led Mountain Lake to the state title and later played for the Minnesota Gophers.</p>	<p>Lou Bozich, Gilbert, F</p> <p>Willard Rempel, Mountain Lake, G</p> <p>Nick Vujovick, South St. Paul, F</p> <p>Wes Windmiller, Fergus Falls, F</p>
1940	<p>Tony Jaros, Minneapolis Edison, F</p> <p>This was a monstrous class. Jaros was among the best ever to that time, breaking</p>	<p>Orlando Bonicelli, Chisholm, G</p> <p>Donald "Red" Mattson, Minneapolis</p> <p>Marshall, C</p>

	<p>almost every scoring record in the Minneapolis City Conference. Schultz of course played for the Brooklyn Dodgers, not to mention the Hamline basketball team. Mattson played at the U. Bonicelli played college ball at Notre Dame. Ruud led his team, improbably, to the state title this year. But if they played it 10 times, Minneapolis Marshall would have won 5. Minneapolis Marshall in fact won the championship of Minnesota's toughest conference in 1939 and 1940, and was favored to win the state title each year. They lost 2 huge upsets to Mountain Lake (1939) and Breckenridge (1940).</p>	<p>Mel Ruud, Breckenridge, F Howie Schultz, St. Paul Central, C</p>
1941	<p>Dave Ruliffson, Minneapolis Washburn, F Ruliffson led Washburn to the City conference title and the state tournament and, like Red Mattson, went on to play for the Gophers.</p>	<p>Kleggie Hermsen, Minneapolis Vocational, C Jim Lewison, Owatonna, C Dick McWaters, Red Wing, F Jay "Junior" "Spike" Skoglund, Hopkins, F</p>
1942	<p>John Klarich, Buhl , F Buhl repeated as state champion with a 28-0 record. In 1941, center Ed Nylund had been their star. Now Klarich took over.</p>	<p>Jack Hiller, Marshall, F Jack Johnson, St. Paul Mechanic Arts, F Ed Nylund, Buhl, C Wally Salovich, Minneapolis Marshall, F</p>
1943	<p>Hal Haskins, Alexandria, C Haskins was Minnesota's first 1,000-point scorer, and set a state tournament record of 19 ppg.</p>	<p>Dick Furey, St. Paul Humboldt Dick Kaess, St. Paul Washington, G Bill Madden, Cretin, G Stewart Skoglund, Hopkins, F</p>

1944	<p>Duane “Dewey” Nelson, Mankato, F</p> <p>Nelson led Mankato to the Big 9 title and to the state tournament, where they got clobbered by Jim McIntyre and Patrick Henry 48-18. Nelson went on to play at Mankato State, where he is in the Hall of Fame.</p>	<p>Pat Geraghty, Austin, G</p> <p>Leroy Hardeman, Minneapolis South, G</p> <p>Ed Jacobson, Crosby-Ironton, C</p> <p>Ed Kernan, Two Harbors, G</p>
1945	<p>Jim McIntyre, Minneapolis Patrick Henry, C</p> <p>The state tournament record for points in a game coming into the 1944 tournament was 27. McIntyre scored 29 points in his first tournament game, then 36 and 43 in the 1944 and 1945 state finals. The record for points per game in a tournament was 19. McIntyre scored 29 and then 33. He shot 54 percent in the 1945 final at a time when 25 percent was regarded as a pretty good percentage.</p>	<p>Jim Korth, Mankato Loyola, C</p> <p>Bob Leiviska, Virginia, G</p> <p>Vern Mikkelsen, Askov, C</p> <p>Don Olson, Mankato, F</p>
1946	<p>Jim Malosky, Crosby-Ironton, G</p> <p>Malosky played in 3 state tournaments, and went on to star in football at UMD. Ken Novak, Sr., called him the toughest player he ever saw.</p>	<p>Don Avikainen, Tower-Soudan, F</p> <p>Don Gruber, New Ulm Holy Trinity, F</p> <p>Duane Londgren, Lynd, F</p> <p>Dick Ravenhorst, Austin, C</p>
1947	<p>Rudy Monson, Duluth Denfeld, C</p> <p>Monson was the next great low post after Jim McIntyre. He led Denfeld to the state title and later starred at UMD.</p>	<p>Dave Hegna, Granite Falls, C</p> <p>Herb Mickelson, Canby, C</p> <p>Ken Novak, Crosby-Ironton, G</p> <p>Ray Wall, Mountain Lake, C</p>

1948	<p>Virgil Miller, Hopkins, F</p> <p>Miller led Hopkins to 2nd place in the state tournament, then played ball at the U of M.</p>	<p>Don Jacobson, Crosby-Ironton, C</p> <p>Lawrence Krause, Waseca, C</p> <p>Don Reimer, Mountain Lake, G</p> <p>Wesley Sabourin, Bemidji, C</p>
1949	<p>Milan Knezovich, Hibbing, C</p> <p>The toughest choice ever. Fritsche led the St. Paul Conference in scoring twice and led Humboldt to the state title. And Minneapolis Central beat Hibbing 37-34 in the 1st round, then lost to Humboldt 53-47 in the semi. Still, Knezovich was the state's all-time leading scorer at the end of the season with more than 1,400 points.</p>	<p>"Shorty" Cochrane, Rochester, F</p> <p>Neil Fedson, Lyle, F</p> <p>Jim Fritsche, St. Paul Humboldt, C</p> <p>Chuck Grover, Bemidji, F</p>
1950	<p>Don Dale, Robbinsdale, C</p> <p>Dale scored 80 points, 2nd only to Jim McIntyre, and led Robbinsdale to 2nd place in the state tournament.</p>	<p>Charles "Buzz" Bennett, Duluth Central , G</p> <p>Pete Castle, Anoka , C</p> <p>Ron Dreas, Winona Cotter, F</p> <p>Irwin St. John, Bemidji, F</p>
1951	<p>Bill Simonovich, Gilbert, C</p> <p>Halldorson, Horan and Simonovich was by far the greatest trio of posts to this time and maybe ever. Horan led St. Thomas to a 29-0 record and became Dayton's all-time leading rebounder. Halldorson had by far the best post-high school career, but Gilbert beat Austin at state as Simonovich outscored Halldorson by an improbable margin of 35-4.</p>	<p>Gene Auck, St. Paul Monroe, C</p> <p>Burdette "Burdie" Halldorson, Austin, C</p> <p>Johnny Horan, St. Thomas, C</p> <p>Ron Smith, Canby, F</p>

1952	<p>Jim Akason, Halstad, F</p> <p>A multi-sport star who broke Knezovich's career scoring record and led Halstad to 3rd place in the state tournament.</p>	<p>Vern Bagenstoss, Albany , C</p> <p>Maynard Meyers, Mountain Lake, C</p> <p>Ervin Mickelson, Canby, C</p> <p>Don and Dayle Rasmussen, Austin, G</p>
1953	<p>Dave Tschimperle, Hopkins, F</p> <p>Tschimperle was the second boy ever to win all-state tournament honors three times, and the third to lead the tournament in scoring twice. Hopkins won 2 state titles and a then-record of 65 straight games.</p>	<p>Jerry Dreier, St. Paul Marshall, C</p> <p>Leroy German, Madelia, F</p> <p>Omar Larson, Granite Falls, F</p> <p>Bernie Raetz, Red Wing, C</p>
1954	<p>Bob Anderstrom, Willmar, F</p> <p>Anderstrom was a high-scoring forward who led Willmar to the 1954 state tournament, where Willmar finished 5th and Anderstrom led the tournament in scoring. Later, he played 2 years of basketball for the Minnesota Gophers.</p>	<p>Joe Dufort, DeLaSalle, F</p> <p>Roger Lueck, Wellcome, G</p> <p>Shorty Patterson, Minneapolis North, F</p> <p>Rod Skoog, Brainerd, G</p>
1955	<p>Jerry Olson, Austin, F</p> <p>Olson may have been Austin's greatest player. He played in 3 state tournaments and won all-tournament honors twice. His Austin team came into the 1955 tournament unbeaten but lost to Minneapolis Washburn in the final.</p>	<p>Harold Bergstedt, Esko, C</p> <p>Stuart Hanson, Mpls. Washburn, G</p> <p>Warren Jeppeson, St. Louis Park, C</p> <p>Gordie Sundin, Mpls. Washburn, F</p>
1956	<p>Ron Johnson, New Prague, C</p> <p>Johnson shattered the state career scoring record by a staggering 500 points to finish</p>	<p>Larry Exel, Minneapolis Roosevelt, F</p> <p>Lee Hopfenspirger, Morgan 1956</p> <p>Del McClure, Montevideo, F</p>

	<p>with 2,190. He also set state tournament scoring records of 109 points in 1956, and 48 points in the third place game that year. He went on to earn all-America honors at Minnesota in 1959 and 1960.</p>	Virgil Sonju, Kennedy, F
1957	<p>Tom Nordland, Minneapolis Roosevelt, F</p> <p>Nordland led Roosevelt to 2 straight MSHSL state titles, leading the 1957 tournament in scoring with 84 points.</p>	<p>Jerry Butler, Minneapolis Roosevelt, G</p> <p>George Dean, Blue Earth, C</p> <p>Jon Hagen, Belview, G</p> <p>Paul Lehman, DeLaSalle, G</p>
1958	<p>Norm Grow, Foley, C</p> <p>On the completion of his high school career, Norm Grow held virtually every scoring and rebounding record known to Minnesota high school basketball. Some of his records stood for as many as 50 years. He played ball at the University of Minnesota.</p>	<p>Ray Cronk, Bemidji, F</p> <p>Orris Jirele, Austin Pacelli, G</p> <p>Steve Malmar, Red Wing, G</p> <p>Cal Sabatini, Hibbing, G</p>
1959	<p>Tom Kezar, Austin, G</p> <p>Kezar led Austin to the 1958 state title, then fell 3 points short against Wayzata in the 1959 semi-finals.</p>	<p>Clarence Burton, Minneapolis Central, F</p> <p>David Erickson, Duluth Cathedral, F</p> <p>Dick Peik, Brownton, G</p> <p>John Pierson, Carlton, F</p>
1960	<p>Bill Davis, Richfield, C</p> <p>Davis led Richfield into the state tournament where they lost 63-60 in OT to Edgerton in a classic game. It was the first time 2 1,000-point scorers had faced each other in the state tournament (Davis and Edgerton's Dean Veenhof). Davis then set a tournament</p>	<p>Sid Bostic, Pipestone, F</p> <p>Merle McClung, Montevideo, F</p> <p>Clayton Reed, Austin, G</p> <p>Fred Schmeising, Walnut Grove, F</p>

	record with 50 points in the 3 rd place game.	
1961	<p>Terry Kunze, Duluth Central, G</p> <p>Kunze led Central to the state title, then played for the Gophers and in the ABA.</p>	<p>Dave Nelson, Minneapolis Roosevelt, G</p> <p>Mel Northway, Minneapolis Central, C</p> <p>Mike Patterson, Mahtomedi, C</p> <p>Dean Veenhof, Edgerton, C</p>
1962	<p>Bob Bruggers, Danube, F</p> <p>Bruggers finished #2 to Norm Grow in career scoring with 2,364 points. He led Danube to the state tournament where they almost beat the eventual champions from St. Louis Park, losing 66-62 as Bruggers made just 10-of-23 FT.</p>	<p>Bruce Ackland, St. Louis Park, G</p> <p>Bill Laumann, Brainerd, G</p> <p>Jim Springer, Minneapolis West, F</p> <p>Chuck Wobbrock, Medford, G</p>
1963	<p>Dave Meisner, Cloquet, G</p> <p>Led Cloquet to the 1962 and 1963 state tournaments, where the Lumberjacks won 4 of 6 games and defeated Bloomington 87-67 in 1963 in one of the big upsets of the era.</p>	<p>Chet Anderson, Duluth Central, F</p> <p>Mike Forrest, Cloquet, F</p> <p>Bobby Kelly, Bloomington, G</p> <p>Alan Redman, Wells, F</p>
1964	<p>Larry Mikan, Benilde, C</p> <p>Son of George Mikan led Benilde to 2 straight Catholic titles, then played at the U of M.</p>	<p>Bryan Grohnke, Edina, F</p> <p>Bob Laney, Proctor, C</p> <p>Terry Porter, Marshall, G</p> <p>Greg Thone, Luverne, G</p>
1965	<p>LeRoy Gardner, St. Paul Central, F</p> <p>Led Central to its first state tournament in 27 years, then became the first Minnesota African-American player ever to get a basketball scholarship at the U of M.</p>	<p>Dave Daugherty, Rochester John Marshall, C</p> <p>Del Jessen, Luverne, F</p> <p>Dave Lobb, Austin Pacelli, C</p> <p>Tom Weaver, Faribault, C</p>

1966	<p>Carl Johnson, Balaton, C</p>	<p>John Beyer, Luverne, F Marty Jorgenson, Worthington, F Bob and Dick Peterson, Henning, F Steve Strandemo, Kenyon, G</p>
1967	<p>Tom Masterson, Walnut Grove, C</p> <p>Masterson led Walnut Grove to the state tournament, then scored 6 ppg with 7 reb in 3 years at the U of M.</p>	<p>Steve Fritz, Rochester Lourdes, C Jim Hill, St. Paul Central, G Joe Keenan, Mankato Loyola, F Kurt Shellhas, Edina, F</p>
1968	<p>Bob Zender, Edina, C</p> <p>Zender was Minnesota's greatest player of the 1960s, and was the top contributor to Edina's historic 3-peat. He went on to be the Big 8 newcomer of the year at Kansas State, and to play in 2 Elite Eights.</p>	<p>Bill Fiedler, Edina, F Vic Moore, Montgomery, F Mike Poepping, Pierz Memorial, C Tom Resner, Rochester Lourdes, G</p>
1969	<p>Lew Rickert, Duluth East, F</p> <p>Rickert had a superlative senior season, then he was injured and missed the post-season. As a result, the #2-ranked Greyhounds missed the state tournament. Lew today is known more as the father of 2001 East grad, Minnesota Gopher and professional hoopster Rick Ricket.</p>	<p>Dennis Fitzpatrick, St. Thomas, F Bill Gross, Hayfield, F Dan Halvorson, Owatonna, F Greg Troland, Moorhead, G</p>
1970	<p>Tony Jenkins, Shattuck, C</p> <p>Jenkins was the only player from the class of 1970 who went D1. He led Shattuck to a 3-peat as state champion among so-called</p>	<p>Stan Krebs, Eveleth, C Tom Mulso, Sherburn, F Mike Peroutka, Faribault Bethlehem, F Dennis Riley, Robbinsdale, C</p>

	<p>"independent schools." He played college ball at Harvard, where he was captain and all-Ivy as a senior.</p>	
1971	<p>Como Pontliana, Duluth Central, C</p> <p>Pontliana led Central to the state championship, then played college ball at Colorado State.</p>	<p>Kurt Knoff, East Grand Forks, F Scott McDonald, Two Harbors, F Emanuel Rogers, Minneapolis Central, G John Thelen, Melrose, F</p>
1972	<p>Jeff Nessler, St. James, G</p> <p>Nessler was a triple-threat guard who led the small-town St. James Saints to the Class A and overall state titles in the 2nd 2-class tournament. He then had a Hall of Fame career at Augsburg.</p>	<p>Jim Chalin, St. James, G Mark Lindahl, Duluth East, C Larry Mulder, Renville, C Jim Riles, Austin, G</p>
1973	<p>Mark Landsberger, Mounds View, F</p> <p>Landsberger led Mounds View to the Class AA title in his junior year. In 1973, they were favored to repeat but settled for 5th place. Landsberger later played for the U of M and for 2 world championship L.A. Lakers teams.</p>	<p>Brad Akason, St. Cloud Apollo, G Keil Anderson, Preston, F Tim Casey, Chisholm, G Loren Erickson, Anoka, C</p>
1974	<p>Mark Olberding, Melrose, C</p> <p>Some say that Olberding was the greatest Minnesota player ever. He scored a record 112 points in the 1974 state tourney, and his career total of 228 state tournament points was also the record at the time. He made it look easy.</p>	<p>Brian Denman, Richfield, G Mike Vesel, Tower-Soudan, C Jack Vogel, Bemidji, C Randy Williams, Minneapolis Washburn,</p>

