



# News Release

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\*This release is also available on USA Basketball's World Wide Web homepage - <http://www.usabasketball.com>.

## **2010 Basketball Men's U18 National Team Roster Finalized**

### **-- 12 Top Young U.S. Athletes To Vie For FIBA Americas U18 Gold June 26-30 --**

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (June 16, 2010)** -- Following four trials sessions June 14-16 at the University of Texas at San Antonio, 12 of the nation's top 18-and-unders have been named to the 2010 USA Basketball Men's U18 National Team, USA Basketball today announced. The U.S. squad will remain in San Antonio to continue training prior to the start of the 2010 FIBA Americas U18 Championship, which will be held June 26-30 in St. Mary's University's Bill Greehey Arena in San Antonio. The player selections were made by the USA Basketball Men's Junior National Team Committee.

Selected to represent the United States at the 2010 FIBA Americas U18 Championship were: **Vander Blue** (James Madison Memorial H.S. / Madison, Wis.); **Trevor Cooney** (Sanford H.S. / Wilmington, Del.); **Abdul Gaddy** (Washington / Tacoma, Wash.); **Joshua Hairston** (Montrose Christian School (Md.) / Fredericksburg, Va.); **Kyrie Irving** (St. Patrick's H.S. / Elizabeth, N.J.); **Quincy Miller** (Quality Education Academy / Winston-Salem, N.C.); **Tony Mitchell** (L.G. Pinkston H.S. / Dallas, Texas); **LeBryan Nash** (Lincoln H.S. / Dallas, Texas); **Jereme Richmond** (Waukegan H.S. / Waukegan, Ill.); **Austin Rivers** (Winter Park H.S. / Winter Park, Fla.); **Amir Williams** (Detroit Country Day / Detroit, Mich.); and **Patric Young** (Providence School / Jacksonville, Fla.).

"I like the make-up of our team," said USA U18 National Team and University of Oklahoma head coach **Jeff Capel**. "We have really good talent. We have versatility. We have guys who can really defend. We have good athleticism, guys who can score. I'm excited about coaching this group. I'm excited about seeing what we can become over these next few days."

Three athletes have previous USA Basketball experience after having played in the annual Nike Hoop Summit. Gaddy was a member of the 2009 USA Junior National Select Team that fell to the World Select Team 97-89, while Irving and Young were on the 2010 USA Junior National Select Team that was victorious over the World Select Team 101-97.

Gaddy skipped a year and graduated ahead of his high school class. As such, he is the only player on the team with a year of collegiate hoops under his belt. As a freshman at Washington, Gaddy started 26 of 33 games and averaged 4.1 ppg. and 2.2 apg. in aiding the Huskies to a 24-9 slate, the Pacific-10 Conference Tournament title and an NCAA Tournament berth.

Of the 11 remaining athletes who competed at the high school level last season, six earned All-America honors. Irving earned All-America first team honors from *USA Today*, *Parade Magazine* and *Slam Magazine*, and also was a McDonald's All-American and named the Gatorade New Jersey Player of the Year. Young listed on the *Parade* All-America second team and Rivers was tabbed as a *USA Today* All-USA third team selection. In addition to Irving, Richmond and Young played in the 2010 McDonald's All-America Game; while Hairston, Mitchell, Richmond, Rivers and Young were all named as 2010 Slam All-America honorable mentions.

Six have helped lead their teams to state titles, including Cooney, Hairston, Irving, Rivers, Williams and Young; while Blue, Cooney, Hairston, Irving, Mitchell, Nash, Richmond, Rivers, Williams and Young have collected all-state honors in their respective states.

Georgia Tech head coach **Paul Hewitt** and University at Buffalo head coach **Reggie Witherspoon** are serving as assistant coaches for the 2010 USA U18 National Team.

The U.S. will train this afternoon starting at 4:00 p.m. The team is scheduled to remain in San Antonio and train twice a day starting at 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., with scrimmages scheduled against the 2010 USA Basketball Men's U17 World Championship Team in the afternoons of June 21 and 22, and against the Brazil U18 National Team on June 23.

The FIBA Americas Men's U18 Championship will feature eight national teams from North, South and Central America and the Caribbean. On March 5 the draw was held to determine the first round groups, and the USA was placed into Group A, along with defending FIBA Americas U18 Championship gold medalist Argentina, Mexico and the Virgin Islands. Group B includes Brazil, Canada, Puerto Rico and Uruguay. The U.S. will open preliminary play against the Virgin Islands on June 26 at 7:00 p.m. (all times listed are local, CDT). On June 27 the USA will face Mexico at 7:00 p.m. and will close preliminary play against South American rivals Argentina on June 28 at 7:00 p.m. The semifinals are slated for June 29, and the finals will be held June 30.

Not only will a gold medal be at stake, the top four finishing nations will qualify for the 2011 FIBA U19 World Championship. Players eligible for this competition must have been born on or after Jan. 1, 1992.

Syracuse University head coach and Naismith Basketball Hall of Famer Jim Boeheim, an assistant coach for the 2009-12 USA Basketball Men's National Team, chairs the USA Men's Junior National Team Committee. The Committee also includes NCAA appointees Lorenzo Romar, University of Washington head coach; Bruce Weber, University of Illinois head coach; and University of North Carolina head coach Roy Williams; while 2002 USA Basketball World Championship Team member Jay Williams serves as the athlete representative.

## 2010 USA Basketball Men's U18 National Team

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	YOG	HIGH SCHOOL / COLLEGE / HOMETOWN
Vander Blue	G	6-3	185	2010	James Madison Memorial H.S. / #Marquette / Madison, WI
Trevor Cooney	G	6-3	180	2011	Sanford H.S. / Wilmington, DE
Abdul Gaddy	G	6-3	185	2013	Washington / Tacoma, WA
Josh Hairston	F/C	6-8	210	2010	Montrose Christian School (MD)/#Duke/Fredericksburg, VA
Kyrie Irving	G	6-2	172	2010	St. Patrick's H.S. / *Duke / Elizabeth, NJ
Quincy Miller	F/C	6-8	200	2011	Quality Education Academy / Winston-Salem, N.C.
Tony Mitchell	F	6-7	195	2010	L.G. Pinkston H.S. / #Missouri / Dallas, TX
LeBryan Nash	F	6-7	215	2011	Lincoln H.S. / Dallas, TX
Jereme Richmond	F	6-7	195	2010	Waukegan H.S. / #Illinois / Waukegan, IL
Austin Rivers	G	6-3	175	2011	Winter Park H.S. / Winter Park, FL
Amir Williams	F/C	6-10	210	2011	Detroit Country Day / Detroit, MI
Pat Young	F/C	6-9	222	2010	Providence School / #Florida / Jacksonville, FL

**Head Coach:** Jeff Capel, University of Oklahoma

**Assistant Coach:** Paul Hewitt, Georgia Tech

**Assistant Coach:** Reggie Witherspoon, University at Buffalo

**Athletic Trainer:** David Craig, Indianapolis, Indiana

**Athletic Trainer:** Marc Powell, Trinity University

#Signed a National Letter of Intent to attend and compete for the school indicated.

\*Verbally committed to attend and compete for the school indicated.

## 2010 USA Basketball Men's U18 National Team Schedule

<p><b>Wednesday, June 16</b> 4:00 p.m. Practice @ Convocation Center</p> <p><b>Thursday, June 17</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Convocation Center 4:30 p.m. Practice @ Convocation Center</p> <p><b>Friday, June 18</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Recreation Center 4:30 p.m. Practice @ Recreation Center</p> <p><b>Saturday, June 19</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Recreation Center 4:30 p.m. Practice @ Recreation Center</p> <p><b>Sunday, June 20</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Recreation Center 4:30 p.m. Practice @ Recreation Center</p> <p><b>Monday, June 21</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Recreation Center 4:30 p.m. Scrimmage vs. USA U17 Nat'l Team @ Recreation Center</p> <p><b>Tuesday, June 22</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Recreation Center 4:30 p.m. Scrimmage vs. USA U17 Nat'l Team @ Spurs Practice Facility</p> <p><b>Wednesday, June 23</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Rec Center 4:30 p.m. Scrimmage vs. Brazil @ Recreation Center</p>	<p><b>Thursday, June 24</b> 9:30 a.m. Practice @ Recreation Center 5:30 a.m. Practice @ Trinity College</p> <p><b>Friday, June 25</b> 4:00 p.m. Practice @ TBD</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>2010 FIBA Americas U18 Championship</u></b> <i>@ St. Mary's University</i></p> <p><b>Saturday, June 26</b> 7:30 p.m. USA vs. U.S. Virgin Islands</p> <p><b>Sunday, June 27</b> 7:00 p.m. USA vs. Mexico</p> <p><b>Monday, June 28</b> 7:00 p.m. USA vs. Argentina</p> <p><b>Tuesday, June 29</b> TBD Semifinals vs. TBD</p> <p><b>Wednesday, June 30</b> TBD Finals vs. TBD</p>
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### NOTES:

- **Practices last approximately two hours and are subject to change.** Please contact Caroline Williams ([cwilliams@usabasketball.com](mailto:cwilliams@usabasketball.com) or 719-330-3310) if you are planning on attending a practice session.
- Practices are open to credentialed media only.
- All times listed are local, CDT.
- Unless otherwise noted, all practice sessions will be held on the University of Texas at San Antonio campus at the UTSA Convocation Center or the UTSA Recreation Center.

### QUOTES >> 2010 USA Basketball Men's U18 National Team Members

**Jeff Capel**, 2010 USA U18 National Team head coach  
(University of Oklahoma)

*On the team:*

I like the make-up of our team. We have really good talent. We have versatility. We have guys who can really defend. We have good athleticism, guys who can score. I'm excited about coaching this group. I'm excited about seeing what we can become over these next few days.

*What do you need to do to turn these 12 players into a team before the start of the tournament?*

As we've cut down to 12, that's the first step. Then guys bonding, guys understanding what's expected of them. We can go through roles, we can talk about expectations. Guys have to buy in and accept that. There has to be one goal and that is winning the gold medal, winning this championship. You can't have different agendas. There has to be one agenda and everyone has to buy into what we're trying to accomplish.

#### **Vander Blue**

(James Madison Memorial H.S. / Madison, Wis.)

*How did you feel when you heard your named called for making the team and how did you think your Trials went?*

It's a blessing, it's all God's will. Coming from Madison, Wisconsin, nobody ever really hears about us or knows where we are on the map, we're not known for having basketball players. I've been through a lot this year and at first I was nervous because I wasn't

really scoring, but I put all my hope on defense and just playing hard and showing the coaches that I'll do anything that it takes to win. I'm glad they picked me and now I'm ready to win a gold medal.

*Was there anything you were trying to focus on to make the team or show yourself?*

Defense and hard work. Everybody here can score, everybody is a superstar, so it's really about who you can stop. Playing these international teams they can score just like we can and the main focus of the game is to stop your opponent from scoring. It's whoever can put the ball in the basket more than the opposing team so you always need that player than can stop that main guy who is getting hot and I want to take that role on this team and be the defensive stopper. I'll put all my scoring aside; I'm use to scoring a lot but all that means nothing to me right now. We're a team. We have to win this together. There's going to be different nights different players show up but I'm willing to do whatever it takes.

### **Trevor Cooney**

(Sanford H.S. / Wilmington, Del.)

*How did you feel when you heard your named called for making the team and how did you think your Trials went?*

I was just really excited, I mean it's just an honor to be here and be part of the USA team and I was just really excited.

*Was there anything you were trying to focus on to make the team or show yourself?*

It's really hard to standout, everyone here is talented and here for a reason. I just tried to play smart and play hard, and then show them that I could shoot the ball but then also could do other things offensively and then play hard defense.

*What does this mean to you to make the USA U18 Team?*

It's a great accomplishment and something I always wanted to do. I've been working really hard to make this team the last couple months since I found out that I was going to try out. All the hard work paid off, it's a huge accomplishment really.

### **Abdul Gaddy**

(Washington / Tacoma, Wash.)

*How did you feel when you heard your named called for making the team and how did you think your Trials went?*

It felt great. I'm honored. I'm just trying to go out there and play hard and win a gold medal.

*Did it help you having Nike Hoop Summit experience?*

Yeah I think so. Being around these guys, I've been around some of the staff before so I think that definitely helped.

*Was there anything you were trying to focus on to make the team or show yourself?*

Just to play as hard as I can. I think that's what they look for, somebody who is going to go out there and play hard and put themselves out there, lay it on the line and try and win the game.

*How fun is it to be on this team where literally any one of the 12 guys could be high scorer any night?*

That's real fun. It means you don't have to try and do everything, you can just feed off your teammates and play defense. It keeps you in shape the whole game because you don't have to do everything so I think it is a big help and it will help us win the gold medal.

### **Josh Hairston**

(Montrose Christian School, Md. / Fredericksburg, Va.)

*How did you feel when you heard your named called for making the team and how did you think your Trials went?*

When I heard my name it was a big relief, just the amount of talent that was out here and to just represent your country was big time. Everybody who came to the tryouts could have been on this team, everybody from the top to the last person on the list was very talented. I think the coaches put together the best 12 guys that meshed together and play well together so it's an honor to be a part of that.

I think my trials went well. Big men usually in camps, tryouts and stuff like this really don't touch the ball that much so we have to do the little things, we got to play defense, we have to rebound, we have to run the floor, we have to talk. I felt like we did all those things and the coaches saw that and I'm proud I made the team.

*Was there anything you were trying to focus on to make the team or show yourself?*

Just all the little things. I wanted to show the coaches I could rebound, that I could talk on defense, that I could run the floor and that I could be a leader. One of the things my dad told me before I came out here was to just go out there and work my hardest and that's what I did.

### **Kyrie Irving**

(St. Patrick's H.S. / Elizabeth, N.J.)

*How did you feel when you heard your named call for making the team and how did you think your Trials went?*

It was definitely a sense of relief. We've been working hard for about two-and-a-half days so coming out here and performing the way I did, I'm really proud of myself and all the guys that made it. We have a very talented team and we're going for the gold.

*Was there anything you were trying to focus on to make the team or show yourself?*

Just being a leader, first and foremost. That's going to be primary role next year is to be a leader on that team along with Nolan Smith and Kyle Singler, so just being a leader and being a point guard that the coaches need.

*Did it help you having Nike Hoop Summit experience?*

Yeah definitely it does, you get the USA experience and how important it is to beat other countries and to perform well on the biggest stage and that's playing for your country, so it's definitely important.

*How much will this summer help prepare you for next season at Duke?*

It will definitely help prepare me. Putting me in a point guard position along with Abdul Gaddy is going to be tough position to play, especially from the coaching staff we have they always expect great things from their point guards and especially on the USA Team.

### **Quincy Miller**

(Quality Education Academy / Winston-Salem, N.C.)

*How did you feel when you heard your named call for making the team and how did you think your Trials went?*

Man it was like a relief, like yes "I made it, now I can really play game." You know when you're trying out you're trying to make all the best decisions to impress the coaches, but now you really get to play your game and show chemistry and get along with people. It's a real good feeling though.

*How did you feel your trials went and was there anything you were trying to focus on to make the team or show yourself?*

My trials definitely went good. I was definitely just being a defensive player and being a passer more, I wasn't trying to score on offense really.

*How much will making this team help in furthering your basketball skills?*

It will definitely help me. I'm the youngest player here; I'm playing with an older group. These are great players, competitive players, and it's going to help me take my game to a whole another lever.

### **Tony Mitchell**

(L.G. Pinkston H.S. / Dallas, Texas)

*What does it mean for you to be able to represent your country?*

It feels great, representing your country and playing this sport for your country. We're trying to win it all. That's all we're thinking about, that's all we're focused on.

*What do you bring to the team?*

Rebounding, blocking shots, defending are basically the things I need to do. The little things are what I need to work on. I just want to contribute and win.

*Were you a little nervous when the names were announced?*

Oh yeah. It was nerve-wracking a little bit.

### **LeBryan Nash**

(Lincoln H.S. / Dallas, Texas)

*What did you do over the four sessions to impress the selection committee?*

I shot the ball and scored very well, I got my teammates involved and rebounded the ball.

*What does it mean for you to represent your country like this?*

It feels good to have these three letters across your chest and playing for a gold medal.

*When you look at the previous players who have been a part of the USA U18 National Team, does it make this more meaningful to now be listed among that group?*

It means a lot because most of them are in the NBA. That's where we're trying to go after we get out of college.

### **Jereme Richmond**

(Waukegan H.S. / Waukegan, Ill.)

*What were you thinking after you heard your name called as a member of the USA Basketball U18 National Team?*

I was very excited. An opportunity like this, to be able to represent your country, is something that I never thought would happen. For me to be a part of this, especially with this group, is an honor.

*When you look at all the players who have represented the USA, especially at the 2008 Olympics, does that make it even more meaningful?*

Obviously it does because now we're in great company. Those are some of the greatest players to ever play in these uniforms. To be a part of this is definitely an honor for me and I'm excited to be here.

*What did you do over the four sessions to impress the selection committee?*

I think I brought a lot of energy to my teammates. I think I was a good teammate. When things got bad, I didn't get down. I stayed positive. I ran the floor hard when I could and I got some easy baskets.

### **Austin Rivers**

(Winter Park H.S. / Winter Park, Fla.)

*Your brother played at the 2005 USA Basketball Youth Development Festival, your dad was on three teams, including the 1982 USA World Championship Team, now you're going to represent the USA. What does it mean for you to follow in their footsteps in representing the United States?*

It's an honor just to put U-S-A on my chest. I'm going to play to the best of my abilities to win this and carry on the USA Basketball legacy. Right now I'm going to do whatever it takes. Whatever the coaches want me to do, I'll do it.

*What did you do over the four sessions to impress the selection committee?*

I think I didn't force anything, as far as just trying to throw up shots. I felt like I was playing my role, playing my game, being aggressive. I thought I did pretty well passing the ball, getting people open and creating for other people. I think that's why I stayed here.

*What do you bring to the team?*

I would say I bring leadership as someone you can count on in a game. Whatever you need me to do, I can do it. If you need me to score, I can score. If you need me to try to get someone the ball, I can get someone the ball. I'd say a little bit of everything. Whatever you need me to do, I'll do it.

### **Amir Williams**

(Detroit Country Day / Detroit, Mich.)

*What does it mean for you to have the opportunity to represent your country?*

It's a privilege to be named to the USA team. This is a great experience, a great time for me to go out and represent my country. It's going to be a wonderful experience for me to play for this team.

*What do you bring to the team?*

My intensity, I attack the glass really well, I rebound, my defense, and I can score if I need to.

*Were you nervous when the names were called?*

I was pretty nervous. The first day I got here, I wasn't at my best. But then yesterday I picked it up a little more and today's practice I picked up even a little more. I was still kind of nervous, but when they called my name I was excited.

### **Pat Young**

(Providence School / Jacksonville, Fla.)

*What does it mean for you to have the opportunity to represent your country?*

It's a great honor, first of all, that I had the chance to come out here. But to make the team is just unbelievable because now I get the chance to represent my country. Not too many people get a chance to do this and I'm really thankful for that.

*What did you do over the four sessions to impress the selection committee?*

I played my game, which is running hard and doing all the dirty work. I was kind of confident that I would make the team because not too many guys want to do the dirty work. I knew that the coaches would like that about me. All I try to do is hustle, get rebounds and play hard.