



NEWSLETTER



The Pistons Elite 7th grade team put in a great effort last Saturday and made the finals at Whitmore Lake

7TH GRADE TEAM TAKES 2ND PLACE

The 7th grade Pistons Elite team made it to the championship game Saturday at the FAAST Swish Tournament in Whitmore Lake. Unfortunately, they lost by 12 to a very talented team from Marshall, Michigan, 45-33. It was a tough loss for the team but one they can learn from and improve on. "The boys played hard and gave it their best shot," said head coach Geo Thomas after the game. "For our first tournament of the year, I thought we did very well."

The day started with a 39-33 loss against the same Marshall team. The Elite struggled with their zone defense and had to play catch up for most of the game. Trailing by 14 with five minutes left, the Elite used their zone press to force some steals and transition baskets. But time ran out and the Elite had to settle for a six-point loss.

After coasting to a 39-26 win against The Program, The Elite played their best game of the weekend against Grass Lake. In a back-and-forth game, the Elite tied the game at 27-27 when **Nathan Howard** hit a big free throw. The Elite forced a Grass Lake turnover and after missing several lay-ups, the ball rotated to the elbow and Howard made a great pass to **Jaylin Atchison** down low for an easy lay-up and a 29-27 lead with 10 seconds left. After a time-out, The Elite's full court press was enough to take time off the clock and secure the win without Grass Lake getting a shot off.

The Championship game started an hour late but the Elite came out focused and jumped to an 11-4 lead. Marshall responded with some big baskets of their own to take a 13-11 lead. Atchison tripled on the next possession to put The Elite up by one, 14-13. But Marshall's defense tightened up, and that was the last lead The Elite had in the game.

BLOCK PARTY: The Pistons Elite 7th grade team put on a shot-blocking clinic Saturday as their low post defense was amazing. **Nathan Howard** (6), **Jaylin Atchison** (5), **Davis Greene** (3) and **Matt Fricke** (3) combined for 17 blocks in the four games.

4TH GRADE UPDATES

The 4th grade Pistons Elite team had the weekend off but will resume practices this week. "We've got one more week to prepare for Lansing," said head coach Dan Thomas, "But I am really looking forward to watching this team mature and come together. The Lansing games are scheduled for June 20-21.

6TH GRADE UPDATES

After a rough 0-5 start to their season, the 6th grade Pistons Elite team came together to win their first game in Whitmore Lake this past weekend. Facing the Michigan Lightning, Pistons Elite got off to a red hot start making five of their first seven shots. **Jacob Bylinowski** was the highlight player of this game due to his lock down defense that led to a lot of fast break points.

In the following games, the 6th grade team sustained a great effort on defense but fell short in making their free throws and layups, resulting in two losses and elimination from the tournament. "Although we are hitting a few rough patches I am still proud of my team," said Coach Dan Thomas after the tournament. "I like how we play hard on defense. We just have to get our offense to click and we will improve."

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 13-14 – LIVONIA AYBT

7th and 6th grade teams

JUNE 20-21 – LANSING AYBT

7th, 6th and 4th grade teams

RESULTS FROM JUNE 6-7 (WHITMORE LAKE AYBT)

6TH GRADE (1-7)
Pistons Elite 41
Lightning 26

MI Dynamite 16
Pistons Elite 12

The Program 34
Pistons Elite 22

7TH GRADE (2-2)
Marshall 39
Pistons Elite 33

Pistons Elite 39
The Program 26

Pistons Elite 29
Grass Lake 27

Marshall 45
Pistons Elite 33

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