



Unorthodox but effective: Weinstein delivers Arlington a Davis tournament title



STEPHEN HAYNES | POUGHKEEPSIE
JOURNAL | 10:58 am EST December 31, 2018





The Arlington boys basketball team discusses its success in the Duane Davis tournament, Jack Weinstein's unorthodox style and Sims' siblings.

STEPHEN HAYNES, POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

WAPPINGERS FALLS - There was an important discussion among the Arlington High School boys basketball players during practice last week.

Sure, they needed to talk about the big upcoming tournament, and building off their strong start, and avoiding complacency, and the expected etceteras.

But another pressing matter among the group was finding an appropriate comparison for Jake Weinstein, with his unusual playing style.





The Arlington boys basketball team hoists the Duane Davis Memorial tournament trophy, celebrating its title on Sunday.

STEPHEN HAYNES/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

Perhaps former San Antonio Spurs standout Manu Ginobili, with his tall and lanky build, aggressiveness and unorthodox left-handed moves?



“We settled on DeMar DeRozan because he lives in the mid-range,” Jack Sims said, likening his teammates’ style to that of the current Spurs star. “He knocks everything down in the mid-range.”

In the estimation of some opponents, the senior probably could’ve been compared to a wrecking ball: unstoppable, seemingly impervious to contact, and doing a whole lot of damage.

Led by Weinstein, Arlington defeated Our Lady of Lourdes, 60-51, on Sunday in the Duane Davis Memorial tournament final at Roy C. Ketcham High School.

The forward had 16 points, five rebounds, three blocks and two steals, earning MVP honors as the Admirals won the tournament for the first time since 2014.





“I’ve been waiting my whole life to play varsity basketball at this level, so this means so much to me,” Weinstein said of the victory. “I know it means a lot to the community and my coach, too.”

Arlington’s coach, a Lourdes alum, played in the tournament three times during the mid-1990s under Jim Santoro, who still is the Warriors head coach.

“This is awesome,” Hoyt said, the former pupil taking one off his mentor. “It’s always been a fun tournament, and it’s exciting to win in front of an amazing crowd.”

That crowd crammed the Ketcham gymnasium and was boisterous throughout, cheering on two teams that are — somewhat surprisingly — among the area’s best in the first month of the season.



Not a great deal was expected of Arlington, having graduated a large senior core last year and its retooled roster now filled with unfamiliar names.



The Arlington High School boys basketball team poses after winning the Duane Davis Memorial tournament final on Sunday.

STEPHEN HAYNES/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

Well, maybe not so unknown anymore. Certainly not locally, where their talents were showcased in the four victories last week to claim the tournament championship.

"People won't be sleeping on us for much longer," junior Rashawn Grant said.

Weinstein goes full-speed, aggressively seeking to attack the basket... or sometimes he'll stop short and execute a pump fake or a ball fake, or pull-up for a jumper or flip up a lefty floater.

"I think I work well off the dribble," he said.
"I love the mid-range shot, but I can also
drive it a little bit."

At 6-foot-2, he has good body control,
starts and stops on a dime, and changes
direction well. It's somewhat of a
coordinated awkwardness he plays with.

“He’s hard to guard because his game is so uncommon,” Sims said. “You don’t see a lot of guys at this level like that.”

Hoyt raved about Weinstein’s “passion” for the game and teammates called him their emotional leader and an energizer.

Grant, too, might be a budding star. He was a hero in their quarterfinal after tipping in a missed free throw for the winning basket against Beacon. The 6-foot-3 forward further established himself on Sunday, anchoring the post on both ends and giving the Warriors fits on the offensive glass. Grant had 16 points, 12 rebounds and three blocks.

“He’s a tough guy and one of those post guys you don’t find too often these days,”

defensively and all tournament he's been a big inside presence."



Chris Schofield added six points and seven rebounds for the Admirals (9-2). Delano Knox had five points, three assists and a block.

Sims scored six on two go-ahead 3-pointers in the first half, the second of which gave Arlington an 18-17 lead in the second quarter. That basket, Weinstein said, "sparked the offense," and the Admirals never trailed after that.

"I've been struggling with my shot recently so it was good to get back on track," Sims said. "It was a big game, so I guess adrenaline just took over."

Cory Rywalt's 3-pointer put Arlington up 43-40 with 51 seconds left in the third quarter. Tanner Broughton answered, sinking three free throws 20 seconds later after being fouled a three-point attempt that tied it for Lourdes. But Grant's free throw retook the lead with two seconds left in the period.

Grant then opened the fourth with a short fadeaway in the paint that made it 46-43, and then converted a three-point play off a putback that upped the lead to six with 6:33 remaining. Weinstein drained a baseline jumper a minute later and, from there, the Admirals had control.

Willy Hart scored 17 points for Lourdes (7-3). Broughton and George Siegrist each added 11, and Broughton was named to the all-tournament team.



The Duane Davis all-tournament awards are accepted by the players present on Sunday. From left: Cameron Ness (Highland), Jake Weinstein (Arlington), Tanner Broughton (Our Lady of Lourdes) and Jake Daly (Millbrook)
STEPHEN HAYNES/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

“If someone had told me before the year that we’d be 7-3 right now, I’d have taken it gladly,” said Santoro, whose team last won the Davis tournament in 2013. “We’ve gotta keep improving, but I’m happy with where we are now.

"We got to the final and played hard against a really good Arlington team. A couple times it looked like they were about to pull away, but we made runs to get back in."

There wouldn't be much of a celebration afterwards, Sims insisted. The Admirals would begin prepping for their next challenge as they're set to open the new year hosting undefeated Mamaroneck on Thursday.

“This is great right now, but we've gotta get back to work and keep grinding,” the guard said. “We wanna keep surprising people.”

Stephen Haynes:

shaynes@poughkeepsiejournal.com, [845-437-4826](tel:845-437-4826), Twitter: [@StephenHaynes](https://twitter.com/StephenHaynes)