

Indiana Elite 2016 didn't have the weekend it hoped to in Dallas last week. The 17U squad lost three of its four games — by a total of 12 points — and walked away from the first Gauntlet event somewhat disappointed.

But rather than dwelling on it, they used it to fuel them in the Indyball.com Challenge this weekend in Indianapolis.

IE 2016 went a perfect 6-0 on the weekend, and earned the tournament title with an 82-65 win over the Indiana Elite Magic on Sunday.

The Magic, coached by Rick Ellsworth, also had an outstanding weekend at the Best Choice Fieldhouse. They were 5-1. Mishawaka's **Peyton Staples** was terrific throughout the tournament, including a 27-point effort against Indiana Elite 2017 in Sunday morning's quarterfinal game.

But the Magic didn't have nearly enough to handle Indiana Elite's top squad, which was led by Lawrence Central's **Kyle Guy**. The Virginia commit had 27 points and five rebounds in a semifinal win over Pocket City, then scored 11 of his 15 points against the Magic in the first half. Guy showed off his improved explosion and perimeter shooting while also entertaining spectators with his no-look passes.

Pike's **Justin Thomas** also had a big Sunday for the 17s, scoring 20 points in the semifinal win and 13 points in the title game.

Indiana Elite, coached by Mark Adams and Kristof Kendrick, will be back in action at next weekend's adidas Gauntlet stop in Indianapolis.

Other notes on the 17s: Griffith's **Tremell Murphy** had 8 points and 7 rebounds in the semifinal win over Pocket City ... Bloomington South's **Tucker Blackwell** had 9 points in both the semifinal and championship games, and was the beneficiary of some nice passes from Guy ... West Lafayette's **Nai Carlisle** had 11 points in the title game.

Other notes on the 17U Magic: Ellsworth's squad advanced to the title game by knocking out Indiana Elite 2017 and the Indy Hoosiers 17U on Sunday. The Magic were one of the more surprising teams of the tournament, and Staples was one of the more surprising players. If you haven't seen him play, you should. He's long, skilled and plays very hard. I have a feeling he'll hear from a few college coaches before the summer is over. His dunk over Koch Bar in the championship game on Sunday caught everyone's attention. You can watch it by clicking going to this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BqPR0e2til&feature=youtu.be&app=desktop>.