

# ARKANSAS RAZORBACK SIGNING CLASS OF 2022

• **HIGHEST RATED RECRUITING CLASS IN SCHOOL HISTORY (CONSENSUS #2 NATION AND CONSENSUS #1 SEC)**

• **Only school with SIX on the Sports Illustrated All-American SI99. All six were also McDonald's All-American nominees.**

• First time to sign two – much less three – 5-stars (Nick Smith Jr., Jordan Walsh and Anthony Black) in the same class

• In fact, Arkansas now has only signed seven, 5-stars since 2004. **Smith, Walsh and Black are the only Razorback signees to rank among the ESPN top 15** (dating back to 2007).

• **Nick Smith Jr., Jordan Walsh and Anthony Black were McDonald's All-Americans ... SMITH and WALSH were selected for the Jordan Brand Game and BLACK was picked for the Iverson Classic.**

• **Arkansas had never had a class with at least four players among the ESPN top 100 until Eric Musselman's arrival and his staff has now done so twice (class of 2020 and class of 2022).**

• Since 2004, only four Arkansas recruiting classes have ranked among the top 10 and Musselman's staff owns two of those – class of 2020 was #5 ESPN / #9 247Sports and class of 2022 ranks #2 in ESPN, 247Sports and Rivals.

• Signed three MaxPreps state Players of the Year (Dunning, Smith and Walsh).



**Anthony Black**  
6-7, 185, G  
Duncanville, Texas  
Duncanville HS

- Member of USA Basketball's 2022 USA Nike Hoop Summit Team.
- **McDONALD'S ALL-AMERICAN**
- **SELECTED FOR THE IVERSON CLASSIC**
- MaxPreps All-American (HM)
- **Jersey Mike's Naismith High School Player of the Year Watch List**

- **#8 on the SI99 All-American list**
- 247Sports \*\*\*\*\* #14 nation #1 PG
- ESPN \*\*\*\*\* #15 nation #8 SF
- 247Composite \*\*\*\*\* #17 nation #2 PG
- Rivals \*\*\*\*\* #19 nation #5 SG

- #5 on the 2023 NBA Mock Draft (#3 college player) by NBADraftRoom.com and #8 by NBADraft.net
- Rated #3 player from the state of Texas by ESPN and 247Sports (behind fellow signee Jordan Walsh)

• Earned TABC All-State honors in 2022

- Led Duncanville to the 2022 Texas 6A state championship ... Named Texas 6A State Tournament MVP thanks to scoring 17 points in the 69-49 title game win over McKinney
- 2022 District 11-6A Offensive Player of Year
- Played just 15 regular-season games as a senior due to transfer regulations, but averaged 13.5 points, 5.8 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 2.2 steals

- Duncanville was 35-1 ... In the final national polls, ranked No. 1 by MaxPreps, No. 2 in both the SB Live/Sports Illustrated Power 25 and ESPN national rankings and No. 3 in USA TODAY Sports Super 25

- Began high school career at Coppell HS where he was a second-team all-area selection as a junior ... Averaged 16.3 points, 6.8 rebounds, 3.5 assists and 2 steals per game

• **Was also a 3-Star recruit as a wide receiver getting offers from Arkansas, Baylor and Texas among others**

- His father, Terry Black, is in the Baylor Sports Hall of Fame (2015) as a standout for the Bear's basketball program ... His mother, Jennifer, played soccer at Texas and Baylor



**Barry Dunning Jr.**  
6-6, 210, G  
Mobile, Ala.  
McGill-Toolen Catholic HS

- McDonald's All-American Nominee
- **Two-time Gatorade Alabama Player of the Year (2021 & '22)**
- **2022 MaxPreps Alabama Player of the Year**

- **#73 on the SI99 All-American list**
- ESPN \*\*\*\*\* #74 nation #21 SF
- 247Composite \*\*\*\*\* #91 nation #22 SF
- 247Sports \*\*\* #126 nation #28 SF
- Rivals \*\*\* #134 nation #36 SF

- **Rated #1 player in the state of Alabama by ESPN, 247Composite, 247Sports**

- **2022 Alabama Mr. Basketball** and 1st team All-State by the Alabama Sports Writers Association

- 2022 AL.com Coastal Alabama Player of the Year

- **Three-time 6A first-team All-State selection by ASWA**

- Twice (2021 and 2022) voted to the ASWA Super All-State Team (1 of 5 statewide players across all divisions)

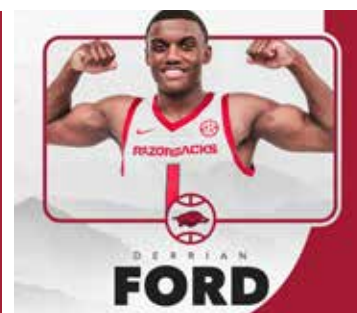
- Led McGill-Toolen to the 2022 6A semifinals, posting 25 points, 18 rebounds and 3 steals in the loss

- As a senior, averaged 25.3 points and 12.9 rebounds while averaging 3.3 steals, 2.6 assists and 1.7 blocks

- Named the Alabama MVP in the 2022 Alabama-Mississippi All-Star Classic ... Finished with 22 points, 12 rebounds and 7 assists in Alabama's 96-89 victory

- Averaged 21.5 points and 11.3 rebounds per game as a junior for the Yellow Jackets ... Also recorded 3.1 assists, 2.1 steals and 1.8 blocks per game

- Has launched a non-profit that focuses on the mental health of athletes



**Derrian Ford**  
6-4, 210, G  
Magnolia, Ark.  
Magnolia HS

- McDonald's All-American Nominee
- **Two-time Gatorade Arkansas Player of the Year (2021 & '22)**

- **#66 on the SI99 All-American list**
- 247Composite \*\*\*\*\* #68 nation #12 CG
- 247Sports \*\*\*\*\* #69 nation #11 CG
- ESPN \*\*\*\*\* #71 nation #12 SF
- Rivals \*\*\*\*\* #78 nation #16 SG

- Rated #3 player in the state of Arkansas by ESPN and 247Sports

- **Two-time (2021 and 2022) Class 4A Player of the Year by the Arkansas Basketball Coaches Association**

- **Two-time (2021 and 2022) Arkansas Democrat-Gazette first team All-Arkansas Preps (all divisions)**

- Led Magnolia to three 4A state titles in four years and 102 wins over his career ... Earned 4A State Tournament MVP three times

- Was 2022 4A State Tournament MVP, scoring 29 in the title game ... Magnolia posted a perfect 30-0 record in 2022

- Averaged 23.1 points, 6.3 rebounds and 3.0 assists as a senior

- Led the Panthers to a 23-1 record and the Class 4A semifinals in 2021

- Averaged 23.2 points, 7.1 rebounds and 3.0 assists as a junior

- Class 4A State Tournament MVP as a freshman and sophomore, leading his team to back-to-back championships (2019 and 2020) ... Had 54-game win streak snapped in the 2021 4A state semifinals, falling to Morrilton

- As a sophomore, tabbed first team Arkansas All-State team by MaxPreps

- Has a 4.0 GPA



**Joseph Pinion**  
6-6, 185, F  
Morrilton, Ark.  
Morrilton HS

- McDonald's All-American Nominee
- **#95 on the SI99 All-American list**
- 247Composite \*\*\*\* #94 nation #23 SF
- ESPN \*\*\*\* #89 nation #17 SG
- Rivals \*\*\*\* #131 nation #33 SF
- 247Sports \*\*\* #142 nation #32 SF

- **Two-time (2021 and 2022) Arkansas Democrat-Gazette first team All-Arkansas Preps (all divisions)**

- 2022 runner-up for Class 4A Player of the Year by the Arkansas Basketball Coaches Association

- **Two-time first team 4A All-State selection (2021 and 2022)**

- As a senior, averaged 24.3 points, 9.0 rebounds, 2.7 steals and 2.1 blocked shots while shooting 88% from the free throw line.

- Played for Arkansas vs Tennessee in the ninth annual Mike Conley Challenge

- Led Morrilton to the 2021 Class 4A title game as a junior

- Averaged 17.2 points, 6.4 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals and 1 block per game as a junior ... Shot 58% from two-point range, 40 percent from three and 74 percent at the free throw line

- #3 in the 2023 NBA Mock Draft (#1 college player) by both ESPN and NBADraftRoom.com

- Consensus #1 player from Arkansas by the recruiting websites

- **Two-time Arkansas Democrat-Gazette All-Arkansas Preps (all divisions) Player of the Year (2021 and 2022)**

- As a senior, averaged 26.5 points, 8.0 rebounds and 7.3 assists

- Named **6A championship MVP** as he led North Little Rock (27-3) to the state title ... Scored 25 points with six rebounds and five assists in the 65-47 win over Bentonville in the final ... Added 24 points and eight assists in the 58-40 semifinals vs LR Central

- In the summer of 2021, led Brad Beal Elite AAU team to a 6-2 record and the finals of Peach Jam while averaging 18.6 points, 3 rebounds and 3 assists per game ... Scored 31 points (10-of-18 shooting) in the championship game and became the first player since NBA star Michael Porter Jr. to score more than 30 in the finals

- As a junior, averaged 25 points, 5 rebounds and 4 assists

- 2020 Arkansas Democrat-Gazette All-Arkansas Preps Underclassman of the Year ... Averaged 21.3 points, 3 rebounds and 3 steals

- Played at Sylvan Hills as a junior and sophomore



**Nick Smith Jr.**  
6-5, 185, G  
North Little Rock, Ark.  
North Little Rock HS

- Member of USA Basketball's 2022 USA Nike Hoop Summit Team

- **1 of 5 FINALIST FOR THE JERSEY'S MIKE'S NAISMITH HS BOYS PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

- **McDONALD'S ALL-AMERICAN**

- **SELECTED FOR THE JORDAN BRAND CLASSIC** and was **named co-MVP** as he scored 27 points (5-of-7 3PT) with four assists and three rebounds.

- **CONSENSUS 1ST TEAM ALL-AMERICAN:**

- Jersey Mike's Naismith
- MaxPreps
- Sports Illustrated

- **Two-time (2021 and 2022) MaxPreps Arkansas High School Basketball Player of the Year**

- **#2 on the SI99 All-American list**

- 247Sports \*\*\*\*\* #1 nation #1 CG

- Rivals \*\*\*\*\* #2 nation #1 PG

- ESPN \*\*\*\*\* #3 nation #1 SG

- 247Composite \*\*\*\*\* #3 nation #2 CG

- 1 of the top 3-highest rated players to ever sign with Arkansas trailing Corliss Williamson (ranked #1 or #2 by all the recruiting services) and Al Jefferson (ranked #3 by 247Sports and #4 by Rivals in 2004).

- #3 in the 2023 NBA Mock Draft (#1 college player) by both ESPN and NBADraftRoom.com

- Consensus #1 player from Arkansas by the recruiting websites

- **Two-time Arkansas Democrat-Gazette All-Arkansas Preps (all divisions) Player of the Year (2021 and 2022)**

- As a senior, averaged 26.5 points, 8.0 rebounds and 7.3 assists

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- Played at Sylvan Hills as a junior and sophomore



**Jordan Walsh**  
6-7, 200, F  
Desoto, Texas  
Link Year (Mo.) Academy

- **McDONALD'S ALL-AMERICAN**
- **SELECTED FOR THE JORDAN BRAND CLASSIC**

- **All-American:**
- MaxPreps (3rd team)
- Sports Illustrated (3rd team)
- Jersey Mike's Naismith (HM)

- **2022 MaxPreps Missouri High School Basketball Player of the Year**

- **#25 on the SI99 All-American list**

- ESPN \*\*\*\*\* #11 nation #4 SF

- 247Composite \*\*\*\*\* #18 nation #7 SF

- 247Sports \*\*\*\*\* #19 nation #7 SF

- Rivals \*\*\*\*\* #24 nation #7 SF

- **Rated #1 player from Texas by ESPN and #2 in the state by 247Sports**

- #11 on the 2023 NBA Mock Draft (#9 college player) by NBADraftRoom.com

- As a senior, averaged 15.3 points, 7.2 rebounds and 3.1 assists

- Link Academy was runner-up in the GEICO Nationals ... Beat Oak Hill (81-67) and Prolific Prep (60-53) to reach the finals ... Lost to Montverde Academy (60-49) in the championship ... Versus Oak Hill, was 9-of-10 FG and scored 23 points with eight rebounds and seven assists ... In the semis, had 17 points (5-8 FG, 6-6 FT) with seven rebounds and three steals

- 2021 4A All-State as named by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches

- In the summer of 2021, played for Drive Nation program on the Nike EYBL circuit and averaged 12.3 points, 7.4 points and 3.3 assists while shooting better than 50% inside the arc ... Tallied three double-doubles, including a 17-point, 10-rebound, 4-assist effort

- As a junior at Oak Cliff's Faith and Family Academy, averaged 18 points, 11 rebounds, five assists, 2.4 steals and 2.3 blocks per game for a squad that finished 25-6 and advanced to the Class 4A state semifinals

- Also led the Eagles to the state semifinals as a sophomore before the remainder of the state tournament was canceled due to COVID-19

- As a freshman, led Faith and Family to a 36-6 record and its first Class 4A state title ... In fact, his dunk just before the final buzzer provided the 53-51 victory against Liberty Hill

## ARKANSAS' HIGHEST RANKED RECRUITING CLASSES

ESPN	National / SEC
2022	2 / 1
2020	5 / 3
2011	9 / 2
2008	11 / 2
2013	18 / 4
2009	25 / 4

247	National / SEC
2022	2 / 1
2004	4 / 2
2011	8 / 2
2020	9 / 4
2013	19 / 4
2009	25 / 4
2008	20 / 7

## ARKANSAS' HIGHEST RANKED RECRUITS

(from available records)

**NOTE: CORLISS WILLIAMSON – the 1992 Gatorade National Player of the Year – was ranked either 1 or 2 in all the recruiting services.**

*Complete ranking information is only available starting in 2005 for 247Sports and 2007 by ESPN*

ESPN	Year	Rank	Stars
Nick Smith Jr.	2022	3	*****
Jordan Walsh	2022	11	*****
Anthony Black	2022	15	*****
Bobby Portis	2013	16	*****
B.J. Young	2011	16	*****
Rashad Madden	2011	36	****
Moses Kingsley	2013	43	****
Moses Moody	2020	45	****
Daniel Gafford	2017	47	****

247 COMPOSITE	Year	Rank	Stars
Nick Smith Jr.	2022	3	*****
Al Jefferson	2004	3*	*****
Bobby Portis	2013	17	*****
Anthony Black	2022	17	*****
Jordan Walsh	2022	18	*****
Olu Famutimi	2003	19	*****
B.J. Young	2011	21	*****
Ronnie Brewer	2003	32	****
Daniel Gafford	2017	39	****
Steven Hill	2004	35	****
Rashad Madden	2011	43	****
Charles Thomas	2004	44	****
Moses Moody	2020	46	****
Moses Kingsley	2013	49	****

\* - signed but opted for NBA draft out of HS

## FINAL HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL POLLS

### MAXPREPS

- Duncanville (Anthony Black)
- North Little Rock (Nick Smith Jr.)

### USA TODAY

- Duncanville (Anthony Black)
- Link Academy (Jordan Walsh)
- North Little Rock (Nick Smith Jr.)

### ESPN

- Link Academy (Jordan Walsh)
- Duncanville (Anthony Black)
- North Little Rock (Nick Smith Jr.)

### SBLive/Sports Illustrated

- Duncanville (Anthony Black)
- Link Academy (Jordan Walsh)
- North Little Rock (Nick Smith Jr.)