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SPORTS

Trout to join Mississinewa boys basketball program

By Sean Douglas

After being relieved of his head coaching duties at Madison-Grant, Brian Trout did not have to look long – or far – for his next opportunity.

In a Twitter post on June 21, the two-time sectional champion coach confirmed that he would be staying in Grant County, taking a varsity assistant position with James Reed and the Mississinewa Indians boys basketball program.

“I am very excited to be a part of the Mississinewa boys basketball program,” Trout said in the post. “I want to thank Superintendent [Tab] McKenzie, Assistant Superintendent Winter, Principal [Steve] Quaderer,

“I couldn’t feel any luckier that we were able to grab him. He’s an unbelievable coach with winning experience. He understands the game. To have him by my side and doing this with me, I can’t wait to see what comes of it for our program.”

**James Reed,
Mississinewa Indians Coach**

Athletic Director [Chanse] Young, and Coach Reed for the opportunity.”

Over the past six years, Trout achieved tremendous success as the head coach of the Argylls, winning 78 games and a pair of sectional championships in 2015 and 2017. Of Madison-Grant’s five boys basketball sectional championships in school history, Trout won two of them.

Even while Trout was at Madison-Grant, he, as many coaches do, looked towards the future. Coaching is a profession that is not always stable, and coaches are always compiling plans for the next step.

At Mississinewa, Trout saw the next logical step in his coaching journey.

“One of those things that I had always kind of thought of was once I was ready to be done or told to be done, whichever way it was, that the next stop would be in a varsity assistant position,” Trout said. “Luckily, something opened up at Mississinewa.”

Reed and Trout, despite coaching against each other the last several years, have developed a close relationship. Reed began his coaching career at Madison-Grant, working with the freshman team, while Trout was the varsity assistant for the Argylls.

In the years that have followed, the two have kept in touch and had even discussed the ability of coaching with each other in some capacity.

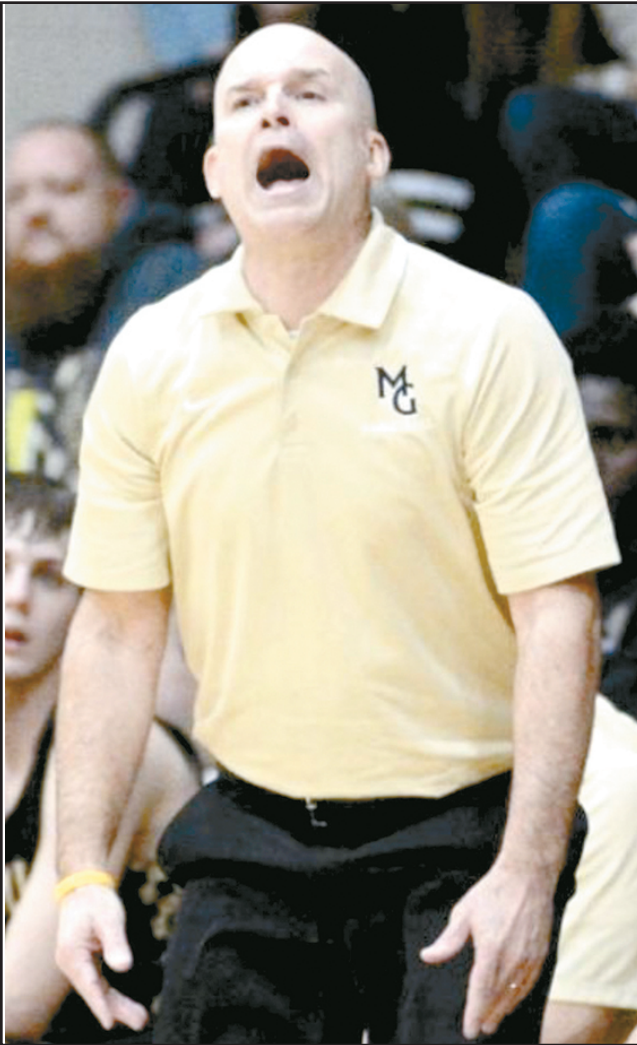
So, when the varsity assistant position opened at Mississinewa, Trout reached out, the two talked, and an agreement was made.

“I heard by word of mouth that he had an opening, so I contacted him, and we talked about it,” Trout said. “He was really excited and thought that that would be something that would be really good for both of us. We got together, worked out something, and that’s how it came to be.”

Along with his coaching prowess, Trout also adds both winning and championship experience to a program that has not won a sectional title since 1954 – the second-longest drought in the state of Indiana.

“I just feel unbelievably lucky. I was shocked when I found out that he was free,” Reed said. “I couldn’t feel any luckier that we were able to grab him. He’s an unbelievable coach with winning experience. He understands the game. To have him by my side and doing this with me, I can’t wait to see what comes of it for our program.”

Trout’s role on the Indians’ bench is not yet set in stone, but Reed stated that



Trout coached at Madison-Grant from 2014-2020, winning 78 games and two sectional titles with the Argylls.

he will be an integral part of the team’s identity and success.

“He is going to build more confidence in our players,” Reed said. “Offensively, a lot of what I do stems from [my time] at Madison-Grant. I’m excited to add [those aspects] to what we do, because I think it is going to flow really well.

“And you can’t take away that winning experience. He’s got the winning experience. He’s got championship winning experience. To add that experience adds confidence to our players. I think it’s going to go a long way.”

While he will be a member of the Indians this coming season, Trout holds no hard feelings towards the Argylls. He was grateful for the six years he spent at Madison-Grant, and he remains close with the players he coached.

“There are kids there that

I spent a lot of time with, not just the seniors, but on down,” Trout said. “It’s going to be a little weird, there’s no question. Obviously, I hope they have a great year. I love those kids to death, and hopefully, they are able to put it together.”

But now, he is ready for his new adventure and excited to get started.

“Watching from afar the last few years, I think Mississinewa’s program is in a really good spot,” Trout said. “Not just varsity, but all the way through. They have got a lot of athletes, and their teams have been pretty successful from top to bottom. The community is fired up, the kids are fired up, and James is fired up about it.

“I’m really excited. I’m looking forward to working with Coach Reed and Chanse Young. To be working [with these guys] now is such an honor.”



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