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Matthews commits to PAC-10 program

Anthony Ray

ArizonaPreps.com Recruiting Analyst

The long recruiting road traveled by 6-foot-6 prep forward **George Matthews** is finally over.



After graduating from St. Mary's High School this spring and competing with the **Arizona Magic** travel program for many years, Matthews gave a verbal commitment Wednesday evening to a future PAC-10 program.

Matthews has decided to sign a national letter of intent with the **University of Utah** and Head Coach **Jim Boylen**.

University of Utah is currently a member of the *Mountain West Conference*, but will be competing in the *PAC-10 Conference* next season when Matthews enters his freshman season at the program.

Matthews is currently attending a post-graduate year at local basketball powerhouse Westwind Prep International (WPI).

Matthews chose the University of Utah over offers from Seton Hall, West Virginia, Clemson and Colorado. Utah assistant coach **Barret Peery** was instrumental in the recruitment of Matthews.

George Matthews will sign with the University of Utah.

Matthews saw his college recruitment soar after pumping in a very strong spring and summer performance on the AAU/club circuit. As

a result of his play this off-season, Matthews reeled in numerous scholarship offers.

It looked as though Matthews would verbally commit to West Virginia this summer after the program offered him a scholarship, but West Virginia wanted Matthews for the 2010 basketball season and Matthews and his family decided that prep school was a better route for this season - allowing Matthews to attend college next year in 2011.

Matthews is also already an academic qualifier for the collegiate level and has passed the NCAA Clearinghouse.

Congratulations to the Matthews' family on this tremendous accomplishment from our staff here at *Arizona Preps*.

Arizona Preps Scouting Report: As a player, Matthews is a bit of a throw-back performer. A fundamentally sound forward that likes to score either from long-distance or from mid-range off the dribble. He utilizes pump fakes and jab steps to gain an offensive edge on his defender, while using either hand around the basket to score. He is a very strong finisher around the basket, utilizing a variety of moves and is able to dunk the basketball with ease as a result of his very long wingspan. His long, rangy body suggests that he could grow to be 6-7 in height before he finishes growing. Also a very good defender for his size, he has good lateral foot quickness to stay in front of his offensive opponent - when he is focused. His long wingspan also allows him to alter or block shots, making it tough for opposition to score on him. He is also a very good offensive rebounder that is always around the basketball. Has very good upside. While he has very good work ethic off the court, his focus on the court remains the key to his development as a player.