



Bluffton University Men's Basketball

Manchester University
"Spartans"
(4-11, 1-7 HCAC)

Sommer Center
Jan. 16, 2013
7:30 PM

Bluffton University
"Beavers"
(6-9, 2-6 HCAC)



THE PREVIEW

WHEN: Wednesday, January 16, 2013, at 7:30 PM

WHERE: Bluffton, Ohio (Sommer Center)

INTERNET: Watch live updates on the Bluffton University website
<http://www.bluffton.edu/sports/webcast/mbk/XLIVE.HTM>

BLUFFTON, Ohio - The Bluffton University men's basketball team is ready to build on a solid 2011-12 campaign that saw the Beavers earn a second straight berth in the Heartland Conference tournament, finishing 16-10 overall and 10-8 in the Heartland Conference. Bluffton won six of its last nine regular season games with the three losses by a combined six points, including a pair of buzzer-beaters by Manchester and Defiance. Following a pair of close losses at Case Reserve on the first weekend, Bluffton opened the Sommer Center in style with an 89-41 victory over OSU-Lima. The Beavers handled Wright State-Lake in the McDonald's Tournament opener, but #21 Ohio Wesleyan lived up to its billing with a 75-51 win over Bluffton in the final. A red-hot Bluffton team dumped Anderson 67-45 on Saturday for the Beavers' second straight HCAC blowout victory. Manchester (4-11, 1-7 HCAC) will be looking for its second conference win and first since a Dec. 8 victory over Transylvania.

The Coaches

Guy Neal is in the midst of his 24th year at the helm since taking over the reigns before the 1989-90 season. He is the winningest men's basketball coach in Bluffton history with a career record of 271-336. Neal has guided the Beavers to seven winning seasons in the past eight years, the first time in school history this feat has been accomplished. Coach Neal has also won conference Coach of the Year three times, including bringing home the award in 2006-07.

Brad Nadborne is in his ninth year on the sidelines for the Spartans. His career record at the school is 103-105. Coach Nadborne has a vast array of experience coaching (17 years), as well as playing his freshman year of basketball at Army under current Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski.

Last conference contest

Bluffton improved to 6-9 overall and 2-6 in the HCAC with its second straight win, a 67-45 rout of Anderson University on Saturday. The Beavers went 28-of-52 (53.8 percent) from the field compared to Anderson which finished 14-of-54 (25.9 percent). Bluffton hit 2-of-8 (25.0 percent) from behind the arc, while Anderson missed all 15 of its three-point attempts.

Senior David House tallied 19 points, pulled down eight rebounds, handed out three assists and blocked a shot for the Spartans in their 86-65 loss to Franklin on Sunday.

2012-13 HCAC Men's Basketball Standings

Team	HCAC	GB	Pct.	Overall	Pct.
RHIT	7-1	-	.875	13-2	.867
Transylvania	6-2	1	.750	11-4	.733
Hanover	6-2	1	.750	9-6	.600
Franklin	5-3	2	.625	10-5	.667
Defiance	5-3	2	.625	9-6	.600
MSJ	4-4	3	.500	5-10	.333
Anderson	3-5	4	.375	7-8	.467
Bluffton	2-6	5	.250	6-9	.400
Manchester	1-7	6	.125	4-11	.267
Earlham	1-7	6	.125	2-13	.133

Leading the Beavers

Junior forward Dustin Kinn leads the Beavers with 11.4 PPG, including two double-doubles in the last four games, and he is pulling down 5.6 RPG while shooting an HCAC-best 60.5 percent from the field (69-of-114). Also in double figures is fellow junior banger Will Pope who is checking in with 10.7 PPG on 70-of-138 shooting with a team-best 5.7 RPG. Josh Johnson and Josh Fisher are averaging 8.9 and 6.7 PPG, respectively. Senior Tyler Neal is putting up 4.9 PPG and 2.6 RPG. Adding to Bluffton's dominance on the block is freshman Thayne Recker who is scoring 6.8 PPG and clearing the glass with 4.9 RPG. Recker is 42-of-70 from the field (60.0 percent). Freshman slasher Nate Chambers is chipping in with 4.1 PPG and 2.3 RPG.

Projected Starters

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY "BEAVERS"

#05 Tyler Neal (PG)	SR	4.9 PPG, 2.6 RPG
#03 Josh Fisher (G)	SR	6.7 PPG, 2.1 APG
#24 Josh Johnson (G)	JR	8.9 PPG, 24-62 3 FG
#33 Dustin Kinn (F)	JR	11.5 PPG, 5.6 RPG
#44 Will Pope (C)	JR	10.7 PPG, 5.7 RPG

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY "SPARTANS"

#30 Grant Newlin (G)	SO	7.7 PPG, 2.7 APG
#22 Greg Flores (G)	SO	11.4 PPG, 39-46 FT
#03 Silas Sims (G/F)	SO	8.2 PPG, 4.5 RPG
#24 Jared Schrock (F)	SO	3.9 PPG, 3.3 RPG
#01 David House (F)	SR	9.0 PPG, 5.8 RPG

