



Bluffton University Men's Basketball

Franklin College
"Grizzlies"
(11-7, 6-5 HCAC)

Sommer Center
Jan 26, 2013
ALUMNI DAY

Bluffton University
"Beavers"
(8-10, 4-7 HCAC)



THE PREVIEW

WHEN: Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013 at 2 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. Bluffton has won four of its last five despite a heartbreaking 67-64 overtime loss at HCAC-leading RHIT on Saturday. Franklin (11-7, 6-5 HCAC) has lost two of its last three with a 73-69 overtime win at Earlham on January 19 sandwiched in the middle.

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 273-337. 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.

The head coach of the Grizzlies is Kerry Prather. He took over at Franklin in 1983 after one year as an assistant. Prather has won an astounding 463 games in his 29 years at the helm. His accomplishments include eight conference championships (six HCAC titles), one NAIA and five NCAA tournament appearances.

Last conference contest

Bluffton improved to 8-10 overall and 4-7 in the HCAC with their second thrashing of the Quakers (85-69) in two weeks. Thayne Recker led the way with a career-high 21 points on 8-of-11 shooting. He also pulled down 11 boards (nine offensive) for his second career double-double

Host Transylvania shot 62.0 percent for the night and pulled away in the second half en route to an 87-68 victory over Franklin College in the Beck Center on Wednesday night.

2012-13 HCAC Men's Basketball Standings

Team	HCAC	GB	Pct.	Overall	Pct.
RHIT	10-1	-	.909	15-2	.882
Transylvania	9-2	1	.818	14-4	.778
Hanover	9-2	1	.818	12-6	.667
Defiance	7-4	3	.636	11-7	.611
Franklin	6-5	4	.545	11-7	.611
MSJ	5-6	5	.455	6-12	.333
Bluffton	4-7	6	.364	8-10	.444
Anderson	3-8	7	.273	7-11	.389
Manchester	1-10	9	.091	4-13	.235
Earlham	1-10	9	.091	2-16	.111

Leading the Beavers

Junior posts Dustin Kinn and Will Pope have been the foundation for the Beavers while putting up 11.3 PPG and just under six boards apiece. Kinn's FG percentage (59.1 percent) is second in the conference behind freshman Thayne Recker. Pope has connected on 90-of-165 (54.5 percent) field goals, giving Bluffton three of the top seven shooters in the HCAC. Josh Johnson and Josh Fisher are averaging 9.4 and 7.6 PPG, respectively. Senior Tyler Neal is putting up 4.8 PPG and 2.6 RPG. Adding to Bluffton's dominance on the block is Thayne Recker who is scoring 7.9 PPG and clearing the glass with 5.2 RPG. Recker is 58-of-89 from the field (65.2 percent), placing him atop the HCAC leaderboard for FG percentage.

Projected Starters

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY "BEAVERS"

#05 Tyler Neal (PG)	SR	4.8 PPG, 2.6 RPG
#03 Josh Fisher (G)	SR	7.6 PPG, 2.4 APG
#23 Ryan Ebbeskotte (G)	SO	2.4 PPG, 2.4 APG
#33 Dustin Kinn (F)	JR	11.3 PPG, 5.6 RPG
#44 Will Pope (C)	JR	11.3 PPG, 5.9 RPG

FRANKLIN COLLEGE "GRIZZLIES"

#10 Trae Washington (G)	FR	5.1 PPG, 1.6 APG
#20 Bailey Howard (G)	JR	18.6 PPG, 39-89 3 FG
#24 J.T. Barton (G)	JR	8.2 PPG, 55-107 FG
#34 Troy Porter (F)	JR	8.3 PPG, 57-67 FT
#42 Gunner Erwin (F)	SR	16.2 PPG, 6.4 RPG

2012-13 Bluffton University Basketball Statistics (8-10, 4-7 HCAC)

##	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds										pts	avg				
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fga	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl						
33	Kinn, Dustin	18-18	460	25.6	81-137	.591	0-2	.000	42-57	.737	35	65	100	5.6	42	1	34	19	2	18	204	11.3				
44	Pope, Will	18-17	452	25.1	90-165	.545	0-0	.000	23-39	.590	47	59	106	5.9	36	0	24	39	3	9	203	11.3				
24	Johnson, Josh	16-16	393	24.6	52-142	.366	29-70	.414	17-27	.630	12	41	53	3.3	29	0	28	27	0	7	150	9.4				
50	Recker, Thayne	18-1	322	17.9	58-89	.652	0-0	.000	27-38	.711	43	51	94	5.2	34	0	13	18	12	9	143	7.9				
03	Fisher, Josh	18-18	472	26.2	47-152	.309	14-60	.233	28-40	.700	6	47	53	2.9	29	0	44	42	1	20	136	7.6				
05	Neal, Tyler	18-18	342	19.0	31-82	.378	14-43	.326	11-19	.579	5	41	46	2.6	33	0	28	29	1	13	87	4.8				
20	Chambers, Nate	15-0	187	12.5	22-58	.379	5-20	.250	6-10	.600	7	30	37	2.5	14	0	13	10	3	6	55	3.7				
10	Taffinger, Billy	14-0	168	12.0	13-37	.351	4-10	.400	13-15	.867	3	17	20	1.4	19	0	17	10	0	5	43	3.1				
23	Ebbeskotte, Ryan	18-2	331	18.4	17-42	.405	6-12	.500	4-7	.571	11	23	34	1.9	21	0	44	19	3	11	44	2.4				
11	Mahnke, Jacob	5-0	20	4.0	3-8	.375	3-6	.500	1-2	.500	0	2	2	0.4	2	0	1	1	0	1	10	2.0				
30	Long, Dillon	16-0	94	5.9	13-29	.448	0-0	.000	3-5	.600	13	18	31	1.9	16	0	1	8	1	1	29	1.8				
34	Gerdeman, Matt	11-0	56	5.1	8-12	.667	0-0	.000	3-6	.500	4	8	12	1.1	5	0	2	2	0	1	19	1.7				
11	Bihn, Nate	4-0	21	5.3	2-5	.400	0-1	.000	1-1	1.000	2	4	6	1.5	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	1.3				
04	Homier, Brock	16-0	118	7.4	7-15	.467	5-10	.500	1-3	.333	4	8	12	0.8	13	0	14	6	1	7	20	1.3				
12	Weisenborn, Matt	12-0	72	6.0	4-16	.250	3-7	.429	2-4	.500	0	3	3	0.3	5	0	4	7	0	4	13	1.1				
40	Fowler, Jon	13-0	64	4.9	5-18	.278	0-0	.000	4-7	.571	7	5	12	0.9	8	0	1	6	3	1	14	1.1				
22	Rumbaugh, Zach	7-0	26	3.7	2-7	.286	1-4	.250	0-0	.000	2	4	6	0.9	4	0	3	4	0	4	5	0.7				
22	Tackett, Blade	4-0	19	4.8	0-2	.000	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	2	2	4	1.0	5	0	2	2	0	3	0	0.0				
11	Green, Blake	1-0	1	1.0	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0				
11	Turner, Jordan	2-0	7	3.5	0-2	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	0.5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.0				
Team											28	21	49											5		
Total.....		18	3625	455-1019		.447	84-246	.341	186-280	.664	231	451	682	37.9	318	1	274	254	30	120	1180	65.6				
Opponents.....		18	3623	393-922		.426	106-345	.307	224-325	.689	137	376	513	28.5	302	-	206	230	73	131	1116	62.0				

Bluffton-Franklin team stats

	<u>Bluffton</u>	<u>Franklin</u>
Points/game	65.6	69.8
Points allowed/game	62.0	68.7
Total FG	455-1019	410-908
FG %	44.7 %	45.2 %
3-point FG	84-246	128-334
3-pt %	34.1 %	38.3 %
Free throws	186-280	309-405
FT %	66.4 %	76.3 %
Rebounds per game	37.9	26.3
Rebound +/-	+9.4	-4.7
Turnovers per game	14.1	12.8
Turnovers +/-	-1.3	+3.1
Steals per game	6.7	7.7
Blocks per game	1.7	2.6

Bluffton vs. Franklin all-time series

Franklin leads the all-time series with a record of 25-9. The series started on Dec. 6, 1996 with a Franklin victory. The Grizzlies have won eight of the last 10 meetings, with Bluffton's only home win during that span coming on Jan. 29, 2011.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Location</u>
12-1-12	Franklin	58-42	Franklin, IN
1-28-12	Bluffton	65-57	Franklin, IN
12-3-11	Franklin	82-79	Founders Hall
1-29-11	Bluffton	88-76	Founders Hall
12-11-10	Franklin	74-62	Franklin, IN

Next up for the Beavers and Grizzlies

After Saturday's game, Bluffton travels to Mount St. Joseph on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Franklin welcomes rival Hanover College on Wednesday for a 7:30 p.m. showdown with the Panthers.

2012-13 Franklin College Basketball Statistics (11-7, 6-5 HCAC)

##	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds										pts	avg				
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fga	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl						
20	Howard, Bailey	18-18	557	30.9	106-225	.471	39-89	.438	83-96	.865	16	29	45	2.5	43	2	38	46	1	20	334	18.6				
42	Erwin, Gunner	18-18	594	33.0	97-218	.445	31-75	.413	67-99	.677	24	91	115	6.4	50	2	24	25	15	19	292	16.2				
34	Porter, Troy	18-18	510	28.3	40-92	.435	13-30	.433	57-67	.851	17	50	67	3.7	59	3	11	26	5	12	150	8.3				
24	Barton, J.T.	18-14	441	24.5	55-107	.514	9-22	.409	29-33	.879	18	33	51	2.8	42	0	25	35	1	26	148	8.2				
15	Sargent, Terry	18-8	360	20.0	29-61	.475	8-22	.364	31-52	.596	15	29	44	2.4	31	0	33	29	2	24	97	5.4				
10	Washington, Trae	18-12	479	26.6	30-90	.333	19-59	.322	12-18	.667	4	13	17	0.9	43	0	29	26	2	18	91	5.1				
51	Smith, Dion	18-0	312	17.3	32-58	.552	0-2	.000	19-27	.704	23	46	69	3.8	43	0	17	18	19	10	83	4.6				
32	Kwiatkowski, Mark	17-0	177	10.4	11-31	.355	7-22	.318	2-2	1.000	4	6	10	0.6	11	0	7	9	1	4	31	1.8				
12	Ellis, Patrick	11-2	142	12.9	5-12	.417	0-5	.000	7-9	.778	1	4	5	0.5	24	1	12	8	0	4	17	1.5				
30	Hughes, Callan	12-0	45	3.8	4-13	.308	2-8	.250	2-2	1.000	0	4	4	0.3	9	0	2	4	0	2	12	1.0				
54	Thomas, Wade	3-0	5	1.7	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7				
52	Rund, Jacob	2-0	2	1.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0				
44	Carruthers, Chris	1-0	1	1.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0				
Team											24	22	46											5		
Total.....		18	3625	410-908		.452	128-334	.383	309-405	.763	146	327	473	26.3	355	8	198	231	46	139	1257	69.8				
Opponents.....		18	3626	436-866		.503	82-227	.361	282-406	.695	162	396	558	31.0	353	-	185	286	54	106	1236	68.7				