



Bluffton University Men's Basketball

Mount St. Joseph
"Lions"
(6-13, 5-7 HCAC)

Harrington Arena
Jan. 30, 2013
7:30 PM

Bluffton University
"Beavers"
(9-10, 5-7 HCAC)



THE PREVIEW

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

WHERE: Cincinnati, Ohio (Harrington Arena)

INTERNET: Watch live updates on the Bluffton website
<http://www.msjsports.com/media/livestats/mbb/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 five of its last six after taking down Franklin, 72-69, at home on Saturday. The Beavers are now tied with MSJ for the sixth and final spot in the upcoming HCAC tournament. The Mount has lost 10 of its last 11 games.

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 274-337. 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.

Toby Carrigan is back for his second season as the Mount's head basketball coach, and the College's second men's basketball coach in school history. During his time at Transylvania, Carrigan, who was the team's top assistant, saw the Pioneers win four HCAC championships.

Last contest

The Bluffton men defeated Franklin College, 72-69, on Saturday, Jan. 26, showing off in front of the Alumni Day and Hall of Fame crowd. Bluffton was led by Will Pope with 15 points and eight rebounds. Ryan Ebbeskotte contributed a career-high 13 points and went 2-of-2 from deep.

Rose-Hulman hit 57 percent from the field in the first half as the Engineers came away with a 60-39 home win over MSJ. Ken Kunkel paced the Mount with 13 points and 10 rebounds, his third double-double of the season.

2012-13 HCAC Men's Basketball Standings

Team	HCAC	GB	Pct.	Overall	Pct.
RHIT	11-1	-	.917	17-2	.895
Transylvania	10-2	1	.833	15-4	.789
Hanover	10-2	1	.833	13-6	.684
Defiance	7-5	4	.583	11-8	.579
Franklin	6-6	5	.500	11-8	.579
Bluffton	5-7	6	.417	9-10	.474
MSJ	5-7	6	.417	6-13	.316
Anderson	4-8	7	.333	8-11	.421
Manchester	1-11	10	.083	4-15	.211
Earlham	1-11	10	.083	2-17	.105

Leading the Beavers

Junior posts Will Pope (6.0 RPG) and Dustin Kinn (5.6 RPG) have been the foundation for the Beavers while putting up 11.5 PPG and 11.2 PPG, respectively. Kinn's FG percentage (58.7 percent) is second in the conference behind freshman Thayne Recker. Pope has connected on 96-of-177 (54.2 percent) field goals, giving Bluffton three of the top eight shooters in the HCAC. Josh Johnson and Josh Fisher are averaging 9.4 and 7.8 PPG, respectively. Senior Tyler Neal is putting up 4.9 PPG and 2.7 RPG. Adding to Bluffton's brilliance on the block is Thayne Recker who is scoring 7.8 PPG and clearing the glass with 5.2 RPG. Recker is 59-of-91 from the field (64.8 percent), placing him atop the HCAC leaderboard for FG percentage.

Projected Starters

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY "BEAVERS"

#05 Tyler Neal (PG)	SR	4.9 PPG, 2.7 RPG
#03 Josh Fisher (G)	SR	7.8 PPG, 2.6 APG
#23 Ryan Ebbeskotte (G)	SO	3.0 PPG, 2.4 APG
#33 Dustin Kinn (F)	JR	11.2 PPG, 5.6 RPG
#44 Will Pope (C)	JR	11.5 PPG, 6.0 RPG

COLLEGE OF MOUNT ST. JOSEPH "LIONS"

#03 Joel Scudder (G)	SO	14.2 PPG, 56-130 3 FG
#05 Jordan Payne (G)	FR	2.0 PPG, 1.1 RPG
#15 Andy Countryman (G)	SO	8.6 PPG, 1.5 APG
#04 David Mann (F)	JR	11.8 PPG, 44-50 FT
#25 Ken Kunkel (F)	SO	8.6 PPG, 5.8 RPG

2012-13 Bluffton University Basketball Statistics (9-10, 5-7 HCAC)

##	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds				pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg								
44	Pope, Will	19-18	487	25.6	96-177	.542	0-0	.000	26-43	.605	51	63	114	6.0	38	0	26	41	3	10	218	11.5
33	Kinn, Dustin	19-19	488	25.7	84-143	.587	0-2	.000	45-62	.726	37	69	106	5.6	46	1	35	20	3	18	213	11.2
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	19-1	340	17.9	59-91	.648	0-0	.000	30-42	.714	46	53	99	5.2	38	0	13	19	12	10	148	7.8
03	Fisher, Josh	19-19	500	26.3	50-159	.314	14-61	.230	34-46	.739	6	52	58	3.1	31	0	49	45	2	21	148	7.8
05	Neal, Tyler	19-19	367	19.3	33-89	.371	14-45	.311	13-23	.565	7	44	51	2.7	36	0	30	31	1	13	93	4.9
10	Taflinger, Billy	15-0	189	12.6	18-44	.409	5-11	.455	14-16	.875	3	20	23	1.5	21	0	18	12	0	6	55	3.7
20	Chambers, Nate	16-0	198	12.4	22-60	.367	5-21	.238	6-10	.600	7	31	38	2.4	15	0	13	10	3	7	55	3.4
23	Ebbeskotte, Ryan	19-3	364	19.2	20-49	.408	8-14	.571	9-13	.692	12	25	37	1.9	22	0	45	20	3	12	57	3.0
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	17-0	119	7.0	7-15	.467	5-10	.500	1-3	.333	4	8	12	0.7	13	0	14	6	1	7	20	1.2
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											30	21	51				6					
Total.....		19	3825		478-1069	.447	87-253	.344	209-310	.674	245	475	720	37.9	337	1	286	267	32	126	1252	65.9
Opponents.....		19	3823		417-977	.427	111-365	.304	240-347	.692	146	391	537	28.3	327	-	223	239	80	141	1185	62.4

Bluffton-MSJ team stats

	<u>Bluffton</u>	<u>MSJ</u>
Points/game	65.9	58.3
Points allowed/game	62.4	65.3
Total FG	478-1069	385-856
FG %	44.7 %	45.0 %
3-point FG	87-253	143-381
3-pt %	34.4 %	37.5 %
Free throws	209-310	195-299
FT %	67.4 %	65.2 %
Rebounds per game	37.9	25.3
Rebound +/-	+9.6	-5.2
Turnovers per game	14.1	13.7
Turnovers +/-	-1.5	-2.0
Steals per game	6.6	4.6
Blocks per game	1.7	1.4

Bluffton vs. MSJ all-time series

Bluffton trails MSJ in the all-time series by a slim 15-14 margin after the Lions snuck out of the Sommer Center with a 56-54 victory in November. The series dates back to 1999 when Mount St. Joseph captured the lidlifter, the first of seven consecutive MSJ victories. Bluffton has owned the series recently, winning nine of the last 12 contests.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Location</u>
11-28-2012	MSJ	56-54	Sommer
2-1-2012	Bluffton	74-64 (OT)	Founders
11-30-2011	Bluffton	52-39	Away
1-26-2011	Bluffton	85-73	Away
12-1-2011	Bluffton	82-76	Founders

Next up for the Beavers and Lions

The Beavers go to Anderson University for a 4 p.m. contest with the Ravens, while MSJ welcomes Defiance College at 3 p.m. Both games are slated for Saturday, Feb. 2.

2012-13 Mt. St. Joseph Basketball Statistics (6-13, 5-7 HCAC)

##	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds				pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
					fg-fga	pct	3fg-fga	pct	ft-fa	pct	off	def	tot	avg								
03	Scudder, Joel	19-19	593	31.2	88-194	.454	56-130	.431	37-48	.771	6	36	42	2.2	34	0	36	43	3	9	269	14.2
04	Mann, David	19-19	500	26.3	75-153	.490	31-76	.408	44-50	.880	9	42	51	2.7	51	2	20	33	10	10	225	11.8
25	Kunkel, Ken	19-17	549	28.9	57-120	.475	13-33	.394	37-52	.712	29	82	111	5.8	33	0	30	23	4	23	164	8.6
15	Countryman, Andy	19-19	536	28.2	60-136	.441	17-58	.293	26-38	.684	6	25	31	1.6	46	1	29	38	0	14	163	8.6
42	Daniels, Jacob	19-13	390	20.5	28-54	.519	0-0	.000	18-51	.353	27	67	94	4.9	50	3	28	44	6	7	74	3.9
02	Combs, Travis	11-1	177	16.1	16-27	.593	0-6	.000	5-11	.455	3	17	20	1.8	8	0	10	8	0	6	37	3.4
12	Bush, Donald	16-0	193	12.1	17-52	.327	5-16	.313	9-13	.692	6	10	16	1.0	21	0	11	15	2	5	48	3.0
14	Pflum, Jack	8-0	80	10.0	6-17	.353	5-12	.417	3-6	.500	1	10	11	1.4	9	0	8	5	1	0	20	2.5
13	Evans, VJ	10-3	124	12.4	7-24	.292	3-9	.333	6-6	1.000	1	6	7	0.7	19	0	7	10	0	1	23	2.3
05	Payne, Jordan	19-3	308	16.2	15-38	.395	7-18	.389	1-5	.200	1	20	21	1.1	16	0	16	14	0	5	38	2.0
11	Kincaid, Keegan	9-0	51	5.7	4-9	.444	1-4	.250	4-6	.667	1	4	5	0.6	4	0	3	6	0	3	13	1.4
20	Rennekamp, Jake	11-0	128	11.6	5-13	.385	1-6	.167	3-7	.429	2	19	21	1.9	10	0	8	2	0	1	14	1.3
10	Lane, Danny	9-0	74	8.2	2-6	.333	2-5	.400	2-3	.667	3	6	9	1.0	6	0	4	4	1	3	8	0.9
21	Gallenstein, Ryan	7-0	46	6.6	3-8	.375	0-3	.000	0-2	.000	0	1	1	0.1	9	0	4	4	0	0	6	0.9
22	Mitchell, Jordan	7-0	17	2.4	2-5	.400	2-5	.400	0-1	.000	0	0	0	0.0	2	0	1	1	0	0	6	0.9
24	Gallenstein, Lee	6-1	34	5.7	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	2	2	0.3	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0.0
Total.....		19	3800		385-856	.450	143-381	.375	195-299	.652	111	370	481	25.3	320	6	217	260	27	87	1108	58.3
Opponents.....		19	3800		451-939	.480	99-305	.325	239-356	.671	178	402	580	30.5	300	-	214	222	51	141	1240	65.3