



Bluffton University Men's Basketball

Franklin College
"Grizzlies"
(2-2, 0-0 HCAC)

Spurlock Gym
Dec. 1, 2012
4 PM

Bluffton University
"Beavers"
(1-3, 0-1 HCAC)



THE PREVIEW

WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012 at 4 PM

WHERE: Franklin, Indiana (Spurlock Gymnasium)

INTERNET: Watch live updates on the Bluffton University Website
<http://www.franklingrizzlies.com/fc/TAS/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. All 16 players saw significant action with 13 Beavers making it into the scoring column. Bluffton kicked off Heartland Conference play with a disappointing 56-54 loss to Mount St. Joseph in the Sommer Center on Wednesday night. The Beavers travel to Franklin College for a women's and men's doubleheader on Saturday before hosting Kalamazoo College at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

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 265-328. 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 452 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 contest

The men's basketball team fell to Mount St. Joseph in their first HCAC contest of the season, 56-54, on Wednesday night. Bluffton was led by Will Pope who connected for 16 points on 6-of-12 shooting from the field. Josh Fisher and Dustin Kinn added 10 and nine points, respectively.

Franklin College cruised past host Millikin University in the second half and captured its first road decision of the season, 82-73, on Wednesday evening.

2012-13 HCAC Men's Basketball Standings

Team	HCAC	GB	Pct.	Overall	Pct.
MSJ	1-0	-	1.000	2-2	.500
RHIT	0-0	0.5	-	4-1	.800
Hanover	0-0	0.5	-	3-1	.750
Anderson	0-0	0.5	-	2-1	.667
Defiance	0-0	0.5	-	2-2	.500
Franklin	0-0	0.5	-	2-2	.500
Manchester	0-0	0.5	-	3-3	.500
Transylvania	0-0	0.5	-	2-2	.500
Earlham	0-0	0.5	-	1-5	.167
Bluffton	0-1	1	.000	1-3	.750

Leading the Beavers

Junior post Will Pope leads the Beavers with 13.3 PPG and 6.5 RPG, including 14 offensive boards in the first four games. He is 22-of-44 from the field and has six assists as well. Also in double figures is fellow junior banger Dustin Kinn who is checking in with 10.0 PPG on 15-of-29 shooting from the field. Senior swingman Josh Fisher is averaging 9.5 PPG and 3.3 RPG. In his first year as a starter for the Beavers, senior Tyler Neal is putting up 7.8 PPG and 4.8 RPG thanks to a career-high 10 rebounds against Case Reserve and a career-best 15 points in a tight loss to Johns Hopkins. Junior marksman Josh Johnson is pulling down 5.5 RPG while dropping in 7.0 PPG on 6-of-18 shooting

Projected Starters

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY "BEAVERS"

#05 Tyler Neal (PG)	SR	7.8 PPG, 2.3 APG
#24 Josh Johnson (G)	JR	7.0 PPG, 5.5 RPG
#03 Josh Fisher (G)	SR	9.5 PPG, 6-7 FT
#33 Dustin Kinn (F)	JR	10.0 PPG, 15-29 FG
#44 Will Pope (C)	JR	13.3 PPG, 6.5 RPG

FRANKLIN COLLEGE "GRIZZLIES"

#15 Terry Sargent (G)	JR	5.3 PPG, 2.3 APG
#20 Bailey Howard (G)	JR	17.3 PPG, 9-21 3FG
#24 J.T. Barton (G)	JR	11.8 PPG, 2.5 APG
#34 Troy Porter (F)	JR	8.0 PPG, 13-13 FT
#42 Gunner Erwin (F)	SR	14.0 PPG, 6.5 RPG

2012-13 Bluffton University Basketball Statistics (1-3, 0-1 HCAC)

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds											
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
44	Pope, Will	4-4	109	27.3	22-44	.500	0-0	.000	9-13	.692	14	12	26	6.5	7	0	6	7	0	3	53	13.3
33	Kinn, Dustin	4-4	99	24.8	15-29	.517	0-2	.000	10-12	.833	4	3	7	1.8	12	1	5	6	0	3	40	10.0
03	Fisher, Josh	4-4	119	29.8	14-47	.298	4-18	.222	6-7	.857	1	12	13	3.3	6	0	9	12	0	5	38	9.5
05	Neal, Tyler	4-4	90	22.5	10-24	.417	6-14	.429	5-8	.625	1	18	19	4.8	8	0	9	6	0	4	31	7.8
24	Johnson, Josh	4-4	107	26.8	10-36	.278	6-18	.333	2-5	.400	6	16	22	5.5	12	0	7	7	0	2	28	7.0
50	Recker, Thayne	4-0	50	12.5	9-14	.643	0-0	.000	5-6	.833	7	6	13	3.3	3	0	2	4	2	0	23	5.8
30	Long, Dillon	4-0	36	9.0	7-13	.538	0-0	.000	3-5	.600	5	6	11	2.8	6	0	0	1	0	1	17	4.3
20	Chambers, Nate	1-0	10	10.0	2-4	.500	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	6	6	6.0	2	0	0	1	0	1	4	4.0
10	Taffinger, Billy	1-0	11	11.0	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	2	0	4	0	0	1	2	2.0
04	Homier, Brock	3-0	13	4.3	2-4	.500	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	2	0	0	3	5	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
12	Weisenborn, Matt	2-0	16	8.0	0-2	.000	0-2	.000	2-2	1.000	0	0	0	0.0	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	1.0
40	Fowler, Jon	3-0	17	5.7	1-6	.167	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	3	3	1.0	2	0	0	1	2	0	2	0.7
23	Ebbeskotte, Ryan	4-0	76	19.0	1-6	.167	0-2	.000	0-0	.000	1	5	6	1.5	2	0	8	6	1	5	2	0.5
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
34	Gerdeman, Matt	1-0	7	7.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	2	2	2.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Team											8	5	13				2					
Total.....		4	800		96-238	.403	17-60	.283	43-59	.729	51	100	151	37.8	71	1	56	57	5	33	252	63.0
Opponents.....		4	800		76-190	.400	22-76	.289	47-73	.644	28	98	126	31.5	67	-	42	74	27	26	221	55.2

Bluffton-Franklin team stats

	<u>Bluffton</u>	<u>Franklin</u>
Points/game	63.0	71.2
Points allowed/game	55.2	73.2
Total FG	96-238	94-212
FG %	40.3 %	44.3 %
3-point FG	17-60	28-68
3-pt %	28.3 %	41.2 %
Free throws	43-59	69-88
FT %	72.9 %	78.4 %
Rebounds per game	37.8	25.8
Rebound +/-	+6.3	-5.5
Turnovers per game	14.3	15.3
Turnovers +/-	+4.3	+2.3
Steals per game	8.3	9.0
Blocks per game	1.3	2.0

Bluffton vs. Franklin all-time series

Franklin leads the all-time series with a record of 24-9. The series started on Dec. 6, 1996 with a Franklin victory. The Grizzlies have won seven of the last nine meetings, but Bluffton defeated Franklin 65-57 when the teams last met at the Spurlock Center a season ago.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Location</u>
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
1-30-10	Franklin	62-59	Franklin, IN

Next up for the Beavers and Grizzlies

After Saturday's game, Bluffton welcomes non-league foe Kalamazoo on Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. Franklin travels to rival Hanover College on Wednesday for a 7:30 PM showdown with the Panthers.

2012-13 Franklin College Basketball Statistics (2-2, 0-0 HCAC)

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds											
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
20	Howard, Bailey	4-4	129	32.2	23-55	.418	9-21	.429	14-15	.933	6	5	11	2.8	8	0	11	13	0	5	69	17.3
42	Erwin, Gunner	4-4	118	29.5	19-42	.452	4-10	.400	14-17	.824	5	21	26	6.5	16	1	4	5	3	4	56	14.0
24	Barton, J.T.	4-4	131	32.8	15-32	.469	3-5	.600	14-16	.875	2	10	12	3.0	9	0	10	9	0	10	47	11.8
34	Porter, Troy	4-4	93	23.3	8-24	.333	3-8	.375	13-13	1.000	3	8	11	2.8	10	0	2	7	2	1	32	8.0
15	Sargent, Terry	4-4	91	22.8	7-16	.438	1-6	.167	6-14	.429	3	8	11	2.8	10	0	9	8	0	4	21	5.3
51	Smith, Dion	4-0	63	15.8	6-11	.545	0-0	.000	6-10	.600	4	10	14	3.5	8	0	3	6	1	1	18	4.5
32	Kwiatkowski, Mark	4-0	55	13.8	5-10	.500	3-7	.429	0-0	.000	2	2	4	1.0	2	0	4	4	1	4	13	3.3
10	Washington, Trae	4-0	70	17.5	5-11	.455	3-6	.500	0-1	.000	3	3	6	1.5	8	0	6	5	1	5	13	3.3
30	Hughes, Callan	4-0	26	6.5	4-9	.444	2-5	.400	2-2	1.000	0	2	2	0.5	3	0	1	4	0	1	12	3.0
54	Thomas, Wade	1-0	2	2.0	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2.0
12	Ellis, Patrick	2-0	22	11.0	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	7	1	0	0	0	1	2	1.0
Team											2	4	6									
Total.....		4	800		94-212	.443	28-68	.412	69-88	.784	30	73	103	25.8	81	2	50	61	8	36	285	71.2
Opponents.....		4	800		107-206	.519	16-48	.333	63-88	.716	32	93	125	31.3	80	-	44	70	20	33	293	73.2