

Cardinal Stritch cage coaches pleased with season outlook

Cardinal Stritch boys

Coach: Jamie Kachmarik, seventh year,

Last Year: 18-7 (8-2 TAAC)

Key Players: Jhaiden Wilson, Sr., G: Ross Thompson, Sr, C; Dwayne Morehead, Sr., F; Lamon Burton, Jr., F

Preview: Kachmarik has six returning letter winners to keep the momentum in his program going this year.

Jhaiden Wilson returns after earning first team All-TAAC, second team all-dis-

trict and first team All-Press last year. He averaged 20.3 points, 2.3 rebounds and 2.2 assists. Ross Thompson in 11 games averaged 3.9 points and 5.3 rebounds and Dwayne Morehead three points and four rebounds.

Leading the backcourt this year will be Wilson, Brenden Revels and Owen Carter.

'Jhaiden has proven he is one of the best guards in this area over the last two seasons. Brenden and Owen are two sophomores who compete and have great basketball IQ," Kachmarik said.

Revels and Carter are first year players expected to contribute immediately.

"Brenden has great basketball IQ and he can shoot it, Owen is a tough guard who plays hard," Kachmarik said.

At the wing are Morehead, Lamon Burton and Romel Hightower.

'Dwayne played a lot of minutes last season and plays extremely hard, especially on the defensive end," Kachmarik said. "Lamon has really worked on his game during this past off-season. He has made huge strides both offensively and defensively. Romel is a very talented sophomore who can play above the rim. Romel is extremely athletic and will cause problems on the defensive end."

Thompson and Kam Hughes will take over in the paint.

"Ross is 6-8 and strong. He has developed into one of the best big men in this area," Kachmarik said. "Kam is a sophomore who has really committed to changing his body and becoming much stronger. Kam can step out and shoot as well, which



Cardinal Stritch 6-8 senior forward Ross Thompson. (Press photo by Doug Karns/ www.DougKarns.smugmug.com)

makes him a dual threat as a post player."

Kachmarik says because his team has 'speed and athleticism," they will play up tempo this year. Wilson and Thompson expect to be the scorers and both will play collegiately. Thompson has committed to the University of Indiana South Bend (NAIA) and Wilson has narrowed down his list to Wayne State and Palm Beach Atlantic University (NCAAA D-II)

Jhaiden has proven that he can score the basketball. Ross has really worked and will get things done in the paint," Kachmarik said.

Kachmarik says Morehead Thompson have shown significant improvement since last year.

"Dwayne has gotten stronger and quicker. Ross has been committed to working on his game and on his strength," Kachmarik said.

Morehead, Burton, Clarence Brown, Carter and Hightower will be top defensive players because "these guys are quick,

tough and athletic," said Kachmarik. Kachmarik says the TAAC, which has become one of Northwest Ohio's best basketball leagues, will be talented across the board again.

	CARDINAL STRITCH	Boys	Ros	TER	
1	Lamon Burton	6'1	175	Jr	F
2	Jack Reichert	6'3	170	Sr	F
3	Jhaiden Wilson	5'9	140	Sr	G
4	Romel Hightower	6'4	170	So	F
5	Dwayne Morehead	6'2	195	Sr	F
10	Christian Burton	5'7	115	So	G
12	Owen Carter	5'8	130	So	G
14	Clarence Brown	5'9	140	Jr	G
15	Idro Price	5'7	140	So	G
20	Brenden Revels	6'2	160	So	G
21	Kam Hughes	6'3	215	So	F
24	Kyle Swiergosz	6'0	195	Sr	G
42	Ross Thompson	6'8	220	Sr	F

Cardinal Stritch girls

Coach: Brad Hohenberger, secon \overline{d} year, 4-19 **Last Year:** 4-19 (0-8 TĂAC)

Key Players: Samantha Turner, Sr., G; Samantha Boraggina, Sr., F; Allison Fellman, Sr., F; Keera Garmon, Jr., G; Brooke Conley, Jr., P; Sydney Payeff, So., G; Olivia Cronin, So., F

Preview: Hohenberger's first year as girls coach at Stritch saw just four wins, but he has eight letter winners returning this year. That includes Samantha Turner, who was second team All-Toledo Area Athletic Conference and honorable mention alldistrict after averaging 11.7 points, 2.8 rebounds. 2.6 assists and 3.7 steals. Turner is joined by Samantha Boraginna, who was honorable mention All-TAAC.

"Samantha Turner will be a reliable



and dangerous scorer this year," Hohenberger said. "She was in the top five scorers in the TAAC all of last year and I think she has elevated her game even more over the offseason, look for her to post big numbers.

"Sydney Payeff as a sophomore will be looked upon to run the team from the point guard spot this year, she played in every game last year and started 19 of our 23 games at the point guard spot. That experience has made her so much better and I think this will be a breakout year

"Lastly, we have freshman Linnea Hughes who I think has the talent to contribute big at the varsity level right away if she puts the work in.

'Samantha Boraggina will be counted on to defend the opponent's best perimeter player each and every game much like she was last year. Keera Garmon will be a hardnosed player who will attack the rim and get to the line after having experience on varsity the last few years. I think she will really shine as a junior.

"Allison Fellman will be counted on to do a bit of everything this year from rebounding to defending post players, and score at the rim. She is ultra athletic and I think she found a lot of confidence in her game last year which could lead to a big senior year. This year's team will look to a junior in Brooke Conley and a freshman in Mariasia Brown to play the post."



23 Analise Quiroga 24 Samantha Boraggina 44 Lillian Hugill

50 Asia Brown

Jr Forward So Forward Sr G/F Fr F/C Fr C

GO CARDINALS!

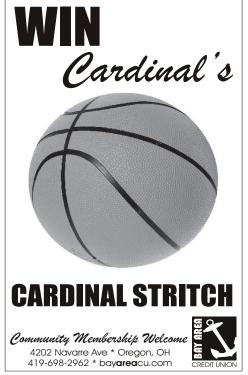
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Clay cagers face tough task competing in tough conference

Clay boys

Coach: David Rodriguez, fourth year, 14-48

Last Year: 4-18 (1-12, TRAC) Key Players: Frank Waganfeald, Sr., PF/C; Keeghan Calkins, Sr., G; Noah Hagdohl, Sr., F; Scotty Wollard Sr., G; Ethan Spears, Sr., F; Christian Mayes, So., G; Logan Heintschel, Sr., F

Preview: Clay returns six lettermen, including second team All-Three Rivers Athletic Conference and first team all-district big man Frank Waganfeald. Joining him is second team All-TRAC player and honorable mention all-district player Noah Hagdohl and HM All-TRAC selec-

tion Keeghan Calkins.

Rodriguez says Waganfeald "is the best big man in the area" after averaging 14 points and eight rebounds and Hagdohl scored 13 points and had five rebounds per game.

Coach Rodriguez says Scotty Wollard will be the team's "floor general" and Keeghan Calkins the "heart and soul of our team" and "probably the best defensive player in the district.

"He's a relentless player that never gives up," Rodriguez said of Calkins. "He competes even if he's undersized. He's fast and has a knack for the ball. We're going to miss that kid when he's gone."

The coach adds that Christian Mayes and Ben Jones are inexperienced, "but have a ton of talent and are really good shoot-

The coach adds that Hagdohl is "our best player," Ethan Spears is "strong, athletic and starting to be aggressive, Logan Heintschel brings a number of key elements.

Once he gets used to the speed of the game for not playing for a couple years he's a key inside player, smart, and strong. He knows his role and is willing to do anything for us to win, plus he's a great leader," Rodriguez said about Heintschel.

Rodriguez says the Eagles will have to limit opponents' scoring opportunities in order to win.

"We always focus on the defensive side of the ball first," Rodriguez said. "This year we will have a good inside presence



Clay 6-foot-7 center Frank Waganfeald. (File photo by Amy Hansen)

with Noah and Frank but for the first time since I've been here we can surround them with shooters."

The Clay coach says Waganfeald and Hagdohl will be the scorers again, however, they have different ways of scoring. He says both could move on to the next level, too, if they keep working at it.

"Teams can try to pick their poison," Rodriguez said. "They're both tall and aggressive inside and can shoot outside. I'm glad they are on our team. Frank and Noah are both getting recruited at this time but have not made a commitment to where they want to play until probably towards the end of the season.

Rodriguez adds that Wollard and

Spears are showing significant improvement from last year.

"For Scotty, I think we're going to be able to get the ball out of his hands a little bit more and allow him to be a shooter which he is very good at, instead of always having him run the point for us," Rodriguez said. "For Ethan, it's just about giving him confidence to be aggressive. He is a strong, athletic young man that is now starting to understand what we want him to do offen-

Jones and Mays are the ones who may catch some people by surprise, Rodriguez

"Ben Jones may be undersized but he is a fantastic scorer and can shoot the ball really well, handle it really well and is a good defender. For Christian, we need to get him confidence as the year goes on. Being a varsity player now, he is going to allow us to be more multi-dimensional. He is a really good shooter and defender," Rodriguez said.

CLAY BOYS ROSTER

- Zach Woollard 12 Andrew Naugle
- Keeghan Calkins 14 Ben Jones
- Scotty Woollard 20 Max Alm
- **Ethan Spears** 23 Logan Heintschel
- Noah Hagdohl 24 Jakob Morris
- 34 Frank Waganfeald 10 Christian Mays 11 Garrett Long 40 Caleb Bench

Clay girls

Coach: Julia Henneman-Dallape, first year **Last Year:** 6-18 (3-11 TRAC)

Key Players: Meah Przybylski, Jr., F; Kylee Tabler, Jr., F; Alexis Huntermark, So., G; Camryn Reiter, So., G; Lauren Mahler, Sr.,

Preview: For first-year coach Julie Henneman-Dallape, honorable mention All-Three Rivers Athletic Conference guard Alexis Huntermark returns.

"Lexi Huntermark is our only returning starter and has returned strong. She is stepping up as a leader and has a bright future," Henneman-Dallape said. "Lexi Huntermark took what happened last year and used it to grow. I am expecting her to come out and lead with her experience."



However, the coach has other weapons at her disposal.

"Cam Reiter is going to lead the team with her tenacious D. She is also

very comfortable bringing the ball up and shooting from the field," Henneman-Dallape said. "Kaylee Tabler is shooting very well from the outside. She has become very vocal and is working hard. Meah Przybylski plays strong around the basket. I foresee Meah stepping up and becoming one of our key players this year."

The Clay coach says her players are not going to be afraid to speed up the game.

This year we have focused on quicker ball movement and aggressive defense," Henneman-Dallape said. "Meah P will be a force down low. Meah P. will be one of our top scorers. It will take a good player to stop her. She is extremely strong and has good movement with and without the ball.

"Kylee Tabler's outside shot looks nice this year. Cam Reiter is determined to make a difference. She is extremely aggressive and isn't afraid to take a the ball inside. Lauren Mahler plays fabulous D. She has fast hands and feet. Cam Reiter at 5-4 isn't afraid to bang bodies with anyone inside. She is also one of my hardest workers. Cam Reiter is going to come out strong. She gives 100 percent all the time.'

Henneman-Dallape says the team will have to overcome its inexperience in varsity action.

"We are a very young team with only two seniors. I think that we will learn a lot about ourselves this year. Don't count us out," Henneman-Dallape said.

The Clay coach adds the team's strengths will be its "defense and the will to work hard."

CLAY GIRLS ROSTER

- Kendra Stevens 23 Aleigha
- **Alaysia Downer**
- Kaelani Chanthakham
- **Alexis**
- Huntermark
- 10 Camryn Reiter 12 Lauren Mahler
- Fisher-Pohlman 30 Jessica Payeff
- 33 Meah Przybylski
- 34 Carmen Madrid 42 Kylee Tabler
- 44 Savannah Kegley

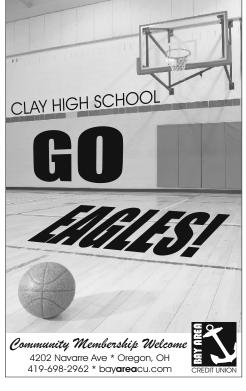
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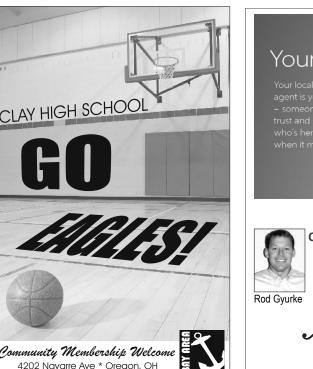
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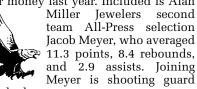
Eastwood boys, girls squads believe they can contend

Eastwood boys

Coach: Todd Henline, 11th year, 141-68 Last Year: 18-7 (10-4 NBC)

Key Players: Isaac Badenhop, 6-0, Sr., SG; Jacob Meyer, 6-3, Jr., F; Case Boos, 5-9, So., G; Lake Boos, 6-1, Jr., G; Maxwell Buchman, 6-4 Sr., P; Andrew Arntson, 6-2, Jr., W; Lucas Glomski, 6'1, So, W; Emmet Getz, 6'2, Jr., W; Jacob Limes, 5'9, Jr., G

Preview: Coach Todd Henline returns four lettermen from a team that gave the best in the Northern Buckeye Conference a run for their money last year. Included is Alan



Isaac Badenhop.

"We return Meyer and Badenhop, and this will be their third year at the varsity level, so we bring some experience back with both of those guys," Henline said. "Both of those guys were instrumental in what we did last year - Meyer on the inside and Badenhop on the outside. Isaac was a fantastic point guard for us last year along with shooting the ball and Jake did a good job of just being a good leader and being that energizer guy that made things happen for us.

The younger brother of Bowling Green State University volleyball player Katelyn Meyer, Jacob already showed off his jumping skills, getting a rebound, and then dunking the ball from a standing position in the Eagles 59-55 win over Fostoria in the Northern Buckeye Conference opener.

'Jacob Meyer has really come on for us from last year. He played a little for us as a freshman, but didn't start. He got plenty of playing time at the varsity level, got some experience, and (last) year he played pretty well for us. He can jump out of the gym. He's got springs in his shoes, man. He can get up," Henline said.

Henline wants to see his team get up and down the floor more this year, and they were doing that in a 61-42 non-league win over Maumee to open the season, and in the win over Fostoria.

'I think we're going to score more than we did last year, but I don't think we'll be as good defensively as we were last year," Henline said. "We have some young guards who can get up and down the floor, who can shoot the ball. I'm looking forward to seeing those guys play and see where they go because we do have some ability and we do have some potential, but ultimately that's just what it is right now. If we can put it together, that would be pretty good.'

Henline said ultimately it's about team

"I think our JVs had a good season last year and our key is how quickly we can mesh the two groups together," Henline said. "We return four lettermen from last year and to be honest, I have a lot of interchangeable players. I have a lot of guys who can do some things for me, so how quickly we put it together will determine how good

	Eastwood Boys F	POSTE	R
2	Jacob Limes	5'9	Jr
3	Case Boos	5'9	So
4	Lake Boos	6'1	Jr
5	Heath Hagg	5'10	Sr
10	Aiden Dosch	5'11	Sr
11	Ryder Boice	5'9	Sr
12	Noah Smith	6'0	So
14	Andrew Arntson	6'2	Jr
15	Isaac Badenhop	6'0	Sr
20	Lucas Glomski	6'1	So
22	Jacob Meyer	6'3	Jr
33	Maxwell Buchman	6'4	Sr
34	Emmet Getz	6'2	Jr
42	Brady Weaver	6'1	So

Eastwood girls

Coach: Nick Schmeltz, sixth year, 72-47 Last Year: 17-6 (12-2 NBC)

Key Players: Aubrey Haas, 5-8, Jr., G; Brenna Moenter, 6-3, Jr., F

Preview: Coach Schmeltz has eight letterman, or what he calls "a lot" of experience returning.

Leading the way is Aubrey Haas, a second team All-NBC, first team All-District 7, first team All-Press, and honorable mention Associated Press All-Northwest District selection. Joining her is 6-3 Brenna Moenter, an HM All-NBC and District 7 pick last year.

"Haas has been a two-year starter and has scored 560 points in her first two years



Eastwood junior playmaker Aubrey Haas. (File photo by Tammy Schmeltz)

of play. Moenter has really started to assert herself on the offensive end and we will look

for big things out of her," Schmeltz said. Haas averaged 15.2 points, 4.3 rebounds and 2.9 steals, Moenter averaged 8.6 points, 6.1 rebounds and 2.3 steals. They are joined by two juniors, Kaitlyn Luidhardt (6.8 pts., 1.6 asst.) and Kenna Souder (6 pts., 2.9 asst.). The Eastwood coach expects Haas, Luidhardt, Souder and Sydney Ameling to lead the backcourt.

"All are very quick guards with good basketball IQ and a lot of experience,"



coach Schmeltz said.

forwards Moenter, Kendall Gedert, Reegan Sheets, Paige Rost and Jaylee Souder.

"Brenna gives us a legit 6-3 post presence," Schmeltz said. "She can alter shots, block shots, and grab rebounds. Reegan is similar to Brenna being 6-0 tall and long and lanky. Gedert, Souder, and Rost are all very sure handed and can finish extremely well around the rim."

The Eagles will get up and down the floor, as they displayed their season opening 60-35 win over Archbold and NBC opening 89-76 overtime loss to Elmwood. Schmeltz says on defense his squad will employ various presses and traps.

"As a whole, defensively, we should be very tough," Schmeltz said. "Our guards are very quick and scrappy and will cause disruptions to other team's ball handers. Our forwards and posts are athletic and fast and can cover a lot of ground. I expect us to be very tough defensively with everyone contributing. Individually, Kenna Souder, Aubrey Haas, and Sydney Ameling will all be very good on ball defenders for us this year.

Schmeltz says Sheets has shown improvement, and there is a reason for that.

"She missed most of her junior year with an injury. She is back healthy now and is having a great start to the preseason," Schmeltz said.

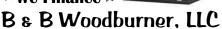
EASTWOOD GIRLS ROSTER Reilly Might Amelia Ward Kayla Buehler Fr **Sydney Ameling** 10 Aubrey Haas 12 Reegan Sheets 14 Saylor King Sr 15 Audrey Sandberg 20 Kendall Gedert Jr 21 Kaitlyn Luidhardt 22 Brenna Moenter 6'3 23 Paige Rost 24 Makenna Souder 33 Jaylee Souder 5'7 44 Hannah Friend



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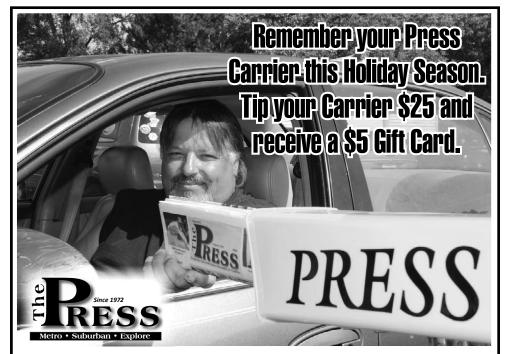


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Genoa's cagers looking to speed up the game's tempo

Genoa boys

Coach: Tim Hausfeld, second year, 12-12 **Last Year:** 12-12 (10-4 NBC)

Key Players: Jacob Emerson, 6-1, Sr., F; Trevor Wasserman, 5-10, Sr., G; Zach Buhrow, 6'2, Sr., F; Conner LaGrange, 6-0, Sr., G; Landon Laytart, 6'3, Jr., F; Aiden Hemmert, 6'4, Jr., F

Preview: Genoa graduated most of their scoring, but second-year coach Tim Hausfeld is optimistic that he has the guards to push the ball up the floor and



make things happen. "We are pretty young. We lost five seniors from last year who played significant roles," Hausfeld said. We are going to

have some young guys playing varsity level. We have a few sophomores and a few juniors. But, we've got four seniors this year that have a little bit of varsity experience from last year and we're going to rely heav-

"We do plan on changing our style of play a little bit — we're going to try and play faster and press a little more. We are excited for that.

'I'm just trying to sell them to buy into this system that I want to install. I played my college ball at West Liberty University, and we had a unique style where we had a full court press the whole game and tried to maximize the amount of possessions and play faster, speed teams up and make them uncomfortable and wear them down. We're starting to buy in a little bit. It might cost me some games this year but I'm willing to risk that. If I'm going to go down, I'm going to go down the way I want to go down.

"Last year, we were mostly big guys and we were pretty slow and we had to play that half court style. But this year I'm excited about playing a little faster and getting guys to buy into that. I will say, at the high school level, ball handling is pretty underrated and passing is very underrated," Hausfeld continued.

"I don't think guys' skills are that top notch at this level, so I think we can expose that. More importantly, our offense is a powerhouse here — we don't have too many scorers here. We had some scorers here who could create some offense last year, but this year we are kind of lacking in that department. So I'm really hoping we can turn some things over and create offense through our defense.'

He has six athletes who will lead this new offensive strategy, and plenty of others who will contribute when needed.

"My best player is Jake Emerson – he's a junior wing player. He can do it all - he can shoot, he can drive, can facilitate, can handle it, and can pass. He's my best overall player and then I've got my point guard, Trevor Wasserman, back. He's probably my second best player, and my other two juniors are Zach Buhrow and Conner LaGrange. They will get significant minutes," Hausfeld said. "Then, I've got two big guys — Landon

Laytart and Aiden Hemmert, which we picked up Aiden Hemmert. He didn't play last year, but he's a very good athlete and a little raw but we're excited about what he brings to the table for us. I've got a group of sophomores that are mostly guards that will come off the bench and play, but we're getting there."

Before heading off to play college basketball, Hausfeld was known for his 25 and 26 foot three point shots while a standout at Sylvania Southview. He's hoping he can get some shooting production out of his

'We need to shoot the ball well, that's for sure, and we have been getting better at that. Trevor Wasserman is a shooter," Hausfeld said.

GENOA BOYS ROSTER

Trevor Wasserman 5'10 Sr Guard

Robert Messenger 5'9 So Guard

12 Mason Drummond 5'10 So Guard

6'2 Jr Forward

6'0 So Guard

5'8 So Guard

5'11 Jr Guard

6'2 Jr Forward

6'3

6'2

Jr Forward

Jr Forward

Sr Forward

Sr Forward

Sr Guard

Gus Trainer

13 Griffin Meyer

15 Aiden Hemmert

23 Landon Laytart

24 Zach Buhrow

32 Casey Laytart

34 Will Nissen

25 Jacob Emerson

21 Conner LaGrange 6'0

11 Skylar Ju



Gina Goodman. (Press file photo by Russ Lytle/Facebook.com/RussLytle/RHP)

Genoa girls

Coach: Laura Pierson, second year, 9-14 Last Year: 9-14 (8-13 NBC)

Key Players: Caitlin Cruickshank, Sr., SG; Olivia Wiciak, Sr.

Preview: Genoa has seven returning letter winners, including second team All-Northern Buckeye Conference and honorable mention All-District 7 selection Caitlyn Cruickshank, who averaged 11 points.

Coach Laura Pierson says Cruickshank is a "great floor leader," adding that "our players really respond to her." She is joined in the backcourt by Gina Goodman, who the coach says brings "great point guard leadership.'

At the forward position is Hannah Bradfield, described as a "strong power forward," and Lacy Frias, a "very quick, versa-



tile player." Pierson says her team's goal is to play "smart basketball.'

"We take pride on ourselves teach-

ing our players the game and how to make the best decisions that will put them in a position to win a game. When reviewing our practices, scrimmages, and game films we take the time to become 'students of the game,' Pierson said.

Pierson expects Cruickshank, Goodman, Frias and Bradfield to lead the offense.

"We anticipate some more well-balanced scoring this season with how we are working together in the preseason," Pierson said. "Olivia Wiciak, Gina Goodman, and Lacy Frias all are very intelligent and hard workers on the defensive end of the court.

"Our entire team has greatly improved," Pierson continued. "We appreciate their commitments in the offseason to getting better and how much they want to learn the game."

She says team smarts could be her squad's strengths, including "our intelligence and ability to be coachable.

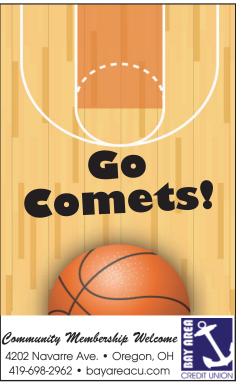
"We also have a strong culture and the girls buy into the program mentality," Pierson said. "Sometimes, our intelligence, we can be our own worst enemy and over analyze our mistakes. If we could let go and move on things would keep coming to us. I am very excited for this group. We really want to do our best to follow the regulations and keep everyone healthy to get in a season. We take every day one day at a time and keep it as that day is a gift. We might not get to play basketball tomorrow."

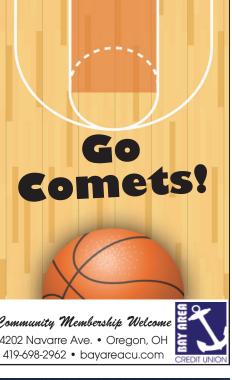
GENOA GIRLS ROSTER

1	Gina Goodman	5'6	Jr	Guard
3	Sophia Richards	5'10	Jr	Post
4	Lacy Frias	5'10	Jr	Post
11	Caitlin Cruickshank	5'10	Sr	Guard
12	Taylor Simmons	5'6	Sr	Guard
20	Olivia Wiciak	5'6	Sr	Guard
21	Shelby Wagner	5'6	Jr	Guard
22	Hannah Bradfield	5'10	Jr	Post
23	Alyssa Hartford	5'8	Jr	Post
31	Reagan Wiciak	5'6	So	Guard











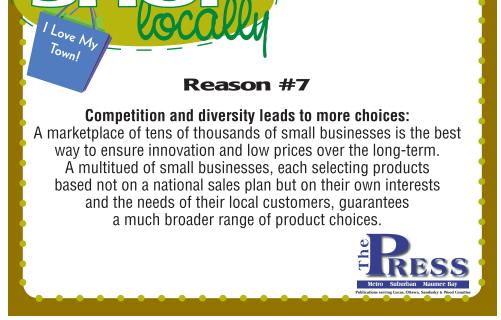


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Basketball expectations are at a high level in Gibsonburg

Gibsonburg boys

Coach: Brent Liskai, 20th year, 210-196 Last Year: 9-14 (7-9 SBC River)

Key Players: Mitchell Tille, 6-2, Sr., G; Aidan McGough, 6-6, Jr., P; Tyler Henderson, 5-9, Jr., G; Mason Tille, 6-2, Sr., W; Nick Tornow, 6-0, Sr., W; Tyler Schooley, 5-11, Jr. W

Preview: After coaching one year at Swanton, Brent Liskai came to Gibsonburg and now has the most career wins and is the longest tenured basketball coach in school history at Gibsonburg. His teams won a Suburban

Lakes League and district title in 2006 and a Toledo Area Athletic Conference

title in 2015. Liskai has six returning lettermen to lead the Golden Bears this year. Mitchell Tille was

second team All-Sandusky Bay Conference River Division last year after averaging nine points and 3.3 rebounds. Tyler Henderson was honorable mention All-SBC River after averaging 8.3 points and two rebounds.

Other top returnees include Aidan McGough (10.1 pts., 4.2 reb.), Mason Tille (2.5 pts., 2 reb.), Nick Tornow (2.6 pts., 1.1 reb.) and Tyler Schooley (2.1 pts., 3.8 reb.).

'We have a lot of experience returning in the backcourt. Mitchell Tille and Mason Tille are three-year lettermen, and Tornow and McGough both lettered last year and played many minutes," Liskai said. "Our post position should be solid with Aidan McGough returning at 10.1 ppg and Tyler Schooley is our top returning rebounder. Kobe Helmke will provide us with depth at the post positions.

'We are a deep basketball team that can play multiple styles depending on what lineup is on the floor. We play pressure defense and look to push the tempo on offense," Liskai continued. "Offensively, we have a lot of guys that can put the ball in the basket. McGough, Tille and Henderson are our top returning scorers, but our depth should lead to a very balanced attack. Jonah Vann provides good shooting coming

"We are a scrappy team defensively, led by the ball pressure of our guards and

nice size inside to contest shots."

Liskai says not only does he have experience returning, but his players have put in the time during the offseason.

'Our players have improved physically by putting in their work in the weight room," Liskai said.

As a result, confidence levels are high in Gibsonburg.

"I expect our team to compete for a championship in a very tough Sandusky Bay River Division," Liskai said. "Our league should be very tough this year with Calvert, Old Fort and very good teams in the top half of the division.

'Our depth and athleticsm are our team strengths. We also return many experienced players. This team looks forward to hopefully having the opportunity to show how much hard work they have put in. They are great guys that do whatever is asked off them and truly love the game.'

GIRSONBURG ROYS ROSTER

	GIBZONBUKG	POA2	KO	STER
2	Mason Tille	6'2	Sr	Wing
3	Mitchell Tille	6'2	Sr	Guard
4	Nick Tornow	6'0	Sr	Wing
5	Drew Morelock	6'0	Jr	Wing
12	Tyler Schooley	6'0	Jr	Post
21	Aidan McGough	6'6	Jr	Post
30	Kobe Helmke	6'6	So	Post
32	Aidan Farmer	6'3	Jr	Post
54	Tyler Henderson	5'9	Jr	Guard

Gibsonburg girls

Coach: Daniel Evarts, second year, 7-16 **Last Year:** 7-16 (3-11 SBC River)

Key Players: Katie Hovis, Sr., F; Marissa Bruns, Sr., P; Madison Herman, Sr., G; Kayli Schneider, Sr., G; Cam Krotzer, Jr., F; Jenna Bloomfield, So., P; Ellie Stout, So., G Preview: Last year was coach Daniel Evarts first year at the helm, but he has been coaching at various levels in both Gibsonburg and Rossford for the past 23 years.

Evarts has four letter winners returning, including second team All-Sandusky Bay Conference River Division selection Katie Hovis, who averaged nine points and seven rebounds last year. Evarts says she can "play any position, shoots well from the outside and can score down low as well."

Hovis, Kavli Schneider and Marissa



Gibsonburg senior forward Katie Hovis. (File photo courtesy Innovations Portrait Studio/InnovationsVisualImpact.com)

Bruns were honorable mention all-league. Bruns, who Evarts says can play "very physical" in the paint, was second in the league last year in rebounds, averaging 11 per game, and Scheider shot 33 percent from three-point range.

'Scheider does a nice job off the ball getting to a spot for shot and she has a very nice shooting touch," Evarts said. "(Ellie) Stout will be our point guard and will do a nice job controlling the tempo of the game. Cam Krotzer is athletic and can play many spots and has a nice shot. Jenna Bloomfield is strong under the post and can score around the basket.'

Evarts says his team will look to control the tempo.

We will be more of a half-court offense and we also will focus primarily on defense



and trying to create offensive opportunities through our defense," Evarts said. "Hovis and Bruns will both be capable of being doubledouble players in terms of rebounds and scoring.

They are both seniors and have lots of varsity experience. Kayli Schneider is extremely quick and has good defensive footwork. She will usually guard the best player on the other team.

Evarts has non-returning letter winners who could be huge in determining how well his team does.

'Kylee Gamble is a junior who has played a lot over the summer and has improved tremendously. She is very physical defensively and will be a very good rebounder for us," Evarts said. "Madison Herman is a senior who plays aggressively and can knock down an open shot. Jazmyne Morant is a freshman who has looked very good at practice. She has a lot of energy and she brings a positive vibe to the team atmosphere.'

Evarts expects his team to finish in the "middle of the pack" of the SBC River.

'It's definitely a competitive league. Last year, Hopewell was definitely at a different level than most of the teams in the league. Besides them, anybody could beat anyone on any given night," Evarts said.

"We will be a very good rebounding team and should be able to score down in the post. Our defense should improve this year as well. We are not the greatest outside shooting team by any means, but is has improved since last year."

GIBSONBURG GIRLS ROSTER Madison Herman 5'6 Sr Guard **Kylee Gamble** 5'7 Jr Forward 10 Camren Krotzer 5'9 Jr Forward 11 Ellie Stout 5'0 So Guard 21 Jenna Bloomfield 5'8 So Forward 22 Leah Jividen Jr Guard 5'2

24 Kayli Schneider 5'9 Sr Guard 25 Megan Bowen 5'5 Sr Forward 30 Jazmyne Morant Fr Forward 5'10 Sr Forward 32 Katie Hovis

5'5 Sr Forward

34 Marissa Bruns

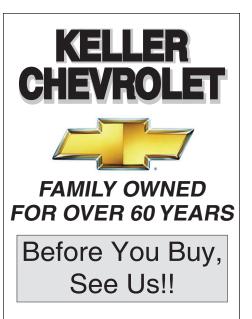


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ELMWOOD

@ Rossford LAKE

@ Woodmore

MARGARETTA

PORT CLINTON

@ Lake

OTSEGO

@ Otsego

OAK HARBOR

@ Tiffin Calvert

WOODMORE

Dec. 11

Dec. 11

Dec. 22

Jan. 2

Jan. 5

Jan. 15

Jan. 22

Jan. 26

Jan. 29

Feb. 5

Feb. 6

Feb. 12

Feb. 19

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EASTWOOD BOYS SCHEDULE

Nov. 30 @ Maumee @ Fostoria @ Elmwood Dec. 7 @ Bowling Green @ Woodmore Dec. 18 **GENOA** OTTAWA-GLANDORF Dec. 28 ARCHBOLD Jan. 5 @ Rossford LAKE Jan. 9 **OTSEGO** Jan. 22 **FOSTORIA** OAK HARBOR Jan. 23 ELMWOOD @ Genoa @ Port Clinton Jan. 29 Jan. 30 WOODMORE Feb. 5 ROSSFORD **OTTAWA HILLS** Feb. 9 SANDUSKY @ Otsego Home games in all caps

GENOA GIRLS SCHEDULE
1 MAUMEE Nov. 21 Nov. 24 OAK HARBOR Nov. 27 @ Otsego/Postponed Dec. 1 @ Northwood **ELMWOOD** @Fostoria NEW RIEGEL Dec. 8 Dec. 10 @ Eastwood WOODMORE ROSSFORD Dec. 15 Dec. 19 @ Lake FREMONT ROSS Dec. 29 Jan. 5 @ Springfield **OTSEGO** Jan. 8 @ Elmwood EASTWOOD Jan. 12 Jan. 14 **FOSTORIA** Jan. 19 Jan. 23 @ Cardinal Stritch @ Van Buren Jan. 26 @ Woodmore @ Rossford Feb. 11 LAKE

LAKE BOYS SCHEDULE

Home games in all caps

@ Swanton NORTHWOOD Nov. 27 Nov. 28 **ROSSFORD** Dec. 1 @ Woodmore OTSEGO EVERGREEN Dec. 14 @ Fostoria Dec. 23 @ McComb PORT CLINTON Dec. 28 @ Delta FI MWOOD Jan. 5 @ Eastwood Jan. 9 **GENOA** Jan. 22 @ Rossford Jan. 26 WOODMORE **FOSTORIA** Feb. 2 @ Otsego @ Elmwood Feb. 5 OAK HARBOR Feb. 12 FASTWOOD. @ Ottawa Hills Feb. 16

Home games in all caps Northwood Girls Schedule

Dec. 1 **GENOA** Dec. 11 @ Toledo Christian OTTAWA HILLS CARDINAL STRITCH Dec. 18 Dec. 22 @ Montpelier Dec. 29 @ Swanton Tourney @ Rossford EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN Jan. 8 @ Ottawa Hills GIBSONBURG Jan. 19 MAUMEE VALLEY Jan. 23 LAKE @ Liberty Center
TOLEDO CHRISTIAN Jan. 28 @ Cardinal Stritch @ Emmanuel Christian Varsity games start at 7:30pm otherwise stated below, Home games in all caps Dec. 19 Game starts @ 1:30PM Dec. 22 Game starts @ 7:15PM Jan. 4 Game starts @ 7:00PM

EASTWOOD GIRLS SCHEDULE

ARCHBOLD @ Elmwood **FOSTORIA** Dec. 8 @ Woodmore @ Oak Harbor Dec. 12 **GENOA** @ Rossford Dec. 15 LAKE OTSEGO Dec. 22 Dec. 29 **ANTHONY WAYNE** @ Bowling Green Jan. 8 **ELMWOOD** Jan. 12 @ Fostoria @ Genoa Jan. 16 @ Delta Jan. 19 WOODMORE **TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC** Jan. 28 ROSSFORD **TOLEDO CHRISTIAN** Jan. 30 @ Toledo St. Ursula Feb. 8 @ Otsego Home games in all caps

GIBSONBURG BOYS SCHEDULE Nov. 25 @ Woodmore/postponed NORTHWOOD @ Danbury TIFFIN CALVERT Dec. 11 Dec. 17 HOPEWELL-LOUDON @ Lakota NEW RIEGEL Dec. 22 Dec. 29 **ELMWOOD** @ Old Fort SJCC Jan. 7 Jan. 9 Jan. 12 @ SMCC OTSEGO DANBURY Jan. 16 Jan. 19 @ Tiffin Calvert Jan. 22 Jan. 28 @ Hopewell-Loudon LAKOTA Jan. 30 @ Arcadia @ New Riegel OLD FORT Feb. 5 Feb. 9

OAK HARBOR SMCC Home games in all caps

Nov. 20 @ Bryan Nov. 24 @ Swanton Nov. 27 ROSSFORD @ Woodmore MAUMEE **OTSEGO** Dec. 8 @ Elmwood **FOSTORIA** Dec. 19 @ Eastwood **GENOA** Dec. 30 **DELTA** Jan. 8 @ Rossford WOODMORE Jan. 14 **ELMWOOD** Jan. 19 @ Otsego Jan. 23 @ Northwood @ Toledo Whitmer Jan. 25 Jan. 28 @ Fostoria Feb. 1 **OTTAWA HILLS** Feb. 4 **EASTWOOD EVERGREEN** Feb. 6 Home games in all caps

LAKE GIRLS SCHEDULE

@ Lake Dec. 3 @ Gibsonburg **SWANTON** Dec. 7 WOODMORE @ Ottawa Hills TOLEDO WAITE/postponed Dec. 12 Dec. 15 MAUMEE VALLEY @ Jones Leadership Academy NORTHWEST OHIO HOLIDAY Dec. 21 Dec. 28 NORTHWEST OHIO HOLIDAY Jan. 5 **TOLEDO CHRISTIAN** Jan. 8 @ Van Buren @ Cardinal Stritch @ Emmanuel Christian Jan. 22 OTTAWA HILLS Jan. 29 @ Maumee Valley Feb. 5 @ Toledo Christian NORTH BALTIMORE Feb. 9 **CARDINAL STRITCH** Feb. 13 @ Maumee @ Lakota Feb. 16 **EMMANUAL CHRISTIAN**

GIBSONBURG GIRLS SCHEDULE v. 20 @ Elmwood

@ Danbury @ Calvert HOPEWELL-LOUDON **NEW RIEGEL** @ Old Fort @ Lakota 6:00PM CARDINAL STRITCH ARCADIA 1:00PM SJCC @ SMCC 6:00PM **DANBURY** @ Northwood CALVERT 6:00PM LAKOTA @ New Riegel OLD FORT @ SJCC @ Ottawa Hills SMCC Varsity games start at 5:30pm otherwise stated below, Home games in all caps

NORTHWOOD BOYS SCHEDULE

Home games in all caps

Nov. 20

Jan. 15

Home games in all caps

WOODMORE 12:00PM Dec. 15 Dec. 18 Dec. 23 Dec. 30 Jan. 2 Jan. 8 12:00PM Jan. 19 Jan. 21 @ Hopewell-Loudon 12:00PM Jan. 26 Feb. 2

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OAK HARBOR BOYS SCHEDULE EDISON/postponed CARDINAL STRITCH/postponed Dec. 5 Dec. 8 @ Vermilion @ Genoa WOODMORE Dec. 12 Dec. 15 **OLD FORT** @ Huron @ SMCC Dec. 23 Dec. 28 Jan. 2 @ Margaretta Jan. 9 PORT CLINTON Jan. 15 @ Edison Jan. 16 Jan. 22 WILLARD Jan. 23 @ Eastwood CAREY Feb. 5 HURON **BELLEVUE** Feb. 6 Feb. 12 **MARGARETTA** Feb. 13 @ Gibsonburg @ Port Clinton

Home games in all caps

OAK HARBOR GIRLS SCHEDULE Nov. 24 @ Genoa TOLEDO CHRISTIAN Dec. 1 FASTWOOD. Dec. 10 1:00PM @ Willard Dec. 12 @ Anthony Wayne Dec. 18 @ Huron 6:00PM @ Margaretta Dec. 29 6:00PM TIFFIN COLUMBIAN @ Clay PORT CLINTON Jan. 6 6:00PM Jan. 8 **PERKINS** Jan. 14 Jan. 16 @ Edison 12:30PM Jan. 19 @ Clyde WILLARD Jan. 23 1:00PM Jan. 29 HURON **ELMWOOD** Feb. 1 **MARGARETTA** 1:00PM Feb. 6 WOODMORE Feb. 9 Feb. 11 @ Port Clinton Varsity games start at 5:30pm otherwise stated below, Home games in all caps

WOODMORE BOYS SCHEDULE GIBSONBURG/Postponed Dec. 1 @ Elmwood LAKE Dec. 4 @ Northwood Dec. 11 **EASTWOOD** @ Oak Harbor Dec. 15 Dec. 16 @ Edison Dec. 18 @ Otsego @ Old Fort Dec. 29 Jan. 5 @ Genoa Jan. 9 @ Fostoria Jan. 15 @ Rossford Jan. 16 PORT CLINTON Jan. 22 **ELMWOOD** Jan. 23 SJCC Jan. 26 Jan. 29 **OTSEGO** Feb. 2 @ Eastwood **GENOA** Feb. 5 LAKOTA FOSTORIA Feb. 6 Feb. 12

ROSSFORD

Home games in all caps

Feb. 19

WOODMORE GIRLS SCHEDULE NORTHWOOD

@ Gibsonburg Nov. 24 Nov. 27 **FOSTORIA** @ Port Clinton Dec. 3 LAKE @ Delta/Cancelled Dec. 5 EASTWOOD Dec. 12 @ Otsego Dec. 15 @ Genoa Dec. 19 **ELMWOOD** Dec. 22 @ Rossford **LAKOTA** Dec. 29 @ Fostoria Jan. 12 @ Lake **OTSEGO** Jan. 14 @ Eastwood Jan. 25 @ Ottawa Hills **GENOA** Jan. 28 Jan. 30 SJCC Feb. 4

@ Elmwood Feb. 9 @ Oak Harbor **ROSSFORD** Home games in all caps

THE PRESS

Lady Flyers say title within reach; boys set higher goals

Lake boys

Coach: Jeff Hoffman, second year, 4-18 Last Year: 4-18 (2-12 NBC)

Key Players: Tyler Saffran, Sr., G; Cam Hoffman, Jr., F

Preview: Lake returns nine lettermen, including Cam Hoffman, who averaged 10.6 points and seven rebounds on his way to earning honorable mention All-NBC, HM Alan Miller Jewelers All-Press, and HM all-district honors last year. Returning with him is Tyler Saffran, who averaged 10.6 points and 2.4 assists.



Hoffman says Saffran, Richie Hayward and Brody Hayward will lead the backcourt "due to their experience from last season and leadership shown over the offseason.

The coach says Cam Hoffman, Matt Perry and Jaylen Smith will also bring leadership to the forward position, but also have the "abilities to create their own shots and play excellent team defense." He adds that Jacyn Bates and Connor Moore bring the ability "to rebound and block shots."

Hoffman says the Flyers will have "a strong focus on defense and an offense that will be dedicated to sharing the ball." The coach adds that Hayward, Bates and Howard have good defensive intelligence and are "always in the right place at the right time.'

On offense, he expects Hoffman, Smith, and Saffran to be his scorers because they can "create their own shot and move well

Howard, Perry and Hayward are his most improved players because of the experience they received early in their prep career, says coach Hoffman. However, Jaxon Delventhal and Connor Moore are sleeper players who may surprise "due to their strong athletic ability and desire to compete each day.'

In the Northern Buckeye Conference, coach Hoffman says he expects the Flyers to finish "in the middle of the pack due to our young players a year ago getting the experience needed at the varsity level.

The coach adds, "I believe that our league is very strong due to the returning

players that each team has coming back. I feel that our strengths are our experienced players that are returning. We struggled last year to score the basketball and we will try to improve on that aspect this year."

LAKE BOYS ROSTER					
0	Cleveland King	6'4	Sr		
2	Jaxon Delventhal	5'10	Sr		
4	Richie Hayward	6'0	Jr		
10	Brody Hayward	6'1	Sr		
12	Michael Jiminez	5'11	Jr		
20	Tyler Saffran	6'0	Sr		
	Eric Anderson	6'2	Sr		
24	Jacyn Bates	6'6	Sr		
32	Cam Hoffman	6'5	Jr		
40	Connor Moore	6'3	Jr		
42	Jalen Smith	6'2	Sr		
44	Matt Perry	6'1	So		

Lake girls

Coach: Joe Nowak, sixth year, 78-42 **Last Year:** 14-13 (4-10 NBC)

Key Players: Hayley St. John, Sr., F; Delani Robinson, Jr., G; Ava Ayers, Jr., G; Brigid Enright, Jr., F

Preview: Nowak has five returning letter winners including Lourdes University (NAIA) commit Hayley St. John, who was first team All-District 7, second team All-Northern Buckeye Conference, and third team Associated Press Northwest District after averaging 15.2 points, 7.6 rebounds, 2.6 steals and 2.1 assists.

Joining St. John is honorable mention All-District 7 and second team All-NBC selection Delani Robinson (11.9 pts., 3 reb., 1.7 stls., 1.8 asst.) and HM All-District 7 and All-NBC pick Ava Ayers (8.3 pts., 4.4 reb., 2.9 stls., 2.2 asst.). Brigid Enright rejoins the show after averaging 3.8 points, 4.6 points, 1.1 steals and one assist last

"Ava Ayers and Delani Robinson should provide a solid guard presence for us and will be complemented nicely by some additional new players," Nowak said. "Hayley St. John and Brigid Enright are versatile players that have the size and skill to play multiple positions and have the potential to provide tough matchups for opposing teams."

Nowak wants sound basketball at both



Lake 5-10 junior scorer Delani Robinson. (Press file photo by Russ Lytle/ Facebook.com/RussLytle/RHP)

ends of the court.

'We'd like to be deliberate in our actions offensively but with a guard-heavy roster we're also looking to get in transition whenever possible, as well," Nowak said. "Our focus has always been on the defensive end, but with a shortened preseason and potential lineup obstacles this season,

that may take some time to

'We return our top three scorers from last season in Hayley St. John, Delani Robinson, and Ava Ayers, so those players will be looked to cue things up for

us throughout this season. The size and quickness of Hayley St. John make her a pretty versatile defender and allows her to guard all positions on the opposing team.

"The addition of Kelsie Gladieux has shown to add another solid presence defensively. Kelsie Gladieux is a player we anticipated getting minutes during last season until an injury sidelined her for the season. Kelsie, paired with some nice up-and-coming players, should provide us with some good balance."

Nowak says his players continued their work ethic throughout the offseason, which he hopes pays dividends.

"Our offseason was anything but typical last year, but I have been impressed with our players' improvements that resulted from their commitment to improve during the heavily restricted spring and

Nowak says if the Flyers want to fend off some solid competition and make the coaches' preseason poll come true, they will have to be up to the challenge. Lake opened league play with a 66-24 win over Rossford and also beat Swanton 51-34 in non-league play, but lost to Northwest Ohio Athletic League defending co-champion Bryan 57-41 in the season opener.

	-	
LAKE GIRLS R	OSTER	
1 Sydney Stanley	5'5	Fr
2 Ava Ayers	5'10	Jr
3 Jessie Materni	5'9	So
4 Vayda Delventhal	5'5	Fr
10 Hayley St. John	5'11	Sr
11 Kelsie Gladieux	5'5	Jr
12 Taryn DeWese	6'0	Fr
14 Brigid Enright	5'11	Jr
15 Jade Rose	5'6	Jr
20 Delani Robinson	5'10	Jr
23 Elise Staczek	5'4	So
24 Abbie Rymers	5'8	Jr
40 Evie Sigler	5'7	Jr





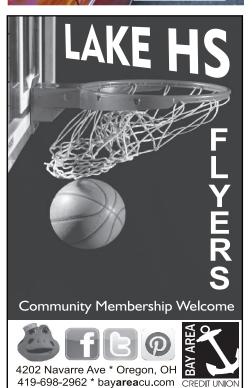


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Northwood cagers feeling like they are at a turning point

Northwood boys

Coach: Brandon Thomas, second year, 6-17 **Last Year:** 6-17 (1-11 TAAC)

Key Players: Demond Marks, Sr., G; Jay Moten, Sr., G; Carson Gutekunst, Jr., G

Preview: In his first year at the helm, coach Brandon Thomas' Rangers won six games after he led the Northwood junior varsity team to a 12-win season prior to taking over. He was JV coach at Northwood three years and had been JV coach at Erie Mason five years before that.

Thomas has five returning letterincluding men, All-Toledo team Athletic Conference lections Demond Marks and Jay Moten and Carson Gutekunst, an honorable mention All-TAAC pick. Last year, Moten averaged

16.3 points and with 770 career points could reach the 1,000 point career mark this year.

Jay Moten is very versatile with his high flying ability and shooting and ball handling," Thomas said. "I expect Demond Marks, Jay Moten and Carson Gutekunst to be our best offensive players. All three can dribble, pass and shoot and all three have great playmaking ability."

Marks averaged 19.6 points and he has 658 career points, so 1,000 points is on his radar, too. Gutekunst averaged 8.3 points and 3.2 steals. Thomas says Marks and Gutekunst "have great playmaking ability."

"I expect Carson Gutekunst to be our best defender. Carson really understands defensive positioning and he is also willing to sacrifice his body. He took five charges in one game last year," Thomas said.

Those three have a cast surround-

ing them which could make the Rangers a squad to deal with this year.

"Austin Shroeder is a great hustle player and sharp shooter from long range," Thomas said. "We have undersized big men this year with (Waite transfer) Kyeon Neal and Dakota Hawkins. Both are very tough kids and give 120 percent every day in practice. I feel like their toughness will be key to us being successful on defense and rebounding this year. We play an uptempo style offense. On defense we like to pressure the ball.

"Jarek Henry would be considered a sleeper for us. He can really get it going from outside the arc which will help us tremendously this year. Jarek Henry is our most improved returning player. He has great shooting ability and has been putting in a lot of off season work," Thomas contin-

Playing in one of the best prep basketball leagues in Northwest Ohio, Thomas says this could be the year Northwood makes a statement.

'I expect us to be in the middle of the pack. We can apply pressure and turn defense into offense we can be a very good team," Thomas said. "I feel the TAAC is one of the best small conferences for basketball in the state. There is exceptional talent as well as exceptional coaches in this league and you have to be on your A game

"I feel speed is our strength this year it applies pressure and forces turnovers. Speed keeps teams on their heels on offense and defense."

NORTHWOOD BOYS ROSTER

Carson Gutekunst 6'0 Jr Guard

Sr

6'0

6'0

5'8 Sr Guard

5'10 Sr Guard

Sr Center

Sr Guard

So Guard

Fr Guard

So Forward

Guard

Forward

Brayden Fulkert 6'1

Austin Schroeder 6'1 Sr

20 Dakota Hawkins 6'1 Jr Center 23 Brennen Matney 5'7 Sr Guard

Coach: Andrew Dickey, third year, 18-25

Key Players: Randi Wilson, Jr., F; Ashlyn

Rable, Sr., F; Emily Bowen, Sr., G; Meaih Smith, Jr., G; Zoe Turner, So., F

Preview: Andrew Dickey feels good about his team's chances in the Toledo Area

Athletic Conference, especially with 10 let-

Demond Marks

12 James Grimmett 5'8

15 Thomas McCrory 5'7

Northwood girls

Last Year: 9-13 (3-5 TAAC)

Jay Moten

Jarek Henry

10 Kyeon Neal

13 Jarel Dixon

11 Mason Smith

Randi Wilson. (Press photo by Don Thompson/Facebook.com/DNRsport)

ter winners returning, including four with

Randi Wilson was first team All-TAAC as a freshman and second team as a sophomore. Wilson was the team's leading scorer and rebounder with 259 points and 242 caroms last year.

"Wilson is dead set on getting her first team honors award again. She wants to be one of the top athletes in the TAAC and boy do they have a lot of them this year," Dickey said. "So she's got her work cut out for her this year. She has a career goal of getting 1,000 (career) points and 1,000 re-

bounds and she knows that she needs to make some big moves this year to keep on

Emily Bowen, Meaih Smith and Ashlyn Rable were all honorable mention All-TAAC last year. Rable has been HM both her fresh-

man and sophomore seasons.

Before a season ending injury, Rable was averaging 10 points and nine rebounds, however, she played in only 10 of 22 games. Dickey says he has three girls who will

lead the backcourt.

"Emily Bowen, Gina Nagel and freshman Natalie Thompson have all been doing wonderful things for the past few weeks," Dickey said. "In fact Nat from our first scrimmage was playing like she had been on the team for years. And having experienced seniors like Emily and Gina have been a blessing for our freshman kids who are learning about their new positions. Emily is by far the best defensive player we have which doesn't always translate well to points because we make her do all of our dirty work.

"Rable is itching to get things done her senior year. She's been a rock for our team for all four years of her high school career and she wants to end on a good note. She's strong and can be a bear to control under the hoop. In addition Meiah Smith and Zoe Turner are providing a great one two punch for our team. They are great because Meiah and Zoe can both shoot the long ball, while Meiah can be threat to defend off the dribble and Zoe can post you up and beat you with her strength."

	Northwood C	GIRLS	ROSTER
4	Emily Bowen	5'8	Senior
11	Gina Nagel	5'2	Junior
13	Ashlyn Rable	5'9	Senior
15	Randi Wilson	5'10	Junior
23	Meiah Smith	5'4	Junior
14	Alyana Avalos	5'8	Junior
24	Bethany Gillespie	5'6	Junior
5	Regan Grant	5'3	Sophomor
25	Zoe Turner	5'7	Sophomor
31	Mikayla Hanely	5'7	Sophomor
21	Nat Thompson	5'5	Freshman

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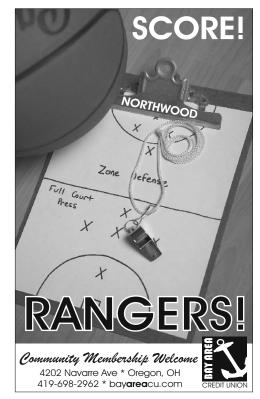


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Blake Booker set to lead Rockets; girls get new coach Waite girls inexperienced

Oak Harbor boys

Coach: Eric Sweet, 10th year, 90-118 **Last Year:** 19-4 (8-2 SBC Bay)

Key Players: Blake Booker, Sr., W/PG; T.J. Hallet, Sr., W; Max Hallett-Szymanski, Sr., W/P; Ryan Ridener, Sr., P; Colin Fauver, Sr., W/P; Brenen Ish, Sr., PG/W

Preview: The son of legendary Ottawa-Glandorf coach Dave Sweet, Eric Sweet has brought success to Oak Harbor, winning a Sandusky Bay Conference Bay

Division championship last year. Coach Sweet has been coaching at Oak Harbor 11 years, head coach nine years.

The only issue is he has just one returning letterman, Blake Booker, a twoyear starter who averaged

11 points, 3.5 rebounds, 2.1 assists and 2.1 steals last year. Sweet says Booker is a "great shooter and ball handler," and the coach adds that Booker is looking to play collegiately next year possibly at the NCAA Division III level.

That doesn't mean, however, that the Rockets do not have the playmakers to compete.

Sweet says Brenen Ish is "quick" and can handle the ball well, T.J. Hallett is a 'great shooter who is long and athletic,' and Max Hallett-Szymanski is a "long, athletic driver" to the rim. Collin Fauver is also one who "can drive to the basket," is "strong" and a good shooter, adds Sweet. Ryan Ridener is a "strong and hard worker who can step out and shoot when he needs

"Blake Booker and T.J. Hallett are our best shooters and when they are able to make shots we will be very tough. Their ability to make shots will open up other chances for other players to score," Sweet said.

'T.J. Hallett and Max Hallett-Szymanski are our top two first year varsity players that can step up for us this year. Max Hallett-Syzmanski is our most athletic defensive player. He is long and quick and can guard multiple positions. Ryan Ridener will be a tough post defensive player for us because he is strong and has a great work ethic."

Sweet says the style his team plays at depends on what opponents give them.

"We want to play the game with a good pace on offense," Sweet said. "We want to get out and run and look up the court for any quick bucket we can get, but if nothing is there we want to run our offense and take what the defense gives us. On defense we want to be able to sit down and guard people with great pressure in a half court setting."

Sweet says his team's strengths are shooting and the "ability to play positionless basketball" on offense and on defense, "quickness to pressure in half court" and again, the "ability to play position-less basketball." He says what they have to be able to do is overcome the urge to take quick shots and overcome a lack of height.

"This year we are blessed to have five great seniors who are stepping up and filling roles that were left by the previous class. Along with the juniors this team is taking on the challenge of being last year's league champions. This team does not have a lot of varsity game experience but they are making up for that by the work they are putting in right now. I look forward to coaching this team. Our worth ethic will set us apart in the end."

	OAK HARBOR	Boys	Ro	STER
0	Collin Fauver	5'11	Sr	F/W/
1	Max Hallett-			
	Syzmanski	6'1	Sr	Wing
2	Brenen Ish	5'8	Sr	Guard
4	Blake Booker	5'10	Sr	Guard
5	Ryan Ridener	6'1	Sr	Forward
11	Grant Belcher	6'0	Jr	Wing
12	TJ Hallett	6'2	Jr	W/G
24	Isaac McHale	6'1	So	Forward
35	Kyle Glaser	6'5	Jr	Forward



Oak Harbor senior guard Blake Booker. (File photo by Laura Bolander)

Oak Harbor girls

Coach: Adam Steinbrick, first year **Last Year:** 8-14 (4-6 SBC Bay)

Key Players: Auna Tack, Sr., P; Kaitlin Paul, Sr., W; Ryann Steinbrick, Jr., W; Riley Steinbrick, Jr., G

Preview: After coaching at Danbury three years (33-36), Adam Steinbrick takes over the Oak Harbor girls cage program. He takes over a team that finished fourth in the Sandusky Bay Conference Bay Division last year and has four returning two-year letter

winners to help improve



Auna Tack was second team All-SBC and honorable mention Alan Miller Jewelers All-Press, leading the Bay Division I rebound-

ing (9.3). Ryann Steinbrick was second team All-Press and HM All-SBC, finishing second in the division in scoring at 14.5 points and first in three-point shots made (41 at a 36.4 percent clip). Riley Steinbrick takes over the point guard after gaining two years experience.

Coach Steinbrick says his team will play up-tempo and use "various defenses" on the other end of the court. He believes Ryann Steinbrick, Tack and Kaitlin Paul will be his top scorers with Riley Steinbrick providing the assists. He says Riley brings high energy" and is "active and long.'

Coach Steinbrick says junior Katie May "worked hard in the offseason" and is a scoring threat and junior Remi Gregory is physical and athletic. He adds that four others, Megan Rife, Nora Schmidt, Hollie Robinson and Molly Downs" are all "athletic, extremely hard workers who have a tremendous knowledge of the game."

The new Oak Harbor coach expects his team to finish third in the SBC Bay behind Margaretta and Willard.

The league is extremely competitive from top to bottom and anyone can win on any given night," Steinbrick said.

He said his players bring team camaraderie" to the table, adding they are athletic and have a strong work ethic and "great attitudes.'

OAK HARBOR GIRLS ROSTER

1	Remi Gregory	5'7	Jr	Post
2	Riley Steinbrick	5'9	Jr	Guard
10	Kaitlin Paul	5'6	Sr	Wing
12	Auna Tack	5'11	Sr	Post
13	Katie May	5'9	Jr	Post
20	Abby Below	5'2	Sr	Wing
33	Ryann Steinbrick	5'10	Jr	Wing

Rodriguez to lead Indians;

Waite boys

Coach: Darren White-Owens, third year,

Last Year: 2-18 (0-10 TCL)

Key Players: Alex Rodriguez III, Sr., Guard: Nik Heslett, Sr., G; Cameron Stuck, 6-5, Sr., F; Larry Mitchell, Sr., F; J.T. Cope, Jr., F; Thomas Toyer, Fr., G

Preview: All-Toledo City League honorable mention selection Cameron Stuck returns to lead Waite after averaging nine points and eight rebounds last year.



Joining him will be senior shooter Alex Rodriguez III, who hit 42 percent behind the 3-piont arc last year, but he is just one of several shooters on this team.

They are among six players who hope to get Waite over .500 after just two victories

"Alex Rodriguez will be one of the better point guards in the area," coach White-Owens said. "Not the flashiest guy, but his basketball IQ and ability to create is unmatched. Alex will lead our team in assists because of his unselfishness at the point guard spot. He will also make a strong case for top scorer because of his shot making

"Nik Heslett will be a top scorer in the area because of his ability to knock down the three consistently and his strength around the basket.

'Freshman Thomas Toyer is one of the most versatile freshman wings in all of Ohio. His ability to score at all three levels, rebound, and push the tempo will benefit our team in the long run. Thomas will come in and instantly be a spark offensively. His aggressiveness attacking the basket will give him plenty of chances for extra points at the free throw line. Thomas will be a surprise player this year.

Cam Stuck is a very talented and long wing. At 6-5 he has no problem creating mismatches against opponents on the wing because of his ball handling ability and deep three range. J.T. Cope will be our top post. Not the tallest center but he changes the game with his hustle plays. He led the team in charges taken last season.'

Last year, Stuck averaged 6.5 rebounds and was an Alan Miller Jewelers All-Press honorable mention selection.

In a usually up tempo City League, White-Owens says his team will have to make adjustments to maintain pace.

"We plan on slowing down the pace as much as possible. We will run the clock as much as possible until we get the best possible shot," White-Owens said.

It's not just pace, but playing defense, too, that the coach believes will keep his team competitive.

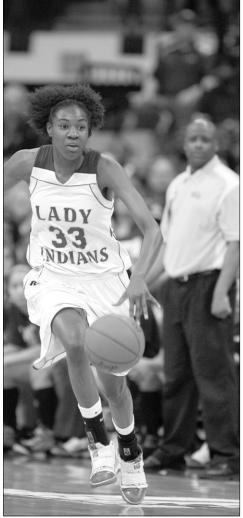
'Larry Mitchell and Matthew Lamonds will be a sleeper duo on the defensive end

Larry and Matthew without question will be the best defensive duo in the City League. The ability to make hustle plays, block shots and get steals will make it hard for opposing teams to score," White-Owens

All of this means that White-Owens expects his team to contend.

"We hope to be near the top of the league. With our depth and ability to knock down threes we should be able to knock "The competition in our league will be as balanced as it's ever been. With the departures of Stephen Coleman and Jamiyah Neal from Rogers, it balances the league out completely. Our ability to get everybody involved and knock down open shots will be our biggest strengths. Our lack of size in the post is a concern.

White-Owens is trying to see a little more what he saw in his eight years as an assistant coach at Woodward, where he helped lead the Polar Bears to a district runner-up finish.



Waite girls coach Manny May with his former player, Natasha Howard, now a WNBA all-star, at the state tournament. (Press file photo by Scott Grau)

Waite girls

Coach: Manny May, 23rd year, 185-260 **Last Year:** 1-22 (1-9 TCL)

Key Players: Kerena Merriweather, 5-7, Sr., G; Jerzie Malloy, 5-7, So., G

Preview: Waite coach Manny May has two returning letter winners back, both starters last year, and three seniors on his team. Leading the way is senior guard Kerena Merriweather, who averaged five points, two rebounds and one steal last year.



May expects his team to compete, but winning a Toledo City League title will be a challenge. He sees Rogers as the team to beat with Start and Bowsher giving the Rams

"We are very young," May said. "We have a lot of first time varsity players. We have to learn on the fly. COVID-19 has set us back. It's been a summer of learning (in the offseason). We will be playing a lot of freshmen.

May believes his perimeter defense could be the key to keeping his team in the hunt, plus Merriweather and Jerzie Malloy are good ballahndlers who could help with handling defensive pressure. He adds that rebounding, depth and having balanced scoring will be among his team's weaknesses they will have to overcome.

WAITE GIRLS ROSTER Mia Berrera 5'5 Fr Guard So Guard Jerzie Malloy 5'6 **Emonie Maulsby** 5'5 Sr Guard Olivia Vansickle 5'7 Fr Wing 20 Juleya Smith Fr **Forward** 22 Chole Alford Fr Wing 23 Brianna Guajardo 5'9 Fr Forward 24 Tyleah Thomas 5'8 Jr Forward 30 Kerena Merriweather Sr Wing 5'8 42 Kimonie Edwards So Wing 5'7 44 Lisa Gist 5'9 Sr Post



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Both Woodmore cage teams have what it takes to contend

Woodmore boys

Coach: Aaron Clouse, sixth year, 55-85

Last Year: 4-19 (0-14 NBC)

Kev Players: Hunter Allen, 6-2, Sr., F; Isaac Betancourt, 5-11, Sr., G; Zach Hunt, 5-11, Sr., G; Ethan McNair, 6-0, Sr., G; D.J. Melter, 6-2, Sr., F; Aaron Miller, 6-2, Jr., G; Aaron Sandrock, 6-1, Sr., G

Preview: Coach Clouse has seven letter winners returning, including three starters, but lost three lettermen to graduation. However, the Wildcats opened the Northern Buckeye Conference season de-

feating Elmwood 57-46.

Leading the 'Cast will be letter winners Hunter Allen (5.8 pts., 3 reb.), Isaac Betancourt (3.7 pts., 2.2 reb.), Zach Hunt (3.5 pts., 1 reb.), Ethan McNair (4 pts., 2.3 reb.), D.J. Melter (2 pts.,

2.3 reb.), Aaron Miller (5 pts., 2.8 reb.) and Aaron Sandrock (4.5 pts., 3.8 reb). Allen, Miller and Sandrock were all starters last year, and Sandrock is a three-year letter winner and McNair a two-year letter win-

Clouse adds to the mix 5-11 junior guard Jared Atkin, 5-10 senior guard Zane Lopez, 6-1 senior forward Kayden Widman and 6-0 junior forward Zane Willis, all of whom played junior varsity last season.

"We return a number of players who got their first varsity experience last season," Clouse said.

"How quickly those players take the next step this season will go a long way in determining what kind of season we will have. The kids competing for spots have worked very hard and we are confident they will be able to step in and make an

Lost to graduation are 6-3 forward Tyler Baba (.5 pts., 1.8 reb.), 6-4 forward Andrew Barringer (8.6 pts., 5.8 reb.), 6-1 guard Cade Burroughs (.8 pts., .8 reb.), 6-0 senior guard Paul Koenig (10.3 pts., 4.2 reb.) and 5-9 guard Brad Miller (.8 pts., .8 reb.). Koenig, a second team All-Northern Buckeye Conference choice, and Barringer are returning starters, and Barringer, Burroughs and Koenig were all two-year letter winners. Barringer and Koenig were also honorable mention selections on the Alan Miller Jewelers All-Press Team.

WOODMORE BOYS ROSTER Zach Hunt 5'11 Sr Guard **Aaron Miller** 6'2 Jr Guard Zane Lopez 5'9 Sr Guard **Ethan McNair** 6'1 Sr Guard **DJ** Melter Sr Forward 22 Kayden Widman 6'0 Sr Forward 23 Isaac Betancourt 5'10 Sr Guard 33 Zane Willis 5'11 Jr Forward 34 Aaron Sandrock 6'0 Sr Guard 42 Jared Atkin 5'10 Jr Guard

Woodmore girls

Coach: Kyle Clair, 13th year, 146-129 Last Year: 17-6 (9-5 NBC)

Key Players: Brooke Allen, Sr., P; Ava Beam, Sr., G; Greta Bauder, Sr., G; Macey Bauder, So., G; Sophie Blausey, Jr., P; Camryn Ivy, Jr., P; Alayna Hahn, Jr., P

Preview: Coach Kyle Clair is proud of his getting his 100th career win a few years back and has seen his team reach the district finals. This year, they are picked to finish second in the Northern Buckeye Conference and they are already taking that to heart.

The Wildcats are already on a tear, opening the season 4-0, including 71-35 victory over Fostoria in the league opener. Other wins are against Northwood, 64-31, Gibsonburg, 67-23, and Port Clinton, 73-34.

Five returning letter winners are leading the way, including second team All-NBC and first team all-district selection Brooke Allen, who averaged 15 points and 9.7 rebounds. Clair says Allen has several collegiate programs interested in her but has not committed yet, adding that "she will definitely play at the next level somewhere."

All of our players run the floor very well, from posts to guards. We have a strong inside game with Brooke and our players recognize that. Our stable of guards make our defense very strong as well," Clair said. "We have to improve our perimeter shooting. This will be key this year in our success and progression. We lost some rebounding last year though graduation so that will be a focal point as well."

Joining Allen is Ava Beam, an honorable mention all-league and all-district pick who averaged 6.7 points, 3.6 rebounds, two



Woodmore 6-1 senior post player Brooke Allen. (Press file photo by Doug Hines)

steals and 1.9 assists. Other top players with experience include Greta Bauder (5.4 pts., 3.1 reb., 2 stls., 2.7 asst.) and Macey Bauder (3.9 pts., 2.3 reb., 1.2 stls., 1.4 asst.).

"Ava, Greta, and Macey will comprise our starting backcourt and are very interchangeable from positions one to three. Macey will handle most of the point guard duties due to her exceptional quickness and ball handling skills, which will allow more scoring opportunities for Ava and Greta's ability to create.

'Sophie (Blausey), Alayna, as well as Greta will be solid for us. They all create match-up issues for teams. Alayna and Greta can utilize their quickness on the wings and will be asked to improve their perimeter game to compliment our inside work. Sophie will play some post for us as well because of her grit and toughness.

"Brooke has improved tremendously



since last year and will be a force in the league. She runs the floor very well and has a great skill set with her back to the basket. She has improved other facets of her game to prepare for the next level. Camryn Ivy will

be her back-up and provides us with some more height and length on the defensive

So far, the Wildcats have scored 60plus points in all four games and the most scored against them is 35.

"Defense is always a focus for us and we will pressure people this year with our personnel," Clair said. "Offensively we want to get out and run any chance we get."

"Brooke will be our top offensive threat and she will garner a great deal of attention. Ava Beam and Greta Bauder are capable of putting up double figures every night as well. I am confident that Macey Bauder will have a breakout year this year on the offensive side with her driving ability and perimeter shooting.

'Macey is a phenomenal defender. Her technique and quickness are going to cause a lot of havoc this year in our favor. Her older sister, Greta, is also very disruptive and they will be fun to watch out on the court together this season. Greta Bauder is my No. 1 improved player from what I've seen thus far. Offensively and defensively she has picked it up, but I'm most impressed with her quiet leadership. I appreciate the example she has set," Clair continued.

'Alayna Hahn at a guard position is going to help us a lot. She is very tough defensively and she handles the ball very well. Camryn Ivy, at 6-1, will get a chance to show her athletic ability at the post position."









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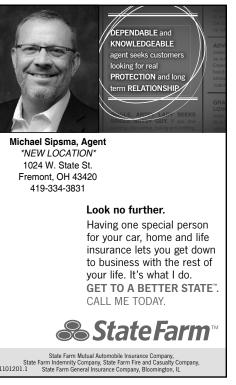


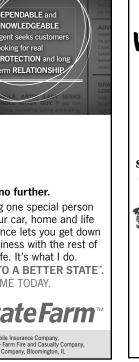


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