

Wayne State University Men's Basketball

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This Week's Opponent: vs. Hillsdale College (Feb. 10)

Wayne State Season Record: 11-10 overall, 5-7 GLIAC

Game Information:

Hillsdale invades Wayne State University, Saturday, Feb. 10 with a record of 17-4 overall and a 10-2 GLIAC record. The Chargers have won five straight games and 10 of their last 11 contests. Hillsdale has sole possession of first place in the GLIAC South Division. Hillsdale and Wayne State did battle earlier this season at Hillsdale with the Chargers slipping by the Warriors, 57-53.

The Chargers have four players averaging 10 points or more a contest. Senior guard Ed Carter leads Hillsdale averaging 15.5 ppg. and 4.9 rpg. Carter was named GLIAC Player of the Week last week. He averaged 20.5 points and four rebounds in victories over Ashland and Findlay. Matt Mlynarchek is averaging 13.2 ppg. and 8.1 rpg.

Series Record:

Wayne State has a 34-21 series lead over Hillsdale. Hillsdale swept the Warriors last season winning 62-60 on the road and 76-71 in overtime at home.

Last Week:

The Warriors went 1-1 last week against the Erie, Pa. schools at the Matthaei Building. Wayne State defeated Mercyhurst, 79-73 and lost to Gannon University 87-76. The Warriors are 8-2 at home this season and 34-4 at the Matthaei Building the last three years.

Against Mercyhurst the Warriors shot 50 percent from the field (27-54) and held the Lakers to only 46 percent from the floor (29-63). Wayne State led 35-34 at halftime and led by as many as 14 points in the second half.

The Warriors dominated the boards outrebounding Mercyhurst, 42-26. Junior forward/guard **Reggie Kirkland (Detroit, Mich./Romulus)** led the Warriors with 23 points and eight rebounds. Junior guard **Mike Brown (Ann Arbor, Mich./Huron)** had 12 points, nine rebounds and six assists. Sophomore guard **Kendall LeSure (Detroit, Mich./Pershing)** and senior forward **Chukwuemeka Okonkwo (Ann Arbor, Mich./Pioneer)** each scored 12 points. Freshman center **Nick Gout (Allen Park, Mich.)** had 10 points off the bench.

Gannon traveled to Wayne State on Saturday (Feb. 3) riding a two-game losing streak. The Warriors were down 41-36 at halftime and rallied to tie the contest at 51-51 with 13:53 left in the game. However Gannon was hot from the field and were able to control the boards to down the Warriors.

Gannon shot 50.8 percent from the field (30-59) including 56.5 percent in the second half (13-23). The Warriors struggled from the field shooting only 43.5 percent from the floor (27-62) and 33.3 percent from the three-point line (7-21). Gannon outrebounded the Warriors 40-30 in the contest.

Kirkland led the Warriors once again pouring in 25 points and grabbing five rebounds. LeSure added 15 points while sophomore **Brandon Gray (River Rouge, Mich.)** added 16 points and six rebounds. Gout had 10 points and six rebounds off the bench.

Wayne State is 5-1 this season when they score over 80 points and 8-1 when they hold opponents under 70 points a game.

Below are WSU's top performers this season.

Mike Brown (Ann Arbor, Mich./Huron) – The junior guard scored 12 points, grabbed nine rebounds and dished out six assists against Mercyhurst. Brown leads the team in assists (80) and steals (35). He is second on the team in scoring (13.3 ppg.). Brown ranks 25th in the GLIAC in scoring, 10th in steals, sixth in assists, eighth in three-point field goals made (2.10) and fifth in assist/turnover ratio (1.27).

Nick Gout (Allen Park, Mich.) – The freshman center scored 10 points against Mercyhurst and Gannon. Gout is third on the team in scoring (10.7 ppg) and rebounding (4.6 rpg). He ranks 13th in the GLIAC in three-point field goal percentage (41.3 percent) and seventh in free throw percentage (82.1 percent).

Reggie Kirkland (Detroit, Mich./Romulus) – A junior forward, Kirkland scored season-highs against Mercyhurst and Gannon. Kirkland posted 23 points and pulled down eight rebounds against Mercyhurst. He scored 25 points and five rebounds versus Gannon. Kirkland has led the Warriors in scoring three times this season. He is averaging 10.5 ppg and 4.2 rpg.

Justin Gorman (Riverview, Mich./Aquinas) – The sophomore forward is averaging 7.8 ppg and 3.0 rpg. Gorman leads the Warriors in three-point field goal percentage (41.4 percent). He is 12th in the GLIAC in three-point field goal percentage.

Kendall LeSure (Detroit, Mich./Pershing) – The sophomore guard is averaging 7.8 ppg and 2.7 rpg. LeSure scored 12 points against Mercyhurst and 15 points against Gannon. He is second on the team in steals (32). LeSure ranks ninth in the GLIAC in steals.

Chukwuemeka Okonkwo (Ann Arbor, Mich./Pioneer) – A senior forward, Okonkwo is averaging 6.0 ppg and 4.8 rpg. Okonkwo scored 12 points and pulled down four rebounds against Mercyhurst.

Brandon Gray (River Rouge, Mich.) – The sophomore forward scored 16 points and pulled down six rebounds against Gannon. Gray is averaging 7.7 ppg and 4.6 rpg.

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