

## Warriors Begin Their “Second Season”

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After having two weeks off the Wayne State University men’s basketball team is lacing up their shoes once again to play two of the toughest teams in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in the past two seasons, Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan.

Wayne State (6-6, 0-3) did not have any games over the holiday break, which allowed the team to focus on these next two contests. The Warriors have had the luxury this season of playing five home games in their first twelve contests. Wayne State has been nearly unstoppable at home charting a 4-1 record at the Matthaei Building this season and an 18-2 record at home the past two seasons. With the likes of Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan marching in, head coach Ron Hammye knows that any advantage the Warriors have is a plus.

“It’s always an advantage to play at home in this conference since it’s so difficult,” said Hammye. “Michigan Tech is a good team that was picked to win our conference this season. They have a good player in Matt Cameron and also have some good shooters.”

The Warriors have struggled offensively in GLIAC games averaging only 62.3 ppg. as opposed to their 70 ppg. in all games. Junior **Rick Fox (Toledo, OH/St. Francis)** is averaging 20.3 ppg. and 5.7 rpg. in GLIAC contests. However no other player is averaging double-digits in scoring in conference play.

“We had some adversity in the early season due to new faces and also injuries,” said Hammye. “However we are at full strength right now and we are looking to get ourselves back into the GLIAC hunt.”

Michigan Tech (7-3, 1-1), who comes to town Thursday, Jan. 4, has won four of its last five games. Led by Matt Cameron who is averaging 16.8 ppg. and 7.1 rpg., the Huskies have also put together an impressive home record. Michigan Tech also has not found much success on the road or at neutral sites. The Huskies are 2-1 on the road and 1-1 at neutral sites. MTU lost to Northwest Missouri State and at Montana-State Billings. The Huskies also lost a home contest to rival Northern Michigan.

“The Huskies are very well-coached and well-balanced team,” said Hammye. “Cameron is their best player, but if you focus on him then other players can hurt you from the inside and outside.”

Northern Michigan has won three-straight games and three of their last four games. The Wildcats are 2-1 on the road and 2-0 at neutral sites. NMU is led by Damian

Matacz who is averaging 18.4 ppg. and 5.9 rpg. The Wildcats have four players scoring in double-digits.

Following their games this weekend, the Warriors travel to Grand Valley State University (Jan. 11) and Ferris State University (Jan. 13).

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