

Wayne State University Men's Basketball

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This Week's Opponents:

Thursday, Feb. 22 at Mercyhurst College

Saturday, Feb. 24 at Gannon University

These are the Warriors final two games of the season.

Wayne State's Record: 12-12 overall, 6-9 GLIAC, 6th Place South Division

Last Week's Scores:

Ashland defeated Wayne State, 72-71 (Feb. 15)

Wayne State defeated Findlay, 57-50 (Feb. 17)

Game Information:

Mercyhurst College is 16-9 overall and 10-6 in the GLIAC. The Lakers have lost two straight games and three of their last five games. The Lakers are coming off back to back losses at home to Gannon, 53-51 and Hillsdale, 63-58. The Lakers are in third place in the GLIAC South Division. Mercyhurst leads the GLIAC in field goal percentage defense (.409).

The Lakers are led by senior center Brent Swain who is averaging 12.5 ppg and 9.4 rpg. Swain leads the GLIAC in rebounding and is third in blocked shots (1.76). He leads the GLIAC in defensive rebounds (6.20), third in offensive rebounds (3.20) and second in field goal percentage (.593). Against the Warriors earlier this season Swain scored 15 points grabbed eight rebounds and had one blocked shot.

Guard Richard Bradley leads the Lakers in scoring averaging 13.9 ppg. Bradley ranks 20th in the GLIAC in scoring, eighth in steals (1.95) and sixth in three-point field goals made (2.16). Bradley scored 16 points and had five assists against the Warriors earlier this season.

Wayne State defeated Mercyhurst College earlier this season, 79-73. The Warriors shot 50 percent from the field (27-54) while the Lakers managed only 46.0 percent from the floor. The Warriors had five players score in double-digits and outrebounded the Lakers 42-26 in the contest.

Gannon is 18 -6 overall and 12-4 in the GLIAC. The Golden Knights have won five straight games and 11 of their last 13 games. Gannon is currently in second place in the GLIAC South Division behind Hillsdale. Gannon is coming off a 2-0 week in which it defeated Mercyhurst, 53-51 and Hillsdale, 89-70.

Sophomore center Josh Morgan leads Gannon averaging 16.7 ppg and 7.1 rpg. Morgan is sixth in the GLIAC in scoring, fourth in rebounding, 13th in field goal percentage (.532), seventh in offensive rebounds (2.42) and seventh in defensive rebounds (4.71). Morgan scored 22 points and pulled down eight rebounds against the Warriors earlier this season.

Junior guard Rich Bush averages 15.9 ppg and 3.1 rpg. Bush ranks 13th in the GLIAC in scoring, sixth in free throw shooting (.838), 14th in three-point field goal percentage (.400) and second in three-point field goals made (2.43). Bush posted 23 points and three rebounds against WSU in January.

Senior guard Javar Cheatham is averaging 12.4 ppg, 6.5 rpg, and 9.4 apg. Cheatham leads the GLIAC in assists, steals (3.17) and assists/turnover ratio (3.03). Cheatham had a double-double against the Warriors in their first meeting recording 11 points and 12 assists.

Gannon defeated Wayne State earlier this season, 87-76. The Golden Knights had four players score in double-digits and shot 50.8 percent from the floor (30-59). Wayne State shot 43.5 percent from the field and was outrebounded 40-30 in the contest.

Series Record:

Wayne State leads the all-time series against Mercyhurst, 7-4. Wayne State defeated Mercyhurst earlier this season, 79-73 at the Matthaehi Building.

Gannon and Wayne State are tied 6-6 in the all-time series. Gannon defeated Wayne State at the Matthaehi Building earlier this season, 87-76.

Last Week:

Wayne State was 1-1 last week playing its last two home games of the season. The Warriors lost a heartbreaker to Ashland, 72-71. Ashland sophomore guard Isaac Kincaid hit a jumper with 1.7 seconds remaining to lift the Eagles to victory.

Wayne State bounced back from its tough loss and stopped Findlay, 57-50. The Warriors overcame a nine-point deficit at halftime to pull out the victory.

WSU is 9-4 at home this season and 35-6 the last three seasons at the Matthaehi Building. Wayne State broke a three-game losing streak when it defeated Findlay on Saturday. The Warriors are 10-1 this season when they hold opponents under 70 points a contest and 4-2 when they score 80 or more points in a game.

Against Ashland the Warriors shot a blistering 53.8 percent from the field (14-26) and 57.1 percent (4-7) from the three-point line to lead 40-39 in the first half. Wayne State hit the wall in the second half shooting only 29.2 percent from the floor (7-24) and 37.5 percent from the three-point line (6-16). Ashland outrebounded WSU, 36-27.

Junior forward **Reggie Kirkland (Detroit, Mich./Romulus)** led the Warriors with 23 points and nine rebounds. Junior guard **Mike Brown (Ann Arbor, Mich./Huron)** had 18 points and five rebounds.

The Warriors had an outstanding performance against Findlay on Senior Day. Despite shooting only 32 percent from the field (16-50) and 16.7 percent from the three-point line (3-18), the Warriors hung on for the victory. WSU was led by its lone senior **Chukwuemeka Okonkwo (Ann Arbor, Mich./Pioneer)** had a season-high 14 points and four rebounds. Okonkwo also did a great job on defense guarding Findlay's top scorer Kyle Hunt. Hunt, who entered the contest averaging 20.3 ppg, managed only four points and five rebounds in 35 minutes of action. Sophomore **Brandon Gray (River**

Rouge, Mich.) had his first double-double of the season with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Kirkland had 10 points and five rebounds.

Wayne State outrebounded Findlay, 40-37 and forced 19 Oiler turnovers.

Warrior Notes:

- Junior Reggie Kirkland has led the Warriors in scoring in four of the last five contests. In his last five games, Kirkland is averaging 20.6 ppg and 7.4 rpg.
- Kirkland has hit 30-consecutive free throws in a row and has made 35 of his last 36 from the stripe.
- Junior center Rick Fox (Toledo, OH/St. Francis) is back in action after missing nearly half the season with mononucleosis. Fox saw his first action in over a month against Ashland when he scored six points and grabbed four rebounds in 16 minutes. Fox posted five points and seven rebounds against Findlay in 11 minutes.
- Brandon Gray recorded his first double-double of the season with 10 points and 10 rebounds against Findlay. Gray is averaging 11.0 ppg and 6.46 rpg at the Matthaei Building this season.

Wayne State Individual GLIAC Leaders	
Scoring	21st, Rick Fox (13.6) 22nd, Mike Brown (13.3)
Rebounding	13th, Rick Fox (5.9)
Field Goal Percentage	8th, Reggie Kirkland (.554)
Assists	6th, Mike Brown (3.75)
Free Throw Percentage	8th, Reggie Kirkland (.816) 10th, Nick Gout (.803)
Steals	9th, Mike Brown (1.79) 10th, Kendall LeSure (1.73)
3-Point Field Goal Percentage	12th, Nick Gout (.406)
3-point Field Goal Made	5th, Mike Brown (2.21)
Assist/Turnover Ratio	9th, Mike Brown (1.29)
Offensive Rebounds	13th, Reggie Kirkland (2.14) 14th, Rick Fox (2.06)