



Bluffton University Women's Basketball



Defiance College
"Yellow Jackets"
(4-7, 2-2 HCAC)

Founders Hall
Jan. 4, 2012
6 PM

Bluffton University
"Beavers"
(2-9, 0-4 HCAC)

THE PREVIEW

WHEN: Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at 6 PM

WHERE: Bluffton, Ohio (Founders Hall)

INTERNET: Watch live updates on the Bluffton University Website
<http://www.bluffton.edu/sports/webcast/mbk/XLIVE.HTM>

BLUFFTON, Ohio - The Bluffton University women's basketball team will look to fill the shoes of four-time All-HCAC performer Kim Miller who finished no. 1 all-time with 697 rebounds, 412 assists and 388 made free throws. The consummate team player, Miller is no. 2 on the career lists with 1,171 points (Tanya Rickenberg scored 1,241), 188 steals and 99 games started, two shy of Rickenberg's 101 career starts. The Beavers fell to nationally-ranked Otterbein and St. Mary's (Ind.) at the Smokey Ballenger Classic over the holidays. Defiance (4-7, 2-2 HCAC) fell at Alma 65-48 in its last contest on Dec. 21.

The Coaches

Bluffton head coach Chad Shutler is in his seventh season, guiding the women since taking over the reigns in 2005-06. The Beavers have improved drastically under Coach Shutler, posting 15-11 mark in 2008-09 for the best Bluffton women's finish since 1995-96. Shutler's career record is currently 55-107.

Craig McCord assumed the role of interim head coach for the women's basketball program for the 2011-12 season on Monday, September 16. McCord, who is also currently in his eighth season as an assistant coach for the Jackets on the gridiron, will serve as the 11th head coach in the 39-year history of DC's women's basketball program.

Last conference contest

The Bluffton women's basketball team pulled within two points late in the game, but a 22-of-62 (35.5 percent) shooting performance was too much to overcome in a 61-56 loss at Transy on Saturday, Dec. 17. Hutton and Stegmaier paced the Beavers with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

Five Lady Yellow Jackets scored at least seven points as Defiance went on the road to beat Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference opponent Anderson, 55-50. Freshman Megan Zachrich led Defiance, now 2-2 in the HCAC, with 11 points.

2011-12 HCAC Women's Basketball Standings

Team	HCAC	GB	Pct.	Overall	Pct.
Franklin	4-0	-	1.000	11-0	1.000
Hanover	3-1	1	.750	7-3	.700
Manchester	3-1	1	.750	7-4	.636
Anderson	2-2	2	.500	5-6	.455
Defiance	2-2	2	.500	4-7	.364
Sydney	2-2	2	.500	4-7	.364
MSJ	2-2	2	.500	2-9	.182
Earlham	1-3	3	.250	3-8	.273
RHIT	1-3	3	.250	3-8	.273
Bluffton	0-4	4	.000	2-9	.182

Leading the Beavers

The Bluffton women finished seventh in the Heartland Conference a season ago, just missing out on a berth in the HCAC tournament. With five seniors leading the way in 2011-12, the Beavers have the experience needed to make the final full season in Founders Hall a memorable one. Senior Brittany Stegmaier, the leading returning scorer, is dropping in 6.7 PPG. Junior Lauren Hutton has been tough in the post, bucketing a team-high 12.4 PPG to go along with 4.5 RPG while shooting 47.6 percent from the field (28-of-59). Senior guard Brittany Lewis is hitting for 6.5 PPG and 4.2 RPG with 36 assists and 10-of-37 from three-point land. Also distributing the ball is senior Alicia Amis who has a 20 assists and is also pulling down 4.5 RPG. Sophomore Kylee Burkholder is checking in with 4.6 PPG and 4.4 RPG.

Projected Starters

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY "BEAVERS"

#03 Alicia Amis (PG)	SR	4.4 PPG, 4.5 RPG
#23 Brittany Lewis (G)	SR	6.5 PPG, 3.3 APG
#15 Rachel Daman (G)	SR	4.9 PPG, 2.6 RPG
#33 Brittany Stegmaier (G)	SR	6.7 PPG, 3.0 RPG
#40 Lauren Hutton (F)	JR	12.4 PPG, 4.5 RPG

DEFIANCE COLLEGE "YELLOW JACKETS"

#12 Rachel Ciminillo (G)	JR	3.3 PPG, 3.3 RPG
#23 Erica King	SO	11.5 PPG, 27-71 3 FG
#30 Brooke Zachrich	SR	6.2 PPG, 4.1 RPG
#42 Hannah Harshman (F)	SO	8.1 PPG, 4.8 RPG
#45 Kim Comden (F)	JR	10.8 PPG, 6.0 RPG

2011-12 Bluffton University Basketball Statistics (2-9, 0-4 HCAC)

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds							pts	avg			
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fga	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a			to	blk	stl
40	Hutton, Lauren	10-9	215	21.5	50-105	.476	4-8	.500	20-27	.741	17	28	45	4.5	22	0	11	10	5	2	124	12.4
33	Stegmaier, Brittany	11-11	246	22.4	26-73	.356	11-39	.282	11-19	.579	7	26	33	3.0	20	0	22	21	6	8	74	6.7
23	Lewis, Brittany	11-11	294	26.7	28-79	.354	10-37	.270	6-14	.429	14	32	46	4.2	14	0	36	31	1	6	72	6.5
11	Cooper, Belicia	3-0	22	7.3	5-11	.455	2-3	.667	5-9	.556	3	3	6	2.0	2	0	1	2	0	3	17	5.7
15	Daman, Rachel	11-11	210	19.1	15-45	.333	8-22	.364	16-21	.762	8	21	29	2.6	26	0	14	8	1	8	54	4.9
42	Burkholder, Kylee	11-2	183	16.6	18-57	.316	0-0	.000	15-24	.625	18	30	48	4.4	18	0	10	15	1	7	51	4.6
03	Amis, Alicia	11-11	244	22.2	15-49	.306	5-21	.238	13-22	.591	6	43	49	4.5	23	0	20	25	2	12	48	4.4
20	Coburn, Mikayla	11-0	163	14.8	16-48	.333	5-12	.417	10-14	.714	19	23	42	3.8	6	0	10	12	3	3	47	4.3
34	Martin, Sharonda	9-0	73	8.1	16-49	.327	0-0	.000	3-6	.500	11	13	24	2.7	21	0	2	5	5	2	35	3.9
05	Kurilec, Brenna	8-0	112	14.0	12-37	.324	1-2	.500	5-10	.500	12	17	29	3.6	12	0	9	14	2	6	30	3.8
14	Yoder, Beth	11-0	132	12.0	11-39	.282	9-32	.281	5-8	.625	4	10	14	1.3	13	0	7	8	0	1	36	3.3
45	Inskeep, Sarah	4-0	35	8.8	5-15	.333	0-0	.000	0-3	.000	7	5	12	3.0	3	0	0	1	0	0	10	2.5
13	Tate, Francena	10-0	99	9.9	8-25	.320	1-5	.200	5-7	.714	2	14	16	1.6	13	0	8	14	0	4	22	2.2
24	DeBord, Rachel	10-0	106	10.6	8-29	.276	0-8	.000	4-6	.667	6	19	25	2.5	11	0	7	8	0	2	20	2.0
32	Miller, Elizabeth	9-0	64	7.1	2-17	.118	0-4	.000	0-0	.000	4	2	6	0.7	3	0	5	1	0	1	4	0.4
31	Neu, Andrea	1-0	2	2.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Team											18	20	38				4					
Total.....		11	2200		235-678	.347	56-193	.290	118-190	.621	156	306	462	42.0	207	0	162	179	26	65	644	58.5
Opponents.....		11	2200		259-671	.386	59-187	.316	143-228	.627	153	321	474	43.1	178	-	160	165	57	97	720	65.5

Bluffton vs. Defiance all-time series

Bluffton-Defiance team stats

	<u>Bluffton</u>	<u>Defiance</u>
Points/game	58.5	56.8
Points allowed/game	65.5	62.9
Total FG	235-678	218-585
FG %	34.7 %	37.3 %
3-point FG	56-193	49-149
3-pt %	29.0 %	32.9 %
Free throws	118-190	140-197
FT %	62.1 %	71.1 %
Rebounds per game	42.0	35.5
Rebound +/-	-1.1	-0.9
Turnovers per game	16.3	21.2
Turnovers +/-	-1.3	-2.6
Steals per game	5.9	8.0
Blocks per game	2.4	1.9

Although the Beavers and Jackets are heated rivals, Defiance has ruled the series with a commanding 66-12 edge. This will mark the 79th meeting between the backyard rivals. Bluffton's first year of women's basketball was 1968-69, and it met Defiance that same year. The Beavers' 79-74 victory at Defiance in 2008-09 was their first win in the Weaner Center since January 20, 1982. Bluffton has been victorious in five of the last seven meetings with the Jackets, including a 90-83 Founders Hall win last January.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Location</u>
2-16-2011	Defiance	73-63	Defiance, Ohio
1-19-2011	Bluffton	90-83	Founders Hall
2-17-2010	Bluffton	96-91 (OT)	Founders Hall
1-20-2010	Defiance	83-71	Defiance, Ohio
2-18-2009	Bluffton	78-64	Founders Hall

Next up for the Beavers and Jackets

The Beavers and Jackets will continue with HCAC action on Saturday, Jan. 7. Bluffton welcomes Hanover for a 1 p.m. start, while Defiance hosts Transylvania on Saturday at 1 p.m.

2011-12 Defiance College Basketball Statistics (4-7, 2-2 HCAC)

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds							pts	avg			
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fga	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a			to	blk	stl
23	Erica King	11-11	344	31.3	38-103	.369	27-71	.380	23-31	.742	8	27	35	3.2	16	0	16	32	1	5	126	11.5
45	Kim Comden	11-11	285	25.9	44-105	.419	0-1	.000	31-38	.816	24	42	66	6.0	28	1	4	22	11	9	119	10.8
42	Hannah Harshman	11-11	267	24.3	36-82	.439	0-0	.000	17-23	.739	21	32	53	4.8	29	0	14	31	7	5	89	8.1
15	Jessie Arnold	6-2	117	19.5	15-33	.455	5-12	.417	4-6	.667	4	7	11	1.8	9	0	6	17	0	5	39	6.5
30	Brooke Zachrich	11-11	310	28.2	20-61	.328	3-14	.214	25-33	.758	14	31	45	4.1	25	1	25	33	1	8	68	6.2
40	Megan Zachrich	10-3	211	21.1	15-50	.300	2-10	.200	10-20	.500	14	22	36	3.6	22	0	17	20	0	15	42	4.2
22	Emma Starks	11-0	174	15.8	16-43	.372	0-0	.000	8-15	.533	8	21	29	2.6	18	0	6	22	0	10	40	3.6
12	Rachel Ciminitillo	8-6	198	24.8	8-34	.235	3-18	.167	7-9	.778	1	25	26	3.3	14	0	15	19	0	11	26	3.3
34	Kim Bingley	11-0	118	10.7	12-30	.400	1-6	.167	7-12	.583	13	16	29	2.6	9	0	8	12	0	10	32	2.9
24	Maggie Neanen	11-0	75	6.8	9-23	.391	5-10	.500	5-6	.833	2	3	5	0.5	4	0	4	7	0	4	28	2.5
03	Ashley Birchmeier	10-0	75	7.5	4-18	.222	3-7	.429	2-2	1.000	2	6	8	0.8	8	0	3	11	1	5	13	1.3
44	Megan Fields	4-0	26	6.5	1-3	.333	0-0	.000	1-2	.500	2	3	5	1.3	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	0.8
Team											22	21	43		1		7					
Total.....		11	2200		218-585	.373	49-149	.329	140-197	.711	135	256	391	35.5	184	2	118	233	21	88	625	56.8
Opponents.....		11	2200		243-611	.398	62-201	.308	144-216	.667	146	255	401	36.5	190	-	159	204	38	130	692	62.9