



SPARTAN SPORTS

Men's Basketball Looks to Rebound

Kody Smith
Staff Writer

Following a 5-20 regular season, the Manchester University men's basketball squad looks to rebound in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference standings as they introduce the new head coach alumnus Gerad Good.

With four top scorers returning, the Spartans have a base for improvement throughout the 2015-2016 season.

Coach Good's team includes veteran leadership in four seniors and four juniors, including 6-5 senior guard Brady Dolezal of Tipton, Indiana, who predicts the seniors will play a crucial role in the success of the team this season.

"This year, the seniors will have to lead more by example rather than just being vocal," Dolezal said. He was second among the Spartans last season in points per game, averaging 13.9, following fellow senior Matt Brown of Hobart, Indiana, who averaged 17.

Brown also led the Spartans in free throw percentage, draining 83.7 percent behind the charity stripe. The seniors are joined by junior guard Chase Casteel of Monrovia, Indiana, and junior guard

Blake Brouwer of Elkhart, Indiana, as the top returning scorers.

Casteel averaged 11.8 points per game last season, including a 41.3 shooting percentage from behind the 3-point line and a 78.9 free throw percentage. Brouwer averaged 10.5 points per game, with an impressive 51.7 percentage from the field and 43.9 percentage from 3.

"With a new shot clock set to 30 seconds, we hope to change the tempo of the game," Coach Good said. "We want to attack offensively by putting pressure on the full length of the floor."

Good wants an offense that will outrun the opposition, and expects to push his players "out of their comfort zones" from their former a slow-tempo offense.

The Spartans begin their season Monday, Nov. 16 in exciting fashion, traveling to Fort Wayne to take on the IPFW Mastodons. "I probably will not sleep the night before," Coach Good said. "We have great support and everyone is excited."

The game begins at 7:30 p.m. "It's always a great experience playing a Division I school," Dolezal said. "We are excited to have an opportunity to prove we are a different team than last year."



Senior Forward Matt Brown averaged 17 points per game last season.

Quick Facts

Compiled by Tanner Forsythe, Kody Smith and Zach Newcomer

- Gerad Good is entering his first season as head coach, the 22nd head coach all-time at Manchester. He is a former Spartan, coached by Steve Alford and was a student assistant for Alford during the Spartans' run to the 1994-95 NCAA Division III National Championship.
- The Spartans are projected to finish ninth in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference preseason poll, exactly where MU finished the 2014-2015 regular season.
- The four top scorers during 2014-2015 regular season are returning: Senior forward Matt Brown (17.0 ppg), senior guard Brady Dolezal (13.9 ppg), junior guard Chase Casteel (11.8 ppg) and junior guard Blake Brouwer (10.5 ppg).
- A new NCAA shot clock for the 2015-2016 season gives players 30 seconds to get a shot up, so the Spartans are looking toward a more up-tempo offense, putting more pressure on opposing defenses.

Games of Interest

Dec. 12 at Mount St. Joseph:

Last season, Mount St. Joseph got the best of the Spartans, winning both contests by at least 18 points. With Mount St. Joseph projected to lead HCAC standings, the Spartans hope to shock the Lions from Ohio

Jan. 20 at Anderson University:

Rival Anderson took down the Black and Gold in Stauffer-Wolfe Arena last season,

91-77. The Spartans hope to return the favor this season as the team heads south for the matchup.

Feb. 13 vs Rose-Hulman:

The last time the Spartans and the Engineers squared off at Stauffer-Wolfe Arena, the Engineers squeezed out a victory, 55-54. The Spartans gained a 51-48 lead with 41 seconds left to play, but Rose-Hulman struck back, scoring seven of the last 10 points.

Three Key Players

■ Matt Brown, Senior, Forward:

The 6-5 forward out of Hobart, Indiana, was an offensive force last season, averaging 17.0 points per game, 4.7 rebounds per game and shooting 46 percent from the field.

■ Chase Casteel, Junior, Guard: At 6-6, this guard out of Monrovia, Indiana, last season averaged 11.8 points per game, 5.0 rebounds per game and shot 41.3 percent from the 3-point line.

■ Brady Dolezal, Senior, Guard: Last season, this Tipton, Indiana, Spartan shot 48.0 percent from the field, 13.9 points per game and finished second on the team with 53 assists. (Caleb Jackson led with 80.)



Junior guard Chase Casteel



Sophomore Ally Roskos, despite her asthma, scored 395 points against Franklin College in MU's first meet.

Roskos Overcomes Roadblocks

Guerby Ruuska
Staff Writer

Sophomore Ally Roskos is the ultimate athlete, from finesse on the volleyball court to poise and grace off the diving board. Fresh out of volleyball season, Roskos made headlines her season debut on the diving board Oct. 30 during MU's first-ever home swimming and diving meet against Franklin College.

Roskos scored 395 points for the win in the 11-dives competition at home. And yet she found her dominating performance, with so little practice under her belt, a stunning one.

"That felt like luck, honestly," she said. "I only had two full practices right before our first meet because of volleyball season and everything. I had a few practices before that, but those were just mess-

ing around and getting used to the board again."

Roskos' first performance of the year met the NCAA Division III Regional qualification standard and made her the Ohio Athletic Conference Women's Swimmer/Diver of the Week.

Diving Coach Nicola Jones tells a different story: "I wasn't shocked nor did I see it coming," she said. "Ally is a competitive athlete and has extreme passion for diving. She always gives her best in meets and I expect nothing less."

Jones '15 is a fitting coach. The two played together last season, so Jones already has a grasp of Roskos' strengths and weakness. "She set a standard for herself this year by hitting her first mark to qualify for Regionals at her first meet. I'm excited to see how the season progresses."

Roskos had to overcome a bit of a roadblock on the board

during her performance against the Grizzlies: asthma.

"Whenever I have asthma attacks I feel really tired afterwards and my muscles are just strained toward the end with my harder dives. I would have gotten close to the same scores I would have even without the asthma attacks but it definitely did (affect me)."

Asthma is not the only roadblock the standout has had to deal with; back problems have limited Roskos from practicing as much as she would like. "I'm not going to have as many practices as I would want, because my back is so bad," she said. "As long as I'm taking each practice seriously and getting lots of quality time instead of quantity and just making sure my dives are better, (I should be OK)."

"I want to start throwing harder dives but I want to make sure that they are controlled and clean."

New Coaches Good, Lake Speak at First MU Media Day

Zach Newcomer
Staff Writer

Manchester Athletics highlighted its coaches at the annual Winter Sports Media Day on Nov. 5 at the PERC.

Newly hired wrestling Head Coach Kevin Lake and men's basketball Head Coach Gerad Good attended their first Manchester media day, alongside veteran women's basketball Head Coach Josh Dzurick and swimming and diving Head Coach Mike Kroll.

"Hard work is paying off," Kroll told media representatives. "(We) have confidence going forward and we are competitive against other schools." Kroll highlighted the men's team victory this season over Millikin University as the program's first ever dual-meet win.

Lake has been on campus less than two weeks, after driving 36 hours from Los Angeles. He said he already has a sense of the wrestling

team's ability and what the season may have in store. "These are great kids, lots of talent and ability," he said. "They are easy to coach and they are showing willingness to be open to what I teach them."

Dzurick emphasized that this women's basketball team needs a new identity to separate it from the previous teams. The team needs to move on and cannot look back. "The importance of seniors taking leadership over this team will correlate with the success of this team," he said.

Good fielded questions geared toward the scrimmage with Huntington University and the upcoming matchup with Division I Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne (IPFW).

He said his goal is for the players to play out of their comfort area, which will allow them to react better when faced with adversity during a game. "We want to attack offensively and make rebounding an attitude," Good explained.

Schedule

November

- 16 @ IPFW
- 18 Olivet
- 21 Ind.-Northwest
- 24 Calvin
- 29 @ Kalamazoo

December

- 02 Defiance
- 05 Hanover
- 12 @ Mt. St. Joseph
- 16 Finlandia
- 30 @ Trine

January

- 02 Earlham
- 06 @ Franklin
- 09 @ Rose-Hulman
- 13 Bluffton
- 16 Transylvania
- 20 @ Anderson
- 23 @ Earlham
- 27 Franklin
- 30 Mt. St. Joseph

February

- 03 @ Bluffton
- 06 @ Hanover
- 10 Anderson
- 13 Rose-Hulman
- 17 @ Defiance
- 20 @ Transylvania

PERC Hours

Monday - Thursday: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Friday: 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday: 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.