



Point Park University Athletics

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The following are team capsules for Point Park University men's and women's basketball games this weekend. Both Point Park teams are on a weekend road trip in KIAC play Jan. 31-Feb. 2. Contact: Kevin Taylor, SID (ktaylor@pointpark.edu)

POINT PARK WOMEN (20-2, 7-2 KIAC)

This Weekend: The Point Park women will play three conference games in less than 48 hours Jan. 31-Feb. 2. The Pioneers visit Cincinnati Christian on Jan. 31 at 5 p.m., visit Midway (Ky.) on Feb. 1 at 2 p.m. and play St. Louis College of Pharmacy at neutral site Midway (Ky.) College Feb. 2 at 11 a.m.

Top Storylines: The Pioneers have their third straight 20-win season and are one of five 20-win teams in NAIA Division II. Point Park can set a program record for regular-season wins if it can reach the 23-win mark. Point Park is in the 'others receiving votes' section of the NAIA DII Top 25 Poll this week at No. 26 overall and are just two votes shy of tying for 25th. They will look to get back into the rankings with a big showing this weekend and maintain first place in the KIAC in building on its 7-2 conference record.

Last Game: Point Park won at home, 79-78, over Asbury (Ky.) on Jan. 25. Kayla Kiriau had a career-high 23 points on 8 of 10 from the field and 3 of 4 from 3-point range and hit the game-winning free throw with 0.5 seconds left.

Team Notes: The Pioneers are strong on defense and rebounding, and they also have an offense that scores 82.3 ppg. Point Park ranks second in NAIA DII and first in the KIAC in rebounding at 48.8 rpg and leads the conference in scoring defense (68.6 ppg) and field-goal percentage defense (.364). Offensively, the Pioneers are 16th in the country and second in the conference in scoring at 82.3 ppg.

Player Notes: The Pioneers have four starters averaging double figures led by freshman C Sam Weir at 14.8 ppg and 9.9 rpg. G Alexa Xenakis (10.3 ppg), F Carly Forse (10.1 ppg, 8.1 rpg) and G Kayla Kiriau (10.1 ppg) join G/F Katresa Savisky (9.5 ppg) in the starting lineup.

Head Coach: Tony Grenek is in his third year with the Pioneers and has a record of 68-16 (.809). He has led the Pioneers to two straight NAIA Division II national tournaments.

Cincinnati Christian Notes: The Eagles are in their first year of women's basketball and have a respectable record of 9-12 overall and 5-5 KIAC. CCU has pulled a couple of recent upsets in KIAC play with home victories over IU Southeast (73-72) and Berea (100-72), both top-five teams in the conference. The Eagles have some strong individual talent but lack depth. Amanda Baute is a 5-10 guard averaging 20.8 ppg and 10.8 rpg to lead four starters in double figures. Beth Moorman is a 5-10 guard averaging 14.0 ppg, and Sydney Mason is a 5-5 guard at 14.0 ppg.

Midway Team Notes: Midway is 6-12 overall and 3-5 KIAC, but it is playing better of late. The Eagles recently beat one of the KIAC favorites, Alice Lloyd, 77-66, and also beat Cincinnati Christian, 87-79, on the road. In its last game, Midway narrowly lost to Asbury, 60-57. G Me'Lisa Martinez leads the team at 15.3 ppg, and F Miranda Rone is next at 10.4 ppg.

St. Louis Coll. of Pharmacy Team Notes: The Eutectics are 2-11, 0-4 KIAC and carry a five-game losing streak into the weekend matchup. St. Louis is last in the KIAC in scoring at 52.3 ppg, and opponents shooting 44 percent from the field. G Emi Santhuff averages at team-high 15.0 ppg.

Watch Live: All games this weekend will be broadcast with live streaming video on the Point Park Sports Network. Check www.PointPark.edu/Athletics/WatchLive for broadcast listings.

POINT PARK MEN (9-11, 4-6 KIAC)

This Weekend: The Point Park men go on the road for three conference games in less than 48 hours Jan. 31-Feb. 2. The Pioneers visit KIAC second-place Cincinnati Christian on Jan. 31 at 7 p.m., visit eighth-place IU East on Feb. 1 at 2 p.m. and travel to neutral site Midway (Ky.) College on Feb. 2 to play last-place St. Louis College of Pharmacy at 1 p.m.

Top Storylines: The Pioneers are on a skid that has them 2-5 since the start of the New Year, and they are 1-5 KIAC in that span. Point Park's last two games have been KIAC home losses to Berea (Ky.), 89-80, and Asbury (Ky.), 82-65, two disappointing losses considering the Pioneers are just 1-4 in KIAC road games. Point Park is in 7th place of 10 teams in the KIAC but is just 1.5 games out of fourth place. With three games this weekend, the Pioneers will look to make up some major ground, improve on their KIAC road record and turn around a shooting slump that has them 7 for 57 from 3-point range (12 percent) the last two games.

Last Game: The Pioneers lost at home, 82-65, to Asbury (Ky.) on Jan. 25. Point Park was just 4 for 27 from 3-point range and missed its first nine attempts to fall behind 30-16. Gabe McNeal had a team-high 20 points.

Team Notes: Point Park scores a lot of points at 86.3 ppg, but that figure ranks only fourth in a high-scoring KIAC and 19th nationally. The Pioneers give up 87.4 ppg, which is 9th of 10 teams in the conference. Point Park started out 3-1 KIAC but has gone 1-5 in conference games since.

Player Notes: Senior G Gabe McNeal is second in the KIAC in scoring at 22.8 ppg, and senior F Nick Brown is third at 20.1 ppg. McNeal has 875 points in his two-year Point Park career, just 125 from reaching 1,000. Brown is second in the KIAC with 11 double-doubles. Point guard Robbie Heatherington leads the KIAC at 6.7 apg.

Head Coach: Head coach Bob Rager is in his 25th year at his alma mater. He has a record of 346-335 at the school and has made three appearances in the NAIA national tournament.

Cincinnati Christian Notes: The Eagles are 17-6, 8-2 KIAC and are in second place in the conference, trailing only NAIA DII No. 2 Indiana Southeast (9-0 KIAC). CCU has won five in a row and eight of its last nine as one of the hottest teams in the KIAC. CCU beat Point Park last year in the first round of the KIAC Tournament, an 87-70 home win. CCU is third in the KIAC in scoring at 88.6 ppg led by G Michael Hill at 19.4 ppg. G Willie McKinney is next at 16.4 ppg, and the Eagles have five double-digit scorers in all.

Indiana East Notes: The Red Wolves are 7-17 overall and 3-8 KIAC. Indiana East had lost eight games in a row before defeating last-place St. Louis Coll. of Pharmacy, 89-74, this week. The Red Wolves host Asbury on Friday at 1 p.m. before hosting Point Park Saturday at 2 p.m. Indiana East is second in the KIAC in scoring at 88.4 ppg and has the KIAC scoring leader G Tyler Fangman (23.7 ppg), but it also has the worst defense in the KIAC at 92.5 ppg against. Point Park lost both games to Indiana East last year, 112-94, at home and 100-96 on the road.

St. Louis Coll. of Pharmacy Notes: The Eutectics are 7-10 overall and 0-5 KIAC. They had lost five games in a row before beating Concordia, 83-40, in its last game this week. St. Louis College of Pharmacy is in last place in the KIAC standings. G Shawn Menckowski is fourth in the KIAC in scoring with a team-high 19.8 ppg, one of four double-digit scorers.

Watch Live: The Point Park Sports Network will broadcast the Pioneers' men's game at Cincinnati Christian Friday at 7 p.m. and versus St. Louis College of Pharmacy on Sunday at 1 p.m. All three weekend games will have live streaming video with the Indiana East game carried by the Red Wolves Sports Network. Check www.PointPark.edu/Athletics/WatchLive for broadcast listings.