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Augustana College (7-2)
 at
Montana State Billings (3-5)



Release #7 Saturday, Decemeber 20 • 2 p.m.
 Alterowitz Gymnasium (3,500) • Billings, Montana

Yellowjackets Look to Get Back on Winning Track Saturday

The Montana State Billings men's basketball team plays its final home game prior to Christmas and its fourth consecutive home game Saturday at 2 p.m. versus Augustana College. The Yellowjackets enter the game with a 3-5 record and have dropped two straight and four of five.

Leading the way for the Yellowjackets this season is Michael Hall who is averaging a team-high 16.3 points per game. He is second on the team in made field goals with 39 and is tied for the team lead with Travis Bunker in 3-pointers with 22. In addition, Hall is second on the team in made free throws with 14. Bunker is second on the team in scoring at 13.5 points per game. He is just short of averaging a double-double as he leads the team at a 9.5 rebounding clip. Bunker and Derrick Wright (12.9 ppg) lead the team with 40 made field goals thus far. Wright also shares the lead with Mario Burns in free throws with 23. Burns is the fourth Yellowjacket in double figures this season as he is averaging 10.4 points per game. Burns leads the team in assists with 53 and steals with 17. He has a team-high 6.6 assists per game.

As a team, the Yellowjackets are shooting .448 from the field on 201 of 449. The team has drained 56 3-pointers for a .366 average and are 85 of 132 for .644 percent from the charity stripe. MSUB is pulling down 329 rebounds per game, 1.6 less rebounds than its opponents and is averaging 67.9 points per game as opposed to allowing 73.6 points.

Augustana, a NCAA Tournament team from a year ago, enters the week with a 7-2 record and has won three straight and seven of eight since an opening season 83-78 loss at Chadron State, a team MSUB is quite familiar with. The Yellowjackets also lost at Chadron State earlier this year (81-74) and are scheduled to host Chadron Jan. 2 in Billings. Leading the way for the Vikings this season is Big Timber, Mont., native, David Foster who leads the team in scoring at 12.4 points per game. He leads the team in made field goals with 41, made 3-pointers with 20 and is one of three Vikings to have played and started all nine games thus far. Erick Krogma is second on the team in scoring at 12.3 points per game. Krogman leads the team in rebounds at an 8.6 clip. Krogman also leads the team from the charity stripe with 36 made free throws. Cody Schilling is third on the team in scoring at 10.3 points, while Jordan Dalton leads the team with 38 assists.

As a team, the Vikings shoot well, rebound well, shoot free throws and play great defense. Augustana is shooting 46 percent from the field this season on 254 of 544, 37 percent from downtown on 49 of 133 and 71 percent from the line. The team in pulling down 40.3 rebounds and is scoring 78.7 points per game. Defensively, AC is holding its opponents to below 40 percent from the field, below 30 percent from deep and opponents are averaging just 32.8 rebounds per game against the Vikings.

PROBABLE STARTING LINE-UPS

Montana State Billings (3-5)		Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pts.	Reb.	FG%	FT%
3	Travis Bunker	F	6-6	210	Sr.	13.5	9.5	.417	.500
4	Derrick Wright	F	6-7	240	Jr.	12.9	4.9	.476	.767
10	Mario Burns	G	6-0	157	Jr.	10.4	4.4	.462	.548
21	Kirk Blaine	F	6-6	203	So.	2.9	2.6	.476	.273
22	Michael Hall	G	6-2	175	Sr.	16.3	2.3	.390	.933
Augustana College (7-2)		Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Pts.	Reb.	FG%	FT%
2	Marques Blank	G	6-2	196	Sr.	6.9	1.6	.404	.769
10	Lee Stephens	G	6-4	220	Jr.	8.8	4.2	.438	.583
21	Cody Schilling	G	6-5	190	Fr.	10.3	5.4	.525	.893
24	Eric Krogman	F	6-8	244	Sr.	12.3	8.6	.453	.766
30	David Foster	G	6-5	185	Jr.	12.4	2.2	.423	.833

GAME DAY INFORMATION

THE SERIES VS. AUGUSTANA

Overall Record	1-2
in Billings	0-1
in Sioux Falls	0-1
at Neutral Sites	1-0

BROADCAST

Play-by-Play: Ken Adelblue (Webcast)
 Color: None

AUGUSTANA AT A GLANCE

Head Coach: Tom Billeter
Record at AC: Sixth Season
Assistants: Jayden Olson, Ian McKeithen, Collin Authier
Nickname: Vikings
Conference: North Central Conference
Location: Sioux Falls, South Dakota

**YELLOWJACKET SCOREBOARD
 (3-5, 0-0 GNAC)**

Nov. 11	Dickinson State (Exhib.)	W, 94-91
Nov. 15	at Gonzaga	L, 83-52
Nov. 22	Montana-Western	W, 81-76
Nov. 26	University of Mary	W, 70-67 OT
Nov. 29	at Chadron State	L, 81-74
Dec. 1	at University of Mary	L, 83-72
Dec. 5	Colorado Christian	W, 62-59
Dec. 6	Colorado Christian	L, 76-71
Dec. 11	Montana Tech	L, 64-61
Dec. 20	Augustana	2 p.m.
Dec. 31	Great Falls	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 2	Chadron State	7 p.m.
Jan. 8	at Western Washington*	7 p.m.
Jan. 10	at Seattle Pacific*	2 p.m.
Jan. 15	Western Oregon*	7 p.m.
Jan. 17	Alaska Fairbanks*	7 p.m.
Jan. 21	Central Washington*	7 p.m.
Jan. 24	Northwest Nazarene*	7 p.m.
Jan. 28	Alaska Anchorage*	7 p.m.
Feb. 5	at Western Oregon*	7 p.m.
Feb. 7	at Saint Martin's*	7 p.m.
Feb. 12	at Alaska Anchorage*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	at Alaska Fairbanks*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 21	Saint Martin's*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 25	Seattle Pacific*	7 p.m.
Feb. 28	Western Washington*	7 p.m.
Mar. 5	at Central Washington*	7 p.m.
Mar. 7	at Northwest Nazarene*	7:30 p.m.

* Great Northwest Athletic Conference game
 All game times local to site



MEDIA RELATIONS STAFF

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MEDIA SERVICES

GEORGE PFEIFER INTERVIEWS

Media members wishing to arrange an interview with head coach George Pfeifer are asked to contact Kit Strief in the MSUB Sports Information Office.

PLAYER INTERVIEWS

Media members wishing to interview a MSUB player **MUST coordinate this through the MSUB Sports Information Office**. It is asked that at least three hours prior notice is given in order to arrange the interview and it must occur in a fashion that does not interfere with the student-athlete's academic schedule.

POST GAME INTERVIEWS

Post game interviews are to be conducted following the NCAA's recommended 10-minute cooling off period after the conclusion of the contest. Please alert a member of the MSUB Sports Information staff in advance about which players members of the media would like to interview. Coach Pfeifer will be made available as well.

A WIN OVER AUGUSTANA WILL...

- Give the Yellowjackets their fourth win of the season, a first since 2006-07
- Even the all-time series with Augustana at 2-2
- Snap a two game losing skid and four of five

INSIDE THE SERIES WITH AUGUSTANA

The Vikings own a 2-1 record in the series that dates back to Dec. 8, 1967. The Vikings won that day in Billings, 75-73. In 1975, the teams played again as AC won in Sioux Falls, 74-66. The teams didn't play again until MSUB ousted Augustana from the NCAA Tournament on Mar. 8, 1986, with an 86-81 neutral site victory.

RECAPPING LAST WEEK

The Yellowjackets had a tough 64-61 loss at home to Montana Tech a week ago Thursday dropping the team to 3-5 on the year. MSUB fought valiantly and had opportunities to win down the stretch, but were unable to close the door on the pesky Orediggers. The game came down to the final minute as a dunk by Derrick Wright put the Yellowjackets up 61-60 with 1:06 left. Moments later, one of two free throws by Montana Tech tied the game. The Yellowjackets missed a shot to go ahead and with 24.1 seconds left, Montana Tech's Tony Trudnowski hit the game-winning 3-pointer to seal the game. The Yellowjackets had a 3-pointer just before the buzzer, but it wouldn't go down.

2008-09 GNAC Preseason Coaches Poll

No.	Team	Pts.
1.	Central Washington (7)	86
2.	Western Washington (2)	61
3.	Alaska Anchorage	58
4.	Seattle Pacific	53
5.	Northwest Nazarene	50
6.	Saint Martin's	40
7.	Western Oregon	29
8.	Montana State Billings	22
9.	Alaska Fairbanks	19

GET YELLOWJACKET GEAR

Fans can now purchase their Yellowjacket apparel through the MSUB athletic website. Please log on to www.msubillings.edu/athletics and click on the apparel icon. MSUB and Cuda Apparel have teamed together to bring Yellowjacket fans custom apparel. Fans are still encouraged to continue their support of Jackets and Company, too.

TOUGH IN THE LAST MINUTE

In four of the five Yellowjacket losses this season, the Jackets have had leads in the final five minutes but have been unable to shut the door. In fact, the last two games versus Colorado Christian (Dec. 6) and Montana Tech (Dec. 11) have come down to the final minute as CCU and Montana Tech were able to get the victories in each game. The Dec. 5 Colorado Christian game, the Yellowjackets won in the last minute, 62-59.

MONTANA STATE BILLINGS NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown
1	Kyle Palmer	G	5-9	So.	1L	Baton Rouge, La./Scotlandville HS
2	Brett Taylor	G	5-8	So.	1L	Billings, Mont./West HS
3	Travis Bunker	F	6-6	Sr.	TR	Beaver, Utah/Wyoming
4	Derrick Wright	F	6-7	Jr.	TR	Brooklyn, NY/W. Okla. State
5	Adam Weisz	G	6-1	Jr.	TR	Melstone, Mont./Dawson CC
10	Mario Burns	G	6-0	Jr.	TR	Las Vegas, Nev./W. Okla. State
21	Kirk Blaine	F	6-6	So.	1L	Gillette, Wyo./Campbell County HS
22	Michael Hall	G	6-2	Sr.	TR	Dayton, Ohio/Idaho
25	Marty Birky	F	6-4	So.	TR	Chinook, Mont./Dakota Wesleyan
32	Mike Barton	C	6-8	Jr.	2L	Havre, Mont./Havre HS
33	Tyler Hentzen	F	6-6	Jr.	1L	Brea, Calif./Orange Coast College
34	Brad Hodge	F	6-8	Jr.	TR	Hillsboro, Ore./Grays Harbor College
42	Ryan Meehan	G	6-2	Fr.	HS	Beaverton, Ore./Beaverton HS
44	Lance Anderson	F	6-6	Jr.	TR	Menlo, Wash./Grays Harbor College

Head Coach: George Pfeifer (1st season)

Assistant Coaches: Josh McGee (1st season), Justin Wetzel (1st season)

Student Manager: Maria Finken (1st season)

QUICK FACTS

Location: Billings, Montana

Enrollment: 4,799

Founded: 1927

Colors: Navy and Gold

Nickname: Yellowjackets

Confernece: Great Northwest Athletic

Arena: Alterowitz Gym (3,500)

ADMINISTRATION

Chancellor: Dr. Ronald Sexton

Director of Athletics: Dr. Gary Gray

Faculty Athletic Rep.: Dr. Scott Harris

Assoc. AD/Compliance: Krista Montague

Asst. AD/Media Relations: Kit Strief

MEN'S BASKETBALL STAFF

Head Coach: George Pfeifer

Asst. Coaches: Josh McGee, Justin Wetzel

Student Assistant: Maria Finken

Athletic Trainer: Pat Hughes

MBB Contact: Kit Strief



ASSISTING MR. BURNS

Junior Mario Burns currently is ranked 16th nationally in assists at a 6.6 clip according to the first NCAA statistics of the year. He also is 32nd nationally in assist/turnover ratio at a 2.65 average. In addition, Burns leads the GNAC in assist/turnover ratio and is second in steals (2.13) and assists.

BUNKER ON THE GLASS

Senior Travis Bunker is 38th nationally in rebounds at a 9.5 pace. He leads the team in rebounds and is third in the league at that clip. Bunker leads the league in defensive rebounds, pulling down 7.5 defensive rebounds per game.

DOWN THE HALL

Senior Michael Hall currently is 30th nationally in 3-point field goals made per game at a 3.1 clip. In addition, also leads the GNAC in that same area. He is tied for the team lead in made 3-pointers with 22.

SEEING THE FLOOR

Senior Travis Bunker leads the GNAC in minutes played at a 38.88 clip. Fellow senior Michael Hall is third at 34.86 and junior Mario Burns is 11th at 32.25. Bunker has played in three complete games this season, including all 45 minutes against the University of Mary on Nov. 26.

BUNKER EARNS WEEKLY HONORS

Senior Travis Bunker earned honorable mention GNAC Player of the Week honors as he recorded his third double-double of the year at Chadron State and played his third consecutive 40-minute game.

TAYLOR STEPS UP

Sophomore Brett Taylor stepped into the Yellowjacket starting lineup against Chadron State (Nov. 29) and had the game of his life. He scored a career-high 23 points on 8 of 14 from the field, including 7 of 12 from beyond the arc.

TOUGH ON THE GLASS

In a 70-67 overtime victory over Mary Nov. 26, the Yellowjackets dominated the glass, outrebounding the Marauders 35-26, including 14-7 on the offensive end. All but one of the eight players who played for MSUB tallied a rebound. It was the second consecutive game that the Jackets have won the battle of the boards, MSUB had a 40-38 advantage over Montana Western Nov. 22.

BUNKER DOUBLE-DOUBLE X5

Three straight games this season Travis Bunker has recorded double-doubles. The Yellowjackets had two double-doubles all of last season. Against Montana Western, Bunker recorded his first double-double

GREAT NORTHWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE STANDINGS (Dec. 15, 2008)

	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Western Washington	0-0	6-0
Saint Martin's	0-0	10-2
Central Washington	0-0	5-1
Northwest Nazarene	0-0	7-2
Seattle Pacific	0-0	6-2
Western Oregon	0-0	3-2
Montana State Billings	0-0	3-5
Alaska Anchorage	0-0	3-5
Alaska Fairbanks	0-0	2-6

This Week in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference

Mon., Dec. 15

Western Washington at Dixie State 7:30 p.m.

Tue., Dec. 16

Saint Leo at Alaska Anchorage 7:30 p.m.

Saint Martin's at Hawaii Pacific 7:30 p.m.

Seattle Pacific at Oregon State 7:30 p.m.

Central Washington at Dixie State..... 8 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 17

Saint Leo at Alaska Anchorage 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 18

Cal State Stanislaus vs. Western Washington..... 3 p.m.

Central Washington vs. Cal Poly Pomona..... 5 p.m.

Saint Martin's at Hawaii Hilo 9 p.m.

Saint Leo at Alaska Fairbanks 9 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 19

Cal State Stanislaus vs. Central Washington 3 p.m.

Seattle Pacific vs. North Alabama..... 4:45 p.m.

Western Washington vs. Cal Poly Pomona 5 p.m.

Western Oregon vs. Sonoma State..... 5 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 20

Augustana College at Montana State Billings 2 p.m.

Walla Walla at Northwest Nazarene 6 p.m.

Western Oregon vs. Humboldt State 7 p.m.

Seattle Pacific vs. Central Missouri 7 p.m.

Alaska Anchorage vs. Rockhurst 7:30 p.m.

GNAC Players of the Week

Nov. 17 - Blake Poole (Saint Martin's)

Mike Hall (Montana State Billings)

Nov. 24 - Bill Richardson (Saint Martin's)

Jeff Downs (Seattle Pacific)

Dec. 1 - Jake Linton (Saint Martin's)

Dec. 8 - Chris Banchemo (Seattle Pacific)

Dec. 15- Kenny Barker (Alaska Anchorage)



'JACKETS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The Building Process

Head men's basketball coach George Pfeifer begins his first year at the helm of the Montana State University Yellowjackets for 2008-09. Pfeifer's inaugural season at MSUB follows a challenging and trying 2007-08 season in which the very young team finished 1-28 in their first campaign in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. After serious recruiting and dedicated team building, a solid core of six returnees and nine newcomers represent the reconstructed foundation that Pfeifer is assembling at MSUB.

Entering his 30th year of coaching, Pfeifer comes to MSUB as no stranger to the majority of teams in the GNAC. Some of his previous coaching positions include the University of Idaho, Lewis-Clark State College and Rocky Mountain College in Billings. In his third year at LCSC, Pfeifer led the Warriors to capture the school's first basketball championship and first national tournament appearance. His 16-year legacy as head coach at LCSC includes six NAIA national tournament appearances.

Pfeifer is enthusiastic about the job ahead for the Yellowjackets.

"We have our work cut out for us," said Pfeifer. "I know in time people will hear me say repeatedly that this is one of the premier NCAA Division II conferences in the country. In basketball, we are definitely playing the 'varsity league.' I have coached against and am very familiar with the majority of coaches in the GNAC and I know first hand the quality of my peers and how high they set the bar."

The Focus

"First, let me say that these are good young men who want to achieve," said Pfeifer. "We have been working toward learning how to play consistently with a fundamental tough-minded approach. We want the team to play the game together both defensively and offensively in a global team style of play."

Pfeifer believes that the road to success will require the returning players to elevate their performance from a year ago, while the new players must get in there and impact the program immediately. As the team strives to build a cohesive unit, Pfeifer favors the old saying 'First you form your habits and then your habits form you.'

The Yellowjackets

The returning veterans of the team include junior forwards Tyler Hentzen, Troy Ruff and Mike Barton, as well as sophomore guards Kyle Palmer and Brett Taylor and forward Kirk Blaine. These athletes are tasked with focusing their efforts on Pfeifer's skill sets and game plans, as well as transitioning into the reconstructed Yellowjacket brand.

Hentzen, who tied for the team lead in offensive rebounds last

season (52), brings a strong work ethic, 6-6 size and willingness to adjust as he focuses on playing with "efficient aggressiveness." Pfeifer also sees great potential in Ruff's ability to contribute, focusing on his athletic ability to be a "fly around" player with a "mixture of football and hockey attitude sprinkled into his game."

Barton, who was named to the GNAC Academic All-Conference team last season, is working to put his 6-8 size into "gladiator mode" at center, while Taylor brings the ability to play either guard spot, make open shots and throw his high basketball IQ into the equation.

At 6-6, Blaine combines a high degree of mental and physical effort with the spark and energy of reckless abandon in the Jackets' forward lineup, while Palmer's athletic ability, speed and strength is merging into the skill sets of Pfeifer's team game.

"I know we were young last year, however . . . it is the work and preparation you take inside that year that affects improvement," said Pfeifer.



Two seniors recruited by Pfeifer for the 2008-09 lineup include 6-0 Mike Hall and 6-6 Travis Bunker. Both are NCAA Division I transfers and both were huge impact players coming out of Junior College. Hall, an NJCAA All-American from Lon Morris College in Jacksonville, Texas, holds three-point shooting records at the University of Idaho with a 9 of 10 shooting game vs. San Jose State. Bunker, a transfer from the University of Wyoming, was the captain of the College of Southern Idaho team that captured third place at the NJCAA tournament.

Two junior transfers from Western Oklahoma State include 6-1 Mario Burns and 6-7 Derek Wright. Burns, who possesses both speed and exceptional open court awareness, should provide an athletic presence at the point guard position. Wright brings the combination of crafty, versatile play which will generate some inside presence at forward.

Brad Hodge and Lance Anderson are two junior recruits who hail from Grays Harbor Community College in Washington. At 6-8, Hodge is a "bouncy, long athlete" who will be counted on at forward to utilize his mobility next to the rim, create a presence on defense and to be a factor at rebound. At 6-6, Anderson has the ability to give the 'Jackets a forward in the "bulky, front line player" tradition.

Three additional newcomers who are adding depth to the lineup include junior Adam Weisz, sophomore Marty Birky and freshman Ryan Meehan. Coming to MSUB from Dawson County Community College, Weisz (6-1) brings potential as a defensive stopper, while Birky brings talent as what Pfeifer refers to as a "tweener" with ability at both guard and forward. Meehan is making the transition from high school to college ball and is showing promise as an excellent catch and shoot player.



TEAM COMPARISONS

	MSUB	AC
Record	3-5	7-2
Scoring Offense	67.9	78.7
Scoring Defense	73.6	64.2
Scoring Margin	-5.7	+14.4
FG Pct.	.448	.467
FG Pct. Defense	.464	.392
3FG Pct.	.366	.368
3FG Pct. Defense	.371	.299
Free Throw Pct.	.644	.716
Rebound Avg.	32.9	40.3
Opp. Rebound Avg.	34.5	32.8
Assists	17.1	15.3
TO Avg.	13.8	13.2
Opponent TO	13.1	15.8
TO Margin	-0.6	+2.6
Steals Avg.	5.5	7.9
Blocks	2.1	1.7

and followed against Mary Nov. 26 and at Chadron State with 14 points and 12 rebounds. He then tallied two more double-doubles - one against Colorado Christian (Dec. 5) and a season-best 22-point performance and 11 rebound night against Montana Tech (Dec. 11). Bunker leads the team with 9.5 rebounds per game through eight games.

OVERTIME YELLOWJACKETS

The Yellowjackets needed an extra period to down the Mary Marauders Nov. 26, 70-67. It was the first overtime game for

MSUB since a 90-89 overtime loss on Dec. 21, 2006, against Northwest Nazarene at Alterowitz Gym. It was the first overtime victory since a 113-106 victory over Saint Leo on Dec. 21, 2004.

QUICK OUT OF THE GATES

The Yellowjackets have started quick out of the gates at home this season. Against Dickinson State (Nov. 11) MSUB raced to a 16-5 and a 24-10 lead. Then, on Nov. 22, the Jackets raced to a 16-6 lead through the first seven minutes against Montana Western. On Nov. 26, the Jackets continued that trend with a 21-11 lead through the first nine minutes against Mary.

SNAP THE SKID

With an 81-76 victory over Montana Western Nov. 22, the Yellowjackets snapped a 13-game skid dating back to last season. The Jackets defeated Alaska Fairbanks on Jan. 24, 2008 to snap an 18-game skid to that point. This is the first time MSUB has been .500 or better since the final game of the 2005-06 season.

STOUT DEFENSE

MSUB held Montana Western to under 40 percent shooting in both halves Nov. 22. For the game, the Bulldogs were 28 of 71 from the field for 39.4 percent.

GETTIN' TO THE LINE

SPECIALTY STATS

Below is a game-by-game breakdown of free throws, bench points, points in the paint, points off turnovers, TOs and second-chance points. (Shown as MSUB stats first, followed by opponents).

Game	FT	Bench	Paint	Off TO	2nd-Chance
at Gonzaga	11-13	16-25	18-42	7-28	2-7
Montana Western	19-8	9-16	34-18	22-6	10-11
Mary	17-13	6-27	22-18	12-17	7-3
at Chadron State	7-20	8-29	32-22	14-19	17-10
at Mary	12-15	15-23	22-40	14-15	9-11
Colorado Christian	7-13	12-8	32-22	20-4	7-3
Colorado Christian	4-14	12-14	38-26	11-10	7-7
Montana Tech	8-4	12-12	28-34	6-15	8-13
Augustana					
Great Falls					
Chadron State					
at Western Washington					
at Seattle Pacific					
Western Oregon					
Alaska Fairbanks					
Central Washington					
Northwest Nazarene					
Alaska Anchorage					
at Western Oregon					
at Saint Martin's					
at Alaska Anchorage					
at Alaska Fairbanks					
Saint Martin's					
Seattle Pacific					
Western Washington					
at Central Washington					
at Northwest Nazarene					
Totals					

GNAC STATS

Team Stats (rank)

Scoring Offense.....	67.9 (9th)
Scoring Defense.....	73.6 (5th)
Scoring Margin.....	-5.8 (8th)
Field Goal Percentage.....	.448 (7th)
Field Goal Percentage Def.....	.464 (7th)
Free Throw Percentage.....	.644 (8th)
3-Point FG Percentage.....	.366 (3rd)
3-Point FG Percentage Def.....	.371 (6th)
3-Point FGs Made.....	7.00 (3rd)
Defensive Rebounds.....	21.75 (9th)
Offensive Rebounds.....	11.13 (8th)
Rebounding Offense.....	32.9 (8th)
Rebounding Defense.....	34.5 (6th)
Rebounding Margin.....	-1.6 (8th)
Assist-Turnover Ratio.....	1.25 (3rd)
Turnover Margin.....	-0.62 (6th)
Blocked Shots.....	2.13 (8th)
Assists.....	17.13 (4th)
Steals.....	5.50 (8th)

Individual Stats Montana State Billings

Scoring

Michael Hall.....	16.3 (10th)
Travis Bunker.....	13.5 (15th)
Derrick Wright.....	12.9 (19th)
Mario Burns.....	10.4 (30th)

Rebounding

Travis Bunker.....	9.5 (3rd)
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Field Goal Percentage

Brad Hodge.....	.575 (11th)
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Assists

Mario Burns.....	6.63 (2nd)
Travis Bunker.....	3.88 (8th)

Free Throw Percentage

Mchael Hall.....	.933 (2nd)
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Steals

Mario Burns.....	2.13 (2nd)
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3-Point Field Goal Pct.

Brett Taylor.....	.458 (3rd)
Michael Hall.....	.373 (9th)
Travis Bunker.....	.367 (11th)

3-Point Field Goals Made

Michael Hall.....	3.14 (1st)
Travis Bunker.....	2.75 (T-4th)
Brett Taylor.....	1.38 (13th)

Assist/Turnover Ratio

Mario Burns.....	2.65 (1st)
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Offensive Rebounds

Derrick Wright.....	2.38 (10th)
Travis Bunker.....	2.00 (14th)

Defensive Rebounds

Travis Bunker.....	7.50 (1st)
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Minutes Played

Travis Bunker.....	38.88 (1st)
Michael Hall.....	34.86 (3rd)
Mario Burns.....	32.25 (11th)



POST-TIME REPORT

2008-09 Season

Overall

Overall	3-5
Home	3-2
Away	0-3
Neutral	0-0

Monthly Records

November	2-2
December	1-3
January	0-0
February	0-0
March	0-0

Daily Records

Monday	0-1
Tuesday	0-0
Wednesday	1-0
Thursday	0-1
Friday	1-0
Saturday	1-3
Sunday	0-0

Miscellaneous

Winning the tip	2-4
Losing the tip	1-1
Leading at halftime	3-0
Trailing at halftime	0-5
Tied at halftime	0-0
Score first	3-4
Opponent scores first	0-1
Leading with 5 min. to play	2-2
Trailing with 5 min. to play	1-3
Games decided by 3 pts. or less	2-1
Games decided by 4-10 pts.	1-2
Games decided by 11-plus pts.	0-2
Shoot 50% or better	0-1
Shoot less than 50%	3-4
Shoot higher % than opponent	2-2
Shoot lower % than opponent	1-3
Opp. shoot worse than 50%	3-4
Opp. shoot higher than 50%	0-1
Score less than 60 points	0-1
Score 60-69 points	1-1
Score 70-79 points	1-3
Score 80-plus points	1-0
Opp. score fewer than 50 pts.	1-0
Opp. score 60-69 pts.	0-1
Opp. score 70-79 pts.	1-1
Opp. score 80-89 pts.	1-2
Opp. score more than 90 pts.	0-1
Outrebound opponent	2-1
Outrebounded by opponent	1-4
Rebounds are even	0-0
Committ less turnovers than opp.	2-1
Committ more turnovers than opp.	1-3
Make more or same 3FGs than opp.	0-3
Make fewer 3FGs than opp.	3-2
Make more/same FTs than opp.	2-1
Make less FTs than opp.	1-4
Score more/same points in paint	3-2
Score less points in paint	0-3
Make more bench points than opp.	1-0
Make less bench points than opp.	2-4
Make more/same points off turnovers	2-1
Make less points off turnovers	1-4
Overtime	1-0
Games vs. Top 25 opponents	0-1
Games vs. Regional Ranked opp.	0-0
Games following loss	2-2
Games following win	1-2
Games vs. winning teams	1-1
Games vs. losing teams	1-2
Games vs. .500 teams	1-1

MSUB CAREER LEADERS

Scoring (1,000-plus points)

1. Roy McPipe (1972-74)	1,912
2. Les Heins (1950-53)	1,909
3. Cameron Munoz (2003-06)	1,879
4. Jim Soft (1965-68)	1,552
5. Bart Bauer (1979-82)	1,547
6. Titus Warmesley (1997-99)	1,507
7. Markus Hallgrimson (1998-00)	1,502
8. Mark Hamilton (1995-98)	1,463
9. Reece Gliko (1996-97)	1,388
10. Buddy Windy Boy (2003-06)	1,278
11. Chris Herriford (1992-94)	1,252
12. Jerrett Skrifvars (2000-04)	1,240
13. Fred Johnston (1970-71)	1,214
14. Joe Rinella (1961-64)	1,124
15. Bill Drumm (1961-63)	1,114

Rebounds (500-plus)

1. Jim Soft (1965-68)	1,338
2. Bill Drumm (1961-63)	909
3. Roscoe Dudley (1970-71)	815
4. Harvey Munford (1962-64)	799
5. Roy McPipe (1972-74)	772
6. Bill Mummert (1971-72)	694
7. Brian Cook (1999-02)	647
8. Miodrag Babic (1996-99)	619
9. Jerome Reese (1977-80)	613
10. Jerrett Skrifvars (2000-04)	576
11. Ernie Fortney (1967-68)	559
12. Doug Borland (1966-69)	553
13. John Momper (1977-80)	545
14. Chris Herriford (1992-94)	541
15. Steve Brimmer (1983-86)	501

Assists

1. Jamie Stevens (1995-99)	813
2. Dominic Washington (1985, 87)	457
3. Dave Carse (2001-04)	437
4. Willy Davison (2000-03)	415
5. William Foster (1977-80)	408
6. Carlin Hughes (2005-06)	405
7. Marty Bertolette (1991-94)	358
8. Ron Osborne (1980-83)	315
9. Ty Elkin (1992-95)	280
10. Barry Green (1982-84)	278

Steals

1. Jamie Stevens (1995-1999)	167
2. Dominic Washington (1985-87)	165
3. Titus Warmesley (1997-99)	125
4. Buddy Windy Boy (2003-06)	120
5. Ty Elkin (1992-95)	114
6. Darryl Roberts (1985-86)	112
6. Jerrett Skrifvars (2000-04)	112
8. Brian Cook (1999-02)	101
9. Jonathan Wiley (2004-07)	99
10. Marty Bertolette (1991-94)	95

MSUB CAREER LEADERS

Blocks

1. Chris Herriford (1992-94)	107
2. Brian Cook (1999-02)	89
3. Pat Reynolds (1986-87)	88
4. Kyle Stirmlinger (2002-03)	76
5. Djole Palfi (1997-98)	48
6. Robert Utterback (1987-88)	45
6. Jonathan Wiley (2004-07)	45
8. Jaysun Mims (1990-91)	43
9. Jason Skrifvars (1998-92)	32
10. Dominic Washington (1985-87)	27

STANDOUT PERFORMANCES

30+ Scoring Games:

20+ Scoring Games (6): Michael Hall (3), Travis Bunker (1), Brett Taylor (1), Derrick Wright (1)

Double Figure Points (22): Travis Bunker (6), Michael Hall (5), Mario Burns (5), Derrick Wright (5), Brett Taylor (1)

Double Figure Rebounds (5): Travis Bunker (4), Brad Hodge 1

Double-Doubles (Pts-Ast):

Double-Doubles (Pts-Rebs) (3): Travis Bunker (3)

Six or more Assists (9): Mario Burns (6), Travis Bunker (2), Derrick Wright (1)

Five or more Steals: Mario Burns (1)

Jackets vs. Conferences

Division I	0-1
NAIA	1-1
Northern Sun	1-2
Rocky Mountain Athletic	1-1
Great Northwest Athletic	0-0



The Yellowjackets got to the free throw line 25 times against Montana Western Nov. 22 and followed with getting to the line 24 times against Mary on Wednesday. MSUB knocked down 19 free throws, including 9 of 10 in the final five minutes preserve the victory against UWM.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Yellowjackets have just five road games between the beginning of the season at Feb. 5. MSUB started the year at No. 10 Gonzaga and played at Mary and Chadron State this past week. From there, the Jackets have six-straight home games in December and early January prior to the beginning of conference play. For the season, the Jackets only have 11 road games and 16 home games.

BURNS DOES THE DISHES

Junior Mario Burns leads the team with 53 assists this season for a 6.6 average. He had eight assists and five steals, against Montana Western earlier in the season. He then followed with a nine assist outing against Mary Nov. 26 and just missed a double-double by one assist.

PAINTING THE PAINT

The Yellowjackets dominated the points in the paint against Montana Western Nov. 22. MSUB scored 34 points in the paint compared to 18 for the Bulldogs and followed with a 22-18 points in the paint advantage over Mary on Wednesday for a 56-36 lead in the Jackets' two wins this season.

HALL NAMED CO-GNAC POW

Senior Michael Hall earned co-GNAC Player of the Week honors for his 24-point outing against No. 10 Gonzaga in the season opener Nov. 15. Hall scored a game-high in points and was 8 of 17 from the field and 5 of 12 from beyond the arc. He scored the final 14 points of the first half to bring the Yellowjackets within five at intermission. Hall shares the first GNAC Player of the Week honor since MSUB joined the league last year with Blake Poole of Saint Martin's.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Last season, the Yellowjackets didn't have a senior on the team, in fact, MSUB had probably one of the youngest teams in the country with six freshmen and four sophomores. This season, two senior transfers and six junior transfers highlight the team.

FRESH FACES

As the 2007-08 roster featured six freshmen, the 2008-09 roster features nine new players, including two Division I senior transfers, six transfer juniors and one freshman.

JUCO INFUSION

MSUB has a number of junior college transfers this season. In fact, five of the nine new players all came from junior college. Derrick Wright and Mario Burns came from Western Oklahoma State College, while Lance Anderson and Brad Hodge transferred from Grays Harbor College and Adam Weisz came to MSUB from Dawson County Community College.

JACKETS PICKED EIGHTH

The Yellowjackets were picked preseason eighth by the conference coaches. The Jackets tallied 22 points, three ahead of ninth-place Alaska Fairbanks.

LISTEN TO PFEIFER

Fans can listen to the weekly Coach Pfeifer Show on the internet each Tuesday. Log on to www.msubillings.edu/athletics to listen to Pfeifer's thoughts on the previous week and the coming weeks throughout the season.

WATCH/LISTEN TO HOME GAMES

Fans can listen to all MSUB men's basketball home games by logging on to www.msubillings.edu/athletics and click on live broadcasts. Ken Adelblue provides the play-by-play for each home game.



HEAD COACH GEORGE PFEIFER

George Pfeifer begins his first season as head coach of men's basketball at Montana State University Billings. He comes to the Yellowjackets with a rich background in resurrecting and building championship level programs.

Pfeifer comes to MSUB after three years at the University of Idaho where he inherited a program that was in last place and predicted by every media and coaches poll to finish last. In the end they proved those predictions wrong finishing in the middle of the Western Athletic Conference winning three of their last five league games to give the program the highest finish in the WAC.

Prior to Idaho, Pfeifer had a very successful tenure at Lewis-Clark State College where he was the head men's coach from 1989-2005 and the assistant coach from 1987-1989. He gained his 200th career win as the Warrior Head Coach in 2001-02, and then set the school record for coaching career wins with 213 victories in a 105-79 win over the University of Great Falls, while garnering 294 career wins at his alma mater. During his tenure, he built L-C into one of the strongest programs in the Pacific Northwest and led the Warriors to national prominence.

During the 2002-03 season, the Warriors team posted a school-record for wins with a 31-6 overall record and an .837 winning percentage. Prior to his arrival as a coach, L-C had won only one playoff game in its basketball history as a four-year institution in 1947. It took Pfeifer only three years to guide L-C to a conference title and their schools' first berth in the NAIA championships beating Simon-Fraser University, Western Washington and St. Martin's College in a best two-out-of-three series. At that time, it marked the first time in the 99-year history of the men's basketball program that it qualified for a national tournament. That year, the Warriors posted 23 wins which was a school-record at the time for wins in one season. Two years later in 1995, Pfeifer led L-C to its second NAIA berth in a victory over Seattle University.

In his 16 years as the L-C head coach his teams would play in eight title games, eight district championships and reach the national tournament six times. When he took over the program, the school record for wins in a single season was 21. In Pfeifer's last six seasons, the Warriors averaged over 23 wins per year. He has been selected Coach of the Year five times and has recruited and coached 18 NAIA All-Americans as well as 18 Academic All-Americans. Of the 75 men's basketball records held at L-C, Pfeifer coached teams had posted 51 when he left.

Not one to shy away from playing tough schedules, the Warriors under Pfeifer's rein faced 26 NCAA Divi-

sion I opponents. In 2000, the Lewis-Clark State defeated the University of Idaho 68-54 and Boise State by 14 points in 1995. In two meetings against Washington State, L-C dropped both decisions on a last second shot and by five points.

Prior to his current position at L-C, Pfeifer had a two-year stint as an assistant basketball coach under legendary head coach, Dick Hannan. He also served as the head women's basketball coach at Rocky Mountain College for two years (1985-87). Pfeifer also was an assistant coach for men's basketball at RMC during the 1984-85 campaign under Mark Adams. He was a part of RMC's first-ever NAIA National Tournament berth after being crowned District XII champions.

Pfeifer also served as head coach for two years at Hardin High School in Hardin, Mont., and three years at St. Maries High School in his hometown of St. Maries, Idaho. In his two years at Hardin, Pfeifer led the team to back-to-back appearances at the Montana State High School Championships. Hardin had not been to the state tournament in over 20 years, and were 5-56 over the three years before his arrival. He also led St. Maries to a 21-3 record in his third year and a fourth place finish at the Idaho State Class A-2 Tournament. Prior to his arrival, St. Maries had only won one game in each of the three seasons leading up to Pfeifer's arrival.

He graduated from Lewis-Clark State in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science degree in social science and a minor in physical education and coaching. Pfeifer received his master's degree in secondary education administration in 1989 from the University of Idaho.

He has been married for 26 years to Susan, who teaches in the Billings School District. They have three children. Their oldest son, Duncan, who is in his final year of his engineering degree, Jennifer who just graduated with her business finance degree and their youngest daughter, Abigail, who is starting her freshman year. All three of their children have or are attending the University of Idaho. Pfeifer's son-in-law, Cassidy Probert, graduated from Idaho in 2007 and his daughter-in-law, Kylie graduated from Idaho in 2008.



Montana State University Billings
Montana State Billings Combined Team Statistics (as of Dec 18, 2008)
All games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES	3-5	3-2	0-3	0-0
CONFERENCE	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	3-5	3-2	0-3	0-0

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds				pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
					fg-fga	pct	3fg-fga	pct	ft-fa	pct	off	def	tot	avg								
22	Hall,Michael	7-7	244	34.9	39-100	.390	22-59	.373	14-15	.933	7	9	16	2.3	11	0	14	13	1	4	114	16.3
03	Bunker,Travis	8-8	311	38.9	40-96	.417	22-60	.367	6-12	.500	16	60	76	9.5	17	1	31	23	2	4	108	13.5
04	Wright,Derrick	8-8	210	26.3	40-84	.476	0-0	.000	23-30	.767	19	20	39	4.9	28	2	15	20	5	9	103	12.9
10	Burns,Mario	8-7	258	32.2	30-65	.462	0-5	.000	23-42	.548	9	26	35	4.4	14	0	53	20	2	17	83	10.4
34	Hodge,Brad	8-0	154	19.3	23-40	.575	0-1	.000	5-8	.625	13	21	34	4.3	22	0	6	11	4	3	51	6.4
02	Taylor,Brett	8-2	115	14.4	12-26	.462	11-24	.458	0-0	.000	0	6	6	0.8	6	0	7	3	0	1	35	4.4
21	Blaine,Kirk	8-8	183	22.9	10-21	.476	0-1	.000	3-11	.273	10	11	21	2.6	17	0	2	6	2	3	23	2.9
33	Hentzen,Tyler	4-0	77	19.3	4-11	.364	0-0	.000	3-4	.750	4	8	12	3.0	7	0	4	2	0	2	11	2.8
23	Ruff,Troy	4-0	19	4.8	1-3	.333	0-1	.000	4-4	1.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	1	1	1	0	6	1.5
05	Weisz,Adam	6-0	13	2.2	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	4-5	.800	0	1	1	0.2	1	0	1	3	0	0	4	0.7
42	Meehan,Ryan	5-0	7	1.4	1-2	.500	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.6
01	Palmer,Kyle	5-0	27	5.4	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	2	1	3	0.6	2	0	3	1	0	1	2	0.4
32	Barton,Mike	2-0	3	1.5	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
25	Birky,Marty	1-0	1	1.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.0
44	Anderson,Lance	2-0	3	1.5	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total.....		8	1625		201-449	.448	56-153	.366	85-132	.644	89	174	263	32.9	126	3	137	110	17	44	543	67.9
Opponents.....		8	1625		212-457	.464	65-175	.371	100-130	.769	87	189	276	34.5	132	-	133	105	23	48	589	73.6

TEAM STATISTICS	MSUB	OPP	Date	Opponent	Score	Att.
SCORING	543	589	11/15/08	at #10 Gonzaga	L 52-83	6000
Points per game	67.9	73.6	11/22/08	MONTANA WESTERN	W 76-81	1107
Scoring margin	-5.7	-	11/26/08	UNIVERSITY OF MARY	Wot 67-70	857
FIELD GOALS-ATT	201-449	212-457	11-29-08	at Chadron State	L 74-81	397
Field goal pct	.448	.464	12/1/08	at University of Mary	L 72-83	902
3 POINT FG-ATT	56-153	65-175	12/05/08	COLORADO CHRISTIAN	W 59-62	817
3-point FG pct	.366	.371	12/06/08	COLORADO CHRISTIAN	L 76-71	817
3-pt FG made per game	7.0	8.1	12/11/08	MONTANA TECH	L 64-61	812
FREE THROWS-ATT	85-132	100-130	* - Conference game			
Free throw pct	.644	.769				
F-Throws made per game	10.6	12.5				
REBOUNDS	263	276				
Rebounds per game	32.9	34.5				
Rebounding margin	-1.6	-				
ASSISTS	137	133				
Assists per game	17.1	16.6				
TURNOVERS	110	105				
Turnovers per game	13.8	13.1				
Turnover margin	-0.6	-				
Assist/turnover ratio	1.2	1.3				
STEALS	44	48				
Steals per game	5.5	6.0				
BLOCKS	17	23				
Blocks per game	2.1	2.9				
ATTENDANCE	4410	7299				
Home games-Avg/Game	5-882	3-2433				
Neutral site-Avg/Game	-	0-0				

Score by Periods	1st	2nd	OT	Totals
Montana State Billings	259	272	12	543
Opponents	268	312	9	589

