



Lawrence University (5-4, 2-2 MWC)

vs.

Grinnell College (4-6, 1-4 MWC)

Saturday, Jan. 2, 1 p.m.

Alexander Gymnasium, Appleton, Wis.



2015-16 LAWRENCE SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time/Res.
11/14	at Dominican (Ill.)	W, 74-72
11/18	Wisconsin Lutheran L, 71-70	
11/21	at Ripon	L, 88-80 OT
11/25	Lake Forest	L, 77-69
12/2	at Beloit	W, 76-72
12/5	Illinois College	W, 77-67
12/12	at UW-Stevens Point	L, 64-53
12/19-20	Puerto Rico Classic	
12/19	vs. Randolph	W, 43-40
12/20	vs. Bard	W, 68-55
1/2	Grinnell	1:00 pm
1/6	at St. Norbert	5:30 pm
1/9	Monmouth	1:00 pm
1/12	at Carroll	5:00 pm
1/16	at Cornell	1:00 pm
1/20	Ripon	5:30 pm
1/23	Knox	2:00 pm
1/26	at Lake Forest	5:00 pm
1/30	at Knox	1:00 pm
2/3	St. Norbert	5:30 pm
2/6	at Illinois College	1:00 pm
2/9	Beloit	5:30 pm
2/17	Carroll	5:00 pm
2/20	at Monmouth	1:00 pm
2/26-27	MWC Tournament	TBA

Home games in bold

PROBABLE STARTERS



Lawrence

Forward	Mitch Willer	Jr.	6-7
Forward	Peter Winslow	Jr.	6-3
Guard	Jeremy Stephani	So.	6-0
Guard	Jamie Nikitas	Sr.	6-0
Guard	Troy Miller	Sr.	6-0



Grinnell

Forward	Nick Curta	Jr.	6-6
Forward	Danny Thomas	So.	6-3
Guard	Ky-Sean Johnson	Fr.	5-10
Guard	Vinny Curta	Fr.	6-5
Guard	Sean Cullinane	So.	6-3

SCHEDULE

▶Lawrence returns to Midwest Conference play on Saturday when it hosts Grinnell in a 1 p.m. game at Alexander Gymnasium.

VIDEO WEBCAST

▶All Lawrence home games feature a free video webcast at: <http://portal.stretchinternet.com/lawrence/>. Dick Knapinski and Anthony Totoraitis are on the call for Lawrence home games. A link for Lawrence webcasts is on the Lawrence basketball page.

THE COACHES

▶Joel DePagter (Lawrence 1998), the 1997 Midwest Conference Player of the Year and 2009 Midwest Conference Coach of the Year, is in his ninth season at Lawrence and has a record of 112-85 (.569).

▶David Arseneault (Colby 1976) is in his 27th season at Grinnell and has a record of 349-263 (.570).

THE SERIES

▶In a series that dates back to 1940, Grinnell holds a 51-50 advantage.

Lawrence, which has split the last four games with the Pioneers, is 18-14 in games vs. "the system."

LAST GAME

Lawrence swept its two games at the Puerto Rico Classic in Bayamon on Dec. 19-20.

In the first game, Lawrence limited Randolph to just 24 percent shooting in a 43-40 victory.

Jamie Nikitas led Lawrence and all scorers with 17 points and picked up eight rebounds. Jeremy Stephani added 13 points for the Vikings, and Ben Peterson grabbed a career-high 10 rebounds.

Josh Freund led Randolph, a school in Lynchburg, Va., with a double-double of 15 points and 14 rebounds.

Randolph shot just 15-of-62 (24.2 percent) from the floor for the game, and the Wild Cats hit 2-of-14 (14.2 percent) from 3-point range. Lawrence shot only 32.7 percent from the floor, including 24.1 percent from beyond the arc.

The game was tight throughout,

although Lawrence built the biggest lead by either team at 16-8 on Pete Winslow's layup midway through the first half. Lawrence was held to just two points for the rest of the first half, and the Wild Cats trimmed the margin to 18-17 at the break.

In a game that featured 10 lead changes and four ties, Randolph took its biggest lead of the game at 25-23 on a pair of Zach Desgain free throws. The teams then traded the lead before the Vikings grabbed the advantage for good at 35-33 on Nikitas' three-point play.

The Vikings built the advantage to five points after Stephani followed with a 3-pointer. Lawrence was unable to pull away, but the Vikings were up 43-38 after a Troy Miller free throw.

Freund's jumper cut the margin to 43-40, but the Wild Cats missed their final four shots from the floor, including a pair of 3-pointers in the final seconds that would have tied it.

Lawrence finished the trip to Puerto Rico with a 68-55 win over Bard on Dec. 20.

Nikitas posted a double-double with game highs of 26 points and 11 rebounds to lead Lawrence.

Stephani added 15 points, Mitch Willer had 10 and Peterson chipped in with eight for the Vikings.

DeVahnte Mosley paced Bard (3-6), a NCAA Division III school in New York, with 19 points.

Bard made the first basket of the game, but Lawrence hit a 3-pointer to grab a 3-2 lead and never trailed again. That was part of a 9-0 run as the Vikings built an early 9-2 edge.

Lawrence followed with a 19-11 outburst to push the lead to 28-13 late in the first half. Bard battled back to cut the margin to 35-24 at the break.

The Vikings held a double-digit advantage until the Raptors went on a scoring run to trim the lead to 41-33 at the 13-minute mark. Lawrence responded with an 11-2 run to take a 52-35 advantage. Nikitas scored six points during the outburst, which was capped by a Stephani 3-pointer.

Bard never closer than 10 points



MWC Standings

	MWC		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
St. Norbert	6	0	9	1
Carroll	4	0	8	0
Ripon	4	1	5	4
Monmouth	3	2	6	3
Lawrence	2	2	5	4
Lake Forest	2	2	4	4
Beloit	2	4	4	6
Grinnell	1	4	4	6
Illinois College	1	4	4	6
Cornell	1	4	3	7
Knox	0	3	1	7

Games Saturday

- Grinnell at Lawrence
- Carroll at Illinois College
- Ripon at Knox
- Monmouth at Lake Forest

Games Wednesday

- Lawrence at St. Norbert
- Illinois College at Monmouth
- Lake Forest at Beloit
- Ripon at Carroll
- Knox at Cornell

the rest of the way.

VIKINGS UPDATE

►Star guard Jamie Nikitas (Glenview, Ill./Glenbrook South) moved past five players over the past three games and into 17th place on Lawrence's career scoring list. Nikitas now has 1,067 career points and is just seven points away from moving past Tom Steinmetz, who scored 1,073 points from 1963-66.



►Nikitas leads the Midwest Conference in scoring at 26.4 points per

DEPAGTER'S RECORD

Lawrence head coach Joel DePagter is in his ninth season as the Vikings' coach. He is the only person in Midwest Conference history to be named both Player of the Year (1997) and Coach of the Year (2009).



Overall Record	112-85
Home	60-33
Away	47-44
Neutral	5-8

Midwest Conference Record	85-57
Home	45-26
Away	40-31

Nonconference Record	27-28
Home	11-6
Away	11-14
Neutral	5-8

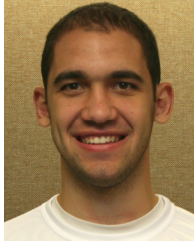
DePagter vs. the MWC	
Beloit	12-3
Carroll	10-8
Cornell	4-3
Grinnell	5-9
Illinois College	14-2
Knox	14-1
Lake Forest	8-7
Monmouth	12-2
Ripon	6-11
St. Norbert	5-12

DePagter vs. Nonconference Opponents

Ashford	0-1
Bard	1-0
Cal Lutheran	0-1
Caltech	1-0
Coe	1-1
Concordia (Ill.)	1-0
Dominican (Ill.)	3-0
Elmhurst	0-2
Florida College	1-0
Grand View	0-1
Johnson and Wales (Fla.)	1-0
Lakeland	1-0
Manchester	0-1
Marian	2-2
Mount St. Vincent	1-0
Nova Southeastern	1-0
Randolph	1-0
St. Mary's (Md.)	0-1
Southeastern (Fla.)	0-1
Trinity (Fla.)	1-0
Viterbo	0-1
Washington (Mo.)	0-1
Wheaton (Ill.)	0-1
Wisconsin Lutheran	4-1
UW-Oshkosh	1-3
UW-Stevens Point	1-8
UW-Whitewater	0-1

game. Nikitas also ranks seventh in all of NCAA Division III. Trey Bardsley of Nebraska Wesleyan leads the nation in scoring at 31.4 points per contest.

►Nikitas also leads the Vikings in rebounding (7.1 per game), assists (3.6 per game) and steals (2.8 per game). Nikitas leads the Midwest Conference in steals and ranks ninth in assists.



Jamie Nikitas

►Nikitas has been particularly strong inside the 3-point line. On field goal attempts from inside the arc, Nikitas is shooting 61.9 percent (73-for-118).

►Sophomore guard Jeremy Stephani (Arlington Heights, Ill./Wheeling) leads the team with 23 3-pointers, but junior Pete Winslow (Evanston, Ill./Evanston Township) is the top 3-point shooter at 40 percent (6-for-15).



Jeremy Stephani

►Sophomore forward Ben Peterson (River Forest, Ill./Fenwick) posted his first double-digit scoring game of his career earlier this season with 10 points against Lake Forest, and he picked up his first double-digit rebounding game with 10 boards against Randolph. On the season, Peterson is 5.3 points and 4.2 rebounds per game.



Ben Peterson

►Lawrence ranks 11th in the Midwest Conference in scoring at 67.8 points per game. The Vikings are second in scoring defense at 67.3.

►Lawrence is shooting 44.7 percent from the floor, good for seventh in the

Lawrence University Basketball Facts

Location	Appleton, Wis.
Founded	1847
Enrollment	1,450
President	Mark Burstein
Affiliation	NCAA Division III
Conference	Midwest Conference
Nickname	Vikings
School Colors	Blue and White
Home Arena	Alexander Gymnasium (1929, capacity 1,100)
Director of Athletics	Mike Szkodzinski
First season of basketball	1896
Seasons of basketball	113
All-time record	967-1064 (.476)
Midwest Conference titles	8
	1924-25, 1942-43, 1996-97, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2007-08, 2008-09
MWC Tournament titles	6
	1997, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009
NCAA Tournament appearances	6
	1997, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009

Midwest Conference. The Vikings are third in field goal percentage defense at 41.3 percent.

►Lawrence is shooting 28.8 percent from 3-point range, and that ranks 11th in the Midwest Conference. The Vikings are seventh in defending the 3-pointer at 34.1 percent.

►Lawrence is 10th in the league in free-throw shooting at 64.2 percent.

SCOUTING GRINNELL

►Grinnell hasn't played since Dec. 12 when the Pioneers nearly knocked off undefeated Carroll. Carroll hung on for a 109-103 victory at Grinnell. Julian Marx led Grinnell with 20 points, and Ikalka Phillip added 18. Bryan Nagy led Carroll with 33 points and 16 rebounds.



►Grinnell takes great pride in leading the nation in scoring, and the Pio-

1,000 POINT CLUB

Chris Braier	1,565	2002-06
Joel Dillingham	1,554	1989-93
Ryan Kroeger	1,537	2005-09
Chris Siebert	1,360	2010-14
Doug Fyfe	1,342	1972-76
Adam LaVoy	1,273	1997-2001
Joel Ungrodt	1,247	1961-64
Matt Miota	1,246	1987-91
Joel DePagter	1,243	1995-98
Ben Zagorski	1,175	1994-98
Mike Fogel	1,175	1975-79
Reggie Geans	1,160	1985-89
John Dekker	1,117	2006-10
Shawn Koerner	1,115	1985-89
Richard Schultz	1,088	1964-67
Tom Steinmetz	1,073	1963-66
Jamie Nikitas	1,067	2012-now
Jason Holinbeck	1,051	2001-05
Strat Warden	1,042	1969-72
Bob Townsend	1,031	1966-69
Jim Rasmussen	1,030	1958-61
Ryan DePouw	1,028	2011-15
Rob Cohen	1,005	1976-80

neers are just short of that goal right now. Grinnell is second in the nation at 107.0 points per game, and Greenville is tops at 110.2.

▶Grinnell has six players averaging double figures in points, led by junior guard Julian Marx. Marx is at 20.6 points per game and is having a great season shooting the ball. He is at 47.6 percent from the floor, including 43.0 percent from beyond the arc. You don't want to foul Marx, who just doesn't miss. He is 25-for-26 from the foul line, which computes to 96.2 percent. That leads the Midwest Conference and is tied for fifth in all of NCAA Division III.

▶Grinnell ranks last in the Midwest Conference in scoring defense. The Pioneers are allowing 105.6 points per game.

▶Grinnell ranks sixth in the league in free-throw shooting at 70.5 percent. Take Marx's stunning numbers out of the mix, and the Pioneers are at 67.8

percent.

▶Grinnell ranks seventh in the league in 3-point shooting at 33.6 percent. Grinnell is fourth in defending the 3-pointer at 31.1 percent.

▶Grinnell is shooting 40.1 percent from the floor, and that ranks 10th in the Midwest Conference. The Pioneers are last in the league in field goal percentage defense at 63.5 percent.

▶Grinnell leads the conference in assists at 17.6 per game. Braedon Bayer is tops on the team at 3.2 per contest.

▶The Pioneers also lead the league in steals at 14.7 per game. Matt Jasaitis leads the team at 2.3 per game, and Bayer is second at 1.9.

▶Grinnell is a minus-11.1 in rebounding margin, and the Pioneers do not have a rebounder in the top 20 in the league. Grinnell's top rebounder is Nick Curta at 4.9 per game.



D3HOOPS.COM TOP 25

Rnk	Team	Rec.	Pts.	Pr.
1.	Augustana (25)	5-0	625	1
2.	Whitworth	8-0	589	2
3.	Amherst	8-0	574	3
4.	Hope	6-1	513	5
5.	St. Thomas	6-1	497	6
6.	Elmhurst	8-1	464	7
7.	Benedictine	7-0	448	10
8.	Marietta	7-1	438	8
9.	Ohio Wesleyan	8-1	432	4
10.	John Carroll	8-0	396	11
11.	Christopher Newport	7-0	388	13
12.	New York University	5-0	279	14
13.	Franklin and Marshall	7-1	267	16
14.	WPI	8-1	205	18
15.	East Texas Baptist	7-1	195	22
16.	Mount Union	7-2	176	23
17.	Susquehanna	9-0	148	--
18.	Virginia Wesleyan	5-3	145	12
19.	UW-Stevens Point	4-3	132	9
20.	UW-Whitewater	5-2	127	25
21.	Washington U.	6-2	118	20
22.	Chicago	6-2	100	--
23.	St. Norbert	6-1	80	--
24.	Babson	6-3	78	19
25.	Texas Lutheran	6-1	74	--

Dropped out: No. 15 Trinity (Conn.); No. 17 Brooklyn; No. 21 Salisbury; No. 24 St. John Fisher.

Others receiving votes: Brooklyn 71; Whitman 62; Salisbury 56; Oswego State 56; Trinity (Conn.) 46; Lancaster Bible 43; Centre 32; Illinois Wesleyan 29; Northwestern (Minn.) 29; Albertus Magnus 29; Pacific Lutheran 21; Skidmore 16; Wooster 13; Tufts 12; Bethel 12; Juniata 12; William Paterson 11; St. John Fisher 10; Stockton 10; Eastern Nazarene 10; Roanoke 7; MIT 7; Aurora 7; Scranton 6; St. Vincent 6; New Jersey City 5; Keene State 4; North Central (Ill.) 4; St. John's 3; Southern Vermont 3; Catholic 2; Eastern Connecticut 2; Geneseo 1.

2015-16 Lawrence University Basketball
Lawrence University Combined Team Statistics (as of Dec 31, 2015)
All games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES	5-4	1-2	2-2	2-0
CONFERENCE	3-2	1-1	1-1	1-0
NON-CONFERENCE	2-2	0-1	1-1	1-0

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds				pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg								
03	Jamie Nikitas	9-9	336	37.3	86-171	.503	13-53	.245	53-77	.688	13	51	64	7.1	28	0	32	34	2	25	238	26.4
12	Jeremy Stephani	9-9	315	35.0	39-107	.364	23-78	.295	6-12	.500	5	33	38	4.2	19	1	23	13	0	2	107	11.9
04	Mitch Willer	9-9	241	26.8	28-55	.509	0-0	.000	16-24	.667	15	33	48	5.3	29	1	14	11	7	3	72	8.0
23	Peter Winslow	8-8	208	26.0	18-38	.474	6-15	.400	5-15	.333	6	17	23	2.9	23	0	12	12	3	3	47	5.9
32	Ben Peterson	9-0	113	12.6	18-34	.529	7-19	.368	5-5	1.000	4	34	38	4.2	21	1	3	8	3	2	48	5.3
30	Troy Miller	9-9	251	27.9	15-44	.341	9-35	.257	5-6	.833	3	19	22	2.4	20	1	8	7	0	6	44	4.9
05	Evan McLaughlin	9-1	158	17.6	7-13	.538	0-1	.000	12-21	.571	7	18	25	2.8	18	1	8	14	4	3	26	2.9
01	George Mavrakis	1-0	5	5.0	1-1	1.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	1.0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	2.0
10	Eric Weiss	8-0	68	8.5	5-12	.417	1-2	.500	4-5	.800	0	7	7	0.9	3	0	7	5	0	1	15	1.9
24	Connor Weas	9-0	129	14.3	4-19	.211	3-12	.250	0-0	.000	8	14	22	2.4	13	0	8	6	1	0	11	1.2
00	Kalind Nash	1-0	1	1.0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Team											8	18	26				1					
Total.....		9	1825		221-494	.447	62-215	.288	106-165	.642	69	245	314	34.9	174	5	116	111	20	45	610	67.8
Opponents.....		9	1825		208-504	.413	58-170	.341	132-188	.702	78	237	315	35.0	157	-	97	96	12	57	606	67.3

TEAM STATISTICS	LU	OPP	Date	Opponent	Score	Att.
SCORING	610	606	11/14/15	at Dominican University	W 74-72	235
Points per game	67.8	67.3	11/18/15	WISCONSIN LUTHERAN C	L 70-71	554
Scoring margin	+0.4	-	* 11/21/15	at Ripon College	Lot 80-88	458
FIELD GOALS-ATT	221-494	208-504	* 11/25/15	LAKE FOREST COLLEGE	L 69-77	489
Field goal pct	.447	.413	* 12/02/15	at Beloit College	W 76-72	300
3 POINT FG-ATT	62-215	58-170	* 12/05/15	ILLINOIS COLLEGE	W 77-67	564
3-point FG pct	.288	.341	12/12/15	at UW-Stevens Point	L 53-64	1100
3-pt FG made per game	6.9	6.4	*N 12/19/15	vs Randolph College	W 43-40	75
FREE THROWS-ATT	106-165	132-188	12/20/15	vs Bard College	W 68-55	75
Free throw pct	.642	.702				
F-Throws made per game	11.8	14.7				
REBOUNDS	314	315				
Rebounds per game	34.9	35.0				
Rebounding margin	-0.1	-				
ASSISTS	116	97				
Assists per game	12.9	10.8				
TURNOVERS	111	96				
Turnovers per game	12.3	10.7				
Turnover margin	-1.7	-				
Assist/turnover ratio	1.0	1.0				
STEALS	45	57				
Steals per game	5.0	6.3				
BLOCKS	20	12				
Blocks per game	2.2	1.3				
ATTENDANCE	1607	2243				
Home games-Avg/Game	3-536	4-523				
Neutral site-Avg/Game	-	2-75				

* - Conference game

Score by Periods	1st	2nd	OT	Totals
Lawrence University	302	298	10	610
Opponents	251	337	18	606

2015-16 Lawrence University Basketball
Lawrence University Points-Rebounds-Assists (as of Dec 31, 2015)
All games

Opponent	Date	Score		00	01	03	04	05	10	12
				NASH,KALIN	MAVRAKIS,G	NIKITAS,JA	WILLER,MIT	MCLAUGHLIN	WEISS,ERIC	STEPHANI,J
at Dominican University	11/14/15	74-72	w	DNP	DNP	23-11-4	15-2-1	8-2-1	0-0-1	17-4-3
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN C	11/18/15	70-71	L	DNP	DNP	23-5-5	17-4-1	4-3-4	3-2-1	8-3-2
at Ripon College	11/21/15	80-88	L	DNP	DNP	34-9-5	5-5-3	1-5-2	DNP	8-4-3
LAKE FOREST COLLEGE	11/25/15	69-77	L	DNP	DNP	28-5-5	6-6-3	5-2-0	0-1-0	8-1-5
at Beloit College	12/02/15	76-72	w	DNP	DNP	34-3-2	9-5-1	3-6-1	6-0-1	16-6-1
ILLINOIS COLLEGE	12/05/15	77-67	w	DNP	DNP	35-6-5	5-5-0	4-3-0	2-0-1	7-3-1
at UW-Stevens Point	12/12/15	53-64	L	DNP	DNP	18-6-2	3-9-3	1-4-0	2-0-1	15-9-4
vs Randolph College	12/19/15	43-40	w	DNP	DNP	17-8-1	4-8-1	0-0-0	0-1-1	13-6-3
vs Bard College	12/20/15	68-55	w	0-0-0	2-1-1	26-11-3	8-4-1	0-0-0	2-3-1	15-2-1

Opponent	Date	Score		23	24	30	32
				WINSLOW,PE	WEAS,CONNO	MILLER,TRO	PETERSON,B
at Dominican University	11/14/15	74-72	w	5-3-2	3-5-3	3-3-0	0-0-0
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN C	11/18/15	70-71	L	DNP	0-3-0	10-2-3	5-5-0
at Ripon College	11/21/15	80-88	L	8-2-2	0-1-1	16-3-0	8-6-1
LAKE FOREST COLLEGE	11/25/15	69-77	L	9-4-1	3-2-0	0-3-0	10-1-0
at Beloit College	12/02/15	76-72	w	0-2-0	0-1-0	0-3-2	8-3-1
ILLINOIS COLLEGE	12/05/15	77-67	w	8-8-5	5-2-3	4-2-1	7-5-0
at UW-Stevens Point	12/12/15	53-64	L	7-1-0	0-4-0	5-1-0	2-2-0
vs Randolph College	12/19/15	43-40	w	8-3-1	0-1-1	1-3-1	0-10-0
vs Bard College	12/20/15	68-55	w	2-0-1	0-3-0	5-2-1	8-6-1

2015-16 Game Recaps

November 14

Lawrence 74, Dominican (Ill.) 72

RIVER FOREST, Ill.

— Jamie Nikitas posted a double-double, and the Lawrence University men's basketball team edged



Dominican (Ill.) University 74-72 in a non-conference game.

Dominican missed a pair of shots, including a 3-pointer at the buzzer that would have won it, in the final six seconds.

Nikitas scored a game-high 23 points and pulled down a team-best 11 rebounds for the Vikings, who defeated Dominican in the season opener for the second consecutive year. Nikitas also added four assists and a pair of steals.

Jeremy Stephani added 17 points and hit five 3-pointers for the Vikings, and Mitch Willer had 15 points.

Tim Robertson scored 18 points and grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds for the Stars.

Lawrence trailed 8-7 early, but the Vikings went on a 24-10 run to grab a 31-18 lead with 4:51 left in the first half. Stephani, Troy Miller, Pete Winslow and Connor Weas all hit 3-pointers during that stretch for the Vikings.

The Vikings would go on to lead 39-27 at the half, but Dominican quickly trimmed the margin to 43-40 early in the second half.

Dominican would take its biggest lead at 57-54, but the Vikings would take the lead back for good on Nikitas' layup with 7:46 left. It was a tight margin the rest of the way, and Lawrence led 70-66 on Nikitas' layup with 2:59 left.

Dominican scored the next four points to tie it at 70-70 with 58 seconds left, but Stephani buried a 3-pointer for a 73-70 lead with 38 ticks remaining.

The teams traded free throws, and Lawrence still led by two when Josh Mayberry missed a driving layup with six seconds left. Stephani grabbed the

rebound but stepped out of bounds in the corner with 1.9 left. Quinn Pokora took the inbounds pass and fired a 3-pointer from the top of the key, and he missed as time expired.

November 18

Wisconsin Lutheran 71

Lawrence 70

APPLETON,

Wis. — The Lawrence University men's basketball team missed a



long 3-pointer in the final seconds, and Wisconsin Lutheran College hung on for a 71-70 non-conference victory at Alexander Gymnasium.

Jake Jarnigo and Tanner Schieve scored 15 points apiece and Jim Marrose added 14 to pace the Warriors (1-1).

Jamie Nikitas led Lawrence (1-1) and all scorers with 23 points, and he picked up five rebounds, five assists and three steals.

Mitch Willer added 17 points and four rebounds for the Vikings, and Troy Miller chipped in with 10 points.

Wisconsin Lutheran had grabbed a 71-70 lead on Collin Kennedy's putback with 13 seconds remaining.

Nikitas brought the ball up the floor for the Vikings but had it knocked away momentarily. He fought to get the ball back and was forced to shoot a 3-pointer from about 35 feet in the final seconds, but it caromed off the backboard and rim as time expired.

Lawrence looked like it might pull away early in the second half. Miller hit a 3-pointer less than a minute into the half to put the Vikings up 40-31.

The Vikings led by as many as 12 and went up 49-39 on Nikitas' jumper with 14:11 left. Wisconsin Lutheran then went on a 17-2 run over the next seven minutes to take a 56-51 lead with 7:21 left.

The Vikings immediately countered and got a three-point play from Willer to tie the game at 56-56. The Warriors pulled out to a 67-62 lead,

but Miller hit a 3-pointer and Nikitas followed with a layup to tie the game at 67-67 with 1:40 remaining.

Nikitas made one free throw to give Lawrence at 68-67 edge, but Chase Nowak's jumper gave the Warriors a 69-68 lead. Willer countered with a layup off a nice feed from Nikitas to give the Vikings a 70-69 edge with 32 seconds left.

Jarnigo missed a jumper for the Warriors, but Kennedy collected the rebound and his putback with 13 seconds left was the difference.

November 21

Ripon 88, Lawrence 80 (OT)

RIPON, Wis.

— Ty Sabin's 3-pointer in overtime gave the



Ripon College men's basketball team the lead for good, and the Red Hawks went on to an 88-80 Midwest Conference victory over Lawrence University at the Storzer Center.

Ty Sabin scored 34 points to pace Ripon (1-1, 1-0 MWC), and Ty Ketz added 21. Koy Brecklin had a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Red Hawks.

Jamie Nikitas scored a career-high 34 points, grabbed nine rebounds, handed out five assists and picked up three steals for the Vikings (1-2, 0-1). Troy Miller added 16 points for Lawrence.

After Pete Winslow's three-point play gave the Vikings a 77-75 lead with 3:06 left in overtime, Sabin countered with a 3-pointer for a 78-77 advantage.

After the Vikings missed a 3-pointer, Ketz made a pair of free throws and Sabin followed with a layup as Ripon pulled away.

The Vikings trailed by 10 with six minutes left in regulation, but Lawrence went on a 12-1 run to take the lead.

Ben Peterson hit a jumper and Miller made a pair of free throws to start the rally. Jeremy Stephani and

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Miller hit back-to-back 3-pointers, and Nikitas' layup with 3:29 left put Lawrence up 63-62.

Lawrence was up 70-66 after Nikitas' jumper with 27 seconds left, but Brecklin grabbed an offensive rebound on the next possession and was fouled. He hit the first free throw, missed the second and Ripon grabbed the rebound again.

Sabin was then fouled on a 3-point try and made all three free throws with 17 seconds left to tie the game at 70-70. The Vikings missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer that would have won it.

November 25

Lake Forest 77, Lawrence 69

APPLETON, Wis.

— The Lake Forest College men's basketball team took



the lead midway through the second half and then held off a late charge by Lawrence University to post a 77-69 Midwest Conference victory at Alexander Gymnasium.

Freshman Danny Sotos scored a game-high 29 points for Lake Forest (1-2, 1-0 MWC) and hit 10-of-15 shots from the floor, including 5-of-7 from 3-point range. Jim Schick added a double-double of 15 points and 16 rebounds for the Foresters.

Jamie Nikitas led Lawrence (1-3, 1-1) with 28 points, and he picked up five rebounds, five assists and six steals.

The Vikings led 45-40 after Mitch Willer's free throw with 14:10 remaining when the Foresters surged ahead. Lake Forest went on a 13-1 run, capped by Sotos' layup with 9:14 left, to take a 53-46 lead.

Lawrence came right back as Evan McLaughlin scored five points as part of a 9-4 Lawrence burst to cut the lead to 57-55. The Foresters then scored 10 of the game's next 12 points to push the advantage back to 67-57.

The Vikings battled back, getting

a key 3-pointer from Jeremy Stephani, and trimmed the margin to 72-69 on Nikitas' layup with 49 seconds left. The Foresters then made 5-of-7 free throws in the final 31 seconds to seal the win.

Ben Peterson scored a career-high 10 points for Lawrence, and Pete Winslow added nine points.

December 2

Lawrence 76, Beloit 72

BELOIT, Wis.

— Jamie Nikitas poured in 34 points to lead the Lawrence

University men's

basketball team to a 76-72 Midwest Conference victory over Beloit College at Flood Arena.

Nikitas tied his career scoring high set earlier this season, and Jeremy Stephani added 16 points for the Vikings (2-3, 1-2 MWC). Nikitas went 12-for-23 from the floor and 8-for-10 from the foul line, and he also picked up six steals, three rebounds and a pair of assists.

Steve McAfee led Beloit (2-3, 1-2) with a double-double of 21 points and 11 rebounds.

Lawrence led by as many as 15 points early in the second half, but the Bucs whittled the lead down late at the foul line. Beloit hit five consecutive free throws to trim the margin to 67-64 with 2:24 remaining.

Nikitas countered with a jumper for the Vikings, but Rudy Bentley answered with a layup to cut the lead back to 69-66. Bentley finished with 15 points.

The Bucs then fouled Nikitas, who converted a pair of free throws with 37 seconds left for a 71-66 edge. McAfee missed a 3-pointer, and Nikitas was fouled again. He made one free throw to push the lead to 72-66, but the Bucs scored the next four points, sandwiched around a pair of Lawrence misses at the foul line, to cut the lead to 72-70.

Nikitas then made four consecutive free throws in the final eight seconds to seal the victory.

Beloit built a 19-12 advantage early, but the Vikings took command for the rest of the half. Lawrence went on a 19-3 run to take a 31-22 lead with 4:48 left in the opening half.

Ben Peterson hit a pair of 3-pointers for the Vikings during that stretch and finished with eight points in the game. Mitch Willer added nine points, five rebounds and a pair of blocks for Lawrence.

Lawrence would go on to lead 42-32 at the half, and the Vikings went on a 7-2 outburst to start the second half. Stephani's 3-pointer capped that run to give Lawrence its biggest lead of the game at 49-34.

December 5

Lawrence 77, Illinois College 67

APPLETON, Wis.

— Lawrence University's Jamie Nikitas poured in a career-high 35 points to lead the Vikings to a

77-67 Midwest Conference victory over Illinois College at Alexander Gymnasium.

Nikitas also became the 23rd player in Lawrence history to score 1,000 career points. He entered the game needing 29 to reach 1,000 and now has 1,006 for his career. Nikitas hit 13-of-19 shots from the floor and went 4-for-7 from beyond the arc. He also had six rebounds and five assists.

Tim Schappaugh, who left the game with an injury, and Max Stutman led Illinois College (2-3, 0-2 MWC) with 15 points apiece.

Eight other players scored for the Vikings with Pete Winslow leading that group with eight points and a team-best eight rebounds. Winslow also picked up five assists.

The Blueboys led 57-56 midway through the second half before Lawrence surged ahead. Lawrence (3-3, 2-2) went on a 13-2 run to grab a 69-58



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lead with 7:36 remaining. Ben Peterson, who finished with seven points, started the burst with two consecutive baskets, Nikitas followed with back-to-back 3-pointers and Connor Weas finished the run with another 3-pointer.

Illinois College fought back and trimmed the lead back to 69-65 with seven consecutive points. Weas knocked down a jumper to stem the tide, the Vikings got a stop on the defensive end and Mitch Willer scored to put Lawrence up 73-65 with 4:00 left.

The teams then traded several missed shots, and Lawrence led 75-67 after Nikitas' layup with 1:13 left. The Blueboys were forced to foul and finally put the Vikings in the bonus with 28 seconds left. Nikitas, who topped his previous career high of 34 points that he matched at Beloit College just three days ago, made two free throws for the final margin.

December 12

No. 9 UW-Stevens Point 64

Lawrence 53

STEVENS POINT, Wis. —

The No. 9 UW-Stevens Point

men's basketball team rallied from a double-digit deficit to down Lawrence University 64-53 in a non-conference game at Quandt Fieldhouse.

Sean McGann scored 20 points and Ethan Bublitz added 15 points and nine rebounds for the Pointers (4-3).

Jamie Nikitas paced Lawrence (3-4) with 18 points, and Jeremy Stephani added 15 points and nine rebounds for the Vikings. Mitch Willer also pulled down nine boards for Lawrence.

Lawrence led 32-25 at the half, but the Vikings went cold from the floor after the break. Lawrence shot just 29.6 percent (8-27) from the floor in the second half.

The Pointers chipped away at the advantage and finally took the lead at

43-41 on a pair of McGann free throws with 11:28 remaining. Stevens Point then stretched the lead thanks to an 11-2 run to grab a 57-45 edge with 3:27 left.

Lawrence would get no closer than 10 points after that.

The Vikings built a double-digit advantage by dominating the final 12 minutes of the first half.

The game was tied at 9-9, but Lawrence hit eight of its next 14 shots from the floor to pull away. The Vikings outscored Stevens Point 21-10 to take a 30-19 lead with 2:50 remaining in the first half. Nikitas scored nine points and Stephani added eight during that stretch.

Stevens Point then got a three-point play and a 3-pointer from Bublitz to trim the margin to seven points at the half.

December 19

Lawrence 43, Randolph 40

BAYAMON, Puerto Rico — The Lawrence University men's basketball team limited Randolph College

to just 24 percent shooting in a 43-40 non-conference victory at the Puerto Rico Classic.

Jamie Nikitas led Lawrence (4-4) and all scorers with 17 points and picked up eight rebounds. Jeremy Stephani added 13 points for the Vikings, and Ben Peterson grabbed a career-high 10 rebounds.

Josh Freund led Randolph, a school in Lynchburg, Va., with a double-double of 15 points and 14 rebounds.

Randolph (7-2) shot just 15-of-62 (24.2 percent) from the floor for the game, and the Wild Cats hit 2-of-14 (14.2 percent) from 3-point range. Lawrence shot only 32.7 percent from the floor, including 24.1 percent from beyond the arc.

The game was tight throughout, although Lawrence built the biggest

lead by either team at 16-8 on Pete Winslow's layup midway through the first half. Lawrence was held to just two points for the rest of the first half, and the Wild Cats trimmed the margin to 18-17 at the break.

In a game that featured 10 lead changes and four ties, Randolph took its biggest lead of the game at 25-23 on a pair of Zach Desgain free throws. The teams then traded the lead before the Vikings grabbed the advantage for good at 35-33 on Nikitas' three-point play.

The Vikings built the advantage to five points after Stephani followed with a 3-pointer. Lawrence was unable to pull away, but the Vikings were up 43-38 after a Troy Miller free throw.

Freund's jumper cut the margin to 43-40, but the Wild Cats missed their final four shots from the floor, including a pair of 3-pointers in the final seconds that would have tied it.

December 20

Lawrence 68, Bard 55

BAYAMON, Puerto Rico —

The Lawrence University men's basketball team

got on top early and went on to a 68-55 non-conference win over Bard College at the Puerto Rico Classic.

Senior guard Jamie Nikitas posted a double-double with game highs of 26 points and 11 rebounds to lead Lawrence (5-4) to the victory at Coliseo Ruben Rodriguez.

Jeremy Stephani added 15 points, Mitch Willer had 10 and Ben Peterson chipped in with eight for the Vikings.

DeVahnte Mosley paced Bard (3-6), a NCAA Division III school in New York, with 19 points.

Bard made the first basket of the game, but Lawrence hit a 3-pointer to grab a 3-2 lead and never trailed again. That was part of a 9-0 run as the Vikings built an early 9-2 edge.

Lawrence followed with a 19-11 outburst to push the lead to 28-13 late



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in the first half. Bard battled back to cut the margin to 35-24 at the break.

The Vikings held a double-digit advantage until the Raptors went on a scoring run to trim the lead to 41-33 at the 13-minute mark. Lawrence responded with an 11-2 run to take a 52-35 advantage. Nikitas scored six points during the outburst, which was capped by a Stephani 3-pointer.

Bard never closer than 10 points the rest of the way.