



## Lawrence University (9-11, 6-9 MWC)

vs.

## Beloit College (8-12, 6-9 MWC)

Tuesday, Feb. 9, 5:30 p.m.

Alexander Gymnasium, Appleton, Wis.



### 2015-16 LAWRENCE SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time/Res.
11/14	at Dominican (Ill.)	W, 74-72
<b>11/18</b>	<b>Wisconsin Lutheran L, 71-70</b>	
11/21	at Ripon	L, 88-80 OT
<b>11/25</b>	<b>Lake Forest</b>	<b>L, 77-69</b>
12/2	at Beloit	W, 76-72
<b>12/5</b>	<b>Illinois College</b>	<b>W, 77-67</b>
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
<b>1/2</b>	<b>Grinnell</b>	<b>L, 109-89</b>
1/6	at St. Norbert	L, 82-62
<b>1/9</b>	<b>Monmouth</b>	<b>L, 68-63</b>
1/12	at Carroll	L, 84-83 OT
1/16	at Cornell	L, 73-69
<b>1/20</b>	<b>Ripon</b>	<b>L, 81-80</b>
<b>1/23</b>	<b>Knox</b>	<b>W, 81-51</b>
1/26	at Lake Forest	W, 69-67
1/30	at Knox	W, 71-57
<b>2/3</b>	<b>St. Norbert</b>	<b>L, 62-59</b>
2/6	at Illinois College	W, 88-76
<b>2/9</b>	<b>Beloit</b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>
<b>2/17</b>	<b>Carroll</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
2/20	at Monmouth	1:00 pm
2/26-27	MWC Tournament	TBA
<b>Home games in bold</b>		



### PROBABLE STARTERS

#### Lawrence

Forward	Mitch Willer	Jr.	6-7
Forward	Connor Weas	Jr.	6-4
Guard	Jeremy Stephani	So.	6-0
Guard	Jamie Nikitas	Sr.	6-0
Guard	Troy Miller	Sr.	6-0



#### Beloit

Forward	Jacob Manthe	Jr.	6-6
Forward	Steve McAfee	Sr.	6-5
Guard	Andrew Bremner	Jr.	6-3
Guard	Rudy Bentley	Sr.	5-8
Guard	Carlton Henning	So.	6-1

### SCHEDULE

►Lawrence faces Beloit in a 5:30 p.m. game at Alexander Gymnasium on Tuesday.

### 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 116-92 (.558).

►Brian Vraney (Wisconsin 1998) is in his ninth season at Beloit and has a record of 72-132 (.353).

### THE SERIES

►The series with Beloit stretches all the way back to 1911, and the Bucs hold a 100-74 advantage. Lawrence

### LAWRENCE'S LONGEST SERIES WINNING STREAKS

Team	Streak	Years
Northwestern (Wis.)	19	1926-85
UW-Oshkosh	17	1918-54
Beloit	16	2002-09
Milton	16	1913-68

has dominated the rivalry over the past two decades. The Vikings have won five in a row and 23 of the last 26 meetings with Beloit. The Vikings have a 30-7 record against Beloit since the 1996-97 season.

### LAST GAME

A surge midway through the second half on Saturday led Lawrence to an 88-76 Midwest Conference victory over Illinois College at Sherman Gymnasium.

The Vikings went on an 11-0 run to turn a two-point deficit into a nine-point lead with just under eight minutes remaining. Illinois College didn't get closer than six points after that.

Jamie Nikitas led Lawrence with

20 points and seven rebounds. He also picked up three assists and three steals. Jeremy Stephani added 16 points and Connor Weas matched his career high with 15 points for the Vikings. Troy Miller added 11 points and a game-high five assists for Lawrence.

Mitchell Patterson led the Blueboys with a double-double of 19 points and 10 rebounds.

Illinois College led 63-61 when Weas buried a 3-pointer with 10:18 remaining in the game as part of a four-point play. Following an Illinois College miss, Weas followed with another 3-pointer to put the Vikings up 68-63. Weas scored 13 of his 15 points in the second half, going 4-for-4 from the floor, including 3-for-3 from 3-point range, in the final 20 minutes.

After the Blueboys had a turnover and another miss, Mitch Willer picked up a layup for a 70-63 lead. Illinois College then turned it over, and Nikitas hit a jumper for a 72-63 lead with 7:38 left.

Patterson scored to stop the run, and Illinois College trimmed the lead to 75-69 on a pair of Max Stutsman free throws with 6:28 remaining. The Vikings pushed the lead back to 81-71 on a pair of Nikitas free throws with 3:43 left, and Lawrence hit its next three shots from the floor to seal the victory.

Lawrence opened the game by scoring the first seven points, and the opening 20 minutes was marked by runs from both teams. Illinois College immediately rallied and trimmed the lead to 17-16.

The Vikings came right back on a 12-2 run to go up 29-19, but Illinois College scored the game's next nine points to trim the lead to one. The Blueboys grabbed their first lead at 39-38 and the teams went into the half knotted at 46-46.

## VIKINGS UPDATE

►Star guard Jamie Nikitas (Glenview, Ill./Glenbrook South) moved up one more spot on Lawrence's career scoring



## MWC Standings

	MWC		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
St. Norbert	15	0	18	2
Carroll	11	3	15	4
Ripon	11	4	13	7
Monmouth	9	5	13	6
Lake Forest	8	6	10	8
Lawrence	6	9	9	11
Beloit	6	9	8	12
Cornell	5	9	7	12
Grinnell	5	10	8	12
Illinois College	4	11	7	13
Knox	0	14	1	18

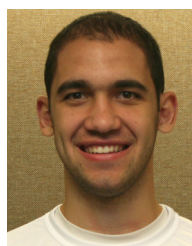
## Games Tuesday

Beloit at Lawrence  
Monmouth at Cornell  
St. Norbert at Lake Forest  
Knox at Carroll

## Games Saturday

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

list and is poised to take one more step up. Nikitas passed Lawrence Hall of Famer Doug Fyfe (1,342) for fifth place on the career scoring list with 1,353 points.



Jamie Nikitas

Nikitas is just eight points away from surpassing Chris Siebert (1,360) for fourth place.

►Nikitas broke Lawrence's season scoring record in last Wednesday's game against St. Norbert. Nikitas has 524 points this season and broke the record of 494 set by John Dekker in the 2009-10 season. Nikitas is scoring 26.2 points per game and that is on

## 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).



<b>Overall Record</b>	116-92
Home	61-37
Away	50-47
Neutral	5-8

<b>Midwest Conference Record</b>	89-64
Home	46-30
Away	43-34

<b>Nonconference Record</b>	27-28
Home	11-6
Away	11-14
Neutral	5-8

## DePagter vs. the MWC

Beloit	12-3
Carroll	10-9
Cornell	4-4
Grinnell	5-10
Illinois College	15-2
Knox	16-1
Lake Forest	9-7
Monmouth	12-3
Ripon	6-12
St. Norbert	5-14

## 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

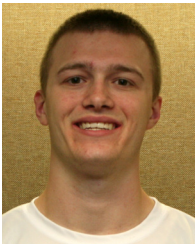
pace to shatter Dekker's season scoring average record of 21.5.

►Nikitas ranks fifth in NCAA Division III and first in the Midwest Conference in points per game. He is tied with Ripon's Ty Sabin.

►Nikitas also leads the Vikings in rebounding at 7.0 per game, and that ranks seventh in the Midwest Conference. Nikitas also leads the team at 3.4 assists per game and 2.6 steals per game. Nikitas leads the league in steals and is sixth in assists.

►Nikitas passed three-time All-American Chris Braier for second place on the career steals list with three steals at Illinois College. Nikitas now has 181 for his career, one better than Braier. Head coach Joel DePagter is the career leader with 211. Nikitas has 52 steals this season, just four shy of his career-best 56 in 2013-14.

►Junior swingman Connor Weas (Whitefish Bay, Wis./Whitefish Bay) turned in another big game against Illinois College. Weas set his career high with 15 points vs. Illinois College in February 2015. He matched that with 15 points against the Blueboys this past Saturday. Weas hit 5-of-6 shots from the floor, including 3-of-4 from 3-point range. He added two rebounds, two assists and a steal in 17 minutes. Weas has posted both of his double-digit scoring games this season in the past month.



Connor Weas

►Sophomore forward Ben Peterson (River Forest, Ill./Fenwick) has turned in consecutive double-digit scoring game with 10 points against Illinois College. It's the second time Peterson has had back-to-back double-digit scoring games this season as he improved his scoring average to 6.2 points per game.

## 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	971-1071 (.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

►Lawrence is putting together another good defensive season, and the Vikings rank second in the Midwest Conference in scoring defense at 70.8 points per game. The Vikings gave up 70.0 points per game a season ago. The best two-year stretch recently is 2008-09 and 2009-10 with those squads allowing an average of 69.05 points per game.

►Lawrence ranks 10th in the Midwest Conference in scoring at 71.4 points per game.

►Lawrence is shooting 44.8 percent from the floor, good for eighth in the Midwest Conference. The Vikings are third in field goal percentage defense at 41.9 percent.

►Lawrence is shooting 33.7 percent from 3-point range, and that ranks eighth in the Midwest Conference. The Vikings are seventh in defending the 3-pointer at 35.6 percent.

### 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
<b>Jamie Nikitas</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>2012-now</b>
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
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

►Lawrence's free-throw shooting has been steadily on the upswing for the last month. The Vikings are now ninth in the league at 68.5 percent. Through first 12 games of the season, Lawrence was at 61.3 percent but has shot 78.8 percent over the past eight games.

►Lawrence ranks eighth in the conference in rebounding margin at minus-1.4.

### SCOUTING BELOIT

►Beloit dropped a 72-56 decision to league leader St. Norbert this past Saturday. D.J. DeValk led St. Norbert with 21 points, and Rudy Bentley paced the Bucs with 15 points.



►The Bucs have not won back-to-back games this season, but Beloit has not lost more than two games in a row at any point this season.

►Forward Steve McAfee is second in the league in scoring and leads the Bucs at 22.5 points per game. McAfee also ranks second in the conference in

rebounding at 9.3 per game.

►Guard Rudy Bentley is eighth in the conference in scoring at 16.4 per game. Bentley is second in the league in assists at 5.6 per contest.

►Beloit is averaging 75.2 points per game, and that ranks fifth in the conference. The Bucs are eighth in the league in scoring defense at 78.8 points per contest.

►Beloit is shooting 46.2 percent from the floor, which ranks sixth in the league. The Bucs are ninth in field goal percentage defense at 47.3 percent.

►Beloit is the worst free-throw shooting team in the conference 66.5 percent.

►The Bucs are seventh in the league in 3-point shooting at 34.3 percent. Beloit is fifth in 3-point defense at 33.6 percent.

►Beloit ranks seventh in the conference in rebounding margin at minus-0.5.



### D3HOOPS.COM TOP 25

Rnk	Team	Rec.	Pts.	Pr.
1.	Whitworth (16)	19-0	609	1
2.	Augustana (8)	19-1	597	2
3.	Benedictine	20-0	579	3
4.	John Carroll (1)	19-0	551	4
5.	St. Thomas	17-1	536	5
6.	Christopher Newport	17-1	460	9
7.	Hope	17-2	459	8
8.	Marietta	17-2	449	10
9.	Elmhurst	17-3	433	6
10.	Ohio Wesleyan	17-2	414	7
11.	Amherst	16-3	337	14
12.	Alma	15-4	306	15
13.	North Central (Ill.)	15-5	290	17
14.	St. Norbert	16-2	288	16
15.	Lancaster Bible	17-0	222	18
16.	Franklin and Marshall	16-3	198	19
17.	Johnson and Wales	18-1	197	23
18.	Susquehanna	16-2	193	12
19.	WPI	16-3	184	13
20.	Whitman	16-3	159	24
21.	Chicago	14-4	155	11
22.	Wesleyan	16-4	107	25
23.	Penn State-Behrend	17-1	70	--
24.	Plattsburgh State	15-3	45	--
25.	Mount Union	14-5	43	--

**Dropped out:** No. 20 Roanoke; No. 21 Texas Lutheran; No. 22 New York University.

**Others receiving votes:** Tufts 37; Texas Lutheran 30; NYU 24; Emory 22; Aurora 19; Delaware Valley 18; Roanoke 17; Trinity (Conn.) 16; Babson 10; Wooster 10; Northwestern (Minn.) 10; Albertus Magnus 8; Catholic 7; Carroll 5; MIT 4; Salisbury 2; Brooklyn 1; Gettysburg 1; New Jersey City 1; North Park 1; Swarthmore 1.

**2015-16 Lawrence University Basketball**  
**Lawrence University Combined Team Statistics (as of Feb 08, 2016)**  
**All games**

<b>RECORD:</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>AWAY</b>	<b>NEUTRAL</b>
ALL GAMES	9-11	2-6	5-5	2-0
CONFERENCE	6-9	2-5	4-4	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	3-2	0-1	1-1	2-0

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds								pts	avg		
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a	to			blk	stl
03	Jamie Nikitas	20-20	734	36.7	173-352	.491	36-119	.303	142-199	.714	33	106	139	7.0	51	0	68	70	4	52	524	26.2
12	Jeremy Stephani	20-20	694	34.7	84-219	.384	53-151	.351	12-20	.600	8	71	79	4.0	40	1	45	27	0	15	233	11.7
04	Mitch Willer	19-18	518	27.3	72-136	.529	0-0	.000	36-53	.679	24	75	99	5.2	56	2	39	30	22	7	180	9.5
32	Ben Peterson	20-3	296	14.8	42-96	.438	24-62	.387	15-18	.833	12	67	79	4.0	53	3	6	18	10	9	123	6.2
30	Troy Miller	20-19	565	28.3	41-102	.402	29-86	.337	6-8	.750	6	44	50	2.5	39	1	35	14	0	17	117	5.9
23	Peter Winslow	14-9	318	22.7	27-55	.491	9-21	.429	8-20	.400	16	31	47	3.4	38	0	21	20	6	6	71	5.1
24	Connor Weas	20-10	331	16.6	20-62	.323	15-44	.341	17-24	.708	14	33	47	2.4	35	0	23	23	1	6	72	3.6
05	Evan McLaughlin	20-1	339	17.0	15-28	.536	0-2	.000	26-41	.634	16	39	55	2.8	40	1	23	24	6	9	56	2.8
10	Eric Weiss	15-0	169	11.3	12-29	.414	1-7	.143	6-9	.667	2	16	18	1.2	11	1	21	14	0	2	31	2.1
01	George Mavrakis	11-0	73	6.6	6-18	.333	1-6	.167	4-6	.667	3	4	7	0.6	5	0	3	4	0	4	17	1.5
00	Kalind Nash	6-0	15	2.5	1-4	.250	0-0	.000	2-2	1.000	0	1	1	0.2	3	0	3	1	0	0	4	0.7
Team											24	37	61				5					
Total.....		20	4052		493-1101	.448	168-498	.337	274-400	.685	158	524	682	34.1	371	9	287	250	49	127	1428	71.4
Opponents.....		20	4055		487-1161	.419	165-464	.356	277-389	.712	197	512	709	35.5	363	-	255	236	35	131	1416	70.8

<b>TEAM STATISTICS</b>	<b>LU</b>	<b>OPP</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Att.</b>
SCORING	1428	1416	11/14/15	at Dominican University	W 74-72	235
Points per game	71.4	70.8	11/18/15	WISCONSIN LUTHERAN C	L 70-71	554
Scoring margin	+0.6	-	* 11/21/15	at Ripon College	Lot 80-88	458
FIELD GOALS-ATT	493-1101	487-1161	* 11/25/15	LAKE FOREST COLLEGE	L 69-77	489
Field goal pct	.448	.419	* 12/02/15	at Beloit College	W 76-72	300
3 POINT FG-ATT	168-498	165-464	* 12/05/15	ILLINOIS COLLEGE	W 77-67	564
3-point FG pct	.337	.356	12/12/15	at UW-Stevens Point	L 53-64	1100
3-pt FG made per game	8.4	8.3	12/19/15	vs Randolph College	W 43-40	75
FREE THROWS-ATT	274-400	277-389	12/20/15	vs Bard College	W 68-55	75
Free throw pct	.685	.712	* 01/02/16	GRINNELL COLLEGE	L 89-109	899
F-Throws made per game	13.7	13.9	* 01/06/16	at St. Norbert College	L 62-82	717
REBOUNDS	682	709	* 01/09/16	MONMOUTH COLLEGE	L 63-68	627
Rebounds per game	34.1	35.5	* 01/12/16	at Carroll University	Lot 83-84	324
Rebounding margin	-1.3	-	* 01/16/16	at Cornell College	L 69-73	335
ASSISTS	287	255	* 01/20/16	RIPON COLLEGE	L 80-81	704
Assists per game	14.4	12.8	* 01/23/16	KNOX COLLEGE	W 85-51	782
TURNOVERS	250	236	* 01/26/16	at Lake Forest College	W 69-67	277
Turnovers per game	12.5	11.8	* 01/30/16	at Knox College	W 71-57	500
Turnover margin	-0.7	-	* 02/03/16	ST. NORBERT COLLEGE	L 59-62	898
Assist/turnover ratio	1.1	1.1	* 02/06/16	at Illinois College	W 88-76	580
STEALS	127	131				
Steals per game	6.4	6.6				
BLOCKS	49	35				
Blocks per game	2.5	1.8				
ATTENDANCE	5517	4976				
Home games-Avg/Game	8-690	10-483				
Neutral site-Avg/Game	-	2-75				

\* - Conference game

<b>Score by Periods</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>OT</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Lawrence University	723	684	21	1428
Opponents	638	748	30	1416

**2015-16 Lawrence University Basketball**  
**Lawrence University Points-Rebounds-Assists (as of Feb 08, 2016)**  
**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
GRINNELL COLLEGE	01/02/16	89-109	L	0-0-0	0-0-0	34-6-1	15-2-5	0-7-2	1-2-1	20-3-5
at St. Norbert College	01/06/16	62-82	L	0-0-1	2-1-0	26-10-4	16-12-3	2-1-0	0-0-4	4-3-0
MONMOUTH COLLEGE	01/09/16	63-68	L	DNP	0-0-0	17-8-4	9-5-0	1-3-3	5-0-2	13-5-2
at Carroll University	01/12/16	83-84	L	DNP	2-0-0	40-8-2	10-8-3	3-2-1	0-1-3	6-6-0
at Cornell College	01/16/16	69-73	L	DNP	DNP	33-9-4	9-6-2	4-3-1	2-3-1	11-3-0
RIPON COLLEGE	01/20/16	80-81	L	DNP	2-0-0	25-4-8	11-3-2	6-3-4	2-1-1	13-5-4
KNOX COLLEGE	01/23/16	85-51	w	4-1-2	5-2-2	21-7-1	DNP	7-5-2	6-4-2	14-2-1
at Lake Forest College	01/26/16	69-67	w	DNP	4-0-0	24-4-1	17-3-3	2-1-0	DNP	6-3-4
at Knox College	01/30/16	71-57	w	0-0-0	0-1-0	22-7-4	9-3-2	1-1-0	DNP	15-4-1
ST. NORBERT COLLEGE	02/03/16	59-62	L	DNP	0-2-0	24-5-4	4-3-1	2-2-1	DNP	8-3-2
at Illinois College	02/06/16	88-76	w	0-0-0	0-0-0	20-7-3	8-6-4	2-2-1	DNP	16-4-3

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
GRINNELL COLLEGE	01/02/16	89-109	L	9-7-3	0-1-2	6-2-2	4-5-1
at St. Norbert College	01/06/16	62-82	L	DNP	3-2-2	6-1-3	3-1-0
MONMOUTH COLLEGE	01/09/16	63-68	L	DNP	8-2-0	0-2-1	10-5-1
at Carroll University	01/12/16	83-84	L	DNP	12-1-0	0-5-2	10-3-0
at Cornell College	01/16/16	69-73	L	DNP	0-3-0	6-1-3	4-2-0
RIPON COLLEGE	01/20/16	80-81	L	DNP	8-2-4	13-2-1	0-3-0
KNOX COLLEGE	01/23/16	85-51	w	6-5-2	6-6-2	5-3-3	11-8-0
at Lake Forest College	01/26/16	69-67	w	1-2-1	0-1-1	6-3-1	9-1-1
at Knox College	01/30/16	71-57	w	0-5-2	3-2-0	17-2-4	4-6-0
ST. NORBERT COLLEGE	02/03/16	59-62	L	2-2-0	6-3-2	3-3-2	10-3-0
at Illinois College	02/06/16	88-76	w	6-3-1	15-2-2	11-4-5	10-4-0

## 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 Marose 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



## 2015-16 Game Recaps

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 consecu-

tive 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 lead with 7:36 remaining. Ben Peter-



## 2015-16 Game Recaps

son, 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 Bublitiz 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 Bublitiz 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 in the first half. Bard battled back to

## 2015-16 Game Recaps

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.

### January 2

#### Grinnell 109, Lawrence 89

APPLETON, Wis.

— A scoring outburst midway through the second half put the Grinnell College men's basketball team ahead, and the Pioneers pulled away for a 109-89 Midwest Conference win over Lawrence University at Alexander Gymnasium.

Kyle Parker paced Grinnell (5-6, 2-4 MWC) with 23 points, and Julian Marx added 21.

Jamie Nikitas poured in 34 points, his fourth 30-plus point game of the season, to lead Lawrence (5-5, 2-3). Nikitas went 12-of-17 from the floor and added six rebounds and a pair of steals.

Jeremy Stephani added 20 points for the Vikings, and Mitch Willer had 15 points on 6-for-7 shooting from the floor. Willer and Stephani added five assists apiece.

Lawrence's Pete Winslow added nine points and seven rebounds in the first half, but he didn't play in the second half due to injury.

Lawrence led by as many as nine points in the first half, and the Vikings held a 49-46 advantage at the half. The Vikings shot 61.3 percent (19-31) from the floor in the first half and held Grinnell's attack from beyond the arc to just 29 percent (9-31).

The Vikings broke the sixth tie of the game with layups from Willer and Nikitas to take a 73-69 advantage with 12:38 left in the game. Grinnell then



scored the game's next 11 points, as Marx, Parker and Jacob Ekstrand all hit 3-pointers, to take an 80-73 lead with 10:16 left.

Nikitas stopped the run with a layup, but that's as close as Lawrence would get. Matt Jasaitis countered with a 3-pointer for Grinnell for an 83-75 edge. The Pioneers would push the lead to as many as 13 points in the next few minutes.

Grinnell went 13-for-27 (48.1 percent) from beyond the arc in the second half. Lawrence shot just 44.1 percent from the floor in the final 20 minutes.

Lawrence did trim the lead 98-89 on Stephani's layup with 2:37 left, but Parker hit another 3-pointer for Grinnell. The Pioneers then went 8-for-8 from the foul line in the final 1:43 to seal the victory.

### January 6

#### St. Norbert 82, Lawrence 62

DE PERE, Wis. — The

St. Norbert College men's basketball team used a 9-0 run in the second half to pull away and went on to an 82-62 Midwest Conference victory over Lawrence University at Schuldes Sports Center.

Jamie Nikitas and Mitch Willer both recorded double-doubles for the Vikings (5-6, 2-4 MWC). Nikitas, one of the nation's scoring leaders, poured in a game-high 26 points to go with 10 rebounds and four assists. Willer added 16 points and 12 rebounds.

D.J. DeValk paced St. Norbert (10-2, 7-0) with 17 points, and Ben Bobinski added 14 points and eight rebounds.

St. Norbert led by as many as 14 points in the first half, and Willer's layup at the buzzer cut the margin to 41-29 at the half.

The Vikings continued to eat into that lead to start the second half. Nikitas started the half with a three-point play and then drained back-to-back



3-pointers as part of a 9-2 run to trim the margin to 43-38. The teams traded baskets with Willer's layup cutting the lead to 45-40 with 16:37 left.

The Green Knights then scored the game's next nine points with DeValk sandwiching a pair of 3-pointers around one from Bobinski to give St. Norbert a 54-40 edge.

The Vikings got the lead down to 11 points twice after that, the last time on a 3-pointer from Troy Miller with 10:36 left, but could get no closer.

St. Norbert would lead by as many as 23 points before settling for the final margin of 20.

### January 9

#### Monmouth 68, Lawrence 63

APPLETON, Wis.

— The Lawrence University men's basketball team rallied from seven points down in the final minutes, but Monmouth College recovered to post a 68-63 Midwest Conference victory at Alexander Gymnasium.

Will Jones scored 21 points and picked up four rebounds and four steals for Monmouth (8-4, 5-3 MWC). Reed Goodbred added 14 points and six rebounds for the Scots.

Jamie Nikitas, one of the nation's leading scorers, was limited to 17 points and added a game-high eight rebounds to go with four assists to pace Lawrence (5-7, 2-5). Jeremy Stephani added 13 points for the Vikings, and Ben Peterson had 10 points, all in the first half.

Monmouth matched its biggest lead of the half when it went up 63-56 with 2:30 remaining. The Scots then let Lawrence back in the game with turnovers by Jones on two of their next three possessions. Lawrence converted that into four consecutive free throws, sandwiched around a foul shot by Paul Engo, to trim the margin to 64-60 with 1:06 remaining.

After a turnover by Engo on the next possession, Connor Weas buried a 3-pointer from the right wing to cut



## 2015-16 Game Recaps

the lead to 64-63 with 50 seconds left. It was the only shot from outside the arc that Lawrence made in the second half as the Vikings went 1-for-10 from long distance after the break. Lawrence was 6-for-14 on 3-pointers in the first half.

Jones answered for Monmouth with a driving layup with 22 ticks left to push the lead back to 66-63. Nikitas then missed a layup and the offensive rebound popped out of his hands. Jones was there to grab it, and he then made two free throws with eight seconds left to seal the victory.

In a see-saw first half, Monmouth built a 16-9 lead before the Vikings got hot from long range. Peterson hit back-to-back 3-pointers and Stephani drained another trey to give Lawrence a 20-18 edge. The Vikings kept pouring it on with layups from Nikitas and Stephani and another 3-pointer from Stephani to grab a 27-19 lead. Overall, Lawrence put together a 18-3 run during a stretch of 4:44.

Monmouth answered right back with a 20-3 run of its own, capped by Matt Juhola's layup with 3:31 left, to grab a 39-30 lead. Lawrence finished the half with a pair of Nikitas layups, sandwiched around a Weas 3-pointer, to cut the lead to 39-37 at the half.

### January 12

#### Carroll 84, Lawrence 83 (OT)

WAUKESHA, Wis. — The Carroll University men's basketball team rallied from a five-point deficit in the final 20 seconds of regulation and then defeated Lawrence University 84-83 in overtime in a Midwest Conference game at Van Male Field House.

Jamie Nikitas had a monster night for Lawrence as he posted the eighth-best game point total in school history. Nikitas scored a career-high 40 points as he hit 12-of-22 shots from the floor and went 14-for-16 from the foul line. Nikitas also pulled down



a game-high eight rebounds to go along with two assists and two steals.

Connor Weas added a career-high 12 points for the Vikings (5-8, 2-6 MWC), and Ben Peterson and Mitch Willer had 10 points apiece before both players fouled out.

Kyle Keranen and Marcus Johnson scored 22 points apiece to pace Carroll (12-1, 8-0).

Weas and Nikitas both hit a pair of foul shots, sandwiched around a Keranen layup, to give Lawrence a 72-67 lead with 21 seconds left in regulation.

After Keranen's layup was blocked out of bounds, Keranen hit a 3-pointer on the ensuing possession to cut the lead to 72-70. Nikitas was then bumped out of bounds and the Pioneers got the ball back. Johnson got free inside and his layup tied the game at 72-72. Lawrence's Jeremy Stephani missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer that would have won it.

Carroll raced to a 78-72 lead in the first 1:20 of the overtime, but Lawrence stormed back. Nikitas scored the next seven points for the Vikings as Lawrence trimmed the margin to 80-79 with 1:47 left.

A three-point play by Carroll's Tanner Zaeske pushed the lead to 83-79, and Nikitas countered with a driving layup to cut the margin to 83-81. After Keranen made one free throw, Nikitas was fouled and hit two foul shots to trim the lead to 84-83.

Carroll's Troy Howat was fouled and missed both free throws, but a desperation 3-pointer missed at the buzzer to give Carroll the victory.

Carroll led by as many as seven points in the first half, but Lawrence went on a 10-0 run, capped by Stephani's 3-pointer, over the final 4:07 of the first half to lead 37-30 at the break.

Lawrence pushed the lead to 12 to start the second half as Stephani hit another 3-pointer and Nikitas followed with a layup to make it 42-30. Carroll came back to tie the game at 45-45, but the Pioneers didn't take the

lead until the overtime.

### January 16

#### Cornell 73, Lawrence 69

MOUNT VERNON, Iowa — The Cornell College men's basketball team scored 10 straight points late in the game to surge ahead and held on for a 73-69 Midwest Conference victory over Lawrence University at the Multi-Sport Center.

Lawrence star Jamie Nikitas poured in a game-high 33 points, his sixth 30-plus point game of the season, to lead the Vikings (5-9, 2-7 MWC). Nikitas also finished with nine rebounds, four assists and three steals. Jeremy Stephani added 11 points for the Vikings.

Craig Engle led Cornell (5-9, 3-6) with 20 points, and Grant Anderson and Corey Davis added 16 points apiece. Anderson also pulled down a game-high 18 rebounds.

Lawrence led by as many eight points early in the second half, and the Rams chipped away at the lead. Mitch Willer's jumper gave Lawrence a 53-50 lead with 5:37 remaining, but Cornell went on a 10-0 run, capped by Davis' layup with 3:07 left, to take a 60-53 advantage.

The Rams led by five when Stephani hit a 3-pointer to trim the margin to 66-64 with 32 seconds left. The Vikings fouled Davis, who made one free throw but missed the second with 24 seconds left. Lawrence grabbed the rebound, but Cody Carter intercepted the outlet pass for the Rams.

The Vikings were forced to foul, and Cornell hit six consecutive free throws in the final 17 seconds to seal the victory.

Lawrence started slowly and trailed 17-7 just eight minutes into the game. The Vikings were still down 26-18 when Ben Peterson started the rally with a 3-pointer.

The Vikings went on a 17-5 run



## 2015-16 Game Recaps

over the final 5:26 of the first half, capped by a Nikitas 3-pointer at the buzzer, to give Lawrence a 35-31 lead at the break. Nikitas scored seven points in the run and Troy Miller added six on a pair of 3-pointers.

### January 20

#### Ripon 81, Lawrence 80

APPLETON, Wis. — The Ripon College men's basketball team pulled out an 81-80 Midwest Conference victory over Lawrence University behind 41 points from Ty Sabin at Alexander Gymnasium.

Sabin hit 17-of-25 shots from the floor, including 4-of-6 from beyond the arc, to pace the Red Hawks (10-6, 8-3 MWC).

Lawrence star Jamie Nikitas led four Vikings in double figures with 25 points, and he added eight assists, four rebounds and three steals. Troy Miller and Jeremy Stephani added 13 points apiece for the Vikings (5-10, 2-8), and Mitch Willer chipped in 11 points.

The game featured 10 ties and the biggest lead for either team was five points.

Miller scored eight consecutive points for the Vikings, hitting back-to-back 3-pointers and picking up a layup sandwiched around a pair of Ripon baskets, to give Lawrence a 75-74 lead with 2:34 left. Sabin countered with a driving layup to put the Red Hawks up 76-75 with 1:24 left.

On the ensuing possession, Stephani was going up to shoot a 3-pointer and had the ball knocked away. He caught the loose ball, buried a 3-pointer but was called for a travel so the basket was waived off.

Sabin was fouled and hit two free throws to give Ripon a 78-75 lead. Nikitas countered with a layup with 20 seconds left to cut the margin to one. Ty Ketz hit a pair of free throws for Ripon with 15 seconds remaining to push the lead back to 80-77.

Nikitas then missed a closely contested 3-pointer with 10 seconds left. Ripon grabbed the rebound and Sabin was fouled. He hit one free throw with four seconds remaining to seal the win before Connor Weas hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer for the Vikings.

### January 23

#### Lawrence 85, Knox 51

APPLETON, Wis. — The Lawrence University men's basketball team put on a dominating performance at Alexander Gymnasium and rolled to an 85-51 Midwest Conference victory over Knox College.

Jamie Nikitas led three Vikings (6-10, 3-8 MWC) in double figures with 21 points, and he added seven rebounds and three steals. Nikitas moved past three Lawrence Hall of Famers, head coach Joel DePagter, Matt Miota and Joel Ungrodt into seventh place on Lawrence's career scoring list with 1,263 points.

Lawrence's Jeremy Stephani hit four 3-pointers on his way to 14 points, and Ben Peterson scored 11 points and added a game-high eight rebounds.

Braden Adams scored nine points to lead Knox (1-14, 0-10).

Lawrence tied a season high with 12 3-pointers, and the Vikings shot a season-best 40 percent (12-30) from beyond the arc. Lawrence also dominated the glass with a 43-25 rebounding edge as the Vikings grabbed 17 offensive boards.

The Vikings started to pull away late in the first half. Lawrence was up 28-21 when it went on a 17-4 run over the final 5:22 of the half. Connor Weas scored six points in that stretch, Stephani added five and Nikitas had four as the Vikings led 45-25 at the break.

Lawrence then opened the second half with another huge run to seal the victory. The Vikings limited Knox

to just four points over the first 10:42 of the second half. Lawrence pushed the lead to 67-29 as Peterson scored six points and George Mavrakis added five during that stretch.

Lawrence would go on to lead by as many as 39 points as all 10 Vikings scored at least four points in the game.

### January 26

#### Lawrence 69, Lake Forest 67

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — The Lawrence University men's basketball team enjoyed a great shooting night and held off Lake Forest College 69-67 in a Midwest Conference game.

Jamie Nikitas paced Lawrence with 24 points as he hit 9-of-16 shots from the floor. Junior forward Mitch Willer, who missed the last game due to injury, came back with a vengeance and hit 8-of-9 shots from the floor on his way to 17 points for the Vikings (7-10, 4-8 MWC).

Jim Schick led four Lake Forest players in double figures with 16 points and a game-high 14 rebounds. Lake Forest (9-7, 7-5) lost despite a 42-22 rebounding edge.

Lawrence was hot in the first half and hit 17-of-24 shots (70.8 percent) from the floor in building a 12-point edge late in the first half. The Vikings, who shot 55.3 percent for the game, led 40-32 at the break.

The Vikings pushed the lead to 48-35 on Nikitas' layup early in the second half. Lake Forest steadily chipped away at the advantage and got the margin down to three points inside of two minutes to play.

The Vikings led 65-62 but had a pair of turnovers on its next two possessions. Lake Forest finally cashed in on Eric Porter's layup with just over a minute left to cut the margin to 65-64.

After a Pete Winslow free throw pushed the margin back to 66-64, the Vikings came up with some big de-



## 2015-16 Game Recaps

fensive plays. Lawrence forced Mike Rueffer into a traveling violation, and Nikitas was then fouled. He hit one free throw to give Lawrence a 67-64 lead.

After a missed 3-pointer by the Foresters, Nikitas was fouled again but missed the front end of the bonus. Lawrence got the ball right back as Troy Miller stole the ball from Porter with 14 seconds left.

Miller was fouled and made one free throw for a 68-64 edge with 9.2 seconds left. Porter then banked in a long 3-pointer to cut the margin to 68-67, and Nikitas was fouled on the ensuing possession with 2.4 seconds left. He made the first foul shot for a 69-67 edge.

Nikitas missed the second free throw, but the Foresters were unable to get off a desperation shot before time expired.

Lawrence trailed 10-8, but the Vikings took command of the first half with some seriously hot shooting. The Vikings made 9-of-10 shots from the floor during one stretch to turn a two-point deficit into a nine-point lead at 33-24.

Lawrence hit 13-of-14 shots from inside the arc in the first half as Nikitas scored 13 points and Willer added 10 in the opening 20 minutes.

### January 30

#### Lawrence 71, Knox 57

GALESBURG, Ill. — The Lawrence University men's basketball team scored 10 unanswered points midway through the second half and surged on to a 71-57 Midwest Conference victory over Knox College.

Jamie Nikitas led three Lawrence players in double figures with 22 points. Nikitas also had game highs with seven rebounds, four assists and four steals. Troy Miller added 17 points and four assists for the Vikings (8-10, 5-8 MWC) as he hit 5-of-8 from

from 3-point range. Jeremy Stephani chipped in with 15 points for the Vikings and knocked down a trio of 3-pointers.

Miller, Stephani and Nikitas combined to go 11-for-21 from beyond the arc.

Braden Adams scored 17 points to pace the Prairie Fire (1-16, 0-12).

Lawrence led by just two at 42-40 when Nikitas drained a 3-pointer with 11:57 remaining. Lawrence's Evan McLaughlin then stole the ball, was fouled and made one free throw for a 46-40 lead.

After Knox missed a jumper, Stephani buried a 3-pointer for a 49-40 edge. Knox turned the ball over on its next trip, and Nikitas followed with another 3-pointer to put the Vikings up 52-40 with 10:07 remaining.

George Mosialos hit a jumper for the Prairie Fire and Robert Suntken followed with a 3-pointer to cut the lead to 52-45, but Miller responded for the Vikings. Miller hit back-to-back 3-pointers to push Lawrence's lead to 58-45 with 7:07 left.

Knox got no closer than nine points after that. The Prairie Fire got the lead down to 67-57 with 2:04 left, but Knox missed its final five shots from the floor after that.

Lawrence held Knox to just 39 percent shooting from the floor for the game, and the Vikings feasted on the foul line. Lawrence went 21-for-26 from the stripe while Knox was 4-for-4.

The game got off to a rough start for the Vikings as Knox scored the first 10 points. Lawrence didn't get on the board until Nikitas hit a pair of free throws with 13:32 left in the opening half.

The Vikings rallied during a stretch of 4:17 late in the first half to turn a 10-point deficit into a one-point lead. Lawrence trailed 22-12 when the Vikings went on a 13-2 run to take a 25-24 advantage. Miller scored five points during that stretch and capped the run with a 3-pointer with 2:53 left

in the first half.

Knox recovered to take a 30-27 lead at the break as Adams hit a long 3-pointer at the buzzer.

### February 3

#### No. 14 St. Norbert 62, Lawrence 59

APPLETON, Wis. — The No. 14 St. Norbert College men's basketball team rallied from a 15-point deficit in the second half and then hung on for a 62-59 Midwest Conference victory over Lawrence University at Alexander Gymnasium.

Lawrence star Jamie Nikitas scored a game-high 24 points and broke the school's season scoring record in the process. Nikitas now has 504 points this season and eclipsed the record of 494 set by John Dekker in 2009-10. Nikitas added a team-best five rebounds, four assists and four steals.

Ben Peterson chipped in with 10 points for the Vikings (8-11, 5-9 MWC), and Jeremy Stephani added eight.

Terrence Garner and D.J. DeValk scored 17 points apiece to pace St. Norbert (17-2, 14-0), and Garner had a game-high nine rebounds.

Lawrence grabbed its biggest lead of the game at 43-28 on Mitch Willer's layup with 17:50 left in the game. Over the next nine minutes, St. Norbert outscored the Vikings 24-4 to grab a 52-47 advantage with 8:57 left. Garner scored seven points in that stretch and DeValk added five.

The Vikings bounced back as Peterson scored seven consecutive points to turn a 53-49 deficit into a 56-53 lead with 6:09 left. Lawrence then went cold, missing four consecutive 3-pointers, as St. Norbert edged out to a 60-56 lead with 1:05 remaining.

Peterson then hit another 3-pointer with 58 seconds left to trim the margin to 60-59. After DeValk missed a jumper with 28 seconds left, the Green Knights grabbed the rebound but Stephani stole it to give the Vi-



## 2015-16 Game Recaps

kings a chance.

Peterson missed a 3-pointer with 13 seconds left, but the Vikings got the offensive rebound. Nikitas then missed a 3-pointer with seven seconds left, and Ben Bobinski grabbed the rebound for the Green Knights.

Bobinski was fouled and the Vikings were whistled for a technical foul. St. Norbert converted just two of the four free throws for a 62-59 lead, but Nikitas' half-court desperation 3-pointer was off the mark at the buzzer.

Lawrence was hot from long range in the first half as the Vikings hit 7-of-12 shots from beyond the arc. St. Norbert led 20-19, but the Vikings went on a 17-5 run over the final 5:31 of the first half.

Connor Weas hit a pair of 3-pointers, Stephani made a 3-pointer and converted a three-point play and Nikitas buried a 3-pointer for the Vikings during that stretch. Lawrence led 36-25 at the half.

### February 6

#### Lawrence 88, Illinois College 76

JACKSONVILLE, Ill. — A surge midway through the second half led the Lawrence University men's basketball team to an 88-76



Midwest Conference victory over Illinois College at Sherman Gymnasium.

The Vikings went on an 11-0 run to turn a two-point deficit into a nine-point lead with just under eight minutes remaining. Illinois College didn't get closer than six points after that.

Jamie Nikitas led Lawrence (9-11, 6-9 MWC) with 20 points and seven rebounds. He also picked up three assists and three steals. Jeremy Stephani added 16 points and Connor Weas matched his career high with 15 points for the Vikings. Troy Miller added 11 points and a game-high five assists for Lawrence.

Nikitas passed Lawrence Hall of

Famer Doug Fyfe (1,342) for fifth place on the career scoring list with 1,353 points. Nikitas is just eight points away from surpassing Chris Siebert (1,360) for fourth place.

Mitchell Patterson led the Blueboys (7-13, 4-11) with a double-double of 19 points and 10 rebounds.

Illinois College led 63-61 when Weas buried a 3-pointer with 10:18 remaining in the game as part of a four-point play. Following an Illinois College miss, Weas followed with another 3-pointer to put the Vikings up 68-63. Weas scored 13 of his 15 points in the second half, going 4-for-4 from the floor, including 3-for-3 from 3-point range, in the final 20 minutes.

After the Blueboys had a turnover and another miss, Mitch Willer picked up a layup for a 70-63 lead. Illinois College then turned it over, and Nikitas hit a jumper for a 72-63 lead with 7:38 left.

Patterson scored to stop the run, and Illinois College trimmed the lead to 75-69 on a pair of Max Stutsman free throws with 6:28 remaining. The Vikings pushed the lead back to 81-71 on a pair of Nikitas free throws with 3:43 left, and Lawrence hit its next three shots from the floor to seal the victory.

Lawrence opened the game by scoring the first seven points, and the opening 20 minutes was marked by runs from both teams. Illinois College immediately rallied and trimmed the lead to 17-16.

The Vikings came right back on a 12-2 run to go up 29-19, but Illinois College scored the game's next nine points to trim the lead to one. The Blueboys grabbed their first lead at 39-38 and the teams went into the half knotted at 46-46.