



**NATIONAL CLUB**  
**BASKETBALL**  
**ASSOCIATION**

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## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name: Creighton Club Basketball**

**Mascot: Bluejay**

**Location: Creighton University**

**Captain(s)/Coach(s): Conor Moore, William Betteridge**

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **15--6(6-4 conference)**
- Tournament Rankings/Results: **Second Place (Annual Lincoln Tournament)**
- Notables: **Only two losses after conference play**

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters): 11**

**Players to Watch: All**

**New additions: 4**

**Biggest Rival: N/A**

**Best Player Nickname: N/A**

**2024-25 Season Outlook: Undefeated in Conference/Lincoln Tourney Champs**

**Head Coach Quote: Always look ahead, even when life gets you down and looking to the past -Frank Sinatra**



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## 2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE

**Team Name:** DePaul Blue Demons

**Mascot:** Blue Demon

**Location:** Chicago, IL

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Chibuikem Abogo-Ugwokegbe (Captain) Patrick Montague (Head Coach) Keith Norward and Joe Dietrich (Assistant Coaches)

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- **Record:** 15-1
- **Tournament Rankings/Results:** #2 in Great Lakes Regional, lost in round one to WashU
- **Notables:** Blue Demons went undefeated throughout the regular NCBBA season and beat Notre Dame on a buzzer beater in the Windy City tournament last year.

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** Nine

**Players to Watch:** Smiley Cotton, Logan Baker, Mitch Kalu

**New additions:** The Blue Demons added a couple of key pieces including two former D1 walk ons

**Biggest Rival:** Purdue

**Best Player Nickname:** “Smiley”

**2024-25 Season Outlook:** The Blue Demons are entering the 2024-25 season with high expectations, fueled by a deep, talented roster, strong leadership, and a system that has been perfected under the guidance of their veteran head coach. Coming off a disappointing season end in regionals last year and championship run without three starters in the JMU Crown Invitational, and already playing 10+ games this year, the demons are eager to prove they aren't messing around this year.

**Head Coach Quote:** “If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together.”



## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name: Ferris State University**

**Mascot: Bulldog**

**Location: Big Rapids, Michigan**

**Captain(s)/Coach(s): Damon Preston, Connor Simmer, Eli Watcher**

### **2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **5-7**
- Tournament Rankings/Results: **N/A**
- Notables: **4 All Region Players, 1 Second-Team All American, 1 Third-Team All American**

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters): 5 Returners, 4 Starters Returning**

### **Players to Watch:**

**Damon Preston-** One of the All-Region First Team selections from last years squad. With him returning he brings his amazing outside shooting from the 4 spot. After averaging just under a Double-Double and 3 blocks a game he's expected to be a huge provider for the team.

**Dwynell Benjamin-** Retuning from his All-American Season as a Freshman, we expect Dwyne to continue his dominance against our opponents. After averaging a double-double and solidifying himself as one of the best bigs in the country he'll once again be a nightmare for opposing teams.

**Connor Simmer-** After being a seemingly unstoppable force at the SG spot last season, and being a continous mismatch for the defender, we expect Connor to step up and nearly double his output from last season. In our scrimmage against Depaul in September he caused issues both offensively and defensivley for the Blue Demons. And after coming back from his own First Team All-Region season we expect the same from him this year as well.

**Aiden Dixon-** Coming into his first season with the Club, Aiden has an extremely high ceiling. Holding both his high schools All-Time steal and assist records, expect this Freshman to make some noise throughout the season.

**Carter Simmer-** Carter has shown time and time again that he can shoot the rock, instilling fear into his opponents when he has the ball from anywhere inside halfcourt. Throughout the scrimmage against DePaul they almost made it their mission to deny Carter even a glimpse of the ball. Holding his schools All-Time 3-Pointer record, do not be surprised at all if he is one of the nations leading 3-point shooters.



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**New additions: Aiden Vehrey, Aiden Dixon, Addison Goff, Julian Farmer, Khi Hunt, Raequan Wright, Eli Lindbert, Carter Simmer**

**Biggest Rival: N/A**

**Best Player Nickname: Dame Dolla**

**2024-25 Season Outlook: Finish top 2 in the conference, Win the Regional Tournament, Finish top 20 in the nation.**

**Head Coach Quote: "Hard work beats talent"**



## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW**

### **GUIDE**

**Team Name:** Indiana University

**Mascot:** Hoosiers

**Location:** Bloomington Indiana

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Henry Hamelberg

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: 11-5
- Tournament Rankings/Results:
- Notables: Placed 3rd in a very competitive conference

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** 3 returners, 1 starter

**Players to Watch:** Cole Harritt 6'4 , Zac Stricker 6'1 , Henry Hamelberg, 6'5

**New additions:** Still finalizing the roster, but around 7 new additions

**Biggest Rival:** Purdue University

**Best Player Nickname:** N/A

**2024-25 Season Outlook:** The upcoming season will be competitive, but we're ready to compete.

**Head Coach Quote:**



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“After making regionals 2 seasons ago, we’re ready to compete as a team and get back to the postseason.”



## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW**

### **GUIDE**

**Team Name:** University of Michigan

**Mascot:** Wolverines

**Location:** Ann Arbor, Michigan

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Co-presidents: Jordan Fansler and Noah Arsulowicz

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **8-3**
- Tournament Rankings/Results: **First round exit in regionals to Iowa State**
- Notables: **Shared conference title with Notre Dame and split with them during the season**

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):**

**11 Returners - Fansler, Brehm, Peterson, Reagan, O'Connell, Gorski, Vegter, Arsulowicz, Zimmerman, Vallejo (2 starters - Nervi and O'Connell)**

**Players to Watch:**

**6'7 Wing - Kyle O'Connell(Junior), 6'0 Guard - Matthew Nervi(Sophomore), 6'3 Wing - Matthew Gorski(Junior)**

**New additions: Freshmen - Daniel Smythe, Isaac Schiffman; Sophomores - Finn Horsfall, Cade Gedeon; Juniors - Mac Duross(Wake Forest transfer)**

**Biggest Rival:**

**In-conference - Notre Dame; Out-of-conference - Michigan State**

**Best Player Nickname:**

**Daniel "Bugs" Smythe  
Kyle "Special K" O'Connell**

**2024-25 Season Outlook:**

**With a lot of experience and production returning from last year, as well as some excellent new additions, we are looking to win the conference outright this year and take home the regional championship.**



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**Head Coach Quote:**      **No head coach. Player led team**



# 2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW

## GUIDE

**Team Name:** Notre Dame

**Mascot:** Fighting Irish

**Location:** South Bend, Indiana

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Captains- Andrew Ward, John Davey, Andy Swartout

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: 18-4
- Tournament Rankings/Results:
  - Ranked #5 to finish the season
  - Great Lakes North Regular Season Champions
  - Great Lakes Tournament Champions
  - Windy City Tournament Runner-up
- Notables:
  - Wins: #9 Xavier (by 11), #15 Ohio State (by 2), #20 WashU (by 18)
  - Losses: #4 Penn State (by 4), #17 DePaul (by 1)

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** 11 Returning (4 Starters - Ward, Swartout, Kuster, Henze)

**Players to Watch:** 6-7 John Davey, 6-1 Kellen Henze, 6-1 Andy Swartout

**New additions:** 6-6 Isaac McDonald, 5-11 Ben Klement (D3 Transfer), Etc.

**Biggest Rival:** Michigan

**Best Player Nickname:** Andy “Boooooom” Swartout



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**2024-25 Season Outlook:** Looking to get back to the National Championships and more importantly win it all this year.

**Head Coach Quote:**



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## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name:** Ohio State

**Mascot:** Buckeyes

**Location:** Columbus, Ohio

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Captain: Eric Rakestraw/ Coach: Doug Patterson

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **21-5**
- Tournament Rankings/Results: **Winner of Ohio State tournament and runner up at Tennessee tournament**
- Notables: **Qualified for Great Lakes Regional**

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** 9 returners/ 4 starters

**Players to Watch:** Chris Blauman, Eric Rakestraw, Lukas Lettmerding

**New additions:** Lukas Lettmerding, Jackson Mikola, Kevin Kirkby, Daniel Orozco

**Biggest Rival:** Xavier

**Best Player Nickname:**

**2024-25 Season Outlook:** Win our conference and Compete for a National Championship

**Head Coach Quote:**



## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name:** Purdue

**Mascot:** Boilermakers

**Location:** West Lafayette, IN

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Captains: Will Lasater, Ehssan Kanamkandy, Wyatt Walters, Orion Barrett-Tzannes

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **9-9, 4-6** conference
- Tournament Rankings/Results:
- Notables:

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** 8 returners (Lasater, Pickel, Kanamkandy, Beshears, Buys, Onwudiwe, Barrett-Tzannes, Walters. 3 starters (Lasater, Buys, Beshears)

**Players to Watch:** Jamison Beshears, Carsten Schumm, Will Lasater

**New additions:** 7'0 Olaf Gorski, 6'9 Carsten Schumm, Haas Duggirala, Justin Glick, Sam Goellner, Aadi Gupta, Ernie Guerra,

**Biggest Rival:** Indiana

**Best Player Nickname:** N/A

**2024-25 Season Outlook:** Nationals or bust

**Head Coach Quote:** After a disappointing season, we are ready to use our size, athleticism, and shooting ability to run teams out of the gym and make a deep playoff run.



## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name:** Purdue Fort Wayne

**Mascot:** Mastadon

**Location:** Fort WAYne IN

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Head coach: Myles olagbegi Captains Daymond Wright and Will Roberson

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: 2-8
- Tournament Rankings/Results: Took first place in Wisconsin Whitewater tournament beating iowa state in the championship game.
- Notables:

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** 3 Starters Daymond, Will, Evan

**Players to Watch:** 6-5 Evan Dippon, 6-0 Daymond Wright, 6-0 Will Roberson, 5-11 Landon Adams

**New additions:** Jeremiah Loos, Joel Effing, Cameron Smith, Kemonte Evans, Landon Adams, Nikolai Eter. Quinton Ford, Saeed Adebayo, Sklyer McMillen, Zak Ahmat

**Biggest Rival:** ohio state

**Best Player Nickname:** Evan "Dip" Dippon

**2024-25 Season Outlook:** Strong defensive presence from one through five to completley shut down opponents.

**Head Coach Quote:** Last season was a learning experience that showed us what it truly takes to compete at this level. With the added strength of our roster and the determination to improve, our goal this year is



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to claim the Great Lakes East Region title and make our debut at the National Championship Tournament."

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## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name:** Western Illinois University

**Mascot:** Leathernecks

**Location:** Macomb, IL

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Caleb Moore (Captain)

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **0-12**
- Tournament Rankings/Results: **N/A**
- Notables: **N/A**

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** 9 (1 starter which was the leading scorer Caleb Moore 21 PPG)

**Players to Watch:** Caleb Moore 6'3 G/F - Grad Student - averaged 21 PPG last year.

Byron Pullen Jr - Transfer - 6'0 Guard - Played Juco Ball - athletic, skilled guard, can make any shot.

Isaiah Jimenez - 6'1 G, Freshman, Mid range king (little DeMar DeRozen is his nickname)

Quinn White - 6'0 PG, Sophomore, Returning PG, skills have improved immesnely in offseason

Kaeden Wiersma - 6'6 C - Freshman - your old school back to the basket center

**New additions:** Byron Pullen Jr (G), Isaiah Jimenez (G), Kaeden Wiersma ( C ), Na'jii Anderson (PG) was the starting PG on the solid team two years ago and is now back after a year off, Forest Gerber (G/F), Nathan Barraza (G), Ben Pavelka (F)

**Biggest Rival:** Bradley

**Best Player Nickname:** Mini DeMar



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**2024-25 Season Outlook: This team when on can beat anyone. This group is much improved from last years team. If we continue to Gel in practice there is not a team in our confrence that we cannot beat. This is my third year of running the team and this group has the highest potential of any of them.**

**Head Coach Quote: "When this team gets hot on offense, good luck. The defense tenacity will cause turnovers and make teams uncomfortable. We know after a winless season teams will look forward to playing us. But this is a whole new ball club. We look forward to surprising people in this league."**



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## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name:** Western Michigan

**Mascot:** Broncos

**Location:** Kalamazoo, MI

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):** Head Coach - Marcus Franklin, Assistant Coach - Kenneth Crowder, Captains - Ethan Cheatham & Romeo Love

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **10-6 overall, 7-5 Conference**
- Tournament Rankings/Results: **Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in our conference did not make tournament**
- Notables: **Split series game with #1 ranked team Notre Dame**

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** 6 returners - Ethan Cheatham, Romeo Love, Jachi Lewis, Kofi Barima, TaVaughn Walker, Kenneth Crowder

**Players to Watch:** 6-1 Romeo Love, 5-10 Ethan Cheatham, 6-8 Kofi Barima, 6-4 Jachi Lewis, 6-2 Quincy Sulton

**New additions:** Freshman - Mateo Castillo, Tyreez Buchanan, and Justin Reed, Sophomore - Ashton Sanders, Jacob Campbell, Christian Tappen, and Vil Poole

**Biggest Rival:** Central Michigan University

**Best Player Nickname:** Tyreez "Bacon" Buchanan

**2024-25 Season Outlook:** Lost leadership and lack of experience also lack of size. We have a strong returning group who is taking on the leadership burden about being next up but have very improved on our defense and got more shooting.



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**Head Coach Quote: You can make 100 mistakes, but don't make 100 more.**



## **2024-25 NCBBA-M TEAM PREVIEW GUIDE**

**Team Name:** Xavier University

**Mascot:** Musketeers

**Location:** Cincinnati, OH

**Captain(s)/Coach(s):**

**Coach:** Robert Goldsberry

**Captain/President:** Chase Sandefur

**2023-2024 Performance (If applicable):**

- Record: **19-1 Overall, 12-0 in Conference Play**
- Tournament Rankings/Results: **Back to Back Great Lakes East Conference Champions, 2022-23 Great Lakes East Regional Champs, Lost in Regional tournament 2023-24, Tennessee Invitational Tournament Champions**
- Notables: **Ranked in the top 20 of AP for entire season, Was ranked #2 in NCBBA poll for a majority of the year, #8 in NCBBA final Poll, Undefeated in conference play**

**Number of Returning Players (Include starters):** Chase S, Nate J, Davon J, Makhi H, Phil O, Owen K, Sean C

**Players to Watch:** Chase S, Makhi H, Phil O

**New additions:** Felix F, Sean S, Sean O, Jalen G, Devvon W, Nick R, Dj D

**Biggest Rival:** Ohio State University

**Best Player Nickname:** N/A

**2024-25 Season Outlook:** With a strong returning group in the backcourt, expect fast paced, high scoring games with a full roster impact



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**Head Coach Quote: "We come into this season with a new-look roster, having lost half our team over the offseason. However, we still have a motivated group of returners and a talented freshman class ready to work. We are fully expecting to compete for a third-straight conference title and another deep post-season run." - Coach Rob Goldsberry**