



ARIZONA

BASKETBALL A PLAYER'S PROGRAM

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Book of the Month

"Professor Blood and The
Wonder Teams"

By: Charles "Chic" Hess,
Ed. D.



Cats Close on a Strong November

November was a strong month for Coach Sean Miller and his young Arizona Wildcats. The PAC-12 team finished the month with a perfect 4-0 record and moved up to #9 in the Associated Press and USA Today Coaches Polls.

The Cats kicked off the 2012-13 nonconference schedule with an 82-73 victory over Charleston Southern. Xavier transfer Mark Lyons led the way for Arizona scoring 15 of his 17 points in the second half. Solomon Hill chipped in 14 points en route to the Cats first victory of the year.

Arizona improved its record to 2-0 four days later when they defeated Tim Floyd's UTEP squad. The Miners and Wildcats played in the same conference from 1935-78, though hadn't played against each other since 1995. Mark Lyons led the way again for Arizona with 17 points as Miller's team outrebounded its opponent by 20.

Long Beach State traveled to McKale the following week looking to take down the #9 Wildcats. Arizona's strong interior proved to be too much for Coach Don Munson's squad. Freshman Brandon Ashley finished with an almost perfect night in his first college start, leading the Wildcats to a 94-72 win. Ashley shot 6-6 from the field and was 8-9 from the free throw line. Coach Miller praised the young power forward's performance, "You want to reward players that are working hard and doing

it everyday. You get 20 points and 10 rebounds in 24 minutes, he was the best player on the court tonight."



The Cats closed the month of November with a dominating 93-50 win over Northern Arizona University and first year head coach Jack Murphy. NAU was within 13 at halftime, but any hope for the Lumberjacks was squandered quick as Arizona outscored its northern rival by 30 in the second half. Mark Lyons continued his strong November campaign with 18 points on 5-8 shooting.

Arizona will take its unblemished record to Texas Tech on Saturday.

November Recap

11/11/12: #12 Arizona - 82
Charleston Southern - 73

11/15/12: #12 Arizona - 72
UTEP - 51

11/19/12: #10 Arizona - 94
Long Beach State - 72

11/28/12: #9 Arizona - 93
NAU - 50

Early Attention for Arizona's Lyons & Hill

Arizona men's basketball player Mark Lyons has been named to the 2012-13 Naismith Trophy early season watch list, announced by the Atlanta Tipoff Club.

The list is comprised of 50 student-athletes who, based on performance from the previous year and expectations for 2012-13, are under consideration for college basketball's player-of-the-year award. Lyons is one of three Pac-12 Conference players on the list.

In February, the Atlanta Tipoff Club's Board of Selectors will compile a midseason team of the nation's top-30 players. Then in March, the Naismith Trophy voting academy will narrow the list to four finalists. The Naismith Men's College Player of the Year presented by AT&T will be awarded on April 7, 2013, in Atlanta, the site of this season's NCAA Final Four.

Solomon Hill has also been named to a preseason watch list - the John R. Wooden Award Preseason Top-50. The list is comprised of 50 student-athletes who, based on last year's individual performance and team records, are under consideration for college basketball's player-of-the-year award.

Like Lyons, Hill is coming off of a strong 2011-12 campaign in which he ranked 16th in the Pac-12 Conference in scoring, second in rebounding and 13th in field goal percentage. Hill was a first-team all-conference and NABC all-District 20 selection.

In March, the National Ballot, consisting of approximately 20 top players who have proven to their universities that they are also making progress toward graduation and maintaining a cumulative 2.0 GPA, will go out to voters to select the winner, as well as the Wooden Award All-America team.

- Arizona Athletics

Player Spotlight: #3 Kevin Parrom

A winner of the 2012 Wilma Rudolph Award from the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics, honoring student-athletes who have overcome great personal, academic, and/or emotional odds to achieve academic success while participating in intercollegiate athletics, Kevin Parrom is looking to build on a tough 2011-12 season. Parrom was shot on September 23, 2011 in New York City, experienced the loss of both his grandmother and mother, and broke his foot in January.

Despite last season's hardships, the 6'6" 215 lb small forward has displayed incredible perseverance and dedication that has shown on the court in the first four games of the 2012-13 season. Parrom averaged 9 points, 3 assists, and 3 rebounds per game during November on 69% shooting. The New York native scored a season high 15 points on a perfect 5-5 ratio from 3 against Long Beach State on November 19, 2012.

Parrom will continue to be called upon as one of Miller's key contributors off the bench. He is on track to graduate in May.

- Arizona Athletics



Arizona to be Challenged in December

After finishing November with a perfect 4-0 record, Arizona will face a challenging December. The schedule includes Arizona's first road test when the Cats must travel to Lubbock, Texas to face off against Texas Tech December 1st. The Red Raiders will enter the game with an equally impressive 4-0 record. Interim Head coach Chris Walker's squad is averaging an impressive 89 points per game while shooting the 6th best 2PT FG% in the country. Just 3 days later, game action returns to the McKale Center as the Southern Miss Golden Eagles will conclude a 2 game west coast trip that also includes a matchup against the Aggies of New Mexico State December 1st.



There won't be much time for rest for the Miller's team as they will have to journey across the country to Clemson, South Carolina to face the ACC foe on December 8th. As of 12/1/12 Clemson stood at 4-2 with its only losses to the highly ranked Bulldogs from Gonzaga and a tough Purdue team. Clemson has outscored its opponents 277-191 in its first four wins.

The Cats will then have a week in between to prepare for undoubtedly the highest profile game of their nonconference schedule - the University of Florida. Arizona dropped an overtime thriller in Gainesville a year ago behind a strong performance off the bench by Kevin Parrom. At the time of publication, both Arizona and Florida were ranked in the top 10, #9 and #7 respectively.

Oral Roberts will follow suit three days later in a hope to build their tournament resume. The December 18th game will be televised on the PAC-12 Network.

Arizona will seal the books on 2012 in Honolulu, Hawaii for the Diamond Head Classic. The field includes East Tennessee State, Miami (FL), Hawaii, Ole Miss, Indiana State, San Diego State, and San Francisco. The Cats will open the tournament against East Tennessee State on December 22nd and will play against either Miami or Hawaii the next day. The Championship game is scheduled for Christmas Day and will be available across the country on ESPN2.



Cats Ink 2 Recruits



Sean Miller announced Thursday that Rondae Jefferson and Elliott Pitts have signed National Letters-of-Intent to attend the school and play basketball. The duo is expected to enroll in July.

Jefferson, a 6-foot-7, 215-pound small forward from Chester, Pa., is ranked as the No. 4 small forward by espn.com. He is rated as the No. 19 overall prospect in the Class of 2013 by rivals.com. Jefferson, who currently preps at Chester High School, averaged 12.1 points and 9.2 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 2.7 blocked shots per game as a junior.

Jefferson was a member of USA Basketball's U-17 squad that competed in the 2012 World Championships in Lithuania, but did not compete due to injury. He was also a member of the USA Basketball 3-of-3 FIBA Boys Youth World Championship squad that finished in seventh place in 2011.

Pitts, a 6-foot-5, 180-pound guard from Dublin, Calif., is ranked as the No. 23 shooting guard by espn.com. He is rated as the No. 91 overall prospect in the espn.com Class of 2013. Pitts, who preps at De La Salle High School, averaged 16.0 points, 6.8 rebounds and 4.0 assists per game as a junior, leading the Spartans to a 28-3 record and berth in the CIF Division I Northern Regional semifinals.

"From the storied De La Salle program, Elliott has been a central piece to their recent success. He's a great passer and a very skilled shooter who is going to continue to grow and develop physically. As he develops, his skill level and incredible work ethic will allow him to contribute at a number of positions for us."

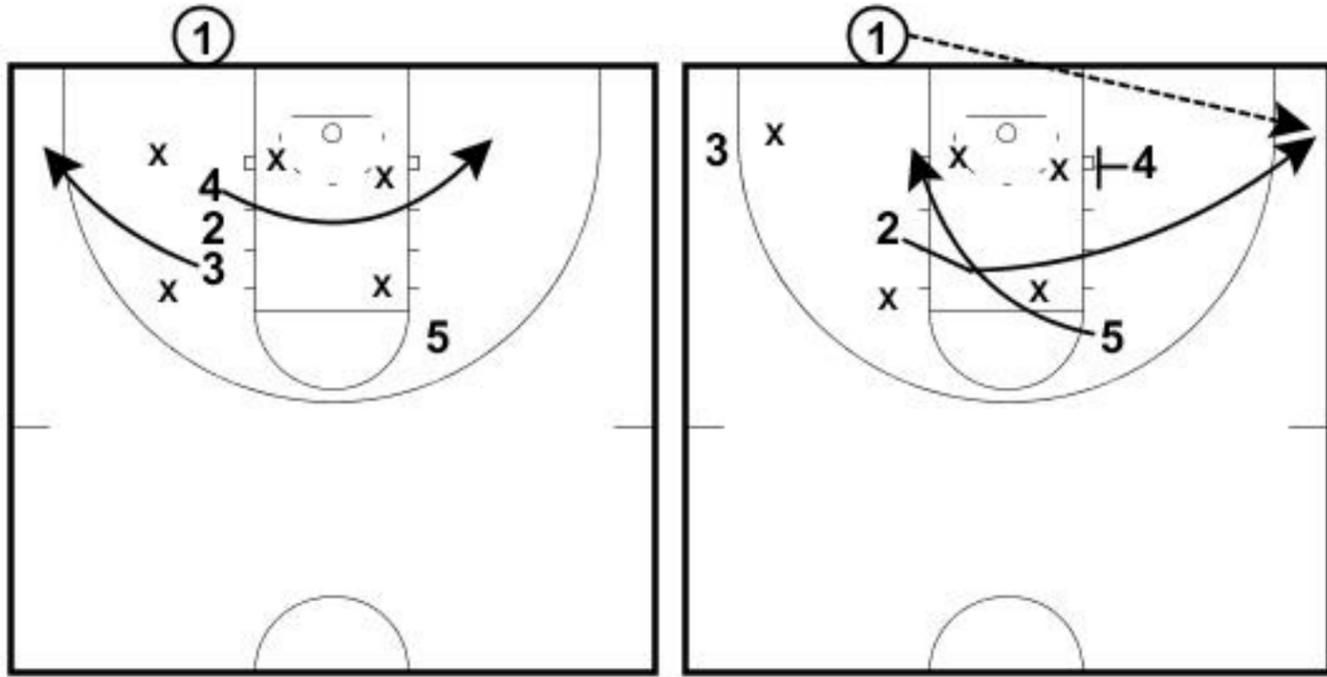
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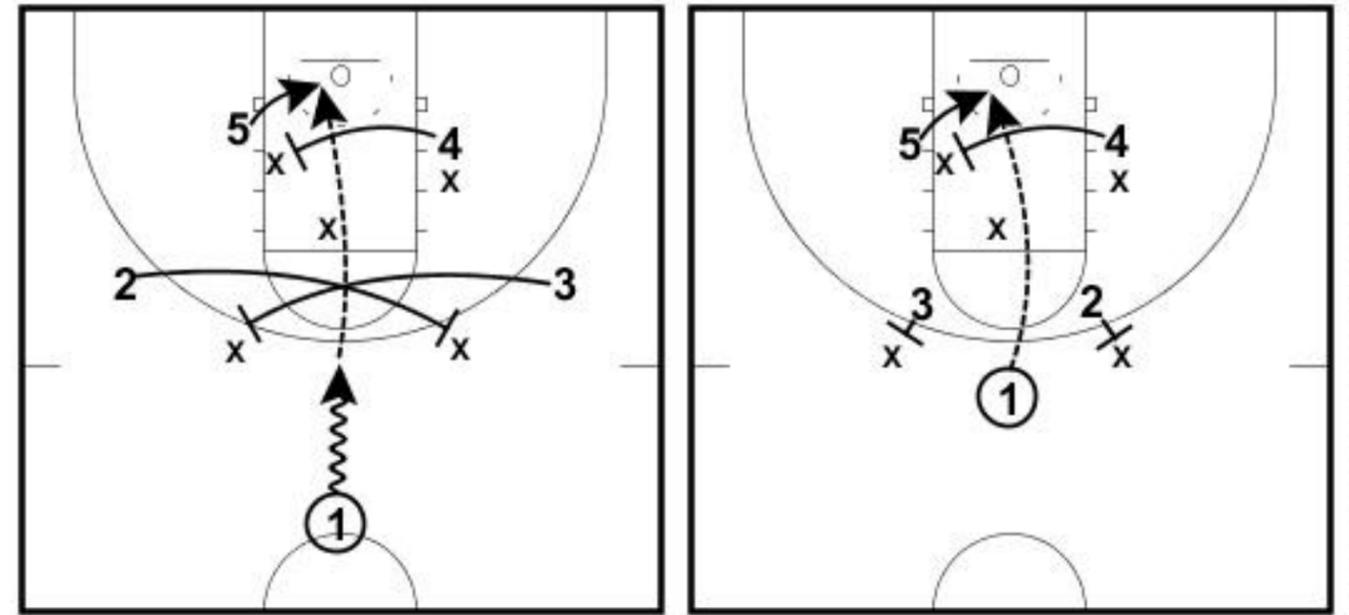
PAST CURRENT FUTURE



BLOB VS ZONE



LOB VS ZONE



BOX SET STS



2 CLEAR OUT



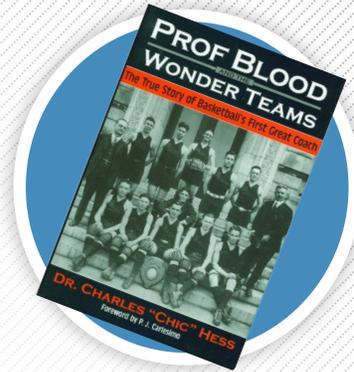
BOOK OF THE MONTH:

“Professor Blood and The Wonder Teams”

By: Charles “Chic” Hess, Ed. D.

Finally-The Story of Basketball’s First Great Coach

Since the birth of basketball in the YMCA’s of New England at the dawn of the 20th century, the game has known many great coaches. Each makes his own contributions to the sport, others learn from his successes and build on what they’ve learned to make their own mark on the game. However, there was a time when there was no one to learn from, no successes to emulate.



Someone had to be first.

When basketball was in its infancy, many men saw the sport’s potential for building physical fitness and good character in young men. But one man possessed the rare combination of skill, passion and charisma that came together in unique circumstances to produce basketball’s first great coach. Ernest Blood developed a system of training boys that dominated basketball in a way like none other before or since. Affectionately called Professor Blood-or “Prof” Blood for short-the game’s first coaching phenom amassed a mind-boggling 159-game win streak spanning five years with his teams at New Jersey’s Passaic High School. It was no wonder his teams were dubbed the “Wonder Teams.”

Like many transcendent success stories, this one is rife with controversy and adversity, jealousy, and battles of wills. At the heart of it all, though, you will find a coach whose greatness is not merely measured by his extraordinary record, but also by his deep love of the game, unquestionable values and a desire to help boys become men of integrity and honor.

This is his story.

‘Did You Know?’

Solomon Hill became the 47th player in Arizona history to score 1,000 or more career points with his 15 points November 19th vs. Long Beach State.



Quotation of the Month

“There are only two options regarding commitment; you’re either in or you’re out. There’s no such thing as life in between.”

- Pat Riley

