



Wittenberg University Women's Basketball

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Tigers host Kenyon for key NCAC game

Wittenberg University (13-4, 8-1 NCAC) at Kenyon College (10-7, 6-4 NCAC)

Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2002 • 7:30 p.m. • HPER Center (Cap. 3,000)

<u>Probable KC Starters:</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>PPG</u>	<u>RPG</u>	<u>APG</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
G Sarah Fox	Sr.	5-9	16.2	4.9	3.1	Bend, Ore./West Linn
G Erin O'Neill	Sr.	5-4	9.9	2.8	3.1	Maumee, Ohio/Toledo St. Ursula
G Eileen Wittman	Jr.	5-9	4.0	3.6	0.9	Cleveland Heights, Ohio/Beaumont
F Lauren Camp	Jr.	5-9	8.1	5.4	0.6	Westerville, Ohio/Olentangy
F Beth Lye	Jr.	5-11	7.6	4.6	0.9	Taylor Mill, Ky./Scott

<u>Probable WU Starters:</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>PPG</u>	<u>RPG</u>	<u>APG</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
G Meghan Gaydos	Sr.	5-5	3.9	1.4	1.6	Concord, Ohio/Mentor Lake Catholic
G Stephanie Campbell	Jr.	5-7	12.2	4.1	2.5	South Charleston, Ohio/Southeastern
G Kate Rolf	Jr.	5-7	14.2	5.4	2.4	Ft. Wayne, Ind./Carroll
F Jill Swary	Sr.	5-10	4.1	3.4	0.5	Columbus, Ohio/Grandview
F Tiffany Keller	Jr.	5-10	9.4	4.0	0.7	Massillon, Ohio/Tuslaw

SETTING THE SCENE:

The Wittenberg University Tigers are back at home tonight and back in first place in the North Coast Athletic Conference after last Saturday's hard-fought 66-60 victory over defending conference titlist Ohio Wesleyan. The Tigers, sporting a 13-4 overall record and a mark of 8-1 in the NCAC, have no time to rest, however, as the Kenyon Ladies come calling. The 2000 NCAC tournament champions are 10-7 overall and 6-4 in the league, including a 66-58 loss at home against Wittenberg on Jan. 16.

The Tigers have played well against a difficult schedule, losing only to nationally ranked Wisconsin-Oshkosh by 12 points, nationally ranked Capital on the road by six, perennial powerhouse Defiance on the road by five and defending NCAC titlist Ohio Wesleyan on the road by two. Since the last loss, the Tigers have rebounded to win four straight games, matching a season-long win streak.

Wittenberg is led by junior guard **Kate Rolf**, who tops the team in scoring for a second straight year with a 14.2 points per game average. Rolf also paces the balanced team — 12 players are averaging at least 10 minutes per game — in rebounds with 5.4. She is followed closely by sophomore forward **Geri Woessner** with 5.2 rebounds per game for a team that is topping its opponents by nearly 10 boards per game.

The hottest player on the team right now is junior forward **Tiffany Keller**, who has scored in double figures eight straight games, dating back to the Kiwanis-Wittenberg Holiday Classic title game victory over Marian (Ind.). Included in that streak are a pair of double-double outings, including a 16-point, 13-rebound effort against Kenyon on Jan. 16.

Kenyon is not a team to be taken lightly, as the Tigers discovered in their narrow victory over the Ladies on Jan. 16. In that game, Wittenberg

had to rally from a three-point deficit midway through the second half.

Kenyon is fourth in the NCAC, but has a road win over OWU already under its belt. The Ladies are a balanced, low-scoring team that averages just 62.8 points per game (eighth in the NCAC, compared to first-place Wittenberg at 74.8). Senior guard Sarah Fox leads the team in scoring with 16.2 points per game — she is the only double-figure scorer the Ladies have and she ranks sixth in the NCAC in scoring.

THE COACHES:

A 1982 Wittenberg graduate, **Pam Smith** is in her 16th season as the Tigers' head coach with a record of 293-127 (.698), all with her alma mater. Smith's teams have made six NCAA Division III tournament appearances and have won seven NCAC regular season titles and five NCAC tournament championships to her credit. She has been named NCAC Coach of the Year three times (1991, '92 and '95) and Converse District Coach of the Year in 1993.

Joining her on the sidelines tonight is Kenyon Head Coach **Suzanne Helfant**, who has guided the Ladies to a 112-62 record in seven years at the helm. Her career record, including three years at Marietta, is 146-105.

TOUGH AT HOME:

The Wittenberg men's basketball program is known for its prowess at home, but the women's team has put away all challengers this season as well. While the men have one home loss in 2001-02, the Tiger women are a perfect 9-0 in the HPER Center, including a 5-0 mark in NCAC action.

MILESTONES:

Tiffany Keller topped the 500-point mark

for her career against Ohio Wesleyan. She is currently at 509 for her career...**Kate Rolf** scored point No. 700 in her career earlier this season at Wooster. She currently stands at 720 points for her career...Head Coach **Pam Smith** has 293 career wins. With seven regular season games and at least one NCAC tournament game remaining, Smith has an outside chance of reaching that historic plateau this year. No other coach in Wittenberg history has won more than 50 games in a career.

RADIO:

WBLY (AM 1600) carries selected Wittenberg women's basketball games during the season, with **Scott Leo** calling the action. He will be on hand for today's game.

TELEVISION:

The WBLY broadcast can also be heard and seen on tape delay. Tonight's game will be broadcast on Time Warner Cable in the Dayton area — at 10:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 31; at 10 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 5; and at 10:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7. The game can be found on Time Warner Cable systems on channel 25 or 69 in Dayton, channel 30 in the Dayton suburbs and in Springfield, and channel 59 in communities further north. Subscribers are encouraged to check their local listings.

ON THE WEB:

Wittenberg's World Wide Web site offers up-to-date information on all Tiger athletic teams. Scores, results, statistics, news releases and boxscores are available by visiting Wittenberg's athletics home page www5.wittenberg.edu/news/athletics. Wittenberg also offers Internet broadcasts of various sporting events carried by WBLY. Just click on www5.wittenberg.edu/news/athletics/broadcast.shtml.