

## SCOTS READY FOR CHALLENGE IN 1991-92

When Edinboro University packed its bags for Christmas vacation a year ago, there were several questions left unanswered. Could a struggling team with three early season road losses compete in the PSAC? What the Scots did was more than merely compete.

The Fighting Scots showed that a team with early setbacks could pull together. "Our guys did a great job of coming together," said third year coach Greg Walcavich. "They never doubted each other. We came back in January and started all over."

Walcavich's club may not be so fortunate this year to be able to catch a second wind in January. This is due to a very strong first half schedule that features Bloomsburg (last year's top finisher in the PSAC East) along with two of the best teams in the West Virginia Conference (Salem-Teikyo and West Virginia Tech) in the Edinboro tournament. The road will not get any easier for Walcavich's club. "We have a rigorous schedule," commented Walcavich. "We could have an outstanding basketball team and not win 18 games. We may be competing for a league playoff spot with a lackluster record."

The Plaid finished the 1990-91 campaign at 18-10 overall and 8-4 in the PSAC with no less than six league games decided at the buzzer. "We won a number of close games (last year)," Walcavich noted. "Out of twelve league games, six were decided on the last shot. We hit four of them, we were four shots away from being 4-8 or 10-2."

Edinboro will have some big shoes to fill in the '91-92 season. The Scots will be without the services of 6-5 forward Sterling Washington, last year's leading scorer and rebounder (17.1 ppg, 8.5 rpg); 5-11 guard Mark Murdock (12.6 ppg) and 6-8 power forward John Mohre (6.9 ppg), all due to graduation. If those losses weren't tough enough for the Scots' mentor, things got worse with the news that Sean Gibson, this year's leading returning scorer at 14.4 ppg, will not return to school.

Derek Walton, a 5-9 senior guard will be the nucleus to build around in the backcourt for Walcavich. Walton averaged 12.6 points and 4.4 assists per game a year ago. "We will certainly look forward to a good year from Derek," commented Walcavich. "He did a real nice job for us last year."

The team leader for the 1991-92 campaign will be 6-5 senior forward Aaron Brown, the PSAC "Rookie of the Year" in 1988-89 who averaged 9.7 points per game last year. Brown will likely end his career on the top 15 all-time scorers list at Edinboro. He needs just 194 points to reach the milestone. "Aaron was here before me," noted Walcavich. "I anticipate him being one of the best players we'll have this year, he'll really do well."

Also returning from last year's squad are sophomore forward Torry Rollins, junior forward Sam Dickerson, junior guard Greg Fox, and sophomore guards Ron Santiago and Carlos Peterson.

Rollins played in 24 games for the Scots last year, averaged 5.3 points and 3.6 rebounds. He shot 49.6 percent from the floor while making 72 percent of his free throws.

Dickerson played in 23 games, averaging 4.3 points and 2.5 rebounds per game last year as a sophomore, including 8 rebounds in a win at Lock Haven.

Santiago only averaged 2.5 points per game but did play in 26 games last year as a freshman.

Fox played in 20 games last year and connected on 8 of his 18 field goal attempts.

Newcomers for the upcoming year will include forwards Keith Perry, Price Williams, Marc Pope and Xavier Zollicoffer.

Perry, a 6-4 forward, averaged 22.5 points, 12 rebounds and 2 blocks per game for Wilbur Trosch at West Mifflin High School. He scored over 1,200 points in his high school career.

Williams is a 6-4, 185 pound junior college transfer from Prince George's Community College in the Washington, D.C., area and was a junior college All-American on the nation's number four ranked JC squad.

Pope, a 6-6, 205 pound transfer from Cuyahoga Community College, averaged 10 points and 11 rebounds per game. He was a three-year letterman for Doc Daugherty at Euclid High School, averaging 15 points and 10 rebounds per outing.

Zollicoffer, a 6-3, 210 pound sophomore, played at Canton McKinley (OH) Senior High School where he led his team to a state championship with a 27-1 record.

Junior Simpson, a 6-9, 215 pound forward was a redshirt last year and should see action at the forward/center position. Simpson gives the Scots a solid defensive performer on the inside, something the squad has needed for years.

Adam Cheek, a 6-2 junior and Walter Reap, a 6-1 junior are the newcomers at the guard spot.

Cheek averaged 12.5 points and 5.2 rebounds per game at Ballard High School in Louisville, KY. He also dished out 2.5 assists and had 2.3 steals per game for the Bruins.

Reap is a transfer from Cuyahoga Community College where he received All-Conference honors in both years. He is from Atlanta, GA, and played under Coach Mark Osina at C. E. Ellison High School in Texas, where he averaged 20 points and 6 assists per game. He was named to the All-District and All-Central Texas teams as a senior.

The Scots will begin their annual tournament in McComb Fieldhouse on November 22. In this year's tournament the Plaid will battle Bloomsburg, West Virginia Tech and Salem-Teikyo for the title.



EDINBORO UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER 1991-92  
 HEAD COACH GREG WALCAVICH (3RD YEAR 40-15)

<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>YR</u>	<u>HOMETOWN/HIGH SCHOOL</u>
4	DEREK WALTON	G	5-9	SR	EUCLID, OH/EUCLID
14	KEITH PERRY	F	6-4	FR	WEST MIFFLIN, PA/WEST MIFFLIN
20	LASANA CRIDER	F	6-7	SO	OAKWOOD VILLAGE, OH/CHANEL
24	RON SANTIAGO	G	5-10	SO	OAKVILLE, ONTARIO/LOYOLA
25	WALTER REAP	G	6-1	JR	ATLANTA, GA/C.E. ELLISON(TX)
30	EXAVIER ZOLLOCOFFER	F	6-3	SO	CANTON, OH/MCKINLEY
31	PRICE WILLIAMS	F	6-4	JR	WASHINGTON D.C./BALLOU
32	GREG FOX	G	6-0	JR	APOLLO, PA/APOLLO
33	SAM DICKERSON	F	6-6	JR	BEDFORD HTS., OH/BEDFORD HTS.
34	AARON BROWN	F	6-5	SR	ROCHESTER, NY/EAST
42	ADAM CHEEK	G	6-2	JR	LOUISVILLE, KY/BALLARD
44	TORRY ROLLINS	F	6-4	JR	BEDFORD HTS., OH/BEDFORD HTS.
45	MARC POPE	F	6-6	JR	E.CLEVELAND, OH/EUCLID
50	JUNIOR SIMPSON	F	6-9	JR	BARBERTON, OH/BARBERTON

ASST COACH: TIM SMILEY      MANAGER: JOE NASAL      TRAINER: GEORGE ROBERTS

AAU SQUAD- CLEVELAND, OH  
 COACHES: FREEMAN BLADE JR. & DEAMETRIUS ST JOHN

6	JEFF PRIAH	F	6-5	CANISIUS COLLEGE ('90)
14	CLEERY STEWART	C	7-0	DYKE COLLEGE (86)
3	MELVIN L. BURKE	G	5-8	DYKE COLLEGE
4	JOSE DAVIS	G	5-11	EDINBORO UNIVERSITY (88)
10	DERRICK RUSSELL	F	6-8	CANISIUS COLLEGE (86)
11	VINCE JOHNSON	F	6-5	HARTFORD COLLEGE (87)
9	KEVIN ARMSTRONG	F	6-6	ST. AUGUSTINE (90)
8	DESMOND PORTER	G	6-3	CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY (91)
15	PHILIP HUBBARD	F	6-8	UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
7	RICHARD RUSSELL	F	6-7	YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
5	LEONARD WALTOWER	G	6-4	DYKE COLLEGE (81)