

currently


**21°F**  
Clear

tomorrow


 High **47°F**  
Low **29°F**
forecast provided by  wunderground.com
[HOME](#) | [NEWS](#) | [OPINION](#) | [SPORTS](#) | [FEATURES](#) | [OBITUARIES](#) | [CLASSIFIEDS](#) | [SUBSCRIBE](#) | [SERVICES](#)

Welcome to the DNR Archives!

[Return to Search | Home](#)

Search...

Archives

GO!

## ARCHIVE NEWS ARTICLE

[Back to Search Results](#) | [Printer Friendly Version](#)

### Daily News-Record (Harrisonburg, VA)

December 9, 2011

Page: C1

## BC, EMU Show Youth But Eagles Doing Well On Defense

MIKE BARBER, Daily News-Record

HARRISONBURG - For Don Burgess, coaching his inexperienced Bridgewater College basketball team has been a lot like rifling through a box of Cracker Jack looking for the prize. Sometimes, you're happy with what you find. Sometimes, you're disappointed.

"Each day, you open up a can and you don't know what's going to pop out," Burgess said Thursday.

The young Eagles are 3-2 this year and - except for a bit of a meltdown in a 93-78 road loss to Averett - have been much improved on defense. BC is giving up just 64 points per game, the fourth lowest total in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference, as it prepares to host two days of basketball at the 25th annual Don Glick Classic, named for the former Rockingham County educator and coach.

The Eagles play Johnson & Wales (0-11) at 8 p.m. in the second game today at Nininger Hall. Before that, Eastern Mennonite (2-5) takes on Bluefield College (6-7) at 6 p.m.

Saturday, EMU plays Johnson & Wales at 2 p.m. and Bridgewater faces Bluefield at 4 p.m.

Oddly enough, BC has already played Johnson & Wales this season, on Nov. 19 as part of the Hilton Garden Inn Classic in Greensboro, N.C. The Eagles cruised to an 85-41 win behind 14 points each from Ronnie Thomas and Kenneth Waugh. Former Spotswood High School standout Kevin Jones led the Wildcats with 12 points and seven rebounds.

In all three of BC's wins this year, it has held opponents to 64 points or fewer.

Offensively, Bridgewater is getting 16.6 points per game from senior guard Cody Griffith, who leads the team in scoring, minutes (31 per game), 3-pointers (12) and steals (10).

Griffith is getting help from a pair of younger players. Sophomore guard Ronnie Thomas (11.6 ppg) and freshman forward Aaron Adams (10.6 ppg.) are also in double figures.

Eastern Mennonite is equally young and has a balanced offensive attack. The Royals' struggles have come on the defensive end of the floor.

EMU has been led by sophomore R.J. Sims (14 points per game) and junior Andrew Thorne (13.3 ppg). They've also gotten scoring from junior Owen Longacre (9.6 ppg), sophomore Adam Burroughs (9.4 ppg), freshman David Falk (8.7 ppg) and sophomore Dajon Daniel (8.4 ppg).

The Royals - who have lost three straight and five of their last six games - are fourth in the ODAC in scoring, putting up 77.7 points per game, but last in the 11-team league in defense, giving up 82.3 points a night.

"If you told me we'd come back with this many new kids and new faces, I thought we'd struggle to score that many points," Dean said Thursday. "We've been able to score points. Defensively is where we've struggled. We haven't been able to get stops."

EMU has gotten important minutes from Falk and fellow freshmen Ryan Yates and James Williams through the first seven games, something the team needed because of the high-energy, fast-paced style Dean employs.

"It's crucial and we knew that coming in," Dean said. "I just need them to continue to improve."

Both out-of-the-area teams in the Glick have Spotswood graduates on their rosters. Freshman forward Tucker Hobbie plays for Bluefield. Bluefield is coached by former University of Virginia basketball player Richard Morgan.

Admission is free for fans who donate an item of canned food. Last year, Burgess said, BC collected enough canned

goods to help feed 100 area families, and he hopes to top that number this season.

"This is the 25th year of the Don Glick Classic," said Burgess, who is 4-2 in Glick games at BC. "He impacted a lot of lives in the community. It's something that was going on for a long time before I came to coach here. It's something that means a lot to the college and the community here."

*Copyright (c) 2011, Byrd Newspapers, All Rights Reserved.*