Men's Basketball Season Preview

The Elmhurst College men's basketball team enters the 2004-05 season ready to put last season's 11-14 overall record behind them.

"We were definitely disappointed with the final results from last season," said Head Coach Mark Scherer. "We had an impressive non-conference start, but struggled in conference games. We know that we need to regain a consistent level of performance. Our first priority is to develop into a team that can consistently challenge for a top spot in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW)."

The Bluejays return eight letter winners from the 2003-04 squad, including three starters. Scherer is confident that the experience the team gained last year will pay off in the upcoming season.

"We want to be known as a team that makes great decisions on the court. Teams in this conference win by making senior leadership decisions and that is what escaped us last year. I feel that our players are much better decision-makers now. We have more players who understand our system and how teams win in the CCIW."

Scherer doesn't have to look far to find a player to be the on-court leader. Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) returns to the Bluejays after leading the CCIW in both scoring and rebounding, earning first-team All-CCIW honors in the process. Martin averaged 19.4 points per game and 9.9 rebounds per game.

"Our leadership clearly starts with Chris," said Scherer. "He is an extremely competitive player who plays a tough hard-nosed style and makes good decisions on the court."

Along with Martin, Scherer will have several returning players in the front court.

Adam Abdul-Haqq (Bangor, Mich.-H.S.), Nick Michael (West Chicago- H.S.) and Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) give the Bluejays three experienced players in the post. Michael averaged eight points per game as a freshman, while Abdul-Haqq and Trierweiler both saw starting time.

"Nick had a strong non-conference season last year," said Scherer. "We're expecting that to carry over into conference play this year. He's also grown a few inches and put on 20 pounds in the off season. Adam is another good decision-maker on the court who can be explosive at times. He can also be a ferocious rebounder. Patrick proved last season he can be a very strong low post scorer. He's worked very hard at trying to round out all areas of his game."

The Bluejays will have added depth with the healthy returns of Andrew Mohney (Huntley-H.S.) and Lafeyette Bell (Glen Ellyn-Glenbard West). Both battled injuries for the majority of last season.

"If Andrew and Lafeyette can both get healthy and stay that way, then I expect both of them to have an impact this season," said Scherer.

At the point guard, Scherer will look to returners Brian Lee (Orland Park-Sandburg) and Craig Schau (Cassapolis, Mich.-Dowagiac). Both saw significant playing time in 2003-04.

"Brian and Craig have a year of experience under their belt," said Scherer. "They give us a pair of defensive stoppers who can hold their own in this league."

For the first time in several seasons, the Bluejays have competition at the shooting guard. Elmhurst has three players who will battle for playing time. Returners Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) and Chris Ihlenfeldt (Gurnee-Warren) both saw playing time last season. Dave Gershenzan (Glenview-Glenbrook South), a transfer from UW-Oshkosh will also figure into the mix. Gershenzan was an all-state selection in high school and played in all of UW-Oshkosh's games last year.
“We have three players all competing for time at our two-guard,” said Scherer. “Chris and Evan have both worked their way up through our program. Evan had some very impressive games last season and Chris is a very steady performer who the team has faith in. I expect that Dave will make an impact on this team as well. He’s an all-around athlete who’s a good shooter and has experience in a league that is similar to the CCIW in terms of competition.”

Scherer is also excited about the additional depth the team has.

“We’re looking for good things from Jay Brizzolara (Arlington Heights-Hersey) and our 2004 recruiting class,” he said. “We’re excited to have Joe Babiarz (Crystal Lake-Prairie Ridge) with our team and we’re expecting great things in the future from Jared Hintzsche (Kirkland-Hiawatha), who played for former Elmhurst assistant coach Bill Heisler in high school.

On the whole, Scherer feels that he has a squad can re-establish itself in the highly competitive CCIW.

“We were certainly humbled by our play last season,” said Scherer. “But this team is hungry and eager to prove themselves to the rest of the league that they can be a major factor in conference play.”

The Bluejays kick off the season on November 19, 2004 when they play Rose-Hulman Institute at the Embry Riddle Tournament in Daytona Beach, Fla.

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**Men's Hoops Team Wins Opener**

ELMHURST, Ill., November 19, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team won its opening game of the season by defeating the Rose-Hulman Institute 50-49 in the first round of the Embry-Riddle Tournament in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Both teams struggled in the first half as the teams went into the locker rooms at halftime with the score tied at 19-19. Elmhurst shot 8-of-27 in the half (29.6 percent) while Rose-Hulman hit 8-of-22 in the half (36 percent).

Both teams picked up the pace in the second half as the Bluejays shot 48 percent to Rose-Hulman's 40 percent. Elmhurst had built a late three-point lead but led 50-49 with under a minute to play. Rose-Hulman forced the Bluejays to fire off a last second shot to beat the shot clock. With 10 seconds left the Fighthin' Engineers ran downfloor and fired off a shot that fell short.

David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) made an impressive debut for the Bluejays. He scored 16 of his game-high 21 points in the second half to pace Elmhurst. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) added 13 points and five rebounds while Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) chipped in nine points and six rebounds. Only six Bluejays scored in the game.

Elmhurst will face Embry-Riddle University in the tournament title game on Saturday, November 20, at 8:00 p.m.

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**Men's Hoops Team Downs Embry-Riddle**

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., November 20, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team improved to 2-0 on the season by defeating NAIA opponent Embry-Riddle University 70-67, winning the Embry-Riddle Tournament in the process.

The first half featured six ties and six lead changes as the two teams traded buckets in the early going. A three-pointer right before the half by Jake Pickett, sent Embry-Riddle into the locker room with a 30-25 lead.

The two teams continued the back and forth pace in the second half as the score became tied nine times in the second half. With the score knotted at 61-61 with 2:39 to play, Elmhurst took the lead for good on an Evan
Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) three-pointer. A jumper by Patchett with 1:32 to play gave Elmhurst a five-point advantage. A bucket by Nick Miller and a foul allowed Embry-Riddle to pull to within two points with 1:09 to play. Elmhurst responded when David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbard South) buried his fourth long-range bomb of the game to put Elmhurst up by five with 39 seconds to play. An Elmhurst foul on a three-point attempt sent Ryan Exter to the line for Embry-Riddle with 15 seconds left. Exter hit all three shots to bring Embry-Riddle to within two points. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) was fouled on the inbounds play and he made one free throw to give Elmhurst a 70-67 lead. A last second three-point attempt from Embry-Riddle fell short, giving the Bluejays the win.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 44.6 percent (29-of-65) from the floor and 50 percent (8-of-16) from three point range. The Bluejays spent most of the night in foul trouble as Elmhurst was whistled for 30 fouls to Embry-Riddle's 14. Embry-Riddle also outrebounded Elmhurst 44-33.

Gershenzon continued his hot start to the season, leading the Bluejays with 20 points of the bench, earning tournament MVP honors in the process. Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) joined him on the all-tournament team, finishing with 13 points and 10 rebounds, despite playing in just 17 minutes due to foul trouble. Patchett added 13 points and Michael finished with nine in the win for the Bluejays.

Elmhurst will open up their home season on Tuesday, November 23, when they face Hope College at 7:30 p.m.

Gershenzon Named Player of the Week

ELMHURST, Ill., November 23, 2004 -- Elmhurst College guard David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) has been selected as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin’s (CCIW) Player of the Week for the opening week of the 2004-05 basketball season.

Gershenzon helped lead the men’s basketball team to a pair of wins and the tournament title at the Embry-Riddle University Tournament. Gershenzon, a junior transfer, came off the bench to be named the tournament’s MVP after pouring in over 20 points each game. On Friday, he dropped in 21 points, including 16 points in the second half in Elmhurst's 50-49 win over Rose-Hulman. He shot 9-of-15 from the floor (60 percent) including 3-of-5 from three-point range. He also had four rebounds. On Saturday, Gershenzon poured in 20 points in the Bluejays’ 71-68 win over Embry-Riddle. He shot 8-of-16 from the floor, including 4-of-6 from downtown. He also pulled down two rebounds. He finished the tournament with 41 points on 17-of-31 (55 percent) shooting 7-of-13 (54 percent) from three-point range.

Gershenzon is in his first season with the Bluejays after spending the last two seasons at UW-Oshkosh where he appeared in 40 games, including all 27 games last season. He averaged 6.6 points per game during the 2003-2004 season.

Gershenzon was a three-year varsity letter winner and starter at Glenbrook South High School. He was selected to the all-conference and all-area teams during both his junior and senior years when he was also selected as the team MVP. He was also named to the all-tournament team at the Fenton High School Tournament during his final two seasons at Glenbrook South. During his senior year, Gershenzon led the conference in scoring while being named to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association All-State team. He finished his career as the third all-time leading scorer at Glenbrook South.

The men’s basketball team travels to Wisconsin Lutheran College on Thursday, December 2, before hosting Blackburn College on December 4.

Men's Hoops Team Downs Hope 75-67

Boxscore
ELMHURST, Ill., November 23, 2004 - Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) scored 26 points and grabbed nine rebounds to lead the Elmhurst College men's basketball team to a 75-67 win over Hope College. (0-1)

The Bluejays and the Flying Dutchmen slugged it out back and forth in the early going, exchanging baskets and leads. The Bluejays slowly began to build up a first half lead and took a 39-31 advantage into the locker room at halftime.

Elmhurst pushed its lead up to 14 points in the second half, before Hope closed the distance. The Flying Dutchmen got as close as two points at 54-52 with 7:47 to play. Elmhurst answered back with a 15-9 run of its own to push its lead back to eight points at 69-61 with 1:18 to play. Hope kept fighting and two straight three-pointers from Stephen Cramer brought the Dutchmen again to within two points with 32 seconds to play.

Martin sunk two free throws and then made a key steal and called time-out before falling out of bounds with 26 seconds to play. He sunk two more free three throws to give Elmhurst a six point advantage. After a missed basket by Hope, David Gershenzon hit a lay-up to give Elmhurst the 75-67 win.

Martin had a tremendous all-around game, finishing with 26 points, nine rebounds, seven assists and five steals. Gershenzon added 12 points while Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) added 10 points. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) chipped in with eight points.

Hope was led by Cramer's 24 points. Eric Voisin added 17 points and six rebounds while Greg Immink added 14 points. Only Hope's five starters scored points.

For the game, the Dutchmen shot 47 percent from the floor (25-of-53) while Elmhurst shot 55 percent (31-of-56). Hope hit 8-of-16 three-point attempts (50 percent) while the Bluejays hit 4-of-10 from three-point range (40 percent). Elmhrurst outrebounded Hope 33-26.

Elmhurst will play at Wisconsin Lutheran College on Tuesday, December 2, at 7:00 p.m.

Men's Hoops Squad Downs WLC 75-66

Boxscore

ELMHURST, Ill., December 2, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team remained undefeated on the 2004 season by defeating Wisconsin Lutheran College 75-66 in Milwaukee, Wis.

Elmhurst (4-0) jumped out to a quick 8-0 lead before Wisconsin Lutheran (1-6) got on the scoreboard. The Warriors responded with an 18-7 run to take a three-point advantage with 7:27 to play in the first half. Elmhurst answered back, retaking the lead before halftime to lead 31-26 at the break.

The two teams traded buckets in the early part of the second half, before the Warriors were able to go an a 6-0 run and take a 49-48 lead on a pair of B.J. Miller free throws with 7:50 to play. Elmhurst responded with a 19-5 run to take a 13-point lead 67-54 with 2:30 to play. The Bluejays were able to hold off the Warriors to get the 75-66 win.

Elmhurst shot 55.3 percent from the floor (26-of-47) and 46.2 percent from three-point range (6-of-13). Wisconsin Lutheran shot just 38.7 percent (24-of-62) from the field and just 5.3 percent from downtown (1-of-19). The Bluejays also outrebounded the Warriors 38-32.

Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) led the way for Elmhurst with a double-double, finishing with 22 points (8-of-11 from the floor) and 11 rebounds. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) added 12 points. Craig Schau (Cassopolis, Mich.-Dowagiac) and Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) each finished with nine points.
Wisconsin Lutheran was led by Kevin Christiansen’s 32 points on 12-of-27 shooting.

The Bluejays host Blackburn College on Saturday (December 4) at 7:30 p.m.

Men's Hoops Team Topples Blackburn

ELMHURST, Ill., December 4, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team improved to 5-0 on the season by toppling Blackburn College 71-56.

Elmhurst and Blackburn (4-2) traded baskets in the early going, before the Bluejays grabbed an 11-9 lead that they would never relinquish. Elmhurst pushed its lead to as many as 11 points in the first half and led 31-23 at halftime.

After Elmhurst had built a lead of 16 points at 48-32 in the second half, Blackburn cut the lead in half to 51-43 with 7:39 to play. That would be as close as the Beavers would come, as Elmhurst quickly increased its lead to 19 points with under a minute to play. Blackburn scored the final four points of the game for Elmhurst's 71-56 win.

Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) led the Bluejays with a game-high 20 points. Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) narrowly missed a triple-double, finishing with 14 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists. Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) added 12 points and Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) added 11 points. Chris Ihlenfeldt (Gurnee-Warren) added eight points off the bench.

Blackburn was led by 18 points from Luka Djedovic and 16 points from Nick Barnett. John Essington finished with 12 points in the loss for the Beavers.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 52.8 percent from the floor, hitting 28-of-53 shot attempts. The Bluejays hit eight out of 21 three-point attempts (38.1 percent). Blackburn shot 41.7 percent from the floor (20-of-48) and 23.5 percent from three-point range (4-of-17). Elmhurst controlled the glass, outrebounding Blackburn 36-20.

The Bluejays will play at Alma College on Wednesday, December 8, at 7:30 p.m. (EST).

Alma Hands Bluejays First Loss

ALMA, Mich., December 8, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team suffered its first loss of the 2004-05 season, falling to Alma College by a final score of 73-62. Elmhurst fell to 5-1 with the loss.

Elmhurst enjoyed a one-point halftime lead at 29-28 after shooting 47.8 percent from the floor (11-of-23). Alma (3-2 overall) hit 10-of-19 attempts in the first half, good for a 52.6 shooting percentage.

Alma turned on the offense in the second half shooting a whopping 60.9 percent (14-of-23) from the floor, including 7-of-13 from 3-point range. Elmhurst hit 13-of-30 shots in the second half (43.3 percent) and 7-of-17 3-point attempts (41.2 percent).

For the game, the Scots shot 57.1 percent (24-of-42) from the floor and 60 percent (12-of-20) from 3-point range. The Scots went to the free throw line 23 times, hitting just 13 shots (56.5 percent). Elmhurst shot 45.3 percent from the floor (24-of-53) and 12-of-30 from behind the 3-point arc. Elmhurst hit just 2-of-6 free throw attempts. The Bluejays outrebounded the Scots 31-22. Elmhurst was whistled for 20 personal fouls, while Alma was called for just seven.

Alma was led by Anthony Jones' 24 points. Greg Nelson and Jayme Fazi each added nine points for the Scots. The Alma bench outscored Elmhurst's bench 33-10 on the night.

Elmhurst will try to rebound from the loss when they host Kalamazoo College on Saturday, December 11, at 7:30 p.m.

Men's Hoops Team Drops 2nd Straight

ELMHURST, Ill., December 11, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team was unable to hold on to an 18-point first half lead and fell to Kalamazoo College 74-72. The loss drops the Bluejays to 5-2 on the season while Kalamazoo improves to 2-5.

Things looked good for Elmhurst in the first half. The team jumped out to a quick 7-0 lead and then expanded the lead to 15-2. A lay-up by Andrew Mohney (Huntley-H.S.) with 6:40 to play in the half gave Elmhurst a 31-13 advantage. Kalamazoo then adjusted their defense, playing extremely tight coverage. The Hornets were able to force a few turnovers and closed the half on a 20-9 run to cut the Bluejays lead to 40-33 at halftime.

In the first half, Elmhurst shot 62.5 percent (15-of-24) from the floor and 50 percent from 3-point range (4-of-8) while Kalamazoo shot 50 percent (11-of-22) from the floor and 40 percent (2-of-5) from beyond the 3-point arc.

In the second half, the Hornets began to chip away at the Elmhurst lead, getting as close as two points at 48-46, before Elmhurst opened its lead back to a nine-point advantage at 61-52 with 7:15 to play. The Hornets fought back and trimmed the lead to two points at 64-62. Four straight points by Elmhurst gave the Bluejays a 68-62 lead with 3:23 to play. A 3-pointer by Ryan Konwinski and a lay-up by Phillip Weaver cut the Elmhurst lead to one-point with 2:07 to play. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) had a put-back basket with 1:31 to play to give Elmhurst a three-point advantage.

Konowinski hit a clutch three to knot the score at 70-70 with 1:11 to play. A missed three pointer by the Bluejays gave Kalamazoo the ball back. Konowinski was fouled with 40 seconds to play and hit both free throws, giving the Hornets their first lead of the game. The Bluejays knotted the game with 25 seconds to play on a driving Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) lay-up. Kalamazoo brought the ball down court and played for one shot. An intended pass was deflected twice and fell into Tony Wichmann hands under the basket. Wichmann hit the game-winning lay-up for Kalamazoo with two seconds to play.

The Bluejays struggled with their shooting in the second half, hitting just 40 percent (8-of-20) of their shots from the floor and just 11.1 percent (1-of-9) from 3-point range. Kalamazoo hit 13-of-21 (61.9 percent) shots in the second half, including 4-of-5 (80 percent) from 3-point range.

For the game, the Bluejays shot 52.3 percent (23-of-44) from the floor and 29.4 percent (5-of-17) from 3-point range. Kalamazoo hit 55.8 percent of their shots (24-of-43), including 60 percent of the its 3-point attempts (6-of-10). The Bluejays won the battle of the rebounds 27-20. Both teams struggled with handling the ball, as Elmhurst turned the ball over 24 times and Kalamazoo turned the ball over 23 points.

Elmhurst was led by 25 points and eight rebounds from Martin who finished the night 7-of-12 from the floor. Michael had a strong night as well, finishing with 23 points and five boards. Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) added 12 points for the Bluejays. No other Bluejay players finished with over five points.

Kalamazoo was led by 18 points from Wichmann and 16 from Konwinski. Weaver added 10 points for the Hornets.

Elmhurst will host the Bluejay Classic Tournament on Friday (December 17) and Saturday (December 18). Elmhurst hosts Marian College (Wis.) on Friday night at 8:00 p.m.
Bluejays Hammer Marian 85-46

ELMHURST, Ill., December 17, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team hammered Marian College (Wis.) 85-46 in the opening round of the Elmhurst College Bluejay Classic Basketball Tournament. The Bluejays improved to 6-2 with the win while Marian fell to 3-6.

Elmhurst came storming out of the gate in the first half, as Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) hit three straight 3-pointers to give Elmhurst an early 9-1 lead. The Bluejays pushed their lead to a commanding 25-3 advantage with just seven minutes in the book in the first half. Marian began to trim away at the lead, closing the deficit to as close as 11 points at 33-22 with 5:24 to play in the half. Elmhurst carried a 43-28 lead into the locker rooms at halftime.

The Bluejays shot 53.6 percent from the floor (15-of-28) and a whopping 70 percent (7-of-10) from beyond the 3-point arc in the first half. Marian shot 41.7 percent (10-of-24) from the floor and just 12.5 percent (1-of-8) from 3-point range.

The Bluejays struggled in the opening minutes of the second half, unable to hit a bucket for the first 4:30 of the half. Marian cut the lead to 10 points at 43-33 before the Bluejays answered back with a 13-3 run to take a 56-36 lead with 11:05 to play. A 3-pointer by Marian cut the Bluejays' lead to 17 points, but Elmhurst put the game out of reach by scoring the next 21 straight points to take a commanding 38 point lead with 3:01 to play. Elmhurst closed out the game on a 8-7 run en route to the 85-46 win.

In the second half, Elmhurst shot 44.8 percent (13-of-29) while Marian struggled, hitting just 6-of-23 attempts (26.1 percent). For the game, the Bluejays shot 49.1 percent from the floor (28-of-57) and 58.8 percent from 3-point range (10-of-17). Marian was held to just 34 percent shooting (16-of-47) from the floor and 23.5 percent from 3-point range (4-of-17). The Bluejays controlled the glass, owning a 41-22 rebounding advantage, including a 13-4 edge on the offensive glass.

Elmhurst was led by Chris Martin's (Eureka-H.S.) 20 points and seven rebounds. He also had a team-high four assists. Patchett finished with 11 points and Jay Brizzolara (Arlington Heights-Hersey) came off the bench to net 11 points and five rebounds. David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) added seven points in the win for the Bluejays.

Marian was led by Casey Wuest's 13 points.

The Bluejays will host Carroll College (Wis.) in the championship game of the tournament tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. Carroll defeated Buffalo State College 90-54 in the first-round match-up. The consolation game between Buffalo State and Marian will begin at 2:00 p.m.

Carroll Topples Bluejays 82-58

Boxscore

ELMHURST, Ill., December 18, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team fell to 6-3 overall following an 82-58 loss to Carroll College (Wis.) in the championship game of the Elmhurst College Bluejay Classic Tournament. Carroll remained undefeated following the win, improving to 5-0.

The Bluejays fell behind early in the contest as Carroll quickly jumped out to an early advantage. With Elmhurst’s Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) on the bench in early foul trouble, Carroll was able to take a 31-19 halftime lead. The Pioneers shot 43.3 percent from the floor (13-of-30) and 28.6 percent from 3-point range (4-of-14). Elmhurst struggled with its shooting, hitting 9-of-24 shots (37.5 percent) and missing all seven 3-point attempts.
Carroll, shot the lights out in the second half, hitting 19-of-25 field goal attempts (76.0 percent), including 7-of-9 from 3-point range (77.8 percent). Elmhurst shot 48.3 percent (14-of-29) from the floor and 42 percent (3-of-7) from 3-point range in the second half.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 43.4 percent (23-of-53) from the floor and 21.4 percent (3-of-14) from 3-point range. Carroll hit 32-of-55 shots from the floor (58.2 percent) including 11-of-23 3-point attempts (47.8 percent).

Elmhurst was led by Nick Michael's (West Chicago-H.S.) 14 points. Martin added 13 points and was named to the all-tournament team. Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) and Jay Brizzolara (Arlington Heights-Hersey) added eight and seven points, respectively, off the bench.

Carroll was led by Jason Scheper's 21 points and 10 rebounds. Ben Hickethier added 20 points and nine rebounds while Nathan Drury added 15 points. James Johnson set a single-game tournament record with 12 assists. Scheper was named tournament MVP and Hickethier was also named to the all-tournament team.

The Bluejays will play host to Wisconsin-Platteville on December 30, at 7:30 p.m.

Bluejays Hold Off Platteville 66-62

ELMHURST, Ill., December 30, 2004 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team held off a second half rally by UW-Platteville to topple the visiting Pioneers 66-62. The Bluejays improved to 7-3 with the win, while the Pioneers slipped to 7-4 on the season.

Elmhurst led from start to finish, opening a big lead in the first half, while Platteville struggled. The Pioneers picked up the pace in the second half and managed to close to within two points in the games' final seconds.

The Bluejays came storming out of the gate in the first half, opening up a 9-0 lead while Platteville struggled. The Pioneers didn’t score their first points until the 13:35 mark when Brad Reitzner connected on a 3-pointer. The Bluejays responded with a 14-0 run, pushing their lead to 20 points at 23-3. Elmhurst’s biggest lead of the game came with 4:39 to play in the first half when they led by 26 points. Elmhurst held a 39-15 lead at halftime. The Bluejays shot 55.6 percent from the floor (15-of-27) and 50 percent from 3-point range (3-of-6) in the first half. Platteville hit just 5-of-22 shots (22.7 percent) including 1-of-7 (14.3 percent) 3-point attempts in the half.

The second half was a different story. The Pioneers scored the first nine points to trim the Bluejays’ lead to 15 points. Platteville continued to cut into the lead, closing the deficit to 10 points at 43-33 with 14:35 to play. Elmhurst pushed its lead back to 16 points on consecutive 3-pointers by Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.).

The Bluejays held a 15-point advantage at 59-44 with 5:28 to play, but Platteville responded with a 16-3 run over the next five minutes, trimming the Bluejays’ lead to just two points at 62-60 with 28 seconds to play. After a missed free throw from the Bluejays, Platteville had the ball with 18 seconds to play. Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) came away with a steal with 11 seconds to play. Jay Brizzolara (Arlington Heights-Hersey) was able to seal the game with four free throws over the final eight seconds.

For the game, the Bluejays shot 45.8 percent from the floor (22-of-48), including 35.7 percent (5-of-14) from 3-point range. Platteville shot 40.7 percent from the floor (22-of-54) and 31.6 percent (6-of-19) from the arc. The Pioneers owned a 37-29 rebounding advantage.

Martin led the Bluejays with a strong all around game. The junior finished with 14 points, nine rebounds, eight assists and four steals. Brizzolara and Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) each added 14 points in the win. Patchett chipped in with 10 points.
Platteville was led by 26 points from Reitzner, including 22 second half points. LeVon Crawford came off the bench to record a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Elmhurst hosts Greenville College in their final non-conference game of the season on Monday, January 3, with tip-off scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Men's Hoops Team Downs Greenville

ELMHURST, Ill., January 3, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team closed out its non-conference season by defeating Greenville College 74-58. With the win, Elmhurst improved to 8-3 while Greenville slipped to 3-8.

The Bluejays jumped out to an early first half lead, opening up a commanding 16-6 lead with 11:45 to play. The Bluejays ran their lead to 19 points in the first half, carrying a 36-17 lead into the locker room at halftime. For the half, Elmhurst shot 13-of-30 from the floor (43.3 percent) and 4-of-12 from 3-point range (33.3 percent). Greenville hit just 34.8 percent of its shots in the first half (8-of-23) and did not attempt a 3-pointer.

Greenville picked up the offensive production in the second half, outshooting Elmhurst 62.5 percent (15-of-24) to 41.7 percent (10-of-24). Still, it wasn't enough to overcome the 19-point halftime deficit. Elmhurst brought home the win with a 74-58 final score.

For the game, the Bluejays shot 42.6 percent from the floor (23-of-54) and 44 percent from 3-point range (11-of-25). Greenville hit 23-of-47 shots from the floor (48.9 percent) and 42.9 percent from 3-point range (3-of-7).

The Bluejays controlled the glass, outrebounding the Panthers 35-25.

Elmhurst was led by Chris Martin's (Eureka-H.S.) 18 points and 11 rebounds. Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) hit 5-of-8 shots, including three 3-pointers to finish with 15 points. Chris Ihlenfeldt (Gurnee-Warren) came off the bench to finish with 14 points. David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) chipped in nine points.

Greenville was led by Scott Foster's 17 points. Bryson Taylor added 13 points. Brandon Martin added nine points and five rebounds.

Elmhurst opens CCIW play on Wednesday, January 5, when they host Carthage College at 7:30 p.m.

Men's Hoops Team Downed by Carthage

ELMHURST, Ill., January 5, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team dropped its CCIW opening game of the season to Carthage College, falling by a final score of 78-66. Elmhurst slipped to 8-4 overall (0-1 CCIW) while Carthage improved to 7-5 overall (1-0 CCIW).

After trailing 5-4 in the opening minutes, Carthage opened up a 10-0 run to take a nine-point advantage at 14-5, establishing a lead they would never relinquish. The Redmen pushed their lead to as many as 10 points in the first half, leading 24-14 and 26-16. Elmhurst closed the lead to two points with 2:46 to play in the half after a 10-2 run. The Redmen led by six points at 32-26 with 58 seconds to play. A lay-up by Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) cut the lead to four points with just over 30 seconds to play in the half. An off balance three-pointer at the buzzer by Kevin Menard gave Carthage a 35-28 advantage at halftime.

In the half, Carthage shot lights-out, hitting 63.6 percent of its shots from the floor (14-of-22) and 5-of-9 of its 3-point attempts (55.6 percent). The Bluejays shot 40 percent from the floor (10-of-25) and 30 percent (3-of-10) from 3-point range.
In the early minutes of the second half, the Bluejays began chipping away at the Redmen lead. After trailing by seven points, the Bluejays cut the Carthage lead to 40-38 with 16:25 to play on three straight baskets from Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.).

Carthage responded immediately, opening up an 8-0 run and taking a commanding 10 point lead. The Redmen established a 15-point advantage, their biggest lead of the night, at 55-40 with 11:59 to play. Elmhurst managed to trim into the Carthage lead, closing to seven points at 60-53 with 8:20 to play in the game, but they could get no closer as Carthage iced the game from the free-throw line.

For the game, Carthage shot 55.3 percent from the floor (26-of-47) and a whopping 55.6 percent from 3-point range (10-of-18). The Redmen also hit 16-of-22 free-throw attempts (72.7 percent). Elmhurst shot an even 50 percent from the floor (27-of-54) but just 25 percent from 3-point range (5-of-20). The Bluejays converted 7-of-9 free throw attempts (77.8 percent.). Carthage had a slight advantage on the glass, outrebounding Elmhurst 29-23.

David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) came off the bench and scored 17 points on 6-of-10 shooting to lead the Bluejays. Martin netted 14 points, five rebounds and six assists in the loss while Michael finished with 11 points and seven rebounds.

Carthage was led by freshman Kyle Jeffrey's 19 points on 7-of-12 shooting (3-of-5 from 3-point range). Pat Kalamatas saw his first action after returning from an injury and netted 14 points and pulled down seven rebounds. Navarro Thompson came off the bench to score 12 points and Menard added 11 points in the win.

Elmhurst will travel to Bloomington on Saturday, January 8, where they will face defending CCIW Champion Illinois Wesleyan University at 7:30 p.m.

**Men's Hoops Team Falls to IWU 84-62**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., January 8, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team fell to 0-2 in CCIW play and 8-5 overall after falling to Illinois Wesleyan University 84-62 at the Shirk Center. The Titans improved to 10-2 overall and 1-0 in CCIW play.

The Titans led the game from start to finish despite the Bluejays trailing by just six points at halftime. Illinois Wesleyan took an 11-point advantage with 11:10 to play in the first half, before a 9-0 run by the Bluejays cut the lead to just two points at 23-21 with 9:25 to play. The Titans were able to increase their lead to eight points with 34-26 with 2:20 to play. A bucket by Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) and a 3-pointer by David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) cut the Titan lead to just three points with 1:10 to play. A Zach Freeman 3-pointer with 44 seconds to play sent IWU into the locker room with a 37-31 lead.

For the half, Elmhurst shot 46.2 percent from the floor (12-of-26) and 50 percent (5-of-10) from 3-point range. The Titans shot 63.6 percent (14-of-22) from the floor and 44.4 percent (4-of-9) from 3-point range.

A Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) bucket in the opening minute of the second half brought the Bluejays to within four points, but the Titans had an answer. Illinois Wesleyan opened up a 15-4 run to take a commanding 52-36 lead in the game. Elmhurst would get no closer than 11 points for the rest of the way as the Titans cruised to the 84-62 win.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 43.6 percent from the floor (24-of-55) and 42.1 percent from 3-point range (8-of-19). The Titans were red hot from the floor, shooting 63.8 percent for the game (30-of-47) and 58.8 percent (10-of-17) from 3-point range.

Freshman Pat Bacon (Orlando, Fla.-Olympia) came off the bench to lead Elmhurst with 15 points on 6-of-11 shooting. Gershenzon finished with 11 points while Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) added 10 points and a team-high eight rebounds and four assists.
Illinois Wesleyan was led by Adam Dauksas’ 21 points and six assists. Dauksas hit 7-of-10 shots, including 4-of-7 from downtown. Keelan Amelianovich added 19 points and Freeman poured in 16 points. Chris Jones finished with eight points for IWU.

The Bluejays are off until next Saturday, January 15, when they host North Park University at 7:30 p.m.

Men’s Hoops Team Topples North Park

ELMHURST, Ill., January 15, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men’s basketball team scored its first CCIW win of the season by defeating North Park University 75-63. With the win the Bluejays improve to 9-5 overall and 1-2 in league play. North Park fell to 4-9 overall and 0-2 in CCIW competition.

The first half featured eight ties and six lead changes as both teams traded buckets in the early going. The biggest lead for either team was seven points when Elmhurst led 32-25. North Park closed the half on a 5-1 run to pull to within three-points at 33-30 at halftime. In the first half, Elmhurst shot 37.9 percent from the floor (11-of-29) and 33.3 percent (2-of-6). North Park hit 12-of-32 attempts from the floor (37.5 percent) and 4-of-8 (50 percent) from downtown. Elmhurst owned a 27-20 rebounding advantage at halftime.

Elmhurst managed to push its lead to eight points on four occasions early in the second half, but North Park never let the Bluejays pull away, closing to within five points at 53-48 with 9:50 to play. Elmhurst responded with a 9-3 run to take a 62-51 lead with 6:37 to play. Elmhurst would push its lead up to 16 points with 4:41 to play. The Bluejays went on to win the contest 75-63.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 45.5 percent from the floor (25-of-55) and 37.5 percent from 3-point range (6-of-16). The Bluejays converted 19-of-29 free throw attempts (65.5 percent). North Park hit 24-of-59 shots from the floor (40.7 percent) and 4-of-13 from 3-point range (30.8 percent). The Vikings struggled from the free throw line, hitting just 11-of-21 attempts (52.4 percent). The Bluejays dominated the glass, outrebounding the Vikings 45-31.

Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) led the Bluejays with 15 points and nine rebounds. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) and Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) each recorded double-doubles in the win. Michael finished with 14 points, 11 reboudns and a team-high five assists. Patchett tallied 13 points and 10 rebounds. David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) provided the Bluejays with a second-half spark, scoring all 10 of his points in the second half.

North Park was led by Brett Mathisen’s 18 points and six rebounds. Je’shawon Stevenson tallied 13 points and eight rebounds in the loss.

The Bluejays host North Central College on Wednesday, January 19, at 7:30 p.m.

Bluejays Stun North Central 72-51

ELMHURST, Ill., January 19, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men’s basketball team improved to 2-2 in the CCIW by knocking off the 21st ranked team in the nation, North Central College 72-51. The win moved Elmhurst to 10-5 overall and dropped North Central to 13-3 and 3-2 in the CCIW.

Elmhurst dominated the game from start to finish. The Bluejays held North Central, who entered the game leading the nation in team field goal percentage (55.3 percent), to just 39.6 percent. The Bluejays also owned the glass, outrebounding North Central by 16. Elmhurst was also a perfect 24-of-24 from the free throw line.

After falling behind 2-4, the Bluejays took a 5-4 lead on Chris Ihlenfeldt (Gurnee-Warren) 3-pointer. The Bluejays then rolled up the game’s next 11 points, opening up a 16-4 lead. Elmhurst kept North Central at bay for the rest of the first half, allowing the Cardinals to get no closer than six points at 23-17 with 6:25 to play in the half.
driving lay-up by David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) at the buzzer gave Elmhurst a 35-24 lead at halftime.

The Bluejays continued to come out firing in the second half, scoring the first eight points of the half to take a 43-24 lead. Elmhurst managed to push its lead to as many as 22 points at 70-48. North Central never got any closer than a 14-point deficit in the second half.

Elmhurst enjoyed a solid shooting night from the floor, hitting 21-of-47 shots for 44.7 percent. The Bluejays shot 33.3 percent from 3-point range (6-of-18) and were a perfect 100 percent from the free throw-line, hitting all 24 of their attempts.

North Central, who entered the game leading the nation in field goal percentage, was held to just 39.6 percent shooting from the floor (19-of-48) and just 25 percent from 3-point range (3-of-12). The Cardinals also struggled at the free-throw line, converting just 10-of-17 attempts (58.8 percent).

Elmhurst dominated the glass, outrebounding the Cardinal 38-22. The Bluejays scored 16 second-chance points to North Central’s two points. The Elmhurst bench also outscored North Central 30-14.

Nick Michael (West Chicago) led the Bluejays with a game-high 19 points on 8-of-13 shooting from the floor. He also pulled down eight rebounds in the win. Gershenzon gave the Bluejays a solid spark off the bench, pouring in 18 points on 7-of-10 shooting. Jay Brizzolara (Arlington Heights-Hersey) added 10 points, with eight of them coming from the free-throw line. Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) added nine points and pulled down a game-high 12 rebounds in the win. Craig Schau (Cassopolis, Mich.-Dowagiac) added nine points in the Elmhurst victory.

North Central was led by Ray Vicario’s 18 points on 5-of-10 shooting from the floor. Anthony Simmons added 12 points for the Cardinals in the loss.

Elmhurst will travel to 16th ranked Wheaton College on Saturday, January 22, to take on the Thunder at 7:30 p.m.

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**Men's Hoops Team Falls to Wheaton**

WHEATON, Ill., January 22, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team slipped to 2-3 in CCIW play and 10-6 overall following an 84-75 loss to 16th ranked Wheaton College.

Wheaton led from start to finish in the contest, establishing a quick 8-0 lead in the first three minutes of the game. The Thunder led by as many as 21 points in the first half at 43-22. They carried a 43-26 lead into the locker room at halftime. For the half, Wheaton shot a whopping 70.8 percent from the floor (17-of 24) while Elmhurst was held to just 42.9 percent shooting (9-of-21).

The Thunder built its lead back up to 20 points at 65-45 with 9:42 to play in the game, before Elmhurst put together the first of two runs in the second half. The Bluejays responded with a 13-3 run to narrow the Thunder lead to eight points at 68-60 with 5:54 to play. A 7-2 run by the Thunder gave Wheaton a 13-point advantage with just under five minutes to play in the game. Elmhurst wasn't done yet, as the Bluejays ripped off another 13-3 run to close to within three points at 78-75 with 44 seconds remaining. Wheaton was able to hold onto the win by sinking all six of its free throw attempts in the final minute of play.

For the game, the Bluejays shot 42.6 percent from the floor (23-of-54) and 33.3 percent from 3-point range (5-of-15). One game after shooting 100 percent from the free throw line, The Bluejays shot 75 percent hitting 24-of-32 attempts.

The Thunder finished the game shooting 55.6 percent from the floor (25-of-45) and 44.4 percent (8-of-18) from 3-point range. Wheaton hit 26-of-29 free throw attempts (89.7 percent).
Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) led the Bluejays as all scorers with 30 points on 9-of-17 shooting. He also ripped down 11 rebounds. In the process, he surpassed the 1,000 career points scored mark. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) added 12 points for the Bluejays.

Wheaton was led by 18 points by Kent Raymond. Jonathon Steven came off the bench to scored 16 for the Thunder. Tony Bollier added 15 points for Wheaton.

Elmhurst will travel to Naperville on Monday, January 31, to face North Central College.

Bluejays Rally Past NCC 84-77 in OT

NAPERVILLE, Ill., January 31, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team completed a season sweep of North Central College by erasing a 14-point deficit to defeat the Cardinal 84-77 in overtime. The win moved the Bluejays to 11-6 overall and 3-3 in the CCIW. The loss was North Central's fifth in a row and dropped the Cardinals to 13-6 overall and 3-5 in the CCIW.

The game was almost a mirror image of last season's meeting at R.A. Faganel Hall in Elmhurst. In that game, the Bluejays missed four free-throws in the final 30 seconds before falling in overtime. This time it was North Central who struggled from the foul line, missing 3-of-4 attempts in the final 21 seconds.

The game started as a back-and-forth affair. The two teams traded bucket for bucket as neither team led by more than three points in the first 13 minutes. The score was tied on eight different occasions. With Elmhurst leading 24-23, North Central closed the half on a 23-10 run to take a 46-34 lead into the locker room at halftime. The Cardinals shot 68.2 percent from the floor (15-of-22) while Elmhurst hit 42.3 percent of its shots (11-of-26). North Central connected on 6-of-8 attempts from 3-point range while Elmhurst struggled, hitting just 2-of-10 attempts (20 percent).

North Central scored the opening bucket of the second half to take a 14-point lead before Elmhurst got rolling on offense. The Bluejays responded with a 14-0 run with Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) scoring eight points and Chris Ihlenfeldt (Gurnee-Warren) adding six points in the run to knot the score at 48-48 with 13:16 to play. The two teams traded baskets again as the game was tied at 65-65 with just under six minutes to play.

North Central scored the next five points to take a 70-65 lead with just over 1:30 to play. A pair of Martin free throws and a jumper by David Gershenson (Glenview-Glenbrook South) brought the Bluejays to within a point with 30 seconds to play. Elmhurst fouled NCC's Ray Vicario who made 1-of-2 free throws. Martin had his shot blocked by Patrick Flannigan who grabbed the rebound for the Cardinals. Flannigan was sent to the line and missed both free throws. The Bluejays sent the game to overtime when Gershenzon connected on a bucket off a Martin assist right before the buzzer.

The Bluejays shot 45.5 percent from the floor in the half (10-of-22) and 37.5 percent from 3-point range (3-of-8) while North Central went cold, hitting just 6-of-19 attempts (31.6) from the floor and missing all six of its 3-point attempts. The Cardinals also missed five free throws, including three in the final 21 seconds. Elmhurst was a perfect 14-of-14 from the line in the second half.

In overtime, the Bluejays' long-range shooting took over as Elmhurst took a six-point lead after Martin and Gershenson splashed in 3-pointers. A 3-pointer by Vicario brought North Central to within three points at 2:44 to play, but Ihlenfeldt answered with his sixth 3-pointer of the night to give Elmhurst an 84-70 advantage. The Bluejays hit 4-of-6 free throws down the stretch to put the game out away.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 43.6 percent (24-of-55) from the floor and 34.8 percent (8-of-23) from 3-point range. The Bluejays were sharp from the free-throw line, hitting 28-of-32 attempts (87.5 percent). North Central shot 46.9 percent from the floor (23-of-49) and 38.9 percent from 3-point range (7-of-18). The Cardinals were 13-of-18 from the free throw line (70.6 percent).
Martin led the Bluejays and all scorers with 28 points on 6-of-13 shooting from the floor. He sank 15-of-17 shots from the free-throw line. He also pulled down a team-high seven rebounds and dished out six assists. Ihlenfeldt turned in a career-high 22 points on 7-of-11 shooting, including 6-of-9 from 3-point range. Gershenzon also broke the 20-point barrier, adding 21 points on 6-of-11 shooting.

Vicario led North Central with 21 points. Anthony Simmons and Mike Wilson each netted 12 points for the Cardinals.

Elmhurst will look to move a game over .500 in the CCIW for the first time this season when they travel to North Park University to meet the Vikings on Wednesday, February 2.

Men's Hoops Team Holds Off NPU

CHICAGO, Ill., February 2, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team improved to 12-6 overall and 4-3 in CCIW play by defeating North Park University 66-65.

The first half was a back-and-forth affair that featured nine lead changes. The biggest lead by either team was just five points when the Bluejays led 10-5. Elmhurst carried a 24-22 lead into the locker room at halftime.

North Park took its first and only lead of the second half with 13:40 to play when Eric Samuelson knocked down a 3-pointer to put the Vikings up 36-35. The Bluejays answered right back as with a 23-12 run over the next 8:30 of the game to take a 58-48 lead. The Vikings trimmed the lead down to four points but a Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) bucket and a pair of Craig Schau (Cassopolis, Mich.-Dowagiac) free throws gave Elmhurst an eight point lead with 21 seconds to play. North Park knocked down a pair of 3-pointers in the games final nine seconds to close to within a point with one second left on the clock. The Bluejays ran out the clock for the 66-65 win.

Elmhurst shot 44.3 percent from the floor (24-of-54) and 25 percent from 3-point range 3-of-12. North Park shot 45.8 percent from the floor (22-of-48) and a whopping 61.9 percent (13-of-21) from beyond the arc.

Martin led the Bluejays and all scorers with 19 points and 10 rebounds. David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) added 16 points. Andrew Mohney (Huntley-H.S.) and Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) each finished with eight points.

Cory Wilks came off the bench to lead North Park with 12 points. Je'Shawn Stevenson and Lamar Townsend each finished with 11 points.

Elmhurst will travel to Millikin University on Saturday, February 5, to take on the Big Blue at 7:30 p.m.

Men's Hoops Team Downs Millikin

DECATUR, Ill., February 5, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team won its third consecutive CCIW game, and its fourth out of its last five by defeating Millikin University 69-52. The Bluejays clinched a winning season by improving to 13-6 overall and 5-3 in the league.

With the score tied at 17-17 in the first half, the Bluejays closed the half on a 9-2 run to take a 26-19 lead at halftime.

The Bluejays never let the Big Blue get rolling in the second half. Millikin got no closer than three points in the second half. The Bluejays led by as many as 18 points and won by a 69-52 final.

Elmhurst shot 48.1 percent from the floor (26-of-54) and 40 percent from beyond the arc (4-of-10). The Bluejays shot 81.3 percent from the foul line, hitting 13-of-16 attempts.
David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) came off the bench to lead Elmhurst with a game-high 22 points. Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) netted 14 points and nine rebounds while Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) chipped in with 11 points.

Chuck Williams was the only Big Blue in double figures, finishing with 15 points.

Elmhurst will play at Augustana College on Wednesday, February 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Men's Hoops Team Rolls Past Augie

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., February 9, 2005 - David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) scored a career high 30 points to lead the Elmhurst College men's basketball team to an 86-79 victory over Augustana College. The win was the Bluejays fourth straight league win on the road and fifth straight win overall. The Bluejays stand at 14-6 overall and 6-3 in the CCIW, having won five of its last six contests. Augustana fell to 13-7 overall and 5-4 in the CCIW.

With the score tied at 7-7 four minutes into the contest, Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) hit a jumper to put the Bluejays up by a pair. The Bluejays slowly built upon their leading, outscoring Augustana 19-7 over the next 10 minutes to take a 26-14 lead. The Vikings answered back with a 13-0 run to take a 27-26 lead with 2:30 to play in the half. A 3-pointer by Craig Schau (Cassopolis, Mich.-Dowagiac) put Elmhurst back on top. The Bluejays carried a 29-28 lead into the locker room at halftime.

Both teams stepped up their offensive production in the second half. Augustana tied the scored on three separate occasions early in the half, but the Bluejays never let the Vikings take the lead. With the score tied at 37, the Bluejays slowly began to build its lead. The Bluejays extended their lead to eight points at 50-42 with 11:27 to play, but Augustana had one last charge left in them. The Vikings fought back to knot the score at 60-60 with seven minutes to play. Two buckets and a free throw by Michael and a jumper by Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) quickly gave Elmhurst a seven point advantage back. The Vikings got no closer than three points the rest of the way. A 3-pointer by Gershenzon with 2:19 to play, gave Elmhurst a 74-65 lead. The Vikings chipped the Elmhurst lead down to four points, but the Bluejays hit 11-of-12 free throw attempts in the final 1:30 to pick up the 86-79 win.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 51.7 percent from the floor (30-of-58) and 41.7 percent from beyond the arc (5-of-12). The Bluejays were once again solid from the free throw line, hitting 21-of-26 shots (80.8 percent). The Vikings finished the game shooting 45.3 percent (24-of-53) from the field and 50.0 percent from downtown (5-of-10). The Vikings hit 26-of-34 free throws (76.5 percent). Augustana won the rebounding war, pulling down 36 rebounds to the Bluejays' 30.

Gershenzon continued his red hot play off the bench. He poured in a career-high 30 points in just 24 minutes played on 8-of-11 shooting from the floor (2-of-4 from 3-point range). He finished a perfect 12-of-12 from the foul line. Michael dropped in 17 points on 7-of-11 shooting. He also pulled down six boards. Martin totaled 12 points and game-highs in rebounds (eight) and assists (six). Schau also finished in double figures, scoring 11 points.

Augustana was led by Drew Wessels' 18 points. Rick Harrigan netted 15 points in the loss while Jay McAdama-Thornton and Joe Bauman each netted 14 points.

The win gives Elmhurst sole possession of third place in the CCIW at 6-3. Illinois Wesleyan leads the league at 7-1 while Wheaton is just a half game behind at 7-2.

Elmhurst plays its final road game of the season, and wraps up a six-game road trip in the process, on Saturday (February 12) when they play at Carthage College.
Red Hot Bluejays Topple Carthage

KENOSHA, Wis. February 12, 2005 - Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) scored a career-high 38 points while leading the Elmhurst College men's basketball team to a 77-74 win over Carthage College. The win capped off the Bluejays road schedule and brought a close to a six-game road trip. The team finished the road-trip with an impressive 5-1 mark, winning its last five game. The Bluejays now stand at 15-6 overall and 7-3 in the CCIW.

With the score tied at 4-4 in the early going, Elmhurst rattled of eight straight points to take a 12-4 lead five minutes into the game. The Bluejays led by six at 18-12 with under 10 minutes in the half, when Carthage scored eight straight to take a 20-18 lead. After Elmhurst reclaimed the lead, The Redmen opened up an eight point advantage with a 9-0 run. The Bluejays managed to trim the lead to seven points at 36-29 heading into halftime.

The Bluejays began the second half by outscoring the Redmen 12-4 in the first five minutes to reclaim the lead at 41-40. Carthage answered right back, opening up a six-point advantage with 11:47 to play. Two 3-pointers by Martin quickly erased the Carthage lead. The Redmen made one last push and opened up a 64-59 lead with 5:50 to play. Martin drained his fourth 3-pointer of the night and was fouled in the process, sinking the free throw for the rare four-point play. A lay-up by Martin on the Bluejays next possession put Elmhurst on top. Chris Ihlenfeldt (Gurnee-Warren) added a lay-in to give Elmhurst a 67-64 lead that they would never relinquish.

Carthage was able to trim the lead down to one point on three separate occasions, but the Bluejays found an answer each time. Martin hit a lay-up and pair of free throws to push Elmhurst's lead back to three points. With Elmhurst leading 71-70 with under a minute to play, Craig Schau (Cassopolis, Mich.-Dowagiac) buried a 3-pointer to put the game away. Neither team would hit a field goal the rest of the way, and the Bluejays converted their free throws down the stretch to hang on to the 77-74 win.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 48.1 percent from the floor (25-of-52), including a blistering 60.9 percent in the decisive second half (12-of-23). The Bluejays hit 6-of-13 3-point attempts (46.2 percent), with all six coming in the second half (6-of-9). Carthage was once again solid at the free throw line, hitting 21-of-25 attempts (84 percent). Carthage outshot Elmhurst from the floor, shooting 49.1 percent from the field (28-of-57). The Redmen hit just 5-of-15 shots from beyond the arc (33.3 percent) and struggled from the foul line, converting just 13-of-24 attempts (54.2 percent).

Carthage had no answer for Martin who poured in a career-high 38 points on 13-of-17 shooting from the floor, including 4-of-6 from downtown. Martin also hit 8-of-10 free throw attempts. He narrowly missed a double-double, pulling down a game-high nine boards. He also led the Bluejays in assists and steals, totaling three each. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) finished with 11 points and five rebounds for Elmhurst. Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) came off the bench to score eight points for the win.

Carthage was led by Pat Kalamatas’ 22 points and six rebounds. Malik Imani came off the bench to score 16 points for the Redmen.

The Bluejays will return home for the first time in a month when they face Wheaton College on Wednesday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Chris Martin Earns CCIW Honor

ELMHURST, Ill., February 15, 2005 -- For the second consecutive week, Elmhurst College forward Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) has been selected as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin’s (CCIW) Player of the Week. Martin shared the honor with Wheaton’s Jon Nelisn.

Martin led the Bluejays to a pair of road victories on the week. On Wednesday, he netted 12 points on 4-of-7 shooting while also pulling down a game-high eight rebounds in the Bluejays’ 86-79 win at Augustana. He also had game-highs in assists (six) and steals (four). On Saturday, Martin scored a career-high 38 points, nearly half of all of the Bluejays 77 points, in a 77-74 win at Carthage. Martin shot 13-of-17 (76 percent) from the floor,
including 4-of-6 from 3-point range. He also sank 8-of-10 free throws. He added a game-high nine rebounds in the win and dished out three assists and had three steals. For the week he averaged 25.0 points, 8.5 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 3.5 steals per game. He also shot 71 percent from the floor (17-of-24).

Martin is a three-year letter-winner for the Bluejays who has earned all-conference honors in both of his previous seasons. He was a second-team selection in 2001-02 and earned first-team honors last season after a year away from the game. This season he was named to the all-tournament teams at the Embry-Riddle tournament and at the Elmhurst Bluejay Classic tournament. He also broke the 1,000 point career barrier earlier this season.

Martin is a graduate of Eureka High School and is the son of Dale and Carol Martin.

The men’s basketball team sits in third place, just one game out of first place in the CCIW. The Bluejays host Wheaton College on Wednesday (February 16) and play host to Illinois Wesleyan University on Saturday (February 19).

Bluejays Stun #6 Wheaton 88-77

ELMHURST, Ill., February 16, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team won its sixth consecutive game, their eight win in its last nine attempts, stunning sixth-ranked Wheaton College 88-77 in front of over 700 fans at R.A. Faganel Hall. The Bluejays improved to 16-6 overall and 8-3 in the CCIW, moving them into a second-place CCIW tie with Wheaton, who fell to 18-4 overall and 8-3 in the CCIW.

The first half belonged to the Bluejays, with Elmhurst jumping out to a quick 5-0 lead. Kent Raymond kept the Thunder close, hitting three straight 3-pointers, accounting for the first nine points. With the Bluejays leading 10-9, Jon Nielson hit a lay-in to give Wheaton its only lead of the half at 11-10. Elmhurst quickly took the lead back on a Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) bucket and pushed its lead to five points at 16-11 with 12:48 to play. The Bluejays quieted the Thunder for the next four minutes, not letting Wheaton get any closer than four points. With 8:45 to play, Elmhurst opened up an 8-0 run, keyed by two Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) lay-ups, to take a 32-20 lead with 4:30 to play. A technical foul on Wheaton Head Coach Bill Harris allowed Elmhurst to take a 15-point lead after a free-throw and a jumper from David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South). A lay-in by Michael with two seconds to play gave Elmhurst its biggest lead of the half at 44-28.

The Bluejays were red hot from the field in the first half, hitting 19-of-29 shots (65.5 percent). Elmhurst did the majority of its damage inside, scoring 30 points in the paint in the first 20 points. The Bluejays held Wheaton to just 36 percent shooting (9-of-25) from the floor.

After a Michael lay-in on the opening possession of the second half put Elmhurst up 18, Wheaton came charging back, scoring the next 10 points and closing to within eight points at 48-40. The Bluejays answered back with Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) keying an 8-2 Bluejay run. Martin sunk a pair of free throws, hit a lay-up and assisted on a pair of Trierweiler lay-ups to put Elmhurst up 56-42 with 12:28 to play. The two teams traded buckets for the next several minutes, with Wheaton getting no closer than 13 points with 8:15 to play. Leading by 14 points with 6:18 to play, Gershenzon and Michael each hit a free throw and Gershenzon hit a driving lay-in to put Elmhurst back up by 18 at 75-57 with 4:15 to play. The Thunder made one last charge, rattling off a 13-4 run to pull to within nine points with 1:39 to play. The Bluejays put the game away from the free-throw line, hitting 9-of-10 attempts in the final 1:30 to come away with the 88-77 victory.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 55.9 percent from the floor on 33-of-59 shooting. The Bluejays connected on 4-of-11 attempts from beyond the arc (36.4 percent). The Bluejays hit 18-of-24 free throw attempts (75 percent). Wheaton, who shot 54.8 percent from the field in the second half, finished the game shooting 46.4 percent from the floor (26-of-56) and 35.5 percent (11-of-31) from downtown. The Thunder converted 14-of-18 free throw attempts (77.8). Elmhurst out-scored Wheaton 52-28 inside the paint. The Bluejays also won the rebounding battle, out-rebounding the Thunder 36-29.
Michael powered the Bluejays in the paint, finishing with 28 points (21 in the first half) on 12-of-15 shooting from the floor. Martin had a fantastic all-around game, finishing with 17 points and game-highs in rebounds (eight), assists (seven), and steals (seven). In the process, Martin became the all-time steals leader at Elmhurst with 160 career steals, surpassing the previous mark of 156 held by Vince Doran (1988-1992). Gershenzon added 12 points off the bench and Trierweiler finished with eight points. Jay Brizzolara (Arlington Heights-Hersey) netted nine points and Craig Schau (Cassopolis, Mich.-Dowagiac) finished with seven points and four assists.

Wheaton was led by Raymond’s 23 points on 7-of-13 shooting (5-of-9 from downtown). Martin Trimiew added 15 points and a team-high seven rebounds while Jon Nielson added 12 points and five assists for the Thunder. Jonathon Steven finished with 10 points and six boards in the loss.

The Bluejays pulled to within a half game of first place in the CCIW, setting up a premier showdown with Illinois Wesleyan University (8-2 in the CCIW) on Saturday, February 22, at 7:30 p.m.

Bluejays Fall to IWU 75-59

ELMHURST, Ill., February 19, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team could not overcome poor shooting in the second half, falling to ninth ranked Illinois Wesleyan University 75-59. The loss drops the Bluejays to 16-7 overall and 8-4 in the CCIW. Illinois Wesleyan strengthened its hold of first place in the CCIW by improving to 18-4 overall and 9-2 in league play.

The first half was evenly matched between the two teams. After the Titans established a quick 8-4 lead, the Bluejays opened up a 13-4 run, taking a five-point advantage at 17-12 with 13:30 to play. The two teams traded buckets for the next four minutes, until Evan Patchett (Reddick-Herscher) hit a lay-up to give Elmhurst a 25-19 lead with 9:30 remaining in the half. The Titans responded with a 6-0 run to knot the score at 25-25. The Bluejays reestablished a five-point advantage at 30-25 with 5:15 to play after a free throw from Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.). The Titans answered right back knotting the score at 32-32. The score remained tied at 37-all when Nick Michael scored on a lay-in to give Elmhurst a 39-37 lead with one minute to play. The Titans scored three points on a free throws, one from Jason Fisher with 35 seconds to play and a pair from Chris Jones with seven seconds remaining to take a 40-39 lead into the locker room at halftime.

The second half belonged to the Titans as Illinois Wesleyan scored the first four points to take a 44-39 lead. Buckets by Jay Brizzolara (Arlington Heights-Hersey) and Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) brought the Bluejays to within point. Elmhurst fell silent from the floor, missing its next nine shots while the Titans quickly pushed their lead to 10 points at 53-43 with 12:25 to play. The Bluejays made one more charge, pulling to within three points at 55-52 with 7:40 remaining. The Bluejays cooled off again unable to hit a field goal for the next six minutes, while the Titans pulled away, taking a 16-point lead with 1:34 to play. The Titans held their lead, winning by a 75-59 final score.

Elmhurst shot just 34.4 percent from the floor in the game (21-of-61), but managed just 18.8 percent in the second half (6-of-32). The Bluejays shot 31.6 percent from 3-point range (6-of-19). The Titans finished 55.1 percent shooting from the floor (27-of-49) and 5-of-14 from the arc (35.7 percent).

Michael led the Bluejays in the loss with 18 points and eight rebounds. Martin finished with 13 points and eight boards, while Patchett chipped in with 12 points. David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) netted 10 points in the loss.

Keelan Amelianovich and Corey Jones led the Titans with 15 points each. Adam Dauksas poured in 13 points in the win. Zach Freeman netted 11 points and pulled down eight boards for the Titans.

Elmhurst will host Millikin University on Wednesday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Bluejays Topple Millikin 85-66
ELMHURST, Ill., February 23, 2005 - After a poor first half in which they shot just 28.6 percent from the floor, the Elmhurst College men’s basketball team outscored Millikin University by 21 points in the second half, winning the contest 85-66.

With the victory, the Bluejays improve to 17-7 overall and 9-4 in the CCIW while Millikin slipped to 12-12 overall and 4-9 in league play.

Elmhurst took advantage of its considerable size advantage, outrebounding Millikin 49-28, including a 24-9 edge on the offensive glass.

The Bluejays struggled in the first half, shooting just 28.6 percent from the floor (10-of-35). Millikin connected on 11-of-27 attempts, good for a 40.7 shooting percentage. Despite the poor shooting, the Bluejays were led for the majority of the half, holding an eight-point edge at 23-15 with 8:45 to play. Millikin erased the Elmhurst lead when Bluejay forward Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) was forced to leave the game with an injury. With Martin out, the Big Blue opened up a 9-0 run, grabbing the lead at 24-23. The two teams traded buckets the rest of the half with the lead changing hands on nine occasions. With the score knotted at 31, Chuck Williams drained a jumper with 37 seconds left to give Millikin a 33-31 halftime lead.

Martin returned to the court in the second half and the Bluejays’ offense came out smoking, outscoring Millikin 17-4 in the first five minutes taking a 48-37 lead. The Big Blue battled back to trim the Bluejays’ lead to three points at 56-53, but Elmhurst put the game out of reach with an 18-3 run, opening up an 18-point lead at 74-56 with 5:15 remaining. The Bluejays led by as many as 21 points, finishing the game with an 85-66 win.

For the game, the Bluejays shot 41.2 percent from the floor (28-of-68) while Millikin finished at 45.3 percent (24-of-54). Both teams struggled from beyond the arc, with Millikin hitting 2-of-12 (16.7 percent) and Elmhurst connecting on just 1-of-14 trey attempts (7.1 percent). The Bluejays turned in another solid night at the charity stripe, converting 28-of-31 free-throw attempts (90.3 percent).

Martin led the Bluejays with 24 points on 8-of-15 shooting from the floor while pulling down 13 rebounds. He added three assists and four steals as well. David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) came off the bench to drop in 20 points. Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) was dominant on the glass, corralling a season and career-high 22 rebounds, including 13 offensive boards. Michael also scored 18 points.

Millikin was led by Williams 13 points. Tyler Nohren came off the bench to score 10 points.

Elmhurst will close out the regular season on Saturday (February 26), when they host Augustana College at 7:30 p.m.

**Bluejays Use Overtime to Stop Augie**

ELMHURST, Ill., February 26, 2005 - The Elmhurst College men's basketball team closed out the 2004-05 regular season in thrilling fashion, defeating Augustana College 68-67 in overtime to clinch a second-place finish in the CCIW. The Bluejays overcame 26 turnovers and erased a five-point deficit in the final 40 seconds of regulation to send the game to overtime.

Despite playing a sloppy half with 13 turnovers, the Bluejays carried a 31-30 lead into the locker room at halftime. The first half featured four ties and six lead changes as neither team was able to build a lead of more than six points. The Bluejays led by six at 16-10 and again at 18-12 while the Vikings largest lead was three points at 25-22. Trailing 27-25 with 1:44 to play, the Bluejays scored six straight points to grab a 31-27 lead with under 30 seconds to play. Rick Harrigan drained a 3-pointer as time expired to cut the Bluejay lead to 31-30 at the half.

Elmhurst came out firing in the second half, opening up a 39-32 lead after a lay-in and free throw by Chris Ihlenfeldt (Gurnee-Warren). With the Bluejays leading 42-35 with 12:23 to play, Augustana opened up a 13-0
run keyed by a pair of 3-pointers by Jay McAdams-Thornton and a pair of buckets, including a trey by Harrigan. Patrick Trierweiler (Portland, Mich.-H.S.) put back his own miss to break the Bluejays scoring drought at 7:49 A bucket by Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) and a lay-up by Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) knotted the score at 48 with 4:30 to play. Harrigan caught fire from downtown, pouring in three consecutive treys sandwiched in between a Michael lay-in to put Augustana up 57-50 with 2:30 to play. Michael cut the lead to five with a 15-foot jumper with 2:15. After Augustana missed a free throw, Ihlenfeldt buried a clutch 3-pointer with 48 ticks left on the clock to bring the Bluejays to within a bucket at 57-55. Ihlenfeldt came up big again in the final seconds, coming away with a steal with 11 seconds. Martin drove the length of the court and scored on a finger-role lay-in with six seconds left. Harrigan’s three-pointer at the buzzer went off the back iron and sent the game into overtime.

The Bluejays and Michael took over the opening minutes of the extra period. Michael hit a lay-up off a Martin feed to put the Bluejays up by a pair just seconds into overtime. After a Drew Wessels free-throw cut the lead in half, Michael answered back with a fade away jumper from the wing. After an Augustana turnover, Martin fed Michael for another lay-in, forcing Augustana to burn a timeout, trailing 63-58. The Vikings found an answer as Harrigan scored the next four points, sinking a pair of free throws and hitting a lay-up to bring the Vikings to within a point at 63-62 with 2:44 left. Michael scored his seventh for the Bluejays by hitting a free throw to give Elmhurst a 64-62 lead. The Vikings tied the score when Travis Hoyt sank a pair of free-throws to even the score at 64-64 with a minute and half remaining.

The Bluejays grabbed the lead when David Gershenzon (Glenview-Glenbrook South) hit a driving lay-up in the paint with 1:14 to play. Augustana’s Joe Bauman missed a jumper but grabbed his own rebound. McAdams-Thornton 3-point attempt missed and Ihlenfeldt grabbed the board. The Bluejays called timeout with 23 seconds to play. On the ensuing inbounds play, Ihlenfeldt found Gershenzon wide-open under the basket. Gershenzon hit the uncontested lay-up with 20 seconds to play to give Elmhurst a 68-64 lead. The Vikings made one last charge as Harrigan hit his sixth trey of the game with one second left. The Bluejays simply threw the ball down court, letting the final second tick away.

For the game, Elmhurst shot 50 percent from the floor (29-of-58) and 29.4 percent from 3-point range (5-of-17). The Vikings shot 38.1 percent from the floor (24-of-63) and 10-of-22 from beyond the arc (45.5 percent). The Bluejays owned the rebounding battle, grabbing 41 boards to Augustana’s 30. Elmhurst also had a distinct advantage inside, outscoring Augustana 46-20 in the paint. The Bluejays lone problem was ball control, turning the ball over 26 times to Augustana’s 16.

Michael finished with a double-double to lead the Bluejays. He scored 21 points, including seven in overtime, and pulled down a game-high 13 rebounds. Martin and Ihlenfeldt each finished with 14 points. Martin added five rebounds and six assists in the win. Gershenzon chipped in with eight points.

Harrigan was red-hot for Augustana, scoring almost half the team’s points. He poured in a game-high 32 points on 12-of-24 shooting, including 6-of-11 from downtown. McAdams-Thornton added 14 points in the loss while Wessels finished with seven. Hoyt was the top rebounder with eight.

The Bluejays, who were picked to finish in the CCIW tournament, closed out the regular season at 18-7 overall and 10-4 in league play. Their league record clinched a second-place tie with Wheaton College. The Bluejays’ 10 wins is their most in league play since the CCIW championship year in 2000-01 when they finished with 12-2.

### Martin & Michael Earn CCIW Honors

ELMHURST, Ill., March 1, 2005 -- Elmhurst College forward Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) and center Nick Michael (West Chicago-H.S.) have both been selected to the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin’s (CCIW) all-conference team. Martin was one of just three unanimous first-team selections, while Michael was named to the third team.

Martin led the Bluejays in scoring, rebounding, assists and steals while earning his second consecutive first-team selection. He averaged 17.6 points and 8.6 rebounds per game this season while setting Elmhurst's career...
Martin, who earned second-team All-CCIW honors in 2001-02, was a third-team all-region selection by D3Hoops.com last season. In his career, Martin has scored 1,192 points, which ranks him 12th all-time in school history. He also has 628 career rebounds which ranks seventh all-time at Elmhurst. Martin also ranks among the school's all-time assist leaders with 281 career assists.

Martin is a graduate of Eureka High School and is the son of Dale and Carol Martin.

Michael earned his first all-conference selection in just his second season with the team. The sophomore finished second on the team in both scoring (13.2 ppg) and rebounding (5.9 ppg). In league games, he averaged 14.1 points and 7.1 rebounds per game. He ranked second in the league in total rebounds and led the league in offensive rebounds. He was chosen as the CCIW's "Player of the Week" for the final week of the 2004-05 season.

Michael is a graduate of West Chicago High School and is the son of Rick Michael and Cathy Gray.

The men's basketball team closed out the 2004-05 season with an 18-7 overall record and a second-place finish in the CCIW. The Bluejays, who were picked to finish seventh in the preseason coaches poll, finished 10-4 in league competition, its best win total since its championship season in 2000-01.

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**Martin Earns All-Region Honors**

ELMHURST, Ill., March 17, 2005 -- Elmhurst College forward Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) has been selected to the fourth annual D3hoops.com All-Midwest Region first team. As one of 40 players earning all-region honors from the eight different regions, Martin now has a chance to earn All-America honors from D3hoops.com.

Martin, a unanimous first team all-conference selection in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW), led the Bluejays in scoring, rebounding, assists and steals. This season marked the second straight first-team all-conference honor for Martin. He averaged 17.6 points and 8.6 rebounds per game this season while setting Elmhurst's career records in steals (171). He led the conference in points, rebounds and steals per game and finished third in assists per game. He was chosen as the CCIW's "Player of the Week" twice this season. He was an all-tournament pick at the Elmhurst and Embry-Riddle University tournaments.

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The men's basketball team closed out the 2004-05 season with an 18-7 overall record and a second-place finish in the CCIW. The Bluejays, who were picked to finish seventh in the preseason coaches poll, finished 10-4 in league competition, its best win total since its championship season in 2000-01.

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**Martin Earns All-America Honors**

ELMHURST, Ill., March 22, 2005 -- Elmhurst College forward Chris Martin (Eureka-H.S.) has been selected to the fourth annual D3hoops.com All-American fourth team. The award comes just one week after Martin was named to the D3hoops.com first team all-Midwest region honors.
“Chris is the most dominant player I’ve seen in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) over the past nine years,” said Elmhurst’s head basketball coach Mark Scherer. “He excels in all areas of the game while personifying a team-first attitude.”

Martin, a unanimous first-team all-conference selection in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW), led the Bluejays in scoring, rebounding, assists and steals. This season marked the second-straight first-team all-conference honor for Martin. He averaged 17.6 points and 8.6 rebounds per game this season while setting Elmhurst’s career record in steals (171). He led the conference in points, rebounds and steals per game and finished third in assists per game. He was chosen as the CCIW’s “Player of the Week” twice this season. He was an all-tournament pick at the Elmhurst and Embry-Riddle University tournaments.

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The men’s basketball team closed out the 2004-05 season with an 18-7 overall record and a second-place finish in the CCIW. The Bluejays, who were picked to finish seventh in the preseason coaches poll, finished 10-4 in league competition, its best win total since its championship season in 2000-01.