



# St. Norbert College

## Athletics Communications

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### St. Norbert College Green Knights Men's Basketball Preview

#### St. Norbert College (0-0) at Benedictine Univ. (0-0)

Saturday, November 9, 2019 - 4 p.m.  
Rice Center (2,500) - Lisle, Illinois

#### Game Overview:

St. Norbert gets things started for keeps when it travels to future Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference colleague Benedictine for the 2019-20 season opener.

#### Broadcast:

Live streaming video will be available at:  
<https://benueagles.com/sports/2019/8/16/watch.aspx>

Live statistics will be available at: <https://benueagles.com/sidearm-stats/mbball/summary>

#### The Series:

St. Norbert leads Benedictine 6-3 in a series dating back to the 1982-83 season. The Green Knights won the last game in Lisle 71-70 on Nov. 19, 20-16 at Rice Center.

#### Last Meeting:

St. Norbert topped Benedictine 70-53 on Nov. 18, 2017 at Mulva Family Fitness & Sports Center. The Green Knights led 38-32 at halftime before opening the second half on an 18-0 run. Mitchell Reinthaler led St. Norbert with 15 points, while Riley Haas added 13 points. Eric Grygo paced the Eagles with 22 points.

#### The Coaches:

St. Norbert coach Gary Grzesk (UW-Green Bay, 1996) is 251-81 in his 14th season in De Pere. He was 51-31 in three seasons at Lakeland before arriving at St. Norbert to give him an overall mark of 302-112.

Benedictine coach Keith Bunkenburg (Benedictine, 1989) is 394-243 in his 25th season in Lisle.

#### About the Green Knights:

St. Norbert enters the season after finishing with a 19-8 overall record a year ago. The Green Knights captured their eighth Midwest Conference title in 10 years with a 16-2 record. St. Norbert returns its five top scorers from last season. The Green Knights have played two exhibition games against NCAA Division I opponents this season, falling to UW-Green Bay

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#### 2019-2020 Results

Date	Opponent	Result
O 28	at UW-Green Bay (exh)	L 79-72
O 29	at Marquette (exh)	L 88-51
N 9	at Benedictine	4 p.m.
N 16	at Elmhurst	7 p.m.
N 23	Northland	3 p.m.
D 4	Lake Forest *	5:30 p.m.
D 7	at Ripon *	1 p.m.
D 14	UW-Eau Claire	3 p.m.
D 17	UW-Oshkosh	7:30 p.m.
D 29	UW-Superior %	7 p.m.
D 30	UW-Stout or Edgewood %	5 or 7 p.m.
J 3	at Monmouth *	5:30 p.m.
J 4	at Knox *	1 p.m.
J 8	Illinois College *	5:30 p.m.
J 11	at Cornell *	1 p.m.
J 15	at Beloit *	5:30 p.m.
J 18	Knox *	1 p.m.
J 21	at Lake Forest *	5:30 p.m.
J 25	Ripon *	1 p.m.
J 31	Grinnell *	5:30 p.m.
F 1	Cornell *	3 p.m.
F 5	Lawrence *	5:30 p.m.
F 8	at Illinois College *	1 p.m.
F 12	Beloit *	5:30 p.m.
F 15	at Grinnell *	1 p.m.
F 19	at Lawrence *	5:30 p.m.
F 22	Monmouth *	1 p.m.

\* - Midwest Conference game; % - Nicolet National Bank Holiday Tournament - De Pere, Wis. **Note:** Home games in **bold** and played at Mulva Family Fitness & Sports Center; (rankings) by D3hoops.com.

79-72 on Oct. 28 and Marquette 88-51 on Oct. 29.

Senior guard Joe Ciriacks, a second-team All-MWC choice last year, led the Green Knights in scoring at 14.8 points per game while shooting 41.9 percent from beyond the three-point arc. Senior forward Connor Curtis, who missed the last eight games due to injury, averaged 14.5 points and 7.4 rebounds per game and was a first-team All-MWC selection. Junior guard Jared Murphy averaged 10.1 points per game, while junior guard Wade Geenen averaged 8.9 points per game. Junior forward Joe Lemon averaged 8.5 points and 7.0 rebounds per game but will miss a significant part of this season to injury.

St. Norbert averaged 76.3 points per game while shooting 46.5 percent from the floor, 36.8 percent on 3-pointers and 73.4 percent at the free-throw line. Opponents scored an average of 68.7 points per game while shooting 44.7 percent from the floor, 34.2 percent on 3-pointers and 74.5 percent at the free-throw line.

#### About the Eagles:

Benedictine finished 13-12 overall a year ago and finished in a tie for sixth place in the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference at 10-10. The Eagles, who return three starters from last year's team, were picked to finished third in the pre-season NACC Coaches' Poll.

Senior forward Eric Grygo averaged a double-double last season, totaling 14.2 points and 10.1 rebounds per game while shooting 69.2 percent from the floor. Senior guard Kenny Bogus averaging 12.7 points and 6.4 rebounds per game last season, while sophomore guard Kyle Graebner netted 9.7 points per game.

Benedictine averaged 73.2 points per game while shooting 44.3 percent from the floor, 31.5 percent on 3-pointers and 68.5 percent at the free-throw line. Opponents scored an average of 71.8 points per game while shooting 43.1 percent from the floor, 37.2 percent on 3-pointers

and 72.1 percent at the free-throw line.

#### Crystal Ball:

St. Norbert was picked to win its ninth Midwest Conference championship in the last 11 seasons in the annual pre-season poll conducted by the league's coaches.

The Green Knights received a maximum nine first-place votes and 81 points. Monmouth was given the nod for second with one first-place vote and 68 points. Lake Forest was third with 66 points, while Grinnell was fourth with 55 points.

Ripon was picked for fifth (50 points), Lawrence sixth (46 points), Illinois College seventh (30 points), Cornell eighth (26 points), Beloit ninth (18 points) and Knox tenth (10 points).

#### Season Openers:

Under Gary Grzesk, St. Norbert owns a 10-3 record in season-opening games.

The Green Knights lost Grzesk's St. Norbert debut in 2006-07 before reeling off wins in nine consecutive season openers. St. Norbert has dropped two of its last three season-opening games.

St. Norbert dropped a 78-68 decision at Northwestern-St. Paul last season. The Green Knights topped UW-Eau Claire 77-69 in the 2017-18 season opener.

#### Building a Winner:

St. Norbert has six 20-win seasons in the last nine years, with the other three seasons all 19-win campaigns. In the program's previous 86 seasons, St. Norbert had 20-win seasons just twice.

St. Norbert's 25 wins in 2014 and 2016 is the school record. The Green Knights won 24 games in 2015, 23 games in 2010 and 21 games twice (1984 and 2002). St. Norbert won 20 games in 2011 and 2013.

St. Norbert's 94-13 record from 2013 to 2016 marks the best four-year total in school history.

## Head Coach Gary Grzesk

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in Spanish at UW-Green Bay (1996); master's degree in education administration at Youngstown State (1998).

**Playing Experience:** Four-year letterman at UW-Green Bay (1993-96).

**Coaching Experience:** Assistant coach at Youngstown State (1996-2002); assistant coach at UW-Green Bay (2002-03); head coach at Lakeland (2003-06); head coach at St. Norbert (April 13, 2006 to present).



### Grzesk's Head Coaching Record

Lakeland				
Year	Overall	LMC	Place	NCAA
2003-04	16-13	8-4	3rd	First Rd.
2004-05	14-12	7-5	T3rd	
2005-06	21-6	13-1	1st	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>51-31</b>	<b>28-10</b>		

St. Norbert				
Year	Overall	MWC	Place	NCAA
2006-07	9-13	8-8	6th	
2007-08	14-10	10-6	T3rd	
2008-09	18-6	12-4	T3rd	
2009-10	23-4	14-2	1st	Second Rd.
2010-11	20-6	14-4	1st	First Rd.
2011-12	16-9	12-6	3rd	
2012-13	20-6	15-3	1st	First Rd.
2013-14	25-2	18-0	1st	Second Rd.
2014-15	24-2	18-0	1st	First Rd.
2015-16	25-3	18-0	1st	Sweet 16
2016-17	19-5	16-2	1st	
2017-18	19-7	14-4	T2nd	
2018-19	19-8	16-2	1st	
2019-20	0-0	0-0		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>251-81</b>	<b>185-41</b>		
<b>Career</b>	<b>302-112</b>			

### Grzesk vs. MWC at St. Norbert

Team	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
Beloit	22-4	12-1	10-3	0-0
Carrroll *	18-7	12-2	6-4	0-1
Cornell	13-1	7-0	6-1	0-0
Grinnell	18-9	13-1	4-8	1-0
Illinois Coll.	22-0	11-0	11-0	0-0
Knox	22-2	11-1	11-1	0-0
Lake Forest	22-5	11-4	11-1	0-0
Lawrence	20-7	10-3	10-4	0-0
Monmouth	19-4	11-1	8-3	0-0
Ripon	23-8	15-2	8-5	0-1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>198-47</b>	<b>113-15</b>	<b>84-30</b>	<b>1-2</b>

### MWC Glance

Team	MWC	Overall
Beloit	0-0	0-0
Cornell	0-0	0-0
Grinnell	0-0	0-0
Illinois College	0-0	0-0
Knox	0-0	0-0
Lake Forest	0-0	0-0
Lawrence	0-0	0-0
Monmouth	0-0	0-0
Ripon	0-0	0-0
St. Norbert	0-0	0-0

## St. Norbert Quick Facts

**Nickname:** .....Green Knights  
**Location:** .....De Pere, WI 54115  
**Colors:** .....Dartmouth Green & Old Gold  
**Founded:** .....1898  
**Enrollment:** .....2,168  
**President:** .....Brian Bruess  
**Athletics Director:** .....Tim Bald  
**Conference:** .....Midwest Conference  
**Facility:** ..Mulva Family Fitness & Sports Center  
**Capacity:** .....1,844  
**Year Opened:** .....2017  
**Head Coach:** .....Gary Grzesk  
**Record at St. Norbert:** .....251-81 (14th year)  
**Record Overall:** .....302-112 (17th year)  
**Assistant Coaches:** .....Joel Cline,  
 .....Brian Roehrig, Corey Ciesielczyk,  
 .....Justin Zwiefelhofer, Steve Kestly  
**First Season of Men's Basketball:** .....1916-17  
**Seasons of Men's Basketball:** .....97  
**All-Time Overall Record:** .....1,104-879  
**All-Time MWC Record:** .....370-189  
**MWC Championships:** .....10  
 ....(1984, 2002, '10, '11, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17, '19)  
**NCAA Tournament Appearances:** .....Nine  
 ....(1958, '84, 2002, 10, '11, '13, '14, '15, '16)  
**NAIA Tournament Appearances:** .....Three  
 ....(1961, '62, '65)

## D3hoops.com Division III

### Top 25 Poll # 1 - Oct. 28, 2019

Place	School (1st-place)	Pts.	Record
1	Swarthmore (16)	614	0-0
2	UW-Oshkosh (8)	563	0-0
3	North Central-Ill. (1)	510	0-0
4	Amherst	469	0-0
5	Wittenberg	455	0-0
6	Emory	418	0-0
7	Washington-Mo.	386	0-0
8	Nebraska Wesleyan	349	0-0
9	Christopher Newport	338	0-0
10	Nichols	333	0-0
11	Texas-Dallas	313	0-0
12	St. John's	295	0-0
13	Middlebury	282	0-0
14	Wabash	269	0-0
15	St. Thomas	245	0-0
16	WPI	239	0-0
17	Augustana	229	0-0
18	Marietta	227	0-0
19	Guilford	216	0-0
20	Whitman	193	0-0
21	Wooster	167	0-0
22	Baldwin Wallace	128	0-0
23	Augsburg	113	0-0
24	Randolph-Macon	112	0-0
25	St. John Fisher	93	0-0

**Others receiving votes:** Oswego State 83, Hamilton 59, Salem State 58, UW-Platteville 54, York-Pa. 49, Wheaton-Ill. 45, MIT 35, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps 31, New Jersey City 29, Scranton 24, Endicott 18, Mount Union 18, Pomona-Pitzer 15, Eastern Connecticut 14, Whitworth 12, Rochester 5, Oneonta State 5, Tufts 4, Williams 3, Brockport State 2, Covenant 2, Brandeis 1, Keene State 1, Loras 1, Yeshiva 1.

## St. Norbert Men's Basketball Career Highs

### #2 - Ethan Riniker

Points: 12 (2 times, last 12/29/18 vs. UW-River Falls)  
 Rebounds: 6 (11/30/18 vs. Monmouth)  
 Assists: 2 (2 times, last 12/28/18 vs. Alma)

### #3 - Jack Pettit

Points: 4 (12/1/18 vs. Knox)  
 Rebounds: 2 (11/16/18 vs. Central)  
 Assists: 2 (12/1/18 vs. Knox)

### #4 - Jared Davis

Points: 11 (1/2/19 vs. Illinois College)  
 Rebounds: 7 (12/1/18 vs. Knox)  
 Assists: 1 (2 times, last 1/8/19 vs. Beloit)

### #5 - Joe Ciriacks

Points: 32 (1/26/19 vs. Cornell)  
 Rebounds: 5 (2/13/18 vs. Lake Forest)  
 Assists: 4 (2 times, last 1/26/19 vs. Cornell)

### #11 - Jared Murphy

Points: 19 (2 times, last 2/2/19 vs. Illinois College)  
 Rebounds: 6 (2 times last, 2/5/19 vs. Beloit)  
 Assists: 4 (3 times, last 2/2/19 vs. Illinois College)

### #12 - Michael Payant

Points: 5 (1/8/19 vs. Beloit)  
 Rebounds: 1 (3 times, last 2/9/19 vs. Grinnell)  
 Assists: 1 (3 times, last 2/13/19 vs. Lawrence)

### #15 - Matt Lynch

Points: 10 (2/9/19 vs. Grinnell)  
 Rebounds: 5 (2/5/19 vs. Beloit)  
 Assists: 4 (2/9/19 vs. Grinnell)

### #20 - Nolan Beirne

Points: 21 (2 times, last 2/9/19 vs. Grinnell)  
 Rebounds: 10 (2 times, last 2/27/19 vs. Lake Forest)  
 Assists: 6 (2/13/19 vs. Lawrence)

### #21 - Jacob Bolwerk

Points: 17 (2/9/19 vs. Grinnell)  
 Rebounds: 5 (2/9/19 vs. Grinnell)  
 Assists: 2 (2/9/19 vs. Grinnell)

### #22 - Wade Geenen

Points: 22 (2/13/18 vs. Lake Forest)  
 Rebounds: 7 (11/10/18 vs. Northwestern)  
 Assists: 7 (11/16/18 vs. Central)

### #24 - Jordan Newman

Points: 4 (12/1/18 vs. Knox)  
 Rebounds: 2 (3 times, last 12/5/18 vs. Lake Forest)  
 Assists: 2 (12/2/17 vs. Illinois College)

### #32 - Patrick Danen

Points: 4 (1/12/19 vs. Knox)  
 Rebounds: 2 (1/2/19 vs. Illinois College)  
 Assists: 1 (2/13/19 vs. Lawrence)

### #41 - Connor Curtis

Points: 23 (1/12/19 vs. Knox)  
 Rebounds: 20 (11/17/18 vs. Nebraska Wesleyan)  
 Assists: 4 (1/26/19 vs. Cornell)

### #52 - Joe Lemon

Points: 20 (11/30/18 vs. Monmouth)  
 Rebounds: 15 (2 times, last 12/5/18 vs. Lake Forest)  
 Assists: 6 (1/26/19 vs. Cornell)