

1. Under the basket, Kameron Bevel, freshman, goes up against a defender from Hazelwood East. "It feels hard because they are in front of you so you can't score the ball," Bevel said. "It's easier if they aren't in front of you."
2. On the balls of his feet, Trayvon Robinson, sophomore takes a free throw shot after a foul driving to the basket. "I like that I have more opportunities to score," said Robinson.
3. Improvising on offense, point guard Keyon Beasley, sophomore, switches a play to ensure that the team scores. "The play was [called] 'shuffle,'z but it got messed up," said Beasley. "So my teammate Kameron [Jordan] set a screen for me and we ran the pick and roll play."



4. In an effort to get ahead while losing to Hazelwood East, a rival team, Keyon Beasley, sophomore, goes in for a lay up. "I was thinking about getting my team a bucket," said Beasley. "It looks like I was uncomfortable, but when I was doing it, it felt like I was just playing basketball."
5. Preparing for the jump ball against a St. Dominic player, Azyah Brown, junior, positions himself to tip the ball. Brown takes pride in his role on the team. "As forward I do a lot, they rely on me for things like rebounding, scoring on the inside and getting to the bucket," said Brown.
6. Focused on the ball, Kameron Jordan, senior, gets into his defensive stance. "My plan is not to steal every ball, the plan is to make the opponent think you will steal every ball," said Jordan.
7. In the rival game against Hazelwood East, Deobrae Taylor, freshmen, directs his teammates on the court. "I led by feeding the ball to my big man, [Damion Hamilton], and sharing the ball with my other teammates like the lead scorer Trayvon Robinson," said Taylor.
8. After being fouled on a lay up, Damion Hamilton, sophomore, takes two free throws. "I play power forward," said Hamilton. "It's a lot of dirty work, you get to get down there with the other big players that you're going against."

Ballin' like a pro

New coach leads young team

Tackling the job of coaching a majority underclassmen team is no easy feat, especially for new head coach, Kelvin Lee.

"I'm always excited taking over a program, it's a challenge," Lee said. "I never back down from a challenge, I hit it head on. They're used to doing things a certain way, now it's not that way anymore. But at the same time the kids have to be smart enough to say 'okay I have to adapt to [coach's] way of doing things.'"

Although Lee's new, most team members feel as though the coach has helped push them to new heights.

"He gets on us about messing up on things because he wants us to [be] better young men, and become great basketball players," said Brandon Ming, freshman.

Despite their inexperience, some of the players feel they are still capable of becoming a great team.

"It's just a process to me, I know we aren't the best this season, but it's just a process," said Damion Hamilton, sophomore. "I don't really trip off the wins and losses because I know we're still young and we've got work to do."

"I live to play basketball," Trayvon Robinson, sophomore, said. "If I didn't play basketball, I don't know what else I would do."

Story by Alona Jenkins & Sierra Tyler Photos by Sierra Tyler & Alona Jenkins



Justin Holland, freshman
"I feel confident like I'm going to make it as soon as I get to the line because I practice free throws all the time."



Azyah Brown, junior
"I feel like it's an important shot so I have to go ahead and put it in the basket. You're not suppose to have any doubt when taking a free throw, sometimes I do, I can't lie, but I try not to."



Kameron Jordan, senior
"I feel very confident that I will hit both shots. I just bend my knees and flick my wrist like my coach told me. I feel [doubt] deep down inside but it's better to show that I don't care instead of express how I feel."

How do you feel when you shoot a free throw?