

[College Media Network](#)

- [U 2008 Woodie Awards](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Top College News](#)

[Home](#) > [Sports](#)

## Make that a Rambler split

### Men's basketball takes league contest in Detroit after losing to Wright State

**Nathan Lurz**

**Issue date:** 1/28/09 **Section:** [Sports](#)

In an up and down, Jekyll and Hyde week, men's basketball split its games against Wright State and Detroit.

First came the ugly: Loyola sported an anemic offense, managing only 43 points compared to WSU's 68. Both offenses started well in the first half, with 12 total 3-pointers, eight of them by Wright State.

The Rambler defense allowed a staggering 59 percent field shooting percentage but kept the game close at 24-21 after freshman Walt Gibler's jumper. Yet Wright State went on a 12-2 run and put the boys in maroon into a hole from which they could not extricate themselves.

Down 41-30 at half, LUC tightened its defense, bogging down WSU's offensive onslaught and holding them to only 30 percent shooting and treys down the stretch. However, Loyola seemed to forget its offense in the halftime adjustments, its last score coming on a 3-pointer from Gibler at the 15:21 mark of the second.

Loyola shot an awful 15 percent from the field in the final 20 minutes, and had only senior J.R. Blount score in the double figures for the game.

In stark contrast, LUC made the long road trip to the University of Detroit and came up with a big 72-66 win. Three players scored in the double figures, including 20 points by Blount, the Ramblers' most consistent offensive threat all year.

Loyola went on a tear to open up the game with an 11-2 lead, but the Titans surged ever further with an incredible 27-11 run to grab a 29-22 lead, an advantage they carried into the second half. A Blount glass-kisser capped off yet another big Rambler offensive, a 16-4 run that put them ahead 51-46 with 12 minutes to play.

The teams played close until a Gibler 3-point play put the Ramblers up for good. Loyola countered its awful free throw percentage before half (33.3 percent, 3-9) by making their shots when they counted in the second half (82 percent, 14-17).

Detroit native senior Darrin "Boomer" Williams added 13 points in his homecoming game, and Gibler shot two key 3-pointers, adding 13 of his own to go along with his eight rebounds.

Next Loyola continues its road trip through Milwaukee as it begins its second league tour, facing its Horizon opponents a second time.

Game time is 7 p.m. on Wednesday, and the contest will be aired on the Horizon League Television network. The game features four Ramblers who return to their home state of Wisconsin, including key players Blount and junior Andy Polka.

Page 1 of 1

## Article Tools

### Share:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Blogger](#)
- [del.icio.us](#)
- [digg](#)
- [newsvine](#)

### Subscribe:

- [My Yahoo!](#)
- [Google](#)

## Be the first to comment on this story

- Name: (required)
- Email: (required)
- Website:

NOTE: Email address will not be published

Notify me of followup comments via e-mail

Type your comment below (html not allowed)

**I am not posting spam.** I understand posting spam or other comments that are unrelated to this article will cause my comment to be flagged for deletion and possibly cause my IP address to be permanently banned from this server.

Post

[National College Advertising and Marketing](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) (8/15/07) | [Terms of Use](#) (4/28/08)  
[Content Submission Agreement](#) (8/23/07) | [Copyright Compliance Policy](#) (8/25/07) | [RSS Terms of Use](#)

College Publisher powered by mtvU and MTV Networks