



RYAN PEDON

OHIO STATE BASKETBALL ASSISTANT COACH

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Bill Hosket was asked to introduce today's speaker, **Ryan Pedon**.

Prior to introducing Ryan he recognized a special guest – **Gene Millard** from Bexley. Gene was Ryan's high school coach. Gene was a three sport high school athlete, captain of the OSU basketball team, a member of the Ohio High School Coaches Hall of Fame and the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame. Gene is also the person who scored the first basket ever at St John Arena. When the arena was retired as a basketball venue he was invited back after the final game to make the last basket. He made a layup – and then punctuated the event by throwing in a three pointer on his way off the court.

Ryan Pedon, our guest speaker, is an assistant basketball coach at Ohio State. He recalled watching OSU games on TV with Bill Hosket and Tom Hamilton on the Raycom Network. He enjoyed the OSU game last week in St John Arena which brought back memories of watching games

there in his youth with his family. The coaching staff would like to play one game, perhaps two, each year at St John.

The Coaching staff all came with head coach Chris Holtmann from Butler. They arrived in June of 2017. For a basketball staff, starting at a new school in June is difficult timing in the college basketball world. The July summer recruiting period was looming. The process of uprooting the family during this extremely busy time added to the difficulty of the situation.

The fact the entire coaching staff came from Butler together was very helpful in the transition process. Staff roles were already well defined which made for a seamless transition. The process of hiring coach Holtmann evolved very rapidly – over a period of about 72 hours. Prior to accepting the offer, Holtmann called his coaches together for a meeting at his house to discuss to pros and cons of such a move. He requested input from each coach before making his decision.

Ryan noted that Ohio State is very unique in terms of the national landscape. It is a place where someone with the mindset of coach Holtmann can “coach to his convictions”. There is no need to cheat or compromise your integrity at Ohio State in order to get the best players. In Ryan's words “this is a place that can sell itself”. It is a place where national championships can be won – IN BASKETBALL – he emphasized. OSU is a national brand – perhaps the top brand in college athletics.

It is an exciting time in men's basketball at Ohio State. He looked back at the tremendous job that Thad Matta did during his time at OSU including returning the program to a prominence that it had not enjoyed for a while. Adding to the excitement is the recent scheduling of a home and home series with the University of Cincinnati. That

GREETERS

December 4

Susan Moffat-Bruce
Bob Bracco

December 11

NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

December 18

Chris Aschinger
Connie Aschinger

REGISTRATION DESK

December 4

Jim Winfree
Kevin Brown

December 11

NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

December 18

John Hansel
John Adams

CALENDAR

December 4 | Scioto CC

Joe Roush, U.A. Criminal
Justice Administrator
*Drug Court and The Opioid
Problem*

Hosted by: Hummer

December 11 | Scioto CC

NO REGULAR WEEKLY
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December 18 | Scioto CC

TBA

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Submit your volunteer opportunity to herb@herbgillien.com for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

SOCIAL EVENTS

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OUR NEXT MEETING

December 4th
Scioto CC

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



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rivalry – while dormant for many years – is very deep rooted. OSU now has bragging rights for the next year. Coach Holtmann is also committed to playing more Ohio teams as the schedule permits. He would like to jump start the idea of establishing the Ohio Cup – a four team tournament featuring Ohio teams. For example, OSU, Cincinnati, Xavier and Dayton might be involved. There is some pushback on this idea due to concerns about recruiting among the schools in southwest Ohio.

He commented on the \$42 million renovations at the Schottenstein Center to enhance the fan experience. Improvements to the basketball hallway were also included in the upgrades. The history and legacy of OSU's basketball program are now highlighted more completely.

Last year, when the coaching staff arrived there were seven scholarship players on the roster. He highlighted the addition of Andrew Dakich who had been at Michigan for the four preceding years. Upon his arrival at Ohio State he was seen as a practice player. Ultimately, he became the valuable seventh or eighth man who you couldn't take off the floor – particularly late in games. He is currently a grad assistant for the team.

He praised last year's team members for opening their hearts and minds to the new coaching staff. Their leadership, heart and character led the team



from a predicted 12th place in the preseason to a second place finish in the Big Ten with a 25-9 record.

This year the team is off to a 6-0 start with two good road wins at Cincinnati and Creighton. The team is currently ranked 16th in the country. The coaching staff works hard make sure the team understands that such early success and ranking are not definitive. At the end of the day they will get what they deserve from their effort. It is an inexperienced team – eight of twelve players are in their first or second year as Buckeyes. There are great challenges to come. One such challenge is the upcoming game with Syracuse (11/28).

Last year's recruiting class ended up being the top recruiting class in the Big Ten. The 2018 class is a top twenty class. The 2019 class – just signed – is highly regarded as a potential top five class.

The Meeting



President **Brad DeHays** called the meeting to order and asked **Bob Prior** to offer the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Westfall asked **Mike Brady**, **Celia Crossley** and **Jack Seibert** to introduce their guests.

Brad gave the fourth reading of the nominees for the Board of Directors: **Allison Russo**, **Barri Jones**, **John Trapp**, **Wade Giffin** and **Brad Frick** are the Board nominees. In addition, **Joe Valentino** will be moving into the leadership chairs.

Today (11/27) is Giving Tuesday. Brad referred us to a club-wide email which had been sent about the need for financial support for the school programs which UA Rotary supports in Guatemala. There have been recent funding cutbacks which results in 700 students being short of funding for a primary education. The annual cost per student for such an education is \$300. A link to donate is embedded in the email which was distributed yesterday.

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Notes and Announcements

Anne Croskey reminded us to register for the December 11 holiday party. Signup sheets were on the tables – and online registration is available by responding to the electronic invitation previously sent to all members. We currently have 121 people registered for the event.

Reminder: There is no club lunch meeting on December 11 due to the holiday party that evening.

Don Trotier reminded us of the Rotary Roundtable next Tuesday, December 4. **Chris** and **Connie Aschinger** will discuss their relationship with manufacturers in Viet Nam.



Herb Gillen, on behalf of **Sandy Clary**, announced that today (11/27) is/was the last day for collections for the Holiday Wish program. Contributions could be given to Herb. Clients of the Homeless Families Foundation, the YWCA Family Center and the Community Shelter Board's Van Buren Shelter benefit from the program. UA Rotary is matching gifts up to \$4,000.

Herb also distributed signup sheets for the Homeless Families Foundation's Holiday Store. We need volunteers for Monday evening, December 17 to help gift wrap, help families with their shopping and clean up at the conclusion of the evening. The time commitment is from 6:15 to 8:30 PM. Contact Herb if you can help. Spouses are welcome to help but children need to be at least 18 years old.

Chip Knoop announced that this Saturday, December 1 will feature a "Bed Brigade holiday bed delivery blitz". Time commitment is from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Let Chip know if you can help.



BED BRIGADE DELIVERY BLITZ

Saturday, December 1 • 9 am – 12 pm • volunteers needed

HOMELESS FAMILY FOUNDATION

Monday, December 17 • 6:15 pm – 8:30 pm • volunteers needed

UA ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY

Tuesday evening, December 11 • *There will not be a noon lunch meeting on that day.*