

# 2017-18 VALPARAISO MEN'S BASKETBALL QUICK FACTS

## GENERAL

**Name of School:** Valparaiso University  
**City/Zip:** Valparaiso, Ind. 46383  
**Founded:** 1859  
**Enrollment:** 4,544  
**Nickname:** Crusaders  
**School Colors:** Brown and Gold  
**Home Court (Capacity):** Athletics-Recreation Center (5,000)  
**Press Row Phone:** 219-548-1502  
**Affiliation:** NCAA Division I  
**Conference:** Missouri Valley Conference  
**President:** Dr. Mark Heckler  
**Athletics Director:** Mark LaBarbera  
**Senior Woman Administrator:** Kimberly Smith  
**Athletics Department Phone:** 219-464-6894  
**Ticket Office Phone:** 219-464-5233  
**Website:** www.valpoathletics.com

## COACHING STAFF

**Head Coach:** Matt Lottich - Second season  
**Alma Mater (Year):** Stanford (2004)  
**Record at Valpo (Seasons):** 24-9 (One season)  
**Overall Record (Seasons):** 24-9 (One season)  
**Men's Basketball Office Phone:** 219-464-5254  
**Associate Head Coach:** Luke Gore (16th season)  
**Assistant Coaches:** David Ragland (Second season) and Emanuel Dildy (First season)  
**Director of Basketball Operations:** Joel Zimba (Second season)

## SPORTS MEDIA RELATIONS

**Assistant Athletics Director/Media Relations (MBB Contact):**  
Aaron Leavitt

**Office phone number:** 219.464.6953  
**Cell phone number:** 219.476.6680  
**E-mail:** Aaron.Leavitt@valpo.edu

**Assistant Director of Media Relations:** Brandon Vickrey  
**Office phone number:** 219.464.5396  
**Cell phone number:** 219.771.7504  
**E-mail:** Brandon.Vickrey@valpo.edu

**Media Relations Fax number:** 219.464.5762

### Media Relations Mailing Address:

Valparaiso University  
Sports Media Relations  
Athletics-Recreation Center  
1009 Union Street  
Valparaiso, IN 46383

## TEAM INFORMATION

**Overall Record last year:** 24-9  
**Conference Record (Finish):** 14-4 (t-1st/10) [Horizon League]  
**Home/Road/Neutral:** 15-2 / 7-6 / 2-1  
**Final Ranking last year:** n/a  
**Postseason:** NIT, first round  
**Letterwinners Returning/Lost:** 6/7  
**Starters Returning/Lost:** 2/3

## HISTORY

**First year of basketball:** 1917-18  
**All-time record:** 1343-1187 (100 seasons)  
**NCAA Tournament appearances:** 14 (9 since 1996)  
**Last NCAA Tournament appearance:** 2015  
**Result:** L 65-62 vs. Maryland (Columbus, Ohio) - 2nd round  
**All-time NCAA Tournament record:** 9-14  
**Postseason NIT appearances:** 4  
**Last NIT appearance:** 2017  
**Result:** L 82-57 at Illinois in 1st round  
**All-time NIT record:** 4-4  
**Last CBI appearance:** 2008  
**Result:** W 72-71 at Washington in 1st round, L 91-67 at Houston in quarterfinal  
**All-time CBI record:** 1-1  
**CIT appearances:** 2  
**Last CIT appearance:** 2014  
**Result:** L 58-56 vs. Columbia at home in 1st round  
**All-time CIT record:** 0-2

## MEDIA INFORMATION

**Radio:** Valpo Sports Radio Network (WVUR, 95.1 FM, Valparaiso)  
**Play-by-play:** Todd Ickow [219.771.8487]  
**Color analyst:** David Huseman/Aaron Leavitt  
**Contact:** Aaron Leavitt

**Newspaper:** Times of Northwest Indiana  
**Sports Editor:** TBD  
**Phone number:** 219.462.5151  
**Fax number:** 219.465.7298

**Newspaper:** Post-Tribune  
**Sports Editor:** Mike Clark  
**Phone number:** 312.321.2228  
**Fax number:** 219.648.3236

**Newspaper:** The Torch  
**Sports Editor:** Robert Augsdorfer  
**Phone number:** 219.464.5426  
**Fax number:** 219.464.6728

# CRUSADER NOTES

- The Valparaiso University men's basketball program embarks on a new journey this season, as the 2017-18 campaign marks the program's first season as a member of the Missouri Valley Conference. Valpo joins The Valley after spending the last 10 seasons in the Horizon League.

- The Crusaders are coming off of their third consecutive Horizon League regular season title and their fifth in the last six years, posting a 14-4 mark within league play and a 24-9 record overall. The regular season was highlighted by a win over #21 Rhode Island at the ARC - the program's first win over a ranked opponent since 1998 - and wins in Las Vegas over Alabama and BYU to earn the MGM Grand Main Event title.

- Valpo earned an at-large bid into the Postseason NIT for the second time in program history, falling at Illinois in a first-round matchup. The NIT berth extended the Crusaders' string of postseason appearances to seven straight seasons.

- The Crusaders have to replace seven letterwinners lost from last season's team, most notably graduated senior Alec Peters. Peters was an NABC Third Team All-American and the Horizon League Player of the Year as a senior, finishing his Valpo career as the program's all-time leading scorer and rebounder. In late June, Peters became Valpo's first NBA draft pick since 1998, going with the 54th overall pick to the Phoenix Suns.

- Peters is one of three Crusaders from last year's squad to sign professional contracts to continue their basketball playing careers. Shane Hammink inked a deal with Bilbao Basket of Liga ACB in Spain, while Jubril Adekoya signed with CB Penas Huesca of LEB Oro in Spain.

- Entering his second season as head coach of the Crusaders, Matt Lottich has six returning letterwinners to mesh with six eligible newcomers in 2017-18. Highlighting the returnees is senior guard Tevonn Walker, a Horizon League All-Defensive Team selection last year. Walker averaged 11.9 points and 5.6 rebounds per game in 2016-17 and enters his senior season just eight points shy of 1,000 for his career. Walker declared for the 2017 NBA Draft on April 13 and withdrew his name from draft consideration on May 3.

- Walker is joined in the senior class by prep and AAU teammate Max Joseph. Joseph averaged 5.7 points and 2.9 rebounds per game and played 22 minutes per contest as a junior. Within Horizon League play, he averaged 1.1 steals/game, good for 12th in the league.

- The lone member of the Crusaders' junior class is Oklahoma State transfer Joe Burton, eligible this year after sitting out last season. Burton averaged just shy of five points per game for the Cowboys in 2015-16 as a sophomore and hit at nearly a 40% clip from 3-point range.

- Four sophomores are back in 2017-18 for their second season of action with the Crusaders. Both halves of Valpo's duo at the center position - Derrik Smits and Jaume Sorolla - return this year after combining to average 11.7 points and 7.6 rebounds per game within Horizon League play last season as freshmen. Micah Bradford looks to contribute to the Crusader backcourt after playing 14 minutes per game and averaging four points per game as a freshman, while swingman John Kiser - who was a walk-on last season - earned a scholarship for this year after working his rotation into the Crusaders' rotation in the late stages of last year.

- Burton is one of six newcomers looking to contribute to the Crusaders' success in 2017-18, as Valpo welcomes two other eligible transfers and three freshmen. Sophomore Bakari Evelyn joined Burton in sitting out last season following his transfer from Nebraska, while sophomore Markus Golder played one season at North Idaho College, averaging nearly 19 points per game.

- A trio of true freshmen - two local and one international - join the program this season as well. Forward Parker Hazen, a graduate of Columbia City H.S., and forward Mileek McMillan, who comes to Valpo from Merrillville H.S., both signed their NLI's with Valpo during the fall signing period. Meanwhile, Marten Linssen - a forward from Dusseldorf, Germany who played for the German u18 team at the 2016 u18 European Championships - committed to Valpo in May.

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# 2017-18 VALPARAISO MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

#	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown/High School [Prev. School(s)]
0	<b>Parker Hazen</b>	F	6-7	210	Fr.	Columbia City, Ind./Columbia City
1	<b>Micah Bradford</b>	G	6-2	155	So.	Bourbonnais, Ill./Bradley-Bourbonnais
2	<b>Tevonn Walker</b>	G	6-2	210	Sr.	Montreal, Quebec/Vanier College
3	<b>Max Joseph</b>	G	6-2	210	Sr.	Montreal, Quebec/Vanier College
4	<b>Bakari Evelyn</b>	G	6-2	180	R-So.	Detroit, Mich./Hillcrest [Ariz.] Academy/Southfield Christian [Nebraska]
5	<b>Markus Golder</b>	G/F	6-6	195	R-So.	Portland, Ore./Clackamas [North Idaho]
10	<b>Joe Burton</b>	G/F	6-6	210	R-Jr.	Porter, Texas/Atascocita [Oklahoma State]
12	<b>Marten Linssen</b>	F	6-8	240	Fr.	Dusseldorf, Germany/Schloss-Gymnasium Benrath
14	<b>Jaume Sorolla</b>	C	7-0	245	So.	Tortosa, Spain/Sunrise Christian [Kan.] Academy
15	<b>Steven Helm</b>	G	6-2	180	So.*	Valparaiso, Ind./Valparaiso [Carroll]
21	<b>Derrick Smits</b>	C	7-2	240	R-So.	Zionsville, Ind./Zionsville
23	<b>Mileek McMillan</b>	F	6-8	220	Fr.	Merrillville, Ind./Merrillville
33	<b>John Kiser</b>	G/F	6-5	205	So.	Noblesville, Ind./Noblesville
35	<b>Ryan Fazekas</b>	G/F	6-8	215	Jr.*	Chesterton, Ind./Marquette Catholic [Providence]

\* - indicates player must sit out the 2017-2018 season due to NCAA transfer regulations

Head Coach: **Matt Lottich** (Stanford, 2004) – Second season

Associate Head Coach: **Luke Gore** (Bethel [Tenn.], 2001) – 16th season

Assistant Coaches: **David Ragland** (Southern Indiana, 2003) – Second season; **Emanuel Dildy** (Eastern Illinois, 2005) – First season

Director of Basketball Operations: **Joel Zimba** – Second season

Graduate Assistant: **Jason Karys** – 1st season

Strength and Conditioning Coach: **Derek Bol** – 6th season

# 2016-17 VALPARAISO MEN'S BASKETBALL STATS

#	Player	gp-gs	min	Total			3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds										pts	avg
				avg	fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg	pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl		
25	PETERS, Alec	29-29	1019	35.1	218-468	.466	58-160	.363	172-194	.887	74	219	293	10.1	64	0	64	71	11	23	666	23.0
11	HAMMINK, Shane	33-33	1042	31.6	169-338	.500	41-124	.331	118-146	.808	30	100	130	3.9	63	1	81	84	11	34	497	15.1
02	WALKER, Tevonn	31-31	889	28.7	120-282	.426	29-100	.290	100-125	.800	45	130	175	5.6	91	2	40	41	1	41	369	11.9
23	ADEKOYA, Jubril	9-9	260	28.9	26-58	.448	7-14	.500	18-24	.750	11	35	46	5.1	33	2	6	22	5	11	77	8.6
03	JOSEPH, Max	32-3	705	22.0	60-145	.414	21-63	.333	41-57	.719	28	65	93	2.9	77	2	57	32	10	27	182	5.7
15	WILLIAMS, Lexus	33-21	756	22.9	63-153	.412	28-86	.326	18-27	.667	9	64	73	2.2	65	1	66	44	4	46	172	5.2
14	SOROLLA, Jaume	32-9	611	19.1	65-136	.478	0-1	.000	35-50	.700	51	89	140	4.4	63	1	21	26	30	5	165	5.2
01	BRADFORD, Micah	33-11	461	14.0	46-149	.309	25-85	.294	14-25	.560	5	42	47	1.4	48	0	26	38	0	12	131	4.0
21	SMITS, Derrick	33-15	424	12.8	48-100	.480	0-3	.000	16-38	.421	24	47	71	2.2	75	2	25	36	17	4	112	3.4
33	KISER, John	25-1	245	9.8	18-32	.563	1-9	.111	8-10	.800	17	36	53	2.1	27	0	16	6	6	4	45	1.8
22	DAVIDSON, Nick	24-3	205	8.5	11-36	.306	5-17	.294	9-12	.750	8	16	24	1.0	9	0	19	7	1	2	36	1.5
05	KARYS, Jason	11-0	17	1.5	2-9	.222	2-8	.250	3-4	.750	0	1	1	0.1	1	0	1	4	0	1	9	0.8
30	LEVINGSTON SIMON,	8-0	16	2.0	2-6	.333	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1	1	2	0.3	5	0	0	0	0	1	4	0.5
Team											48	55	103				14					
Total.....		33	6650		848-1912	.444	217-670	.324	552-712	.775	351	900	1251	37.9	621	11	422	425	96	211	2465	74.7
Opponents.....		33	6650		801-1935	.414	243-733	.332	429-621	.691	326	788	1114	33.8	657	-	435	425	105	203	2274	68.9

# 2016-17 VALPARAISO MEN'S BASKETBALL RESULTS

<b>RECORD:</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>AWAY</b>	<b>NEUTRAL</b>
ALL GAMES	24-9	15-2	7-6	2-1
CONFERENCE	14-4	8-1	6-3	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	10-5	7-1	1-3	2-1

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent</b>		<b>Score</b>		<b>Att.</b>	<b>High Points</b>	<b>High Rebounds</b>
11/11/16	SOUTHERN UTAH	W	79-65		3560	(23)PETERS, Alec	(9)ADEKOYA, Jubril
11/12/16	TRINITY CHRISTIAN	W	89-75		2588	(36)PETERS, Alec	(15)PETERS, Alec
11/14/16	COPPIN STATE	W	78-58		1972	(23)HAMMINK, Shane	(8)PETERS, Alec
11-17-16	at Oregon		54-76	L	7509	(24)PETERS, Alec	(6)WALKER, Tevonn
11-21-16	vs Alabama	W	68-60		2107	(24)PETERS, Alec	(10)PETERS, Alec
11/23/16	vs BYU	W	92-89			(26)PETERS, Alec	(12)PETERS, Alec
11/27/16	BALL STATE	W	79-73		3166	(23)PETERS, Alec	(8)PETERS, Alec
11/29/16	RHODE ISLAND	W	65-62		4149	(27)PETERS, Alec	(9)PETERS, Alec
12-7-16	at KENTUCKY		63-87	L	21805	(23)PETERS, Alec	(9)SOROLLA, Jaime
12/10/16	at Missouri State	W	84-81		6147	(27)PETERS, Alec	(11)PETERS, Alec
12/17/16	INDIANA STATE	W	89-71		2172	(29)PETERS, Alec	(15)PETERS, Alec
12/22/16	SANTA CLARA		80-87	Lo2	1854	(35)PETERS, Alec	(13)PETERS, Alec
12/28/16	CHICAGO STATE	W	80-61		2024	(22)HAMMINK, Shane	(14)PETERS, Alec
12/30/16	*at UIC	W	70-59		3826	(23)WALKER, Tevonn	(11)PETERS, Alec
01/06/17	*OAKLAND		66-78	L	3872	(20)PETERS, Alec	(11)PETERS, Alec
01/08/17	*DETROIT MERCY	W	81-74		1776	(23)HAMMINK, Shane	(11)PETERS, Alec
01/12/17	*at Youngstown State	W	78-62		2517	(17)PETERS, Alec	(15)PETERS, Alec
1/14/17	*at Cleveland State	W	78-67		1831	(30)PETERS, Alec	(9)PETERS, Alec
							(9)WALKER, Tevonn
01/16/17	*GREEN BAY	W	80-56		3625	(20)PETERS, Alec	(16)PETERS, Alec
01/22/17	*UIC	W	96-65		3881	(30)PETERS, Alec	(10)PETERS, Alec
01/27/17	*WRIGHT STATE	W	70-55		3461	(25)PETERS, Alec	(14)PETERS, Alec
01/29/17	*NORTHERN KENTUCKY	W	65-58		3578	(21)HAMMINK, Shane	(12)PETERS, Alec
02/02/17	*at Milwaukee	W	71-53		2267	(22)PETERS, Alec	(7)PETERS, Alec
2/4/17	*at Green Bay		69-86	L	3963	(20)PETERS, Alec	(8)PETERS, Alec
02/09/17	*CLEVELAND STATE	W	78-57		2455	(15)HAMMINK, Shane	(14)PETERS, Alec
02/11/17	*YOUNGSTOWN STATE	W	82-72		4823	(23)HAMMINK, Shane	(7)HAMMINK, Shane
							(7)PETERS, Alec
2/17/17	*at Oakland		71-82	L	3991	(22)PETERS, Alec	(9)SOROLLA, Jaime
2/19/17	*at Detroit Mercy	W	83-63		2003	(20)PETERS, Alec	(11)WALKER, Tevonn
02/21/17	*MILWAUKEE	W	67-61		3512	(23)PETERS, Alec	(6)SOROLLA, Jaime
							(6)JOSEPH, Max
2/24/17	*at Wright State	W	84-74		5028	(25)HAMMINK, Shane	(6)WALKER, Tevonn
02/26/17	*at Northern Kentucky		78-82	L	3304	(25)WALKER, Tevonn	(6)KISER, John
03/04/17	vs Milwaukee		41-43	L	8481	(8)WALKER, Tevonn	(9)JOSEPH, Max
						(8)KISER, John	
03/14/17	7at Illinois		57-82	L	4719	(25)WALKER, Tevonn	(8)WALKER, Tevonn

\* - Conference game

<b>Attendance Summary</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>Attend</b>	<b>Avg/Game</b>
Home	17	52468	3086
Away	13	68910	5301
Neutral	3	10588	3529
Total	33	131966	3999