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Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011 [comments](#)

Kendall a danger anywhere on the hardwood

By Steve Oliver - Progress Sports Writer

Teams that have tried to slow the O'Fallon Lady Panthers' offensive attack by concentrating on the inside-outside scoring tandem of Katie Roustio and Taylor Klingelhofer have found that the tactic has not been quite as effective as they might have anticipated.

Although the duo has, in most games during the current season, provided needed points, the contributions of senior Kaitlin Kendall have been just as impressive and necessary to the Panthers' success.

Recent victories over Belleville East and Belleville West have moved Kendall into the spotlight as a dangerous scoring threat for the local girls' team. Her 3-point baskets against Belleville East were critical in the Panthers' victory over the Lancers, and the 5'11" Kendall demonstrated her versatility in the Belleville West contest by contributing valuable points inside and at the charity stripe.

"Kendall gives us another offensive threat both from the perimeter and in the paint," said OTHS coach Ryan Massey. "She has gained some strength since the end of her junior season and has been a solid starter for us over the past two years. She takes coaching well and always gives 100 percent on the court, making us a better team with her unselfish play combined with basketball skills that continue to improve with every game she plays."

"I love the game of basketball because it involves discipline to succeed," said the 17-year-old senior, the daughter of Bryan and Sally Kendall. "My brother, Matt Kendall, and I would always play in the driveway for hours when I was younger. He pushed me to be tougher. I've played basketball as long as I can remember. I was always a head taller than everyone else, so I naturally gravitated to the sport.

"Playing basketball has shown me that I can push myself farther than maybe I thought I could. It's also shown me that being a part of and playing as a team are keys to being successful."

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