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Friday, Nov. 19, 2010 [Comment](#)

# O'Fallon girls hoops coach has two cornerstones to build his team around

BY STEVE KORTE - News-Democrat

O'FALLON -- O'Fallon girls basketball coach Ryan Massey has two cornerstones to build his team around this season in Katie Roustio and Taylor Klingelhoef.

"I've got two key parts, and now if I can just fill in some people," said Massey, who lost all of the other regulars from a team that posted a 15-15 record last season.

The Panthers open the 2010-11 season against Hillsboro at 8 p.m. today in the 17th annual Taylorville Thanksgiving Round-Robin.

Roustio, a 6-foot-2 sophomore, averaged 8.4 points and a team-leading 6.2 rebounds last season as a freshman.

Massey said Roustio was one block away from having a triple-double in a game and one rebound having a triple-double in another game.

"Katie Roustio is one of the best athletes I've ever seen as a female," Massey said. "I won't go as far as saying she can jump like (former East St. Louis standout) Teandrea Smith could, but she can do a lot of things like Teandrea Smith. She has tremendous hands, she runs like a deer. There is a very good chance she averages a double-double this year."

Klingelhoef, a 5-foot-6 junior guard, led the Panthers in scoring last season with an average of 12.8 points per game. She also led the Panthers with 34 3-pointers, and she shot 81 percent (109 of 134) from the free-throw line.

Klingelhoef scored 27 points in the Panther' 64-59 win over Belleville West last season in the regional.

"Expectation-wise for me, I would hope she would be one of the leading scorers in the area," Massey said. "I'm thinking 16-18 (points per game). She's going to have some kids where she's hitting in the 20's because she shoots the ball real well and she attacks the basket real well."

Kaitlin Kendall, a 5-foot-10 junior shooting guard, Kendall Butler, a 5-foot-9 forward, and Sabre Flager, a senior point guard, fill out the rest of Massey's projected starting lineup.

"She's very, very athletic and quick, and she has very good speed," Massey said of Flager.

Having Flager at point guard gives Massey the option of moving Klingelhoef to the 2-guard spot.

"I just want to get her off the ball," Massey said. "Last year, she had to handle the ball so much. We kind of played point guard by committee. She'll still have the ball in her hands a lot this season."

Coming off the bench is 6-foot Victoria Ham and senior forward Ashley Porter.

Massey said the Panthers' incoming class of freshman is especially strong.

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"I've got some very, very talented freshman, and as a matter of fact, toward the end of the season you could see two or maybe three freshman actually playing varsity minutes off the bench," Massey said. "My freshman class is just fantastic."

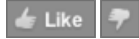
Massey said the Panthers are among a pack of contending teams behind favorite Edwardsville in the Southwestern Conference.

"I think Edwardsville is absolutely the favorite," Massey said. "I think Belleville West is going to have a chance to beat everybody they play, I think we're going to be in a lot of games. I think Belleville East is going to be tremendous. They're going to be one of the best defensive teams in our conference."

Contact reporter Steve Korte at [skorte@bnd.com](mailto:skorte@bnd.com) or 239-2522.

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