

Published February 13th, 2013

## Phoenix Poised for League Title

Submitted by Clay Kallam



Ian Kirby is one of seven Bentley players averaging more than six points per game. Photo Vincent Jurgens

With a 21-2 record, the Bentley men's basketball team breaks new ground with every victory.

The Phoenix, who advanced to the Division V NorCal playoffs last year, will go for their first-ever Bay Counties League-East tournament title Feb. 14 and 16 at Athenian in Danville.

Senior Nate Ellis, MVP of the BCL-East as a junior, leads the team, averaging 16 points, nine rebounds, four assists and four steals. Sophomore Blake Kami is averaging 10.2 ppg.

"Other than those two," says second-year coach and athletic director Rob Rafeh, "five guys average between six and eight points a game."

That admirable balance also comes from a young team, as there are only two seniors in the rotation and freshman Mateen Hirbod, an excellent defender, gets a good deal of time.

The Phoenix looks to go even farther in the post-season this year.

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