

SPORTS

Hoop dreams fall short for Brett Carey

Former UNCA standout receives a rare shot at pursuing a career in the NBA

Ryan Wilson
Staff Reporter

Former UNCA standout, Brett Carey received a tryout for a roster spot on the newly formed semi-professional basketball team, the Asheville Altitude.

Carey, who started at shooting guard for the Bulldogs basketball team last year, was a big reason for the Dogs' success last season.

Carey was a major part of the backcourt the last two seasons after transferring from Western Carolina University, and a key contributor to the team's offensive attack.

He led the team in scoring, and in three-pointers.

Last season, Carey averaged 13.6 points per game for the Bulldogs.

"Carey was a major scorer for the Bulldogs at the guard position," said Mike Gore, UNCA sports information director.

Carey not only led the team in three-pointers, but was ranked



PHOTO COURTESY OF EDDIE BIEDENBACH

Brett Carey goes up for a shot in a game last season for the Bulldogs.

nationally in three-point shooting as well.

Last year, he made second team All-Conference as a result of his strong season statistically, and his

team leadership.

Recently, Carey had a chance to try out for the Asheville Altitude of the newly-formed National Basketball Developmental League.

The NBDL is a minor league basketball system of the National Basketball Association, whose purpose is to discover new talent, and bring it to the NBA.

This gives players who were not initially taken in the NBA Draft or did not have any college eligibility remaining an opportunity to pursue their dreams of playing on basketball's biggest stage.

The league also gives these players a chance to play in a highly competitive atmosphere under the watchful eye of NBA scouts, who are looking to improve their teams.

The NBDL plays a 56-game schedule, and pays the players a salary of \$30,000 over the span of the four-month season.

The League consists of eight teams spread out across the southeast.

The teams are the Fayetteville Patriots, the North Charleston (S.C.) Lowgators, the Huntsville (Al.) Flight, the Mobile (Al.) Revelers, the Roanoke (Va.) Dazzle, the Columbus (Ga.) Riverdragons, the Greenville (S.C.) Groove and the Asheville Altitude.

A total of 24 NBDL games will be broadcast nationally on ESPN2 and ESPN, while 19 games will be broadcast on FOX Sports Net South.

When asked how Carey received this opportunity, Gore said that UNCA Head Coach Eddie Biedenbach probably helped Carey in meeting Altitude Head Coach Joey Meyer.

Gore said Carey would help the Altitude's backcourt, adding shooting and depth.

From Oct. 26 through Nov. 3, Carey was invited to the NBDL's Central Training Camp at the Winner's Circle Sports Academy in the Atlanta suburb of Suwanee, Ga.

Unfortunately, Carey was cut from the Altitude Nov. 3 when each team had to cut their rosters down.

Even though the tryout was unsuccessful, this experience brought Carey that much closer to every basketball player's dream.

The dream of making the pros.

*Thanks for reading
the Blue Banner!*

UNCA volleyball losing streak continues

Jenna Lahmeyer
Staff Reporter

The UNCA volleyball team fell in three consecutive matches versus Big South Conference teams.

The Bulldogs traveled to Charleston Southern University and lost 3-0 Oct. 30.

The Bucs won over the 'Dogs by scores of 30-26, 30-26, 30-26 win over the Bulldogs.

"The feeling on the court was completely different from the first time we played (Charleston Southern)," said junior outside hitter

Adrienne Moore. "We played well, but just not hard enough."

"The game we played was not to our potential," said sophomore Kelly Budnik. "We didn't play as a team, and we are only successful when we all contribute."

Keeping the game close for UNCA were Moore, with 15 kills, and Budnik, with 22 digs and nine kills.

Freshman setter Bonny Sneed had 42 assists.

Leading the Bucs, senior hitter Jennifer Monson had 21 kills and sophomore Hollie Bates added 13 kills.

On Nov. 1, the Bulldogs traveled to Radford, Va to play the BSC leader, Radford University.

"We played well, but just not hard enough."

*Adrienne Moore
Junior, Outside Hitter*

The 'Dogs fell to the Highlanders 3-0, with scores of 30-18, 30-24, 30-28. This was Radford's 17th straight win, and they are currently in first place in the BSC.

"No one was talking," said junior middle hitter Suzanne Aubel. "It was almost as if no one showed up

to play."

"Radford is number one in our conference, and they are a tough team," said senior middle hitter Elizabeth Rodriguez. "We just couldn't pull out the win."

The Bulldogs were led by Budnik, who recorded nine kills and eight

digs.

Aubel and senior outside hitter Heather Terrell added six kills each. Terrell also led the UNCA defense with 10 digs.

On Nov. 2, the Bulldogs faced the Flames of Liberty University, and were defeated in three games, 30-24, 30-21, 30-18.

The Flames are now 16-9 overall and 9-2 in the conference.

"It was a good match," said Moore. "We haven't been playing well as a team, but we finally started to find ourselves again."

For UNCA, Budnik contributed eight kills and seven digs, while Moore also had eight kills and five

digs.

Sneed had 26 assists and 11 digs, and was the only player to get a double-double for the 'Dogs.

"They are a great team, and we gave it our best," said Budnik.

Before beginning tournament play against CSU, the Bulldogs face another tough conference match against Winthrop University Nov. 8 in Rock Hill, SC at 7p.m.

"We are excited," said Rodriguez of their match against CSU. "We are ready to play, and we know if we work hard, we can beat them."

"We are just trying to focus on what we need to work on," said Budnik.

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