

# Knights fall to Panthers, 8-7 overall

by Melissa Collins

On January 16, the Knights faced the High Point Panthers. Deon Wingfield opened the game with good defense, but it was 8-0 Panthers before Joe Jessen opened the Knights scoring with a three-point shot. Ken Evans and Shane Karlon added two three-pointers each, with Karlon throwing a steal and dunk into the mix as well. Jessen, Wingfield and Ryan Alexander added three pointers and the team showed great overall defense. The halftime score was painfully close, with the Knights ahead 44-43. However, good defense and three pointers could

not keep S.A. ahead, as the Panthers were victorious 86-72.

The battle between the Knights and the Mt. Olive Trojans took place on January 18. Nick Mitchell opened the scoring with a three-pointer and the team responded with a strong series of defensive plays and three point shots, capped off with a sweet arch by Ken Evans. Brian McCollum made a beautiful save as he was diving out of bounds to add to the overall team effort. However, halftime saw a 51-36 score in favor of the Trojans. But basketball is a game where anything is possible.

Team hustle and foul

shooting brought the team back to tie the score, forcing overtime. However, the five minute overtime was played without Mitchell, McCollum and Karlon, who had all fouled out of the game. The thrilling game ended with the Trojans victorious 111-108.

The Belmont Abbey Crusaders arrived on January 20 to face the Knights in the dungeon. Wingfield opened the scoring and the team defense went to work. McCollum, Jessen and Ben Beshears each forced turnovers in the early going. John Walker fought hard for rebounds and Alexander added two three pointers to end the half with S.A. behind by

two, 29-27. The second half saw the Knights continue their strong defense and team hustle. Mitchell and Jessen both made nice plays by following up on shots to insure points for the team. The final score was a victory for the Knights, 67-58.

The Longwood Lancers took their shot on January 23. The Knights were up for the challenge. The team came out with a series of three point shots to show their range. Defensive prowess was also displayed as the team proved that it meant business. When the court was cleared for halftime, the Knights held the ten point advantage, 35-25. The team continued to domi-

nate, keeping the pressure on the Lancers. Mitchell added a dunk late in the game to put an exclamation point on the night. The entire team saw action, with

George Hajiefremides, the player highlighted in the program, and Lee Love both adding late baskets to the team total. The final score showed an incredible 92-67 romping of the Lancers.

The team has shown its skill on several occasions. All of the contests in the Dungeon have been well fought as the talent of the team comes together. The dominance should continue and make the team a factor in the standings.

## Lady Knights victorious over High Point

by Melissa Collins

The women's basketball team has fallen on hard times recently, losing three of their last four home games. The games have not been total disasters but the final scores have not been pretty.

On January 15, the women faced the High Point Panthers. The Panthers had 16 points before Farah Allen put the first points up for the Lady Knights. Kristi Ballard made a great steal soon after to ignite the team defensively. Good defense allowed the offensive gears to begin turning. Michelle Branam attempted a nearly three point shot with the shot clock running down to draw a foul and the shots.

At the half, the score was 33-15 in favor of High Point. LaTonya Holley made a beautiful no look pass to Branam, who made a three pointer. Despite a great series of defensive plays by Holley and additional three-pointers by Ballard and Branam the final score saw High Point ahead 65-46.

The team saw its fortunes

change against Mt. Olive. Cristie Patterson opened the scoring and Jennifer Franklin added two three-point shots early on to put S.A. ahead 10-4 at the first time out. Ballard made a beautiful steal and a great effort to keep the ball in bounds. The play was finished off by a beautiful three point shot by Franklin. However, halftime saw the Lady Knights behind 25-23.

In a strange play early in the second half, S.A. was called for a block. Ballard was then handed the ball to inbound. The referees realized their mistake and corrected it but it was quite an interesting series of events. Defensive efforts by Franklin and Ballard, along with three-pointers by Branam, Franklin and Ballard, allowed the Lady Knights to run up the score to end ahead, 71-59.

January 20 was the night that the Lady Knights faced the Lady Crusaders of Belmont Abbey. Allen and Franklin started things off well defensively for the team. Holley, Jodi Devereux, Beth

Larson, Stephanie Hight and Michelle Branam added to a fantastic defensive start to the game. Franklin, Ballard, and Branam added three-pointers to build to a 25-22 halftime lead. The second half again saw nice defensive efforts by the team, but penalty problems caused an overall swing in momentum. The final score saw the Lady Crusaders victorious 74-50.

The toughest game came January 23 against the 14-1 Longwood Lancers. Defense and hustle were the key to the early part of the game. Ballard opened the scoring for the Lady Knights

and Jessica Dudek added three points on a basket and foul shot. The players made smart plays, using hustle to keep the ball in bounds or in S.A. possession. The halftime score was 34-30 in favor of the Lancers.

However, the second half saw the Lancers pull away. The Lady Knights continued their strong effort defensively, but the Lancers proved to be too much. The final score was 71-55.

The team has had some hard times lately, but their efforts are always strong. It is only a matter of time before that effort yields some impressive victories.

**On Monday, January 27, the Men's basketball team lost to Pfeiffer 102-98 in overtime.**

**The Women's team beat Pfeiffer 61-58.**