

SPORTS



Award-winning members of Belmont Abbey 1974 district champion soccer team are shown with Coach Stan Dudko. Left to right, Khalid Al Khalifa, Belgassem Al Soussi, Dudko, Mosadak Al Soussi, and Randy Shambach.

District Champs Again

Soccer Team Reaches NAIA Regional Finals

The Belmont Abbey soccer team again captured the District 26 title and advanced to the finals of the NAIA Area Five Regional Soccer Championships this season, before falling to Erskine College, 4-0.

The Crusaders earned the right to meet Erskine by disposing of Mount Berry College of Berry, Ga., 4-3, in the fifth period of sudden-death overtime. The Abbey booters won the District 26 title over High Point College, defeating the Panthers 3-1.

Ending their season with a 10-4 record, the Crusaders upped Stan Dudko's record as Belmont Abbey soccer coach to 92-37-12 in eight years as head coach at the Abbey.

Belmont Abbey placed three members of their squad on the All-District 26 team and another member of the team was chosen for honorable mention.

The Soussi brothers, Belgassem and Mosadak, of Benghazi, Libya, and Randy Schambach of Cali, Colombia were named to the All-District team, while chosen for honorable mention was Khalid Al Khalifa of Bahrain, Bahrain. Belgassem and Mosadak Soussi also were named to the Area Five All-

Regional team.

Dudko was chosen co-coach of the year in District 26.

Belgassem Soussi was voted Most Valuable Player in the district after scoring 22 goals this season to become the school's career scoring

leader. His career scoring total of 54 goals has been accomplished in only two seasons, leaving Soussi his junior and senior years to add to his record. The old record was held by Don Betts, who scored 48 goals in his four years at the Abbey.

Sig Ep Sports Day Held

District VI of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, held its annual Sports Day on Saturday, February 8. Hosting the event this year was the Lambda Chapter at Belmont Abbey College. District VI, which encompasses all the chapters in North and South Carolina, was represented by the following: U.N.C. - Charlotte, U.N.C. - Chapel Hill, N.C. State, East Carolina, Appalachian State, U.S.C., Wake Forest, Davidson, Clemson, Elon, Lenoir Rhyne, Duke Atlantic Christian and Belmont Abbey.

The sports competition started at 9 a.m. at the Wheeler Center for Physical Education, located on the Abbey campus. It included such events as basketball, volleyball, swimming, bowling and ping-pong.

A semi-formal dance was held at 9 p.m. in the Abbey's Haid College

Union Building, featuring "Horizon." At this time the announcement of winners and the presentation of trophies took place.

Lambda Chapter officials reported a turnout of approximately 400 Sig Ep brothers for the event.

Mid-Season Cage Results

Abbey 99, USC-Spartanburg 66.
Abbey 102, Warren Wilson 93.
Abbey 64, Gardner-Webb 110.
Abbey 59, Pembroke State 51.
Abbey 81, Livingstone 62.
Abbey 76, Lenoir Rhyne 69.
Abbey 72, UNC-Asheville 85.
Abbey 68, Lenoir Rhyne 69.
Abbey 66, Mars Hill 71.
Abbey 66, Elon 52.
Abbey 77, Seton Hall 78. (OT)
Abbey 61, Catawba 64. (OT)
Abbey 84, Limestone 64.
Abbey 51, Pembroke State 55.
Abbey 84, Livingstone 74.
Abbey 78, Western Carolina 81.
Abbey 78, Guilford 92.
Abbey 70, Catawba 72.
Abbey 56, Mount Saint Mary's 71.
Abbey 73, Catholic University 75.

Crusader Netters Find Going Hard

The Belmont Abbey basketball squad has found the going rough since returning from the Christmas holidays. Since the break, the Crusaders have won only three games against 10 losses, compared to a 5-2 record before the holidays, for an 8-12 overall mark.

In the 10 losses since Christmas, the Crusaders have lost two games by a single point, two games by two points, two games by three points, one game by four points and one game by five points. Included in the 10 losses were three occurring in overtime.

"It's the same old story," said Abbey coach Bobby Hussey. "We just fizzle out. We play 20 or 30 minutes of good basketball and then we just fizzle out. It's as plain as that."

The last Belmont Abbey victory occurred on January 20, when the Crusaders defeated Livingstone College, 84-74. Since that time, five straight road games have ended in losses for the longest losing streak of the season.

Inconsistency and poor shooting have also plagued the Abbey basketballers' fortunes. "We just haven't been able to put together two

good halves of basketball," says Hussey.

The Crusaders are shooting 42.4 per cent as a team from the field and only 56.7 per cent from the foul line.

Individual highs for the team this season include 29 points by Carl Bell against both USC-Spartanburg and Livingstone and 17 rebounds by Curtis Carter against Warren Wilson.

Bell, who became the school's career scoring leader against Seton Hall with 22 points, topped Roger Marcil's old mark of 1,813 points by two, for 1,815 points. Bell is the team's leading scorer this season with a 17.1 point average. Carter is second in team scoring with a 13.8 average followed by freshman Desmond Dennis' 11.2 points.

Carter leads the team in rebounding with 10.6 per game. Bell is second in that category with 7.9 and Dennis is averaging 7.2 rebounds per game.

The Crusaders hope to improve their record after the disastrous road sessions with only two away games left in the remaining 10 contests. The home schedule includes two nationally-ranked teams in Gardner-Webb and Guilford.



The Abbey's Carl Bell (32) goes up for two points during the Crusader's contest with the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs. The Crusaders defeated the nationally-ranked Bulldogs, 57-53.