

Coach Hussey Has High Hopes Of Posting Top Cage Record

Facing one of its toughest schedules yet, the 1975-76 Belmont Abbey Crusaders' basketball team has high hopes of turning in one of its best records under fifth-year head coach Bobby Hussey.

Belmont Abbey will field one of its youngest teams ever under Hussey who has never had a losing team at Belmont Abbey. Hussey's four year record at Belmont Abbey stands at 63-52 following last season's 16-14 mark.

"I feel like this can be one of our best years ever at Belmont Abbey," says Hussey. "We have an exceptionally young team, but I think the players' enthusiasm and desire will more than offset our youth.

"We have a very tough opening schedule beginning with Old Dominion, the defending NCAA Division II national champions last season, and Atlantic Christian both on the road.

"We also play Pfeiffer and Gardner-Webb on the road before Christmas, and our only two home games prior to Christmas are against Livingstone and Lenoir Rhyne.

"We're also looking forward to the WBTV Carolina Roundball Classic that will be played at Belmont Abbey this season. The top NAIA area teams will be here including Gardner-Webb, Barber-Scotia, Johnson C. Smith, Lenoir Rhyne, Catawba, Pfeiffer, and Livingstone."

Although Belmont Abbey lost its career scoring leader in Carl Bell, who tallied 2,201 points during his four-year stay, the outlook for the young Crusaders is good with three starters returning.

Senior forward Curtis Carter leads the returnees. Carter, a 6-6 three-year starter from Winnsboro, S.C., was the team's leading rebounder and second-leading scorer with 13.7 points and 10.4 rebounds per game last season, and should provide the leadership that Belmont Abbey seeks this season - having been elected co-captain of the team.

Teaming with Carter in the frontcourt will be another starter from last season, 6-7 sophomore center Desmond Dennis.



Crusaders get ready for tough season.

Dennis, from Washington, D.C., was third last season in both scoring and rebounding with 10.7 points per game and 7.1 rebounds per contest.

Expected to start at the other post position in Belmont Abbey's doublepost offense is 6-11 sophomore Glenn Tambon, of Queens, NY, who played last season on the Crusaders' junior varsity squad.

Junior Clint Bryant of Suitland, Md., and sophomore Terry Comer from Robbins, N.C., along with freshmen Jimmy Crawford and Greg Leslie are also expected to shoulder a great deal of the front-court responsibilities.

Bryant saw limited duty last season behind Bell while Comer spent the season on the junior varsity squad. Crawford, a 6-6 center, led his Charlotte, N.C., Catholic High School to the North Carolina 2A playoffs last season while Leslie, at 6-7, averaged 20.2 points and 18 rebounds per game in his senior season in leading Hopatcong, N.J., High School to a 24-2 mark.

The Crusaders' backcourt will also be experienced with 5-8 Bobby Moran set to quarterback the Belmont Abbey offense this season. Moran, of Bethesda, Md.,

displayed the leadership to his teammates to be named co-captain along with Carter for the 1975-76 season, and is set on improving his 4.2 scoring average.

Moran will be pressed for playing time by another 5-8 sophomore, Derrick Gabriel. Gabriel is a walk-on from the New York City area who played most of last season on the junior varsity squad before moving up in the latter portion of the season.

The wing guard position will be the youngest, most inexperienced link in the Crusaders' lineup. At present, 6-4 Paul Carver and 6-3 freshman Mitch Anderson head the list of candidates for that position.

Carver, from Forest Hills, N.Y., was another junior varsity player last season; while Anderson helped lead his Hunter Huss High School in Gastonia, N.C., into the finals of the North Carolina 4-A playoffs.

Craig Wink, a 6-3 junior from Brooklyn, NY, and 6-2 Mike Littlejohn from Lincolnton, N.C., are also working hard at the wing guard and John Garbark, of Charlotte, N.C.'s Myers Park High School, and Steve Delaney, a senior from Brooklyn, N.Y., are battling for playing time at point guard.

SPORTS

First Carolina Classic Set For Wheeler Center

Final plans have been announced for the 1st Annual WBTV Carolina Classic basketball tournament to be held December 18-20 at Belmont Abbey.

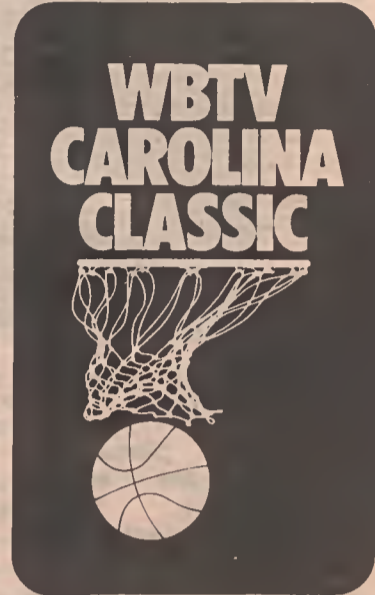
The tournament, conceived by WBTV, will feature eight of the top area small college teams in action against each other.

The opening session begins Thursday afternoon at 2 and will feature Barber-Scotia against Pfeiffer with Lenoir Rhyne battling Livingstone in the next game.

Gardner-Webb and Belmont Abbey kick off the opening night session and that game will be followed by a contest between Catawba and Johnson C. Smith.

regionally by WBTV, Channel 3, following the Saturday NFL game.

Tickets can be obtained through participating schools, from the Belmont Abbey Athletic



Department, WBTV and from Charlotte Belk Stores.

The tournament will be single elimination with a consolation bracket, assuring each team of two games.

Saturday's final competition will be capped by the championship at 3:30 p.m. which will be televised

Abbey Students Begin Unique New Corporation

College Services, Inc., a unique new corporation, has just begun functioning. What makes this new enterprise so different is that the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer positions are all filled by two Belmont Abbey College students. Robert D. Ipock and James E. Ferguson, both born and raised in Gaston County, came upon the idea of utilizing the vast amount of student manpower on campus, and making it available to the community. According to both men, the primary purpose of the corporation is to provide an income of some sorts for students struggling to get through college. Most of the students who will be working for the corporation will have had experience on the Abbey's maintenance crew. Therefore, College Services will be specializing in paint jobs; both inside and outside work. They will also be available for almost anything involving manual labor; cleaning

gutters, yard work, washing windows; the possibilities are innumerable. Bob Ipock put it very well, "We'll be the people to call if someone just needs a couple of strong arms, and don't have any idea who to call. We'll be catering to your average homeowner."

College Services currently has a contract with Abbey Plaza to clean its parking lot, and the corporation is willing to perform similar services for any other business interested.

Bob Ipock and his wife, Beverly, live at 108 Belvedere Street in Gastonia. He is a junior and majoring in Business. Jim Ferguson is also a junior and majoring in Distribution Management. He and his wife, Susan, live at 417 Maple Street.

If interested, or in need of further information, please call Bob at 867-8187, or Jim at 922-8213, or write to them at the above addresses.