

Tough Schedule For Abbey

BELMONT — Today Bobby Hussey, Director of Athletics and Basketball Coach at Belmont Abbey College announced the 1979-1980 Crusader Basketball Schedule.

Coach Hussey has just completed his two most successful seasons; 1978, with 21 victories and 1979 with 22 wins. The '79 team advanced to the NAAIA District Play-Offs. Returning from that squad are the two leading scorers, senior, Billy Holmgard 17.1 points per game and all District Junior, David Kershaw, 17.3 points per game.

The 1979-80 schedule is balanced with the strong traditional NAAIA District 26 opponents: Elon, Lenoir Rhyne, Catawba, Pfeiffer, J.C. Smith, etc.

As in each of his eight seasons, Coach Hussey has again scheduled strong NCAA Division Competition. This year the Crusaders face Iona College of New York City, who last year advanced to the NCAA Eastern Regional Championships. Iona has one of the two top big men in the country in 6'11" Jeff Ruland who has averaged 21.3 points and 12 rebounds in his first two seasons and was second in the nation in field goal percentage last season with .672. On the same road trip the Abbey plays St. Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Another highlight of the season will be the fifth annual WBTB Carolina Classic to be hosted by Belmont Abbey on December 5-8. The Classic will take on a new look as the field has been expanded to include new teams. Winthrop College of Rock Hill, S.C. and Wingate College will be participating in the Classic for the first time.

"We have lost three key players from last season," Hussey said. "However, we have three experienced players returning plus a very promising group of freshmen. It could be another very exciting year on the hardwood for the Crusaders."

THE SCHEDULE NOVEMBER

- 24, UNC-Asheville
- 26, Friendship

DECEMBER

- 1, at Wingate
- 5-8, Carolina Classic
- 12, at Livingstone
- 15, Augusta
- 21, at St. Peter
- 23, at Iona
- 29, at Augusta

JANUARY

- 3, Livingstone
- 5, at Catawba
- 8, St. Andrews
- 11, at J.C. Smith
- 15, Pfeiffer
- 19, Atlantic Christian
- 22, at Mars Hill
- 24, Catawba
- 26, Voorhees
- 28, Elon
- 30, at UNC-Asheville

FEBRUARY

- 2, Wingate
- 7, at Pfeiffer
- 7, Lenoir Rhyne
- 9, Atlantic Christian
- 14, at Elon
- 16, J.C. Smith
- 18, Mars Hill
- 21, at Lenoir Rhyne
- 25, Allen

Junior High

Practice Begins

Kings Mountain Junior High will begin pre-season football practice next Monday from 3-5 p.m. at the junior high field.

Coach David Hart said all players who had physical examinations last week and all others interested in going out for the team should report Monday.

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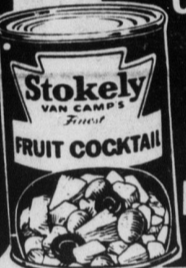
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