

SPORTS

Pre-Season Look At Crusader Basketball

Pre-season basketball practice is in full swing for the 1976-77 edition of the Belmont Abbey Crusaders. Practice has been going on since the third of October.

Head Basketball Coach and Athletic Director, Bobby Hussey, is optimistic that this year's Crusaders will bounce back from the dismal season of 7-19 of a year ago.

With the loss of only two to graduation, the Crusaders have a host of returning veterans from last year's team. Leading the returnees will be co-captain, Clint Bryant, a 6'4" senior forward, from Suitland, Maryland. Bryant's hustle and floor leadership should prove to be one of the keys of Crusader success for the up-coming season.

Joining Bryant as the other co-captain is junior guard, Bobby Moran. Moran will be the playmaker on the court and his hustle and desire will serve as an inspiration for the squad.

The Crusaders will also be strong in the middle with 6'11" junior, Glenn Tambon, and 6'7" junior, Desmond Dennis. Dennis and Tambon will be joined by sophomore, Jimmy Crawford, who is

also 6'7". These three should give the Crusaders an ample amount of inside punch.

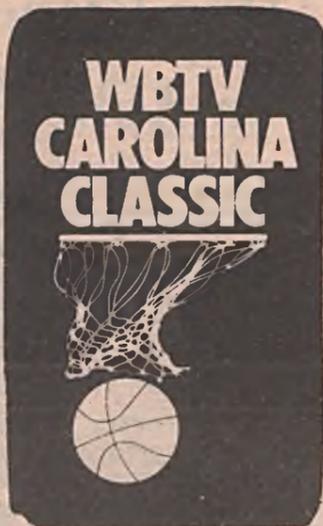
Also returning will be Harold Albany. Albany led last year's team in scoring with an average of 15.1 points per game. Albany, being a junior college transfer, did not become eligible until mid-season last year. He should add needed scoring punch to the Crusaders.

Other top players returning will be Mike Littlejohn, Greg Leslie, Paul Carver, and Craig Wink. All got to see action last year and should prove to be key players, providing the needed bench strength to handle the grind of a 26 game schedule.

Four blue-chip recruits will also play key roles in the up-coming basketball season.

These newcomers are Jack Campbell, Phil Timberlake, Reggie Vatable, and Billy Holmgaard.

Another welcome addition is Tony Byers. Byers was a stand out basketball player at Wake Forest University and made All Atlantic Coast Conference his senior year. He joins the staff at Belmont Abbey as Assistant Basketball Coach.



Intercollegiate

Volleyball

For Girls

A welcome addition to Crusader sports this year is the girls intercollegiate volleyball team. The girls are just getting under way, but there is optimism for the program.

The team is being coached by Pam Allison. Allison is in her second year at Belmont Abbey and is an instructor in the Physical Education and Recreation departments.

The team is being captained by Cathy Denman, and co-captain Celi Konsul. These two, along with Teresa Zabel, will provide the Lady Crusaders with the offensive punch.

Allison is very optimistic about the first year program. "For a first year program and lack of prior experience, our prospects for the upcoming season are very bright."

7-3 Record

Crusader Soccer Off To Good Start

The 1976 Crusader Soccer Team is off and running toward another banner season under Head Coach, Stan Dudko. They stand with a record of 7-3 with five regular season games left.

On the first outing of the season, the Crusaders travelled to Warren Wilson College. There, they lost a heart breaking 2-1 match in overtime. Regular play ended with the score knotted at one all and each team played a sticky defense in the overtime period. Warren Wilson scored on a questionable call that awarded them a penalty kick which landed in the goal home free. They hung on to the slim lead and got the victory.

The Crusaders got on the winning track in the second match of the season, hosting the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Dudko's charges proved to be too much for the visiting Forty-Niners and rolled to an easy 11-0 victory.

Belgassem Soussi led the scoring for Abbey. The 1975 NAIA All American and the Crusaders' all time leading goal scorer, tallied four goals in the Crusader victory.

The next game of the season saw the Crusaders travel to Chapel Hill to take on the University of North Carolina. The tough Atlantic Coast Conference school proved to be too much for the Abbey and downed them 8-1. The lone Crusader goal came from Tony Stouffis.

The next match saw the Crusaders host the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. A 6-0 victory and the Crusaders were on the road to a five game winning streak. Goalie, Carlos Medina, recorded his second shut-out of the season.

Saint Andrews College

fell victim to the Abbey next. The visitors fell 5-2 to an inspired Crusader team. Belgassem Soussi was the leading scorer for the Abbey with three goals.

Appalachian State was the next to invade Crusaderland. The Mounties found a tough defense and fell to the Abbey 1-0. Belgassem Soussi tallied the lone goal for the Crusaders, which came with 22 minutes remaining in the game.

The defense won the game for the Crusaders. Tony Stouffis and Fikiri Soussi continually batted away Appalachian shots, as the Mounties controlled the ball for the greatest part of the game. Medina played probably his best game of the season in shutting out Appalachian who was ranked third in the South at the time.

Abbey then went on the road to tackle arch-rival Pfeiffer. The end result was a 3-1 victory for the Crusaders. Belgassem Soussi, Moore Asouzu and Jose Jimenez chalked up one goal each for the Abbey.

The Crusaders then invaded Catawba College. The Abbey proved to be too much for the home standing Indians and rolled to a 14-3 victory. Khalid Khalifa scored five goals in the match and Belgassem Soussi and Asouzu each had four goals. Freshman, Frank Lawson, scored one goal.

Soussi's fourth goal was his one-hundredth college career goal for the Crusaders.

Campbell College ended the win streak at five by downing the Crusaders 1-0 at Buies Creek, North Carolina.

The Crusaders got on the winning track again with a 9-2 victory over Elon. Belgassem Soussi chalked up four more goals in the victory.

Russia Trip Report

The Alumni Affairs Office of Belmont Abbey College is bubbling with excitement from the response of twenty-seven alumni who will be travelling to Russia.

Fr. Raymond Geyer, O.S.B.; Fr. Raphael Bridge, O.S.B.; and Mr.

Warren L. Clark, Vice President for Development at the Abbey, his wife and two children, will be among those travelling with the Abbey group.

We look forward to hearing a full report when everyone returns.

Basketball Schedule

| DATE | OPPONENT | HOME OR AWAY |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| November 27 | Johnson C. Smith University | Home |
| November 29 | USC-Spartanburg | Away |
| December 2 | Pfeiffer College | Home |
| December 4 | Livingstone College | Home |
| December 9, 10, 11 | WBTV CAROLINA CLASSIC | Home |
| December 18 | Johnson C. Smith | Away |
| January 4 | Campbell College | Away |
| January 5 | Elon College | Away |
| January 8 | Catawba College | Away |
| January 12 | Barber-Scotia | Away |
| January 15 | Ogle horpe University | Home |
| January 17 | Livingstone College | Away |
| January 19 | UNC-Asheville | Home |
| January 22 | Pembroke University | Home |
| January 26 | Catawba College | Home |
| January 29 | USC-Spartanburg | Home |
| January 31 | Elon College | Home |
| February 3 | Central Wesleyan College | Home |
| February 5 | Gardner-Webb College | Home |
| February 7 | USC-Aiken | Away |
| February 10 | Lenoir Rhyne | Home |
| February 12 | Liberty Baptist College | Home |
| February 17 | Gardner-Webb | Away |
| February 19 | UNC-Asheville | Away |
| February 21 | USC-Aiken | Home |
| February 24 | Lenoir Rhyne | Away |