

Belmont Abbey Soccer Team Ranked Seventh In South

The Crusader soccer team is off to their fastest start in recent history. Boasting a record of 11-1 midway through the 1978 campaign, they are currently the seventh-ranked team in the South.

George Kennedy's team has had some big wins, including spoiling Pfeiffer's homecoming by defeating the Falcons 1-0. Tony Suarez scored the big goal for Belmont Abbey College.

"We only have seven years experience among our starters," said Kennedy. "Our guys are working very hard at improving their games."

"We have made good progress thus far. We still aren't where I want to be, but

things are improving. Each time out we have to improve."

Improve they have. The Crusaders feature a hustling defense that has limited some opponents to only five shots. Crusader goalies have six shutouts to their credit, and the offense has really been scoring goals, including seven in the 7-0 home victory over Toccoa Falls College.

"Matt Kennedy is the sincere captain of the team," said George Kennedy of the team's goalie. "He is the most consistent man on the team, game after game."

The Crusaders' only loss thus far this season has been at the hands of Clemson, the NCAA's

number three team and the South's number one team. The final score was 1-0, but the game was scoreless until the last three minutes, when the Tigers scored on a penalty kick. The young Crusaders demonstrated their poise.

The Crusaders also showed their poise in a 2-1 overtime victory over the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Suarez scored the winning goal for Belmont Abbey College in overtime.

Other Crusader victories include Catawba, Winthrop, Florida Institute of Technology at Melbourne, UNC-Asheville, St. Andrews, Jacksonville, Emory and Lenoir-Rhyne.

Promising Season For Crusader Basketball

The Crusader basketball team is coming off of one of the best seasons in recent BAC basketball history. In 1977-78, they finished with a 21-9 record, the best in Coach Bobby Hussey's career at the school.

There were no superstars on the Crusaders team; most victories were team efforts, as the players complemented each other's games. Not only did the starters do a sound job, but the bench played an important role in each of the 21 victories, including defeats of Pfeiffer, Catawba, Old Dominion and Lenoir-Rhyne.

Billy Holmgaard, a rising

junior, was a key man in the Belmont Abbey attack. He averaged over 15 points and 10 rebounds per game. Not a flashy player by today's standards, Holmgaard was consistent in doing his job. Playing forward at 6-5, he gave an inside punch, as well as being able to take the ball to the outside when the situation dictated.

Lawrence Carter, who transferred to Belmont Abbey after a successful year at Lees-McCrae Junior College, gave Belmont Abbey some added score punch from the point guard position and as a smooth

ball handler who was heady on the court. Carter also excelled in his defensive ability. He and Holmgaard both shot over 70 percent for the season.

Rising seniors Mike Littlejohn, a guard, and Jimmy Crawford, a senior, also were key factors in the Crusader plan of attack. Each one came on to give fine individual performances as well as aiding the team effort.

Rising sophomore David Kershaw gave the Crusaders another strong inside player. His excellent leaping ability, added to his 6-4 frame, gave Belmont Abbey added rebounding. He could also handle the ball when necessary.

These five started most of the 1977-78 games. All are back, with an added year of maturity.

Three newcomers should also add to the Crusaders' bench strength and replace three lettermen who graduated. They will be put to the test early in the season, as Belmont Abbey travels to Marquette University to take on the 1977 NCAA Division One champions.

and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday. The 1 p.m. championship game on Saturday will be televised on WBTV. Tickets for the tournament will be on sale at each school and at the door.

The pairings have not yet been announced.

Alumnus Heads Athletic Foundation

Frederick R. Stann, a 1971 alumnus of the College, was recently elected president of the Belmont Abbey College Athletic Foundation by the Foundation's Board of Directors.

As an attorney in Gastonia, Stann is associated with Robert H. Forbes, Attorney. He and his wife Connie also live in Gastonia.

Other members of the Athletic Foundation Board of Directors are: Dr. Raul C. Aizcorbe, Mason Blandford, Bud Wofford, Ms. Johnnie Falls, Sam Robinson, Jim Poag,

Bobby Hussey, Fr. Raphael Bridge, O.S.B., Lin Hollowell, Ron Mahannah and Al Prud'homme.

The purpose of the Athletic Foundation is to support the athletic program of Belmont Abbey College. The College currently offers intercollegiate competition in basketball, soccer, tennis, and golf for men, and tennis and volleyball for women. In addition, approximately 65 percent of the student body participated in intramural sports last year.

1978-1979 Basketball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE
Fri. Nov. 24	Pfeiffer vs. Coastal College	H 7:00
	B.A.C. vs. J.C. Smith	H 9:00
Sat. Nov. 25	B.A.C. vs. Coastal College	H 7:00
	Pfeiffer vs. J.C. Smith	H 9:00
Mon. Nov. 27	Univ. of Wisconsin	Milwaukee, WI
Wed. Nov. 29	Marquette	Milwaukee, WI
Sat. Dec. 2	Open	
Mon. Dec. 4	Gardner-Webb	Charlotte Coliseum
Thur. Dec. 7	WBTV Carolina Classic	H
Fri. Dec. 8	WBTV Carolina Classic	H
Sat. Dec. 9	WBTV Carolina Classic	H
Thur. Dec. 13	Pfeiffer	A
Sat. Dec. 16	Johnson C. Smith	Charlotte Coliseum
Fri. Dec. 29	Augusta Tournament	Augusta, GA
Sat. Dec. 30	Augusta Tournament	Augusta, GA
Wed. Jan. 3	Elon	Burlington, NC
Sat. Jan. 6	Catawba	H
Tue. Jan. 9	Livingstone	Salisbury, NC
Sat. Jan. 13	Central Wesleyan	H
Mon. Jan. 15	Wingate	A
Wed., Jan. 17	UNC-Asheville	H
Sat. Jan. 20	Atlantic Christian	Wilson, NC
Mon. Jan. 22	Livingstone	H
Thur. Jan. 25	Catawba	Salisbury, NC
Sat. Jan. 27	Atlantic Christian	H
Mon. Jan. 29	Elon	H
Sat. Feb. 3	Wingate	H
Thur. Feb. 8	Lenoir Rhyne	H
Sat. Feb. 10	Augusta	H
Mon. Feb. 12	Pfeiffer	H
Wed. Feb. 14	Barber-Scotia	Concord, NC
Sat. Feb. 17	UNC-Asheville	Asheville, NC
Thur. Feb. 22	Lenoir Rhyne	A

Men's Tennis Anticipates

Good Year

The 1978-79 edition of the Belmont Abbey College men's tennis team is anticipating a strong year as the fall season swings into action. After coming off of a good season of 10-6 last year in powerful District 26 play, things couldn't look better for Coach Mike Reidy and forces.

Reidy, now in his ninth year as the court mentor, gives his team a promising outlook as they go into match play. "Hopefully we can better last year's record, but only through hard work and determination can this be done. However, I do feel that we have a very dedicated group of athletes here at the Abbey who possess the talent to provide some very exciting play in our upcoming matches. We are fortunate to have these quality players here at the Abbey."

Anchoring this year's 12-man squad and holding the first and second seeds are brothers T. J. and Steve Reilly, respectively. T. J. Reilly, the only senior on the team, is fresh off of a big win in the Spartanburg Invitational Tournament in the men's singles division. Junior Steve Reilly, who is currently playing on the Crusader's basketball team, is not playing fall matches this year, but will be in full form when spring play begins.

In addition to the Reilly brothers, the standout sophomore Roger Martin should help provide a well-rounded attack as the third man

with sophomores Andy Doris, Dennis Noble and Herb Hunter, and freshmen Kevin Burke and Scott Davis vying for the fourth, fifth, and sixth seeds during District 26 match play.

"It's going to take a lot of work," said Reidy. "District 26 will be very tough this year; as tennis grows in popularity, the caliber of players becomes better and better. The competition seems to grow year by year, but so does the enjoyment of coaching."

"I guess coaching is my hobby. I enjoy doing it. The pleasure derived from working with the players makes it all worthwhile. I have a fine group of athletes who are involved in every facet of Belmont Abbey College. The players are really making the most of themselves."

Women's Tennis In Second Year

The Belmont Abbey College women's tennis team, now in its second year, is in training for the upcoming spring season. At this time, the team has a planned schedule of eight matches.

Coach Mike Reidy said of his team, "The girls are working earnestly. We've had some trouble getting all the girls out to practice because of conflicting schedules, but for the most part, we've got a lot of enthusiasm and interest on the court."

The women on this year's team are Peggy Condon, Kathy Jones, Mandy Cleveland, Pam Kelly, Beth McCaw and Tracey McCaw.

WBTV Classic Dec. 7, 8, 9

The Fourth Annual WBTV Carolina Classic will be held at Belmont Abbey College December 7, 8 and 9. Eight teams will be participating in the single elimination tournament, but there will also be a consolation bracket to ensure that all teams play two games.

Gardner-Webb, the tournament's defending champion, will be returning. The Bulldogs have won all three previous Classics. Lenoir-Rhyne, the runner-up all three years, also returns. Both teams will be in the hands of new coaches.

Belmont Abbey College finished third in last year's events, the strongest showing ever for the host Crusaders, and Billy Holmgaard was voted to the All-Tournament Team.

Other returning tournament teams include Johnson C. Smith, Barber-Scotia, Pfeiffer, Livingstone and Catawba.

The eight teams will be seated this year for the first time. In past years the pairings have been drawn from a hat.

Game times will be 2, 4, 7, and 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday,