

Lion Cagers Open Friday

Open Against National Champions

By BOB KOENIG

Optimism continues to climb as the temperatures continue to fall around Mars Hill. The optimistic climate affecting Mars Hill is centered over the pre-season drills of the Lion basketball team.

Third-year head coach Bob Ronai will have eight lettermen returning from last season's 9-20 squad. Together with several transfer students and a pair of highly-recruited freshmen, the 1983-84 Lions look to present a more experienced lineup on the court this winter.

Much of the Lions' hopes are pinned on the performance of senior captain Steve Dooley, a three-year starter under Ronai. The team's leading scorer last season, Dooley will be asked to move from the point to shooting guard slot in the Mars Hill alignment this season. "Do" was named the Athlete of the Year last season by the student newspaper, The Hilltop.

Indiana native Jerry Brooks returns to the Lions this winter. The junior guard was a starter last year, but will share time with transfer Tim Moore of Clinton, N.C. Moore averaged almost 20 points a game last winter while attending Southeastern Community College. A 5'11" guard, Moore is called "Magic."

Pierre Lamitte will be the Lions strong forward this winter. The 6'8" junior from Dale City, Va. has been named as a co-captain this season. Ineligible for the first half of the 1982-83 season, Lamitte averaged 13.6 points per game last year in 18 games. He also lead the team in blocking shots with 25 stuffs.

Former Madison High standout Tony Mitchell may crack the starting lineup this season after a strong finish last season. The team's best long-range shot, Mitchell will miss the three-point shot which the NAIA eliminated this year after a one-year experiment. The league also scrubbed the 30-second clock used last season. Ronai thinks the rule changes will help the club this season.

Pete Baldini returns to the lineup after a summer of New

York City schoolyard ball. The sophomore guard cracked the starting lineup last season averaging 9.3 points per game.

Despite battling a series of injuries, Todd Blondin also had an impressive freshman season last winter, averaging 17 points per game. A good defensive player and free throw shooter, Blondin gives Ronai a guard with good rebounding skills. Both Blondin and Baldini will see plenty of playing time this winter.

Sophomore forward Pressley Boyd will be counted on for his rebounding this season as the Lions' strong man underneath. The 6'6"

Georgia native averaged 5.3 points per game last season.

Steve McDonald is the other returning veteran the Lions will be counting on this year. Also a sophomore, Mac averaged 8.5 points per game last season. A strong finish last season saw McDonald average more than 14 points in the final 10 games.

Tommy Bothwell, Darryl Rose and Rocky Spaulding are three transfer students expected to see action this season. All three are juniors. Bothwell is a 6'5" forward from Fayetteville. Rose, a 6'5" forward from Murphy, attended Cecil Junior College last year. Spaulding is a 6'6"

forward from Brunswick, Ga. "Rocky" is expected to give the Lions some muscle under the boards.

A pair of freshmen also fuel Lion optimism as the team prepares for their season opener Friday night in Charleston, S.C. Charlotte natives Derrick Massey and Ben Walker were high school teammates at Garinger High School. Massey is a 6'1" guard while "Big Ben" is a 6'6" forward capable of rocking the backboards.

The 1983-84 Lions face a pair of road tournaments before their home opener on Nov. 29 against Guilford College. This

(Continued on Page 9)

MARS HILL COLLEGE 1983-84 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE		OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Nov. 18-19	(F-S)	Charleston (Tournament)	Away	TBA
Nov. 21	(M)	Knoxville	Away	7:30
Nov. 25-26	(F-S)	USC-Spartanburg (Tournament)	Away	TBA
Nov. 29	(T)	Guilford	Home	7:30
Dec. 1	(Th)	Lincoln Memorial	Home	7:30
Dec. 3	(S)	USC-Spartanburg	Home	7:30
Dec. 5	(M)	Western Carolina	Away	7:30
Dec. 8	(Th)	Milligan	Away	7:30
Dec. 10	(S)	Lenoir-Rhyne	Home	7:30
Jan. 3	(T)	Robert Wesleyan	Home	7:30
Jan. 6-7	(F-S)	Lander (Tournament)	Away	TBA
Jan. 9	(M)	Palm Beach	Home	7:30
Jan. 12	(Th)	Lincoln Memorial	Away	7:30
Jan. 14	(S)	Gardner-Webb	Away	7:30
Jan. 17	(T)	Limestone	Home	7:30
Jan. 21	(S)	UNC-A	Away	7:30
Jan. 23	(M)	Belmont-Abbey	Away	7:30
Jan. 28	(S)	Barber Scotia	Home	7:30
Jan. 31	(T)	King College	Home	7:30
Feb. 4	(S)	Gardner-Webb	Home	7:30
Feb. 9	(Th)	UNC-A	Home	7:30
Feb. 11	(S)	King College	Away	7:30
Feb. 13	(M)	Belmont Abbey	Home	7:30
Feb. 18	(S)	Barber Scotia	Away	7:30
Feb. 20	(M)	Milligan	Home	7:30
Feb. 23	(Th)	Limestone	Away	7:30
Feb. 25	(S)	Lenoir-Rhyne	Away	7:30
Mar. 5 & 7	(M & W)	NAIA District 26 Tournament	TBA	TBA
Mar. 14-20	(W-T)	NAIA Tournament	Kansas City	TBA

Lady Lions Are Ready



HOLLY HOUGH

The Mars Hill College Women's Basketball Team will play two practice games at Mars Hill this week. They were able to defeat Furman University in a scrimmage game on Thursday in Greenville, S.C. The team played Brevard at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, in Chambers Gymnasium and hosted Wofford on Tuesday, at 6 p.m.

The season will officially begin in a tournament at Tennessee Wesleyan in Athens, Tenn. on Friday. The Lady Mountain Lions will play Shorter College of Georgia at 6 p.m., while Tennessee Wesleyan tangles with Pikeville College at 8 p.m. Losers play at 6 p.m. on Saturday, while winners will collide at 8 p.m.

Coach Pat Sams will be returning four starters from one of the most successful seasons in Lady Lions history. The team was 15-13, qualified for the NAIA District 26 playoffs with a 9-7 record, and finished 12th in the nation in rebounding.

The 1982-83 starters who are returning include leading Rebounder and Scorers Lavonda Wagner; Senior Guard Holly Hough, Sophomore Center Robin Lucas, and another excellent scorer and Rebounder, Senior Forward Bunny Cardwell. In addition, the leading reserve, Lisa McFadden, will return at Guard to contend with several players for the fifth starting position at Point Guard. Freshman Lee Enix from Tazewell, Tenn. and Denise Thomason, along with Sophomore, Mary Anne Josephson, a late season starter, will also be under consideration for the fifth starting position. Freshman Serena Smith from Statesboro, Ga. will probably see a great deal of action at Forward and Center. In addition, returning players Junior Karen Hefner, Senior Guard Beth McCluskey, and Sophomore Guard Angela Wright will play important reserve roles along with Jackie Moody of Boone and Kim Dayton of Spruce Pine.

Thank You Voters

I wish to express my thanks to the voters of Hot Springs, in electing me to the Town Board of Aldermen. I will strive to render the kind of service you expect.

If our town is to improve, the Board of Aldermen need your assistance. Please attend the monthly town meetings so your opinions and suggestions can be heard.

Thank You,
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