



NEW PALTZ BASKETBALL

Men's Basketball Newsletter

December 2008

Basketball Season Underway

There is a lot of excitement surrounding the men's basketball team this season. With nine new faces and four returners, the team is looking to make a statement in the SUNYAC conference this season.

The Hawks started the season off right with a 74-61 victory at home against Drew University. In his first collegiate game, freshman forward Jayquan Anderson finished with 20 points and five rebounds. Junior transfer Connor Cornine finished with a double-double, 16 points, 11 rebounds and three blocks in his first game as a Hawk and Shereef Taylor tallied ten points, five rebounds and two steals.

New Paltz hosted its 1st Annual Tip Off Tournament November 21-22, 2008. In the first round, the Hawks faced Purchase College. The team fought back from a 17 point deficit in the second half to tie the game, but came up short in the final minutes and lost by three, 81-78. The Hawks were led by Taylor with 22 points and eight rebounds. Anderson added 21 points and nine rebounds. Freshman guard Harris Wichard was 4-for-6 from behind the arc and added a career high 16 points. Junior guard Oppong Agyemang dished out a career high ten assists and added five points for the Hawks. The next day the Hawks matched up against York College (NY) in the consolation game of the Tip-Off Tournament, losing in double overtime 62-61. Freshman guard Shalik Jenkins led the way with 12 points, four rebounds and three assists. Cornine recorded his second double-double of the season with 11 points and 15 rebounds. Anderson chipped in with 11 points and five rebounds, on his way to earning all-tournament honors.

On December 2, the Hawks faced SUNYIT, losing 97-85. Taylor tallied 17 points on 7-14 from the floor with five rebounds. Anderson chipped in with 15 points and seven boards and junior Lee Bertram added 14 points. Jenkins finished with 11 points.

New Paltz opened conference play against Morrisville State. Anderson had 13 points and four rebounds in the first half and finished the game with 21 points and eight rebounds. He helped lead the Hawks to an 83-53 victory to record their first conference win of the year. Bertram added 15 points, four rebounds and three assists and Matt Hauser chipped in with 11 points.

On December 5 the men went up against undefeated Fredonia State. Trailing 43-36 with 15:28 to go, the Hawks went on a 9-3 run over the next eight minutes to cut the lead to 46-45 with 7:09 remaining in the contest and were able to tie the game at 52 with 4:31 left. The Blue Devils regained the lead, 57-52 with five straight points in fifty seconds and were able to hold onto the lead for the victory. Taylor's hefty contribution totaled 24 points and 11 rebounds. Wichard chipped in with 14 points. On Saturday December 6, the Hawks claimed its second victory of the season, defeating Buffalo State 85-78. Five Hawk players scored in double-figures, led by Taylor with a career high 28 points, eight rebounds and a career high five assists. Agyemang added a career high ten points, five rebounds, seven assists and four steals. Bertram and Anderson each added 14 points.

In the last game of the semester the Hawks faced Division III power Williams College. New Paltz struggled to a 92-55 loss. Taylor finished with 18 points on 9-13 from the field to lead the Hawks. Bertram and Hauser each added 10 points with Bertram grabbing a team high nine boards.

The Hawks closed out the first semester with a 3-5 record and 2-1 conference record. Play picks up again on December 29 when the Hawks face Wheaton College in the first round of the NYU Tournament.

Men's Basketball Alumni Game

The Men's Basketball team will be hosting an alumni game on January 10th. All basketball alumni are invited to return to campus for a day of festivities. The alumni game will be held at 12:30pm. Even if you can't play, it would be great to hang around and reminisce! At halftime of the 8pm matchup vs. Geneseo, alumni will be recognized. Following the game will be a reception for current and former players, families, and friends. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to the Men's Basketball Office. We look forward to seeing you.

Upcoming Events

12/29	Wheaton @ NYU	8:00pm
12/30	NYU Tourney	TBA
01/06	Keene State	7:00pm
01/09	Morrisville	8:00pm
01/10	Alumni Game	12:30pm
	Geneseo	8:00pm
01/16	@ Potsdam	8:00pm
01/17	@Plattsburgh	4:00pm

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