



# Tip-In Club Newsletter

December 2007



Dear Fellow Tip-In Club Members,

The Lumberjack Basketball Team is off to a good start this season, posting a 4-1 record in November. The Jacks have been playing very well overall and it has been an enjoyable month. We have received valuable contributions from several players during November and won two tough road games. In addition, we signed three recruits that I am very excited about! Let's talk about it.

Our first regular season game was against the University of Texas-Tyler. They played us very well and proved to be more difficult an opponent than one might think. We won 63-47 behind 22 points from Matt Kingsley. Josh Alexander also scored 18 points. Four different players led us in rebounding with 4.

Jackson State was up next on the schedule and they had three starters returning from their 2007 N.C.A.A. tournament team. Josh Alexander was injured in practice the day before and could not play. I was very concerned going into the game. However, the Jacks rose to the occasion and played with a lot of heart and energy winning 70-55. Matt Kingsley led us in scoring with 22 points while freshman Eddie Williams scored 16 points and played a great game. Gerald Fonzie added 11 points while Matt Kingsley and Nick Shaw led us in rebounding with 13 and 7 respectively. It was a very good victory for our team that gave us confidence and energy.

Next up on the schedule was a trip to Texas Tech to play the Red Raiders and Coach Bob Knight. We gave the Red Raiders a good battle for about 32 minutes before they pulled away in the end. The 16 point final margin was the largest of the game. Our offense sputtered against Coach Knight's man to man defense and we learned a great deal from this game. Matt Kingsley was the only Lumberjack to score in double figures with 19. Eddie Williams, Gerald Fonzie and Nick Shaw all had 4 rebounds each!

The defending 2007 Sun Belt Western Division Champion came to Nacogdoches on November 21 to battle the Jacks. The University of Louisiana-Monroe returns four starters from last year's conference champion and would be a formidable opponent. In a very tough and hard fought game, the Jacks prevailed 71-68 despite going only 12 for 25 from the free-throw line. Matt Kingsley and Josh Alexander each scored 18 points while Nick Shaw scored 17. Nick had 16 rebounds to lead the Jacks while Josh Alexander had 8 boards. Eric Bell has a great floor game with 8 assists and only one turnover.

Our final game of November involved a road trip to the Midwest to play Northern Illinois. Our Jacks played very well in defeating them 74-50 behind 19 points by Josh Alexander and 18 point by Eric Bell. Alexander had 9 boards and Matt Kingsley had 7 to lead us in rebounding. Eric Bell had 12 assists to go with his 18 points.

November was also a good month for Lumberjack Basketball on the recruiting front. We signed three recruits in the early signing period, one high school and two

junior college players. Zach Williams, a 6'4" wing from Dallas Skyline is the #15 ranked high school player in Texas. He is a very good athlete with long arms and good quickness that will challenge Josh Alexander at the small forward spot. Walt Harris is a 6'4" shooting guard from McLennan Community College in Waco. He was an All-Conference player as a freshman and was the runner-up M.V.P. of the Northern Texas Junior College League. He is an excellent athlete with very good size and quickness for his position. He will challenge immediately for a starting position. Our final signee for the fall is Lu Griffin, a 6'6" power forward from South Plains Junior College in Levelland, Texas. Lu is a great athlete who can rebound and score. He had 19 points and 19 rebounds in the regional championship game against Midland Junior College. Midland won that game and went on to win the National Championship.

Thank you for joining the 2007-2008 Lumberjack Tip-In Club. Your donation and generosity is greatly appreciated and will help our program in so many ways. If you can think of someone that I should contact regarding the Tip-In Club, please write, call, or e-mail me. With the rising costs of tuition and fees, we could use a few new members.

Our featured players this month are Scott Weaver and Gerald Fonzie. Scott is a 6'8" senior from Lewisville Hebron High School. Gerald is a 6'2" guard from Helena, Arkansas. Both are outstanding young men that will graduate in May, 2008. I have really enjoyed coaching both of these young men.

On behalf of the Lumberjack players and coaching staff, I want to wish you and your loved ones a very safe and enjoyable Christmas. May this Christmas bring you the fondest of memories.

Sincerely,

Danny Kaspar  
Men's Basketball Coach