



# Tip-In-Club



February 2008

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The Lumberjack Basketball Team and Coaching Staff send a hearty hello with our newsletter this month. The February newsletter covers games played in January and we have a lot to talk about. Let's get right to it!

Our first game in January was against Wiley College. They were ranked #12 in the N.A.I.A. and were pretty athletic. The Lumberjacks came to play and won handily 74-45. Josh Alexander led all scorers with 14 while Scott Weaver had 10 rebounds. Our next game would be our first Southland Conference match against Nicholls State. The Jacks came out flat and fell behind early. With 1:49 to play, we were down 49-39. We outscored the Colonels 11-1 in that time to force an overtime. However, the Colonels rebounded a missed shot and put it back in at the buzzer to win 58-57. It was a crushing defeat. Josh Alexander led us in scoring with 18 and rebounding with 10.

Less than 48 hours later, we were scheduled to play Southeastern Louisiana in Hammond, LA. I was concerned with the psyche of our players after the tough loss to Nicholls State. The Jacks alleviated my fears with a hard fought 48-45 victory. We played great defense and the victory picked our spirits up! Matt Kingsley led us in scoring with 17 while Josh Alexander again led us in rebounding with 11.

We returned home to open up a two game homestand. First up was a very talented and deep Lamar team. With a great home crowd to back us up, the Jacks played very well in an 81-75 victory. Despite the loss of Eric Bell and Gerald Fonzie to leg cramps, the Jacks held on for the 6 point win after leading by as much as 18. Josh Alexander put on a phenomenal shooting display in scoring 26 points while Nick Shaw led us in rebounding with 7 rebounds. Less than 48 hours later, the Jacks played McNeese State and gave a tremendous defensive performance in a 64-39 victory. I was very proud of the players' effort and performance. Josh Alexander had 19 points and Matt Kingsley had 7 rebounds to lead us.

A trip to arch-rival Sam Houston was up next. In an exciting game that saw the Jacks lead the Bearkats almost the entire game, Sam Houston hit a 3 point shot with 17 seconds to win 58-56. It was a deflating loss that would require great character and strength on our

players' part to bounce back. Josh Alexander had 22 points and 6 rebounds to lead us in both categories.

Our final game of January was against Texas State in Nacogdoches. The Jacks bounced back from the tough loss in Huntsville to win 81-63 behind Josh Alexander's 18 points and 9 rebounds. Josh had a great month and was named Conference Player of the week once.

The Jacks were 16-3 headed into the month of February with a one game lead on Sam Houston State for the West Division lead. We are one game back of Lamar who has only the one loss to the Jacks. Our highest ranking in the mid-major poll for January was at #15. Overall it was a good month!

Our featured players for the month are Kyle Jacobs and Nick Shaw. Kyle is a 6'5" senior from Monroe, La who averages 2 points and 1 rebound per game. Nick Shaw averages 6.3 points and 5 rebounds a game. He comes to us from Collin Country Community College where he was an all-conference performer. Both Kyle and Nick are doing good jobs for us.

We hope to see you at many of our remaining home games. Our records show that you have not yet renewed your Tip-In-Club membership for the 2007-2008 season. I hope this is just an oversight on your part. We could use your help in so many ways. If possible, please join us in providing our players with the necessary funds to help send them to summer school and to help our seniors complete their education upon the expiration of their eligibility. If you have any questions concerning the Tip-In-Club and/or Tip-In-Club funding/expenditures, please call me and I'll be happy to communicate with you!

God bless you and your family with good health and safe travels!

Sincerely,

**Danny Kaspar**

Danny Kaspar

Men's Basketball Coach