



Head coach Bob Bessoir — Bessoir enters his 10th year of guiding the Royals, compiling a record of 159 wins and 101 losses. . . Guided the Royals to the Division III national championship back in 1976 followed by a third-place finish in 1977. . . An outstanding cager for the Royals from 1952-55, retiring with 1066 points. . . Will be looking for his sixth Middle Atlantic Conference championship this year after capturing crowns in 1975, '76, '78, '80, '81. . . "I feel a lot like I did last year about this team — very confident. I like these players and the way they respond and act. I think we'll go a long way together this year. This team is tailor-made for my style — a running team. Look for an exciting brand of basketball," Bessoir commented. Bessoir offers an assessment of his assistant coach and his team in the following profiles.



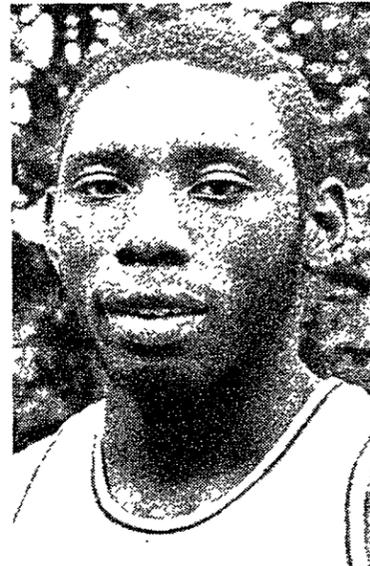
Bryant Thornwell — senior, fwd. — center, 6'5", 210 lbs., Riverdale, Md. Team captain. . . "I want more of a leadership role from him this year both off and on the court. He has the ability to provide it. He will go in the record books as an all-time scorer and rebounder in University history. We're counting on him for strength and bulk under the hoop. I look for consistent play from him."



Mark Hutchinson — junior, guard, 6'0", 170 lbs., Yardley, Pa. "Seems to have taken a leadership role this year, whereas last year he was a bit unsure. . . I'm happy to see that. . . He'll still be the quarterback of the team. . . There should be some good vibrations teaming him with Bailey."



Tom Kosin — junior, forward, 6'5", 200 lbs., Wildes Barre, Pa. "Mr. Confidence, I call him. . . He has matured into an outstanding offensive player. . . Has had a fantastic summer and pre-season. . . Looks ready for a great year. . . I'm happy he has blossomed into a fine college player."



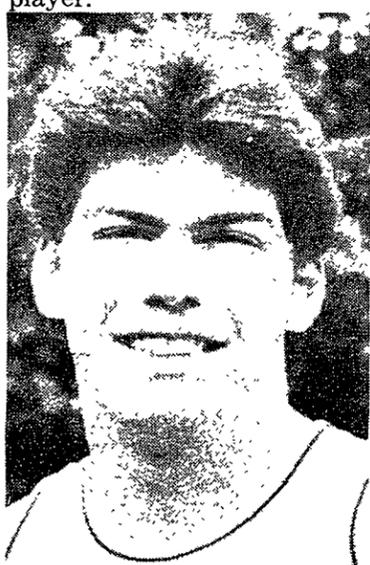
Jeff Jones — sophomore, forward, 6'4", 185 lbs., Philadelphia, Pa. "Great improvement in his mid-range jump shot and ball-handling abilities, which is evidenced in a great deal of summer work. . . I'll count on him to supply energy coming off the bench in a sixth man role. . . Will play a lot."



Todd Bailey — junior, guard, 5'9", 141 lbs., Scranton. "Mr. Excitement. I'm waiting for him to blend with the team and for the team to blend with him. The fans are in for a treat with Todd. . . One of a kind player. . . Look for him to start and lead our transition game."



Steve Owens — senior, guard, 6'2", 162 lbs., Reading Pa. "Has come back determined to play a bigger role on the team this year. . . A learning season last year. . . Will be the first backcourt substitute. . . I'm hoping his outside shooting improves."



Bill McDonough — sophomore, forward, 6'4", 210 lbs., Jersey City, N.J. "Up from the jayvee and will be a utility man, a spot player. . . Could play either the swing spot, small forward, or power forward spot."



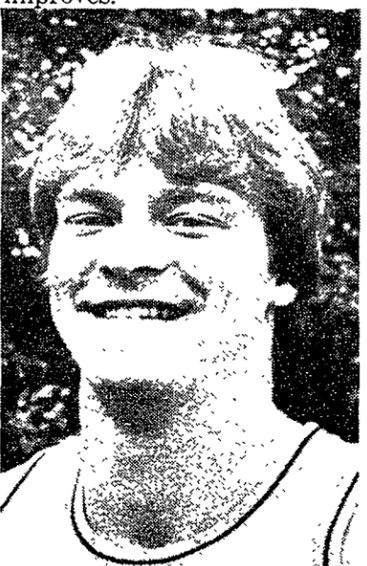
Bob Orlandini — senior, guard, 5'9", 155 lbs., Vineland, N.J. "The return of the rooster. . . He worked very hard this summer to prove something and he did. . . The needs of the team dictated we keep him. . . That, combined with his great showing in early practices, impressed the coaching staff. . . Extremely fine defensive skills, shade slower than Bailey, which makes him faster than the other players."



Assistant varsity coach Bob Walsh — A 1972 graduate of Bloomsburg State, Walsh played high school ball at Holy Rosary, scoring 1,200 points at before becoming a member of the Bloomsburg varsity team. . . A top recruiter as well as a fine coach. . . "My biggest feeling is he relates extremely well to the players, which is the most important thing. He does a heck of a job recruiting — doing the ground-roots work. We complement each other well in a quiet way. I have no qualms of his running the team when I'm not here; he is very capable."



Mickey Banas — sophomore, forward, 6'5", 190 lbs., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. "More confidence this year, otherwise a steady, exceptional, dependable player. . . Makes no mistakes. . . Will not be intimidated at all this year."



Al O'Keefe — Senior, forward, 6'4", 200 lbs., Livingston Manor, N.Y. "Al is going to see a lot more action than he saw last year at the forward-center spots. . . An excellent passer and a sure ball-handling big man. . . A tenacious defender. . . Will back-up Banas and Thornwell in spot situations."



Rich Para — sophomore, forward, 6'5", 210 lbs., Pittston, Pa. "Will play both jayvee and varsity this year. . . I'm impressed with his attitude. . . While there are four players ahead of him, he looks like a solid bet in the future as an inside player."

Men's Basketball Schedule

Nov 24	Ursinus	A 8:15
Nov 29	St. Joseph's	H 8:00
Dec 2	Fairleigh Dickinson	H 8:15
Dec 5	Mt. St. Mary's	A 3:00
Dec 8	Lock Haven	H 8:15
Dec 12	Albright	H 8:15
Dec 19	Holiday Tournament	H
20	Kean	
	St. Vincent's	
	Hartwick	
Jan. 9	Iycoming	A 8:00
Jan 13	Bloomsburg	H 8:15
Jan. 16	Juniata	H 4:00
Jan. 20	LeMoyne	A 8:00
Jan. 23	Wilkes	H 8:15
Jan. 25	Fast Stroudsburg	A 8:00
Jan. 27	Delaware Valley	H 8:15
Jan. 30	King's	H 1:00
Feb. 1	Catholic	H 8:15
Feb. 3	Delaware Valley	A 8:00
Feb. 6	Susquehanna	H 3:00
Feb. 8	King's	A 8:00
Feb. 10	Wilkes	A 8:00
Feb. 13	Elizabethtown	A 8:15
Feb. 15	Misericordia	H 8:15
Feb. 17	Fairleigh Dickinson	A 8:30
Feb. 23	Philadelphia Textile	H 8:15
Feb. 26	M.A.C. North Playoff	
Feb. 27	M.A.C. North Finals	H