



MEN'S BASKETBALL

GENERAL INFORMATION

Head Coach: Phil Martelli (Widener '76)
Career Record: 261-152/13 years
Record at SJU: 261-152/13 years
Assistant Coaches: Mark Bass, David Duda, Doug Overton
2007-08 Record: 21-13
2007-08 Atlantic 10 Record/Finish: 9-7/Tied-4th
2007-08 Big Five Record/Finish: 3-1/2nd
Captains: Tasheed Carr, Rob Ferguson

PLAYERS

SENIORS

Pat Calathes
 Rob Ferguson
 Arvydas Lidzius

JUNIORS

Tasheed Carr
 Edwin Lashley
 Ahmad Nivins

SOPHOMORES

C.J. Brown
 Darrin Govens
 Rockwell Moody*
 D.J. Rivera
 Garrett Williamson

FRESHMEN

Charoy Bentley
 Idris Hilliard

* did not complete season

TEAM AWARDS

HILFERTY AWARD - MOST VALUABLE: Pat Calathes
O'NEILL AWARD - MOST IMPROVED: Garrett Williamson
MAHER AWARD (Loyalty): Rob Ferguson, Arvydas Lidzius
SENEKY AWARD (Academics): Edwin Lashley
CUMMINS AWARD (Spirit): Jim Miller*
O'PAKE AWARD(Unsung Hero): Brett Sullivan*, Ryan Whalen*
BENNETT AWARD (Dedication): Beth Moran*
ROSS SIXTH MAN AWARD: SJU Students*
CONWAY AWARD (Alumni): Al Pastino*
VASQUEZ AWARD: Arvydas Lidzius
DORIE LEAHY AWARD: Jim Miller*
SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD: Idris Hilliard

* Non-Player

OTHER AWARDS

Atlantic 10 All-Conference First Team: Pat Calathes
Atlantic 10 All-Conference Third Team: Ahmad Nivins
Atlantic 10 All-Championship Team: Pat Calathes, Ahmad Nivins
NABC All-District 3 First Team: Pat Calathes
NABC All-District 3 Third Team: Ahmad Nivins
USBWA All-District 1 Team: Pat Calathes
Big 5 Co-Player of the Year (Geasey Award): Pat Calathes
All-Big 5 First Team: Pat Calathes
All-Big 5 Second Team: Ahmad Nivins, Rob Ferguson
Atlantic 10 Player of the Week: Pat Calathes (1/7, 1/27, 2/10)
Big 5 Player of the Week: Pat Calathes (12/31, 1/7, 1/27, 2/4); Ahmad Nivins (1/14)

2007-08 Year in Review

The 2007-08 campaign for Saint Joseph's basketball brought promise and high expectations to Hawk Hill. With four of five starters back, SJU was primed to make the final season at Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse one to remember.

The Hawks were one of the most balanced teams in the conference, led by seniors Pat Calathes and Rob Ferguson and bolstered by the addition of junior transfer Tasheed Carr and the continued improvement of Ahmad Nivins.

SJU opened the year splitting two games in the Pre-Season NIT, and despite overtime losses to Gonzaga and Creighton, finished 2007 with a 7-4 record.

The Hawks opened 2008 looking like a team destined for success. A career-high 31 points and 12 rebounds from Nivins led SJU to a high-scoring win at UMass to begin conference play. This hot start to 2008 saw the Hawks rack up victories in eight of their first nine games of the calendar year.

Individual milestones were achieved as Martelli earned his 250th career win in a 40-point drubbing of Big 5 foe Penn. Ferguson and Calathes each joined the 1,000-point club on separate occasions, as did Nivins later in the year.

Calathes gave Hawk fans some consolation for the last-second losses over the past few years by hitting a dramatic game-winning 3-pointer with three seconds to go at Temple.

Before a frenzied SJU crowd at the Palestra, the Hawks built a quick double-figure lead against Villanova and ended a three-game losing streak in the rivalry with a 22-point blowout. Ferguson and Calathes turned in true Big 5 senior performances, pacing the Hawks with 20 points apiece.

The Hawks rode the emotional wave from the Villanova win, but what followed next was a rollercoaster ride for the rest of the season. SJU put together a stellar effort at Xavier, but saw the 13th-ranked Musketeers come from behind in the final two minutes to earn the win. A crucial win at Rhode Island was engineered again by SJU's balanced effort, as all five starters scored in double figures.

A few losses in late February dimmed the Hawks' postseason hopes, but the Fieldhouse became a source of inspiration as eighth-ranked Xavier came to town for the finale and Senior Night on Hawk Hill. The guest list included a parade of former SJU greats such as Jameer Nelson, Mike Bantom, and Dr. Jack Ramsay, and a hyped-up Hawk crowd determined to see Saint Joseph's send the Fieldhouse out in proper fashion. The Hawks responded with a 71-66 upset, giving the seniors and 3,200 plus in attendance a night to remember.

Saint Joseph's felt the emotional effects of that night, falling in the blizzard at Dayton just two days later, but headed into the A-10 Tournament with confidence.

In front of large SJU crowds at Boardwalk Hall, the Hawks defeated Fordham and Richmond to march onto the semifinals and another meeting with Xavier. Calathes, Ferguson and Nivins led the way as the Hawks earned their second win over Xavier in eight days and a spot in the A-10 title game against Temple.

Making their third championship game appearance in the past four years, the Hawks battled Temple in a game similar to the other two, but the Owls prevailed, 69-64, in front of a large crowd at Boardwalk Hall.

Selection Sunday became a tense waiting game for the Hawks. but the postseason hopes that seemed to have faded were suddenly brought to light with the announcement of the field of 65. An estatic and relieved group of Hawks found themselves the owners of SJU's first tournament bid since 2004.

The Hawks drew the 11th seed in the East Region and a date with sixth-seeded Oklahoma in Birmingham. Ferguson saved one of his best games for his last, tallying 21 points. Despite that effort, and 14 points from Nivins, Saint Joseph's couldn't dig out of a double-digit hole and suffered a 72-64 loss that closed the chapter on the exciting and unpredictable ride of the 2007-08 Hawks.

Calathes and Ferguson closed out their careers with their best seasons to date, while Nivins set the bar high for his senior season. Calathes and Nivins were All-Conference selections with Calathes earning first team honors and being named the Big 5 Co-Player of the Year.

This year's team was at times unpredictable, but in the end, reaffirmed Saint Joseph's place among the nation's best programs, while laying the foundation for the future success of Hawk basketball.