



BASKETBALL TRAVELERS INC.

OVER & BACK

WOMEN'S EDITION

Basketball Travelers Celebrates 20th Anniversary



To think **Basketball Travelers, Inc.** started twenty years ago with two guys that simply wanted to travel to Europe for free!

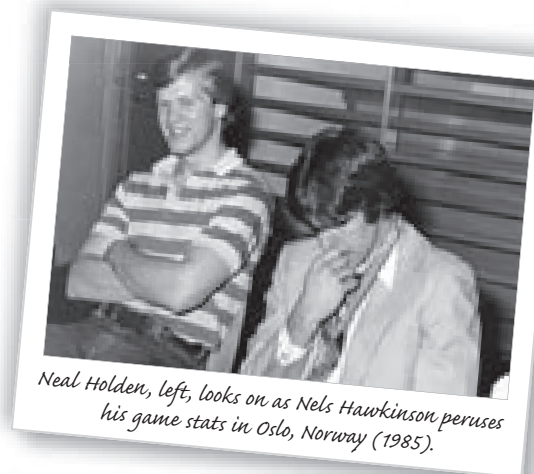
Back in 1985, Nels Hawkinson and Neal Holden longed to return to Europe. Both had finished their playing careers just three years earlier, competing for professional teams in Oslo, Norway. Nels then became the head women's coach at Seattle Pacific University and Neal a systems analyst for Weyerhaeuser.

Sadly, there were no European travel plans in sight. Then the idea formed . . . what if they took American college teams over to Europe to play, and in return got to travel with the team for free? In March 1986, Basketball Travelers was incorporated and three months later Hawkinson was on his way to Europe with their first client, the Pac-Ten All Stars coached by Ralph Miller.

While that first tour netted just \$18.00, Hawkinson and Holden were well on their way to a successful business model based upon integrity, experience and customer satisfaction. Most of all, they both shared a strong desire to glorify the Lord in all their business dealings. In the past twenty years the company has serviced over 2000 teams that have participated in foreign tours, exhibition games, and tournaments. 261 American teams have traveled to 35 different countries via Basketball Travelers tours. 396 foreign teams have represented 43 different countries, playing in a total of 3,192 U.S. November exhibition games. To service this amount of business, seven other employees and two additional partners, Craig and Jeff Jonas, now join founders Hawkinson and Holden.

From their modest beginning, Hawkinson and Holden probably didn't imagine their simple dream to travel would culminate in television contracts and dealings with such prestigious programs as Duke, North Carolina, Tennessee and Connecticut, to name but a few. After twenty years, Basketball Travelers, Inc. has developed into a company that positively impacts and serves the basketball community in a way their founders could never have imagined or planned.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain." Psalm 127:1 (NIV)



Neal Holden, left, looks on as Nels Hawkinson peruses his game stats in Oslo, Norway (1985).



Twenty years later, Holden and Hawkinson still young at heart.

Major NCAA Rule Changes Anticipated for Game Scheduling

Significant rule changes involving game scheduling are anticipated in April, should the NCAA management council approve the proposed legislation. If the new rules are adopted, the actual number of games a team can play in a season could increase considerably. Following is an abbreviated outline of the proposed legislation:

- An institution may participate in a "multi-team event" **EVERY** year (formerly called a certified event).
- A "multi-team event" counts as only one game in your schedule, but you may play up to four games in the event.
- The conference tournament will not count toward your maximum of 28 games.
- You may play in a "multi-team event" **AND** take a foreign tour in the same year.
- Opening weekend will be moved to the 2nd Friday in November.

Tennessee, Minnesota Capture Paradise Jam Titles



The Lady Vols and their faithful fans in orange stage a pre-game cheer.



The Paradise Jam at University of the Virgin Islands is held annually over Thanksgiving weekend in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. It includes both certified and non-certified tournament brackets. The 2006 field includes: (Certified) Auburn, Marquette, Western Michigan & Xavier; (Non-Certified) Arizona State, Penn State, 2 teams TBA. In 2007, only two spots remain open. Call now for open spots in 2006, 2007 and beyond!

The 2005 Paradise Jam at University of the Virgin Islands was arguably the best field in the six-year history of the tournament. Going into the competition, four of the eight teams were ranked in the top 12 in the USA Today poll, including Tennessee at No. 1. The level of competition didn't disappoint, as both championship games were nail-biters.

The St. John division started off with a bang on Thanksgiving Day when the Lady Vols decisively avenged their Final Four semi-final loss to Michigan State, defeating the Spartans 83-55. Fox College Sports broadcast the Thanksgiving Day game, along with the Maryland-Gonzaga match up that preceded it. Tennessee ended the tournament 3-0, but not before Maryland gave them all they could handle in the final game, 80-75. Michigan State earned third place over Gonzaga.

In the St. Thomas division, Minnesota edged Virginia for the championship, 69-64. Alabama earned third place over Nevada in the consolation game.

Rutgers, Texas Win Junkanoo Jam

Eight teams converged on Freeport, Grand Bahama Island over Thanksgiving to compete in the 3rd annual Junkanoo Jam. Texas edged George Washington 59-55 in the Lucaya Division championship, with Purdue defeating South Carolina for 3rd place. In the Freeport Division, Rutgers defeated North Carolina State 66-56 for the championship. Iowa State earned 3rd place over North Florida in the consolation game.

The Junkanoo Jam is held annually in Freeport, Grand Bahama Island, just 60 miles off the coast of Florida. This non-certified tournament includes two counting games in two separate 4-team brackets over Thanksgiving. Teams enjoy a catamaran snorkel cruise, a beachside Thanksgiving dinner party (weather permitting), and the white sand beaches of beautiful Grand Bahama Island.

Three spots are still open in the 2006 tournament field, currently filled by Maryland, Central Florida, South Dakota State, Northwestern, and Mississippi.



WBCA, WSF Full For 2006

Both the WBCA and the Women's Sports Foundation certified tournaments were filled early, but spots are still available for 2007 and beyond. The Kansas City Sports Commission will host Iowa, Missouri State, Seton Hall and Kansas in the WBCA-Metro Sports Classic Nov. 2006. In the 2005 WBCA tournament, host Arizona State continued the four-year tradition of a host school champion, defeating Missouri in the title game. Vanderbilt took third over Clemson.

Kentucky will host the Women's Sports Foundation tournament in 2006, with Indiana, Wake Forest and Washington State rounding out the field. In 2005, Temple overcame a half-time deficit to overcome host Oregon 51-46 for the championship, becoming the first team in four years to defeat the host school.



Spots are still available for 2007 and beyond.



Basketball Travelers Classics Offer Flexibility

The Basketball Travelers Classic is BTI's newest tournament innovation, offering expanded options to teams looking to host or participate in a certified tournament. The BTI Classic concept employs a 3-for-1 tournament model based on a host school and three other tournament participants. Both the host and the participants can utilize options to roll their fees or earnings into future participation in foreign tours or warm-weather tournaments such as the Paradise Jam or the Junkanoo Jam. Maryland will be the first team to contract a host opportunity for a Basketball Travelers Classic. **Call our office for more information on tournament participation or host opportunities.**

2006 Summer and Labor Day Tours Still Available

Foreign tours are still one of the best means to give your players added game experience and team bonding opportunities. Summer tours offer the most game opportunities, but if your school has a Fall break over Labor Day, you can take your freshmen and transfers. Should the 2-in-4 rule change in April, you can even take a foreign tour this year **AND** participate in a certified tournament in the upcoming season. **Tour options include Europe, Australia, Canada, Bahamas.**

2005 TOUR TEAMS

Big Ten Conference, Dayton, Florida State, Loyola Marymount, Princeton, Purdue, South Carolina, Southern Illinois, Texas Tech, UCLA, Utah, Utah State, Western Kentucky

2006 TOUR TEAMS

Maryland, Rutgers, Old Dominion, Washington, Texas A & M, Miami of Ohio



Purdue, Utah, UCLA Follow Foreign Tours with Season Success

After treks through Europe and Australia last summer, Purdue, Utah and UCLA all spring-boarded from summer tours to very successful seasons. Each team ended the season with a national ranking and a trip to the NCAA tournament. In addition to extra games and team-building opportunities, international travel gave each team the chance to expand their horizons.

Purdue, who ended the season ranked #11, traveled to France and Switzerland, sampling the abundant culture and sights. A Seine River boat tour under the stars, visits to the Eiffel Tower, Sacre Coeur and the Louvre rounded out their Parisian experience. In Switzerland, the team explored Chateau de Chillon, a medieval castle nestled on the shore of Lake Geneva. From there, the Mediterranean beckoned, with stops in Nice and Monaco.

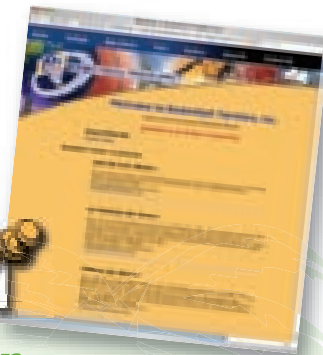
Utah, ranked 19th heading into the NCAA tourney, got an early start on their season with a May trip to Spain and Portugal. They watched a bull fight in Madrid, visited the Royal Palace and the Prado. Next stop, the walled hilltop city of Toledo, followed by a visit to Porto, famous for its port wine. The tour ended in the beautiful city of Lisbon.

UCLA ended their season on a tear, winning the Pac-10 tournament and earning a #23 ranking. Their tour "Down Under" included stops in Sydney and Cairns. In Sydney the Bruins visited the Opera House, climbed the Sydney Harbour Bridge and petted kangaroos at the Taronga Zoo. Their trip to Cairns included the Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park and a Great Barrier Reef snorkel trip.

BasketballTravelers.com

Find Non-Conference Games Easier Using BTI's Web Bulletin

The NABC and Basketball Travelers, Inc. continue their commitment to offer Division I coaches access to the finest web-based scheduling bulletin board available. Unrivaled in numbers of participants, the complimentary service assists coaches in booking or posting non-conference games and tournaments. Coaches can post game openings or view games currently posted. The site is constantly being improved and expanded based on feedback from users. **Call our office if you need assistance with posting or viewing games.**



Teams Needed for 2006 Duel, Surf 'N Slam

The 2006 Duel in the Desert, hosted by UNLV, is still in need of teams to round out the four-team, three-game round robin tournament Dec. 19-22 in Las Vegas. The glamorous New York-New York hotel is the official host hotel in a city that offers something for everyone. In 2005, Notre Dame won the Gray Division championship, followed by Utah, NC State and Arkansas State. Texas A&M took the Scarlet Division title, followed by host UNLV, Detroit Mercy, and Jackson State.



In the 2006 San Diego Surf 'N Slam "Aztec Division", San Diego State (host), Georgia, and Brown need one team to round out the four team field. Texas, Holy Cross and Oregon State have already filled the "Torero Division," hosted by Univ. San Diego since 2001. The tournament is held annually Dec. 26-31 in San Diego, one of America's most popular vacation destinations. In 2005, Duke decisively won the "Torero Division" by an average margin of 57.5 points per game. The Blue Devils were followed by Univ. San Diego, St. John's and Montana State. In the "Aztec Division," Auburn claimed the inaugural crown over Loyola (MD), SDSU, and Cal. Davis.

WBCA Convention in Boston – BOOTH #300!



UCLA successfully masters the Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb.

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- BTI Celebrates 20th Anniversary
- Anticipated NCAA Rule Changes
- Tennessee, Minnesota Win Paradise Jam
- New Tournaments By BTI



Look for us at the WBCA
Convention in Boston
BOOTH #300!

*"Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord,
not for men."
~ Col. 3:23*



OFFERING:

- Warm weather tourneys: Paradise Jam, Junkanoo Jam, Surf 'N Slam
- Foreign Tours
- WBCA & WSF Certified Tournaments
- Scheduling Bulletin Board
- Basketball Travelers Classics



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