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ORANGEBURG - At the outset of the ongoing 2012-2013 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) schedule, the South Carolina State Bulldogs are once again winless versus league foes.

Ending the 2011-2012 slate without a "W" opposite league competitors, Tim Carter's current players started play against MEAC opponents with high hopes of finishing markedly better in family face-offs than they did last season.

However, after three tilts against conference teams so far this campaign, including last Mon. night's (Jan. 14) 21 point (79-58) loss opposite Coppin State in Baltimore, the Bulldogs, as of this reporting, were 0-3 in conference play. In overall action, the record was 4-12.

Prior to the setback against Coppin State, the Bulldogs were defeated by Norfolk State this past December and suffered a double-digit loss to Morgan State on the road, on Jan.12.

While it has been another time of frustration to this point in the current campaign, Bulldog coaches, players and support personnel hold out hope that things will soon change for the better.

Bill Hamilton is apparently among those S.C. State support staffers that believes the Bullodgs have what it takes to get things going in the right direction.

"The guys are playing hard; the effort is there. This is a better team than last year's," guaged the veteran SCSU sports information director Tues. morning (1/15), shortly after coming off the road on the recent trip to Maryland. "We have a chance to be a lot better than we were against conference teams last season.

"What we need now is to get a win. Getting a win will build confidence that we so desperately need (to go on and become better)."

Starting this week Tim Carter and his Bulldogs will have a chance to improve their lot, during a four-game home stand that starts Sat. (Jan. 19), with play against MEAC foe Bethune-Cookman. Tip-off time in this outing at Smith-Hammond-Middleton (S-H-M) Memorial Center is set for 6 p.m. The women team from both schools will battle in a contest slated to get underway at 4 p.m.

Following the encounter with Bethune-Cookman, S.C. State will play host to Florida A&M, on Mon. night (1/21). Duels versus Savannah State on Sat. Jan. 26 and opposite Hampton on Wed. (1/30) will round out play in the upcoming four games at S-H-M.

In turning his attention to the future of the Bulldog hoopsters, Bill Hamilton refused to sound like an individual that was writing the season off.

"We have talent on this team; players who can get the job done," said the long time S.C. State sports administrator.

"With this homestand, beginning Saturday against Bethune, we have a good chance to get it going (in the right direction). It’s just a matter of us going out and getting the first win."

Including the before noted homestand, the Bullogs had 13 games left in regular season play before engaging in MEAC tourney action scheduled to begin in Mid-March.