

Carter Named Preseason Player Of Year

Written by Charles Cochrum
Wednesday, 26 October 2011 11:04

Senior Omar Carter (Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) was voted Southern Conference Preseason Player of the Year, and Appalachian State University men's basketball was tabbed to finish second in the North Division by the league's coaches, the SoCon announced on Wednesday.

Carter is the SoCon's leading

returning scorer after averaging 16.3 points per game a season ago. The Charlotte native ranked second for the Mountaineers with 5.8 rebounds per game and shot 40 percent from downtown in his junior campaign.

After transferring from Charleston Southern, Carter earned all-conference, NABC all-district and NCCSIA all-state honors last season. He was twice named the league's Player of the Week. Chattanooga earned 64 points and 9-of-12 first-place votes to repeat as North champions, 13 points ahead of Jason Capel's Mountaineers, who picked up two first-place votes.

Western Carolina garnered the remaining first-place nod along with 44 points in third place, just two ahead of UNCG. Rounding out the North predictions, Elon earned 29 points and Samford picked up 16.

Davidson earned the nod in the South with 65 points and 10 first-place votes. Defending regular-season champion College of Charleston finished nine points behind and received the other two first-place votes.

The young Georgia Southern team, which returns 11-of-12 letterwinners was picked to finish third with 42 points.

Furman was picked fourth with 34 points, two ahead of defending tournament champion Wofford, which brings back just one starter from last season's squad. Also hit heavy by graduation, The Citadel was picked sixth with 17 points.

Chattanooga, College of Charleston and Davidson each placed two players on the preseason all-conference team while ASU, Elon, Georgia Southern and Western Carolina have one representative.

Appalachian hosts Mountaineer Madness on Thursday evening from 5-8 p.m. at Varsity Gym and will square off against Lenoir-Rhyne on November 3 at the Holmes Center in an exhibition before the Nov. 11 season opener.

SoCon Men's Basketball Predicted Order of Finish

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North Division

Team (1st Place Votes) Total

1. Chattanooga (9) 64
- 2. Appalachian State (2) 51**
3. Western Carolina (1) 44
4. UNCG 42
5. Elon 29
6. Samford 16

South Division

Team (1st Place Votes) Total

1. Davidson (10) 65
2. College of Charleston (2) 56
3. Georgia Southern 42
4. Furman 34
5. Wofford 32
6. The Citadel 17

2011-12 Preseason All-Conference Team

Keegan Bell, Chattanooga

Omar Carter, Appalachian State

Jake Cohen, Davidson

JP Kuhlman, Davidson

Willie Powers III, Georgia Southern

Drew Spradlin, Elon

Trey Sumler, Western Carolina

Omar Wattad, Chattanooga

Trent Wiedeman, Coll. of Charleston

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Antwaine Wiggins, Coll. of Charleston

2011-12 Preseason Player of the Year
Omar Carter, Appalachian State

Photo Courtesy: Bill Sheffield, ASU Athletics