

UCSD begins third basketball season

November 20, 1969

The University of California at San Diego begins its third full basketball season on Monday, December 1, when the Tritons entertain Southern California College at 8:00 p.m. in the UCSD Gymnasium.

Coach Barry Cunningham, who replaces Neale Stoner as head basketball coach, has four lettermen returning from the Tritons' squad that won 20 and lost 8 last year. Leading the four is forward Ed Babiuch, 6'2" senior, who averaged 12.7 points per game last year and was the second leading rebounder for the Tritons.

Also returning are guard Guy Dimonte from Burbank, forward Jim Boyd from Cerritos and Ron Carter, 6'5" center from Santa Monica. Paul Kroger, 6'13" forward, and Dave Gregory, 6'1" guard, are new additions from last year's freshman squad.

The Tritons are again relying heavily on junior college transfers to bolster this season's squad. The new transfers include Mark Wilson, 6'6" forward from the College of San Mateo; Dan Heiser, 6'5" center from Chabot; Rich Steele, 6'3" forward from Moorpark; and 6'1" guard Bennie Richard from Long Beach City College.

Cunningham feels that he has, potentially, a very fine team. The schedule is more difficult than last year, and UCSD has only 10 home games with 16 away. Cunningham believes that this could be a very important factor as to how successful the Tritons are this year.

"Although not very big," he said, "our frontline looks good and there is depth there; my backcourt is my major concern. We may not have the quickness and depth to play the pressure defense I like."

*Attached are this season's schedule, last season's won/lost record and a list of the team members.