Cagers Top Northeastern 89-79; Improved Game Nets Team Victory

Northeastern Spurts to Victory

Shooting better than they had all year and rebounding at the peak of their ability, the Engineer varsity basketball team topped a fighting Northeastern quintet, 89-79. Coach Whitelaw justly termed the second half of this game the biggest of the season for his team, "a team victory." Center Dee Vergun, better than a firecracker during the second half, matched thirty-five points. He was high for the year. Gift Hallee, playing as he displayed last year, had eighteen and added some strings to the boards and smooth in his head-handling.

Captain Carl Hess played a heads up aggressive game, driving well and setting up plays with smart passes. Larry Hallee turned in a steady game, scoring some key baskets when a second half Northeastern surge threatened.

Northeastern Leads

Northwestern jumped out to a quick 4-0 lead on O'Brien's drive, Ayres' free throw and Kearns' tip-in. Weber hit a pair of fouls and Dee a jump shot. Kearns' foul shot and Brooks' tip made it 8-4, but the Engineers tied it up on Bailey's pair of free throws and Hess' set shot. The Huskies countered with Brooks' drive-in and Ayres' drive-in. O'Brien matched baskets with Weber's long set and Vergun's jumper. Gift hit on two fouls but Kearns made a jump shot. A pair of tip-ins by Weber and Vergun tied the score at 18 all.

Tech Comes Back

A five point Husky spurt put the Northeastern quintet in front, but Tech came right back with Bailey's tip and two-handers. Jack Brits' long one hand pop shot and Weber's free throw, The score soon equalized and Northeastern took a four point lead on a drive and a pair of fouls. Carl Hess scored five straight points, two drives and a foul, to put Whittel's men ahead.

Vergun followed with a hook and a fifteen foot jumper and matched Brooks' hook with a one-hander and pair of fouls. Hess hit a pair of fouls and Tech had a nine point advantage, 39-30. Platman matched Bailey's one-hander with a pair of free throws and the Engineers cut the score to 39-36. MIT had a forty-four point shooting percentage during the first half, but the Huskies were 2-17 for 12 percent and finished with a 38-36 first half lead. MIT had a nine point advantage.

Northwestern started the second half with a six point spurt on consecutive jump shots by Ayres and O'Brien and the latter's set. Weber scored a pair of fouls, but Northeastern tallied seven straight points, five by Kearns to go from 44-46. Then Dee got hot. He hit a jump shot and, after Brooks' five point drive-in lost a point to score a drive, hit a jump shot from the pivot.

Vergun Gets Hot

He dropped a twenty foot jumper and Tech was four points ahead. Northeastern tied it up on baskets by Brooks and Ayres, but the Engineers went ahead to stay on a fast break play. Hess to Bernie Benson. Platman scored a foul shot and Dee hit on jump shot. Brooks had a three point drive-in. Hess hit a tip, but Northeastern countered with a pair of baskets by Kearns and Brooks. Vergun netted five straight points on a hook, a foul shot and a jumper. Ayres scored two fouls. Weber countered with a one-hander and Hess broke away for a lay-up. Kearns scored a pair of foul shots, but Dee's drive-in and Weber's top made it 56-55. Hallee netted a lay-up against O'Brien's pair of fouls. The Husky captain, Ed Ayres, started to get hot. He hit a forty foot shot and, after Benson's foul, a one-hander. Hess dropped a pair of free throws but Ayres scored a long set and a drive-in. Hess scored a pair of points and served as a one-hander. Hess countered with a pair of free throws and Dee shot a lefty hook. Kearns' jump shot countered with a pair of foul shots.

Tech was in charge of the finish and started to get away. With a few minutes of a few brief periods of unfavorable, Coach Whittel's men turned in a fine performance.

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