Women's Basketball

Staff Writer

The women's basketball team started the season by winning the Tip-Off Classic a week ago at Rockwell Cage, beating Salve Regina 65-62 in the championship game. The Engineers also beat the Wentworth Institute of Technology, 77-56, enroute to their championship. Simmons College blasted the Leopards by a score of 76-34 in the consolation game.

In the first half of the Westernmost game, Mari Czarniary '95 was the leading scorer with nine points for the Engineers. MIT finished the half with a 37-27 lead. The Engineers dominated the Leopards on both offense and defense, and Wentworth finished the half shooting only 28 percent from the floor.

At halftime, people in attendance were called to attempt a lay-up, a free throw and a three-pointer for prizes. Only Dave Ratliff, brother of Kristin Ratliff '94, finished the three-pointer to attempt a percentage from the floor.

In the second half, MIT shot over 50 percent from the field and improved on its 42 percent performance at the line by shooting 67 percent.

The team finished with four players in double figures in scoring led by Caserburg's 21. Jennifer Wozniak '95 and Ratliff finished with 12, while C. J. Doane '95 had 10. Ratliff was the leading rebounder for the Engineers with nine while Tammy Porter '94 led the team in assists with four in steals with eight. However, MIT did allow 28 offensive rebounds in the game and ended up only shooting 53 percent from the line.

Even so, Head Coach Suzanne Rowe was upbeat about the team's performance. "It was a nice way to open the season. I was impressed with the teamwork out there and everyone's effort," she said. "What I like is that we had pretty much all around scoring."

In the first half of the championship game, Salve Regina ended the half with a 34-26 lead. Ratliff finished the half leading the Engineers with 10 points, and Caserburg had nine. Neither team shot very well from the field; both finished shooting under 40 percent from the floor.

Again, at halftime, people in attendance were called to make shots. George Hazzard, father of assistant coach Geoff Hazzard '94, Joe Dowd, and Mark Throop were able to complete shots for prizes.

In the second half, the new Engineers' inability to make free throws was their downfall as the Engineers bailed back from a double-digit deficit in the second half to win the championship.

Salve Regina lost less than 25 percent from the charity stripe in the half, while MIT shot 62 percent from the line to finish at 60 percent for the game. They also shot 48 percent from the floor to finish at 42 percent.

Improvement was seen also in rebounding as the Engineers allowed fewer offensive rebounds from the previous game, but grabbed 14 more defensive rebounds.

Rowe said, "It wasn't pretty at all. I was not impressed with our performance today at all until the end when we just had to decide to put it together."

The team worked hard to be the problem on floor. Rowe said, "People weren't there getting together. At the end when it came down to it, they got together. They made it very exciting and we'll I take the win even though it wasn't pretty," she said.

Individually, Caserburg was the leading scorer again with 20 and rebounder with 19, 10 of them offensive. Other players who scored in double figures include Jennifer Boyle '96 and Ratliff with 12 and Amy Mackay '97 with ten. Boyle and Caserburg led for the lead in assists with three and Caserburg led in steals with four.

The all-tournament award winners included Heather Ross of Simmons, Kim McCabe of Wentworth, Barry Creecy and Shannon Duhan of Salve Regina, and Boyle. Caserburg won the MVP award. But she was humble in accepting the award; "I don't really see it as a personal award. I think it's an award as a team for us coming back together as a team," she said.

The final score was MIT 87, Salve Regina 62. Overall, MIT finished shooting 50 percent from the field and three for six or 50 percent from 3-point land. They shot fairly well from the line as well, averaging 65 percent.

MIT finished off a gritty win in the second half to win. This included forcing MIT players in the final seconds to stop the clock. However, while MIT did have some problems shooting free throws in the final minute, MIT had more shooting problems so MIT ended the game with a win.

All five starters finished the game in double figures with forward Tom Porter '96 leading the team with 19. Forward Joe Lesoze '95 finished with 16, and center Keith Wheaton '96 had 15. Catterburg had 11 and guard Randy Hyn '95 had 10.

Porter also led with Mark Hoffman '95 for the lead in rebounds with seven and Hyn assisted with four. Hyn also led the team in steals with three. WPI's scoring leaders were Chris Dunn with 27 and James Naughton with 24.

Overall, WPI finished shooting 57 percent from the field including 28 percent on 3-pointers and 60 percent from the charity stripe.

Coach Coop L. Ozzogood was quite pleased with the performance. "The team overall, they played great. Ten players made a contribution throughout the whole game. Their passing game today was exceptional. We cut down our turnovers and played solid defense against WPI," he said.

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LEHMANN BROTHERS

Women's Cross Country

By Agnieszka Reiss

The women's cross country team finished the season with a strong performance at the NCAA Division III New England meet at UMass Dartmouth Saturday. MIT finished 14th among 28 teams — the team's best finish ever.

Marjie Delo '95 was the lead runner for MIT, covering the five kilometer course in 20:23 and 20:26, respectively. Marjie Delo '95 was 111th in 20:23 and 20:26.

According to Prahler, "The course was very hilly. Agnieszka Reiss '95 was 111th in 20:42. The race was very fast, with 216 runners representing 37 schools. According to Prahler, "The course was very fast and the competition was very strong. . . . I've never run so fast in my life."

Overall, MIT had a successful season. The team improved significantly over last year and finished with a 5-1 record. Banas said, "All the veterans worked hard and improved steadily. Also, a really promising group of freshmen have greatly augmented the team's performance."

The women's varsity basketball team won its first game and first league game Saturday at Rockwell Cage against Worcester Polytechnic Institute by a score of 90-84. Thus, the men are now 1-3 overall and 1-1 in the Constitution Athletic Conference.

Through the first half, MIT had a three point lead, 46-43. Guard Nikki Banas '95 led the team with nine points in the half with three more players scoring eight. They shot an awesome 62 percent from the field and three for six or 50 percent from 3-point land. They shot fairly well from the line as well, averaging 65 percent.

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